INSPIRE LIBRARIES & BEYOND



DECEMBER – MARCH 2027

YOUR GUIDE TO **WHAT'S ON**

AND MUCH MORE INSIDE!

FAMILY THEATRE
DU IZ TAK?
P7



EXHIBITION
AGATHA CHRISTIE: A WORLD OF MYSTERY
P4



AUTHOR EVENT
CRIME FICTION PANEL
P19

Look out for this icon for more crime inspired events

inspireculture.org.uk

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

Fantastic For Families

Age-Friendly

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

Funded by and delivered on behalf of Nottinghamshire County Council.

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.

arts award supporter

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.

@NottsLibraries @InspireCultureNotts

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.

Cover images for Agatha Christie: World Of Mystery © The Christie Archive Trust.

Guide designed by **hirdcreates.co.uk**

Look out for this icon for more crime inspired events

ARTS & CULTURE LIVE AT YOUR LIBRARY & BEYOND

Fans of mysteries, detective fiction and whodunnits have come to the right place!



We're holding a range of crime-themed events for all ages this season, inspired by British Library's **Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery exhibition**. As a Living Knowledge Network partner, we're delighted to be hosting a panel display of the exhibition in libraries across the city and county. **Keep an eye out for the question mark icon for clues** (like the one shown above)!

We may be rounding off the **National Year of Reading**, but reading remains at the heart of what we do. We're welcoming authors Martin Fitzgerald, Sarah Hilary, Eve Makis and Maria Ferguson, to name a few.

This is just a sample of the events we're bringing you this winter, so read on to find out what's on near you – including **live music**, **heritage**, **Christmas events**, **family theatre**, **virtual reality**, **activities for under 5s**, **film screenings**, **exhibitions**, **and more**!

FINALLY, THANK YOU FOR CELEBRATING OUR 10TH BIRTHDAY YEAR WITH US.

Over the last decade, we've built something we're proud of for the people of Nottinghamshire: spaces and services that bring reading, learning and culture to life. But we couldn't have done it without you.

We look forward to welcoming you soon.

Peter Gaw Chief Executive, Inspire.

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

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

Sutton-in-Ashfield Library
Thursday 7 January – Wednesday 24 February

St Ann's Valley Library
Thursday 7 January – Sunday 21 February

Hucknall Library
Monday 8 March – Wednesday 21 April

Hyson Green Library
Monday 8 March – Thursday 22 April

Living Knowledge Network

BRITISH LIBRARY

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

We have investigated Nottinghamshire Archives' collections to reveal some fascinating true crime stories from across the county.

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

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 panel display 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.

Visit: inspireculture.org.uk/LKN
To find a host of events linked to the Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery Exhibition in Inspire Libraries.



LOTTERY FUNDED

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Nottingham City Council

NOTTINGHAM CITY 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.

Interactive Drama Performance

LEO AND THE LIBRARY DETECTIVES

£4 Mansfield Central Library (A)

2pm / Saturday 5 December

AN INTERACTIVE DRAMA PERFORMANCE INSPIRED BY A LOVE OF CRIME FICTION!

Leo needs your help. There's a body in the crime fiction section of the library and with the police an hour away, only you can help solve the mystery.

Written and performed by Daniel McVey, this promises to be a hilarious, quirky and interactive whodunnit!

For sleuths aged 7 – 107!

LOTTERY FUNDED
Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Nottingham City Council
NOTTINGHAM CITY LIBRARIES



Children's Author Visit

ALICE HEMMING THE EGG THIEF

£3 children / **FREE** accompanying adults

Inspire Libraries (A)

Mansfield Central Library
10.30am / Saturday 27 February

Worksop Library
2pm / Saturday 27 February



Squirrel loves going on springtime walks with Bird. But while he's admiring Duck's new eggs, one begins to crack! Then the other eggs start to go missing.

Squirrel knows exactly what is going on... an EGG THIEF has stolen them! Will he crack the case of the missing eggs before Duck returns?

JOIN ALICE AS SHE SHARES HER NEW SPRINGTIME STORY, INCLUDING SOME INTERACTIVE FUN.

For children aged 3 – 7.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alice is the author of over sixty books for children from tots to tweens. Her #1 New York Times bestselling picture book ***Leaf Thief*** *series, with illustrator Nicola Slater (Scholastic 2020), has sold millions of copies around the world. Alice works in a writing shed at the top of her garden, although she does sometimes venture out to visit schools and libraries.*



Look out for this icon for more crime inspired events

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



Performance Storytelling

SUPER SPARKLE PRESENTS: EARTH CALLING BEAR-STRONAUT

£2 Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library (A)

11am / Thursday 3 December

Most snow bears love snow.
Most snow bears love fish.
But Kai is different. He loves the moon!

But whoever saw a snow bear in space!?
Can we help a little bear find the courage to be himself when all he feels is... out of this world!

Get ready for a space adventure full of snowballs, space snails and moon cheese sandwiches!

Join us for an interactive performance followed by a space themed green screen and digital music play session.

For children aged 3 – 8 and their families.

inspireculture.org.uk/EarthCallingBearstronaut

Family Theatre

NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS: CINDERELLA

£4 Worksop Library (A)

11am / Saturday 23 January

STEP INTO A WORLD OF MAGIC AND FUN WITH CINDERELLA AND HER HILARIOUS ANIMAL FRIENDS.

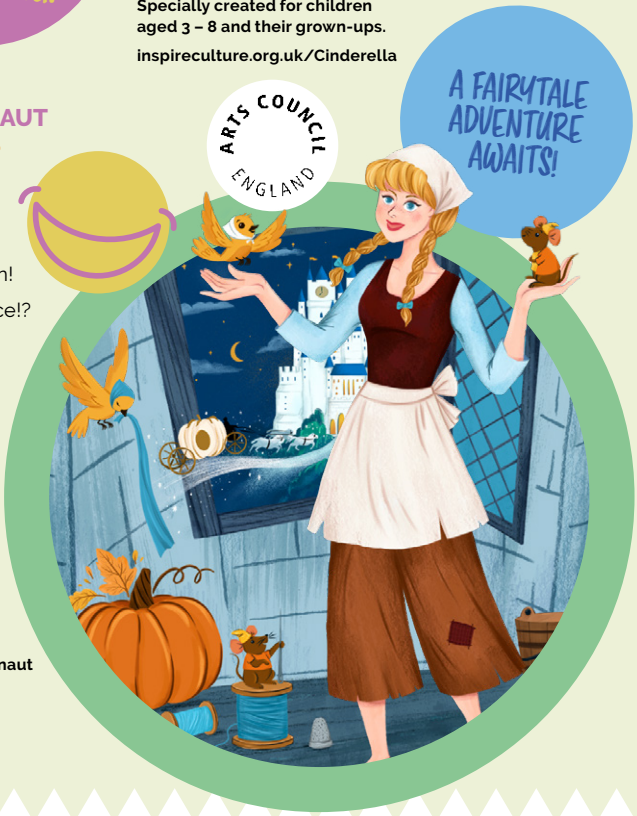
Cinderella dreams of going to the palace, but with midnight fast approaching her happily ever after is far from guaranteed.

This brand-new version of a family favourite is the perfect introduction to live theatre and a charming seasonal treat.

With music, magic and plenty of opportunities to join in along the way, this is one party you don't want to miss.

Specially created for children aged 3 – 8 and their grown-ups.

inspireculture.org.uk/Cinderella



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

LOTTERY FUNDED
Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Family Theatre

TINY PICKLES PRESENTS: DU IZ TAK?

£4 Inspire Libraries Ⓐ

Southwell Library
10.30am / Saturday 13 February

Newark Library
2.30pm / Saturday 13 February

West Bridgford Library
11.30am & 1.30pm / Sunday 14 February

Mansfield Central Library
10.30am / Monday 15 February

Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library
2.30pm / Monday 15 February

Hucknall Library
10.30am / Tuesday 16 February

Arnold Library
2.30pm / Tuesday 16 February



Told through the language of insects, Du Iz Tak? is a story about the cycle of life and all its impermanence. Come and peer into a miniature world of little puppets to see a delightful group of friends exploring their ever-changing home.

Funny, imaginative and thought provoking. A show for all the family based on the award-winning book by Carson Ellis.

Du Iz Tak? is an enchanting, unusual and magical theatre show.

For children aged 3 – 9 and their families.

inspireculture.org.uk/DuIzTak

Programmed in association with The Spark Arts for Children.



