

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE
8 to 19 MAY 2018

FESTIVAL OF WORDS

8 to 19 MAY 2018

booked!

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

a vibrant and diverse festival of talks
and events by leading authors
held at your local libraries.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

FESTIVAL OF WORDS

Welcome to *Booked!* West Dunbartonshire's annual Festival of Words

WEEK 1
8 – 12 MAY

WEEK 2
14 – 19 MAY

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It is my privilege and pleasure to introduce this year's **Booked!** literary festival brought to you by West Dunbartonshire Council's Libraries and Cultural Services section with sponsorship from Creative Scotland. The **Booked!** ethos is to offer something for everyone and I think we have succeeded with this year's line-up. We aim to showcase established authors as well as new talent and to provide a range of experiences for local people. **Booked!** Cabaret is now well established as the finale of the festival and owing to the success of last year's **Booked!** Schools we will continue to incorporate our schools programme into **Booked!** Other festival highlights include our family friendly event with author Alison Murray and a very special screening of a brand new film **Super November**, starring Josie Long. Produced by local filmmakers, Studio 14c, the film recently premiered at The GFT and was filmed in our very own Clydebank Library.

Booked! 2018 offers a varied menu of

fiction and non-fiction authors, poets and singer-songwriters. It opens with the ever-popular broadcaster Archie Macpherson looking back at a Golden Age in Scottish football when Scotland regularly qualified for the World Cup. This year's Alastair Pearson Lecture will be delivered by award-winning novelist Sara Maitland. Sara will be exploring the history of solitude, and it's often neglected joys. Ever Dundas will be talking about her debut novel **Goblin** which has received rave reviews and a Saltire First Novel Award, and Shaun Bythell will be taking us through a year in the life of running Scotland's largest secondhand bookshop. Expect to encounter some eccentric and wonderful characters and that's just the staff! Alom Shaha makes a very welcome return to **Booked!**; this time he will be running a workshop in which children can engage in fun science experiments which anyone can try out at home.

Sally Magnusson is making her third appearance at **Booked!** This enormously popular broadcaster and author will be discussing her fiction debut **The Sealwoman's Gift** which is about the eternal power of storytelling to help us to survive. Darren McGarvey, also known as the rapper, Loki, looks at the realities of systemic poverty in his book **Poverty Safari**. Darren is well-known as a social commentator and he is a passionate advocate for those from deprived communities. Stuart David is the co-founder of Belle and Sebastian, one of the most influential and acclaimed bands to come from Scotland. Stuart is as adept with words as he is with music and he will be

talking about **Peacock's Alibi**, the latest in his series of Peacock novels. Stuart grew up in Alexandria and the character of Peacock was heavily influenced by some of the people in his neighbourhood. Crime fiction is a perennial **Booked!** favourite and Hania Allen is making her **Booked!** debut. This multi-talented author, who has an honours degree and doctorate in physics, will be telling us about her latest novel **The Polish Detective**.

We have a special **Booked!** event for our younger audience; leading picture book author Alison Murray will be talking about her book **Dino Duckling** and giving children the opportunity to design their own dinosaur feet. This will be a lot of fun for both children and their families.

The **Booked!** Cabaret is the festival finale and following on from last year's stellar line-up of spoken word, poetry and song this year we have: leading singer-songwriter Emma Pollock; writer Chris McQueer, who puts surreal and very funny twists on the everyday; poet Katharine Macfarlane; musician Heir of the Cursed, and poet/songwriter Michael Pedersen.

We take great pride in presenting such a varied and stimulating programme for **Booked!** 2018 and we look forward to meeting you at the events. Our festival is a major highlight of the cultural calendar in West Dunbartonshire and I look forward to your continued support of Libraries and Cultural Services.

