



BRADFORD
LITERATURE
FESTIVAL

explore words
discover worlds



23 June - 2 July 2023



AWARDS & PRIZES

BOOK LAUNCHES

CONCERTS & PERFORMANCES

CONFERENCES

DEBATES

EXHIBITIONS

FILMS & SCREENINGS

GIGS & NIGHTS OUT

HERITAGE TOURS

KIDS & FAMILY

LECTURES

MASTERCLASS

PANELS

PODCAST RECORDINGS

RECEPTIONS

SALONS

TALKS

WALKS

WORKSHOPS

IN CONVERSATION

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**TICKETS START
FROM JUST £5**

Discounts & concessions are available - see page 200

**FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS**

Please note some event details may change, visit the website for the latest listings and details.

BOOKING INFORMATION



01274 044 140

Pre-festival Monday - Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm
During Festival - Daily - 9.30am - Last show



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BOXOFFICE@BRADFORDLITFEST.CO.UK



IN PERSON

In person from the Festival Hub, City Park up to 30 minutes prior to the start of the event (subject to availability)

Tickets for Bradford Literature Festival (BLF) events are sold on an individual event basis, therefore tickets must be purchased separately for each event that you wish to attend. You can buy tickets online, in person at the event (if available), or via the Box Office.

The price of tickets may vary and will be clearly stated against each individual event listing. All ticket prices are inclusive of VAT and booking fee. Discounts & concessions apply.

A WELCOME FROM OUR CHAIR



A warm welcome to this, the ninth Bradford Literature Festival. As you will see from this programme, our mission is unlike that of any other such event in the UK both in the breadth of its contributions and in the range of subjects on offer. We aim to reach the widest possible audience here in Bradford and further afield, and to encourage the kind of debates and discussions that go a long way beyond what you might expect at a conventional literary festival.

At the core of our efforts lie the people of Bradford and our dedication to fostering a sense of community through a shared love of words and music. Our ethical ticketing policy makes the events open to everyone, whatever their background. And this isn't just a once-a-year effort. Our community and family programmes run all through the year and are designed to be accessible to everyone, with our education and young people's programmes offered free of charge.

As you will see, the events cover a very wide range of topics – delving into history, poetry, world politics, Windrush, Bollywood and much more. As well as connecting Bradford to the world, we want to bring the world to Bradford and encourage people from around the region and well beyond to visit this remarkable city, and learn something of its rich history and its dynamic present-day story.

I hope you will be as excited as I am by what you read in these pages, which tell a story of what will be ten very enjoyable and exhilarating summer days.

Sir Richard Lambert
Chair of BLF Board



DIRECTOR'S WELCOME



I am delighted to welcome you to the ninth annual Bradford Literature Festival (BLF), an extraordinary ten-day journey featuring over 500 events for adults and children alike.

This year, BLF brings together an exceptional array of creative minds from around the globe, curating a programme that is eclectic, thought-provoking, and inspiring. With offerings ranging from astropolitics and Shakespeare to philosophy and technology, our diverse and expansive line-up truly has something for everyone. The festival is a celebration of the human experience, inviting you to delve into the realms of literature, poetry, politics, science, history and so much more.

Our 2023 edition showcases the very best of global, regional, and local artistic talent, offering engaging discussions, insightful talks, electrifying performances, never-before-seen commissions, premieres, and immersive experiences.

BLF presents a unique opportunity to explore our ever-changing world, this year encompassing topics as wide-ranging as the Ottoman Empire, global feminism, the climate

emergency, and our signature Literature Unlocked free Family Fun Days.

Our distinguished guests, including **Sir Lenny Henry**, **Attorney General Keith Ellison**, **Mayor of London Sadiq Khan**, **Angela Rayner MP**, **Shaykh Al-Yaqoubi**, **Anita Rani**, **Sir Michael Palin**, **Rana Ayub**, and **Adam Kay**, among so many others, will share their insights and expertise, delighting audiences and broadening perspectives.

Now more than ever in a cost-of-living crisis, our ethical ticketing policy and free events for families demonstrate our continued dedication to our audiences. BLF was founded on the core principle there should be no financial or social barrier to experiencing cultural excellence. Inclusivity is at the heart of everything we do, and we're proud to provide a platform for marginalized voices that might otherwise go unheard.

Alongside the events you will find in this brochure, our hallmark free education programme returns for 2023, featuring 14 full days of events to delight and inspire thousands of young learners from across West Yorkshire.

None of this work would be possible without the generous support of our sponsors and funders, including Arts Council England, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Free Word, Peter Sowerby Foundation, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, the University of Bradford, Bradford City Council, Pears Foundation, Baillie Gifford, NHS Bradford District & Craven Healthcare Trust, Better Start Bradford, and Burberry. We are so grateful for your support.

We invite you to join us for ten days of discovery, in celebration of diversity, empathy, and artistic excellence. We can't wait to welcome you to Bradford!

Syima Aslam
CEO & Artistic Director

FESTIVAL PARTNERS

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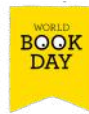
Venue Partners



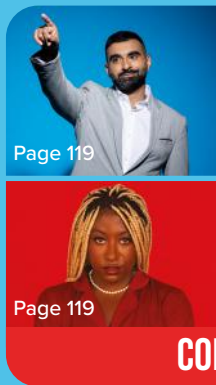
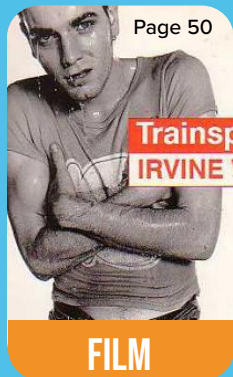
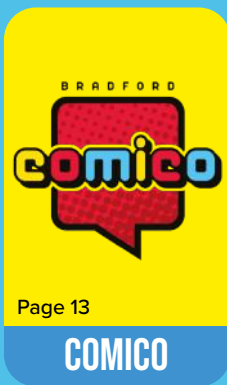
Bradford College



Cultural Partners



FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



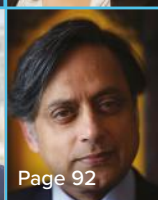
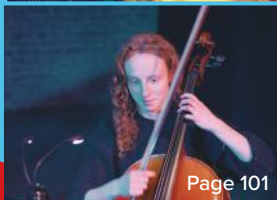
SIR LENNY HENRY
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ANGELA RAYNER
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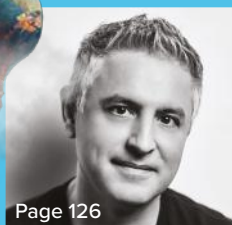


SHAYKH AL-YAQOUBI
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MUSIC

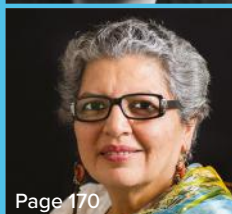
WORLD AFFAIRS



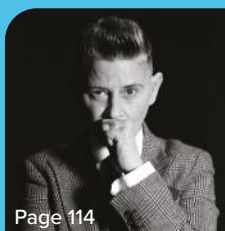
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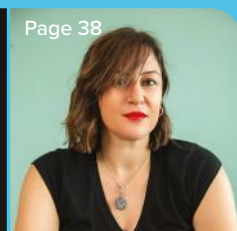
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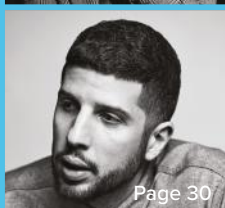
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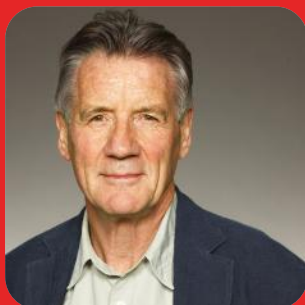
FAITH, MYSTICISM & PHILOSOPHY

POETRY



BOLU BABALOLA

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SIR MICHAEL PALIN

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ANITA RANI

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YORKSHIRE



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CRIME

EARLY YEARS



Our early years programme is full of stimulating activities for babies and their grown-ups to enjoy.

BABY RAVE

**The Imagination Station,
City Park**

Get ready to dance and groove with your little ones at BoomChikkaBoom's exciting baby rave.

A fantastic way to socialise with other young families that's also great for your child's development; stimulate their senses and encourage their growth.

Led by our expert team, our baby rave is an entertaining session that is sure to get little and large feet moving! Join us for a fun and interactive experience that will bring joy and happiness to you and your little ones.

Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

Suitable for children ages 0 to 5 years old.

Friday 23 June | Free

10:00 (1 hour)

13:00 (1 hour)

TODDLER UP & SIGN

**The Imagination Station,
City Park**

Did you know that babies can learn to sign long before they learn to talk? By associating signs with words and objects, your child can learn to communicate what they want and need before their verbal language has developed, cutting down on tears and tantrums.

Join the Toddler Up and Sign team for this fun and interactive session to boost their language skills, a great way to bond with your baby and learn something new. Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

Suitable for ages 0 to 3.

Monday 26 June | Free

10:00 (45mins)



RHYTHM TIME

**The Imagination Station,
City Park**

Get singing with Rhythm Time! A fun-filled music class full of exciting activities that will help your child's development, coordination and confidence, through interactive, music-based play.

Join Rhythm Time as they show you how to make music fun for your child and help you to unlock their potential. Come along and join in the fun. Sing, dance, and spend some quality time with your little one.

Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

Tuesday 27 June | Free

10:00 (1 hour) - 0 to 14 months

11:00 (1 hour) - 14 months +



BABY WEEK BRADFORD
14-20 November 2023

Please book separate tickets for yourself
and any children attending.

Box Office: 01274 044 140
bradfordlitfest.co.uk

EARLY YEARS

FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS

BABIES ARE BEST



SEND CREATIVE PLAY

**The Imagination Station,
City Park**

Join this fun session with singing, stories and play aimed at engaging children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

This playful space will also include lots of opportunities to practice and use Makaton and sign language.

All ages are welcome and this is an informal session so you can stay and play for however long suits you.

Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

Wednesday 28 June | Free

10:00 (1 hour)

BABY CALM

The Imagination Station, City Park

Join us for an unforgettable experience as our certified infant massage instructor guides you through a series of classes designed to teach you lifelong skills while enjoying quality bonding time with your little one in a relaxed environment.

Learn the art of baby massage and how it can benefit your baby's development, as well as valuable baby first aid techniques.

Focus on developing your understanding of non-verbal communication, which can help you better interpret your baby's needs and strengthen your bond.

Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending. Suitable for ages 12 months and under.

Thursday 29 June | 10:00 (1 hour) | **Free**

BABY YOGA

The Imagination Station, City Park

Baby yoga is a wonderful way for parents to boost their own health and wellbeing, and bond with their babies with yoga moves adapted specifically for babies.

There are two sessions tailored around the age and ability of your baby. Take the session at your own pace and pick up some simple exercises that you and your little one can both do at home.

We recommend that your baby has bare feet for the class and please bring along a simple shawl or blanket if you can.

Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

Wednesday 28 June | Free

10:00 (45mins) - 12 weeks to pre-crawlers

11:00 (45mins) - crawlers to 2 years

ADVENTURE BABIES: SENSORY STORYTELLING SESSIONS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Take your little ones on an amazing adventure with these award-winning sensory storytelling classes that will help your baby fall in love with books and reading.

Every activity in these interactive baby sessions is designed by early years experts and linked to the Early Years Framework for your baby's stage of development.

Friday 30 June | Free

12:30 - Babies (45mins)

13:30 - Toddlers (45mins)



@BradfordLitFest

EDUCATION & HOMESCHOOL



16 – 27 June 2023

Bradford Literature Festival (BLF) has developed an expansive, year-round, free Education Programme that invites leading writers, publishers, performance poets, illustrators, journalists, among many others, to share their skills through live shows, performances and interactive workshops. Each day-long event follows a curriculum-targeted theme and is aimed at a particular key stage or age range.

The Education Programme is linked to the national curriculum, covering all key stages and championing an inclusive curriculum that fosters different perspectives on taught topics that are relevant for young people (whether they are educated at school or home). Teachers, course leaders, and parents or carers who home-school children can register and book for events.

The programme is FREE to all non-fee-paying schools, education groups and home-schools in the Yorkshire district.

Book now: bradfordlitfest.co.uk/education-programme

B-DISRUPTIVE



(KS5, AGES 16-25)

Thursday, 22 June 2023 | 9:30-14:15

B-Disruptive is an exciting one-day 'festival within a festival' for students aged 16-21 years, or *up to 25 for holders of a current Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), where each student will design their own pathway through the day.

The lecture-style and hands-on workshops will cover important issues for today's young adults from the climate crisis to cancel culture, and freedom of speech to TikTok fame. Each session is designed to inform and empower students to question the issues of our day. The event will run alongside the festival's Creative Economic Conference, which attracts high-level speakers, business leaders, academics and politicians who will also speak at B-Disruptive.

Be there, be part of the conversation.

Book now: bradfordlitfest.co.uk/education-programme

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The Folio Society

75
FOLIO
OF SEVENTY-FIVE

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CREATING DUNE: THE INFLUENCES OF ARRAKIS

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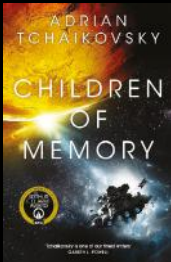
SAMANTHA SHANNON & TASHA SURI IN CONVERSATION

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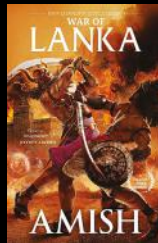
BEN AARONOVITCH & JONATHAN STROUD IN CONVERSATION

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FANTASY AND FUTURISM

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AMISH TRIPATHI

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BREAKING THE MOULD: A NEW ERA OF WORLDBUILDING

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HENRY VIII: THE HEART AND THE CROWN

Alison Weir

 **Waterstones** |  Talk

 19:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Six wives. One King. You know their stories. Now it's time to hear his.

In grand royal palaces, Prince Harry grows up dreaming of knights and chivalry – and the golden age of kings that awaits his older brother. But Arthur's untimely death sees Harry crowned King Henry of England. As his power and influence extends, so commences a lifelong battle between head and heart, love and duty. Henry rules by divine right, yet his prayers for a son go unanswered. The future of his great dynasty depends on an heir, and the crown weighs heavy on a king with all but his one true desire.

Join bestselling author Alison Weir for this magnificent new Tudor novel, her most ambitious yet, which reveals the captivating story of a man who was by turns brilliant, romantic, and ruthless: the king who changed England forever.

CREATIVE ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

Friday, 23rd June 2023

9:00-17:30

University of Bradford

The Creative Economic Conference (CEC) is making its highly anticipated return to BLF 2023, creating a platform for dynamic discussions between business and creative sector leaders.

This event serves as a unique opportunity for participants to share knowledge, exchange best practices, and explore the shared challenges that both sectors face. By bringing together inspiring politicians, academics, economists, and influential figures from the business and creative realms, the CEC fosters collaboration and facilitates learning.

Whether you are a business or creative sector leader, an artist or entrepreneur, early career or student, you will gain valuable insights to enhance your understanding of the forces driving growth in the business and creative sectors.

Join us for a day of cross-sector exploration and discover new pathways for growth and collaboration.

Topics range from:

The Northern Agenda | Creative and Inclusive Leadership | Tech Driven Future
| The Future of Film and TV

Speakers include:

Rachel Reeves - Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer
Andy Haldane - Chief Executive Officer, Royal Society of Arts
Tracy Brabin - Mayor of West Yorkshire
Caroline Norbury - CEO, Creative UK
Damian Bradfield - Chief Creative Officer and Co-Founder, WeTransfer

Tickets start from £25 and discounts and concessions are available.

Visit the website for full details: bradfordlitfest.co.uk/cec



THE WINDRUSH STORIES: DON'T GIVE UP

📍 **The Festival Hub, City Park**

🎫 Exhibition

🕒 ALL FESTIVAL | **FREE**



To mark the 75th anniversary of the arrival of HMT Empire Windrush, we welcome *The Windrush Stories: Don't Give Up* exhibition to Bradford Literature Festival this summer in the Festival Hub.

This extraordinary exhibition was co-curated by three young people with African and Caribbean heritage and developed by Nigel Guy, Director of *Windrush Generations*, in partnership with Jill Iredale of Bradford Museums and Galleries and the British Library. It shares the poignant stories of 22 Windrush elders and their offspring who journeyed from around the world and came to settle in Bradford. These touching reflections and words of wisdom are memorialised for all to see, hear and celebrate.

This exhibition will be available throughout the festival. Don't miss your opportunity to celebrate the untold stories that have helped build and shape the city you know and love.



THE FOLIO SOCIETY: ILLUSTRATION AWARD 2023 EXHIBITION

📍 **The Festival Hub, City Park**

🎫 Exhibition, Awards & Prizes

🕒 ALL FESTIVAL | **FREE**

Don't miss this rare opportunity to see 20 world-class illustrations under one roof as we host the Folio Book Illustration Award exhibition in our festival hub.

This year's brilliant exhibition features the 20 artworks longlisted for the Folio Book Illustration Award (FBIA) 2023. This coveted international award is open to aspiring and established illustrators, with the brief to create a single piece of artwork in response to Ursula K. Le Guin's book *The Fliers of Gy*.

The Folio Society Art Directors, Sheri Gee and Raquel Leis Allion, have selected these 20 artworks on display from all the FBIA entries.

This partnership exhibition between Bradford Literature Festival and The Folio Society is the perfect opportunity to see the work of some of the world's most talented illustrators up close.



BRADFORD STORIES BUS

The National Literacy Trust

📍 **The Festival Hub, City Park**

👨‍👩‍👧 **Kids & Family**

🕒 **ALL FESTIVAL | FREE**

Visit the Bradford Stories Bus in City Park. BLF is delighted to host The National Literacy Trust's Bradford Stories Bus in City Park throughout the festival.

This unique and enchanting vintage American school bus has been converted to an incredible book haven and exciting event space. With seating areas, book shelves, a 'selfie space' and soft furnishings, it is a space devoted to running literary-based events for children, young people, families and communities, including storytelling, writing and reading activities and open mic poetry nights.

It aims to improve access to books and promote reading for pleasure in communities across Bradford.

There will be lots of pop-up events taking place in the bus between 23 June and 2 July, including Early Years drop-in sessions for little ones and their families every weekday and free open mic nights for young people. The bus will also be resident on our Literature Unlocked Family Fun Days in City Park.

Visit bradfordlitfest.co.uk for more information.



