



BELL
& BAIN
LIMITED

NEWSLETTER

Merry Christmas

UPDATE 48

December 2025



Welcome to the 48th edition of our company newsletter.

In this issue we thank you for the work placed this year, along with the long awaited EUDR result, a special painting and our favourite Christmas Card Competition.

As always the book and employee section has been included at the end for you all to get to know our friendly staff who make everything possible here. The new brain teaser has also been added along with last months answer.

Thank You and Merry Christmas

Another year over...

Just like that, in a blink of an eye , 2025 is coming to a close.

We'd like to thank you all for the work placed this year. We are truly grateful for your continued business and confidence in placing your beloved books with us. It really means a lot and we hope we've provided you with the service and support that you require.

The challenges facing UK printers remain very real, with ongoing cost pressures and continued competition from overseas markets. We strongly believe in the importance of supporting local printing to sustain skills, capacity, and innovation within the UK. By working closely together, we can continue to invest confidently and deliver high-quality books to market efficiently and reliably but we need your continued support.

From everyone here at Bell & Bain, we hope you have a fantastic Christmas and a Happy New Year when it comes. We'll be back on 5th January, refreshed and ready for an exciting 2026 with the main focus of doing what we love most, making beautiful books for you all!



After multiple years full of delays, uncertainty, U-turns and more questions than answers, we are now able to definitively relay the following message:

PRINTED BOOKS WILL NO LONGER FALL UNDER THE SCOPE OF EUDR!

The (second) 1-year delay to the implementation date of EUDR has now been officially approved, now taking effect in December 2026. Further to this, a range of simplifications have been agreed – most notable for us is the removal of printed books, newspapers, pictures and other products of the printing industry, manuscripts, typescripts and plans, of paper, from the Regulation's scope.

Many of our customers have understandably been rather overwhelmed by the constantly changing nature of the EUDR legislation. Large periods of time passed with a lack of real clarity regarding with whom certain obligations lie, and as well as many being understandably concerned at the time and resources they would have to commit in order to fulfill their obligations, the potentially enormous penalties for non-compliance caused further panic. Just to compound these issues, the EU's own system was totally incapable of dealing with the masses of data, so there were legitimate concerns at all levels of the supply chain whether this was even going to be possible to roll out, let alone effectively.

While the majority in the print/publishing sector will be relieved to see the back of EUDR, we understand that many of our customers (and suppliers) put a lot of time, effort and money into preparing for compliance. Accordingly, we want to reiterate our commitment to the principles of EUDR, and we will continue our longstanding procedure of sourcing materials only from environmentally and ethically sound supply lines. We remain FSC certified, purchasing only FSC materials, as well as aligning our supply with the Book Chain Project Forest Sourcing database, purchasing only 5-Star rated paper and board.

We are certainly pleased for publishers around the world, (whether our customers or not) that were anxious about the very real possibility of having to pulp huge volumes of printed books either printed during the transition period or before, that may not have been able to comply with EUDR. This was a particularly difficult scenario to comprehend, given the financial and environmental waste that this would create, somewhat undermining the environmentally positive reasons behind the legislation.

While the rollout of EUDR has been laden with issues and created a lot of extra work for many businesses, the positive that has come from this has been an increase in transparency, traceability, and discussion among our entire supply chain. As ever, Bell & Bain will continue to operate sustainably and will be ready for whatever environmental legislation the future may hold.

Mother Glasgow - Samira Cheraghi Painted by Gerard Burns

Friend of Bell & Bain and renowned Scottish artist Gerard Burns is launching a major new project in 2026 titled Mother Glasgow, a celebration of multiculturalism within the city and the essential role of women in our society. The project will feature 15 oil-painted portraits, each telling a powerful personal story rooted in Glasgow's diverse communities.

We are proud to share that our very own Samira Cheraghi was selected as one of the women to be painted, following a visit by Gerard to our factory.

Gerard explains the motivation behind the project:

"In all of the various exhibitions I've been involved in, both here in Glasgow and around the world, I've used my portraits to tell stories, whether about politicians, actors, individuals from the world of business and sport, or simply people who've come into my life for one reason or another.

In this case, each of these paintings and the subjects depicted has an important story to tell. Stories about the importance of immigration, of multiculturalism, and the role of women in our society, stories which matter now more than ever in these increasingly polarised times."

Samira moved to Glasgow in September 2021 and began working at Bell & Bain while adapting to a new country and language. Within six months, she was promoted and managed our advances/office copies that were to be sent to customers. Samira is now currently working in our estimating department, while still helping on the production floor when needed to stay closely connected to the work.

Samira shares her journey in her own words: "My academic background is very important to me. I hold a bachelor's degree in Applied Mathematics and a master's degree in Industrial Engineering. Before coming to Scotland, I worked in Iran as a Quality Assurance Engineer in both a car battery factory and an air-conditioning manufacturing plant. Those roles gave me strong technical experience, a systematic way of thinking, and a deep respect for precision. Although I had only a few months of English tutoring before moving, daily conversations and the kindness of people here helped me adapt quickly. Glasgow's green spaces, striking landscapes, and welcoming atmosphere have made it feel like a very good place to build a life.

