

St Andrews mum starts book tour



Gill White (left) and illustrator Gilli B. at the launch of 'Leo and the Lightning Dragons'. Pictured below is Gill with little Leo.

# Flying visit from Leo's dragons in support of CHAS

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**A children's story written by Gill White as a labour of love for her little boy is to be brought to life with a series of free storytelling sessions.**

Inspired by her son Leo's fight with a rare form of epilepsy, St Andrews woman Gill made him the star of a story, titled 'Leo and the Lightning Dragons', illustrated by Ladybank artist Gilli B.

Encouragingly, critics, parents and libraries alike have taken the book to heart since it was published by Fledgling Press in January.

All royalties from sales of the book are being donated to Children's Hospices Across Scotland - better known as CHAS.

Leo was born with Ohtaha-

ra Syndrome - an extremely rare form of epilepsy which causes seizures and developmental delays. Just three days after entering the world, doctors switched off his ventilator and told Gill and her husband, Andrew, to say goodbye.

But, shortly after, Leo fought back and took his first unsupported breath. He has been defying the odds ever since and is now three years-old.

Speaking from the family home in St Andrews, Gill commented: "The response to Leo's book has been incredible, I am blown away by the re-

views, as well as the support we have received. A reprint had to be ordered only a week after publication! These particular events will be great fun for all kids, with colouring in, storytelling, shield and crown making, book signing and music. We also have a selection of sensory items for the kids to play with, which have proven popular so far."

As well as the book shop and Fife library tour, a number of events have been arranged with the PAMIS (Promoting a more inclusive society) group with the book adapted for those with profound and multiple learning difficulties.

These events will be starting in early summer, though PAMIS will also be taking the sensory story adaptation around schools for children with additional needs.

The tour begins this weekend and will be visiting north east Fife next month.

The tour will stop off at the Waterstones in St Andrews on April 20. An after-school event will be held at Cupar Library on May 10.

For more info visit [www.chas.org.uk](http://www.chas.org.uk).



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