**LEEDS
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
GALLERIES**
HISTORY. IMAGINATION. ART. CULTURE

BECOMING THE BRONTËS: BROTHERTON LIBRARY EXHIBITION (LEEDS)

📍 **Brotherton Library, Leeds**

👨‍👩‍👧 **Exhibition**

🕒 **Fri 30 June 2023 - Sat 28 Oct 2023**

FREE

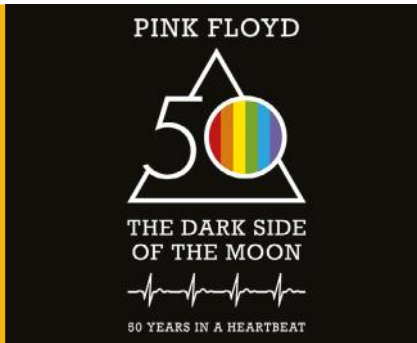
The Brontës are Yorkshire's very own world-famous literary family. Discover how they become the icons we know today.

This intimate display at Brotherton Library, Leeds, explores the creative beginnings of Charlotte, Emily, Anne and Branwell Brontë – from little books produced as children, to poetry manuscripts and rare first editions of their most celebrated works.

The *Becoming the Brontës* exhibition, displayed in the Treasures of the Brotherton Gallery, brings together materials that have not been seen by the public for over 80 years.

The exhibition is co-curated by the University of Leeds, the British Library and the Brontë Parsonage Museum, with the materials gathered from the Blavatnik Honresfield Library.

The Blavatnik Honresfield Library was purchased for the nation in 2022 by the Friends of the National Libraries with the support of the Blavatnik Family Foundation, the National Heritage Memorial Fund and many other generous supporters.



LUNCH BITE: 50 YEARS OF PINK FLOYD'S DARK SIDE OF THE MOON

Saeed Khan

The Festival Hub, City Park

Talk

12:00 (45mins) | **£5**

Don't miss this in-depth discussion of Pink Floyd's sonic masterpiece *Dark Side of the Moon*.

Hailed as a combination of melodic brilliance and lyrical exploration, *Dark Side of the Moon* became one of the best-selling albums of all time, and a record that continues to influence artists and musicians today, from Radiohead to The Flaming Lips. Recorded at the famous Abbey Road Studios, *Dark Side of the Moon* created new soundscapes that changed the face of pop culture itself.

50 years on from its release, join academic Saeed Khan as he discusses the album's cultural significance, how its themes of greed, conflict and mental illness still resonate today, and why people will still be listening to it 50 years from now.



THE CURSE OF MILNER FIELD MANSION

Frances Brody, David M Barnett

The Festival Hub, City Park

In Conversation

14:00 (1 hour) | **£5**

Today, Milner Field is little more than ruins but in its heyday it was a mansion famed for its parties and Royal visits. So what happened to a society jewel that people said was cursed?

Milner Field, near Bingley, was a lavish Gothic mansion built by Titus Salt Junior (son of Sir Titus Salt) and boasted electricity and a telephone linking it to Salt's Mill, in Saltaire. However, his sudden death from a heart attack at the age of 44 marked the beginning of a chain of tragic events linked to the house. The next three families that moved in all lost loved ones in a succession of mysterious deaths.

The Salts company tried selling the unlucky house but no one wanted it, and it was blown up in the 1950s. Now, though, the house has been used as the setting for Frances Brody's new novel *A Mansion for Murder*.

In this brand new series of events, we highlight some of the intriguing stories behind the building's heritage. Join Frances and David as they tell the tale.



BEN AARONOVITCH AND JONATHAN STROUD IN CONVERSATION

Ben Aaronovitch, Jonathan Stroud, TL Huchu

 **Waterstones**

 In Conversation

 19:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join Ben Aaronovitch and Jonathan Stroud – two stellar names in the world of British fantasy as they light up the festival.

Aaronovitch is a master of urban fantasy whose *Rivers of London* series has become a runaway success, with plans in place for a hotly anticipated upcoming TV adaptation. Stroud is another giant of the genre and author of the acclaimed *Lockwood and Co* series, recently adapted by Netflix where it has proved a big hit.

We are delighted to welcome these two acclaimed authors to the festival, where they will be talking all things urban fantasy and mystery, reimagining London in their work, and the journey from shelf to screen.



THE SECRET DIARIES OF CHARLES IGNATIUS SANCHO

Paterson Joseph

 **Cathedral**

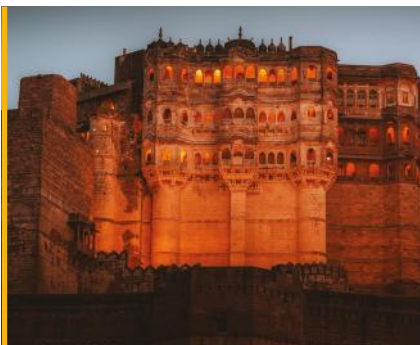
 In Conversation

 19:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

He's a much-loved star of the stage and screen and now Paterson Joseph is earning rave reviews for his debut novel based on the astonishing story of Charles Ignatius Sancho, the first Black man to vote in Britain.

The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho is Joseph's brilliant fictionalised tale inspired by this real-life Black writer, composer, shopkeeper and abolitionist. Until now Sancho's extraordinary life has been largely hidden from view, but thanks to Joseph's illuminating and candid book the name of a man who met the king and led the fight to end slavery is on everyone's lips.

Joseph is best known for his roles in hit TV shows such as *Casualty*, *Peep Show* and *Green Wing*. Join him as he discusses his career, and the extraordinary story of a man born on a slave ship in the Atlantic Ocean, who became an influential social reformer and man of letters in Regency London.



MUSHAIRA: YORKSHIRE ADABEE FORUM

Yorkshire Adabee Forum

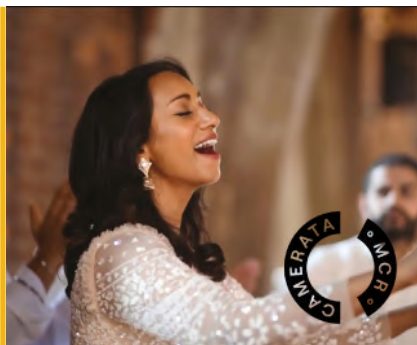
📍 **The Majestic Bradford**

🎵 Concert & Performance

🕒 19:00 (4 hours) | **£25**

For over three centuries, the mushaira has been a beloved part of the cultural and intellectual life of the sub-continent. Traditionally a forum for poets to share their work, the mushaira is a platform for creativity and self-expression, as well as an opportunity to celebrate and uphold the rich cultural heritage of the Urdu language.

We are delighted to once again invite you to a quintessential Urdu mushaira, in partnership with the Yorkshire Adabee Forum. Immerse yourself in the beauty of the Urdu language with an evening of mesmerising poetry, featuring some of the most talented Urdu poets from across the globe. The event includes a delicious dinner and will culminate with a musical performance by Pakistani singer-songwriter Fahad Javed.



ALLAMA MUHAMMED IQBAL'S SHIKWA

Abi Sampa, Rushil Ranjan, Manchester Camerata

📍 **St George's Hall**

🎵 Concert & Performance

🕒 19:30 (1 hour 45 mins) | **£20**

BLF is proud to present the world premiere of the symphonic interpretation of Allama Muhammed Iqbal's legendary Urdu poem, *Shikwa* (Complaint).

A bold and thought-provoking work, *Shikwa* is characterised by powerful imagery, evocative language and a deep sense of pathos. As relevant now as when it was first penned in 1909, Iqbal's work addresses God directly, voicing the collective grievances and disillusionment of the Muslim world with its state of affairs. Renowned as the East's philosopher-poet and the spiritual architect of Pakistan, Allama Iqbal's Urdu and Farsi poetry, which seeks to rejuvenate Islamic thought and spirituality, has left an indelible mark on the cultural and intellectual fabric of South Asia and the Persian-speaking world.

Join us for what promises to be a wonderful evening of epic musical work, written and composed by Rushil Ranjan, vocalised by Abi Sampa and performed by Manchester Camerata.

SATURDAY
24 JUNE



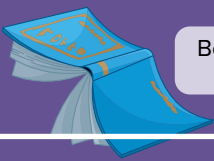
In this anniversary year celebrating Lewis Carroll, creator of the famous *Alice in Wonderland* story, we invite you to step into the magic of City Park and enter a topsy-turvy world where nothing is quite as it seems.

Literature Unlocked: Family Fun Day in City Park.





**FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS**






RABBIT HOLE

WRONGSEMBLE PRESENTS: GARDEN'S END

City Park Stage

Alice is looking for an adventure but didn't expect to find it at the bottom of her garden. Our hero will need all the help she can get to navigate this wonderland, a world where animals can talk and plants pack a punch!

11.00 | 13.00 | 15.00 (30 mins) | **Free**

THE GARDENER'S GUIDE TO GREEN FINGERS WORKSHOP

City Park Stage

The fun doesn't stop on the stage. Stick around between performances and you'll learn how to navigate the magical world at the bottom of the garden, led by a few familiar faces!

11.30 | 13.30 | 15.30 (15 mins) | **Free**



FUNKY FLOWERS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Adventure to the end of the garden and you'll find funky flowers like you've never seen before! Join this exciting craft session and dream up your own fabulous blooms to make and take home with you.

10.00-16.00 (walk in) | **Free**

FLOUNCING FLAMINGOS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Can you play croquet with a flamingo? Be just like Alice and give it a go. Create your very own bouncing, flouncing flamingo in this fun craft activity perfect for all budding adventurers.