I've noticed that some people know little about Iran, so I enjoy sharing its depth. It is a large, diverse country with many languages, rich artistic traditions, and thousands of years of history. Family, community, hospitality, and respect for elders sit at the heart of Iranian culture, and those values continue to guide me wherever I live."

The painting was unveiled in the factory, a moving and memorable moment for Samira and for all who were present. The portrait itself is outstanding, capturing both strength and warmth, and we are delighted to share it with you as part of this remarkable project.

We look forward to following Mother Glasgow as it develops and to celebrating Samira's inclusion in a body of work that highlights stories that truly matter. You can find out more, including a short video of the unveiling here <https://www.gerardmburns.com/mother-glasgow/samira-cheragi/>



Christmas Card Competition

As part of our Christmas tradition, we are delighted to once again host our Christmas Card Competition.

Choosing a winner is always very difficult and we'd like to thank all those who took part, if we could pick you all then we most certainly would!

We are delighted to announce Alfie Gracie , age 5, as this year's winner of a whopping £250 gift voucher! You can ask his Dad and our estimator Alastair Gracie if the true amount of winnings was relayed to young Alfie. We do hear he was absolutely delighted with his tub of Haribo prize...

This year's runner up went to our hardback division factory assistant Areej Fatima who picked up the £100 runners prize.

Congratulations to you both and thanks again to all who took part in this year's competition, it brought the Christmas spirit early to Bell & Bain!

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a joyful holiday season.



Alfie Gracie



Areej Fatima



EMPLOYEE FOCUS

Name: Sharon Imrie

Years of Service: 10 months

Position: Bindery Assistant

Describe your role I assist in the factory, whether it be feeding in folded signatures into the binder, boxing books once bound, table/handwork.

What do you enjoy the most about your position? There's such variety throughout the day, it keeps me on my toes and the days fly in.

What do you hope 2026 will bring you? Fun and happiness! hopefully a good holiday in the sun to go along with it.

Fun Fact - I spend my free time at the weekend supporting my favourite football team, the Famous Glasgow Celtic

BOOK HIGHLIGHTS

In this section we would like to showcase some of our client's titles that we have been fortunate enough to produce for them.



Techniques of Drawings

Published by Ashmolean Museum Oxford

Originally published in 1999, and long out of print, this revised and updated version of Techniques of Drawing gives an overview of historical materials and drawing practices in Europe and Asia, using examples from the Ashmolean Museum, including highlights of the collection and lesser-known works.

Specification- LED UV printed sewn bound PB with flaps 264x197mm, 160pps printing full colour on 150gsm Magno Matt. Cover printed 4/4 on 300gsm one sided with matt lamination and spot UV



The Little Book of Christmas and Hogmanay Scotland's Festive Traditions

Published by Birlinn

This book is packed with tradition, lore and legend, as well as poems, stories, carols, recipes, history, jokes and fun facts. Illustrated throughout with line drawings and black and white photographs. A fantastic book exploring the many traditions we have in Scotland and the history behind them.

Specification - Burst bound PPC hardback, 176x111mm, 144pps printing mono on 120gsm Amber Preprint. Printed papercase with 1/0 ends, matt lamination and gold foil front and spine

BRAIN TEASER

There are five candy canes and you take away two. How many do you have?

Last Issue-

**Thirteen digits
(sometimes ten)
mark me like a
name,
I tell the world which
version you hold
and help you find its
frame. What am I?**

Answer - An ISBN

Thank you for your continued support!

*"We look to work together
in partnerships with our clients,
ensuring a solid basis
where expectations are exceeded,
and time frames are
met consistently"*

OUR DETAILS

Bell & Bain Ltd

303 Burnfield Road

Thornliebank

Glasgow

G46 7UQ

Office Number: 0141 649 5697

Website: www.bell-bain.com

Should you require a quote, please send your specification to

estimating@bell-bain.co.uk

Please ensure to include the following;

- Trim size (mm)
- Page Extent
- Text printing (mono 1/1, 2 colour 2/2 or 4 colour 4/4)
- Cover printing (4/0, 4/1, 4/4...)
- Text and cover board materials
- Cover / Jacket Lamination
- Quantity
- For hardback books please advise of endpapers (plain, printed, pre dyed) if printed please advise (1/0, 1/1, 4/0, 4/4...)
- Type of Hardback (printed paper case or imitation cloth wrapped with Jacket)
- Delivery instructions

To place an order please send to

orders@bell-bain.co.uk

If you would like to discuss a future project, please contact our sales team.

sales@bell-bain.co.uk

Or you can contact our estimating email address which is constantly monitored by the office to ensure a prompt response.

estimating@bell-bain.co.uk