

# Inspire Libraries & Beyond What's On

## December – March 2026

### Contents

- [Booking Information](#)
- [Access](#)
- [Accreditations](#)
- [Reading](#)
- [Children and Families](#)
- [Film Events](#)
- [Healthier, Happier, Connected, Creative](#)
- [Heritage](#)
- [Hucknall, Skegby and Selston: Then & Now](#)
- [Exhibitions](#)
- [Jazz Steps Live at the Libraries](#)
- [Christmas at Inspire](#)

### Booking Information

Tickets for events can be booked online, in person at the library, or by calling Ask Inspire on 01623 677 200. Tickets are non-refundable unless an event is cancelled. Programme is subject to change and all details are correct at time of print.

Eventbrite is our ticket provider. [Read their accessibility statement on their website.](#)

## **Access**

Beeston, Mansfield Central Library, Worksop and West Bridgford libraries are all accessible to wheelchair users with ramp access, lifts to upper floors and disabled toilets.

Please let us know if you require a wheelchair for ticketed events or have access needs. [Visit your local library webpage](#) for more information.

## **Accreditations**

As an organisation we are proud to have received the Investors in Diversity Award. We are also:

- Carer Friendly
- Age Friendly
- Breastfeeding Friendly
- Dementia Friendly
- Disability Confident
- Family Arts Standard registered
- Hidden Disability Sunflower members

[Find out more about our vision and values on our website.](#)

## Reading

### Author Event

#### [Katy Watson](#)

- West Bridgford Library – Thursday 12 February, 7pm

An evening with author Katy Watson celebrating the golden age of crime fiction with a modern twist.

Tickets £5. Booking advised.

### Author Event

#### [Danny Scott](#)

- Sutton-in-Ashfield Library – Saturday 21 February, 12pm

Hear Danny Scott share stories from his memoir, *The Undisputed King of Selston*.

Tickets £3. Booking advised.

### Author Event

#### [Marcus Alton: Brian Clough The Lost Tapes](#)

- Mansfield Central Library – Tuesday 24 March, 2pm

Join author and journalist Marcus Alton as he talks about legendary football manager, Brian Clough.

Tickets £3. Booking advised.

## Children and Families

### Family Theatre

#### Nottingham Playhouse presents: The Little Mermaid

- Worksop Library – Saturday 24 January, 11am

Nottingham Playhouse's brand-new version of a family favourite. For ages 3 – 8 and their grown-ups.

Tickets £4 library members or £7 non-library members. Booking advised.

### Under 5s

#### Magical Missions! In Association with Nottingham Playhouse

- Mansfield Central Library – Monday 26 January, 10.30am
- Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library – Monday 26 January, 2pm
- Newark Library – Tuesday 27 January, 10.30am
- Southwell Library – Tuesday 27 January, 2pm
- Hucknall Library – Wednesday 28 January, 10.30am
- Sutton-in-Ashfield Library – Wednesday 28 January, 2pm
- West Bridgford Library – Thursday 29 January, 10.30am
- Bingham Library – Thursday 29 January, 2pm
- Worksop Library – Friday 30 January, 10.30am
- Retford Library – Friday 30 January, 2pm
- Beeston Library – Saturday 31 January, 10.30am

- Arnold Library – Saturday 31 January, 2pm

Physically explore stories, characters and landscapes through music, movement, and sensory play. Led by the theatre making team from Nottingham Playhouse.

For ages 2 – 4 and their grown-ups. Tickets £2 each.

### Children's Author Event

#### We Are All Inventors with Kate Pankhurst

- Mansfield Central Library – Saturday 7 February, 10.30am
- Worksop Library – Saturday 7 February, 2pm

Learn about inventing with author Kate Pankhurst. For children aged 6 – 10.

Tickets £3 for children and free for accompanying adults.

Booking advised.

### Family Theatre

#### Half Moon presents: Last Unicorn Airways, a Blanket Fort Club Production

- Beeston Library – Tuesday 17 February, 11am and 2pm

- Mansfield Central Library – Wednesday 18 February, 11am and 2pm
- Worksop Library – Thursday 19 February, 11am and 2pm

Join two playful baggage handlers as they unpack a globe-trotting adventure from a magical flight. For children aged 4 – 9, including those with complex needs and disabilities.

Tickets £4 library members or £7 for non-library members.

Booking advised.

