

SUMMER 2021  
NEWSLETTER

# Libraries



# Museums



Please note the electronic version of this newsletter contains activated links, please click on the link text to open these.

All 14 local libraries, the Local History reference library and the Community Museums housed in libraries opened their doors to visitors on 17 May by appointment.

Customers can now book appointments to browse our library collections, use the public PCs, photocopiers and printers and collect NHS hearing aid batteries.

To book an appointment, please call or email your local library direct. Contact details for each library are available at <https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/your-library>. PC access can also be booked online at

<https://pcbooking.westlothian.gov.uk/cire/>

Appointments are limited based on the capacity at each library, to ensure the safety of staff and customers, with new one-way systems, appropriate enhanced hygiene and physical distancing measures in place for each location.

Our helpful library staff will be on hand for assistance if required and physical distancing can be maintained.

All 14 local libraries will continue to operate click/phone and collect services.

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/libraries>



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## New library spaces



**Carmondean library** has now moved into its beautiful new home in Livingston North Partnership Centre which is only a short walk north from the old library building. The library shares the Partnership Centre with a variety of services including the Customer Information Service (CIS), Macmillan Cancer Support, the Ability Centre Support Service and the Supported Employment Service. For more information please visit:

<https://bit.ly/CarmondeanLib>

**Lanthorn library** has temporarily moved to a new location at Torridon House whilst urgent repairs are carried out the Lanthorn Community Complex.

Lanthorn library@Torridon House is situated just opposite the shopping centre in the heart of Livingston and offers a lovely, spacious library space.

For more information please visit:

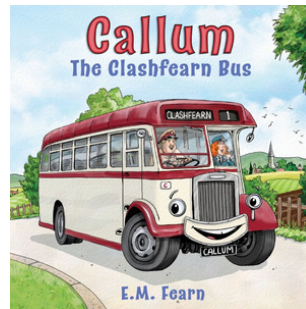
<https://bit.ly/LanthornLib>



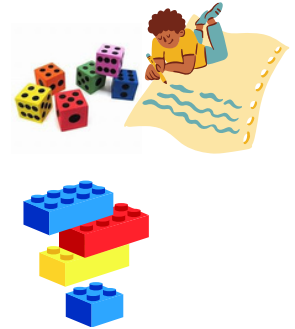
# Libraries Activities

## Online activity programme

Every month we produce a new online activity programme which has proven to be very popular. Over the last few months our online activities have included: Bookbug, story time and virtual library tour videos, quizzes, craft demonstrations, creative writing courses Lego challenges, a scavenger hunt and various reading and writing activities.



Lantern library  
Roll-a-Story - Writing Activity



## Bookbug's Big Splash

Celebrate Bookbug Week  
17-23 May 2021

#BookbugWeek



Bookbug colouring and drawing activity



Colour in a Bookbug or draw your own

## Bookbug Week 2021 Bookbug's Big Splash

During Bookbug Week from Monday 17 May – Sunday 23 May, we asked the children of West Lothian to colour in some Bookbug pictures.

The children amazed us again and we received 74 pictures which can be viewed here:

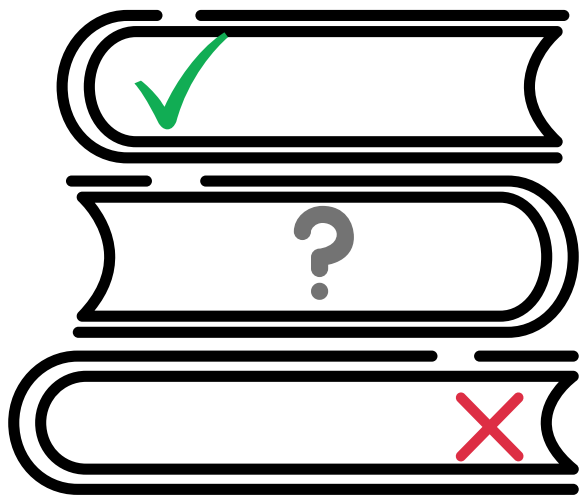
<http://bit.ly/BBugActivity2021>

<http://bit.ly/WLLOnlineActivities>



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## Book Reviews & Recommendations