10.00-16.00 (walk in) | **Free**

CHESHIRE CAT MASK

The Imagination Station, City Park

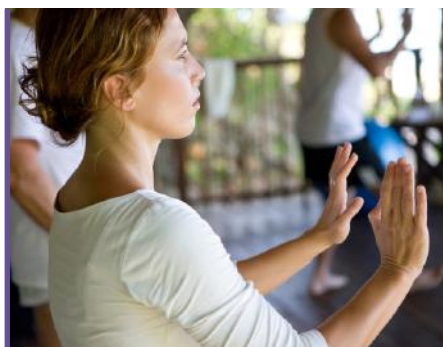
10.00-16.00 (walk in) | **Free**

Grin just like the Cheshire Cat with your very own Cheshire Cat mask. Transform your smile and play the mischievous trickster and see who you can pop-up and surprise!

**Don't forget all our other amazing children's events for all the family,
details on the following pages.**



Join us on this FREE EVENT throughout the day. No booking required, just drop in!



TAI CHI

📍 **The Festival Hub, City Park**

🗣️ Health & Wellbeing

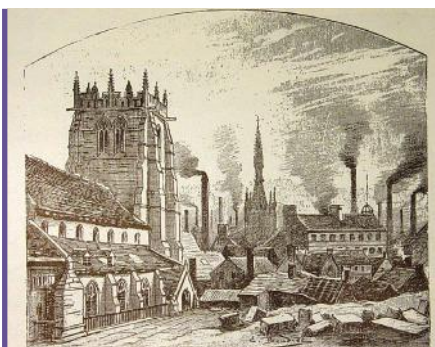
🕒 10:00 (45mins) | £5

Reinvigorate your mind and spirit with this special Tai Chi session led by an expert practitioner from Yorkshire Tai Chi.

The art of Tai Chi was a closely-guarded secret, with its mysterious origins debated for centuries, but is thought to date back to the practice of a 14th century Taoist monk.

Thanks to its health benefits being promoted by several famous names in the 20th century it developed a global following, with its focus on gentle movements bringing a sense of clarity and calm.

In this session, you can experience the system of coordinated body posture and movement by learning some simple moves of your own.



BRADFORD'S HISTORICAL CRIME SCENES: HERITAGE WALKING TOUR

📍 **Bradford Police Museum**

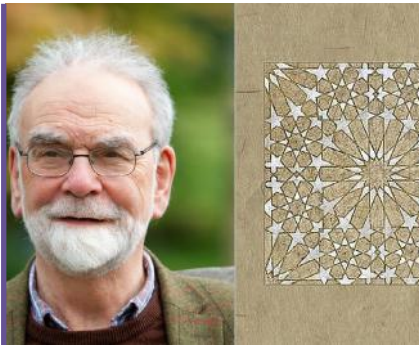
🗣️ Heritage Tour

🕒 10:00 (2 hours) | £7

Devised by experts from the Bradford Police Museum, this eye-opening tour will take you through time to uncover the history of policing, crime and criminal justice from the 19th century to the present day. Dressed in authentic Victorian garb, our guides will escort you on a walking tour of historic locations that have become synonymous with crime and give you an insight into the events that shaped the dark and murky parts of Bradford's folklore.

From unsolved deaths at the Midland Hotel, where staff were found dead beneath the dinner lift, to Rimmington's Pharmacy linked to the infamous 'Humbug Billy' poisonings, Bradford is steeped in grisly Victorian mysteries that helped to inspire some of the 19th century's best crime writing.

The tour will start and end at the Bradford Police Museum, one of the city's hidden gems, and take you on a crime-themed adventure that will last long in the memory. Attendees are encouraged to bring comfortable footwear and weather-appropriate clothing.



RETHINKING ISLAM & THE WEST: A NEW NARRATIVE FOR THE AGE OF CRISES

Ahmed Paul Keeler, Shaykh Ahmed Saad, Dr Samir Mahmoud, Shaykh Maan Aldabbagh, Ustad Ali Keeler

Great Hall, University of Bradford

Panel

10:00 (3 hour 30mins) | **£7**

A multi-media dramatic presentation that will challenge your perceptions and transform your understanding of Islam and the West.

In his thought-provoking book, *Rethinking Islam and the West: A New Narrative for the Age of Crises*, Cambridge University visiting fellow Ahmed Paul Keeler invites us to view the tangled relationship between Islam and the West through an alternative lens, proposing that the true yardstick for measuring success should be the balance achieved between the spiritual, social, and material needs of humanity – a balance which makes it possible to live in harmony with nature. When the world is viewed from this perspective, a completely different picture of Islam and the West emerges.

Changing our perspective from one rooted in the principle of progress to one informed by the criterion of Mizan – a concept that encompasses balance, scale, justice, and harmony – can bring about a deeper understanding of the multiple crises that humanity faces.

Guidance: This event is ages 10+ as the content is not suitable for young children.



STORYTELLING: THE ADVENTURES OF FATIMA

Jumana Moon

The Imagination Station, City Park

Kids & Family

10.15, 12.15, 14.15 (30mins) | **Free**

Come and explore another young heroine embarking on an adventure across strange and unknown lands.

Join storyteller Jumana Moon as we travel with Fatima across the seas, through storms and shipwrecks, into robbers' dens and far away beautiful palaces, meeting kindness and cruelty, fear and peace.

Will Fatima find her very own riches and a place to finally call home?

This storytelling is drawn from a traditional story told across many Muslim lands.

All our storytelling sessions are free but please make sure you book separate tickets for yourself and any children individually.



STORIES UNLOCKED: A DIFFERENT KIND OF FREEDOM: A ROMANI STORY

Richard O'Neill

Waterstones

Kids & Family

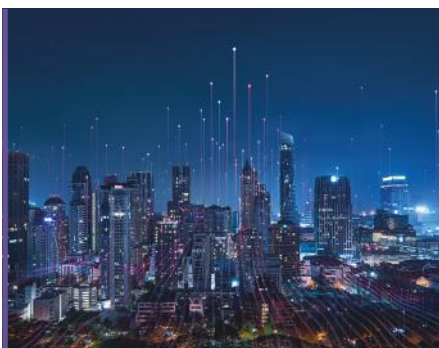
10:30 (45mins) | **FREE**

Step back in time with this gripping football-filled adventure based in the Romani community of 19th-century Sheffield.

A Different Kind of Freedom: A Romani Story, is storyteller Richard O'Neill's action-packed story told through the eyes of young Lijah, as he navigates life and discovers football and the legendary player Rab Howell.

In this heart-stopping adventure, O'Neill shows us an important and fascinating time in Britain and takes us on a journey that's sure to excite young readers everywhere. Join him for this fun, interactive session that will leave you full of story ideas.

Best suited to ages 8+.



THE WORLD IN 2030

Professor Paul Rogers

The Chamber, City Hall

Talk

10:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

What will the world look like in 2030? In this talk, Emeritus Professor Paul Rogers explores the future of our world.

We've lived through 9/11, a huge global financial crash, the deadliest pandemic in more than a century and the biggest war on European soil since 1945.

The next few years are likely to see further change and potential upheaval, as well as technological and scientific progress. How different will the world look by the end of the decade? It's a question Rogers, Emeritus Professor at the University of Bradford, addresses in this thought-provoking talk. He will discuss the big global issues including climate change and political instability, as well as the role that technology can play in creating a brighter future.



Actual Investors



WHY BLAKE MATTERS TODAY

John Higgs, Camila Oliveira, Jason Whittaker

📍 **Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College** | 🔊 Panel

🕒 10:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join Professor Jason Whittaker, Blake scholar at Lincoln University, John Higgs, author of *William Blake vs. the World*, and Camila Oliveira, a researcher specialising in Blake and music, as they discuss William Blake's remarkable life and work.

Blake was one of the world's most prolific artists and poets and yet, when he died in poverty in 1827, his work was derided and all but forgotten.

Today, thankfully, it's a different story. Blake is hailed as a visionary and the author of the unofficial national anthem *Jerusalem* and of philosophies that have helped shape contemporary English identity. Blake now enjoys a place in the pantheon of literary greats. Join us to learn why he still matters so much today.



ASTROPOLITICS: THE NEW FRONTIER

**Professor Christopher Newman,
Dr Jill Stuart**

The Banqueting Hall, City Hall

In Conversation

10:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for an insightful conversation on the new era of the space race. Our experts will delve into the world of astropolitics and the growing number of countries and global tech companies vying for supremacy beyond our planet.

The idea of spy satellites in space and humans on Mars was once the stuff of science fiction but now it's at the heart of astropolitics. But what is it exactly and what's at stake for the rest of us? Astropolitics combines the study of space with politics, policy, and international relations – and, not surprisingly, it reflects the political tensions here on Earth.

Our experts, Dr Jill Stuart, professor of astropolitics at the London School of Economics and Political Science, and Professor Chris Newman, a lecturer in international relations and space policy at Northumbria University, will explain why this new space frontier is going to have far-reaching consequences.



Actual Investors



HEALTHCARE HERE: WHO'S GETTING SERVED?

Dr Marieke Bigg, Dr Annabel Sowemimo

Ernest Saville, City Hall

Panel

10:45 (1 hour) | £7

We like to think that everyone is treated the same when they fall ill. It's a myth that's debunked by our panel of special guests, who argue our healthcare system is rooted in colonialism and misogyny.