Under 5s

MAGICAL MISSIONS! IN ASSOCIATION WITH NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE

£2 Inspire Libraries Ⓐ

Mansfield Central Lib. 10.30am / Mon 22 Feb
Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library 2pm / Mon 22 Feb
Worksop Library 10.30am / Tue 23 Feb
Retford Library 2pm / Tue 23 Feb
Newark Library 10.30am / Wed 24 Feb
Southwell Library 2pm / Wed 24 Feb
West Bridgford Library 10.30am / Thu 25 Feb
Bingham Library 2pm / Thu 25 Feb
Hucknall Library 10.30am / Fri 26 Feb
Sutton-in-Ashfield Library 2pm / Fri 26 Feb
Beeston Library 10.30am / Sat 27 Feb
Arnold Library 2pm / Sat 27 Feb

Step into the legendary world of the Magical Major Oak and join Marian as we pitch our tent in the forest and gather round the campfire. Children will love this unique chance to physically explore stories, characters and landscapes led by the theatre making team from Nottingham Playhouse. These workshop sessions will unleash your child's imagination and stimulate the senses by using music, movement, puppetry, crafting, and sensory play.

For children aged 2 – 4 and their grown-ups.

inspireculture.org.uk/MagicalMissions

NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE



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

READ. RECHARGE. REPEAT.

With a baby around, time is tight. When did you last read something for your own enjoyment? Inspire Libraries have got your back: Read. Recharge. Repeat. With book-to-film screenings, giveaways, live poetry for parents and more, look out for our BYOB (Bring Your Own Baby) branding for pop-up events in Mansfield Central and Kirkby-in-Ashfield Libraries.

These relaxed and friendly events are designed for adults, but babies and toddlers under 3 years welcome.

B.Y.O.B.

Author Event

READ. RECHARGE. REPEAT. WITH MARIA FERGUSON

FREE Mansfield Central Library (A)

10.30am / Tuesday 23 February

Are you navigating life with a little one? Join us for our first Read. Recharge. Repeat. author event with poet, Maria Ferguson.

A welcoming and conversational poetry reading, straight after our usual Rattle, Rhyme & Roll session, where parents or carers of babies and toddlers can take a moment for themselves, connect with others and enjoy Maria's reflections on parenthood from her most recent collection, *Swell*.

For adults and their babies under 3 years.

Inspireculture.org.uk/ReadRechargeRepeat

"CLEVER, FUNNY, FRANK AND UNCOMPROMISING! A WARRIOR."
Joelle Taylor



READ RECHARGE REPEAT

LOTTERY FUNDED
Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Under 3s

BOOK BABIES

FREE Family Hubs (A)

Kirkby East Family Hub
10am / Wednesdays:
3 Feb / 10 Feb / 17 Feb / 24 Feb

Ravensdale Family Hub, Mansfield
10am / Mondays:
22 February / 1 March / 8 March / 15 March

OPEN A BOOK AND EXPLORE A NEW WORLD.

A playful session for babies and their grown-ups where books inspire exploration, curiosity and fun. Turn pages, discover new favourites and enjoy time together in a relaxed and welcoming space.

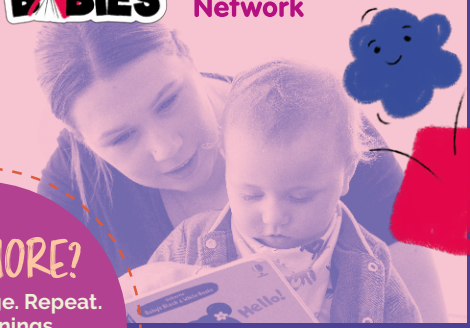
These sessions encourage little ones to experience books in active and engaging ways, and give space for their parents to connect with other parents/carers.

For adults and their babies under 3 years.

inspireculture.org.uk/BookBabies

BOOK BABIES

Nottinghamshire **Family Hub Network**



WANT MORE?

Read. Recharge. Repeat. film screenings.

See page 31

Family Concert

DESTINATION: MUSIC!

£4 Inspire Libraries Ⓐ

Arnold Library
11am / Saturday 30 January

Bingham Library
11am / Saturday 6 March

Worksop Library
11am / Saturday 20 March

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.

Plus stay a while when we reach our final destination to try out the instruments and meet the musicians.

For children aged 7 – 11 and their families.

inspireculture.org.uk/FamilyConcerts



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

Children's Illustrator Event

CREATE YOUR OWN COMIC STRIP WITH ROSE ROBBINS

£3 children /
FREE accompanying adults

Inspire Libraries Ⓐ

West Bridgford Library
10.30am / Saturday 20 March

Beeston Library
2pm / Saturday 20 March

Join author and illustrator Rose Robbins for a creative comic-making workshop inspired by her graphic novel, *Cat School*.

Rose will begin with a reading from *Cat School* and talk about how she develops characters and stories from everyday experiences. Then it's your turn to create your own comic-book characters and bring a story to life, with guidance and creative prompts from Rose along the way.

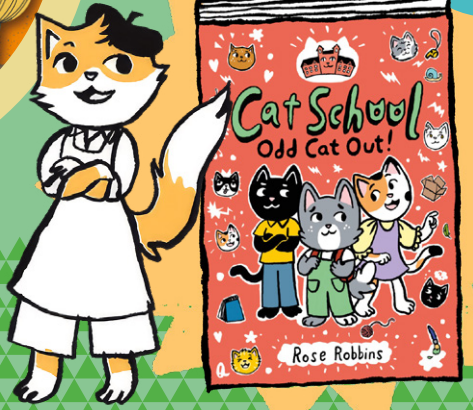
Suitable for ages 7 – 11.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rose Robbins has been making up stories since she was about four years old, around the same time she decided that learning to talk to animals would become her life's mission. Sadly, the animals have yet to cooperate.

Nowadays, she's an award-winning author and illustrator, writing stories and drawing pictures for a living. Her internationally published children's books are highly character-led and explore themes including neurodiversity, friendship, and, naturally, talking animals.

SIMPLY BRING YOUR IDEAS!



Under 5s

ADVENTURES IN MUSIC

£30 10 weekly sessions / 45 mins each
Inspire Libraries Ⓑ

Stapleford Mon / 9.15am / Starts 4 Jan
Hucknall Tue / 10.15am / Starts 5 Jan
Carlton Hill Wed / 10am / Starts 6 Jan
Beeston Thu / 9.30am / Starts 7 Jan
Retford Thu / 10.15am / Starts 7 Jan
Carlton Thu / 10.45am / Starts 7 Jan

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

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

inspireculture.org.uk/Adventures



Under 5s

THE LULLABY BANK

FREE Inspire Libraries Ⓑ

Stapleford Mon / 10.15am / Starts 4 Jan
Eastwood Mon / 11.45am / Starts 4 Jan
Kirkby-in-Ash. Mon / 1.30pm / Starts 4 Jan
Hucknall Tue / 9am / Starts 5 Jan
Bingham Tue / 9.30am / Starts 5 Jan
Newark Tue / 11am / Starts 5 Jan
Sutton-in-Ash. Tue / 11.45am / Starts 5 Jan
Southwell Tue / 1pm / Starts 5 Jan
Mansfield Cent. Tue / 1.30pm / Starts 5 Jan
Carlton Hill Wed / 11am / Starts 6 Jan
Cotgrave Wed / 1pm / Starts 6 Jan
Carlton Thu / 9.30am / Starts 7 Jan
Beeston Thu / 10.30am / Starts 7 Jan
Arnold Fri / 10.15am / Starts 8 Jan

The Lullaby Bank is a chance for mums, babies and 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 and expectant mums in their third trimester.

inspireculture.org.uk/LullabyBank

A partnership between Inspire Music and Music for Everyone.







Exhibition

LITTLE CREATIVES INTERACTIVE EXHIBITION

FREE Inspire Libraries (N)

Beeston Library

Friday 8 January – Thursday 11 February

Mansfield Central Library

Tuesday 16 February – Sunday 21 March

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)

Newark **Tue / 2 Feb / 2 Mar**

Mansfield Central **Fri / 5 Feb / 5 Mar**

Arnold **Sat / 6 Feb / 6 Mar**

Retford **Sat / 6 Feb / 6 Mar**

Bingham **Thu / 11 Feb / 11 Mar**

Southwell **Thu / 11 Feb / 11 Mar**

Hucknall **Fri / 12 Feb / 12 Mar**

Sutton-in-Ashfield **Fri / 12 Feb / 12 Mar**

Beeston **Sat / 13 Feb / 13 Mar**

Worksop **Sat / 13 Feb / 13 Mar**

Kirkby-in-Ashfield **Thu / 18 Feb / 18 Mar**

West Bridgford **Thu / 18 Feb / 18 Mar**

CALLING ALL TINY ARTISTS!

