

**LONDON EVENING STANDARD AND NOOK® ANNOUNCE LATEST ADDITIONS TO THE STELLAR  
LINE-UP FOR THE FREE *GET READING* FESTIVAL ON 13<sup>th</sup> JULY IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE**

**ANTHONY HOROWITZ, SALLY GARDNER, MARIANNE LEVY, STEVE COLE, BARBARA WINDSOR, SAM  
WEST AND ANNE FINE JOIN CAST OF INSPIRATIONAL ACTS**

**TO ANNOUNCE THE NEW ADDITIONS, STEPHEN FRY VISITS JUBILEE SCHOOL IN TULSE HILL**

**POTTERMORE TO DONATE 1,000 FREE EBOOK COPIES OF *HARRY POTTER AND THE PHILOSOPHER'S  
STONE* TO BEANSTALK, A NATIONAL LITERACY CHARITY AND PARTNER OF THE *GET READING*  
FESTIVAL**

**LONDON – 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2013** – London Evening Standard and NOOK have built on last week's announcement by revealing further additions to the exciting line-up for the free literary *Get Reading* festival for children on the 13<sup>th</sup> July, which is part of the London Evening Standard and NOOK's pioneering partnership to support child literacy.

Author **Anthony Horowitz**, novelist **Sally Gardner**, author **Marianne Levy**, author **Steve Cole**, actor **Sam West** and children's author **Anne Fine** join the already impressive list of names from the world of theatre, literature and film, including actor **Rupert Everett**, a performance from *Billy Elliot the Musical*, 'Joey' from *War Horse*, children's TV character **Peppa Pig**, Children's Laureate **Malorie Blackman** and actress **Niamh Cusack**. Alongside this, Chairman and Owner of the Evening Standard Evgeny Lebedev will be reading with actress **Barbara Windsor** MBE. The famous authors and celebrity storytellers will be helping children to take part in a giant read-a-thon throughout the day. The free event is for the whole family and is open to everyone.

To announce the latest additions, **Stephen Fry** visited the Jubilee School in Tulse Hill to participate in a reading of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* with the pupils. The Jubilee School is just one of the schools that has benefitted first-hand from the Mayor's Fund for London investment in the London Evening Standard's *Get London Reading* Campaign.

Alongside Stephen Fry's reading, Pottermore will be donating 1,000 free eBook copies of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* to Beanstalk, a national literacy charity and partner of the Evening Standard and NOOK *Get Reading* festival. Pottermore offers unique ways to experience more from the world of Harry Potter including an entirely free interactive website – Pottermore.com – and the Pottermore Shop, which is the exclusive home of the Harry Potter eBooks and digital audio books. The eBook copies of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* will be loaded onto the 1,000 eReaders

that NOOK has already donated to Beanstalk, who recruit, vet, train and support reading volunteers in schools.

The London Evening Standard's *Get Reading* campaign is designed to help struggling readers catch up with their peers and maximise the opportunities that reading brings. Launched in June 2011, *Get London Reading* has raised £1 million, including a £500,000 investment from the Mayor's Fund for London, to fund the training and supply of reading helpers into schools in association with campaign partner Beanstalk. The campaign has already helped over 2,000 London children improve their reading and has also seen hundreds of London Evening Standard readers volunteer their time to go into schools each week to help children with their reading.

**Stephen Fry, actor, author and *Get Reading* ambassador said:** "I loved books when I was young and passionately believe that reading is one of the most important life gifts you can give a child. I am so pleased to be able to support the marvellous *Get Reading* event that London Evening Standard is organising in partnership with NOOK, and hope the immensely talented acts that have been announced so far will inspire children to develop their reading skills and learn to love reading as much as I do."

**Jim Hilt, Managing Director, Barnes & Noble said:** "As the excitement builds ahead of the *Get Reading* festival, we continue to see phenomenal support from authors and UK celebrities, including Stephen Fry, who all share NOOK's passion for advancing the cause of literacy. In addition, UK publishers have shown their support by donating top children's eBooks to the Beanstalk charity for use on the donated NOOKs, including the latest generous donation of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* from Pottermore."

**Charlie Redmayne, CEO, Pottermore said:** "Pottermore is delighted to support the *Get Reading* initiative, including the work that Beanstalk is doing to improve literacy across the UK. We hope that the Beanstalk volunteers and their mentors enjoy reading *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* and immersing themselves in the world of Harry Potter."

- ENDS -

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**Notes to editors**

### **About London Evening Standard**

The London Evening Standard is London's only free quality evening title and distributes nearly 700,000 copies a day – reaching out to more than 1.6 million Londoners. It was bought by Evgeny Lebedev in January 2009 and is edited by Sarah Sands.

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### **About Pottermore**

Pottermore from J.K. Rowling offers unique ways to experience more from the world of Harry Potter, and is partnered by Sony. Pottermore.com is the free immersive and interactive website where you can explore the stories and the world of Harry Potter for yourself, and enjoy exclusive new writing from J.K. Rowling about the characters, places, creatures and objects found in the world she created. The Pottermore Shop ([shop.pottermore.com](http://shop.pottermore.com)) is the exclusive home of the Harry Potter eBooks and digital audio books.

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