Gill Graham
Manager Libraries and Cultural Services

Tuesday 8 May
Archie Macpherson
Adventures in the Golden
Age: Scotland in the World
Cup Finals 1974 - 1998

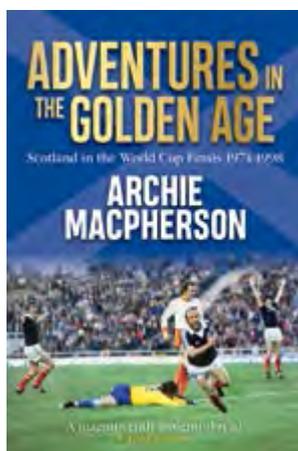
Faifley Library 7.00pm

Adventures in the Golden Age: Scotland
in the World Cup Finals 1974 - 1998

reflects on the wonderful era when Scotland regularly qualified for the World Cup. The much loved broadcaster Archie Macpherson commentated on all of Scotland's 18 World Cup matches and in **Adventures in the Golden Age** he tells the tale of what happened both on and off the pitch. His grandstand seat gave him a unique and privileged overview and insight into this extraordinary era.

As well as being a distinguished broadcaster Archie is also a highly accomplished writer with his books including a best-selling biography of legendary manager Jock Stein and an adventure novel, **Silent Thunder**.

This is a marvellous opportunity to reminisce about the Golden Age of Scottish football in the convivial company of one of our finest broadcasters.





Wednesday 9 May
Alastair Pearson Lecture
Sara Maitland
How to be Alone

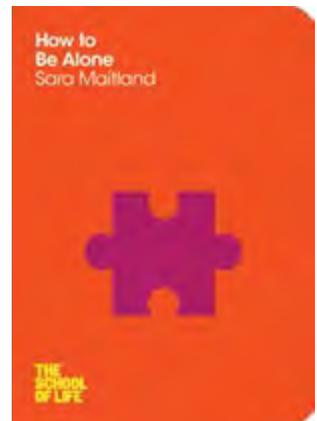
Photograph © Adam Lee

Millennium Hall, Gartocharn 7.00pm

It is a paradox that our age values autonomy, personal freedom and individualism but it doesn't really approve of solitude. Solitude is often considered to be anti-social. Sara Maitland will explore how attitudes have changed throughout history to solitude and will look at the benefits of spending time by ourselves.

Our current era is viewed as a time when we are experiencing an epidemic of loneliness but solitude need not be lonely and it can be a particularly enriching part of life.

Sara Maitland is a highly accomplished novelist and short story writer. Her non-fiction books including **A Book of Silence** have also received huge praise. The title story of **Far North** was made into a film with Sean Bean and Michelle Yeoh. Sara lives on her own in rural Galloway.





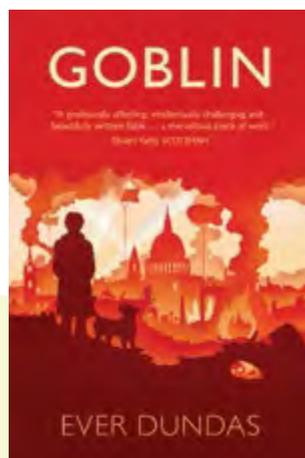
Thursday 10 May
Ever Dundas

Parkhall Library 7.00pm

Ever Dundas has already made a big impact in her writing career. Her debut **Goblin** was the winner of the Saltire First Book Award. It is a novel which deftly moves between the past and the present as it explores the life of Goblin, an outcast girl growing up in London during World War II.

After she witnesses a terrible event she retreats into a magical imaginary world; it is only through a chance meeting and a phone call that she is compelled to return to London to confront the past.

Ever has a Creative Writing Masters from Edinburgh Napier University and she has published several short stories and dark fairy tales.



"A terrific debut novel ... a meditation on trauma and loss that brims with wild joy." **The Guardian**

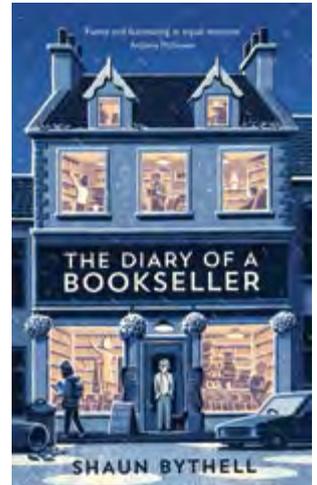


Friday 11 May
Shaun Bythell

Balloch Library 7.00pm

How do you provide a personal service in a corporate world? Shaun Bythell runs the largest secondhand bookshop in Scotland and *The Diary of a Bookseller* is a tale of David vs Goliath, eccentric customers, bizarre book titles, first editions and the cultural value of books. Shaun is ably assisted by his staff, including ski-suit-wearing, bin-foraging Nicky, and Sandy, who is the most tattooed man in Scotland. We will accompany Shaun on his buying trips to old estates and auction houses and experience the joy of the serendipitous find.

