

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A new book from Kathy Galloway, former Leader of the Iona Community, offers a unique perspective on Scottish history.

Glasgow, 10th July 2023 – Kathy Galloway, renowned activist and writer, and former Leader of the Iona Community, takes readers on a captivating journey through time in her latest book, *This Is Who We Are*. Initially conceived as a means to document her genealogical research, the book quickly evolved into a compelling narrative, portraying an archetypal Lowland Scottish family over 300 years.

Delving deep into the lives of her ancestors, she discovered a tapestry of experiences that mirrored the broader societal changes, conflicts and advancements that shaped Lowland Scotland. From bearing witness to wars and religious turmoil to navigating economic and social transformations, her family stood as participants and observers. Most notably, Galloway's exploration reveals the profound influence of the British Empire, colonialism, neo-colonialism and migration, as well as the impact of plantation slavery in the Caribbean, on her family's trajectory.

As the debates surrounding Scotland's relationship with the United Kingdom and the aftermath of Brexit continue to unfold, *This Is Who We Are* emerges as a timely contribution, shedding light on historical contexts that remain relevant today. Readers will resonate with the stories of Kathy's family, recognising familiar patterns within their lineage or gaining valuable insights into the broader discourse. It serves as a testament to the resilience and adaptability of Scottish families, highlighting their contributions to society and the dynamics that shaped their lives.

"Our family's story reflects the experiences of many Scottish families. We are ordinary and typical, bound by our Scottish roots. Our ancestors toiled on the land, practised trades, worked in mines and factories, served as ministers and teachers, and contributed to various domestic roles," Galloway shares.

This Is Who We Are is more than a mere historical account. It serves as a source of inspiration for those seeking to delve into their own family's social and political history, encouraging readers to embark on their own journeys of exploration and discovery. It is a book for those looking back, those looking forward, and for the generations still to come.

This Is Who We Are links the personal and the political, past and present, reminding us that every family has a story to tell.

About the author:

Kathy Galloway is a highly regarded activist and writer, deeply committed to social justice. As a former Leader and continuing member of the Iona Community, Galloway has authored numerous books on a wide range of topics, including justice issues, spirituality and poetry.

In addition to its captivating narrative, *This Is Who We Are* also features a dedicated chapter on researching family history, offering practical guidance and valuable insights to help readers navigate their own genealogical enquiries.

For more information or to request a review copy of *This Is Who We Are*, please contact:

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High resolution images from the book and a photo of the author are also available upon request.