## Children's Author Event

### [How to Train Your Teacher with Bethany Walker](#)

- Beeston Library – Friday 20 February, 10.30am
- West Bridgford Library – Friday 20 February, 2pm

Join Bethany Walker for a fun session of silly stories and awesome activities inspired by her books. For children aged 5 – 9.

Tickets £3 for children and free for accompanying adults.

Booking advised.

## Family Theatre

### [The Herd presents: Counting Sheep](#)

- Mansfield Central Library – Tuesday 31 March, 11am and 1.30pm
- Worksop Library – Wednesday 1 April, 11am and 1.30pm
- Beeston Library

A sleepy show for babies, toddlers and very tired grown-ups.  
For ages 0 – 3.

Tickets £4 for library members or £7 for non-library members.  
Booking advised.

## Family Concert

### Roots of Music

- West Bridgford Library – Sunday 8 February, 1pm
- Beeston Library – Saturday 28 February, 1pm
- Sutton-in-Ashfield Library – Saturday 28 March, 1pm

An exciting family concert exploring the roots of music. For ages 7 – 11.

£4 library members. £7 non-library members. Booking advised.

## Family Workshop

### Make Seed Paper and Have Fun Growing! With Bus and Bird Arts

- Arnold Library – Saturday 28 February, 10.30am – 12.30pm

Make coloured seed papers and decorate them with natural materials.

Under 5s

### **Little Creatives**

Taking place monthly at 12 Inspire Libraries. [See website for full details.](#)

- Arnold Library
- Beeston Library
- Bingham Library
- Hucknall Library
- Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library
- Mansfield Central Library
- Newark Library
- Retford Library
- Southwell Library
- Sutton-in-Ashfield Library
- West Bridgford Library
- Worksop Library

Sessions at 10 am -10.45 am or 11.15 am – 12 pm

Join us for creative art sessions specifically designed by artists for children aged 2-5 and their families. Book one or more dates and choose a session time that suits you. All children must be accompanied.



Free. Booking essential.

## **Under 5s**

### **[Adventures in Music](#)**

Starting from 12 January.

Adventures in Music uses music and movement to develop your child's language skills, spark their imagination and build their confidence.

Suitable for children aged 2 – 5.

Children must be supervised throughout the sessions.

Start dates for each library will vary. For full dates and times

visit: <https://www.inspireculture.org.uk/arts-culture/children-and-families/>

Libraries include:

- Beeston
- Bingham
- Carlton Hill
- Carlton
- Cotgrave
- Hucknall
- Kirkby-in-Ashfield
- Mansfield Central
- Newark
- Retford
- Stapleford

- Sutton-in-Ashfield
- Worksop

£30. Booking Advised.

Under 5s

### [The Lullaby Bank](#)

At various Inspire Libraries starting from 12 January. Libraries include:

- Arnold
- Beeston
- Bingham
- Carlton Hill
- Carlton
- Cotgrave
- Eastwood
- Hucknall
- Kirkby-in-Ashfield
- Mansfield Central
- Newark
- Southwell
- Stapleford
- Sutton-in-Ashfield

The Lullaby Bank is for mums and babies from 0 – 9 months to relax and bond in a calm space. Sing and listen to melodies

from around the world. A partnership between Inspire Music and Music for Everyone.

Free. Booking advised.

Family Workshops

### **Nottinghamshire Festival of Science and Curiosity**

9 – 20 February at various libraries

Events to celebrate science, technology and maths. Booking opens at [nottsfosac.co.uk](http://nottsfosac.co.uk) in January.

Free. For ages 5 – 11.

Family Fun Day

### **Science Fun Day**

- Mansfield Central Library – Monday 16 February, 10am – 2pm

A fun-filled day of drop-in activities led by scientists, researchers and students based in Nottinghamshire. For ages 5 – 11 and their families.

Free. No booking required.

Family Workshops

## I Am A Storyteller

- Mansfield Woodhouse Library – Saturday 14 February
- Sutton-in-Ashfield Library – Monday 16 February
- Edwinstowe Library – Tuesday 17 February
- Warsop Library – Tuesday 17 February
- Farnsfield Library – Wednesday 18 February
- Retford Library – Wednesday 18 February
- Balderton Library – Thursday 19 February
- Collingham Library – Thursday 19 February
- Southwell Library – Friday 20 February
- Skegby and Stanton Hill Library – Friday 20 February

All sessions 10am – 12pm.

Story creating and sharing workshops for families led by a professional storyteller. For ages 7+.

Free. Booking advised.

## **Film Events**

Our relaxed and dementia friendly film screenings are suitable for all and include a break and refreshments. Dementia friendly film screenings are particularly suitable for those with memory challenges, and relaxed screenings are ideal for neurodiverse families.

Dementia Friendly

### [A Christmas Carol \(U\)](#)

- Mansfield Central Library – Wednesday 10 December, 1.30pm

An old man who hates Christmas is taught the true meaning and spirit of the season by ghosts who show him his own past, present and future.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Dementia Friendly

### [Casablanca \(U\)](#)

- Sutton-in-Ashfield Library – Tuesday 10 February, 2pm

During WWII, Rick, a nightclub owner in Casablanca, agrees to help his former lover Ilsa and her husband. Soon, Ilsa's feelings for Rick resurface and she finds herself renewing her love for him.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Dementia Friendly

### [Going In Style \(12\)](#)

- Mansfield Central Library – Wednesday 11 March, 1.30pm

Desperate to pay their bills and support their loved ones, lifelong pals Willy Davis, Albert Gardner, and Joe Harding risk it all by robbing the bank that absconded with the pension money that they earned from working there for years.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Dementia Friendly

### [The Jungle Book \(U\)](#)

- Sutton-in-Ashfield Library – Tuesday 24 March, 2pm

Mowgli is a boy brought up in the jungle by a pack of wolves. When Shere Khan, a tiger, threatens to kill him, a panther and a bear help him escape his clutches.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Relaxed Screening

### [The Snowman \(U\)](#)

- West Bridgford Library – Sunday 7 December, 3.30pm

A beautiful story of a boy whose snowman comes to life at midnight.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Relaxed Screening

**Gnomeo and Juliet (U)**

- Mansfield Central Library – Saturday 21 February, 1pm

This comical animated reboot of William Shakespeare's play takes place in the world of warring garden gnomes.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Relaxed Screening

**27 Dresses (12A)**

- Sutton-in-Ashfield Library – Tuesday 3 March, 2pm

After serving as a bridesmaid 27 times, Jane is shocked when her younger sister announces her engagement to the man she loves.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Relaxed Screening

**Inside Out (U)**

- Mansfield Central Library – Wednesday 1 April, 1.30pm

After young Riley is uprooted from her Midwest life and moved to San Francisco, her emotions - Joy, Fear, Anger, Disgust and

Sadness - conflict on how best to navigate a new city, house, and school.

Enjoy a craft activity before the film.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Family Film and Activity

### **Small World Cinema: Musical Shorts**

- Sutton-in-Ashfield Library – Wednesday 18 February, craft at 1.30pm and film at 2pm

Join Small World Cinema at Sutton Library for a joyful celebration of sound and music in film.

Tickets free. Booking advised.

## **Healthier, Happier, Connected, Creative**

Informal music concerts, hands-on creative workshops and health activities to boost strength, balance and memory.

Live Music

### **Songs & Scones**

Retford Library:



- Fridays at 2pm on 5 December, 9 January, 6 February and 6 March
- Hucknall Library: Wednesdays at 2pm on 10 December, 14 January, 11 February, 11 March

Enjoy a cup of tea, a scone and uplifting live performances from professional musicians.

£3. Booking advised.

## Workshop

### Mind & Movement

Retford Library:

- Fridays at 2pm on 12 December, 23 January, 27 February and 27 March

Hucknall Library:

- Wednesdays at 2pm on 3 December, 21 January, 18 February and 18 March

Move to music – a friendly mix of light exercise to help with balance, strength and mobility.

Free. Booking required.

## Art Workshop

## **Connect & Create**

Retford Library:

- Wednesdays at 2pm on 3 December, 7 January, 4 February and 4 March

Hucknall Library:

- Wednesdays at 2pm on 17 December, 28 January, 25 February and 25 March

Experiment with artistic styles and techniques in a relaxed group.

£3. Booking advised.

## **Heritage**

Heritage Talk

### **The Christmas Radio Times**

- Beeston Library - Wednesday 10 December, 2pm

For many families, the arrival of the Christmas edition of The Radio Times signalled the start of the festive season. In this talk, local historian Robert Mee will look at the changing nature of the magazine.

Tickets £3. Booking required.

## Heritage Talk

### [The Worksop and Retford Brewery Company](#)

- Worksop Library - Wednesday 21 January, 2pm

This illustrated talk, by local authors and researchers Dave Pickersgill and John Stocks, tells the half-forgotten story of what was once one of Worksop's foremost industries.

Tickets £3. Booking required.

## Heritage Talk

### [Historical Highlights of the Newark and Sherwood Landscape](#)

- Newark Library – Thursday 12 February, 2pm

Join local historian Adrian Gray for his personal selection of the most interesting historical sites in Newark and Sherwood.

Tickets £3. Booking required.

## Heritage Talk

### [Red Blood for Black Gold](#)

- Mansfield Central Library – Tuesday 17 February, 2pm

Join us for a talk by Roger West, author of *Red Blood for Black Gold* to hear the story of how this local mining history was written.

Tickets £3. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

### **Football in Arnold: The First 100 Years**

- Arnold Library – Friday 20 February, 2pm

Join former Arnold FC player Roger Rann for a fascinating talk on the history of the beautiful game in Arnold.

Tickets £3. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

### **The History of Worksop Manor**

- Worksop Library - Saturday 21 February, 2pm

An exploration of the history of Worksop Manor through the ages by Michael Tagg.

Tickets £3. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

## **Stories from Hungerhills**

- West Bridgford Library – Tuesday 24 February, 2pm

A follow-on talk from Mo Cooper about the history of St Anns allotments.

Tickets £3. Booking required.

Heritage

## **Hucknall Digital Archive Workshop**

- Hucknall Library – Wednesday 11 March, 2pm
- Hucknall Library – Wednesday 18 March, 2pm

Explore newly digitised Archival materials focusing on highlights from Hucknall's history.

Free. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

## **Two Queens and a Countess**

- Mansfield Central Library – Tuesday 17 March, 2pm

Join historian David Templeman for an in-depth talk on the interaction between the three most colourful and charismatic women in Elizabethan History: Elizabeth I, Mary, Queen of Scots and Bess of Hardwick.

Tickets £3. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

### **Deeds Not Words – The Nottinghamshire Suffragettes**

- Beeston Library – Wednesday 18 March, 2pm

Find out about the courageous women of Nottinghamshire in this talk by local historian Sandra Berrington.

Tickets £3. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

### **Women Won the War!**

- West Bridgford Library – Tuesday 31 March, 2pm

A talk on the role of women in the First World War by local military historian, Grant Cullen.

Tickets £3. Booking required.

Heritage

### **Archives Escape!**

- Nottinghamshire Archives – Saturday 21 February, 10am  
– 1.30pm (one-hour slots)

You have become trapped inside Nottinghamshire Archives!  
Solve the clues from historical records and use augmented reality to find an escape.

Free. Booking required.

Heritage

### [Archives Tour](#)

Nottinghamshire Archives

- Thursday 11 December, 10.30am
- Tuesday 20 January, 10.30am
- Thursday 26 February, 2.30pm

An introduction to Nottinghamshire Archives with a tour of the search room and storage areas. A chance to view some unique and incredible highlights from the collections. Interact in new ways with history through Augmented Reality on your own tablet or smartphone device.

Free. Booking required.

Heritage

### [Family History One to One Sessions](#)

- Online or phone – Tuesday 20 January - 2pm, 2.30pm, 3pm or 3.30pm

One to one conversation with a librarian to help discover more about your family history.

Free. Booking required.

## **Hucknall, Skegby and Selston: Then & Now**

Heritage Talk

### **[History of Ashfield: Part One](#)**

- Hucknall Library – Tuesday 3 February, 2pm

Local historian Denis Hill will give insight into the history and heritage of Hucknall, Annesley and Selston.

Free. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

### **[History of Ashfield: Part Two](#)**

- Hucknall Library – Tuesday 10 February, 2pm

The second part of Denis Hill's talk, focusing on Kirkby, Skegby, Sutton and Teversal.

Free. Booking required.

Heritage



## **Exploring Local Photographs**

- Skegby and Stanton Hill – Monday 23 February, 2pm
- Hucknall Library – Monday 2 March, 2pm

A small group session to explore Inspire's heritage photograph collections.

Free. Booking required.

## **Celebration Event**

### **Hucknall, Skegby and Selston: Then & Now**

- Hucknall Library – Saturday 14 March, 10am – 12pm

The official celebration of the project, featuring an interactive artist workshop.

Free. No booking required.

## **Family Workshop**

### **Then & Now Artist Workshop**

- Hucknall Library – Saturday 14 March, 10am – 12pm
- Skegby and Stanton Hill Library – Saturday 21 March, 9.30 – 11.30am

Collaboratively create art maps, exploring mark-making, layering, colour and pattern, inspired by historical local maps.

Free. No booking required.

## Exhibitions

### [Hucknall, Skegby and Selston: Then & Now](#)

#### **Hucknall Then & Now**

- Hucknall Library: Tuesday 3 February – Sunday 29 March

#### **Skegby Then & Now**

- Skegby Library: Tuesday 24 February – Saturday 21 March

#### **Selston Then & Now**

- Online from Saturday 15 March

An exhibition celebrating Hucknall, Skegby and Selston: Then & Now.

Free. No booking required.

## Exhibitions

### Exhibition

### [Unearthed: The Power of Gardening](#)

- Arnold Library: Monday 9 February – Saturday 28 March

A taster of the Unearthed Exhibition exploring the transformative power of gardening that was on display at the British Library's St Pancras site.

Free. No booking required.

Exhibition

### **The Big Draw 2025: Drawn Together**

- West Bridgford Library: Saturday 15 November - Sunday 4 January 2026
- Beeston Library: Wednesday 7 January - Wednesday 18 February 2026
- Worksop Library: Saturday 21 February - Sunday 29 March 2026

An exhibition showing the story of the The Big Draw project.

Free. No booking required.

Exhibition

### **I Am An Artist**

- Newark Library: Saturday 22 November – Thursday 8 January

This exhibition celebrates the I Am An Artist project through the launch of the I Am An Artist publication and podcast series.

Free. No booking required.

Exhibition

### **I Am A Storyteller**

- Mansfield Central Library: Monday 2 March – Sunday 19 April

Enjoy some of the inspiring work created by five storytellers working with five groups as part of our I Am A Storyteller project.

Free. No booking required.

Exhibition

### **Inspire Community Open Exhibition 2025**

- Beeston Library: Tuesday 4 November – Saturday 20 December

A display of creative talent from Nottinghamshire artists.

Free. No booking required.

## **Jazz Steps Live at the Libraries**

Live Music

### **Belper Jazz Company & Dennis Rollins MBE**

- Beeston Library – Monday 8 December, 7.30pm
- Worksop Library – Tuesday 9 December, 7.30pm
- West Bridgford Library – Wednesday 10 December, 7.30pm

Trombone maestro Dennis Rollins MBE has performed with top bands such as Blur and Jamiroquai. Here, with the tight trio backing of the Belper Jazz Company, they pack in swing, funk and Latin.

Tickets £13. Booking required. For ages 18+.

Live Music

### [Nicola Farnon Trio](#)

- Beeston Library – Monday 9 February, 7.30pm
- Worksop Library – Tuesday 10 February, 7.30pm
- West Bridgford Library – Wednesday 11 February, 7.30pm

Don't miss the return of this talented trio to enjoy superb songs and Nicola's wonderfully warm and upbeat stage presence.

Tickets £13. Booking required. For ages 18+.

Live Music

### [Dianco](#)

- Beeston Library – Monday 9 March, 7.30pm
- Worksop Library – Tuesday 10 March, 7.30pm
- West Bridgford Library – Wednesday 11 March, 7.30pm

Infectiously rhythmic music inspired by the legendary jazz guitarist Django Reinhardt.

Tickets £13. Booking required. For ages 18+.

## **Christmas at Inspire**

### **Christmas Markets in Libraries**

- Kimberley Library – Saturday 6 December, 10am – 1pm
- Arnold Library – Saturday 6 December, 10am – 2pm
- Ravenshead Library – Saturday 13 December, 10am – 12pm

Browse handmade items from local makers and enjoy festive family activities.

Free. No booking required.

Live Music

### **An Inspired Christmas Concert 2025**

- The Royal Concert Hall and Online – Monday 8 December, 7pm

Celebrate the start of the festive period with this showcase of amazing performances from a host of talented young singers from Nottinghamshire schools and choirs.

Tickets £5 for adults, £3 for online tickets, children and concessions.