In her book *This Won't Hurt: How Medicine Fails Women*, Dr Marieke Bigg draws on her own healthcare experience and explores how women's bodies have repeatedly been ignored, misunderstood and misdiagnosed. She's joined by Dr Annabel Sowemimo, whose book *Divided: Racism, Medicine and Why We Need to Decolonise Healthcare*, identifies the underlying racism behind the health inequalities that plague the world.

Their research challenges our assumptions and together they will demonstrate how our medicine and methods of diagnoses fail women and ethnic minorities, explore the colonial roots of modern medicine, and discuss why prevailing attitudes that still exist today have had terrible repercussions for women and their bodies.



ALGORITHMIC REALITIES

Damian Bradfield

📍 **Small Hall, University of Bradford** | 🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 11:00 (1 hour) | £7

The world's most valuable resource is no longer oil, but data, and the data that you've been supplying is electrifying! Join our special guest, Damian Bradfield, for this eye-opening and timely conversation as he explores the state of the internet, the addictive effects of social media, invasion of privacy, and data misuse, and the current use of your data to power AI – and what we can do to take back control.

Damian Bradfield, author and co-founder and chief creative officer of WeTransfer, will explore the impact of these issues on our society. In his latest book, a comic titled *Algorithmic Reality*, Damian uses humour to hold up a mirror to each of us and challenge the way we engage with Big Tech oligarchs.

An expert in the fields of technology, culture, and media, Damian will discuss how to navigate an increasingly interconnected world and will show how the boundaries between the online and offline worlds have become blurred with disturbingly recognisable tales about our over-connected society.



HOW TO GET YOUR POETRY PUBLISHED

**Anthony Anaxagorou, Joe Carrick-Varty,
Isabelle Baafi, Jane Commene**

Dye House Gallery, Bradford College

Panel

11:00 (1 hour) | £7

Are you a budding poet struggling to get your work published? If so, then acclaimed poet Anthony Anaxagorou might just be able to help.

An acclaimed poet himself, Anaxagorou launched Propel Magazine to help give unpublished poets a springboard to success. His work has been widely published and taken him all over the world, and now he is helping others get their literary careers off the ground.

Join Anaxagorou and a panel of fellow poets, editors and critics as they discuss the touring networks open for poets, share insights into the journey towards seeing your own work in print and offer tips on how to get your name out there.



MEET THE AGENT

Jamie Cowen, Sara Langham, Oli Munson

University of Bradford – Bright Building

Panel

11:00 (1 hour) | £7

Could your manuscript be the next *Thursday Murder Club*? Does your next book idea have echoes of the works of Lee Child or Hilary Mantel? Join our panel of respected agents from across the publishing industry, who will explain what they're after in a book, the pros and cons of having an agent and how to get one.

They will also discuss the different routes now available to get your book printed and how the world of self-publishing and the increasing number of straight-to-publisher submissions have changed the literary landscape.

Meet the Agent one-to-one meetings are also available. Places are limited and pre-booking is essential. Book now to reserve a one-on-one meeting to discuss your work and gain valuable insight into the writing and publication process.

Participants in Meet the Agent one-to-ones will need to submit either their first three chapters or up to 8,000 words, plus a covering letter and synopsis in advance.



AN INTRODUCTION TO ISLAMIC GEOMETRIC DESIGN

Eric Broug

📍 **Innovation Suite, University of
Bradford – Bright Building**

🔊 Workshop

🕒 11:00 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

Experience the delights and wonders of Islamic geometric design and learn how to read and write what is an extraordinary visual language. In this workshop, author and artist Eric Broug will show you masterpieces of design from across the Islamic world and explain how they were made.

Discover the mathematical elegance of these designs and their inherent simplicity, and learn how to make and understand geometric patterns from the Alhambra, Fes and Marrakech, Al-Aqsa, Afghanistan, Thatta and beyond. Using the same methods craftsmen have been using across the Islamic world for centuries, you'll construct patterns with just a ruler and pencil. Materials will be provided.



UNEARTHING URDU POETRY: IN CONVERSATION WITH TASNEEM HASSAN

Tasneem Hassan, Ishtiaq Mir

📍 **Ernest Saville, City Hall**

🔊 In Conversation

🕒 11:30 (1 hour) | £7

If you love Urdu poetry or are simply curious about its rich cultural heritage, then don't miss this celebratory book launch.

To mark the publication of her first Urdu language poetry collection, *Yaaf*, BLF is hosting this special event with Tasneem Hassan where she will discuss her writing and inspiration.

Urdu poetry has a long tradition with many different forms and is an important part of the culture of South Asia. Bradford-based Hassan is an Urdu poet whose distinct poetic style fuses both classic and modern Urdu language. This is your chance to listen to her work and the wonders of Urdu poetry.



BLF'S MASTER STORYTELLER

Gav Cross

📍 **The Imagination Station, City Park**

🔊 **Talk**

🕒 11.15, 13.15, 15.15 (30mins) | **FREE**

Stop by for an adventure or two with Gav Cross and you never know, you might just find your own inner storyteller! Join Gav, our resident master storyteller and funny man here at BLF, as he wields his storytelling powers and wows you with magical journeys, wild adventures and crazy capers!

These delightful interactive story sessions will entertain young and old with their magical, mystical and sometimes downright silly characters and escapades. Don't miss this storytelling bonanza – it'll keep you glued to your seat.

All our storytelling sessions are free but please make sure you book separate tickets for yourself and any children individually.



STORIES UNLOCKED: COSIMA UNFORTUNATE STEALS A STAR

Laura Noakes

📍 **Waterstones**

🔊 **Kids & Family**

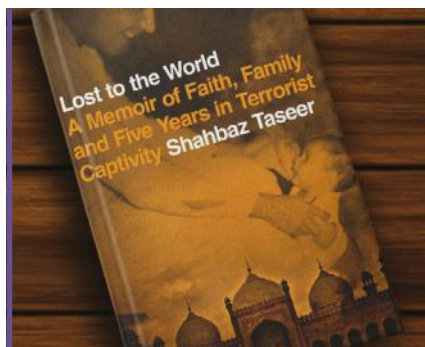
🕒 11:45 (45mins) | **FREE**

Meet author Laura Noakes, find out all about Cosima and join her on a dazzling adventure.

Cosima Unfortunate has spent all her life at the Home for Unfortunate Girls – a school where any disabled children, or children deemed different, are sent, whether their families want it or not. It is there that she meets her friends Pearl, Mary and Diya and together they start pinching biscuits and sweets.

However, when Cos finds out that an explorer, Lord Francis Fitzroy, is planning to adopt them, she and her friends plot the biggest heist of their life. They're going to steal Fitzroy's prized tiara... only events take a bit of a twist. Join Noakes who will treat you to a taste of her wonderful story and lead a storytelling session bursting with tips.

Suitable for ages 8+.



LOST TO THE WORLD

Shahbaz Taseer

The Chamber, City Hall

In Conversation

11:45 (1 hour) | £7

In August 2011, Shahbaz Taseer faced an unimaginable ordeal when he was abducted by a group of Taliban-affiliated terrorists while driving to his office in Lahore, just seven months after his father, the governor of Punjab Province, had been assassinated for challenging Pakistan's blasphemy laws.

Enduring nearly five years of captivity, Shahbaz withstood unspeakable torture and cruelty as he navigated the treacherous world of his captors.

In his riveting memoir, *Lost to the World*, Taseer shares the astonishing story of his time in captivity and his miraculous escape, reminding us of the resilience and power that lies within the human spirit.



AN INTRODUCTION TO WILLIAM BLAKE

Jason Whittaker

Dye House Dance Studio,
Bradford College

Talk

11:45 (1 hour) | £7

Are you intrigued by the wonderful world of William Blake but not sure where to start? Jason Whittaker is here to help with a beginner's guide to a true artistic visionary, and one of England's greatest ever poets.

This illustrated talk will cover all the Blake basics, explaining who Blake was, what made him famous and why he was deemed controversial. Whittaker will also be considering why Blake and his writing remain highly relevant and massively influential to poets and writers around the world today. This introduction to the world of Blake is a great way of finding out more about one of the most complex and creative poets, painters and thinkers from the Romantic Age.



FROM FIGHTING CRIME TO WRITING CRIME

R.C. Bridgestock, Pamela Claire, Graham Bartlett

📍 **The Banqueting Hall, City Hall**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 11:45 (1 hour) | £7

Discover how grisly murders are created for TV dramas like *Happy Valley* and *Sherwood* in this unforgettable event with bestselling crime writers Bob and Carol Bridgestock.

This husband and wife team, who write under the pen name of R.C. Bridgestock, spent nearly 50 years between them investigating some of the most shocking crimes in West Yorkshire before becoming novelists.

The couple, whose DI Jack Dylan series is now onto its ninth book, have worked as consultants on several police dramas, including the BBC's award-winning *Happy Valley*, with their inside knowledge giving them, and their books, an added dose of authenticity.

This event is chaired by former detective turned bestselling crime writer Graham Bartlett. They will be joined by expert forensic make-up artist Pamela Claire who will reveal the industry secrets of how bullet wounds and severed arteries are created for TV dramas – audience participation will be required, so not one for the faint-hearted!



INSPIRED BY J.B. PRIESTLEY'S ENGLISH JOURNEY

John Higgs, Dr Kathryn Walchester, Lindsay Sutton

📍 **Ernest Saville, City Hall**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 12:00 (1 hour) | £7

Our panellists discuss the legacy of J.B. Priestley and his seminal work 90 years after he travelled across the country chronicling the thoughts of ordinary people.