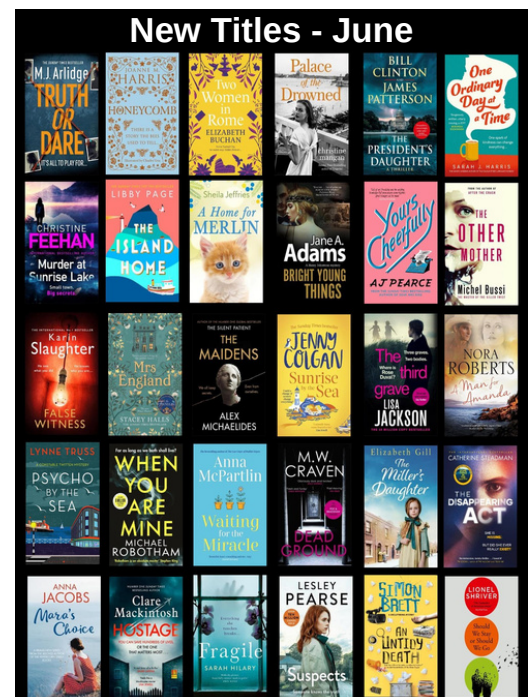
All customers, including children and young people can now share what they think about books borrowed from our library collections, by completing and sending us a book review, either online or paper copies can be collected and handed in at any West Lothian library. We will publish as many reviews as we can.

To read other people's reviews or write one of your own, please visit: <https://bit.ly/WLReviewsRecommendations>

## Click/Phone & Collect services

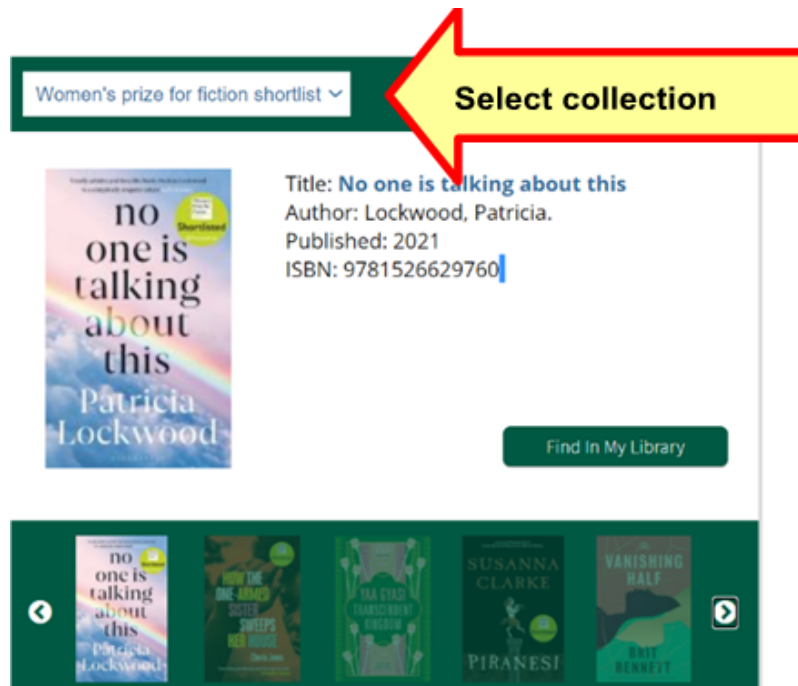
Available at all 14 local libraries. Library members can choose up to 10 items from our library catalogue and book an appointment to safely collect and return these. Full instructions are available on your local library's webpage:

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/your-library>



**New !!!** Reserve our new titles each month with our **New titles reservation form**. Simply provide your details, tick the box next to the books you wish to reserve and hand the form into your local library at your next appointment. A member of library staff will contact you when selections are ready for collection.

## Virtual book displays



On the front page of our online catalogue, we now have virtual displays of various book collections we have available to borrow from our catalogue. We update this regularly, often to reflect a relevant subject of the time e.g. we have just set a collection which reflects the 'Women's prize for fiction shortlist'. You can search the different collections to view using the dropdown tab (see arrow).

If you have any suggestions for collections to display using books from our library catalogue please email us:

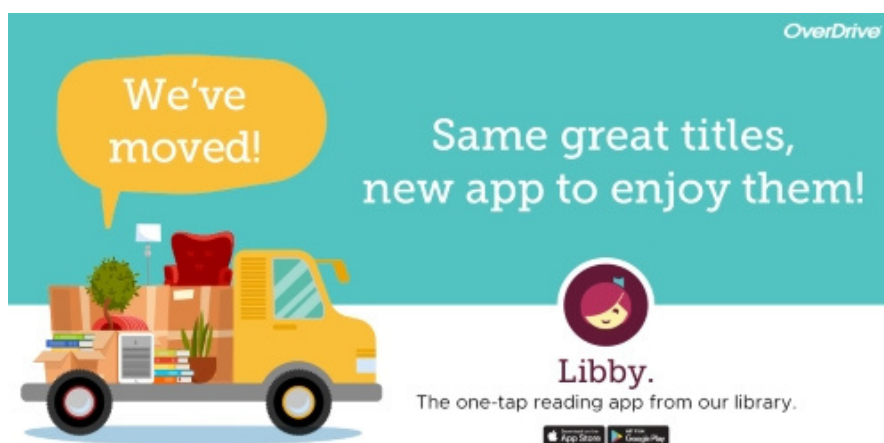
[library.info@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:library.info@westlothian.gov.uk)

