Inspire Libraries & Beyond What's On December – March 2027

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Booking Information

Tickets for events can be booked online, in person at the library, or by calling Ask Inspire on 01623 677 200. Tickets are

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

Eventbrite is our ticket provider. Read their accessibility statement on their website.

Access

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

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

Accreditations

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

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

Find out more about our vision and values on our website.

Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery

Exhibition

Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery

- 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 – Sunday 21 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

Delve into the life and legacy of 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.

Free. No booking required.

Interactive Drama Performance

Leo and the Library Detectives

- Mansfield Central Library – Saturday 5 December, 2pm

An interactive drama performance inspired by a love of crime fiction.

Suitable for all ages.

Tickets £4.

Booking advised.

Children's Author Visit

Alice Hemming: The Egg Thief

- Mansfield Central Library – Saturday 27 February, 10.30am
- Worksop Library – Saturday 27 February, 2pm

Join Alice as she shares her new springtime story, including some interactive fun.

For ages 3 – 7.

Tickets £3 for children, accompanying adults – free.

Booking advised.

Children and Families

Performance Storytelling

Super Sparkle presents: Earth Calling Bear-stronaut

- Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library – Thursday 3 December, 11am

An interactive performance followed by a space-themed green screen and digital music play session.

For ages 3 – 8.

Tickets £2.

Booking advised.

Family Theatre

Nottingham Playhouse presents: Cinderella

- Worksop Library – Saturday 23 January, 11am

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

For ages 3 – 8.

Tickets £4.

Booking advised.

Family Theatre

Tiny Pickles presents: Du Iz Tak?

- Southwell Library – Saturday 13 February, 10.30am
- Newark Library – Saturday 13 February, 2.30pm
- West Bridgford Library – Sunday 14 February, 11.30am and 1.30pm
- Mansfield Central Library – Monday 15 February, 10.30am
- Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library – Monday 15 February, 2.30pm
- Hucknall Library – Tuesday 16 February, 10.30am
- Arnold Library – Tuesday 16 February, 2.30pm

An enchanting theatre show based on the book by Carson Ellis.

For ages 3 – 9.

Tickets £4.

Booking advised.

Under 5s

Magical Missions! In Association with Nottingham Playhouse

- Mansfield Central Library – Monday 22 February, 10.30am
- Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library – Monday 22 February, 2pm
- Worksop Library – Tuesday 23 February, 10.30am
- Retford Library – Tuesday 23 February, 2pm
- Newark Library – Wednesday 24 February, 10.30am
- Southwell Library - Wednesday 24 February, 2pm

- West Bridgford Library – Thursday 25 February, 10.30am
- Bingham Library – Thursday 25 February, 2pm
- Hucknall Library – Friday 26 February, 10.30am
- Sutton-in-Ashfield Library – Friday 26 February, 2pm
- Beeston Library – Saturday 27 February, 10.30am
- Arnold Library – Saturday 27 February, 2pm

These workshop sessions will unleash your child's imagination and stimulate the senses by using music, movement, puppetry, crafting, and sensory play.

For ages 2 – 4.

Tickets £2.

Booking advised.

Family Concert

Destination: Music!

- Arnold Library – Saturday 30 January, 11am
- Bingham Library – Saturday 6 March, 11am
- Worksop Library – Saturday 20 March, 11am

A globetrotting family concert.

For ages 7 – 11.

Tickets £4. Booking advised.

Children’s Illustrator Event

Create Your Own Comic Strip with Rose Robbins

- West Bridgford Library – Saturday 20 March, 10.30am
- Beeston Library – Saturday 20 March, 2pm

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

For ages 7 – 11.

Tickets £3 for children, accompanying adults – free. Booking advised.

Under 3s

Book Babies

- Kirkby East Family Hub – every Wednesday throughout February, 10am
- Ravensdale Family Hub, Mansfield – Mondays, 22 February – 15 March

A playful session for babies and their grown-ups where books inspire exploration, curiosity and fun.

For under 3s and their grown-ups.

Free. Booking advised.

Author Event

Read. Recharge. Repeat. With Maria Ferguson

- Mansfield Central Library – Tuesday 23 February, 10.30am

A conversational poetry reading for adults and their babies under 3 years.

Free. Booking advised.

Under 5s

Little Creatives

Taking place in February and March at 12 Inspire Libraries.

See website for full details.

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

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

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

Free. Booking essential.

Exhibition

Little Creatives Interactive Exhibition

- Beeston Library: Friday 8 January – Thursday 11 February
- Mansfield Central Library: Tuesday 16 February – Sunday 21 March

Inspired by their workshops, the Little Creatives artists have created an interactive exhibition to delight our youngest visitors.
Free. No booking required.