Priestley visited everywhere from Bradford to Norfolk, Southampton to Lancashire, and the book it inspired, *English Journey*, has become one of his most popular works.

It has inspired countless writers since, from George Orwell and W.H. Auden to Margaret Drabble and Beryl Bainbridge, and helped popularise the travelogue genre, showing that writing about the everyday lives of people could be both informative and entertaining.

Join our panellists, writer John Higgs, Dr Kathryn Walchester, and Lindsay Sutton, chair of the J.B. Priestley Society, as they discuss how Priestley's work has encouraged countless writers and poets to investigate their own personal histories and experiences.



MICHAEL PARKINSON: MEMORIES, MOMENTS AND DECLARATIONS

Sir Michael Parkinson, Mike Parkinson

📍 **Main Theatre, The Alhambra Theatre**

🔊 In Conversation

🕒 12:00 (1 hour) | **£10**

Sir Michael Parkinson shares stories and anecdotes from his 50+ year career in sports journalism in an entertaining and insightful conversation about his new memoir, *My Sporting Life*.

While his friends Dickie Bird and Geoffrey Boycott went on to find fame on the field, he made his name writing and talking about sport.

Join him as he reflects on a lifetime of meeting and interviewing some of the biggest names in the world of sport and recalls a life writing about his greatest passion.



NEW WORLD ORDER: CHINA & RUSSIA

Hassan Abdein

📍 **The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College**

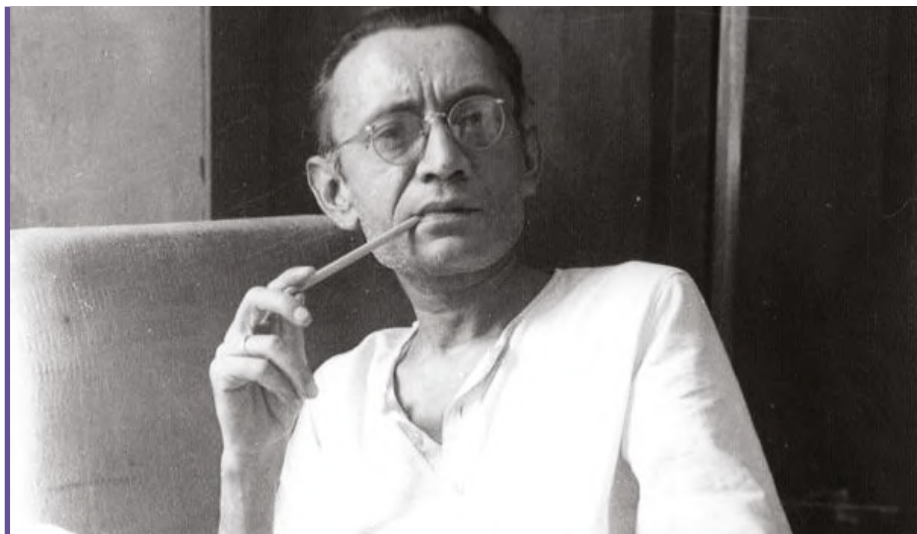
🔊 Panel

🕒 12:15 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join us for a conversation on the developing relationship between Russia and China and the challenge that poses to the traditional dominance of the West in global politics and economics.

Hassan Abdein is joined by a panel of experts to explore China's increasing involvement in brokering deals in the Middle East, Russia and China's shared and separate agendas, and the potential for a new global power structure.

Does this represent a fundamental shift away from the traditional Western-centric world order towards a completely new world order? What challenges are Russia and China facing and what are the implications for the future of global power dynamics?



REMEMBERING MANTO: THE LIFE AND WORK OF A FEARLESS WRITER

Nasreen Rehman

📍 **Dye House Gallery, Bradford College** | 🗣️ Talk

🕒 12:15 (1 hour) | £7

Join us in celebrating the literary genius of Saadat Hasan Manto, the legendary Urdu writer who deftly chronicled the human experience during tumultuous times. As we delve into his poignant stories of Partition and sexuality, we also bring to light author and activist Nasreen Rehman's new three-volume translation of Manto's works, which showcases his lesser-known masterpieces.

This event promises to be an enlightening exploration of Manto's timeless storytelling, revealing the depths of his keen observations and the empathy that infused his prose. Immerse yourself in the world of Manto and experience the power of his words. Join Rehman as she lifts the lid on an author whose work deserves to be celebrated.



FORAGING WALK AT BRADFORD'S JUDY WOODS

Lucy Cuzzocrea

📍 **Judy Wood (Station Road entrance)**

🔊 Masterclass

🕒 12:30 (2 hours) | £5

If you're a food lover and fancy eating more sustainably, then don't miss this foraging walk with Lucy Cuzzocrea who'll teach you everything you need to know to become a confident forager.

During this accessible and easy two-hour walk through Judy Woods, a stunning ancient woodland just outside Bradford, Cuzzocrea, founder of Wild Roots Foraging, will show you how to forage safely and sustainably, and how to cook what you forage. You'll learn about the folklore and history of our wild foods, including the health benefits, the need to be cautious, and how to process, store and preserve your tasty wild finds.

All attendees will receive a FREE copy of the *Wild Roots Good Guide to Foraging* ebook.

Parking available on Station Road. Meet by the information board at Station Road entrance. Please note there are no toilet facilities on site.



MEET THE AGENTS 1:1 SESSIONS

Oli Munson, Sara Langham, Jamie Cowen

📍 **Richmond D1, University of Bradford**

🕒 1:1s

🕒 12:30 (30mins) | £7

Could your manuscript be the next *Thursday Murder Club*? Does your next book idea have echoes of the works of Lee Child or Hilary Mantel? Join our panel of respected agents from across the publishing industry, who will explain what they're after in a book, the pros and cons of having an agent and how to get one.

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Participants attending Meet the Agent one-to-ones will need to submit either their first three chapters or up to 8,000 words, plus a covering letter and synopsis in advance.



WORKSHOP: POEMS AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE DIVINE AND THE PROFANE

Zeina Hashem Beck

📍 **MBA, Bright Building**

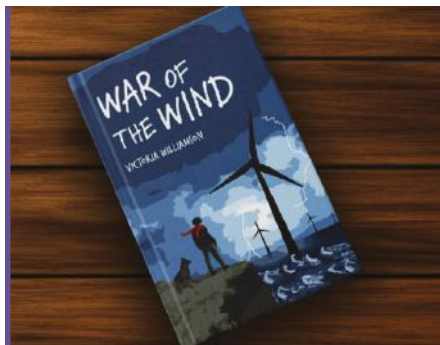
🔊 Workshop

🕒 13:00 (1 hour 30 mins) | **£7**

What are the different ways we define and experience faith? How do faith and doubt intersect? Can a poem become a prayer of sorts? Although we may never find true answers to these questions, the meditations they provoke could help inspire the seed of a poem.

In this workshop, we will read, discuss, and write poems that bridge the divine and the profane, considering how the daily is imbued with the otherworldly. These will be poems sitting at that intersection: neither holy nor blasphemous, but exploring the unresolved liminal space in between.

This workshop is being facilitated by internationally acclaimed Lebanese poet Zeina Hashem Beck, whose latest collection, *O*, was published by Penguin in 2022 and named a Best Book of the Year by Literary Hub and The New York Public Library.



STORIES UNLOCKED: WAR OF THE WIND

Victoria Williamson

📍 **Waterstones**

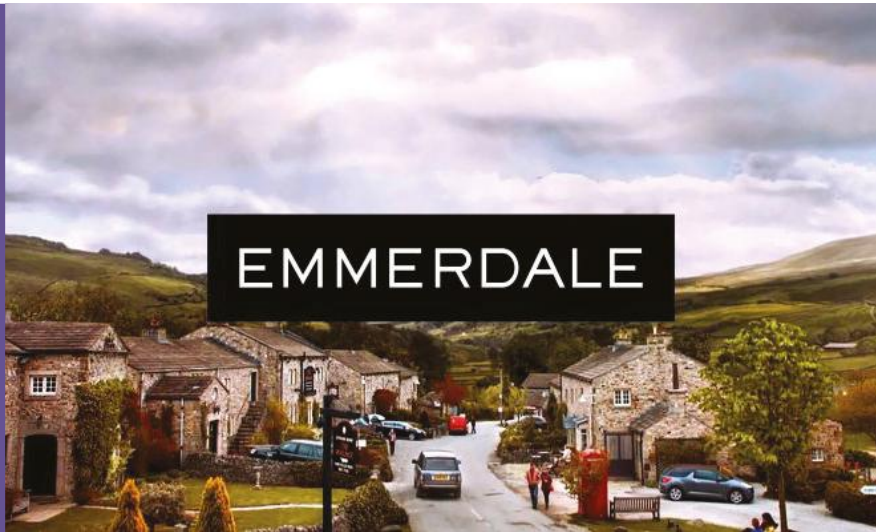
🔊 Kids & Family

🕒 13:00 (45mins) | **FREE**

Join award-winning children's writer Victoria Williamson as she talks about her latest novel, *War of the Wind*.

On a remote Scottish island, 14-year-old Max's life changes forever when he loses his hearing in a boating accident. Struggling to make sense of his new life and finding it hard to adapt in school, he begins to notice strange things happening when a new wind farm appears off the island's coast. With the help of three school friends with additional support needs, Max discovers that a sinister scientist is using wind turbines to experiment on the islanders. They must find a way to shut down this secret test before it spins out of control.

