



Book Week Scotland is an annual celebration of books and reading that takes place across Scotland. During Book Week Scotland, people of all ages and walks of life come together in libraries, schools, community venues and workplaces to share and enjoy books and reading. They are joined in this celebration by Scotland's authors, poets, playwrights, storytellers and illustrators to bring a packed programme of events and projects to life. West Lothian hosted a week-long programme of events to take part and celebrate Scottish books and authors.

Author visits

With support from The Scottish Book trust West Lothian invited 5 top authors to come along and inspire readers young and old to share their reading experiences and find out more about the writing and publishing process.

Bestselling Glasgow crime writer **Alex Gray** and co-founder of the Bloody Scotland crime writing festival came along to **Blackburn Library** to talk about her research and writing process, with 16 novels already published Alex is an expert on police and forensic processes.



Matthew Fitt is a published novelist and poet. He is the co-founder of the award-winning imprint, Itchy Coo. Matthew came along to **Carmondean Library** to inspire young writers. He is an acknowledged expert in the field of Scots language education. He has delivered training for teachers in every local authority in Scotland.

"Good to hear about Scots culture and language"

Lin Anderson is a “Tartan Noir”, crime novelist and screenwriter, best known as the creator of forensic scientist Rhona MacLeod and is a co-founder of Bloody Scotland, a Tartan Noir and Scottish crime writer's festival, which is held in Stirling. She came along to **Whitburn Library** to talk about her books and writing process.

“Thoroughly enjoyed the event very interesting hearing writer’s experience”



Debi Gliori is the writer and illustrator of over seventy picture books and novels for children of all ages, including the much-loved 'No Matter What' and the Pure Dead series, recently optioned by Aardman. Debi came along to **West Calder Library** to display her illustrations and talk about her books.



If thunder tore the night in two
and lightning played at peek-a-BOO

we'd watch the storm pass overhead,
then curl up safe and snug in bed.

Karen Campbell is a Scottish writer of contemporary fiction. Her first four novels are police procedurals, set in Glasgow. She is a former police officer who lives in Glasgow. She began writing in earnest on the renowned Glasgow University Creative Writing course. Karen paid a visit to **Simpson Library** Bathgate to help celebrate Book Week Scotland.

“Very enjoyable and enlightening”



Bookbug sessions

Over the week libraries delivered 13 Bookbug sessions, Library staff went out into the community and delivered sessions in nurseries and community halls.

Bookbug encourages all parents and carers to enjoy books with their children from as young an age as possible, developing a lifelong love of books. Bookbug sessions are fun, free and friendly events, available in most libraries. Each session lasts around 30 minutes and includes songs, stories and rhymes.

“Great to meet mums and a great free event for children”



Class visits and story times

Many school children of all ages came along to their local library to join in the celebrations with Scottish storytelling, crafts, quizzes and treasure hunts.

“Our children loved it, hoping to further foster a love of reading with P1 children”



Other fun

In addition to all the formal events organised in libraries there were coffee mornings and craft sessions for everyone to enjoy. Also there were lots of displays on show of Scottish books and authors to tempt readers to try something new. These events showcased what libraries can offer to their community by providing a welcoming space to meet friends and share their reading choices.