Under 5s

Adventures in Music

Starting from 4 April.
Adventures in Music uses music and movement to develop your child's language skills, spark their imagination and build their confidence.
Suitable for children aged 2 – 5.
Children must be supervised throughout the sessions.

Start dates for each library will vary. For full dates and times visit: https://www.inspireculture.org.uk/arts-culture/children-and-families/

Libraries include:

- Beeston
- Carlton Hill
- Carlton
- Hucknall
- Retford
- Stapleford

£30. Booking Advised.

Under 5s

The Lullaby Bank

At various Inspire Libraries starting from 4 January. Libraries include:

- Arnold
- Beeston
- Bingham
- Carlton Hill
- Carlton
- Cotgrave
- Eastwood
- Hucknall
- Kirkby-in-Ashfield

- Mansfield Central
- Newark
- Southwell
- Stapleford
- Sutton-in-Ashfield

The Lullaby Bank is for mums and babies from 0 – 9 months to relax and bond in a calm space. Sing and listen to melodies from around the world. A partnership between Inspire Music and Music for Everyone.

Free. Booking advised.

Under 5s

Early Years Festival Fun Day

- Mansfield Central Library – Saturday 20 March, 10am – 3pm

For one day only, Mansfield Central Library will become an under 5s zone.

Free. No booking required.

Family Workshops

Nottinghamshire Festival of Science and Curiosity

- At selected Inspire Libraries and across Nottinghamshire from 8 – 19 February

Workshops still to be announced.

Free. Booking advised.

Family Fun Day

Science Fun Day

- Mansfield Central Library – Friday 19 February, 10am – 2pm

Try a variety of hands-on activities led by scientists, researchers and students based in Nottinghamshire.

For ages 5 – 11.
Free, no booking required.

Digital Spaces

Virtual Reality Library

- Newark Library – Saturday 5 December, 10am – 3pm
- West Bridgford Library – Saturday 12 December, 10am – 3pm
- Retford Library – Saturday 19 December, 10am – 3pm

Put on a virtual reality headset and embark on some thrilling experiences.

For ages 10+.

Free. No booking required.

Reading

Poetry Event

Five Leaves New Poetry Launch

- Beeston Library – Friday 11 December, 7.30pm

The launch of Five Leaves New Poetry's 18th and 19th pamphlets.

Tickets £4. Booking advised.

Author Event

Martin Fitzgerald

- Mansfield Central Library – Saturday 6 February, 2on
- Beeston Library – Tuesday 30 March, 7pm

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

Tickets £4. Booking advised.

Author Event

Book Club Live!

- West Bridgford Library – Wednesday 3 February, 7pm

Join our panel for an evening of lively bookish conversation.

Tickets £5. Booking advised.

Author Event

Sarah Hilary: The Drowning Place

- Beeston Library – Wednesday 10 February, 7pm

Join Sarah Hilary as she talks about The Drowning Place, the first novel in her brand-new police procedural series.

Tickets £3. Booking advised.

Author Event

Marcus Alton: Brian Clough, The Lost Tapes

- Kimberley Library – Friday 12 February, 2pm
- Radcliffe-on-Trent Library – Thursday 25 March, 2pm

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

Tickets £3. Booking advised.

Author Event

Eve Makis: Where the Earth Holds Secrets

- Worksop Library – Saturday 20 February, 11am

Join us for an interactive event celebrating the release of Eve Makis' new book, Where the Earth Holds Secrets.

Tickets £3. Booking advised.

Author Event

Eve Makis: Books About Place

- Ravenshead Library – Tuesday 2 March, 11am

Join Eve Makis as she explores the places that inspire her writing and bring her stories to life.

Tickets £3. Booking advised.

Author Event

Crime Fiction Panel

- Worksop Library – Thursday 19 November, 7pm

Join our panel of crime authors for an evening of chat about crime fiction.

Tickets £5. Booking advised.

Writing Workshop

Using Your Authentic Voice with Maria Ferguson

- Mansfield Central Library – Tuesday 23 February, 1pm

This workshop will explore how we can use our own lived experience, backgrounds and colloquialisms to make our work stand out.

Tickets £4. Booking advised.

Author Event

Things We Found in the Ground

- Newark Library – Wednesday 17 March, 7pm

Eleanor Bruce and Lucilla Gray will share their new book,

Things We Found in the Ground: A Metal Detecting Journey Through Britain.

Tickets £5. Booking advised.

Author Event

Sarah Ward

- Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library – Thursday 4 March, 2pm

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

Tickets £3. Booking advised.