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

CHOOSE YOUR SESSION:

Session 1 10am – 10.45am **or** **Session 2** 11.15am – 12pm

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



NO NEED TO BOOK JUST TURN UP READY TO PLAY.

A FREE FESTIVAL DAY FULL OF PLAY FOR UNDER FIVES!

Under 5s

EARLY YEARS FESTIVAL FUN DAY

FREE Mansfield Central Library (N)

10am – 3pm / Saturday 20 March

Step into a library full of fascination, creativity and play. For one day only, Mansfield Central Library will become an under 5s zone, with playful things to discover throughout the building.





ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



With an interactive exhibition in the gallery, non-stop playful sessions with the Little Creatives artists, plus all your favourite music, songs and rhymes - and we will be welcoming a very special surprise visitor!

All children must be accompanied.

Inspireculture.org.uk/LittleCreatives

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



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE FESTIVAL OF SCIENCE & CURIOSITY

Family Workshops

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE FESTIVAL OF SCIENCE AND CURIOSITY

FREE Selected libraries and across Nottinghamshire Ⓐ

8 – 19 February

A JAM-PACKED PROGRAMME OF HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES TO INSPIRE YOUR FAMILY'S CURIOSITY.

Join the Nottinghamshire Festival of Science and Curiosity for a half-term packed with free engaging activities all about science, research and everything else about how the world works!

The full festival programme will be available at **nottsfosac.co.uk** with workshops open to book in January.

Family Fun Day

SCIENCE FUN DAY

FREE Mansfield Central Library Ⓝ

10am – 2pm / Friday 19 February

Join us for a fun day at Mansfield Central Library as we take science, technology, engineering and maths out of the lab and into our daily lives. Try a variety of hands-on activities led by scientists, researchers and students based in Nottinghamshire.

Suitable for ages 5 – 11.

Produced by Ignite!

CALLING ALL TEACHERS!

SCIENCE FAIR FOR SCHOOLS

FREE Mansfield Central Library Ⓑ

10.30am – 2pm / Friday 12 February

Key Stage 2 and 3 pupils are invited to showcase their own scientific work and enjoy an exciting, hands-on science experience from Braintastic! Science.

Email your interest to:
info@ignitefutures.org.uk



LOTS MORE WORKSHOPS STILL TO BE ANNOUNCED!!

Keep updated at
inspireculture.org.uk/FOSAC









VIRTUAL REALITY
VR LIBRARY

VR Experience

DIGITAL SPACES VIRTUAL REALITY LIBRARY

FREE Inspire Libraries (N)

Newark Library
10am – 3pm / Saturday 5 December

West Bridgford Library
10am – 3pm / Saturday 12 December

Retford Library
10am – 3pm / Saturday 19 December

VIRTUAL REALITY LIBRARY IS BACK!

The innovative Digital Spaces program, in collaboration with Arts Council England, BFI, with National Lottery Funding, and The Space, will bring more exciting VR experiences to libraries. Be amazed by the thrilling experiences including Wallace & Gromit in The Grand Getaway, David Attenborough's Hold the World and experience Lark Ascending as never before.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPERIENCE

HOLD THE WORLD WITH SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH:
Embark on a groundbreaking interactive VR tour of the Natural History Museum in London with the most iconic of guides. Sir David, who was filmed by more than 100 cameras and digitally recreated as a lifelike SD hologram for the experience, acts as a private guide, imparting his expert knowledge on rare objects from the museum's collection, including a blue whale, a stegosaurus, and more. Get hands-on with rare specimens from its world-famous collection, and experience priceless artefacts coming back to life.

WALLACE & GROMIT IN THE GRAND GETAWAY:
Step into the shoes (and paws) of the legendary Aardman duo as they blast-off on a cracking new adventure that will take you from the familiar sights of West Wallaby Street to the strange surroundings of deep space. An interactive treat – all in glorious VR-O-Rama!

THE PHILHARMONIA VIRTUAL ORCHESTRA – THE LARK ASCENDING
Experience a mesmerising 360-degree performance of Vaughan Williams' masterpiece featuring Nicola Benedetti.

MONOLITHS
Explore England's northern landscape through the voices and spoken word of three women, in this poignant Extended Reality (XR) experience by Pilot Theatre and One to One Development Trust.

DOORSTEP DUETS
An absorbing VR180 capture of Matthew Bourne's New Adventures by immersive filmmakers Neon8.

Suitable for ages 10+.

DIGITAL SPACES

LOTTERY FUNDED
Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND
BFI
THE NATIONAL LOTTERY
the space

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



Poetry Event

FIVE LEAVES NEW POETRY LAUNCH

£4 Beeston Library Ⓐ

7pm / Friday 11 December

Five Leaves New Poetry invites you to join them to celebrate the launch of their 18th and 19th pamphlets. *Mae*, by Maria Berry, is a sequence of poems about a Romany family living in a council low-rise block in the late 1980s, telling the story of Mae and her relations as they navigate their troublesome world. *Man Car* is Ezra James Fiddemore's poetic examination of the complexities and guilt around transitioning from female to male, finding joy in colouring outside the lines.

fiveleaves.co.uk



Author Event

BOOK CLUB LIVE!

£5 West Bridgford Library Ⓐ

7pm / Wednesday 3 February

Whether you're an avid book lover, or simply looking to rekindle a reading habit, join our panel for an evening of lively bookish conversation.

Led by poet, reading advocate and former presenter of Notts TV Book Club, Becky Cullen, alongside special guests, our panel will be looking at why we read, why it matters and how it can enrich our lives. And along the way, they'll be sharing their own brilliant recommendations for what to read next.

LOVE READING NEWSLETTER

SIGN UP FOR BOOKISH NEWS, EVENTS AND MORE STRAIGHT TO YOUR INBOX

PLUS, NEW PODCAST EPISODES COMING SOON!

Author Event

MARTIN FITZGERALD

£4 Inspire Libraries Ⓐ

Mansfield Central Library
2pm / Saturday 6 February

Beeston Library
7pm / Tuesday 30 March

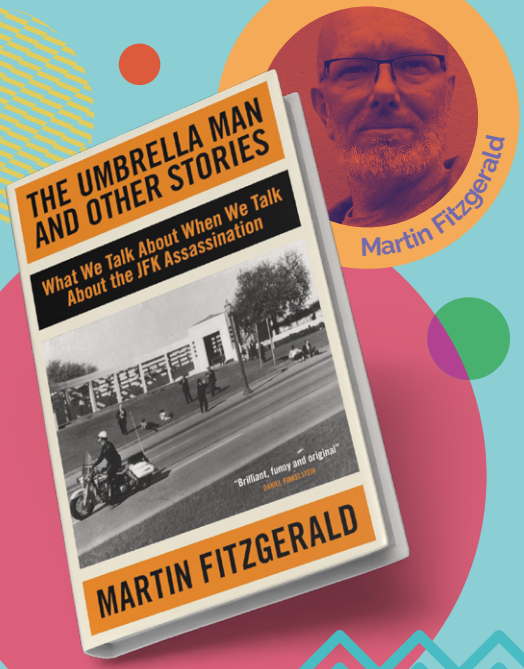
Join author and screenwriter Martin Fitzgerald to discuss his new book, *The Umbrella Man and Other Stories*.

Martin will share the stories of accidental witnesses to President John F. Kennedy's assassination in Dealey Plaza on 22 November 1963, revealing the research behind his book and how fleeting moments shape history.

Discover the man with the umbrella, the mysterious Babushka Lady and others whose lives became tied to six seconds in Dallas.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

*London-born, Nottingham-based author and screenwriter Martin Fitzgerald wrote **Ruth and Martin's Album Club** (2017), a collection of celebrity essays on hearing classic albums for the first time. His first screenplay, **Campbeltown '69** (2020), explores Paul and Linda McCartney during the Beatles' break-up.*





PERFECT FOR FANS OF BROADCHURCH AND HAPPY VALLEY!



Author Event

SARAH HILARY
THE DROWNING PLACE

£4 Beeston Library Ⓐ

7pm / Wednesday 10 February

Join Crime Novel of the Year winner Sarah Hilary as she talks about *The Drowning Place* the first novel in her brand-new police procedural series perfect for fans of *Broadchurch* and *Happy Valley*.

Sarah will be in conversation with the former presenter of the Notts TV Book Club, Becky Cullen. They will discuss Sarah's new book plus get insights into Sarah's writing journey, her research and creative process.

