



Edinburgh
International
Book Festival

Cumbernauld
19 – 21 May

**A festival uncovering
the human stories
behind the buildings in
Scotland's New Towns**

**booked.edbookfest.co.uk
[@edbookfest](https://twitter.com/edbookfest)**



**RE
IMAGI
NATION**

1947: The New Towns Act is passed.

1957: The first sod of the New Town is cut.

1967: The Town Centre complex is opened.

What happened next?

ReimagiNation: Cumbernauld is a festival weekend bringing stories out of the shadows of the New Town's infamous architecture.

Produced by the Edinburgh International Book Festival in partnership with CultureNL and having taken input from hundreds of local residents, workers and organisations, this festival weekend launches an 18 month tour of Scotland's 5 New Towns with an exciting programme of events, debates, workshops, readings, performances, walking tours, exhibitions and more for adults and children.

From crime fiction to local history and sci-fi to sport, we listened to what local people want as we built ReimagiNation, ensuring there are events for all ages and all interests as well as plenty of free drop-in activities. There's even a pop-up Waterstones bookshop on Teviot Walk, and Cumbernauld Librarians will be on the ground level too.

ReimagiNation is a chance to tell your story in your town, and hear others from some of the best authors and performers around.



Access and Ticketing

Most ReimagiNation events take place around Cumbernauld Town Centre. Signs and staff in the centre will direct you.

ReimagiNation is accessible on foot, by car, rail or bus. Travel information can be found on booked.edbookfest.co.uk or check Traveline Scotland.

Venues & Access:

Cumbernauld Shopping Centre venues:

Festival Hub, Cinema and Library/Bookshop: Teviot Walk (ground level).

Castle Comics: Turn right at the top of the escalator on Teviot Walk.

Cumbernauld Library and Museum: Allander Walk (top floor). Fully accessible.

Penthouse Flats: Please note the flats are not fully accessible. See online for details.

New Town Hall, Bron Way:

Opposite the Antonine Centre, between The Tryst and Central Heath Centre. Fully accessible, parking available.

St Mungo's Parish Church, 4 St Mungo's Road:

Directly outside Tweed Walk Shopping Centre exit. Travel and access info online.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Kyle Road, Kildrum:

Parking available. Travel and access info online.

Full access info:
booked.edbookfest.co.uk

Tickets cost £5 or £3.50 concessions unless otherwise stated.

To Book:

Online: booked.edbookfest.co.uk

Phone: 01698 274545

Visit: Cumbernauld Library, or Motherwell Concert Hall (Mon – Fri, 9am – 4.45pm)

Many events and exhibitions are free. See back for details.

Concessions:

Under 16s, students, pensioners, registered disabled and jobseekers. Carers go free.

Group discounts and Festival Passes available by phone.

Events last one hour unless stated. Most include an audience Q&A, followed by a book signing.

Free Drop-In Events

Tales of Our Town

Sat: 8.15am – 6.30pm | Sun: 11am – 5pm
Cumbernauld Shopping Centre

Discover four new illustrated tales of the town created by local pupils in our ReimagiNation residency. How do the kids of Carbrain, Kildrum, St Mary's and St Margaret of Scotland Primary Schools imagine Cumbernauld — past, present and future?

50 Years of Cumbernauld Town Centre

Sat: 10am – 6pm | Sun: 11am – 4pm
Cumbernauld Museum

A display of items from North Lanarkshire's Cumbernauld Collection, marking 50 years since the Town Centre was opened.

Build a Carbrain Totem with Eilidh Muldoon

Sat & Sun: 11am – 4pm
Festival Hub, All ages

Inspired by Brian Miller, Cumbernauld's very first town artist, join artist Eilidh Muldoon to build your own version of his Carbrain landmark.

Faulty Towers: New Town Life & Housing

Sat & Sun: 10am – 4pm
St Mungo's Church

Explore 70 years of life and housing in Cumbernauld through fascinating photos, adverts, letters and plans. See how the town's innovative housing was envisioned then shaped by those who moved in, and add your own photos and memories.

Pop-Up Cinema

Sat & Sun: 10am – 6pm
Cinema, All ages

Step into Cumbernauld's past and enjoy a rolling programme of films from North Lanarkshire's Cumbernauld Collection and the National Library of Scotland Film Archive. Films include: *Cumbernauld: Town for Tomorrow*, *Cumbernauld Hit*, ads and cartoons from 1950 to 1980.

See the Light: UV Drawing Room

Sat & Sun: 10am – 4pm
Teviot Walk

Step into an amazing UV Drawing Room and reveal incredible images from Cumbernauld's past! Use UV torches and special templates of images from the Cumbernauld Collection to see the New Town as never before.

Building Blocks: Lego Animation Workshop

Sat & Sun: 11am – 4pm
Festival Hub, Ages 8 – 13

Make your own short animation using everyone's favourite toy – Lego. Get advice on creating a story, then learn to film a short stop-frame animation.

It's All About UKE!

Sun: 1pm – 1.45pm & 1.45pm – 2.30pm
Cumbernauld Library, Ages 8+

A family-focused taster workshop on that much loved instrument – the ukulele! No previous experience required.

Cumbernauld Unbound

Sat: 8pm – 10pm, See inside for details

Books, reimagined

Books and stories are hugely diverse, and so are we. Traditional events see authors talk about their writing and lives. They may read extracts and take your questions. You can usually chat with them afterwards too. But from lively debates to fascinating reading workshops, creative sessions for kids to food events, and theatrical performances to cabaret nights, a Book Festival event can offer something special to everyone.

Tickets: £5 / £3.50
Events 1 hour
Unless stated
booked.edbookfest.co.uk

Friday 19 May

My Cumbernauld, My Story: Workshop

1pm – 4pm, Cumbernauld Museum
Come along to share reflections and experiences of your life in Cumbernauld, and feed into the creation of a collage of local stories. Bring any items you would like to add.

The Big Festival Book Club

4.30pm, Cumbernauld Library
Free but ticketed
Dive into history with local librarians and explore the bestselling fiction of 1957 – when Cumbernauld was being designed. Come along for a read and a chat. Refreshments provided. No advance reading required.

Bloody Murder: Graeme Macrae Burnet

7pm, New Town Hall
A national publishing success story last year, Graeme Macrae Burnet's *His Bloody Project* is a mesmerising thriller centred on a triple murder in a remote Highland community in 1869. Join the author and delve into a story of murder and madness.

Saturday 20 May

The Big Book Bonanza

11am – 12.30pm,
New Town Hall, Ages 8+
Join a whole host of favourite children's authors for a fun-filled start to Saturday! There's something for everyone in a packed line-up including Lari Don, David MacPhail, Barry Hutchison, Mark A Smith and Jenny Colgan, plus hosts Macastory and some special guests.

Plan

11.30am – 1pm & 2.30pm – 4pm
New Town Hall, Adults & 8+
Ishbel McFarlane's *Plan* is a show with a game in it, in which you plot and build your own imaginary New Town. It's a show about utopias, refugees and cities offering a thought-provoking spin on how modern Cumbernauld came to be.

Utopia to Carbuncle: Town Centre Walking Tour

11.30am – 1pm, Meet: 11.15am
Sacred Heart Church, All ages
Reimagine Cumbernauld through the eyes of two leading experts, Miles Glendinning and local writer Diane Watters, both thoroughly steeped in the New Town history. Bookended by visits to two impressive modernist churches, this walking tour starts at Sacred Heart in Kildrum and finishes at St Mungo's. Tour concludes at St Mungo's Church.

Chris Leslie & Johnny Rodger: Disappearing Glasgow

12pm, Cumbernauld Library
Acclaimed photographer Chris Leslie and Professor of Architecture Johnny Rodger lead you through a moving account of the buildings and communities that are vanishing as Glasgow regenerates. *Disappearing Glasgow* is a striking, evocative chronicle of what is – or isn't – left behind.

David Bishop on Dredd Reading Workshop

12pm, Castle Combs
Get a citizen's eye view of life in the near-future dystopia of *Judge Dredd: America* with expert David Bishop and explore what drives people to protest for democratic rights. Expect lively discussion. Read the book beforehand or grab a copy afterwards.

Patrick Elliott & Anne Galastro on Joan Eardley

1.30pm, Cumbernauld Library
Urban poverty and rural beauty contrast in Scottish artist Joan Eardley's work. Learn details of her life and art as Patrick Elliott (Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art) and Anne Galastro (University of Edinburgh) reveal the humanity which brought these threads of

Diane Watters: Birth, Death, Renewal

2pm, New Town Hall
Join architectural historian Diane Watters for a lively account of the past and possible futures for St Peter's Seminary in Cardross, an iconic modernist structure which has been praised and pilloried in equal measure, and is now being transformed into a cultural space.

The Town for Tomorrow Story Tour

2pm – 3.30pm, Meet 1.45pm
St Mungo's Church, All ages
Cumbernauld has always been the Town for Tomorrow, but did you know that it's also the future seat of Scotland's space programme? That's what storytelling duo Macastory tell us at any rate! Join them on a fun song and story trail through the Town Centre.

Jenny Colgan on A Wrinkle in Time Reading Workshop

2.30pm, Penthouse Flats
Meet: 2.15pm, Cumbernauld Library
Join *Doctor Who* writer Jenny Colgan for Madeline L'Engle's lively workshop on a classic, award-winning sci-fi novel. Explore the intergalactic adventure of the original book which has been adapted for stage and screen, with a new film due in 2018. Passages provided, no need to read beforehand.

Denise Mina: Killer Fiction

3pm, Cumbernauld Library
Scottish crime superstar Denise Mina's latest novel follows the twinned fates of William Watt and Peter Manuel, offering a compelling fictionalised account of Scotland's first convicted serial killer. See a crime writer at the top of her unsettling game.

Overspilling: Cumbernauld Stories

4pm
New Town Hall, Free but ticketed
A special showcase of Cumbernauld stories from residents young and old. Having worked with social historian Daniel Gray, group members at CACE Older People Active Lives reveal fresh tales of the town's past and future, while Mike Nicholson shares stories created by pupils from four local primary schools. Tea and cake provided.

Talking the Town with Adam Kaasa

5.30pm, Cumbernauld Library
The creation of Cumbernauld was part of an architectural vision for the 20th century. The Quito Papers is an exciting global project redefining the vision for our towns and cities today. Join project director Adam Kaasa and get involved in this interactive event to discuss how these ideas change our everyday lives.

David F Ross & David Keenan: Songs for Forgotten Futures

7pm, New Town Hall
Two authors bring 80s music to the fore through fiction. David F Ross' *The Man Who Loved Islands* follows the trials of two men reuniting an Ayrshire band for an island festival, while David Keenan's *This is Memorial Device* celebrates the misfit musicians who lit up Airdrie. Hear from the authors in an unmissable event for those formed by the musical mood of the 1980s.

Cumbernauld Unbound!

20:00 – 22:00, New Town Hall,
Free, drop-in
Local author Kirkland Ciccone guides us through a spectacular cabaret evening stuffed with readings, performance, music and laughter. Expect performances from Helen MacKinven, David F Ross, David Keenan and others, music from Glasgow trio The Flexibles, plus hear some special stories from CACE Older People Active Lives members.

Sunday 21 May

Braw Wee Stories with Mike Nicholson

11.30am
Cumbernauld Library, Ages 3 - 6
Mike Nicholson brings the friendly folk and fun Scots words of Thistle Street to Cumbernauld. Join him for a lively interactive session of rhyme, word-play and guessing games.

Plan

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New Town Hall, Adults & 8+
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Liz Lochhead: Poetry and Place

12pm, New Town Hall
Before taking up the mantle of Scots Makar, poet Liz Lochhead was an art teacher in Cumbernauld. She takes you on a journey through her work and inspirations, investigating how poetry informs our understanding of where we're from.

Liz Lochhead on Edwin Morgan's Poetry Reading Workshop

2pm, Penthouse Flats
Meet: 1.45pm, Cumbernauld Library
The poetry of Glasgow's first Laureate Edwin Morgan bore witness to the city and its people – their pain, joy, hope, humanity – while being endlessly inventive. Join Liz Lochhead for a discussion about her friend's finest work. Poems provided, no advance reading required.

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Afternoon Tea with Sue Lawrence

2.30pm – 3.45pm
New Town Hall, £10 / £7.50
Over a spot of tea, acclaimed food writer Sue Lawrence shares her second novel *The Night He Left* – a book packed full of twists and turns with a gripping finale. An event with plenty to get your teeth into! Afternoon tea baked to Sue's own recipes included.

Every Other Saturday: Daniel Gray & Mat Guy

3pm, Cumbernauld Library
It's not life and death: it's more serious than that. Two football-daft writers bring the best and worst of the beautiful game to light in heartfelt explorations of modern football fandom in *Saturday*, 3pm and *Another Bloody Saturday*. Hear them share stories of hope, humour, community – and of course, goals.

Debate: Still the Town for Tomorrow?

4.30pm – 6pm
New Town Hall, Free but ticketed
Cumbernauld is a town founded on the principles and optimism of the post-war age. Now, in a time of global flux when the meaning of home and community is changing rapidly, what can we learn from the experience in this New Town? Join local writers Diane Watters and Kirkland Ciccone plus fellow panellist Adam Kaasa in a debate chaired by writer and broadcaster Richard Holloway.