



INSPIRE LIBRARIES & BEYOND

inspireculture.org.uk

**AUGUST
- NOVEMBER
2026**

YOUR GUIDE TO **WHAT'S ON**

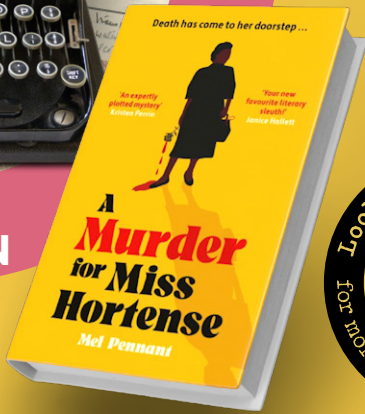
EXHIBITION **AGATHA CHRISTIE: A WORLD OF MYSTERY** P12



INSPIRE POETRY FESTIVAL **THE GREAT BIG BUG SHOW!** P8



AUTHOR EVENT **CRIME FICTION PANEL** P14



DID YOU KNOW?

We are registered for the Family Arts Standards and Age Friendly Standards

These are for family events and events for older people in our four largest libraries – Beeston, Mansfield Central, West Bridgford and Worksop. This means we are working hard to make you feel welcome.

familyarts.co.uk



We deliver a range of arts, cultural, learning and library services

Funded by and delivered on behalf of Nottinghamshire County Council.



We are one of Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisations

It's our delight to present a funded programme of work for all.

Visit: inspireculture.org.uk/npo for full details.



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

We're part of the Libraries Development Framework

This means we've been recognised for our commitment to ongoing development, innovation and best practice.



Libraries Development Framework

We are registered as an Arts Award Supporter

Offering a wide cultural programme across our venues. Many of our events are free or incur a very small charge and many can be accessed by young people looking for opportunities locally to help them achieve an Arts Award.



HELP & ADVICE

BOOKING EVENTS

Tickets for events can be booked online, in person at the library, or by phone.

Tickets are non-refundable unless an event is cancelled. Programme is subject to change and all details are correct at time of print.

CONTACT INSPIRE

Phone: **01623 677 200**

Email: ask@inspireculture.org.uk
inspireculture.org.uk

KEEP UP TO DATE

Follow us on social media and keep up to date with all our latest news and events.



You can also sign up to receive our newsletters direct to your email inbox – select from a range of preferences based on your own interests at: inspireculture.org.uk/emails

ACCESS

Please visit: inspireculture.org.uk/access to find out more about access and facilities at your local library.



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Accessible formats

This brochure is available in large format, or text-only.

Visit our website inspireculture.org.uk/whatson to read online, or a copy can be made available at your local library upon request.

ARTS & CULTURE LIVE AT YOUR LIBRARY & BEYOND

We're continuing our 10th birthday year in style, with the **BIGGEST** What's On Guide we've ever created!



Peter Gaw

The guide begins with events to fill your summer holidays calendar. We're excited to welcome Crescendorious with their family theatre tour of **Kids to the Front** – a live band experience full of electrifying punk vibes! Plus, there's still time to sign up for the **2026 Summer Reading Challenge: Read to the Beat** and join our Artist and Author In Residence for an **Offbeat workshop**, linked to the theme.

DETECTIVES WILL NOTICE THERE'S A CRIME AND MYSTERY THEME THROUGHOUT THIS GUIDE.

As a Living Knowledge Network partner, we're delighted to be hosting a taster of the **Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery** exhibition opening at The British Library in October.

We've also got plenty of themed events for adults and children alike. **Keep an eye out for the question mark icon for clues** (like the one shown below)!

We're continuing to celebrate the **National Year of Reading** with our author events. **Go All In** on what you love and discover the books we love by voting for **Inspire's Favourite Reads**.

Two highlights of the Inspire calendar return in the autumn: the annual **Inspire Poetry Festival** and **Heritage Open Days**.

These are just some of the events we've got planned, so read on to find out what's on near you – including **live music, activities for under 5s, exhibitions, film screenings, workshops** and even **Christmas markets!**

We look forward to welcoming you soon.

Peter Gaw Chief Executive, Inspire.

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SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

AGATHA CHRISTIE: A WORLD OF MYSTERY

READING

HERITAGE

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FILM SCREENINGS

HEALTHIER, HAPPIER, CONNECTED, CREATIVE

CHRISTMAS AT INSPIRE

INSPIRE YOUTH ARTS EVENTS



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Booking Info:



Booking required



Advised booking



No booking needed



Read to the Beat illustrations by Harry Woodgate, illustrations and logo © The Reading Agency 2026.

Summer Reading Challenge

READ TO THE BEAT

FREE All Inspire Libraries 

Saturday 4 July – Sunday 6 September

JOIN THE BAND AND READ TO THE BEAT THIS SUMMER!

Explore the rhythm and melody of reading in the 2026 Summer Reading Challenge: Read to the Beat, celebrating the joy of music and storytelling.

Children select and complete six reading goals, collecting rewards along the way. Every child who completes the challenge receives a certificate and medal.

The Summer Reading Challenge is a great opportunity for children to find books they love. They choose what they want to read – story books, information books, e-books, audio books, poetry, comic, joke books and graphic novels, being read to counts too – children set the tempo.

Suitable for children aged 4 – 11.

inspireculture.org.uk/SummerReadingChallenge



READ to the BEAT

HOW TO TAKE PART!

SIGN UP FOR FREE AT THE LIBRARY

Collect your Read to the Beat starter pack.

FIND YOUR READING RHYTHM!

You're in charge: choose what you love to read and select your reading goals.

COLLECT REWARDS

Pick up stickers and character cards for every goal you reach.

BE A READING ROCKSTAR

Complete 6 reading goals to claim your medal and certificate.

Children can also take part online to earn digital badges and rewards.



THE MINI CHALLENGE!

Under 4s can join in with their own bite-sized version of the Summer Reading Challenge.



THE READING AGENCY



UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP
UNITED KINGDOM

Read to the Beat is delivered by The Reading Agency in partnership with public libraries and powered by Universal Music UK.

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

Author: Ashley Thorpe



Artist: Sian Watson

Exhibition OFFBEAT

FREE Beeston Library 

Saturday 11 July – Sunday 6 September

Working with our twinned primary schools, artist Sian Watson and author Ashley Thorpe and the primary school children have collaborated to create the Offbeat Exhibition!

Family Workshops

OFFBEAT

FREE Inspire Libraries 

Artist Workshop

Arnold 10am / Fri 21 August

Beeston 10am / Mon 17 August

Bingham 2pm / Fri 21 August

Hucknall 10am / Wed 19 August

Kirkby-in-Ashfield 2pm / Wed 19 August

Mansfield Central 2pm / Thu 20 August

Newark 2pm / Tue 18 August

Retford 10am / Sat 15 August

Southwell 10am / Tue 18 August

Sutton-in-Ashfield 10am / Thu 20 August

West Bridgford 2pm / Mon 17 August

Workshop 2pm / Sat 15 August

Author Workshops

Arnold 2pm / Sat 8 August

Beeston 10am / Tue 4 August

Bingham 10am / Sat 8 August

Hucknall 2pm / Thu 6 August

Kirkby-in-Ashfield 10am / Thu 6 August

Mansfield Central 10am / Fri 7 August

Newark 2pm / Wed 5 August

Retford 10am / Mon 3 August

Southwell 10am / Wed 5 August

Sutton-in-Ashfield 2pm / Fri 7 August

West Bridgford 2pm / Tue 4 August

Workshop 2pm / Mon 3 August

Join artist in residence Sian Watson and take inspiration from words and story prompts to create large movable cardboard puppets, that can dance to the sounds of a story.

Join author in residence Ashley Thorpe for a creative writing workshop, which uses popular songs as a prompt for your own piece of writing. You'll use the thoughts and feelings the music brings to plan out your story.

Aimed at children aged 7+ but younger siblings welcome.



 No booking needed

 Advised booking

 Booking required

Booking Info:



Family Theatre

CRESCENDORIOUS PRESENTS: KIDS TO THE FRONT

£4 Inspire Libraries 

Hucknall 10.30am / Wed 12 August

Sutton-in-Ashfield 3.30pm / Wed 12 August

Kirkby-in-Ashfield 10.30am / Thu 13 August

Mansfield Central 3.30pm / Thu 13 August

Workshop 10.30am / Fri 14 August

Retford 3.30pm / Fri 14 August

Arnold 10.30am / Sat 15 August

Beeston 3.30pm / Sat 15 August

West Bridgford 11.30am / Sun 16 August

Southwell 4.30pm / Sun 16 August

An interactive, inclusive, live band experience - full of kindness, fun and electrifying punk vibes.

Whilst on their tour across the universe, the aliens of The Boogie Woogie Space Junk Band crash-land in Nottinghamshire! They're keen to discover where they are and to find their trusty supersonic space pig, Brian.

Only the kids have the energy, uniqueness & magic to propel the Space Junk Band's debut electro-punk album into the stratosphere!

For children aged 3+ and their families (younger siblings welcome too).

inspireculture.org.uk/KidsToTheFront

Kids to the Front was commissioned and supported by The Spark Arts for Children.

Family Workshop

KIDS TO THE FRONT WORKSHOP

FREE Mansfield Central Library 

2pm / Friday 31 July

AHEAD OF CRESCENDORIOUS BRINGING THEIR LIVE ALIEN PUNK BAND TO NOTTINGHAMSHIRE WITH KIDS TO THE FRONT, FAMILIES CAN JOIN IN WITH AN INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP.

Mini-music makers and their families get to immerse themselves in live punk music-making, dance moves, songs, poetry, meditative soundscapes stirring emotions and sparking imagination!

Theatre-maker Brigitte Aphrodite and composer Quiet Boy will lead families through a series of activities to share their special places, people and things they love about Nottinghamshire.

The sessions will be held with kindness, curiosity and accessibility, and where children are encouraged to express themselves freely in whatever way feels good to them.

For children aged 4 – 8.

inspireculture.org.uk/KidsToTheFront

Programmed in association with The Spark Arts for Children.

Booking required

Booking required

Booking required

Advised booking

Advised booking

No booking needed

Photo credit © Rosie Powell

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

DISCOVER THE
NEW SPIRIT OF PUNK:

Punk with
Empathy!

KIDS TO THE FRONT

Performance Storytelling**SUPER SPARKLE PRESENTS:
RED RIDING HOOD ROCKS****£2 Inspire Libraries** (A)**Bingham Library****10.30am / Friday 7 August****Newark Library****2.30pm / Friday 7 August****ROXIE DREAMS OF BEING A ROCKSTAR!**

But can she get a super shy, book loving wolf to join her band in time for Grandma's party...!?

Join Roxie as she rocks out in the woods (and even join the band yourself!)

An interactive 30-minute performance with follow up music making and digital music play. Includes puppetry, live music and digital technology.