THE DROWNING PLACE

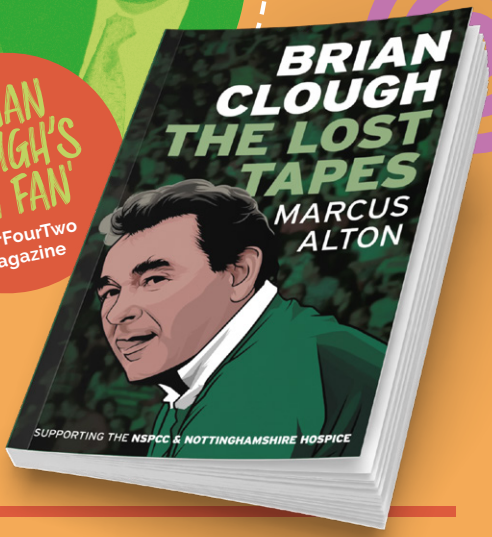
Seventeen years ago, a school bus plunged off the road in the Peak District town of Edenscar, killing everyone on board except Joseph Ashe. Now a local Detective Sergeant, Joe is called to a brutal crime with no apparent motive or trace of a killer. While the town fears its ghosts have returned, his new boss, DI Laurie Bower, wants facts. Together, they must uncover Edenscar's secrets, past and present.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

*Sarah Hilary is the critically acclaimed author of nine novels. Her debut, **Someone Else's Skin**, won the 2015 Theakston Crime Novel of the Year, was selected for World Book Night and the Richard & Judy Book Club. The second DI Marnie Rome novel, **No Other Darkness**, was shortlisted for a Barry Award.*



'BRIAN CLOUGH'S No1 FAN'
FourFourTwo Magazine



Author Event

MARCUS ALTON: BRIAN CLOUGH THE LOST TAPES

£3 Inspire Libraries (A)

Kimberley Library
2pm / Friday 12 February

Radcliffe-on-Trent Library
2pm / Thursday 25 March

Join award-winning former radio and print journalist and now bestselling author Marcus Alton as he talks about legendary football manager Brian Clough.

Marcus met Brian several times and his interviews produced classic quotes. Marcus has written five books about 'Old Big Ead'. He will be talking about his latest book *Brian Clough The Lost Tapes*, which lifts the lid on a treasure trove of Cloughie stories.

Author Event

EVE MAKIS: WHERE THE EARTH HOLDS SECRETS

£3 Worksop Library (A)

11am / Saturday 20 February

Join us for an interactive event based around *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 the hidden histories that shape families and communities across generations.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION!
Share your own family stories and ask questions.



Author Event

EVE MAKIS: BOOKS ABOUT PLACE

£3 Ravenshead Library (A)

11am / Tuesday 2 March

From Cyprus and the Mediterranean, Eve will talk about the real places behind her stories, sharing how landscape, community, identity, and personal histories shape a story.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

*Eve Makis is the award-winning author of **The Spice Box Letters** and several other novels exploring identity, memory and belonging, as well as the non-fiction writing guide **The Accidental Memoir**. Eve is a lecturer in Creative Writing at Nottingham Trent University. Where the Earth Holds Secrets was published September 2026.*

COME ALONG FOR STORIES ABOUT REAL PLACES AND THE INSPIRATION FOUND THERE.



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

PRIDE IN PLACE
LED BY YOU – BACKED BY UK GOVERNMENT

Bassetlaw DISTRICT COUNCIL — North Nottinghamshire

Worksop Together



Eleanor Bruce & Lucilla Gray



Maria Ferguson

CHECK THIS OUT!

Read. Recharge. Repeat. with Maria Ferguson

Page 8

Writing Workshop

USING YOUR AUTHENTIC VOICE WITH MARIA FERGUSON

£4 Mansfield Central Library (B)

1pm – 3pm / Tuesday 23 February

HAVING A UNIQUE VOICE IS INTEGRAL TO A WRITER'S SUCCESS. BUT HOW DO WE WEAVE OUR INDIVIDUAL IDENTITIES THROUGH OUR WORK WITH AUTHENTICITY?

This workshop will explore how we can use our own lived experience, backgrounds and colloquialisms to make our work stand out. Expect to leave with the tools to say what you want to say in a way only you can say it!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

*Maria Ferguson is a poet and theatre-maker from Romford in Essex. Her début one-woman show **Fat Girls Don't Dance** won the Saboteur Award for Best Spoken Word Show in 2017. Maria's second poetry collection, **Swell**, is a raw, tender, and winningly witty documentation of one woman's experience of becoming a mother.*



Author Event

THINGS WE FOUND IN THE GROUND

£5 Newark Library (A)

7pm / Wednesday 17 March

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING EXPLORING THE OBJECTS, CONNECTIONS AND STORIES HIDDEN BENEATH OUR FEET.

Eleanor Bruce and Lucilla Gray will share their new book, *Things We Found in the Ground: A Metal Detecting Journey Through Britain*.

After meeting for the first time in more than 20 years at their grandfather's home in Lincolnshire, cousins Eleanor and Lucilla discover a shared fascination with the past. What begins with a curiosity about historic artefacts leads them on a metal detecting journey, uncovering remarkable objects and the stories they reveal about those who came before us.

Along the way, they discover more about themselves and forge connections with local villagers, fellow detectorists and history lovers.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Ellie and Lucie have over six years' experience in the field (literally), digging holes. Within the metal detecting world, they are active self-recorders of their finds on the Portable Antiquities Scheme and they have been featured on the cover of Searcher Magazine, the biggest hobby magazine for metal detecting.

Outside of the digging world, they have featured in press for the Guardian Online and Observer Magazine, appeared in a segment for ITV's This Morning and Loose Women, been interviewed on BBC Radio 5 and starred in It's A Way of Life, Episode 6: 'Past Times' for the brand Barbour.

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

Author Event

CRIME FICTION PANEL

£5 Worksop Library (A)

7pm / Thursday 4 March

JOIN OUR PANEL OF CRIME WRITING HEAVYWEIGHTS FOR AN EVENING OF CHAT ABOUT MURDER, MYSTERY AND CRIME.



IT WOULD BE A CRIME TO MISS THIS EVENT!

TM Logan

*Tim's thrillers have sold more than three million copies in the UK and are translated into 25 other languages. His latest novel **The Family** will be released in February 2027. **The Holiday** was a Richard & Judy Book Club pick and subsequently made into a four-part TV drama starring Jill Halfpenny. His novel **The Catch** was also adapted for TV starring BAFTA-winner Jason Watkins. His other books are **Lies**, **29 Seconds**, **Trust Me**, **The Curfew**, **The Mother**, **The Dream Home** and **The Daughter**. Tim lives in Nottinghamshire with his wife and two children.*

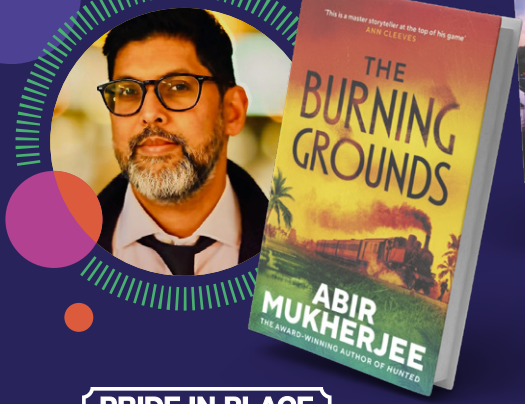
MEET THE PANEL

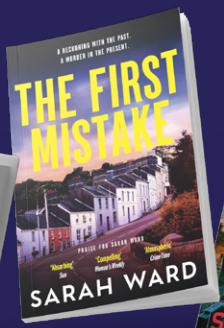
Abir Mukherjee

*Abir Mukherjee is the bestselling author of the award-winning Wyndham & Banerjee series of crime novels set in 1920s India, and the British Book Awards Crime Thriller of the Year 2025 **Hunted**. His books have been translated into sixteen languages and won various awards including the CWA Dagger for best Historical Novel, the Prix du Polar Européen, and the Wilbur Smith Award for Adventure Writing. He also co-hosts the popular Red Hot Chilli Writers podcast which takes a wry look at the world of books, writing, and the creative arts, tackling everything from bestsellers to pop culture. Abir grew up in Scotland and now lives in Surrey with his wife and two sons.*

Sarah Ward

Sarah Ward is the critically acclaimed author of fourteen crime novels including two gothic thrillers written as Rhiannon Ward. She currently writes two series, a New England trilogy featuring archaeologist Carla James, and the Mallory Dawson thrillers set in West Wales. She is a former Vice-Chair of the Crime Writers' Association, Trustee of Gwyl Crime Cymru Festival and is writing a supernatural thriller to be published in 2028.