<https://bit.ly/WLIOneCatalogue>



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## New e-Magazine supplier



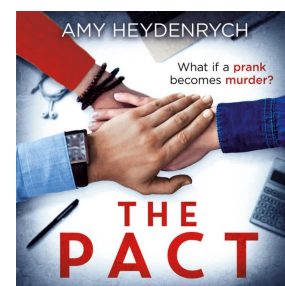
In February 2021 our e-Magazine supplier changed to Libby from Overdrive. Libby offers our library members access to thousands of digital magazines. The registration process is really simple too, all you need is your library membership number and PIN to get start browsing and borrowing: <https://bit.ly/WLle-Magazines>

## Digital book of the month

We will continue to provide unlimited copies of a different 'Digital Book of the month' each month. The latest e-Book and e-Talking book of the month can be downloaded here:

<http://bit.ly/DigBookofMonth>

Increased e-Book & e-Talking book content – We continue to add content to our digital library every month.



Click on image to preview e-Talking book read by [Katie Warnusz-Steckel](#)

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/eLibrary>



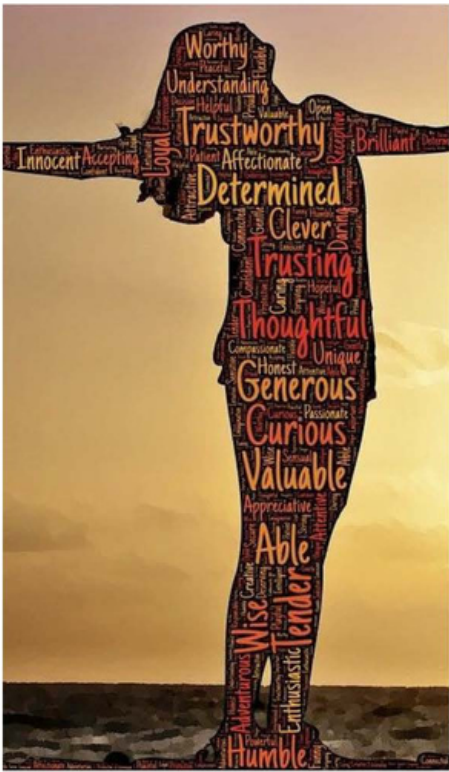
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## Library Projects

West Lothian libraries regularly work with external partners and agencies to deliver projects that are progressive, relevant, interesting and in the best interest of our communities. Here are some of the current projects:

### Celebrate Kindness in Libraries

Kindness is free  
Sprinkle it everywhere!



Brighten up someone's  
day even if it's just with  
a smile

### Kindness in Libraries

Kindness in libraries began with Kindness Week 24-30 May when 'Kindness Trees' were displayed and free tags were made available in each of our 14 libraries and will continue throughout the summer.

Visitors attending a library appointment will be encouraged to write kindness thoughts on a tag and place it on our 'Kindness Trees' for others to read and share.

Free Kindness in Libraries bookmarks containing wellbeing contacts and helplines, designed by Lisa Battle, CSA at Almondbank library, will be available from your local library from July

West Lothian libraries 'Kindness in Libraries' project is part of the Carnegie UK Trust 'Creating Space for Kindness' initiative.

<http://bit.ly/CarnegieUKTrust-CreatingSpaceforKindness>



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## Library Lab - STEM Workshops (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)

STEM workshops are held at Almondbank library for 2 hours per week for 6 weeks. S1 & S2 students from local high schools participate in sessions designed to promote learning in the following areas:

- Team building and problem solving
- Robot building and coding
- 3D pens and 3D printing using Tinkercad
- Coding using BBC Micro:bit

At the end of their workshop group, every student takes home their 3D printed robot and a certificate of achievement.



N.B these workshops have currently paused but will resume as soon as COVID 19 restrictions allow.

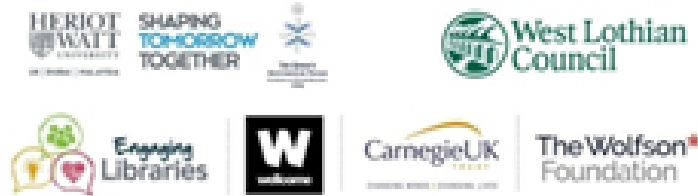
The Library Lab STEM project is part of the Carnegie Library Lab programme

<https://www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk/project/library-lab/>



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## Engaging Libraries 2 - Lothian Lugs'



'Lothian Lugs is part of Carnegie UK Trust Engaging Libraries programme and is a collaboration between West Lothian Libraries and Heriot Watt University, focused on listening to our communities.