As well as giving an insight into the realities of running a bookshop Shaun showcases the pleasures and pains of small-town life. Experience a wry and humorous year in the life of Scotland's largest secondhand bookshop.



"Wonderfully entertaining" **Observer**



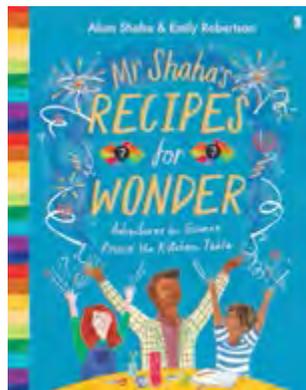
Saturday 12 May

Alom Shaha

'Mr Shaha's Recipes for Wonder'

Dumbarton Library 12.00pm

Doing hands-on activities with children is the best way to get them exploring the world around them and thinking like future scientists and engineers. However, many parents lack confidence in doing science with their children, compared with reading, writing or drawing. Teacher and author of **Mr Shaha's Recipes for Wonder** Alom Shaha will show how every child can be a scientist even if parents don't have all the answers! In this workshop with the emphasis very much on fun Alom will demonstrate and give you the chance to try out some science experiments for yourself, using only household objects. Alom will show parents just what science is and how you too can be a scientific thinker. There will be two hands-on activities for children.



This is a family event and children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Suitable for 5-9 years.

Have you joined West Dunbartonshire Libraries?

There are 8 libraries in the authority:

Alexandria, Balloch, Clydebank, Dalmuir, Dumbarton, Duntocher, Faifley and Parkhall.

For further details, addresses, telephone numbers and opening hours, please visit

www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/libraries/library-branches/

Did you know?

- *You can reserve and renew items online*
- *You can access eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines for free*
- *All our libraries have computers with free internet access and Microsoft Office software*
- *We offer a wide variety of Quest computer courses*
- *You can borrow items from any West Dunbartonshire library*

eBooks, eMagazines and eAudiobooks

Like to read anytime, anywhere?

Delve into a world of eBooks and magazines from your computer or mobile device. eBooks, eAudiobooks and digital magazines are available free of charge to West Dunbartonshire library members.

Go to www.libraryonline.org.uk or call in to your local library to get started.



Saturday 12th
Screening of Super November

Photograph © Stephanie Gibson

Clydebank Library 1.00pm

We are delighted to present **Super November** a local production from Studio 14c filmed on location in Clydebank Library. **Super November** is a hugely ambitious mixture of mumblecore-style romantic comedy and Orwellian dystopia. Clydebank librarian Josie (Josie Long) is all loved up and has found her soulmate in the equally besotted Mikey (Sean Biggerstaff). Six months later, the bubble has burst and things are very different, as the country has plunged into a political crisis, there is civil unrest on the streets and normality is a distant memory. Welcome to the harsh, fast changing landscape of the real world. Director Douglas King will attend the screening.



Monday 14 May Creative Writing Workshops Starting Your Novel with Kirsty Logan

Dalmuir Library 2.00pm & 7.00pm

Want to write a novel – but don't know where to start? Bring your ideas, inspirations and opening lines along, and find out where to go next. Beginners, intermediate and experienced writers all welcome.

Kirsty Logan is an award-winning novelist and short story writer. Kirsty has written ***The Gracekeepers***, ***A Portable Shelter***, and ***The Rental Heart & Other Fairytales***. Her fourth book, ***The Gloaming***, will be published in April, and she is currently writing a collection of horror stories.