Heritage

Heritage Talk

How the Sheffield Region Shaped Modern Football with a Remarkable Contribution from Worksop

- Worksop Library – Thursday 3 December, 7.30pm

Join Worksop-born historian John Stocks to discover how this first modern football culture, gave the world key features of the modern game.

Tickets £3.50. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

The Christmas Radio Times

- Mansfield Central Library – Tuesday 15 December, 2pm
- West Bridgford Library – Wednesday 16 December, 2pm

Local historian Robert Mee will look at the changing nature

of the Radio Times magazine.

Tickets £3.50. Booking required.

Heritage

Family History One-to-One Sessions

- Online or phone - Tuesday 12 January, 2pm, 2.30pm, 3pm or 3.30pm

A one-to-one conversation with one of our librarians to discover more about your family history.

Free. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

Worksop, Witches and a Place in American History: The Life of Richard Bernard

- Worksop Library - Wednesday 20 January, 2pm

Join local author and historian Adrian Gray to find out more about Richard Bernard, best known for his authoritative guide on witches.

Tickets £3.50. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

The Buildings Archaeologist: Discovering the Secrets of Nottinghamshire's Ancient Buildings

- Beeston Library – Wednesday 27 January, 2pm
- Newark Library – Wednesday 3 February, 2pm

A talk by Dr James Wright exploring the hidden histories behind buildings.

Tickets £3.50. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Nottinghamshire

- Beeston Library – Wednesday 17 February, 2pm

A fascinating talk on recent archaeological revelations from across Nottinghamshire.

Tickets £3.50. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

The Architectural History of Worksop's Old Library Building

- Worksop Library – Wednesday 17 February, 2pm

Heritage Talk

Nottingham Herstory – Some Remarkable Women

- Arnold Library - Thursday 4 March, 2pm

A talk highlighting remarkable women in Nottinghamshire's history.

Tickets £3.50. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

The Rise of the Dukeries

- Retford Library – Thursday 11 March, 6.30pm

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.

Tickets £3.50. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

Women Won the War

- Mansfield Central Library – Tuesday 16 March, 2pm

A talk presented by local military historian Grant Cullen and looks at several examples of women in unfamiliar roles who left a lasting mark on history.

Tickets £3.50. Booking required.

Heritage Talk

Florence Boot

- West Bridgford Library – Tuesday 23 March, 2pm

Learn about businesswoman, philanthropist, and founder of Boots Booklover's Library, Florence Boot. This talk will be presented by Sian Trafford of Nottingham Women's History Group.

Tickets £3.50. Booking required.

Heritage

Exploring Local Newspapers

- Eastwood Library - Tuesday 30 March, 10.30am

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.

Free. Booking required.

Heritage

Archives Tour

Nottinghamshire Archives

- Tuesday 26 January, 11am
- Wednesday 24 February, 11am
- Thursday 18 March, 2.15pm

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

Free. Booking required.

Heritage

Spy at the Archives

- Nottinghamshire Archives – Saturday 6 March, 10am – 1.30pm (one-hour slots)

Delve into the history of Nottinghamshire during Second World War in this immersive, interactive event.

£6. Booking required.

Exhibitions

Exhibition

On Freedom's Wings

- Worksop Library: Wednesday 18 November – Wednesday 23 December

An exhibition telling the incredible story behind the statue of the Lancaster Bomber unveiled on the Lincolnshire/Nottinghamshire border.

Free. No booking required.

Family Art Workshop

Balloon Powered Lancaster Bombers

- Worksop Library – Saturday 5 December, 10am – 12pm

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

Suitable for ages 5+.

Free. No booking required.

Exhibition

I Am A Maker

- 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 professional makers and groups working in co-creation.

Free. No booking required.

Exhibition

I Am A Storyteller

- 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.

Free. No booking required.

Exhibition

Inspire Open

- Beeston Library: Saturday 7 November – Saturday 19 December

The work of Nottinghamshire artists - a mixture of painting, drawing, photography and making.

Free. No booking required.

Jazz Steps Live at the Libraries

Live Music

Jazz Expressions: The Song Collection

- Beeston Library – Monday 7 December, 7.30pm
- Worksop Library – Tuesday 8 December, 7.30pm
- West Bridgford Library – Wednesday 9 December, 7.30pm

A performance of songs from the last 100 years reimagined in a jazz style.

Tickets £14. Booking required.

Live Music

Reedwood

- Beeston Library – Monday 15 February, 7.30pm
- Worksop Library – Tuesday 16 February, 7.30pm
- West Bridgford Library – Wednesday 17 February, 7.30pm

Celebrating jazz from the past century – a twist of tango, upbeat swing and jazz-influenced melodies.

