

**Alison Bell**

**Finding the Words**

**Maximum number of places in class: 12    £30**

**A 2 day writing journey Friday 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Invercauld Hotel 10 am - 4 pm**

Writing can be a journey of discovery. But how do we begin, and how do we keep going? First of all, dedicate just two days to yourself. We'll play around with different forms using exercises and prompts, and by the end of the workshop you'll be astonished by how much you've achieved. This workshop is for everyone, whether you're trying creative writing for the first time, or whether you're an experienced writer looking for a new project. The fabulous environment of Braemar is a great stimulus for the imagination and we'll do some of our thinking and image-gathering on short walks from the venue, so please come equipped for whatever the weather throws at us. Otherwise all you need is a notebook and pen/pencil. Leave your laptops and tablets at home!

Alison is a member of Aberdeen Writers' Studio, a mentee of *Scottish Review of Books'* Emerging Critics scheme and has just completed a pilot project in Aberdeen as Lead Reader for Open Book Reading. Her work has appeared in *Northwords Now*, *Dundee Writes* and in the Dundee University Review of the Arts. She has many years experience writing for newspapers, magazines and radio, and holds an M.Litt in Creative Writing from Dundee University. Much of her short fiction and poetry is rooted in the landscape and community of Mid-Deeside, where she lives. And she knows how hard it can be sometimes to keep going, keep focused, and stay energised for whatever project is on hand.