

News from Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries

Sandra Harnum, Regional Librarian (Western Division), and Emma Craig, Regional Librarian (St. John's Division)

WritersNL and NLPL's Writers-in-Residence

Submitted by Sandra Harnum and Emma Craig

This fall, NLPL partnered with WritersNL to host four local authors at our libraries as part of the Year of the Arts 2024 initiative in Newfoundland & Labrador. The four Writers-in-Residence were selected by WritersNL to serve as literary ambassadors for their communities through providing encouragement and advice to other local authors. They also selected two Writers-in-Schools, **Sheilah Roberts Lukins** and **Sabrina Pinksen**, to present literary activities to NL classes.

WritersNL's Year of the Arts: Meet our Writers!

Writers-In-Residence:

Trudy Morgan-Cole
CBS Public Library

Sharon Bala
AC Hunter Public Library

Douglas Walbourne-Gough
Comer Brook Public Library

Sara Tilley
Melville Public Library

Writers-In-Schools:

Sheilah Roberts Lukins

Sabrina Pinksen

WritersNL
write here

Newfoundland & Labrador
Public Libraries

YEAR OF THE
ARTS
NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR
2024

From October 7th to November 3rd, **Sara Tilley was the Writer-in-Residence for the Melville Public Library**. Sara is the author of two novels: *Skin Room* and the Winterset award-winning *DUKE*. She has also written various plays in her time. During her residency, Sara offered one-on-one writing consultations with local aspiring writers, led a co-writing group, as well as hosted a Hallowe'en Open

Mic. Through these consultations, many connections were formed and a positive impact made on the communities.

From October 10th to November 8th, **Trudy Morgan-Cole was the Writer-in-Residence for Conception Bay South Public Library**. Trudy is the author of over 20 books, with a particular focus on historical novels set in Newfoundland. During her residence, Trudy offered one-on-one consultations, a writing workshop, and a public reading from her recent book series, *The Cupids Trilogy*. She also provided a presentation on her experience with re-imagining the unwritten stories of Newfoundland women, and other writers can do this in their own writing.

From October 17th to November 21st, **Douglas Walbourne-Gough was the Writer-in-Residence for Corner Brook Public Library**. Douglas has published two collections of poetry: *Crow Gulch* and *Island*. His work gives a raw insight around the Newfoundland Mi'kmaq experience. He has also published a chapbook of poetry titled *Colour Work* with Ansruther Press in January 2024. During his residency, Douglas offered one-on-one writing consultations as well as poetry writing workshops.

From October 22nd to November 20th, **Sharon Bala was the Writer-in-Residence for the A.C. Hunter Public Library**. Her debut novel, *The Boat People*, won various awards including the 2020 Newfoundland & Labrador Book Award and the 2019 Harper Lee Prize for Legal Fiction. Her short stories have been published in a variety of literary magazines. During her residence, Sharon offered one-on-one writing consultations and drop-in writing sessions. She also offered four workshops on a variety of writing skills.

It has been a pleasure to host these local authors at our libraries this fall. For more information on the Writers-in-Residency partnership, please visit [here](#).

Music in the Library! Bilingual Books & Music at the Corner Brook Public Library

Submitted by Sandra Harnum

Corner Brook Library hosted bilingual singer-songwriter **Adrian House** on Saturday, November 2 at 2:30pm. Adrian took patrons through a journey of music and literature, sharing his favorite literary works and pairing them with his songs. Among his recommendations were a collection of poetry titled *Come by Chance* by **Carl Leggo** as well as *Le Petit Prince* by **Antoine de Saint-Exupery**. Adrian performed songs from his latest album, *Pêcheur de Rêves*, as well as past albums. This event was presented in partnership with Réseau Culturel Francophone de TNL and Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council along with the assistance of Coline Tisserand, NL Public libraries' French Language Services Specialist.

Horseshoe Literary Festival at the Corner Brook Public Library

Submitted by Sandra Harnum

Corner Brook Library participated in the Horseshoe Literary Festival, as well as hosted the book launch of *Preserving Petries: Three Local Histories* by **Doris Butt** this past Fall. This was an extension of an

ongoing partnership between Horseshoe Press at Grenfell University and the Corner Brook Public Library.

On September 26, Corner Brook Public Library patrons were treated to a fantastic book reading by one of their own creative writing group members, **Doris Butt**. She shared her locally published book, *Preserving Petries – Three Local Histories* with patrons. The book was published by Horseshoe Press and the cover was uniquely created using paper made from a local artisan, [Purple Butterfly Paper](#). [The event was live streamed](#) on the Corner Brook Library branch Facebook page for those not able to attend in person. It was a wonderful evening of learning about the history of Corner Brook.



On October 25-26, The Horseshoe Literary Festival took place in the City of Corner Brook.

On October 26, **Brittany Noseworthy**, Corner Brook Library branch supervisor, led patrons of all ages in a foam printmaking session after a family story-time, in partnership with Horseshoe press. Patrons were taught how to make a stamp using foam printing plates and then left to create their own unique designs. Patrons brought home their unique pieces of artwork and had a great time at the event. See the inserted image for some creative works of art.

Love Our Local Authors' Summer Reading Series at the Woody Point Public Library

Submitted by Sandra Harnum

Woody Point Public Library hosted local author readings during the Writers at Woody Point Festival again this summer. The writers were: **Floyd Spracklin**, **Tony Payne**, **Judith M. Doucette**, and **Gloria Field**. For the first time, two local Children's authors (**Gloria Field** and **Judith M. Doucette**) were invited with much success. The Shed, a local coffeehouse, provided free lemonade to all attendees at Gloria's interactive reading of *Giselle's Ballet Wish*. Qalipu First Nation Chief **Jenny Brake** introduced Judith prior to her reading of *Poppa and the Sacred Kitpu*. After her reading, patrons were overwhelmed with emotion during Judith's performance of her reconciliation song as she sang and played the drum. These readings were organized by Woody Point Public Library in partnership with the Writers at Woody Point Literary Festival.

The festival happens every August in Woody Point, NL. For more information, please visit [here](#).