Owing to the high level of interest in our creative writing sessions and to ensure that everyone has the chance to attend Kirsty will be running a daytime and an evening session of this workshop. Both sessions are the same. Please bear in mind that you can only book one of these sessions.

Limited to 10 places per workshop



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Monday 14 May

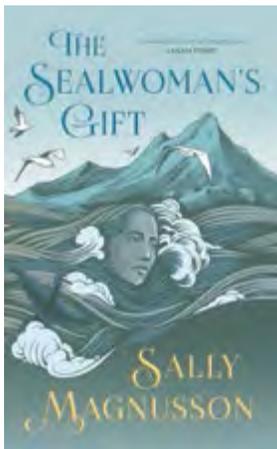
Sally Magnusson

Dumbarton Library 7.00pm

Sally Magnusson is a hugely popular and respected broadcaster and author. She has written a number of non-fiction books including the bestselling **Where Memories Go** about her mother and living with dementia. **The Sealwoman's Gift** is her first novel and taps into Sally's Icelandic ancestry. It tells the tale of a raid on Iceland by Barbary pirates in 1627 when they captured 400 people including 250 from a tiny island off the mainland. The island's pastor and his wife and children are abducted and the novel imagines how Asta, the pastor's wife, copes with the loss of her family and her new life in an entirely different culture. Asta uses the rich tapestry of stories that she has inherited from her homeland to survive.



Photograph © Derek Prescott



"From the first, it leaps from the page . . . I found myself absolutely persuaded by Ásta's extraordinary journey from the harsh Icelandic coast to the strange and splendid palaces of Algiers. I enjoyed and admired it in equal measure." Sarah Perry, author of **The Essex Serpent**

"Sally Magnusson's wonderfully accomplished first novel is an enthralling mixture of recovered history and the imagining of lost lives. It's a delightful piece of storytelling which is also a story about telling stories."
Yorkshire Post

8 to 19 MAY 2018
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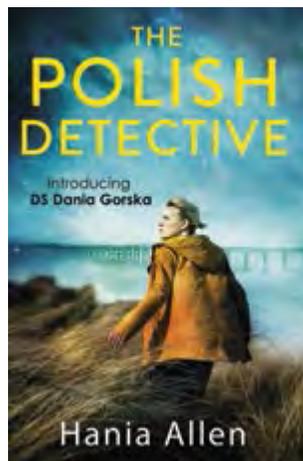
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Tuesday 15 May
Hania Allen

Duntocher Library 7.00pm

Photograph © Caroline Trotter



Hania Allen was born in Liverpool and her parents are Polish. Hania has had a varied career: she has been a physics researcher, a maths teacher, a research programmer, an IT officer and left her last post in information management to write full time. Her novel **The Polish Detective** taps into her ancestry – DS Dania Korsika was born in Poland and transferred from London to Dundee’s specialist crime division. She is investigating a series of horrific killings which result in the victims being displayed in a very strange way.

Hania Allen is another writer to join the extraordinary pantheon of Scottish crime fiction.

Wednesday 16 May Darren McGarvey (Loki)

Dalmuir Library 7.00pm

As inequality continues to grow people from deprived communities become ever increasingly marginalised and left without a voice. Darren McGarvey expresses the anguish and anger many feel in his book, **Poverty Safari**. He looks at the harsh reality of what it is like to be poor in Britain. As well as drawing from his own experiences Darren also confronts the failure of political parties, charities and other institutions to eliminate poverty. He also challenges us to examine our own prejudices and value judgements when we confront the issues of poverty and deprivation.



poverty safari



*"Part memoir, part polemic, this is a savage, wise and witty tour-de-force. An unflinching account of the realities of systemic poverty, **Poverty Safari** lays down challenges to both the left and right. It is hard to think of a more timely, powerful or necessary book."* J.K. Rowling

"Nothing less than an intellectual and spiritual rehab manual for the progressive left." Irvine Welsh

"McGarvey is a rarity: a working-class writer who has fought to make the middle-class world hear what he has to say." Nick Cohen