For children aged 3 – 8 and their families.

inspireculture.org.uk/RedRidingHoodRocks



**RED
RIDING HOOD
ROCKS**

**SUPER
SPARKLE**



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Family Workshop**PERCUSSION WORKSHOP
WITH BEATFEET****FREE Inspire Libraries** (A)**Cotgrave Library****10.30am / Tuesday 11 August****Mansfield Woodhouse Library****2pm / Tuesday 11 August****Eastwood Library****10.30am / Monday 17 August****Stapleford Library****2pm / Monday 17 August**

Join BeatFeet for a fun-filled, accessible 30-minute percussion workshop exploring rhythm, rhymes, and phrases. No experience necessary. Come and play to the beat of your own drum this summer!

For children aged 6 – 11 and their families.

inspireculture.org.uk/BeatFeet

**Family Concert:****DESTINATION: MUSIC!****£4 Inspire Libraries** (A)**Southwell Library****3.30pm / Saturday 19 September****Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library****11am / Saturday 14 November**

Grab your musical passport and join our team of explorers for a high-octane journey across continents!

This globetrotting family concert will take you on an interactive mission to discover incredible rhythms, rare instruments and secret sounds of our world.

For children aged 7 – 11 and their families.

inspireculture.org.uk/FamilyConcerts

ARE
YOU READY
FOR A MUSICAL
ADVENTURE THAT
SPANS THE
GLOBE?

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



Children's Author Event

**CARTOONING
WITH LAURA HOWELL**

£3 children /
FREE accompanying adults

Inspire Libraries **A**

Mansfield Central Library

10.30am / Wednesday 12 August

Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library

2pm / Wednesday 12 August

**JOIN BEANO ARTIST LAURA
HOWELL FOR THIS INTRODUCTION
TO BRINGING COMIC CHARACTERS
TO LIFE ON THE PAGE.**

In this 60-minute workshop, Laura will guide you through the basics of cartooning, as well as sharing a behind-the-scenes look at how a Beano page is created, from script to the finished comic in your hand.

Laura Howell likes making comics that make people laugh. In 2006 she became the first woman to draw for the Beano and is currently the artist in charge of everyone's favourite pigtailed powerhouse Minnie the Minx.

Laura has drawn and written for many publications including The Dandy and The DFC, as well as comic adaptations of Angry Birds and Cartoon Network's Regular Show. In 2021, her artwork was displayed in the Beano: The Art of Breaking the Rules exhibition in Somerset House. Laura's most recent project is a brand-new graphic novel for kids, Secret Agent Nessie, published by Floris books.

For children aged 7 – 11.



Illustration credit
© Adam Ming



Inspire Poetry Festival
THE GREAT BIG BUG SHOW!

£3 Inspire Libraries **A**

West Bridgford Library

10.30am / Saturday 26 September

Beeston Library

2.30pm / Saturday 26 September



Which beetle has a blaster on its bottom? Which many-legged minibeast took the first ever steps on land? Which eight-legged hunter has fangs as big as a cheetah's claws?

Join poet Simon Mole and musician Gecko for a family show full of poems, raps and songs all about your favourite bugs (and some you haven't heard of yet!).

A fun and interactive invitation to explore the secret world beneath our feet. As well as being brilliantly beautiful, delightfully disgusting and wonderfully weird, the show is an inspirational call to action to appreciate the smaller creatures in our world. Expect Minibeasts and Massive Beats. Every tune is an earworm - even the ones about woodlice!

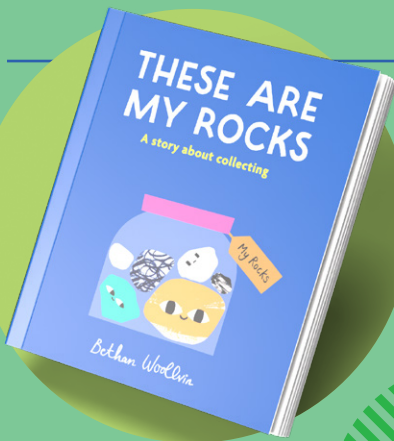
For children aged 4 – 11 and their grown-ups.



Photo credit © Hugo Glendinning

The Great Big Bug Show is inspired by *A First Book of Bugs*, written by Simon Mole illustrated by Adam Ming and published by Walker Books.





Children's Author Event
THESE ARE MY ROCKS
WITH BETHAN WOOLLVIN

£3 children /
FREE accompanying adults
 Inspire Libraries 

Mansfield Central Library
10.30am / Thursday 22 October
Workshop Library
2.30pm / Thursday 22 October

Do you collect anything? Everyone collects something! Join author/illustrator Bethan Woollvin for an exciting workshop based on her book *These Are My Rocks*, which is all about the joy of collecting things.


LEARN ABOUT STRANGE COLLECTIONS AND ODDITIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD, AND HEAR BETHAN READ THESE ARE MY ROCKS!

Then get stuck into an exciting craft activity, where you'll bring a collection of your very own to life!

This workshop is perfect for budding collectors aged 4 – 7 years.

Children's Author Event
HUGH DUNNIT
WITH GUY BASS

£3 children /
FREE accompanying adults

Inspire Libraries 
West Bridgford Library
10.30am / Saturday 7 November
Beeston Library
2pm / Saturday 7 November

Join bestselling, award-winning (and occasionally crime-solving) author Guy Bass for a fast-paced, energetic hour of stand-up, stories and silliness!

Meet Guy's latest creation Hugh Dunit, the schoolboy detective who makes his own mysteries. When Hugh's on the case, he's sure to catch the culprit - or at least cause chaos and calamity!

Fun-packed and pun-packed, with animated readings from Guy's latest book *Splitting Hairs* plus tall tales and truly terrible poetry.

For children aged 7 – 10.



FUN-PACKED
AND PUN-PACKED!

Inspire Libraries are proudly supporting the **National Year of Reading 2026**.

GO
ALL
IN.



Guy Bass



Bethan Woollvin



CALLING ALL TINY ARTISTS!



Exhibition

LITTLE CREATIVES INTERACTIVE EXHIBITION

FREE Inspire Libraries **(A)**

Workshop Library

Tuesday 25 August – Sunday 27 September

West Bridgford Library

Saturday 3 October – Monday 9 November

COME FOR A PLAY DATE IN THE LIBRARY GALLERY!

Inspired by their workshops, the Little Creatives artists have created an interactive exhibition to delight our youngest visitors. Aimed at families with early years children, this imaginative exhibition invites children to explore and play. You can also pick up a free set of activity cards with lots of ideas for continuing the creative fun at home.

All children must be accompanied.
inspireculture.org.uk/LittleCreatives

Under 5s

LITTLE CREATIVES

FREE Inspire Libraries **(A)**

Arnold Sat / 3 Oct / 7 Nov

Beeston Sat / 10 Oct / 14 Nov

Bingham Thu / 8 Oct / 12 Nov

Hucknall Fri / 9 Oct / 13 Nov

Kirkby-in-Ashfield Thu / 15 Oct / 19 Nov

Mansfield Central Fri / 2 Oct / 6 Nov

Newark Tue / 6 Oct / 3 Nov

Retford Sat / 3 Oct / 7 Nov

Southwell Thu / 8 Oct / 12 Nov

Sutton-in-Ashfield Fri / 9 Oct / 13 Nov

West Bridgford Thu / 15 Oct / 19 Nov

Worksop Sat / 10 Oct / 14 Nov

Join us for creative art sessions designed by artists for very young children. Let the workshops help your little one to develop new skills as they splodge, splat, squidge and shine. Come along and share in the active, playful and sometimes messy fun and see your little artist's confidence grow as they explore fascinating materials and stimulating creative activities.

For children aged 2 – 5.

All children must be accompanied.

inspireculture.org.uk/LittleCreatives

THERE ARE TWO SESSION TIMES TO CHOOSE FROM:

Session 1

or

Session 2

10am – 10.45am

11.15am – 12pm

Booking Info:



Booking required



Advised booking



No booking needed

Under 5s

ADVENTURES IN MUSIC

£30 10 weekly sessions /
45 mins each
Inspire Libraries 

Beeston Thu / 9.30am / Starts 10 Sept
Carlton Thu / 10.45am / Starts 10 Sept
Carlton Hill Wed / 10am / Starts 9 Sept
Hucknall Tue / 10.15am / Starts 8 Sept
Retford Thu / 10.15am / Starts 10 Sept
Stapleford Mon / 9.15am / Starts 7 Sept

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

BUILD THEIR CONFIDENCE IN EXPLORING AND MAKING MUSIC.

Suitable for children aged 2 – 5.
Children must be supervised throughout the sessions.

inspireculture.org.uk/Adventures

SESSIONS
RUN WEEKLY
FOR TEN
WEEKS.

Under 5s

THE LULLABY BANK

FREE Inspire Libraries 

Arnold Fri / 10.15am / Starts 11 Sept
Beeston Thu / 10.30am / Starts 10 Sept
Bingham Tue / 9.30am / Starts 8 Sept
Carlton Thu / 9.30am / Starts 10 Sept
Carlton Hill Wed / 11am / Starts 9 Sept
Cotgrave Wed / 1pm / Starts 9 Sept
Eastwood Mon / 11.45am / Starts 7 Sept
Hucknall Tue / 9am / Starts 8 Sept
Kirkby-in-Ashfield Mon / 1.30pm / Starts 7 Sept
Mansfield Central Tue / 1.30pm / Starts 8 Sept
Newark Tue / 11am / Starts 8 Sept
Southwell Tue / 1pm / Starts 8 Sept
Stapleford Mon / 10.15am / Starts 7 Sept
Sutton-in-Ashfield Tue / 11.45am / Starts 8 Sept

The Lullaby Bank is a chance for mums, babies, and expectant mums in their third trimester, to relax and bond in a calm space.

We will sing a variety of lullabies from around the globe in English and other languages, learn some baby-massage and basic signing, as well as some play time rhymes and songs. The class is a breast-feeding safe space, and a chance to connect with other new mums in what can often be a very isolating and exhausting time.

For babies aged 0 – 9 months.

inspireculture.org.uk/LullabyBank

A partnership between Inspire Music and Music for Everyone.

SING AND LISTEN
TO MELODIES FROM
AROUND THE WORLD
TO SOOTHE AND UPLIFT.

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

Community

FUN PALACE

FREE Worksoop Library 

10am – 3pm / Saturday 3 October

Worksoop Library will join hundreds of Fun Palaces nationally and internationally set to explode with FREE FUN activities for all! Come along and be part of the fun as you try out different arts, science, music and cultural activities aimed at anyone of any age.

fun
palaces

Living Knowledge Network



Exhibition

AGATHA CHRISTIE: A WORLD OF MYSTERY

FREE Inspire Libraries

Mansfield Central Library

Friday 30 October – Friday 18 December

Nottingham Central Library

Friday 30 October – Thursday 31 December

DELVE INTO THE REMARKABLE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE BESTSELLING NOVELIST OF ALL TIME, AGATHA CHRISTIE.

As a Living Knowledge Network partner library, we are delighted to be hosting a taster of the exhibition opening at the British Library in October 2026. From her best-loved characters including Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple, to her impact on crime writers today, unravel the secrets behind the Queen of Crime's enduring appeal.



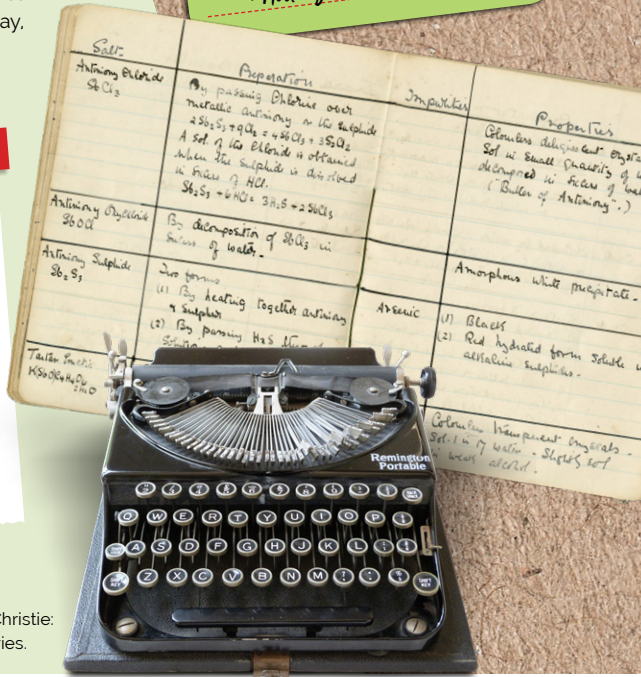
MISSION
CAN YOU CRACK THE CRIME READING CHALLENGE?
LAUNCH DATE: 30th October
LOCATION: All Inspire Libraries + Nottingham City Libraries

LOOK!

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

We have investigated the collections in Nottinghamshire Archives' and Local Studies in Inspire and Nottingham City Libraries' to reveal some fascinating crimes from across the city and county.

Discover more about our own local history - and the gruesome truth that is often stranger than fiction!



Visit: inspireculture.org.uk/LKN

To find a host of events linked to the Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery Exhibition in Inspire Libraries.

Images of Agatha Christie relaxing during a sightseeing tour, Tajoura, Libya, 1955. Agatha Christie's study notes for her pharmaceutical exam taken in 1917. Agatha Christie's Remington typewriter from 1937. © The Christie Archive Trust



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

GO ALL IN.

GO ALL IN ON Crime Fiction

Author Event

STEPHEN BOOTH

£3 Inspire Libraries **A**

Stapleford Library
2pm / Monday 5 October

Workshop Library
7pm / Friday 9 October

Keyworth Library
2pm / Monday 12 October

Ravenshead Library
2pm / Tuesday 20 October

Stephen Booth's bestselling Cooper and Fry novels have won awards on both sides of the Atlantic, been translated into 16 languages, and are now a hit Channel 5 TV series starring Robert James-Collier (Downton Abbey) and Mandip Gill (Dr Who). A former Nottinghamshire newspaper journalist, Stephen will talk about the magic of reading and what draws so many thousands of readers into his fictional world - from the popularity of his two Derbyshire police detectives, Ben Cooper and Diane Fry, to the Peak District locations that inspire his books.



Heritage Talk / Author Event

**FRANCIS VIVIAN:
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE'S
CLASSIC CRIME WRITER**

£3 Retford Library **A**

1.30pm / Saturday 7 November

Award-winning crime novelist and critic Martin Edwards discusses the work of Francis Vivian, a forgotten master of detective fiction from 'the Golden Age of Murder', who was born in Retford and set some of his stories in the East Midlands.

Martin Edwards is the author of twenty-five crime novels, including the Rachel Savernake series, the Lake District Cold Case Mysteries, and the Harry Devlin books, as well as stand-alones such as Miss Winter in the Library with a Knife and his latest novel Fever Island. He has won three Crime Writers Association (CWA) Dagger Awards, including the CWA Diamond Dagger - the highest honour in UK crime writing, and has received two Edgars from the Mystery Writers of America. A former Chair of the CWA, he is consultant to the British Library's Crime Classics, and has been President of the Detection Club since 2015 - the world's oldest social network of crime writers, and one of his seven predecessors was Agatha Christie.



Stephen Booth

BOOK
NOW

Martin Edwards

Author Event

**AGATHA CHRISTIE
WITH MARTIN EDWARDS**

£3 Mansfield Central Library **A**

2pm / Tuesday 10 November

Join author Martin Edwards for a uniquely personal perspective on the achievements and legacy of Agatha Christie. 2026 sees the fiftieth anniversary of the death of the world's bestselling novelist (and the most successful female playwright in history), Agatha Christie. Her legacy is to be celebrated by a major exhibition at the British Library, and the exhibition book will be co-edited by Martin.



IT WOULD BE A
CRIME TO MISS
THIS EVENT!

GO ALL IN ON Crime Fiction

Author Event

CRIME FICTION PANEL

£5 Beeston Library **A**

7pm / Thursday 19 November



Join our panel of crime authors for an evening of chat about crime fiction. In the first half, the panel will be discussing the legendary Agatha Christie, while in the second half they'll be talking about their own works.

MEET THE PANEL

Katy Watson

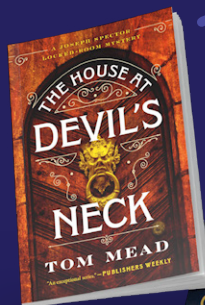
Katy Watson writes contemporary Golden Age-style cosy crime that blends classic puzzle plotting with modern warmth, wit and glamour. She is the author of the *Three Dahlias Mysteries*, following three actresses from different generations - each famous for playing fictional detective Dahlia Lively - who join forces to solve real murders.

Raised in North Wales in a family of folk singers, storytellers and mystery lovers, she grew up devouring Agatha Christie before publishing more than 45 books for young readers and adults, eventually turning to crime with *The Three Dahlias*. Katy's latest novel *Death on a Lively Sea* was published in July 2026 and *Murder on the Mistletoe Express* will be published in November 2026.



Mel Pennant

Mel Pennant is an award-winning playwright whose writing has been featured by the National Archives as well as on stage. Born in London, she was raised by an extraordinary village, including her Jamaican grandparents, who moved to England in the 1950s as part of the Windrush generation. Mel is drawn to stories that explore what lies beneath the surface and celebrate the richness and strength of tight-knit communities. *A Murder for Miss Hortense*, her debut novel, was longlisted for the CWA Whodunnit Dagger.



Tom Mead

Tom Mead is a Derbyshire mystery writer and aficionado of Golden Age Crime Fiction. His novels include *Death and the Conjuror*, *The Murder Wheel*, *Cabaret Macabre* and *The House at Devil's Neck*, and he also recently published a collection of mystery stories, *The Indian Rope Trick (And Other Violent Entertainments)*. His books have been translated into 12 languages (and counting), nominated for various awards and named books of the year by *The Guardian*, *The Telegraph*, *Publishers Weekly* and *Crimereads*.

Proud to support
The National Year
of Reading 2026.

GO
ALL
IN!

Get involved with the **National Year of Reading** at our author events and more. Reconnect with the things that already inspire you - if you're into it, read into it.

Find out more at inspireculture.org.uk/NYR2026

Booking Info:

B

Booking required

A

Advised booking

N

No booking needed



GO ALL IN ON THE BOOKS WE LOVE

Reading Event

THE BOOKS WE LOVE: INSPIRE'S FAVOURITE READS PANEL EVENT

£5 West Bridgford Library **A**

7pm / Thursday 27 August

Featuring poet, reading advocate and former presenter of the Notts TV Book Club Becky Cullen - a familiar figure in Nottingham's literary scene - this lively panel event will delve into the Inspire Favourite Reads shortlist. The evening will also explore the books the panel personally love - the titles they return to, recommend endlessly and would place on their own favourite reads lists. Expect an entertaining and thoughtful evening full of reading inspiration.

MORE GUESTS
TO BE
ANNOUNCED!



Inspire's Favourite Reads

Inspire's Favourite Reads marks
the National Year of Reading 2026
and Inspire's 10th year celebrations.

Readers can now vote for which books
they'd like to see on the final list of
10 from a shortlist of 30 titles.

inspireculture.org.uk/FavouriteReads

Which book will
you vote for?

Voting closes Monday 7 September

GO ALL IN ON Hidden Stories

Author Event

EVE MAKIS, WHERE THE EARTH HOLDS SECRETS

£4 Inspire Libraries **B**

West Bridgford Library
7pm / Thursday 8 October

Stapleford Library
11am / Saturday 31 October

Newark Library
2pm / Saturday 14 November



Eve Makis

Join us for an interactive event celebrating the release of *Where the Earth Holds Secrets* - a powerful new novel inspired by the true story of missing persons in Cyprus and the author's own family history.

Eve Makis will share insights into her research behind the book, the process of transforming personal and historical stories into fiction, and the hidden histories that shape families and communities across generations.

Audience members will also be invited to reflect on the hidden stories within their own families and communities. Come and share your memories, ask questions, and discuss other works shaped by personal histories.

PERFECT FOR READERS, WRITERS
AND ANYONE INTERESTED IN FAMILY
STORIES, MEMORY AND THE SECRETS
THE PAST CAN HOLD.

AUTHOR BIO:

Eve is the author of five novels, a writing guide and is the co-creator of the life-writing website the Minute Memoir. She teaches fiction on the MA Creative Writing at Nottingham Trent University. *Where the Earth Holds Secrets* is published by Claret Press in September.

Writing Workshop

BAD IDEAS CLUB

WITH BAD BETTY PRESS

FREE Inspire Libraries 

A BAD POEM'S JUST AN EARLY DRAFT.



Poets! Share new work, first drafts and 'bad' ideas in a warm, inclusive setting. Come and join a professional poet for a relaxed poetry workshop where you can share your ideas and work on new projects. Brought to us by Nottingham-based independent publishers Bad Betty Press.

ABOUT THE POETS:

CHRIS LANYON

Chris is a poet and mathematician. Chris has nearly a decade of experience running poetry workshops for people at all stages of their writing practice, from those looking to write their first ever poems, to professional and published poets and even sometimes academic mathematicians.

LEANNE MODEN

Leanne is a poet, theatre maker and educator, based in Nottingham. She's performed across the UK and Europe, and her second pamphlet of poetry *Get Over Yourself* was published with Burning Eye Books in 2020.

CASEY BAILEY

Casey is an award-winning writer, performer and educator, born and raised in Nechells, Birmingham, and was the Birmingham Poet Laureate 2020 – 2022. Casey has had three poetry books published and his poetry has appeared in a number of anthologies and journals.

Book your place on one or more workshops!

POETS	VENUE	DATE	TIME
Chris Lanyon	Mansfield Central Library	Saturday 8 August	11am – 1pm
Leanne Moden	Mansfield Central Library	Saturday 15 August	11am – 1pm
Casey Bailey	Mansfield Central Library	Saturday 22 August	11am – 1pm
Chris Lanyon	Newark Library	Wednesday 2 September	11am – 1pm
Leanne Moden	Newark Library	Wednesday 9 September	11am – 1pm
Chris Lanyon	Newark Library	Wednesday 16 September	11am – 1pm
Casey Bailey	Hucknall Library	Saturday 5 September	11am – 1pm
Leanne Moden	Hucknall Library	Saturday 12 September	11am – 1pm
Casey Bailey	Hucknall Library	Saturday 19 September	11am – 1pm

For adults.

To find out more and to book your place, visit: inspireculture.org.uk/BadIdeasClub

(N) No booking needed
 (A) Advised booking
 (B) Booking required

Leanne Moden



Casey Bailey



LOOK OUT FOR A SPECIAL BAD IDEAS CLUB SHOWCASE EVENT FOR INSPIRE POETRY FESTIVAL!

Mansfield Central Library
Saturday 26 September

inspireculture.org.uk/PoetryFestival



Chris Lanyon

Supported by funding from the National Lottery through Arts Council England.



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



Inspire's Favourite Reads

VOTE Which books inspire you?



Vote now for your
favourite reads
[inspireculture.org.uk/
favouritereads](https://inspireculture.org.uk/favouritereads)



POETRY FESTIVAL

INSPIRE POETRY FESTIVAL

24 SEPTEMBER - 1 OCTOBER

[INSPIRE.CULTURE.ORG.UK/
POETRYFESTIVAL](https://inspireculture.org.uk/poetryfestival)

SAVE THE DATES

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

Heritage Open Days returns this September with thousands of free events and experiences taking place across England! This year's theme is Everyday Histories, exploring the varied and often overlooked stories of ordinary working people and their daily lives.



(N) No booking needed
 (A) Advised booking
 (B) Booking required
 (B) Booking Info:

Heritage

ARCHIVES TOUR

FREE Nottinghamshire Archives (B)

2.30pm / Thursday 10 September

10.30am / Thursday 17 September

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE ARCHIVES WITH A TOUR OF THE SEARCH ROOM AND STORAGE AREAS.

A chance to view some unique and incredible highlights from the collections. You will be able to interact in new ways with our collections via your own tablet or smartphone device. View pop-up versions of archival documents, explore 360-degree images of historic streets and listen to audio descriptions of the archives.



Heritage

ARCHIVES ESCAPE!

FREE Nottinghamshire Archives (B)

10am – 1.30pm (one-hour slots) /
Saturday 12 September

YOU HAVE BECOME TRAPPED INSIDE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ARCHIVES!

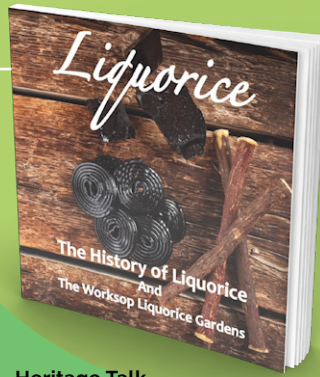
Solve the fiendish clues scattered throughout the records of Nottinghamshire's buildings, learn through history and use Augmented Reality to find an escape - time is running out!



Heritage Talk**EXPLORING
OLD OCCUPATIONS****FREE** Retford Library **1.30pm / Saturday 12 September**

INSPIRE LIBRARIES HAVE A VARIETY OF RECORDS TO HELP YOU DISCOVER MORE ABOUT YOUR ANCESTORS' WORKING LIVES.

These include trade directories, local newspapers, census returns and more. Join one of our local history librarians as they explore occupation records from the Retford area, giving hints and tips on where to find them and how to interpret them.



DID YOU KNOW THAT WORKSOOP WAS ONCE FAMOUS FOR THE GROWING OF LIQUORICE?

Heritage Talk**THE LIQUORICE
GARDENS OF WORKSOOP****FREE** Worksoop Library **2pm / Wednesday 16 September**

Steve Williams from the Oasis Community Centre in Worksoop will talk about the centre's recent history project about Worksoop's Liquorice Gardens. Join him to find out all about the importance of the liquorice plant in the history of Worksoop and surrounding areas of Bassetlaw.

Heritage Talk**THE PAST, PRESENT AND
FUTURE OF NEWARK CASTLE****FREE** Beeston Library **2pm / Wednesday 16 September**

A new presentation researched and written by volunteers for the Newark Castle Gatehouse Project. We will trace the castle's beginnings under Alexander the Magnificent, the final days of King John, its role in the Civil War, and its later use as a Victorian pleasure garden. You will also hear about the current plans that will guide the castle through the 21st century.

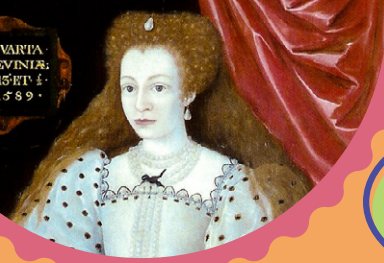


Image courtesy of the Inspire Picture Archive. N 0880000UCJCN





ARBELLA STUARTA
COMITISSA LEINSTERE
NATA 1557. 15 FEB 1619



JOIN THE TALK

Heritage Talk

**ARBELLA STUART:
THE QUEEN THAT NEVER WAS**

£3.50 Mansfield Central Library 

2pm / Tuesday 6 October

Elizabethan historian David Templeman tells the story of Bess of Hardwick's granddaughter Arbella, niece to Mary Queen of Scots, who was brought up with the sole intention of being crowned Queen after Elizabeth I. This compelling tale of exploitation, politics and religion follows Arbella from her confined childhood, largely at Hardwick Hall, to a dramatic finale in one of the most romantic escape stories in history!

Heritage Talk

**HISTORY MYSTERY,
THE REASON FOR THE RHYME**

£3.50 Beeston Library 

2pm / Wednesday 21 October

We teach our children rhymes and years later they teach the same rhymes to their children. And so, it has been for hundreds of years. The original reason for the rhymes has, by and large, been completely lost and forgotten. This talk by Sam Millard looks at the original meaning of rhymes and how they have been recorded over time. Following on from Sam's sell-out Reason and Rhyme talk at West Bridgford Library, it reveals even more rhymes and the reasons behind them!

MOTHER
GOOSE'S
TALES



Heritage Talk

**THE BUILDINGS ARCHAEOLOGIST:
DISCOVERING THE SECRETS
OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE'S
ANCIENT BUILDINGS**

£3.50 Inspire Libraries 

Workshop Library

2pm / Wednesday 21 October

Mansfield Central Library

2pm / Tuesday 17 November

VISIT ANY SETTLEMENT IN THE
LAND AND THERE WILL BE ANCIENT
BUILDINGS HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT.

Behind a Victorian façade is a Tudor house; beneath a Georgian frontage is a mediaeval cottage, or what is now a modern farm may once have been a castle. As Dr. James Wright will explain, buildings archaeology can offer us many clues for discovering the secrets of hidden historic houses.





Heritage
FAMILY HISTORY
ONE-TO-ONE SESSIONS
FREE Online or phone **(B)**

2pm / 2.30pm / 3pm / 3.30pm /
Tuesday 3 November

Looking for hints on how to discover more about your family's history? Sign up for a FREE one-to-one conversation with one of our librarians. Family History Surgery for beginners - by phone or video call.

Heritage Talk

TALES FROM HUNGERHILLS

£3.50 West Bridgford Library **(B)**

2pm / Tuesday 27 October

For 200 years people have lived or gardened at St Anns allotments, Nottingham's unique Victorian detached garden site.

LOCAL HISTORIAN MO COOPER
WILL TALK ABOUT THEIR LIVES,
THEIR LOVES, THEIR PASSION.

There's murder, poverty, hidden goats, the old rifle range and the Windrush generation – Nottingham life in miniature captured on our Grade 2* listed gardens.

Heritage Talk

WEST BRIDGFORD'S
ART DECO PUBS

£3.50 West Bridgford Library **(B)**

2pm / Tuesday 24 November

Tour guide and architectural history researcher Lucy Brouwer, known for her Watson Fothergill Walk tours, looks at the Art Deco stylings of The Improved Pub in the 1930s and the struggle to open licensed hotels in West Bridgford in the inter-war years.

DISCOVER
THE ART DECO
STYLINGS OF
WEST BRIDGFORD
PUBS.

EXPLORE YOUR ARCHIVE WEEK

DISCOVER THE ARCHIVES IN A FUN AND ENGAGING WAY!

Heritage

WRITTEN LIVES, REMEMBERED VOICES

£6 Nottinghamshire Archives **B**

2pm – 4pm / Tuesday 24 November

EXPLORE HOW DIARIES, JOURNALS AND ORAL HISTORIES PRESERVE MEMORIES OF WORKING LIFE.

Discover personal stories, workplace experiences and everyday moments recorded across generations, revealing how people remembered, documented and shared their lives through words and voices.

Heritage

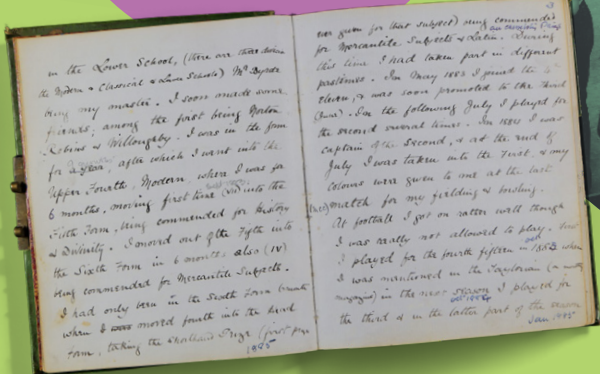
'MAKING A LIVING' TRADES AND OCCUPATIONS WORKSHOP

£6 Nottinghamshire Archives **B**

2pm / Thursday 26 November

WHAT DID A PLATCHER DO? WHAT WERE THE DUTIES OF A WARRENER?

Join one of our Archivists to explore the records in Nottinghamshire Archives that can highlight your ancestors' working lives. Through documents such as apprenticeship indentures, wage books and court records you can discover what their career prospects were, where they worked and how much they were paid.



Exhibition**OUR STORY EXHIBITION****FREE** Inspire Venues **Nottinghamshire Archives****Tuesday 7 July - Thursday 30 July****Retford Library****Saturday 25 July - Thursday 6 August****Beeston Library****Saturday 1 August - Thursday 13 August****Workshop Library****Saturday 8 August - Thursday 20 August****Arnold Library****Saturday 15 August - Friday 28 August****Newark Library****Saturday 22 August - Friday 4 September**

OUR STORY IS A COLLABORATIVE
HERITAGE PROJECT UNCOVERING
TRANS & GENDER-DIVERSE LIVES
IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

The touring exhibition brings together a gallery of portrait photographs, personal ephemera, and audio stories, marking the culmination of an ambitious intergenerational project. Young LGBTQ+ people and their allies interviewed and photographed trans and gender-diverse people across generations, working together to co-create the exhibition. Through this shared process, the project celebrates rich histories, from community resistance to everyday life and joyful expression, honouring the full breadth of trans and gender-diverse experiences across Nottinghamshire.

The recorded interviews will also be transcribed and deposited with Nottinghamshire Archives where they will be permanently preserved as a collection accessible to future generations.

Photos credited to © Holly Revell

**Workshop****CURATING THE CURIOUS:
MAKE YOUR OWN EXHIBITION****FREE** Inspire Libraries **Beeston Library****2pm - 4.30pm / Wednesday 5 August****Arnold Library****2pm - 4.30pm / Wednesday 19 August**

JOIN FIFTH WORD FOR A FAMILY-
FRIENDLY CREATIVE WORKSHOP
INSPIRED BY THE OUR STORY
EXHIBITION, TOURING LIBRARIES
ACROSS NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Working with crafting materials to design your own mini exhibition panels, you'll take inspiration from the stories and memories featured in the exhibition, exploring themes of community, belonging, memory and joy.

This is a relaxed drop-in session designed for children, young people and families to join at any point and take part at their own pace.

Facilitated by Fifth Word with support from the young curators involved in the wider Our Story project.

our story 

fifth word.

Produced by Fifth Word, in partnership with Inspire's Nottinghamshire Archives. In collaboration with Mansfield Museum, and with support from MyPlace @ Westfield Folkhouse Young People's Centre, East Mids Transgender Network, East Midlands Oral History Archives and Loughborough University.

Made possible with



Heritage Fund





Exhibition

ON FREEDOM'S WINGS

FREE Inspire Libraries ^(N)

Hucknall Library

Tues 4 August – Sat 26 September

Mansfield Central Library

Thurs 1 October – Sun 15 November

Workshop Library

Weds 18 November – Weds 23 December

THE INCREDIBLE STORY BEHIND THIS ICONIC LANDMARK RECENTLY UNVEILED ON THE LINCOLNSHIRE/NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BORDER.

The full-size statue of the Lancaster Bomber pays tribute to the aircrew who lost their lives serving their country during World War II. It is more than a sculpture. It is a beacon of remembrance, a symbol of sacrifice, and a celebration of heritage. It serves as a constant reminder of the courage, loss, and legacy of Bomber Command. As the Lancaster takes flight once more — this time in steel and spirit — the exhibition tells the stories of those who never returned, and the gratitude of generations who live in freedom because of their sacrifice.

From the groundbreaking ceremony in May 2018, the Bomber County Gateway Trust has worked tirelessly to ensure this immense structure has reached completion. The exhibition takes you on a journey of discovery learning all about the team who have given their time so freely to make it happen. It shows what they have accomplished, how they did it and, most importantly, WHY.

IT IS MORE THAN A SCULPTURE. IT IS A BEACON OF REMEMBRANCE



Photo credit © Claire Hartley



Heritage Talk

ON FREEDOM'S WINGS: THE INSIDE STORY

FREE Inspire Libraries ^(B)

Hucknall Library

2pm / Tuesday 22 September

Mansfield Central Library

2pm / Tuesday 20 October

EXPERTS FROM THE BOMBER COUNTY GATEWAY TRUST TAKE US ON THE JOURNEY FROM CONCEPTION TO COMPLETION.

The talk includes the history of the Lancaster Bomber and the World War II airmen, how the project came about, the people behind the scenes, fascinating facts and figures, and what comes next? Visually appealing with video footage and archive material, this talk is for the curious about the story behind the sculpture.



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Paul Sorby

PHOTOGRAPHY
© Claire Hartley

M motorfinity
driven to reward you



I AM A MAKER



ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



THE 2026[®]
BIG
DRAW
FESTIVAL

Exhibition

**I AM A MAKER
THE BIG DRAW 2026:
MAKE A MARK**

FREE Inspire Libraries 

Workshop Library
Saturday 3 October –
Sunday 15 November

Mansfield Central Library

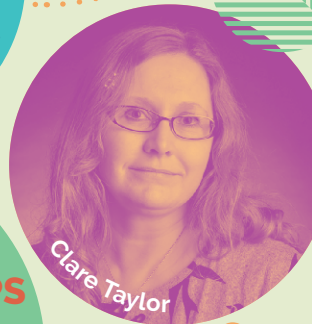
**Wednesday 18 November –
Wednesday 23 December**

The artwork on display in the I Am A Maker Exhibition showcases the story between professional makers and groups working in co-creation.

Empowering their inner maker, groups recognised themselves as creatives as they worked together to produce the work on display.

Visit the website for full details:
inspireculture.org.uk/IAmAMaker

I Am A Maker is the fourth branch of our I Am A Creator cultural programme. I Am A Creator is funded by investment from Arts Council England, through our status as an ACE National Portfolio Organisation.



FREE EVENTS

I AM A MAKER FAMILY WORKSHOPS

Coming to our libraries
in October half term

Part of The Big Draw 2026:
Make A Mark events.

See details online or pick up the
I Am A Maker workshops leaflet.





Inspiring culture,
learning & libraries
SINCE 2016

Exhibition

INSPIRE AT 10

FREE Inspire Libraries 

West Bridgford Library

Saturday 18 July – Thursday 17 August

Beeston Library

Saturday 17 October – Monday 30 November

A celebratory exhibition marking ten years of Inspire – bringing together culture, learning and libraries to support communities across Nottinghamshire.

Go on a journey through Inspire's first decade and discover key milestones, achievements and investments in people and places. From reimagined libraries and archives to creative programmes, music education, adult learning and community wellbeing, the exhibition tells the story of how Inspire has connected people with knowledge, creativity and opportunity.

The exhibition also looks forward, sharing Inspire's future focus on excellence, inclusion and legacy – continuing to provide welcoming spaces, encourage meaningful connections and lifelong learning for all.



**A JOURNEY THROUGH
INSPIRE'S FIRST DECADE**

**THE PAST &
THE FUTURE
OF INSPIRE**

2016 TO 2026

Exhibition

I AM A STORYTELLER

FREE Inspire Libraries 

Arnold Library

Friday 14 August –

Monday 21 September

Blidworth Library

Thursday 8 October –

Thursday 5 November

West Bridgford Library

Thursday 12 November –

Monday 21 December


ENJOY SOME OF THE INSPIRING
WORK CREATED BY FIVE
STORYTELLERS WORKING WITH
FIVE GROUPS AS PART OF OUR
I AM A STORYTELLER PROJECT.

By empowering their inner storyteller,
groups recognised themselves as creatives.
They worked together to produce
some of the stories on display.

inspireculture.org.uk/Storyteller

 No booking needed

 Advised booking

 Booking required

Booking Info:

**I AM A
STORYTELLER**





Story Snugglers

Exhibition

STORY SNUGLERS

FREE Mansfield Central Library 

Saturday 15 August – Sunday 27 September

Mansfield Central Library Gallery is full of Story Snugglers – each Snuggler is a characterful cape that little ones can wear to stay warm and cosy while enjoying a bedtime book. All have been made with so much love and care; the display is not to be missed!

After the exhibition the wonderful woollies will be donated to Trussell. We hope they go on to be the spark at the start of a lifelong love of reading.

Thank you to everyone that has picked up their needles and hooks in support of this year's challenge – you are all amazing!

Visit inspireculture.org.uk/Knit for all the latest woolly information.



A STUNNING
CELEBRATION
OF YARN
CRAFTS!

 **MANSFIELD**
BUILDING SOCIETY

In support of

 **Trussell**
Ending hunger together

 **Creative
Lives**

Exhibition

INSPIRE OPEN

FREE Beeston Library 

**Saturday 7 November –
Saturday 19 December**

COME AND SEE THE WONDERFUL
CREATIVE TALENTS OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
ARTISTS IN OUR INSPIRE COMMUNITY
OPEN EXHIBITION.

Every year we are delighted by the artwork on show inspiring visitors to take up a new creative pathway for themselves. The show is an amazing mixture of painting, drawings, photography and making. Maybe you have something you would like to submit?

CALLING ALL NOTTS ARTISTS

Whether you have taken up art recently or been creative for many years, if you live in Nottinghamshire we would love to see a piece of your work in the Inspire Community

Open Exhibition 2026 in our beautiful
Beeston Library Gallery.

Application is on a first come first serve basis and work is non-selected. We have a limited number of spaces for both 2D and 3D work. Booking closes Saturday 3 October 2026.

YOU CAN
APPLY AT THE
LIBRARY OR
ONLINE!
inspireculture.org.uk/Open2026

**INSPIRE
COMMUNITY
OPEN
EXHIBITION**

JAZZ STEPS

live at the libraries

JAZZ
STEPS

mjazz

Live Music

THE EDISON HERBERT QUARTET

£14 Inspire Libraries (B)

Beeston Library

7.30pm / Monday 14 September ●

Worksop Library

7.30pm / Tuesday 15 September

West Bridgford Library

7.30pm / Wednesday 16 September ●

Edison's warm expressive guitar tone, deep musical grooves and infectious melodies - a perfect late-summer jazzy soundscape!

Live Music

GWYN JAY ALLEN & ALEX WILSON: 'I LOVE LOUIS'

£16 Inspire Libraries (B)

Beeston Library

7.30pm / Monday 12 October

Worksop Library

7.30pm / Tuesday 13 October

West Bridgford Library

7.30pm / Wednesday 14 October

The great Louis Armstrong's music is celebrated by vocalist and guitarist Gwyn Jay Allen who co-created the 'I Love Louis' musical with Swiss-based pianist and composer Alex Wilson. Both are fresh from performing at international jazz festivals, making this a super-special gig to celebrate our 15th year of Jazz Steps Live at the Libraries!

Live Music

GREG ABATE WITH THE BELPER JAZZ CO.

£14 Inspire Libraries (B)

Beeston Library

7.30pm / Monday 9 November

Worksop Library

7.30pm / Tuesday 10 November

West Bridgford Library

7.30pm / Wednesday 11 November

Guest touring US saxophonist and flautist Greg Abate combines swing's easy-going vibe and bebop's animated groove and inventiveness.

BOOK
YOUR TICKETS
ONLINE
inspireculture.org.uk/jazz

"ABATE IS NOT
CONTENT TO RELY ON
STOCK BEBOP RIFFS...
HIS WORK HAS A
FEELING OF CONSTANT
INVENTION AND
CREATIVITY"

Chicago Tribune



DEMENTIA FRIENDLY FILMS AT INSPIRE LIBRARIES

Dementia Friendly film screenings are relaxed with a break and refreshments. They're suitable for all, particularly those with memory challenges.

Dementia Friendly

MATILDA (PG)

£1 Mansfield Central Library ^(A)

1.30pm / Wednesday 23 September

A girl gifted with a keen intellect and telekinetic powers uses both to get even with her callous family, and free her kindly schoolteacher from the tyrannical grip of a sadistic headmistress.

Dementia Friendly

BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON (U)

£1 Arnold Library ^(A)

1.30pm / Thursday 29 October

Follow the trials and tribulations of the Winfield family in small town Indiana as Marjorie Winfield's boyfriend, William Sherman, returns from the army after World War I. Bill and Marjorie's on-again, off-again relationship provides the backdrop for other family issues, primarily brought on by little brother Wesley's overactive imagination and tall tales.



BOOK YOUR FILM TICKETS
inspireculture.org.uk/Film

MORE FILMS THIS WAY



Dementia Friendly

THE WIZARD OF OZ (U)

£1 Mansfield Central Library ^(A)

1.30pm / Wednesday 25 November

Dorothy Gale and her dog Toto are swept away by a tornado from their Kansas farm to the magical Land of Oz. They embark on a quest with three new friends to see the Wizard, who can return Dorothy to her home and fulfil the others' wishes.

In partnership with Film Hub Midlands, with support from:



(N) No booking needed

(A) Advised booking

(B) Booking required

Booking Info:

RELAXED FILM SCREENINGS AT INSPIRE LIBRARIES

Relaxed family films that are suitable for all. Please feel free to talk, sing and move during the screening.

THE GREAT GRUFFALO DOUBLE-BILL

In celebration of the publication of *Gruffalo Granny*, we're showing two great Gruffalo films accompanied by **FREE** themed activities.



WHY NOT COME ALONG IN GRUFFALO FANCY DRESS?

Relaxed Screening

THE GRUFFALO (U)

£1 Mansfield Central Library ^(A)

11.30am / Sunday 27 September

A half-hour animated film based on the classic picture book written by Julia Donaldson and illustrated by Axel Scheffler. A magical tale of a mouse who takes a stroll through the woods.

Encountering three predators who all wish to eat him - a fox, an owl and a snake - the plucky mouse has to use his wits to survive.



Relaxed Screening

THE GRUFFALO'S CHILD (U)

£1 Mansfield Central Library ^(A)

1.30pm / Sunday 27 September

An animated film based on the classic children's picture book written by Julia Donaldson and illustrated by Axel Scheffler. *The Gruffalo's Child* tells the delightful tale of a little Gruffalo who ignores her father's warnings and tiptoes out into the snow in search of the Big Bad Mouse.



Relaxed Screening

MONSTERS INC. (U)

£1 Mansfield Central Library ^(A)

1.30pm / Wednesday 21 October

Two monsters, whose job is to make human children scream, accidentally let a little girl into their world and must protect her from their own kind to return her home unscathed.



SMALL WORLD cinema

Family Film and Craft

SMALL WORLD CINEMA: ANIMAL HOMES AND HABITATS (PG)

£1 Arnold Library 

1.30pm / Wednesday 28 October

JOIN US AS WE EXPLORE ANIMALS
AND THE PLACES THEY CALL HOME.

Children can create their own animal home or habitat out of matchboxes, using twigs, acorns, fabric, feathers and more. The workshop accompanies two dialogue-free animated short films featuring some curious and unusual creatures, and invites children to think about an interesting question: is home a place, or is it where your family is?

Enjoy *Shoom's Odyssey*, a French featurette about overcoming the odds, kindness and finding your family. And *Capybaras*, in which a family of capybaras hiding from a local hunter find unexpected refuge in a nearby chicken coop. Based on his award-winning picture book, director Alfredo Sodeguit, has created a striking story of how accepting others enriches us all.



MAKE
YOUR OWN
SMALL ANIMAL
HABITAT BEFORE
THE FILMS.



MORE FILMS
THIS WAY

INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS

Event organized with the support of the Institut Français.

Relaxed Screening

THE LAND OF SOMETIMES (U)

£1 Arnold Library 

1.30pm / Saturday 14 November

Twins Alfie and Elise get more than they bargained for after summoning the mysterious Wish Collector, an enigmatic character who whisks them away to The Land of Sometimes - an incredible place where all four seasons pass in just one day. Embarking on a magical, musical journey filled with fantastical creatures and a truth that shines brighter than any wish: the power of family.



All family films
supported by:



MANSFIELD
BUILDING SOCIETY

FAMILY FILM DAY AT MANSFIELD CENTRAL LIBRARY

10am – 2.30pm /
Thursday 6 August

MANSFIELD TOWN FILM FESTIVAL

Join us this summer at Mansfield Central Library's first family film day. Watch Mansfield Town Film Festival's family friendly animated shorts in the auditorium with a bag of popcorn, get creative in our free activity area or book onto our under 5's sensory film workshop, Cinemini.

THE DAY IS PERFECT FOR
BUDDING FILM ENTHUSIASTS
AND THEIR FAMILIES.



Cinemini Film Workshop is organised in collaboration with Small World Cinema.



Event

CINEMINI:
UNDER 5'S FILM WORKSHOP
FREE Mansfield Central Library ^(A)

10am / 1.30pm / Thursday 6 August

Cinemini is a film event for children and families, featuring short films, sensory play, and hands-on activities designed to spark creativity and curiosity.

These relaxed sessions create a welcoming space for young families to explore the magic of cinema through light, shadow, colour, reflection, and play.

For children aged 2 – 5 years and their families

Book your place online at:
inspireculture.org.uk/Cinemini

THERE ARE TWO SESSION
TIMES TO CHOOSE FROM:

Session 1
10am –
11.30am

or

Session 2
1pm –
2.30pm



BOOK TO FILM CLUB SCREENINGS AT INSPIRE LIBRARIES

Part of the National Year of Reading. Go all in on your favourite book-to-screen adaptations.

Film Screening

HAMNET (12)

£3 Southwell Library 

2pm / Thursday 17 September

From Academy Award-winning writer/director Chloé Zhao, Hamnet tells the powerful love story that inspired the creation of Shakespeare's timeless masterpiece, Hamlet.

Film Screening

H IS FOR HAWK (12)

£3 Southwell Library 

2pm / Thursday 24 September

After losing her beloved father, Helen finds herself saved by an unlikely friendship with a stubborn hawk named Mabel.

Film Screening

ROMEO AND JULIET (12)

(1996)

£3 Southwell Library 

2pm / Thursday 1 October

SHAKESPEARE'S FAMOUS PLAY IS UPDATED TO THE MODERN SUBURB OF VERONA STILL RETAINING ITS ORIGINAL DIALOGUE.

The gun-toting families wage a vicious war on the streets as the star-crossed lovers meet their tragic destiny.



SING WITH FRIENDS

JOIN US EVERY MONTH!

FREE Inspire Libraries 

Mansfield Central Library

1.30pm / Starting Wednesday 9 September

Sutton-in-Ashfield Library

2pm / Starting Tuesday 15 September

Eastwood Library

2pm / Starting Monday 21 September



Join us for an hour of reminiscence using music and singing. Come along for a sing, chat, tea and biscuits!

This event is open to all and there is no need to book - just come along and join in!

For all event dates visit:
inspireculture.org.uk/SingWithFriends



Booking Info:  Booking required  Advised booking  No booking needed

HEALTHIER HAPPIER CONNECTED CREATIVE

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

There's something for everyone, to make new connections and explore your creativity. Growing communities that are happier, healthier and enjoying ageing well.



EVERYONE
WELCOME – NO
EXPERIENCE
NEEDED!

Art Workshop

CONNECT & CREATE

£3 Inspire Libraries (A)

Retford Library

Fridays / 2pm / 21 August / 18 September /
16 October / 20 November

Hucknall Library

Fridays / 2pm / 28 August / 25 September /
23 October / 27 November

It's never too late to try something new and share ideas in a friendly, supportive group.

Our skilled Connect & Create artists will guide you to experiment with various artistic styles and techniques, as you work alongside others to make your mark and express yourself.

Emma Reynard's workshops will draw upon shared reminiscence on themes of gardening, food, music and memory, using a range of print, collage and mark-making techniques.

Dan Donovan's workshops are fun and relaxed expressive painting classes, creating group-made art and individual pieces. Dan's focus is on improving wellbeing for individuals by finding their inner artist.

Rachel Scanlon's workshops invite everyone to explore their creativity through experimenting with materials, problem solving ideas, collaboration and helping others develop belief in themselves.

The events are particularly suitable for older people – including those living with dementia and their carers.

inspireculture.org.uk/ConnectAndCreate



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Your Health
Notts

Booking Info:



Booking required



Advised booking



No booking needed

Live Music

SONGS & SCONES

£3 Inspire Libraries (A)



Retford Library

Fridays / 2pm / 7 August / 4 September / 2 October / 6 November

Hucknall Library

Fridays / 2pm / 14 August / 11 September / 9 October / 13 November

WHO DOESN'T LOVE A CUP OF TEA, A LOVELY SCONE AND SOME SOCIAL MUSIC-MAKING?



Live Music Now's Songs & Scones programme brings people together over a cup of tea, a scone and uplifting live performances from professional musicians.

The events are particularly suitable for older people – including those living with dementia and their carers.

inspireculture.org.uk/SongsAndScones

Workshop

MIND & MOVEMENT

FREE Inspire Libraries (B)

Retford Library

Fridays / 2pm / 28 August / 11 September / 25 September / 9 October / 23 October / 13 November / 27 November

Hucknall Library

Wednesdays / 2pm / 19 August / 2 September / 16 September / 21 October / 18 November

Looking for a fun, gentle way to stay active and social? Join our music and movement sessions at the library!

A friendly mix of light exercise to help with balance, strength and mobility. Then take time to relax with a cuppa, biscuits and a good chat.

Inspireculture.org.uk/MindAndMovement

Or register by calling Your Health Notts on **0115 772 2515**



Live Music Now



LOOKING FOR A GENTLE, FUN WAY TO STAY ACTIVE & SOCIAL?



Booking Info: (B) Booking required (A) Advised booking (N) No booking needed



SHOP SMALL AND SUPPORT LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS!

CHRISTMAS MARKETS IN LIBRARIES

FREE Inspire Libraries (N)

Stapleford Library

10am – 12pm / Saturday 14 November

Sutton in Ashfield Library

10am – 2pm / Saturday 14 November

Hucknall Library

10am – 1pm / Saturday 21 November

Kirkby in Ashfield Library

10am – 1pm / Saturday 21 November

Kimberley Library

2:30pm – 6pm / Friday 27 November

In conjunction with the town lights switch on.

Bingham Library

10am – 3pm / Saturday 28 November

Eastwood Library

3:30pm – 6pm / Saturday 28 November

In conjunction with the town lights switch on.

Workshop Library

9:30am – 2:30pm / Saturday 28 November

Arnold Library

10am – 2pm / Saturday 5 December

Ravenshead Library

9:30am – 12pm / Saturday 5 December

West Bridgford Library

10am – 2pm / Saturday 5 December

WANT TO HIRE ONE OF OUR MARKET STALLS?

Register your interest from Monday 31 August at:

inspireculture.org.uk/Markets

Browse handmade items from local makers, enjoy indulgent treats and take part in an array of family activities at libraries around the county.

With carol singing and visits from Santa Claus, there's no better place to spend this festive season!

Find out more at inspireculture.org.uk/Markets

SAVE THE DATE!

An Inspired Christmas Concert
The Royal Concert Hall

7 – 9pm / Monday 7 December

CHRISTMAS AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

Take part in festive storytimes, fun family crafts, and develop your skills in Christmas learning courses.

Discover more in a library near you this festive season.

Find full listings at inspireculture.org.uk

FOREST TOWN YARN BOMBERS

FREE Forest Town Library [Ⓝ]

10am – 12pm / Saturday 14 November

Support local crafters and help raise money for a valuable cause.



FESTIVE FUN DAY

FREE Beeston Library [Ⓝ]

9am – 5pm / Saturday 5 December

Join in with local celebrations as we ring in the festive season, in partnership with Broxtowe Borough Council. Enjoy fun activities, including crafts and a visit to Santa's grotto (timings to be announced).



Members' Event

INSPIRE AGM 2026

FREE Arnold Library and Online [Ⓝ]

2.30pm – 3pm / Wednesday 30 September

We are delighted to invite you to book your free ticket to hear about our extraordinary year and look ahead to our future plans.

ALL OUR MEMBERS WELCOME

AGM 26



INSPIRE YOUTH ARTS

**LIMITED
SPACES
AVAILABLE!**

Apply now.

Digital Arts

PROTO-TYPE

£40 Various Venues **B**

September 2026 – March 2027

We are looking for new members to join Proto-Type – a group for young creatives aged 15-18* to come together to explore digital art and media.

Mentored by Urban Projections, you will experiment with digital drawing, 3D modelling, projection mapping and virtual reality. This 6-month project costs only £40, bursaries are available.

YOU'LL GET MASTERCLASSES, 1:1 MENTORING AND THE CHANCE TO EXHIBIT YOUR WORK AS A COLLECTIVE.

Find out more about the project and key dates:
inspireculture.org.uk/Proto-Type

Music Workshops

MUSIC MAKERS SUMMER SCHOOL

£10 PER DAY The Old Library **B**

10am – 4pm / Wednesday 5 /
Thursday 6 / Friday 7 August

**OPEN TO RAPPERS, SINGERS,
PRODUCERS, INSTRUMENTALISTS
AND SONGWRITERS AGED 13-18!**

Develop your songwriting skills, build confidence, and be mentored by professional musicians. Work with like-minded individuals and create an original group song, with an informal sharing on day 3. Bursaries available.

Sign up at:
inspireculture.org.uk/SummerMusicMakers

Dance Workshops

ZAP DANCE SUMMER SCHOOL

FREE The Old Library **B**

9.30am – 3.30pm /
Monday 17 /
Tuesday 18 August

**A FUN, FRIENDLY AND
ENERGETIC 2-DAY
DANCE PROJECT FOR
BUDDING YOUNG MOVERS.**

Join a professional dance artist to explore, play games and get creative! There will be a short performance at the end of day 2 for family and friends.

For children aged 7 – 10.
No experience necessary.

inspireculture.org.uk/ZapSummerSchool

* Up to 25 years with a disability/neurodivergent.

FIRST ART

Presents

THE FULL SHEBANG FESTIVAL 2026

Sat 5 Sept 2026
11am – 5pm

Mansfield Town Centre

A family-friendly
jam-packed day

Bringing some of the
best outdoors arts and
entertainment to Mansfield

FREE
Everyone's
invited!



First Art is a registered charity (no. 1193429) and lead of the First Art Creative People and Places programme funded by Arts Council England. Photo: Strictly Cycling by The Bicycle Ballet Company © Raysto Images



Able Orchestra

An inclusive music and digital project for young
people aged 11-25 across Nottinghamshire.

inspireculture.org.uk/AbleOrchestra

 **Inspire**
Culture | Learning | Libraries

 **Nottinghamshire
County Council**

 **ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**
LOTTERY FUNDED

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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Inspire Adult Learning

Culture | Learning | Libraries

**FREE*
AND LOW
COST**

*subject to eligibility
criteria

**IN-PERSON
OR
ONLINE**

**INSPIRE
COLLEGE**
Enrolling Now!

**AUTUMN
TERM
PROGRAMME**
Out Now!

BE INSPIRED!

Learn local, go far!

Go all in on a brand-new hobby and pick up some new skills, as we dive into autumn!

Inspire's Adult Learning courses have something for everyone, no matter what you're into! We've got amazing writing courses, where you can brush up on the basics, or be inspired by poetry from years gone by. Or go back further: discover our heritage and history courses, where you can research your family tree, learn about Nottinghamshire's past, or step further afield and discover the true story of Henry VIII's wives. If you're more of a music lover, we've got courses that will have you delving into the theory behind song writing and composing... or try something totally new with our beginners keyboard sessions. And whilst it might seem a long way off, we've got tons of crafty Christmas courses perfect for making homemade gifts and treats!

All our courses are free* or low cost, and with courses running across Nottinghamshire and online, you're guaranteed to find the perfect one for you.

Visit inspireculture.org.uk/courses to view everything on offer.

Career-Boosting Courses

Inspire's Adult Learning courses aren't just for fun – we have plenty of ways for you to upskill and get ahead in your career with our accredited courses.

If you're looking to progress your career or up-skill, come and talk to us about our superb range of accredited career boosting courses. We have courses in mental health, education, digital skills, counselling, conservation and more. Some even have funding available so your course could be fully or part-funded!

Find out more at inspireculture.org.uk/accredited

Maths & English | Coding | Customer Service | Digital Skills | Counselling

Inspire College

Inspire College prepares young people aged 16-19 not only for the world of work and further education, but for life!**

Join us at one of our small, friendly bases across Nottinghamshire, and you'll learn from tutors who really care about your progress and wellbeing. Along with a wide variety of courses, we'll help you develop employability skills on community and work placements, gain a qualification in Maths and English, make new friends, and build your confidence. Plus, you will have access to a dedicated team of careers advisors who are here to help you with your next steps.

Find out more at inspireculture.org.uk/college

**Aged up to 24 with an Education Health Care Plan

**Now enrolling
for the
2026 – 2027
academic
year!**



subject to eligibility criteria

BOOK NOW: inspireculture.org.uk/learning | 01623 677 200

 @InspireLearningSkills

EVENTS DIARY

SHARE YOUR
EXPERIENCES
WITH US!
#BeInspired

August –
November
2026

DATE	EVENT	TYPE	LOCATION	£	PAGE
4 Jul - 6 Sep	Summer Reading Challenge 2026: Read to the Beat	Children's Reading	All Inspire Libraries	FREE	4
7 - 30 Jul	Our Story Interactive Exhibition	Exhibition	Nottinghamshire Archives	FREE	23
11 Jul - 6 Sep	Offbeat	Exhibition	Beeston Library	FREE	5
18 Jul - 17 Aug	Inspire at 10	Exhibition	West Bridgford Library	FREE	26
25 Jul - 6 Aug	Our Story Interactive Exhibition	Exhibition	Retford Library	FREE	23
31 Jul	Kids to the Front	Family Workshop	Mansfield Central Library	FREE	6
1 - 13 Aug	Our Story Interactive Exhibition	Exhibition	Beeston Library	FREE	23
3 - 21 Aug	Offbeat Workshops*	Family Workshops	Various Inspire Libraries	FREE	5
4 Aug - 26 Sep	On Freedom's Wings	Exhibition	Hucknall Library	FREE	24
5 Aug	Curating the Curious: Make Your Own Exhibition	Workshop	Beeston Library	FREE	23
5 - 7 Aug	Music Makers Summer School	Music Workshops	The Old Library, Mansfield	£40	38
6 Aug	Family Film Day*	Film Screenings and Activities	Mansfield Central Library	FREE	32
7 Aug	Songs & Scones	Live Music	Retford Library	£3	35
7 Aug	Super Sparkle presents: Red Riding Hood Rocks	Performance Storytelling	Bingham and Newark Libraries	£2	7
8 - 22 Aug	Bad Ideas Club with Bad Betty Press*	Writing Workshops	Mansfield Central Library	FREE	16
8 - 20 Aug	Our Story Interactive Exhibition	Exhibition	Worksop Library	FREE	23
11 Aug	Percussion Workshop with BeatFeet	Family Workshops	Cotgrave and Mansfield Woodhouse Libraries	FREE	7
12 Aug	Cartooning with Laura Howell	Children's Illustrator Event	Mansfield Central and Kirkby-in-Ashfield Libraries	£3*	8
12 - 16 Aug	Crescendorious presents: Kids to the Front*	Family Theatre	Various Inspire Libraries	£4	6
14 Aug - 21 Sep	I Am A Storyteller	Exhibition	Arnold Library	FREE	26
14 Aug	Songs & Scones	Live Music	Hucknall Library	£3	35
15 - 28 Aug	Our Story Interactive Exhibition	Exhibition	Arnold Library	FREE	23
15 Aug - 27 Sep	Story Snugglers	Exhibition	Mansfield Central Library	FREE	27
17 Aug	Percussion Workshop with BeatFeet	Family Workshops	Eastwood and Stapleford Libraries	FREE	7
17 - 18 Aug	ZAP Dance Summer School	Dance Workshops	The Old Library, Mansfield	FREE	38
19 Aug	Curating the Curious: Make Your Own Exhibition	Workshop	Arnold Library	FREE	23
19 Aug	Mind & Movement	Workshop	Hucknall Library	FREE	35
21 Aug	Connect & Create	Art Workshop	Retford Library	£3	34
22 Aug - 4 Sep	Our Story Interactive Exhibition	Exhibition	Newark Library	FREE	23
25 Aug - 27 Sep	Little Creatives Interactive Exhibition	Exhibition	Worksop Library	FREE	10
27 Aug	The Books We Love: Inspire's Favourite Reads Panel Event	Reading Event	West Bridgford Library	£5	15
28 Aug	Connect & Create	Art Workshop	Hucknall Library	£3	34
28 Aug	Mind & Movement	Workshop	Retford Library	FREE	35
2 Sep	Mind & Movement	Workshop	Hucknall Library	FREE	35
2 - 16 Sep	Bad Ideas Club with Bad Betty Press*	Writing Workshop	Newark Library	FREE	16
4 Sep	Songs & Scones	Live Music	Retford Library	£3	35
5 Sep	The Full Shebang Festival	Festival	Mansfield	FREE	39
5 - 19 Sep	Bad Ideas Club with Bad Betty Press*	Writing Workshop	Hucknall Library	FREE	16
From 7 Sep	The Lullaby Bank*	Under 5s	Various Inspire Libraries	FREE	11
From 7 Sep	Adventures in Music*	Under 5s	Various Inspire Libraries	£30	11
From 9 Sep	Sing With Friends	Community	Mansfield Central Library	FREE	33

* See page event listing for full dates and times. ▼ Free for accompanying adults.

DATE	EVENT	TYPE	LOCATION	£	PAGE
10 Sep	Archives Tour	Heritage	Nottinghamshire Archives	FREE	18
11 – 20 Sep	Heritage Open Days	Heritage	Various Inspire Libraries	FREE	18
11 Sep	Mind & Movement	Workshop	Retford Library	FREE	35
11 Sep	Songs & Scones	Live Music	Hucknall Library	£3	35
12 Sep	Archives Escape!	Heritage	Nottinghamshire Archives	FREE	18
12 Sep	Exploring Old Occupations	Heritage Talk	Retford Library	FREE	19
14 Sep	Jazz Steps: The Edison Herbert Quartet	Live Music	Beeston Library	£14	28
15 Sep	Jazz Steps: The Edison Herbert Quartet	Live Music	Worksop Library	£14	28
From 15 Sep	Proto-Type	Digital Art	Various Venues	£40	38
From 15 Sep	Sing With Friends	Community	Sutton-in-Ashfield Library	FREE	33
16 Sep	Jazz Steps: The Edison Herbert Quartet	Live Music	West Bridgford Library	£14	28
16 Sep	Mind & Movement	Workshop	Hucknall Library	FREE	35
16 Sep	The Liquorice Gardens of Worksop	Heritage Talk	Worksop Library	FREE	19
16 Sep	The Past, Present and Future of Newark Castle	Heritage Talk	Beeston Library	FREE	19
17 Sep	Archives Tour	Heritage	Nottinghamshire Archives	FREE	18
17 Sep	Hamnet (12A)	Film Screening	Southwell Library	£3	33
18 Sep	Connect & Create	Art Workshop	Retford Library	£3	34
19 Sep	Destination: Music!	Family Concert	Southwell Library	£4	7
From 21 Sep	Sing With Friends	Community	Eastwood Library	FREE	33
22 Sep	On Freedom's Wings: The Inside Story	Heritage Talk	Hucknall Library	FREE	24
23 Sep	Matilda (PG)	Film Screening	Mansfield Central Library	£1	29
24 Sep – 1 Oct	Inspire Poetry Festival 2026	Poetry Festival	Various Inspire Libraries	VARIOUS	17
24 Sep	H is for Hawk (12)	Film Screening	Southwell Library	£3	33
25 Sep	Connect & Create	Art Workshop	Hucknall Library	£3	34
25 Sep	Mind & Movement	Workshop	Retford Library	FREE	35
26 Sep	The Great Big Bug Show!	Family Show	West Bridgford and Beeston Libraries	£3	8
27 Sep	The Gruffalo (U)	Film Screening	Mansfield Central Library	£1	30
27 Sep	The Gruffalo's Child (U)	Film Screening	Mansfield Central Library	£1	30
30 Sep	Inspire AGM 2026	AGM	Arnold Library and online	FREE	37
1 Oct – 15 Nov	On Freedom's Wings	Exhibition	Mansfield Central Library	FREE	24
1 Oct	Romeo and Juliet (1996) (12)	Film Screening	Southwell Library	£3	33
2 Oct – 19 Nov	Little Creatives Workshops*	Under 5s	Various Inspire Libraries	FREE	10
2 Oct	Songs & Scones	Live Music	Retford Library	£3	35
3 Oct	Fun Palace	Community	Worksop Library	FREE	11
3 Oct – 15 Nov	I Am A Maker	Exhibition	Worksop Library	FREE	25
3 Oct – 9 Nov	Little Creatives Interactive Exhibition	Exhibition	West Bridgford Library	FREE	10
5 Oct	Stephen Booth	Author Event	Stapleford Library	£3	13
6 Oct	Arbella Stuart: The Queen That Never Was	Heritage Talk	Mansfield Central Library	£3.50	20
8 Oct	Eve Makis, Where The Earth Holds Secrets	Author Event	West Bridgford Library	£4	15
8 Oct - 5 Nov	I Am A Storyteller	Exhibition	Blidworth Library	FREE	26
9 Oct	Mind & Movement	Workshop	Retford Library	FREE	35
9 Oct	Songs & Scones	Live Music	Hucknall Library	£3	35
9 Oct	Stephen Booth	Author Event	Worksop Library	£3	13
12 Oct	Jazz Steps: Gwyn Jay Allen & Alex Wilson: 'I Love Louis'	Live Music	Beeston Library	£16	28
12 Oct	Stephen Booth	Author Event	Keyworth Library	£3	13
13 Oct	Jazz Steps: Gwyn Jay Allen & Alex Wilson: 'I Love Louis'	Live Music	Worksop Library	£16	28
14 Oct	Jazz Steps: Gwyn Jay Allen & Alex Wilson: 'I Love Louis'	Live Music	West Bridgford Library	£16	28
16 Oct	Connect & Create	Art Workshop	Retford Library	£3	34
17 Oct – 30 Nov	Inspire at 10	Exhibition	Beeston Library	FREE	26
20 Oct	On Freedom's Wings: The Inside Story	Heritage Talk	Mansfield Central Library	FREE	24

DATE	EVENT	TYPE	LOCATION	£	PAGE
20 Oct	Stephen Booth	Author Event	Ravenshead Library	£3	13
21 Oct	History Mystery, The Reason for the Rhyme	Heritage Talk	Beeston Library	£3.50	20
21 Oct	Mind & Movement	Workshop	Hucknall Library	FREE	35
21 Oct	Monsters Inc. (U)	Film Screening	Mansfield Central Library	£1	30
21 Oct	The Buildings Archaeologist - Discovering the Secrets of Nottinghamshire's Ancient Buildings	Heritage Talk	Workshop Library	£3.50	20
22 Oct	These Are My Rocks with Bethan Woolvin	Children's Author Event	Mansfield Central and Workshop Libraries	£3*	9
23 Oct	Connect & Create	Art Workshop	Hucknall Library	£3	34
23 Oct	Mind & Movement	Workshop	Retford Library	FREE	35
27 Oct	Tales from Hungerhills	Heritage Talk	West Bridgford Library	£3.50	21
28 Oct	Small World Cinema: Animal Homes and Habitats (PG)	Film Screening and Craft	Arnold Library	£1	31
29 Oct	By the Light of the Silvery Moon (U)	Film Screening	Arnold Library	£1	29
30 Oct – 18 Dec	Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery	Exhibition	Mansfield Central Library	FREE	12
31 Oct	Eve Makis, Where The Earth Holds Secrets	Author Event	Stapleford Library	£4	15
3 Nov	Family History One-to-One Sessions	Heritage	Online or phone	FREE	21
6 Nov	Songs & Scones	Live Music	Retford Library	£3	35
7 Nov	Francis Vivian: Nottinghamshire's Classic Crime Writer	Heritage Talk/ Author Event	Retford Library	£3	13
7 Nov	Hugh Dunitz with Guy Bass	Children's Author Event	West Bridgford and Beeston Libraries	£3*	9
7 Nov – 19 Dec	Inspire Open	Exhibition	Beeston Library	FREE	27
9 Nov	Jazz Steps: Greg Abate with the Belper Jazz Co.	Live Music	Beeston Library	£14	28
10 Nov	Agatha Christie with Martin Edwards	Author Event	Mansfield Central Library	£3	13
10 Nov	Jazz Steps: Greg Abate with the Belper Jazz Co.	Live Music	Workshop Library	£14	28
11 Nov	Jazz Steps: Greg Abate with the Belper Jazz Co.	Live Music	West Bridgford Library	£14	28
12 Nov – 21 Dec	I Am A Storyteller	Exhibition	West Bridgford Library	FREE	26
13 Nov	Mind & Movement	Workshop	Retford Library	FREE	35
13 Nov	Songs & Scones	Live Music	Hucknall Library	£3	35
14 Nov – 5 Dec	Christmas Markets in Libraries*	Market	Various Inspire Libraries	FREE	36
14 Nov	Destination: Music!	Family Concert	Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library	£4	7
14 Nov	Eve Makis, Where The Earth Holds Secrets	Author Event	Newark Library	£4	15
14 Nov	Forest Town Yarn Bombers	Market	Forest Town Library	FREE	37
14 Nov	The Land of Sometimes (U)	Film Screening	Arnold Library	£1	31
17 Nov	The Buildings Archaeologist - Discovering the Secrets of Nottinghamshire's Ancient Buildings	Heritage Talk	Mansfield Central Library	£3.50	20
18 Nov – 23 Dec	I Am A Maker	Exhibition	Mansfield Central Library	FREE	25
18 Nov – 23 Dec	On Freedom's Wings	Exhibition	Workshop Library	FREE	24
18 Nov	Mind & Movement	Workshop	Hucknall Library	FREE	35
19 Nov	Crime Fiction Panel	Author Event	Beeston Library	£5	14
20 Nov	Connect & Create	Art Workshop	Retford Library	£3	34
24 Nov	West Bridgford's Art Deco Pubs	Heritage Talk	West Bridgford Library	£3.50	21
24 Nov	Written Lives, Remembered Voices	Heritage	Nottinghamshire Archives	£6	22
25 Nov	The Wizard of Oz (U)	Film Screening	Mansfield Central Library	£1	29
26 Nov	'Making A Living' Trades and Occupations Workshop	Heritage	Nottinghamshire Archives	£6	22
27 Nov	Mind & Movement	Workshop	Retford Library	FREE	35
27 Nov	Connect & Create	Art Workshop	Hucknall Library	FREE	34

* See page event listing for full dates and times. ▼ Free for accompanying adults.



SCAN
TO FIND
OUT MORE!



Your Guide to Going All In

Get involved in the National Year of Reading 2026 with reading events for adults in Nottinghamshire libraries.



GO ALL IN.

Join the library – it's free!

Listen to the Love Reading podcast.

Read in a social group, like Inspire Online Book Club.

Experience reading events in your library.

Try a new format – eReading or eAudio.

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Visit: inspireculture.org.uk/NYR2026

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