You'll also get a chance to learn the British Sign Language fingerspelling alphabet, explore how wind turbines work and learn how to crack secret codes using ciphers.



SOAP WRITING WORKSHOP WITH KIRSTY HALTON

Kirsty Halton

📍 **Innovation Suite, University of Bradford – Bright Building** | 🗣️ Workshop

🕒 13:00 (2 hours) | £7

Are you a massive fan of *Emmerdale* or *EastEnders*? Do you dream of being a scriptwriter on one of the UK's biggest TV soaps? Kirsty Halton has been a member of the *Emmerdale* writing team for over 14 years. In this workshop, she will show you the art of plot development and characterisation, giving you the opportunity to have a go yourself.

In this interactive soap writing workshop, participants will have access to real documents used for an episode of *Emmerdale* which will be screened in June. Kirsty will also offer insights on how writers interact with the wider production team, practical exercises on scriptwriting and how to structure episodes, and the different ways you can become part of a writing team. So, if you fancy yourself as a budding scriptwriter and love soaps, this is the workshop for you.



LOS CONSTRUCTORES DE LA ALHAMBRA AND Q&A

Isabel Fernández, Mariam Rosser-Owen

📍 **John Stanley Bell Theatre,
University of Bradford**

🎬 Film & Screening

🕒 13:00 (2 hours 15 mins) | £7

Set against the brooding Sierra Nevada peaks, the Alhambra is Granada's love letter to Moorish culture.

The creation of this majestic palace is captured in *Los Constructores de la Alhambra* (The Builders of the Alhambra), a dazzling feature-length documentary.

The story revolves around Yusuf I, the Sultan of Granada. After realising that his besieged kingdom is doomed to disappear he embarks on constructing a building that will rival the heavens – the Alhambra.

Directed by Isabel Fernández, this dazzling film uses historical reconstructions to chart the conception and construction of this historic building, which tell us the story of 14th century Granada and the swan song of Islamic Europe.

Join us for a screening of the film, followed by a Q&A with Fernández, chaired by Mariam Rosser-Owen, as she discusses her film and why she wanted to make it, as well as the story of this iconic building.

Spanish with English subtitles.



INSPIRED BY BLAKE

**Susheela Raman, Sam Mills, Testament,
Camila Oliveira**

📍 **Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford
College**

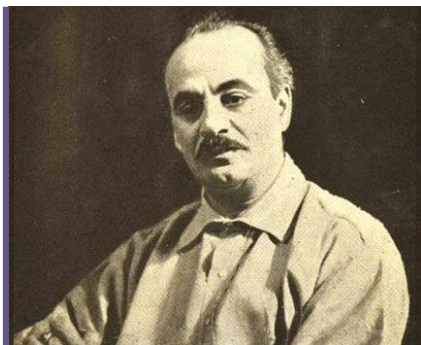
🎬 Panel

🕒 13:00 (1 hour) | £7

He may have died penniless and unheralded, but today William Blake's creative mind has inspired songwriters, poets and artists all over the world.

Three massive William Blake fans – acclaimed musician Susheela Raman and guitarist-producer Sam Mills, who have collaborated on an album inspired by Blake, and hip-hop MC and theatre writer Testament – join Blake researcher Camila Oliveira to talk about just how important this London shopkeeper's son has become.

Take a step into the minds of our Blake devotees as they discuss how he has inspired their work and reflect on his enduring influence on contemporary culture.



A CENTURY CELEBRATION OF KAHLIL GIBRAN'S THE PROPHET

Anthony Anaxagorou, John Siddique

📍 **The Banqueting Hall, City Hall**

🔊 Panel

🕒 13:15 (1 hour) | £7

It's been a century since Kahlil Gibran's *The Prophet* was first published. To celebrate this landmark anniversary, we've brought together a panel of poets to discuss its profound impact on the world of art and literature.

The Prophet is still the world's third best-selling poetry book of all time and has never been out of print. Its lines have inspired song lyrics, political speeches and have been read out at weddings and funerals all around the world – but who was Lebanon-born Gibran and what is it that still connects so deeply with readers 100 years on?

Our panel of special guests, including the award-winning poet Anthony Anaxagorou and spiritual teacher John Siddique, will explore the cultural impact of Gibran's seminal work and its influence on modern poetry.



STUART MACONIE: THE FULL ENGLISH

Stuart Maconie

📍 **The Chamber, City Hall**

🔊 Talk

🕒 13:15 (1 hour) | £7

Stuart Maconie is one of the keenest observers of English identity, so who better to take the temperature of the nation at this uncertain waymark on our national journey? In this talk, the broadcaster, writer and journalist will take you on a journey through our towns and cities and their rich array of characters, and explore some of the familiar, and not so familiar, corners of our national psyche.

His new book, *The Full English*, is a love-letter to England that deftly weaves together history, politics and culture. In doing so he follows in the footsteps of Bradfordian polymath J.B. Priestley whose *English Journey* is a warm, funny and tender forgotten classic.

Now, 90 years on, Maconie undertakes his own inventory of the English and Englishness, with Priestley's 1930s itinerary as a guide. How does the country look today, freshly unmoored from its European neighbours and still emerging blinking in the daylight of our post-Covid world?



PAINTED PEOPLE: THE HISTORY OF TATTOOS

Dr Matt Lodder

 **Norcroft Auditorium,
University of Bradford**

 Talk

 13:30 (1 hour) | £7

If you believe that the body is a canvas then you won't want to miss this glorious insight into the history of tattooing, an ancient art that has taken the modern world by storm.

Over the centuries, countless cultures have performed this ancient practice – from Siberian princesses and Chinese generals to Victorian socialites and European monarchs.

It's a fascinating story that for many years remained hidden from view under layers of clothing and history. In 1881, a writer in *The Saturday Review* called tattooing 'an art without a history'. 'No-one', it went on, 'has made it the business of his life to study the development of tattooing.' Until now. Join Dr Matt Lodder, author of *Painted People: Humanity in 21 Tattoos*, and senior lecturer in Art Theory at the University of Essex, and immerse yourself in this fascinating form.



DISPATCHES FROM THE DIASPORA: GARY YOUNGE IN CONVERSATION

Gary Younge, Saeed Khan

 **The Advanced Technology Centre
(ATC), Bradford College**

 In Conversation

 13:30 (1 hour) | £7

Hear from one of the country's leading political voices, Gary Younge, as he reflects on three decades of his remarkable career as a journalist and his frontline view to some of modern history's biggest political moments.

From accompanying Nelson Mandela on the election trail to joining revellers on the southside of Chicago during Obama's victory, entering New Orleans days after Hurricane Katrina to interviewing such luminaries as Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Maya Angelou and Stormzy.

In conversation with Saeed Khan, lecturer and consultant on Islamic and Middle East affairs for the BBC and the CBC, Gary will discuss race, racism and Black life, and his book *Dispatches from the Diaspora*.



NIBBIES SALON IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BOOKSELLER

📍 **Dye House Gallery, Bradford College**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 13:30 (1 hour) | £7

Ever wondered what goes into making a successful non-fiction book, or a bestselling novel? Well, now's your chance to find out.

In this brand new salon series, The British Book Awards (aka the Nibbies) brings together prize-winning authors in conversation with members of their publishing teams, shedding light on all that goes into the creation of your favourite titles.

We're delighted to welcome Times bestseller Bolu Babalola, whose novel *Honey & Spice* has received rave reviews and been shortlisted for Debut Fiction Book of the Year at the Nibbies 2023. Rising star Bolu will be joined by her literary agent and publisher who'll share insights into her inspiring journey from manuscript to Nibbies shortlistee.

THE BOOKSELLER
At the Heart of Publishing since 1858



DO YOU BELIEVE ME?

Dr Annabel Sowemimo

📍 **Ernest Saville, City Hall**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 13:45 (1 hour) | £7

In this electrifying meeting of minds – presented in partnership with human rights organisation English PEN – Dr Annabel Sowemimo, author of *Divided: Racism, Medicine and Why We Need to Decolonise Healthcare* and fellow panellists will discuss what it means to be believed, who holds this privilege and how we tear down institutional biases of belief.

What makes one person more believable than another? Is it the plausibility of their story, or the credibility of their performance of truth-telling? Or does it come down to whether we want to believe them in the first place?

**ENGLISH
PEN**



TRADITIONAL ORAL STORYTELLING WORKSHOP WITH RICHARD O'NEILL

Richard O'Neill

**The Norcroft Lounge,
University of Bradford**

Workshop

13:45 (1 hour 15mins) | **£7**

Learn all about the art of oral storytelling and find out how stories were passed down from generation to generation, long before anyone could read or write.

In this workshop, internationally acclaimed storyteller Richard O'Neill will guide you through the key elements of storytelling and provide tips and techniques to help you engage and captivate your audience. You will discover how to use dialogue, sensory details, and character development to bring your stories to life.

This ancient tradition was used by our ancestors to entertain each other back in the days when humans were living in caves, and the intimacy and immediacy of live storytelling remains just as powerful today. Join O'Neill and discover the joys of storytelling from a master of the craft.



TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY: MAYOR OF LONDON SADIQ KHAN

Sadiq Khan

Main Theatre, The Alhambra Theatre

In Conversation

14:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Don't miss this impassioned call to action from the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan, as he explains how everyone can play their part in tackling the climate emergency.

With more cities, including Bradford, launching Clean Air Zones (CAZs) it's an issue that affects us all. In his first book, *Breathe*, the mayor offers a seven-step guide to winning support for tough action on climate change that draws on his own experience with adult-onset asthma, brought on by the polluted London air he had been breathing for decades.