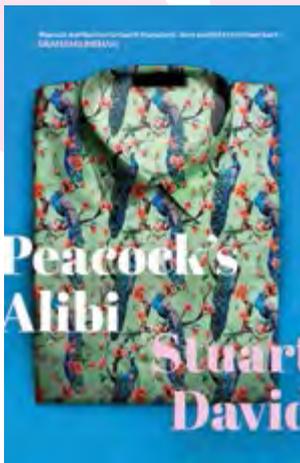
Thursday 17 May Stuart David

Alexandria Library 7.00 pm

Stuart David is a musician, songwriter and novelist. He co-founded the band Belle and Sebastian and went on to form Looper. Stuart's books include **Nalda Said**, **The Peacock Manifesto**, **Peacock's Tale** and **Jackdaw and the Randoms** as well as a memoir, **In the All Night Café** which chronicled the formation of Belle and Sebastian. **Peacock's Alibi** is another novel featuring Peacock Johnson, who is based on some of the people Stuart grew up



with in Alexandria. Peacock Johnson has an idea that is guaranteed to make him rich but a local homicide detective is convinced that Peacock is responsible for a recent murder and wants to break Peacock's alibi. Things are about to seriously unravel . . .



"Peacock and Bev are fantastic characters. Very excited to see them back." Graham Linehan
"If Stuart David ever gives up the day job, pop music's loss would be literature's gain." **The Times**

Saturday 19 May

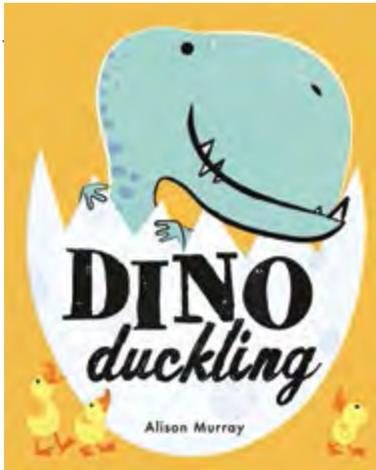
Alison Murray

Alexandria Library 11.00am

Come along to Alexandria Library and join award winning author/illustrator Alison Murray to celebrate the publication of ***Dino Duckling*** in paperback.

Alison will read from her book, do some live drawing with storytelling, then lead the children in a 'Make your own Dinosaur feet' workshop. Will your Dinosaur feet be glittery or black gloss, feathery yellow or blue with purple spots - just like DINO's?

This is a family event and children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Suitable for 3-5 years.



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cabaret



Friday 18 May

Booked! Cabaret

Millennium Hall, Gartocharn

Doors Open 7.00pm Showtime 7.30pm

Come join Flint & Pitch for a delicious mix of spoken word, poetry and music! Featuring a triple headliner bill of Emma Pollock, Michael Pedersen and Chris McQueer alongside exciting new voices Heir of the Cursed and Katharine MacFarlane, Flint & Pitch has pulled together a sure-fire splendour of an evening, all hosted by award-winning poet, performer and Flint & Pitch founder, Jenny Lindsay.



EMMA POLLOCK

Emma Pollock is a Scottish singer-songwriter, musician, and a founding member of the bands The Delgados, The Burns Unit and The Fruit Tree Foundation. After the amicable split of The Delgados in 2005, Emma released several solo albums, including Scottish Album of the Year shortlisted *In Search of Harperfield*.



MICHAEL PEDERSEN

Michael Pedersen is one half of eclectic, Edinburgh based events troupe Neu! Reekiel And the author of two collections of poetry, *Play With Me* and *Oyster*, the latter of which features illustrations by Scott Hutchison of Frightened Rabbit. *"If you like poetry that is cool, smart, hilarious and quirky and can just suddenly rip your heart out, Michael Pedersen is your man."* Irvine Welsh



CHRIS MCQUEER

Chris McQueer is a 25-year-old writer and spoken word performer from the east end of Glasgow. He has been writing for around a year and a half and in that time, has had work published in the likes of *Gutter Magazine* and has performed at Glasgow's Aye Write! Book festival and with Flint & Pitch at the Edinburgh International Book Festival 2017. His debut collection of short stories *Hings* has been described as 'Hilariously surreal snapshots of working class Scotland,' and came out on the 27th of July 2017. It sold out two print runs in quick succession! An unstoppable newcomer on the Scottish live lit scene!