Tickets £14. Booking required.

Live Music

Jeremy Sassoon

- Beeston Library – Monday 15 March, 7.30pm
- Worksop Library – Tuesday 16 March, 7.30pm
- West Bridgford Library – Wednesday 17 March, 7.30pm

Acclaimed singer-pianist Jeremy Sassoon returns, combining jazz, soul and blues.

Tickets £14. Booking required.

Film Events

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

Dementia Friendly Screening

Miracle on 34th Street (1994) (U)

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

- Mansfield Central Library – Wednesday 16 December, 1.30pm

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Dementia Friendly Screening

Sleepless in Seattle (PG)

- Mansfield Central Library – Wednesday 17 February, 1.30pm

The son of a recently widowed man calls a radio show to find his father a partner.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Dementia Friendly Screening

Easter Parade (U)

- Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library – Wednesday 31 March, 1.30pm

Judy Garland and Fred Astaire lead a parade of music.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Relaxed Screening

Big Hero 6 (PG)

- Mansfield Central Library – Tuesday 16 February, 10.30am

An action-packed comedy adventure about a bond between an inflatable robot, and prodigy Hiro Hamada.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Relaxed Screening and Craft Activity

Small World Cinema: Flow (PG)

- Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library – Friday 19 February, 1.30pm

A cat finds itself on a boat with various animals after a flood changes their world. After the film, bring your favourite animal to life with shadow play or a simple animation.
Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Relaxed Screening

A Minecraft Movie (U)

- Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library – Saturday 6 March, 10am

Four misfits find themselves struggling with ordinary problems when they're suddenly pulled through a portal into the Overworld.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Read, Recharge, Repeat. Screening

The Devil Wears Prada (PG)

Andy lands a dream job as an assistant to a terrifying fashion magazine editor. A screening for adults and their babies under 3 years.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Read, Recharge, Repeat. Screening

The Devil Wears Prada 2 (12A)

- Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library – Monday 22 March, 10am

Based on the sequel novel, Revenge Wears Prada: The Devil Returns. A screening for adults and their babies under 3 years.

Tickets £1. Booking advised.

Community

Sing with Friends

- Regular sessions at Mansfield Central, Sutton-in-Ashfield and Eastwood Libraries. Visit the website Inspireculture.org.uk/SingwithFriends for full details.

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

Free. No booking required.

Healthier, Happier, Connected, Creative

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

Live Music

Songs & Scones

- Retford Library: Fridays at 2pm on 4 December, 8 January, 5 February, 5 March
- Hucknall Library: Fridays at 2pm on 11 December, 8 January, 12 February, 12 March.

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

£3. Booking advised.

Workshop

Mind & Movement

- Retford Library: Fridays at 2pm on 11 December, 22 January, 29 January, 12 February, 26 February, 12 March.
- Hucknall Library: Wednesdays at 2pm on 2 December, 16 December, 20 January, 17 February, 17 March.

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

Free. Booking required.

Art Workshop

Connect & Create

- Retford Library: Fridays at 2pm on 18 December, 15 January, 19 February, 19 March
- Hucknall Library: Fridays at 2pm on 18 December, 22 January, 16 February, 19 March.

Experiment with artistic styles and techniques in a relaxed group.

£3. Booking advised.

Exhibition

Healthier, Happier, Connected, Creative

- Hucknall and Retford Libraries: Saturday 27 February – Tuesday 30 March

A celebratory exhibition of the Healthier, Happier, Connected, Creative programme.

Free. No booking required.

Community

Healthier, Happier, Connected, Creative Celebration Event

- Retford Library – Saturday 27 February, 12.30pm
- Hucknall Library – Saturday 6 March, 12.30pm

A celebration of the launch of the Healthier, Happier, Connected, Creative exhibition.

Free. Booking required.

Christmas at Inspire

Christmas Markets in Libraries

- Arnold Library – Saturday 5 December, 10am – 2pm
- Ravenshead Library – Saturday 5 December, 9.30am – 12pm
- West Bridgford Library – Saturday 5 December, 10am – 2pm

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

Free. No booking required.

Festive Fun Day

- Beeston Library – Saturday 5 December, 9am – 5pm

Join in with local celebrations as we ring in the festive season, in partnership with Broxtowe Borough Council.

Free. No booking required.

Inspire Youth Arts Events

Music Workshops

Music Makers Beeston

- Beeston Library – every Wednesday, 5pm – 7pm

Work alongside music artists to craft lyrics, explore song structures, and record demo versions.

For ages 13 – 18, up to 25 with a disability.

£4 per session. Booking required.