CHECK OUT THIS EVENT!

Author Event

SARAH WARD

£3 Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library (A)

2pm / Thursday 4 March

Join crime and thriller writer Sarah Ward as she talks about her books, writing inspirations and crime in general.

PRIDE IN PLACE
LED BY YOU – BACKED BY UK GOVERNMENT

Bassetlaw DISTRICT COUNCIL — North Nottinghamshire

Worksop Together





Heritage Talk

HOW THE SHEFFIELD REGION SHAPED MODERN FOOTBALL, WITH A REMARKABLE CONTRIBUTION FROM WORKSOP

£3.50 Worksop Library (B)

7.30pm / Thursday 3 December

Between 1857 and 1875, over half the teams in the world were formed in the Sheffield area. Join Worksop-born historian John Stocks to discover how this first modern, codified football culture, gave the world key features of the modern game, from positional play to passing and professionalism.

Doors and bar open from 7pm.

Heritage

FAMILY HISTORY ONE TO ONE SESSIONS

Free Online or phone (B)

2pm, 2.30pm, 3pm or 3.30pm / Tuesday 12 January

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

THE CHRISTMAS RADIO TIMES

£3.50 Inspire Libraries (B)

Mansfield Central Library

2pm / Tuesday 15 December

West Bridgford Library

2pm / Wednesday 16 December

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, from the first edition in 1923 until 1999. He will also look at the programmes offered by the BBC on Christmas Day – there will be an element of nostalgia for days-past, but broadcasting trends and improvements in technology will also be covered.



Heritage Talk

WORKSOP, WITCHES AND A PLACE IN AMERICAN HISTORY: THE LIFE OF RICHARD BERNARD

£3.50 Worksop Library (B)

2pm / Wednesday 20 January

Richard Bernard was born in Tudor Epworth and became a great figure amongst the puritans and separatists under James I based mainly at Gainsborough and Worksop.

Later he became a great writer, influenced John Bunyan and his daughter helped found a state in America. Today he is best known for his authoritative guide on witches, based on his experience in Worksop!

JOIN LOCAL AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN ADRIAN GRAY TO DISCOVER MORE.



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



Heritage Talk

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

£3.50 Inspire Libraries (B)

Beeston Library

2pm / Wednesday 27 January

Newark Library

2pm / Wednesday 3 February

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 Talk

RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

£3.50 Beeston Library (B)

2pm / Wednesday 17 February

Join us for a fascinating talk on recent archaeological revelations from across Nottinghamshire. Emily Gillott, planning archaeologist with Nottinghamshire County Council will present stories of recent discoveries on subjects ranging from cremation and burials to Roman villas and pottery, ritual landscapes in Skegby, charcoal burning in Sherwood forest, and more!

Heritage Talk

THE ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF WORKSOP'S OLD LIBRARY BUILDING

£3.50 Worksop Library (B)

2pm / Wednesday 17 February

Oliver Eagle from Aurora Wellbeing Centre will talk about the influence of the Art Deco movement on the style and functions of Worksop's Grade II listed Old Library Building. You'll also hear stories about the quirky inter-library loan system pioneered in Worksop, the parade of costumed figures who attended the building's opening ceremony, and the reasons why the architects of the 1930's were encouraged / threatened to boycott the library project before it ever got off the ground!



PIONEERS, RADICALS, CAMPAIGNERS, VISIONARIES & ACTIVISTS



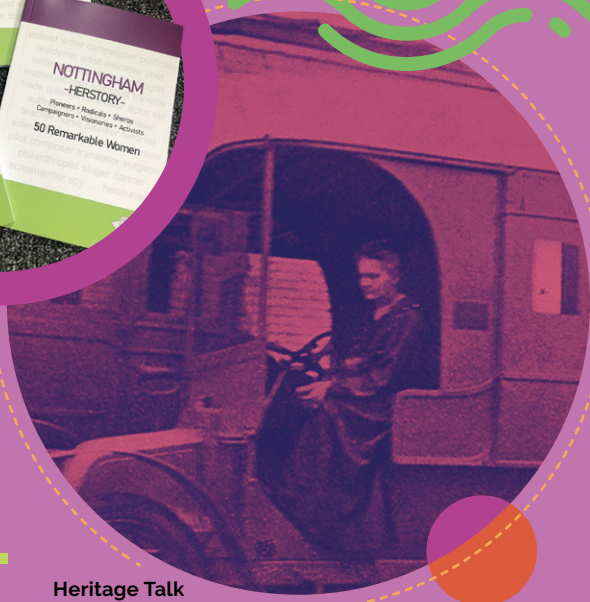
Heritage Talk

NOTTINGHAM HERSTORY – SOME REMARKABLE WOMEN

£3.50 Arnold Library (B)

2pm / Thursday 4 March

Women are often overlooked and forgotten in history. To go some way to correcting this, in 2024 Nottingham Women's History Group published *Nottingham Herstory: 50 Remarkable Women*. This talk, by Miriam Jackson, will highlight just 6 of the 50 women included in the book and will detail their lives and achievements.



Heritage Talk

THE RISE OF THE DUKERIES

£3.50 Retford Library (B)

6.30pm / Thursday 11 March

The four Dukeries have had an enduring effect on the Bassetlaw region but how did they come into being?

Benedict Jephcote charts how each of the ducal areas developed; through the large-scale changes of the dissolution and civil war, the fates of various bloodlines, and the creation and losses of some of the grandest buildings to grace the East Midlands.

Heritage Talk

WOMEN WON THE WAR

£3.50 Mansfield Central Library (B)

2pm / Tuesday 16 March

JOIN US FOR A FASCINATING TALK ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR!

From the pre-war suffragettes to women taking over the roles of the men who went to war. The talk is presented by local military historian Grant Cullen and looks at several examples of women in unfamiliar roles who left a lasting mark on history.

DISCOVER THE HISTORY OF THE FOUR GRAND DUCAL ESTATES.



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



Heritage Talk

FLORENCE BOOT

£3.50 West Bridgford Library (B)

2pm / Tuesday 23 March

Nottingham is synonymous with Boots the Chemist and Jesse Boot is seen as one of the great city fathers. However, many women contributed to Jesse's success, not least his wife Florence, who was a businesswoman, philanthropist, founder of Boots Booklover's Library, first woman director of a UK company and much more. Learn more about her from Sian Trafford of Nottingham Women's History Group.

Heritage

EXPLORING LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

FREE Eastwood Library (B)

10.30am / Tuesday 30 March

Join one of our heritage librarians for a small group session, where they will explore the range and variety of local newspapers available in Inspire libraries on microfilm and online, and the fascinating history they contain.



FREE Access **The British Newspaper Archive** at Inspire libraries and the Nottinghamshire Archives.

Image credit @ Inspire Picture Archive.
Image reference: NCCC002636.

HERITAGE EVENTS AT THE ARCHIVES



Heritage

ARCHIVES TOUR

£6 Nottinghamshire Archives (B)

11am / Tuesday 26 January

11am / Wednesday 24 February

2.15pm / Thursday 18 March

An introduction to the Archives with a tour of the search room, conservation studio 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.

Heritage

SPY AT THE ARCHIVES

£6 Nottinghamshire Archives (B)

10am – 1.30pm (one-hour slots) / Saturday 6 March

Delve into the history of Nottinghamshire during Second World War in this immersive, interactive event using records from the Archives. Prepare to take on the role of a wartime character, as you step into their shoes to investigate hidden clues and solve the puzzle. But beware, there is a secret traitor in your midst! Can you find them before it's too late?

ARE YOU READY TO BECOME A SPY CATCHER?







Exhibition

ON FREEDOM'S WINGS

FREE Inspire Libraries (N)

Worksop Library

Wednesday 18 November – Wednesday 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 IS MORE THAN A SCULPTURE. IT IS A BEACON OF REMEMBRANCE!



Photo credit @ Claire Hartley

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 gave their time so freely to make it happen. It shows what they have accomplished, how they did it and, most importantly, WHY.

LOTTERY FUNDED
Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

SEND YOUR BALLOON BOMBER FLYING ACROSS THE LIBRARY!

Family Art Workshop

BALLOON POWERED LANCASTER BOMBERS

FREE Worksop Library (N)

10am – 12pm / Saturday 5 December

Join artist Clare Taylor to make your very own balloon-powered Lancaster Bomber.

In association with the On Freedom's Wings exhibition about the iconic landmark art installation of a Lancaster Bomber sculpture on the Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire border, which is on display in the library.