Booked! Cabaret tickets **£5** and available from Eventbrite

 booked2018.eventbrite.co.uk



WEEK 2 14 May - 19 May

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HEIR OF THE CURSED

Heir of The Cursed is a Glasgow based, Kenya born song maker, whose electrifying performances have steadily gained recognition in Scotland over the last few years. She has collaborated and performed with many musicians and theatre-makers and her work has been described by Joyce McMillan of *The Scotsman* as "truly magnificent, resonant and haunting."



KATHARINE MACFARLANE

Katharine Macfarlane was the 'Harpies, Fechtors and Quines Slam' Champion and the 'Four Cities Slam' Champion 2016. Katharine has recently performed with the Loud Poets in Glasgow, at the Belladrum Festival in Inverness and hosted her first solo show, *Home Words*, at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2016, as well as numerous performances at top spoken word nights across Edinburgh and Glasgow in 2017. Her work has appeared in various magazines: *Untitled*, *The Grind* and *The Ogilvie*, and has been translated into German as a feature piece in the novel *Die Rückkehr der Wale* by Isabel Morland.



Photograph © Ryan McCoverne

HOSTED BY JENNY LINDSAY

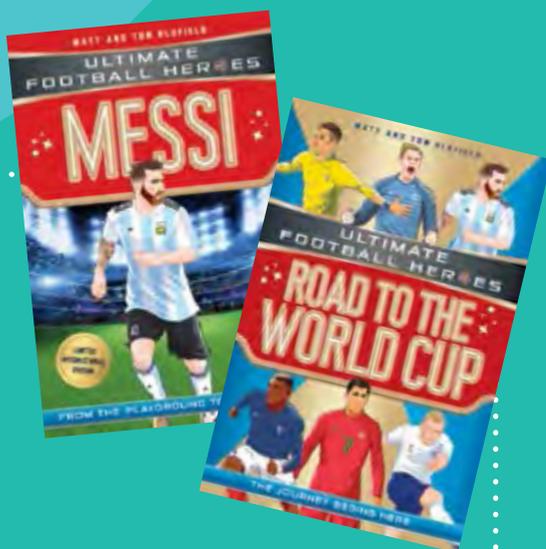
Jenny Lindsay is one of Scotland's best known spoken word performers, as well as the director of Flint and Pitch Productions, which has just been placed in the Hot 100 for 2017, *The List*. She is the author of one full collection and two pamphlet collections of poetry, was the 'BBC Slam' Champion in 2012 and was longlisted for the inaugural Jerwood Compton Poetry Fellowship in 2017. Her debut solo show, *Ire & Salt* (2015), gained a four-star review from the Scotsman and acclaim from the Orwell Society and her second solo show, *This Script (and Other Drafts)*, debuts in February 2018. "Defiant, eloquent and inspiring." *The Scotsman*. "Takes to the stage as if staging a coup." *Gutter*, on *Ire & Salt*.

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SCHOOLS

Did you know that Libraries and Cultural Services also deliver library services in the five High Schools in West Dunbartonshire? As well as supporting the curriculum, we promote reading for pleasure and provide opportunities for young people to encourage and develop their creativity.

We are thrilled that our programme of events for young people, formerly Booxfactor is now officially part of **Booked!**



Matt Oldfield

Matt and Tom Oldfield are two football obsessed brothers. They write biographies about their football heroes including Messi, Ronaldo, Neymar and Bale.

The **Ultimate Football Heroes** and **Classic Football Heroes** books series are aimed at children aged 7-12. Matt delivers school visits in which he runs interactive literacy workshops aimed at all pupils including reluctant readers.

The emphasis is upon tapping into their love of football or another sport and using this to develop their reading and writing skills.



Photograph © Perry Jansson

Leyla Josephine

Leyla Josephine is a theatre maker and award winning poet from Glasgow. She is also a writer and outstanding spoken word artist who has performed all over the UK, and as far as Tokyo and New York.