We began by circulating a survey asking local people how they feel about local libraries and research being carried out in Universities, how it affects them and what subjects they would like to know more about. We received a phenomenal 596 completed surveys and plenty local volunteers to take part in our focus groups, which commenced on 1st June.

Feedback from the survey and all focus groups will be used to develop activities in our communities, for our communities as chosen by our communities.

The Engaging Libraries programme is a partnership between the Carnegie UK Trust, Wellcome and the Wolfson Foundation.

<https://www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk/libraries/>



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## Gift o' the Gab



'Gift o' the Gab is a communication project which welcomes local adults who experience communication barriers, to join our small group in a library for a couple of hours each week. We believe that everyone has a story to tell and Gift o' the Gab participants are encouraged and assisted by our professional story teller, to write 'their story' in a safe, inclusive, relaxed and fun environment.

The main aim of the project is to encourage participant socialisation and most importantly, for everyone involved to enjoy the experience. At the end of the project all stories will be professionally produced into both book & e-book formats for the participants.

If you are interested in taking part in Gift o' the Gab please email us: [library.info@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:library.info@westlothian.gov.uk)

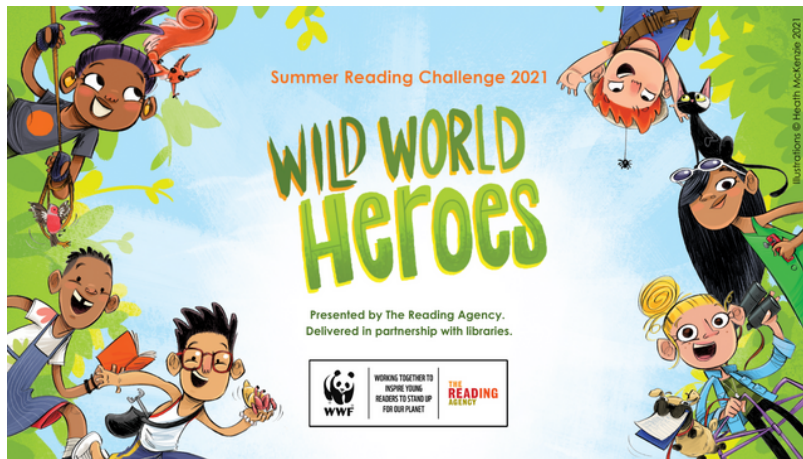
Gift o' the Gab is supported by the Scottish Government Public Library Quality Improvement Fund.

<https://scottishlibraries.org/funding/public-library-improvement-fund/>



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# Coming Soon



## Summer Reading Challenge 2021

The Summer Reading Challenge is run by the Reading Agency for children across the UK and is delivered in partnership with public libraries. It has been running for the past 22 years and aims to foster a lifelong love of reading and tackle the drop off in reading that happens over the school summer holidays.

Children are challenged to read as many books as they can over the summer and encouraged to enjoy reading for pleasure. Each year has a different theme – 2021 is Wild World Heroes, developed in partnership with WWF UK .

Summer Reading Challenge information is available from all 14 West Lothian libraries and we're keeping the digital offer this year too, to ensure children can still take part even though they may not be able to visit our libraries as often as usual.

The Summer Reading Challenge is open to all primary school aged children and is designed for all reading abilities.

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>



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## Museums are Go!

West Lothian's Community Museums have now reopened.

### #MuseumsareGo

Visits will initially be on an appointment basis. You can browse our museums for up to 45 minutes. All customers will be asked to wear a face covering unless exempt, follow the signage and use the one-way systems in place, hand sanitise, socially distance and use the test and protect procedure.

Appointments can be booked by calling the library. Please check the individual library's for appointment availability:

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/your-library>

Please advise how many people, including children, will attend when booking your appointment.

- Armadale Community Museum – Armadale library  
Tel: 01506 282282
- Blackridge Community Museum – Blackridge library  
Tel: 01506 282282
- Broxburn Community Museum – Broxburn library  
Tel: 01506 284294
- Whitburn Community Museum – Whitburn library  
Tel: 01501 678050

[https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/44854/  
Museums](https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/44854/Museums)



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## The Wee Museum of Memory



**An assortment of vintage electronics - Do you recognise any?**

The Wee Museum of Memory at The Centre, Livingston has re-opened to the public.

The museum which is operated as a partnership between the Living Memory Association and the Council's Museums Service is full of objects and memorabilia designed to encourage reminiscence. Initially we are open Tuesday-Thursday 11am-3pm but we hope to increase our opening hours soon.

Covid measures are in place to ensure your safety, including a one-way system. Why not drop in the next time you are at the centre?

<https://www.livingmemory.org.uk/westLothian.php>



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## Handling sessions



### **Museums Officer Emma Peattie prepares an Egyptian session**

Covid-19 has put many Museum activities on hold, including our popular handling sessions for schools. Luckily funding from Museum Galleries Scotland has allowed us to offer virtual sessions and to create a number of fantastic new themed boxes. We are also developing creating museum learning videos which will complement the loan boxes. They will feature a number of objects that have never been taken out to the classroom. We have already completed two days of filming and look forward to introducing you to the new resources soon. The videos have been created with support from Linlithgow Heritage Trust who have allowed us to film in the lovely Linlithgow Museum. We have also included some of their collection items in the videos including some very special Egyptian shabti figures.

To find out more, make a booking, book a loan or a session email: [\*\*museums@westlothian.gov.uk\*\*](mailto:museums@westlothian.gov.uk)

[\*\*https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/44854/  
Museums\*\*](https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/44854/Museums)



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## Mining Objects Wanted



## Miners of Stoneyburn Colliery

**Did a member of your family work in the mining industry?**

Do you have any mining objects or memorabilia? The Museums Service is looking for donations of photographs and mining objects from pit checks and piece tins to uniforms and boots. The objects will be used in exhibitions and in work with schools and care facilities, ensuring that our mining heritage is shared and celebrated.

If you can help, please email: [museums@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:museums@westlothian.gov.uk)

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/44854/>  
Museums



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## Museum Talk Series



**Local historian, Sybil Cavanagh delivered a fascinating online talk entitled “Stiffs and Stones” to 119 attendees on the 27th May.**

The audience gained insight into the rich history of our local graveyards and discovered the meanings behind carvings on gravestones. Sybil also explored different types of gravestones and revealed the dark world of grave robbers who were active in West Lothian in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

The talk was very well received by the participants who had lots of questions for Sybil. Thank you to Sybil for delivering a fantastic talk.

[https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/44854/  
Museums](https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/44854/Museums)



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## West Lothian's Forgotten Oil Works



Our next online talk "West Lothian's Forgotten Oil Works" will be delivered on Thursday the 1st of July at 7.30pm by Dr Robin Chesters from Almond Valley Heritage Trust. We expect the tickets to sell out quickly. Book your place at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/west-lothians-forgotten-oil-works-tickets-157777740469>

The local photos below of days gone by and many more can be found on <http://www.flickr.com/westlopics> & **Facebook**



<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/44854/Museums>



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## **Libraries & Museums contact details and useful links**

**Almondbank Library - email: [almondbank.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:almondbank.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01506 283133**

**Armada & Library - email: [armadale.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:armadale.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01506 282282**

**Blackburn Library - email: [blackburn.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:blackburn.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01506 283990/1**

**Blackridge Library - email: [blackridge.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:blackridge.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01501 752396**

**Broxburn Library - email: [broxburn.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:broxburn.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01506 284294**

**Carmondean Library - email: [carmondean.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:carmondean.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01506 280080**

**East Calder Library - email: [eastcalder.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:eastcalder.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01506 284020**

**Fauldhouse Library - email: [fauldhouse.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:fauldhouse.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01501 773000**

**Lanthorn Library - email: [lanthorn.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:lanthorn.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01506 284940**

**Linlithgow Library - email: [linlithgow.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:linlithgow.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01506 283880**

**Local History - Please contact Linlithgow library**

**Pumpherstons Library - [pumpherstons.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:pumpherstons.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01506 280996**

**Simpson Library - email: [bathgate.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:bathgate.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01506 282910**

**West Calder Library - email: [westcalder.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:westcalder.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01506 283550**

**Whitburn Library - email: [whitburn.lib@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:whitburn.lib@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01501 678050**

**Museums Service - email: [museums@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:museums@westlothian.gov.uk) - Tel: 01506 283652**

**PC & Click & Collect - online appointment booking system - Online membership applications - Join the library 24/7 by completing our online membership application which can be found on our Library Membership webpage: Library membership**

**Please read the [Library Membership Regulations](#) and [Data Protection and GDPR](#) before completing the [online application](#).**

**Contact us by email: [library.info@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:library.info@westlothian.gov.uk)  
or telephone your local library**