Suitable for ages 5+.

Paul Sawdy
PHOTOGRAPHY © Claire Hartley
motorfinity driven to reward you

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

I AM A MAKER

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



Exhibition

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

FREE Inspire Libraries Ⓝ

Mansfield Central Library
Wednesday 18 November – Wednesday 23 December

West Bridgford Library
Wednesday 6 January – Sunday 14 February

Beeston Library
Wednesday 17 February – Wednesday 31 March

The artwork on display in the I Am A Maker Exhibition showcases the story between artist 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.

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.







Photo credit @ Tom Platinum Morley

FIVE PROFESSIONAL MAKERS COLLABORATED WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS WHO FELT EXCLUDED FROM THE ARTS TO MAKE ARTWORK FOR THIS EXHIBITION.

Visit the website to find out more:
inspireculture.org.uk/IAmAMaker







Exhibition

I AM A STORYTELLER

FREE Inspire Libraries Ⓝ

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, as they worked together to produce some of the stories on display.

inspireculture.org.uk/Storyteller



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.



JAZZ STEPS Live at the Libraries

Book your tickets in the library or online: **inspireculture.org.uk/Jazz**

THE LIBRARY BAR WILL BE OPEN!

Live Music

JAZZ EXPRESSIONS: THE SONG COLLECTION

£14 Inspire Libraries (B)

Beeston Library 7.30pm / Mon 7 Dec

Worksop Library 7.30pm / Tue 8 Dec

West Bridgford Library 7.30pm / Wed 9 Dec

The Song Collection is a performance of songs from the last one hundred years, from 1920s to the 2020s, all reimagined in a jazz style with strong vocals, skilled instrumental playing and exciting improvisation. Featuring beloved classics from Billy Joel, Cole Porter, Bacharach & David, George Gershwin, The Beatles, Van Morrison, Rogers & Hart, Bill Withers, Sade, Celeste, Amy Winehouse and many more.

Whether you're a jazz devotee or simply love great songs, this quartet makes timeless music accessible to all. Expect variety, passion and an atmosphere that balances excitement with comfort, making this the perfect night for all.

"THIS IS A GREAT ACT THAT WILL SATISFY JAZZ FANS OLD AND NEW."

Artist Engagement Officer, Live & Local









jazz steps

mjazz



Live Music

REEDWOOD

£14 Inspire Libraries (B)

Beeston Library 7.30pm / Mon 15 Feb

Worksop Library 7.30pm / Tue 16 Feb

West Bridgford Library 7.30pm / Wed 17 Feb

Celebrating a variety of jazz of the past century - a twist of tango, upbeat swing and jazz-influenced melodies from this versatile multi-instrumented Nottingham duo of Alistair Parnell - sax, piano and EWI - and guitarist Owen Jones. Alistair is a virtuoso of international stature on the Electronic Wind Instrument (EWI), and this is a rare chance to hear the breathtaking sounds he conjures from this exotic wind synthesizer.

Live Music

JEREMY SASSOON

£14 Inspire Libraries (B)

Beeston Library 7.30pm / Mon 15 Mar

Worksop Library 7.30pm / Tue 16 Mar

West Bridgford Library 7.30pm / Wed 17 Mar

Acclaimed singer-pianist Jeremy Sassoon makes a welcome return with his distinctive style combining jazz, soul and blues.
Be entranced by his inventive interpretations and arrangements, lucid improvisation and deep connection to the lyric.



Photo credit @ Bob Meyrick

A superb band that were a sell-out when here last.
Book early!

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

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

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (1994) (U)

£1 Mansfield Central Library (A)

1.30pm / Wednesday 16 December

When a department store Santa is institutionalised as insane, a young lawyer argues that he is the real thing in this charming update on the beloved original.



Dementia Friendly

SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE (PG)

£1 Mansfield Central Library (A)

1.30pm / Wednesday 17 February

The son of a recently widowed man calls a radio talk-show in an attempt to find his father a partner.

Dementia Friendly

EASTER PARADE (U)

£1 Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library (A)

1.30pm / Wednesday 31 March

Strolling along 5th Avenue or going on the bum as A Couple of Swells, Judy Garland and Fred Astaire lead a parade of music in this never-ending delight. Don't let this colourful Easter Parade pass you by!



In partnership with Film Hub Midlands, with support from:

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

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.



Part of the Festival of Science and Curiosity!

See page 13 for details.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE FESTIVAL OF SCIENCE & CURIOSITY

MORE FILMS THIS WAY

Relaxed Screening & Activity

BIG HERO 6 (PG)

£1 Mansfield Central Library Ⓐ

10.30am / Tuesday 16 February

From Walt Disney Animation Studios comes an action-packed comedy-adventure about the special bond that develops between Baymax, a plus-sized inflatable robot, and child prodigy Hiro Hamada.

When a devastating event befalls the city of San Fransokyo and catapults Hiro into the midst of danger, he turns to Baymax and his close friends.

DETERMINED TO UNCOVER THE MYSTERY, HIRO TRANSFORMS HIS FRIENDS INTO A BAND OF HI-TECH HEROES CALLED "BIG HERO 6."

BUILD YOURSELF A SCRIBBLE-BOT!

Stay after the Big Hero 6 film and build your very own unique robot that draws as it moves.

Scribble-bots are made from craft materials and introduce you to basic electronic circuits. All materials are provided and, at the end of the session, your scribble-bot is yours to take home. Some of the other robots from the University of Nottingham will also be on hand to entertain and introduce you to the wider worlds of robotics.



HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO BUILD YOUR OWN ROBOT?



COBOT MAKER SPACE

University of Nottingham
UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

Relaxed Screening & Activity

SMALL WORLD CINEMA: FLOW (PG)

£1 Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library Ⓐ

1.30pm / Friday 19 February

Come and watch the Oscar-winning animation 'Flow' about a tiny black cat who finds itself on a boat with a capybara, a lemur, a bird and a dog after a great flood changes their world.

With no dialogue, Flow tells its story through beautiful animation, music and the animals themselves. It's an adventure about friendship, trust and finding a way to work together.

This event is aimed at children 7+.



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A LITTLE CAT SUDDENLY FINDS ITS HOME UNDERWATER?



GET CREATIVE AFTER THE FILM!

When the film finishes, you can choose your favourite animal from flow and bring it to life with shadow play or simple animation. Create your own little animal world using our Shadow Play Box or experiment with making your character move.

SMALL WORLD cinema

Relaxed Screening

A MINECRAFT MOVIE (PG)

£1 Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library Ⓐ

10am / Saturday 6 March



WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF MINECRAFT, WHERE CREATIVITY DOESN'T JUST HELP YOU CRAFT, IT'S ESSENTIAL TO ONE'S SURVIVAL!



Four misfits find themselves struggling with ordinary problems when they are suddenly pulled through a mysterious portal into the Overworld: a bizarre, cubic wonderland that thrives on imagination. To get back home, they'll have to master this world (and protect it from evil things like Piglins and Zombies, too) while embarking on a magical quest with an unexpected, expert crafter, Steve.

Together, their adventure will challenge all five to be bold and to reconnect with the qualities that make each of them uniquely creative... the very skills they need to thrive back in the real world.



READ. RECHARGE. REPEAT. FILM SCREENINGS AT INSPIRE LIBRARIES

These relaxed and friendly events are designed for adults, but babies and toddlers under 3 welcome.



Read. Recharge. Repeat. Screening

THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA (PG)

£1 Mansfield Central Library (A)

10am / Friday 12 March

The original 2006 film follows Andy, a young college graduate who lands a dream job as an assistant to a terrifyingly demanding fashion magazine editor. Based on the novel by Lauren Weisberger. Starring Anne Hathaway and Meryl Streep.

For adults and their babies under 3 years.

inspireculture.org.uk/ReadRechargeRepeat



Read. Recharge. Repeat. Screening

THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA 2 (12A)

£1 Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library (A)

10am / Monday 22 March

We join the legendary editor Miranda Priestly and now-respected journalist Andy Sachs 20 years later, as they reunite to navigate the collapsing print media industry.

For adults and their babies under 3 years at parent's discretion. Features occasional strong language.

READ RECHARGE REPEAT

LOTTERY FUNDED

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

WANT MORE READ. RECHARGE. REPEAT. EVENTS? See page 8

SING WITH FRIENDS

FREE Inspire Libraries (N)

Eastwood Library
2pm / Monthly on Mondays

Sutton in Ashfield Library
2pm / Monthly on Tuesdays

Mansfield Central Library
1.30pm / Monthly on Wednesdays

JUST COME ALONG AND SING ALOUD!

JOIN US FOR AN HOUR OF REMINISCENCE USING MUSIC FROM THE MOVIES AND OTHER FAVOURITES – WITH CHAT, TEA AND BISCUITS!

This event is open to all ages and abilities.

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

Booking Info: (B) Booking required (A) Advised booking (N) 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.

Art Workshop

CONNECT & CREATE

£3 Inspire Libraries (A)

Retford Library

Fridays / 2pm / 18 December / 15 January / 19 February / 19 March

Hucknall Library

Fridays / 2pm / 18 December / 22 January / 26 February / 19 March

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

Live Music

SONGS & SCONES

£3 Inspire Libraries (B)

Retford Library

Fridays / 2pm / 4 December / 8 January / 5 February / 5 March

Hucknall Library

Fridays / 2pm / 11 December / 8 January / 12 February / 12 March

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







EVERYONE WELCOME!
No experience necessary.

Workshop

MIND & MOVEMENT

FREE Inspire Libraries (B)

Retford Library
Fridays / 2pm / 11 December / 22 January / 29 January / 12 February / 26 February / 12 March

Hucknall Library
Wednesdays / 2pm / 2 December / 16 December / 20 January / 17 February / 17 March

LOOKING FOR A FUN, GENTLE WAY TO STAY ACTIVE AND SOCIAL? JOIN OUR US AT THE LIBRARY TO GET YOUR BODY MOVING!

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**

Exhibition

HEALTHIER, HAPPIER, CONNECTED, CREATIVE

FREE Hucknall and Retford Libraries (N)

Saturday 27 February – Tuesday 30 March

Over the past two years, Inspire's Healthier, Happier, Connected, Creative programme has invited us to print, paint, dance, laugh, sing, stretch and sway our way to ageing well.

This celebratory exhibition displays a mixture of photographs, artwork and audio capturing the power of creativity and connection, proving that a good cuppa and friendly chat are essential for building a happier, healthier community.

Community

HEALTHIER, HAPPIER, CONNECTED, CREATIVE CELEBRATION EVENT

FREE Inspire Libraries (B)

Retford Library
12.30pm / Saturday 27 February

Hucknall Library
12.30pm / Saturday 6 March

JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED AFTERNOON TO CELEBRATE THE LAUNCH OF THE HEALTHIER HAPPIER CONNECTED CREATIVE EXHIBITION.

You will have chance to peruse the artwork created through Connect & Create workshops, have a go at chair-based exercises led by Your Health Notts, listen to an uplifting musical performance presented by Live Music Now, and top off the afternoon with tea and cake!

Your Health Notts

LOTTERY FUNDED

Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Healthier · Happier · Connected · Creative

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



SHOP SMALL AND SUPPORT LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS!



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

Markets

CHRISTMAS MARKETS IN LIBRARIES

FREE Inspire Libraries (N)

Arnold Library
10am – 2pm / Saturday 5 December

Ravenshead Library
9:30am – 12pm / Saturday 5 December

West Bridgford Library
10am – 2pm / Saturday 5 December

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!

Family Fun Day

FESTIVE FUN DAY

FREE Beeston Library (N)

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).

Live Music

AN INSPIRED CHRISTMAS CONCERT

£5 Adults /
£3 Online, children & concessions

The Royal Concert Hall and Online (B)

7pm / Monday 7 December

Join us as we 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.

THE PERFECT START TO THE CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN!



Can you help keep Able Orchestra playing?

Able Orchestra

Able Orchestra offers free music and digital creative sessions for disabled and neurodivergent young people across Nottinghamshire.

With digital technology, accessible instruments and expert support from professional artists, young people can develop skills, confidence, create and express themselves.

Scan to donate:

We need your help to keep Able Orchestra playing.
Donate today to support these fun, social sessions and help keep them running.
Every donation, big or small, helps us make a difference and we are so grateful for your support.

For more information on Able Orchestra visit:
inspireculture.org.uk/AbleOrchestra
Email: ao@inspireculture.org.uk
Phone: 01623 644377



INSPIRE YOUTH ARTS



Music Workshops

MUSIC MAKERS

£4 per session

Beeston Library (B)

5pm – 7pm / From 11 November / Wednesdays during term time

Work alongside our talented, welcoming team of music artists.

Craft lyrics, explore songwriting techniques and develop your own style. Opportunities to record demo versions and perform at showcase events.

For ages 13 – 18 going up to **25 years old** for those with a disability or neurodivergent.





Digital Art Workshops

MASTERPLAN

£3 per session

The Old Library Mansfield (B)

6pm – 7.15pm / Starting 18 January / Mondays during term time

READY TO TAKE YOUR DIGITAL ART AND DESIGN SKILLS TO THE NEXT LEVEL?

Work with professional artists and other young creatives to explore, experiment and collaborate on exciting new projects using a range of digital technology.

For ages 14 – 18 going up to **25 years old** for those with a disability or neurodivergent.

All equipment provided.

Find out more at:
inspireculture.org.uk/IYAEvents

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

EVENTS DIARY

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES WITH US!
#BeInspired

December – March 2027

DATE	EVENT	TYPE	LOCATION	£	PAGE
30 Oct – 18 Dec	**Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery**	Exhibition	Mansfield Central Library	**FREE**	4
30 Oct – 31 Dec	**Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery**	Exhibition	Nottingham Central Library	**FREE**	4
7 Nov – 19 Dec	**Inspire Open**	Exhibition	Beeston Library	**FREE**	26
12 Nov – 21 Dec	**I Am A Storyteller**	Exhibition	West Bridgford	**FREE**	26
18 Nov – 23 Dec	**I Am A Maker**	Exhibition	Mansfield Central Library	**FREE**	25
18 Nov – 23 Dec	**On Freedom's Wings**	Exhibition	Worksop Library	**FREE**	24
2 Dec – 17 Mar	**Mind & Movement***	Workshop	Hucknall Library	**FREE**	33
3 Dec	**How the Sheffield Region Shaped Modern Football**	Heritage Talk	Worksop Library	**£3.50**	20
3 Dec	**Super Sparkle presents: Earth Calling Bear-stronaut**	Performance Storytelling	Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library	**£2**	6
4 Dec – 5 Mar	**Songs & Scones***	Live Music	Retford Library	**£3**	32
5 Dec	**Balloon Powered Lancaster Bombers**	Family Art Workshop	Worksop Library	**FREE**	24
5 Dec	**Christmas Markets in Libraries**	Market	Arnold, Ravenshead and West Bridgford Libraries	**FREE**	34
5 Dec	**Digital Spaces: Virtual Reality Library**	VR Experience	Newark Library	**FREE**	14
5 Dec	**Festive Fun Day**	Family Fun Day	Beeston Library	**FREE**	34
5 Dec	**Leo and the Library Detectives**	Interactive Drama Performance	Mansfield Central Library	**£4**	5
7 Dec	**An Inspired Christmas Concert**	Live Music	Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham and Online	**£5/£3**	34
7 Dec	Jazz Steps: **Jazz Expressions: The Song Collection**	Live Music	Beeston Library	**£14**	27
8 Dec	Jazz Steps: **Jazz Expressions: The Song Collection**	Live Music	Worksop Library	**£14**	27
9 Dec	Jazz Steps: **Jazz Expressions: The Song Collection**	Live Music	West Bridgford Library	**£14**	27
11 Dec	**Five Leaves New Poetry Launch**	Poetry Event	Beeston Library	**£4**	15
11 Dec – 12 Mar	**Mind & Movement***	Workshop	Retford Library	**FREE**	33
11 Dec – 12 Mar	**Songs & Scones***	Live Music	Hucknall Library	**£3**	32
12 Dec	**Digital Spaces: Virtual Reality Library**	VR Experience	West Bridgford Library	**FREE**	14
15 Dec	**The Christmas Radio Times**	Heritage Talk	Mansfield Central Library	**£3.50**	20
16 Dec	**Miracle on 34th Street (1994) (U)**	Film Screening	Mansfield Central Library	**£1**	28
16 Dec	**The Christmas Radio Times**	Heritage Talk	West Bridgford Library	**£3.50**	20
18 Dec – 19 Mar	**Connect & Create***	Art Workshop	Retford and Hucknall Libraries	**£3**	32
19 Dec	**Digital Spaces: Virtual Reality Library**	VR Experience	Retford Library	**FREE**	14
From 4 Jan	**Adventures in Music***	Under 5s	Various Inspire Libraries	**£30**	10
From 4 Jan	**The Lullaby Bank***	Under 5s	Various Inspire Libraries	**FREE**	10
6 Jan – 14 Feb	**I Am A Maker**	Exhibition	West Bridgford Library	**FREE**	25
7 Jan – 24 Feb	**Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery**	Exhibition	Sutton-in-Ashfield Library	**FREE**	4
7 Jan – 21 Feb	**Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery**	Exhibition	St Ann's Valley Library	**FREE**	4
8 Jan – 11 Feb	**Little Creatives Interactive Exhibition**	Exhibition	Beeston Library	**FREE**	11
12 Jan	**Family History One-to-One Sessions**	Heritage	Online or phone	**FREE**	20
20 Jan	**Worksop, Witches and a Place in American History: The Life of Richard Bernard**	Heritage Talk	Worksop Library	**£3.50**	20
23 Jan	**Nottingham Playhouse presents: Cinderella**	Family Theatre	Worksop Library	**£4**	6

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

DATE	EVENT	TYPE	LOCATION	£	PAGE
27 Jan	**The Buildings Archaeologist: Discovering the Secrets of Nottinghamshire's Ancient Buildings**	Heritage Talk	Beeston Library	**£3.50**	21
26 Jan	**Archives Tour**	Heritage	Nottinghamshire Archives	**£6**	23
30 Jan	**Destination: Music!**	Family Concert	Arnold Library	**£4**	9
From 2 Feb	**Little Creatives Workshops***	Under 5s	Various Inspire Libraries	**FREE**	11
From 3 Feb	**Book Babies***	Under 3s	Kirkby East Family Hub	**FREE**	8
3 Feb	**Book Club Live!**	Author Event	West Bridgford Library	**£5**	15
3 Feb	**The Buildings Archaeologist: Discovering the Secrets of Nottinghamshire's Ancient Buildings**	Heritage Talk	Newark Library	**£3.50**	21
5 – 6 Feb	**Nottingham Light Night 2026**	Light Installation	The People's Hall, Nottingham	**FREE**	36
6 Feb	**Martin Fitzgerald**	Author Event	Mansfield Central Library	**£4**	16
8 – 19 Feb	**Nottinghamshire Festival of Science and Curiosity**	Family Workshops	Various Inspire Libraries and across Notts	**FREE**	13
10 Feb	**Sarah Hilary: The Drowning Place**	Author Event	Beeston Library	**£4**	16
12 Feb	**Marcus Alton: Brian Clough The Lost Tapes**	Author Event	Kimberley Library	**£3**	17
13 – 16 Feb	**Tiny Pickles presents: Du Iz Tak?***	Family Theatre	Various Inspire Libraries	**£4**	7
15 Feb	Jazz Steps: **Redwood**	Live Music	Beeston Library	**£14**	27
16 Feb	**Big Hero 6 (PG)**	Film Screening & Activity	Mansfield Central Library	**£1**	29
16 Feb	Jazz Steps: **Redwood**	Live Music	Worksop Library	**£14**	27
16 Feb – 21 Mar	**Little Creatives Interactive Exhibition**	Exhibition	Mansfield Central Library	**FREE**	11
17 Feb	Jazz Steps: **Redwood**	Live Music	West Bridgford Library	**£14**	27
17 Feb	**Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Nottinghamshire**	Heritage Talk	Beeston Library	**£3.50**	21
17 Feb	**Sleepless in Seattle (PG)**	Film Screening	Mansfield Central Library	**£1.00**	28
17 Feb	**The Architectural History of Worksop's Old Library Building**	Heritage Talk	Worksop Library	**£3.50**	21
17 Feb – 31 Mar	**I Am A Maker**	Exhibition	Beeston Library	**FREE**	25
19 Feb	**Science Fun Day**	Family Fun Day	Mansfield Central Library	**FREE**	13
19 Feb	**Small World Cinema: Flow (PG)**	Film Screening & Activity	Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library	**£1**	30
20 Feb	**Eve Makis: Where the Earth Holds Secrets**	Author Event	Worksop Library	**£3**	17
From 22 Feb	**Book Babies***	Under 3s	Ravensdale Family Hub, Mansfield	**FREE**	8
22 - 27 Feb	**Magical Missions! In Association with Nottingham Playhouse***	Under 5s	Various Inspire Libraries	**£2**	7
23 Feb	**Read. Recharge. Repeat with Maria Ferguson**	Author Event	Mansfield Central Library	**FREE**	8
23 Feb	**Using Your Authentic Voice with Maria Ferguson**	Writing Workshop	Mansfield Central Library	**£4**	18
24 Feb	**Archives Tour**	Heritage	Nottinghamshire Archives	**£6**	23
27 Feb	**Alice Hemming: The Egg Thief**	Children's Author Event	Mansfield Central and Worksop Libraries	**£3▾**	5
27 Feb – 30 Mar	**Healthier, Happier, Connected, Creative**	Exhibition	Hucknall and Retford Libraries	**FREE**	33
27 Feb	**Healthier, Happier, Connected, Creative Celebration Event**	Community	Retford Library	**FREE**	33
2 Mar	**Eve Makis: Books About Place**	Author Event	Ravenshead Library	**£3**	17
4 Mar	**Crime Fiction Panel**	Author Event	Worksop Library	**£5**	19
4 Mar	**Nottingham Herstory: Some Remarkable Women**	Heritage Talk	Arnold Library	**£3.50**	22
4 Mar	**Sarah Ward**	Author Event	Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library	**£3**	19
6 Mar	**Destination: Music!**	Family Concert	Bingham Library	**£4**	9

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

DATE	EVENT	TYPE	LOCATION	£	PAGE
6 Mar	**A Minecraft Movie (PG)**	Film Screening	Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library	**£1**	30
6 Mar	**Healthier, Happier, Connected, Creative Celebration Event**	Community	Hucknall Library	**FREE**	33
6 Mar	**Spy at the Archives**	Heritage	Nottinghamshire Archives	**£6**	23
8 Mar – 21 Apr	**Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery**	Exhibition	Hucknall Library	**FREE**	4
8 Mar – 22 Apr	**Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery**	Exhibition	Hyson Green Library	**FREE**	4
11 Mar	**The Rise of the Dukeries**	Heritage Talk	Retford Library	**£3.50**	22
12 Mar	**The Devil Wears Prada (PG)**	Film Screening	Mansfield Central Library	**£1**	31
15 Mar	Jazz Steps: **Jeremy Sassoon**	Live Music	Beeston Library	**£14**	27
16 Mar	Jazz Steps: **Jeremy Sassoon**	Live Music	Worksop Library	**£14**	27
16 Mar	**Women Won the War**	Heritage Talk	Mansfield Central Library	**£3.50**	22
17 Mar	Jazz Steps: **Jeremy Sassoon**	Live Music	West Bridgford Library	**£14**	27
17 Mar	**Things we Found in the Ground**	Author Event	Newark Library	**£5**	18
18 Mar	**Archives Tour**	Heritage	Nottinghamshire Archives	**£6**	23
20 Mar	**Create Your Own Comic Strip with Rose Robbins**	Children's Illustrator Event	West Bridgford and Beeston Libraries	**£3***	9
20 Mar	**Destination: Music!**	Family Concert	Worksop Library	**£4**	9
20 Mar	**Early Years Festival Fun Day**	Family Fun Day	Mansfield Central Library	**FREE**	12
22 Mar	**The Devil Wears Prada 2 (12A)**	Film Screening	Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library	**£1**	31
23 Mar	**Florence Boot**	Heritage Talk	West Bridgford Library	**£3.50**	23
25 Mar	**Marcus Alton: Brian Clough The Lost Tapes**	Author Event	Radcliffe-on-Trent Library	**£3**	17
30 Mar	**Exploring Local Newspapers**	Heritage Talk	Eastwood Library	**FREE**	23
30 Mar	**Martin Fitzgerald**	Author Event	Beeston Library	**£4**	16
31 Mar	**Easter Parade (U)**	Film Screening	Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library	**£1**	28

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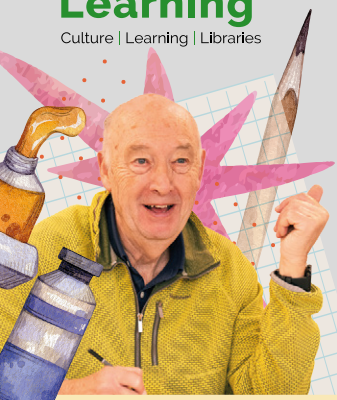
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*subject to eligibility criteria



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Find out more at **inspireculture.org.uk/college** **Aged up to 24 with an Education Health Care Plan



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