In 2014, she won the 'Hammer and Tongue's UK National Slam' at The Royal Albert Hall in London. More recently she won 'The Loud Poets Glasgow Slam' in 2017 and was runner up in 'The Scottish Poetry Slam'. She has recently published her first book and is touring her show *Hopeless* which was nominated for The Amnesty International Freedom of Expression Award.

In her workshop **Spoken Word - An Introduction** Leyla is providing a beginners guide to spoken word and performance poetry. What do you want to say and how can you make sure you're heard? Participants will learn new skills and experience an increase in their confidence.

Please note that all **Booked!** Schools events are run directly in conjunction with schools and are not open to the public.

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Venues

Your local libraries:

Alexandria Library

Gilmour Street
Alexandria, G83 ODA
T: 01389 608974
F: 01389 710550
E: alexandria.library@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Balloch Library

Carrochan Road
Balloch, G83 8BW
T: 01389 608989
F: 01389 608995
E: balloch.library@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Clydebank Library

Dumbarton Road
Clydebank, G81 1XH
T: 0141 562 2440/2436
F: 0141 562 2441
Local Studies: 0141 562 2434
E: clydebank.library@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Dalmuir Library

Lennox Place,
Dalmuir, Clydebank, G81 4HR
T: 0141 562 2425
F: 0141 952 6497
E: dalmuir.library@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Dumbarton Library

Strathleven Place
Dumbarton, G82 1BD
T: 01389 608992
F: 01389 608100
Local Studies: 01389 608965
E: dumbarton.library@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Duntocher Library

Glenhead C.E. Centre
Duntiglen Road, Duntocher
Clydebank G81 6HF
Tel & Fax: 0141 562 2469
E: duntocher.library@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Faifley Library

Edinbarnet Campus
Craigpark Street, Faifley, Clydebank,
G81 5BS
T: 01389 879528
E: faifley.library@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Parkhall Library

Hawthorn Street
Parkhall, Clydebank, G81 3EF
Tel & Fax: 0141 562 2467
E: parkhall.library@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Other Venues:

Clydebank Town Hall

Dumbarton Road
Clydebank, Dunbartonshire, G81 1UE
T: 0141 562 2400

Kilmarnock Millennium Hall

Church Rd
Gartocharn
G83 8NF

Date	Time	Name of event	Venue	Cost
WEEK 1				
Tuesday 8 May	7.00pm	Archie Macpherson	Faifley Library	free
Wednesday 9 May	7.00pm	Sara Maitland	Millennium Hall, Gartocharn	free
Thursday 10 May	7.00pm	Ever Dundas	Parkhall Library	free
Friday 11 May	7.00pm	Shaun Bythell	Balloch Library	free
Saturday 12 May	12.00pm	Alom Shaha	Dumbarton Library	free
Saturday 12 May	1.00pm	Super November	Clydebank Library	free
WEEK 2				
Monday 14 May	2.00pm & 7.00pm	Starting Your Novel with Kirsty Logan	Dalmuir Library	free
Monday 14 May	7.00pm	Sally Magnusson	Dumbarton Library	free
Tuesday 15 May	7.00pm	Hania Allen	Duntocher Library	free
Wednesday 16 May	7.00pm	Darren McGarvey	Dalmuir Library	free
Thursday 17 May	7.00pm	Stuart David	Alexandria Library	free
Friday 18 May	7.00pm	Booked! Cabaret	Millennium Hall, Gartocharn	£5
Saturday 19 May	11.00am	Alison Murray	Alexandria Library	free

Tickets for all events can be booked exclusively using Eventbrite.



www.booked2018.eventbrite.co.uk

Need help booking tickets?

Visit your local library and ask a member of staff.

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WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

FESTIVAL OF WORDS

For Booked! tickets visit

 booked2018.eventbrite.co.uk

Do you know that we have a number of events throughout the year?

Keep in touch with us

 West Dunbartonshire Libraries and Cultural Services

 @wdclibraries

www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/booked2018

West
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8 to 19 MAY 2018

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE