



Myers, M. and Heddon, D. (2018) Walking library for a wild city. *Performance Research*, 23(7), pp. 48-49. (doi: 10.1080/13528165.2018.1557010)

There may be differences between this version and the published version. You are advised to consult the publisher's version if you wish to cite from it.

<http://eprints.gla.ac.uk/183927/>

Deposited on: 12 April 2019

Enlighten – Research publications by members of the University of Glasgow_
<http://eprints.gla.ac.uk>

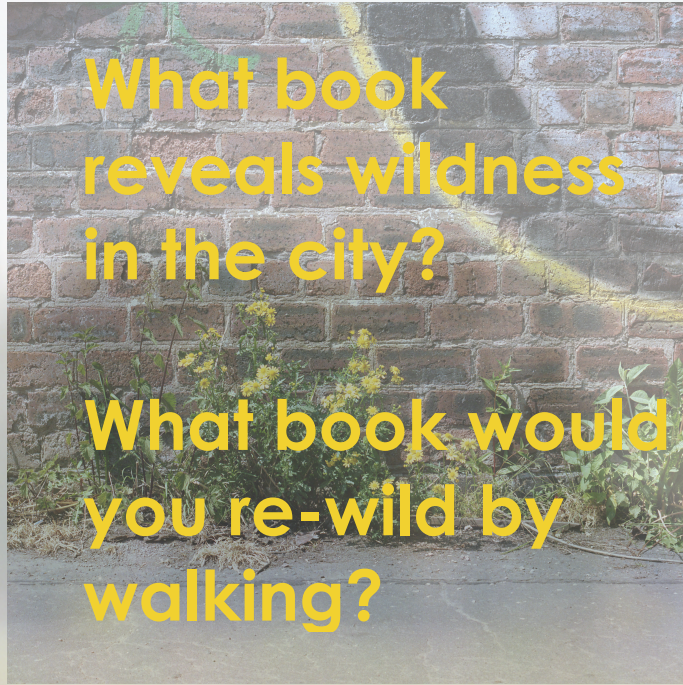
Walking Library for a Wild City



Dee Heddon & Misha Myers

What book reveals wildness in the city?

What book would you re-wild by walking?



drifting across pages and pavements, wandering from one conversation to another, following bird paths, snail trails and sleekit tracks, making connections between

a walk to arcadia,
a biblioblitz, from the
Barras

garden to garden,
a biblioblitz, a green walk
from Festival Park

wild city | fiadh-bhaile,
a word-gathering
walk from Govanhill Baths

slow walk walk slow,
from Govanhill Baths to
the hidden gardens

a dauner along bird
paths, a wander
beginning at the hidden
gardens

dear green howe,
a walk from George
Square to Glasgow Green

sleekit creatures,
a long, wild walk from
George Square to Partick

the reedy river,
a walk to the Kelvin from
the Children's Wood

508 JOH Johnson, Nathaniel, 2016, *The Unseen City: The Majesty of Pigeons, the Discreet Charm of Snails & Other Wonders of the Urban*, suggested by Claire Hind.

"I love the title, and the contents page makes me smile. I especially like how some of the writing acts like instructions, for example: 'Find one rampant weed you love (to eat)', and 'Connect with other people', and 'Identify a new species a month' ..."

577 PEA Pearce, Fred, 2015, *The New Wild: Why Invasive Species Will Be Nature's Salvation*, suggested by Paul Wood.

'In wild corners of Northern European cities, you might find 'alien' plants like Japanese Knotweed, Buddleia and Tree of Heaven thriving in the unloved, brownfield edgelands, while non-native Grey Squirrel and Ring-neck Parakeets find homes in our urban canopies ... I believe we need to rethink our use of terms like 'non-native' and 'alien' when we speak of plants and animals that are 'not from here', terms that increasingly seem unrealistic and xenophobic ...'

508 FOW Fowler, Alys, 2016, *Hidden Nature: A Voyage of Discovery*, suggested by Owain Jones.

'I choose this book because it shows the hidden, "common place," forms of nature in a large urban area – Birmingham – and shows how, in any city, there are 'secret', wild areas ... this book is not a classic natural history inventory, but a narrative of self-exploration, grieving and recovery while meeting the wild city ... it is weaving nature into our own narratives, akin to the well-being agenda, in ways that might help efforts to protect and love the wildness in our cities (and ourselves).'

709 STE Stephens, Anna Chrystal and Glen Stoker, 2017, *A Sick Logic*, suggested by Emma Cocker.

'The book came from a quest to seek old knowledge and apply it to current problems. Through an exploration of how to exist as part of an integrated ecosystem, the book presents life-changing information about survival strategies and the experience of skills acquisition, as well as demonstrating how we can be part of a cross-disciplinary collaborative approach to making change.'

823 RUN2 Rundell, Katherine, 2013, *Rooftoppers*, suggested by Amira Jolly.

'This book is about homeless children living wild on the rooftops and treetops of Paris. No one looks up much in the city, so they're safely hidden with the birds.'