

One Book, One Dufferin County concludes with author visit

An engaged and appreciative audience attended the grand finale of Dufferin Reads: One Book One County, featuring Charlotte Gray, at Grace Tipling Hall in Shelburne on Sunday afternoon.

The event featured interesting insights and a conversation about the historical backdrop of one of Canada's most sensational murder trials, the death of Bert Massey, a member of the illustrious Massey family allegedly at the hands of the maid.

Charlotte proved to be a terrific narrator about this particular period in history. Throughout the book, she consistently drew parallels between what was happening in the story about Carrie Davis, the alleged murderer in the drama and the events of World War I during the same time period. With her skills both as a researcher and a fine story teller, the author wove many historical elements into the book.

Particularly fascinating, was the overview of the roles of the different newspapers, their editors and owners and the significant impact they had on politics and life in Toronto.

Charlotte Gray has won many awards for her work, including the prestigious Pierre Berton Award for a body of historical writing, the Edna Staebler Award for Creative Non-Fiction, the 2014 Toronto Book Award, and the CAA Birks Family Foundation Award for Biography.

The author of nine acclaimed books of literary non-fiction, Charlotte Gray is one of Canada's best-known writers. She is a member of the Order of Canada and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

On February 12, the 2015 book title 'The Massey Murder: A Maid, Her Master and The Trial that Shocked a Country?' was revealed at Dufferin County Council.

Dufferin Reads: One Book One County (OBOC) is in its seventh year. The community-wide reading program allows all residents of Dufferin County to read together in a gigantic book club. OBOC is a partnership between the Shelburne, Orangeville, and Grand Valley Public Libraries and BookLore.

By Rose Dotten



Brenda Juno, Nancy Frater, BookLore, author Charlotte Gray, Rose Dotten, CEO, Shelburne Public Library and Darla Fraser, Chief Librarian, Orangeville Public Library (absent) Shann Leighton, CEO, Grand Valley Public Library proudly displaying The Massey Murder, this year's One Book One County choice



Darla Fraser and history teacher, Neil Orford enjoying a lively discussion with author Charlotte Gray



Chief Librarian from Orangeville and history Teacher Neil Orford