Since becoming Mayor of London in 2016, he has declared a climate emergency, introduced the world's first Ultra-Low Emission Zone, built hundreds of kilometres of new cycle lanes, and turned London into the first ever 'National Park City'.

Now, Khan shows the seven ways environmental action gets blown off course, and reveals how to get it back on track.



STORIES UNLOCKED: THE MAGIC OF ENDINGS

Tom Avery

📍 **Waterstones**

🗣️ Kids & Family

🕒 14:00 (45 mins) | **Free**

Do you believe in magic? Join children's author Tom Avery as he takes you on an adventure into the unknown with his character Jojo.

Jojo Locke's dad disappeared six years ago. And what's stranger still, none of his family can really remember him, leaving a hole inside each of them where his Dad should be. But then Aunt Pen arrives, a real faerie, with her tricks and wishes. She tests Jojo to see how deep his courage runs and sets him off on a journey to find their memories of Dad, and an adventure far beyond anything he ever imagined.

Join Avery, author of *The Magic of Endings*, for this brilliant, interactive session as he whisks you off on your very own adventure. Hold tight!

Best suited to ages 9+.



THE IMPORTANCE OF GRASSROOTS BOXING

Imran Hussain

📍 **Tasif Khan Community Boxing
Academy**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 14:00 (1 hour) | **FREE**

Join MP Imran Hussain at the upcoming event on the impact of grass roots boxing in empowering young people to create better lives. This event will provide a platform to discuss the transformative power of boxing for young people, with a focus on the grassroots level.

Participants will have the opportunity to hear from experts in the field, including coaches, trainers, and young boxers themselves, as they share their experiences and insights. Additionally, the event will also mark the launch of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) report on this topic, highlighting the positive impact of grassroots boxing and the need for continued support and investment.

Don't miss this exciting event and the chance to learn more about the incredible potential of grassroots boxing to transform young lives.



CREATING DUNE: THE INFLUENCES OF ARRAKIS

Haris A. Durrani

📍 **Dye House Dance Studio,
Bradford College**

🗣️ Talk

🕒 14:15 (1 hour) | £7

Denis Villeneuve's dazzling 2021 film adaptation of Frank Herbert's seminal novel *Dune*, perfectly captured the story's otherworldly brilliance.

Dune is widely regarded as one of the greatest sci-fi novels of all time, helping define the genre and influencing everything from *Star Wars* to *Game of Thrones*.

Set thousands of years in the future, the Duniverse, as some fans call it, revolves around epic tales of warring aristocratic houses and messianic figures, and Herbert's worldbuilding was heavily influenced by Islamic and Middle Eastern culture. Sci-fi writer and *Dune* enthusiast Haris A. Durrani will explore the importance of the Islamic world in Herbert's work and why it doesn't always get the recognition it deserves.



REDEFINING BLACK MASCULINITY

Iggy London, Athian Akec

📍 **The Banqueting Hall, City Hall**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 14:30 (1 hour) | £7

What does it mean to be a Black man in contemporary Britain? And how can existing stereotypes regarding Black masculinity be broken down?

These are just some of the questions tackled in *MANDEM* – an unmissable collection of powerful essays, edited by award-winning artist Iggy London, that probe the importance of male role models, explore the sexual pressures placed on young heterosexual men, and ask what contemporary Black queerness actually looks like.

Contributors Iggy London and Athian Akec will explore ideas of Black male thought and expression, how language is used to define or constrain male identity, and how contemporary conversations can transcend inherited ideas.



THE OTTOMANS: FROM CONQUEST TO COLLAPSE

Eugene Rogan, Caroline Finkel, Marc David Baer

The Chamber, City Hall

Panel

14:30 (1 hour 15mins) | £7

Join our panellists for a fascinating exploration of the reasons behind the rapid expansion of the Ottoman Empire, including its military conquests, political organisation and relative religious tolerance, and the challenges and weaknesses that led to its eventual decline.

Replacing the Byzantine Empire as the major power in the Eastern Mediterranean, the Ottoman Empire reached its height under Suleiman the Magnificent in the mid-16th century, when it expanded to cover the Balkans and Hungary, and as far west as the gates of Vienna.

Offering a better understanding of Ottoman history and the lessons that can be learned from the empire's rise and fall, our special guests include Eugene Rogan, author of *The Fall of the Ottomans*, Caroline Finkel, author of *Osman's Dream: The History of the Ottoman Empire*, and Marc David Baer, author of *The Ottomans: Khans, Caesars and Caliphs*.



THE WAY OF THE PROPHETS

Professor Abdullah Alkadi, Peter Sanders

St George's Hall

Panel

14:30 (2 hours) | £7

Join us for an enlightening event of discovery and excitement featuring Professor Abdullah Alkadi's latest book, *The Way of the Prophets*. Experience and learn more about the route that connects multiple civilisations through time, and marvel at the breathtaking images captured by world-renowned photographer Peter Sanders.

This remarkable book takes you on a photographic journey along the path taken by all the prophets and cultures, from southern Arabia to the grand Silk Road. Expanding on previous work in mapping the journey, it delves into groundbreaking discoveries by Professor Alkadi, including the Milestones of Arabia and the Hijrah route of the Prophet. These discoveries are currently showcased in an immersive exhibition at the Ithra Museum in Saudi Arabia.

For those seeking to deepen their understanding of the spiritual journey of the prophets and the hardships they endured, this event is not to be missed.



REMEMBERING STEPHEN LAWRENCE: 30 YEARS ON

Baroness Doreen Lawrence, Lord John Sentamu

Auditorium, Fountains Church

In Conversation

14:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

It's been 30 years since Stephen Lawrence was killed in an unprovoked and racially motivated attack while waiting at a bus stop in South London.

The failures of the ensuing police investigation into Stephen's appalling murder shocked the nation and reignited debates about policing and racial discrimination.

The subsequent Macpherson Report, published in 1999, reset the foundations for race relations in the UK. However, three decades on and in the wake of the global racial reckoning, how far have attitudes changed and how much farther is there still to go before racism is truly confined to history? Baroness Doreen Lawrence and Lord John Sentamu will reflect on Stephen's life and legacy, how far race relations have come and the challenges that lie ahead.



PHILOSOPHY AND LIFE

A. C. Grayling

The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College

Talk

14:45 (1 hour) | **£7**

How should I live my life? This is the eternal question posed by the great philosophers throughout the ages, challenging us to examine the values we hold dear and the kind of people we strive to be.

It is a question that A.C. Grayling grapples with in his compelling new book, *Philosophy and Life*. In doing so he attempts to better understand some of the great human mysteries such as love, happiness and death, and whether exploring them can make a real difference to our attitudes and choices.

Join one of the greatest contemporary thinkers of our age as he makes a welcome return to the festival to discuss what philosophy can teach us about life, and explore its value in helping us understand the universe and our place within it.



AMONG THE EUNUCHS

Leyla Jagiella

📍 **Dye House Gallery, Bradford College**

🔊 In Conversation

🕒 14:45 (1 hour) | £7

From an early age, Leyla Jagiella knew she would be defined by being Muslim and being trans. Struggling to negotiate these identities in her conservative hometown, she travelled to India and Pakistan, where her life was changed by her time among third-gender communities.

Known as hijras in India and khwajasaras in Pakistan, these marginal communities have traditionally been politically and culturally important, respected for their supernatural powers to bless or curse. But under British colonialism, the hijras were criminalised and persecuted, entrenching taboos they still battle today.

Join Jagiella, cultural anthropologist and author of *Among the Eunuchs*, as she explores the historical and mythological context of third-gender communities.



THE VAGINA DIALOGUES

Florence Schechter, Hafsa Qureshi, Amazin LeThi, Eliza Rainbow

📍 **Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford**

🔊 Panel

🕒 15:00 (1 hour) | £7

It's time to debunk outdated myths about the vagina and talk about the vulva shame-free.

In this illuminating conversation, Florence Schechter takes inspiration from her groundbreaking book *V: An Empowering Celebration of the Vulva and Vagina*.

Schechter is also the founder and director of the pioneering Vagina Museum, a pop-up museum dedicated to vaginas, vulvas, and gynaecological anatomy. She is joined for this inspirational discussion by Hafsa Qureshi, a bi Muslim woman and client account manager at Stonewall; author, commentator and LGBTQ advocate, Amazin LeThi; and disabled social media influencer Eliza Rainbow. Expect a conversation where nothing is off limits.



THE DAILY FEMINIST

Jill Abram, Sofia Rehman, Rosie Jackson, Hafsa Lodi, Remona Aly

📍 **Ernest Saville, City Hall**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 15:00 (1 hour) | £7

What's it like to live as a modern day feminist? How do the guiding principles of equality, equity, and freedom from oppression manifest in daily life? Join our panel of writers, fashionistas, and academics as they explore what feminism means to them in their professional, personal, and spiritual lives.

Our speakers include academic Sofia Rehman; poet Rosie Jackson, whose latest poetry collection explores her spiritual autobiography; Hafsa Lodi, author of *Modesty: A Fashion Paradox*; and poet Jill Abram, whose feminist principles run through her work as both a poet and speaker.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to engage in a thought-provoking discussion about the intersection of feminism and daily experience. Chaired by Remona Aly.



THIRTY YEARS OF TRAINSPOTTING WITH IRVINE WELSH

Irvine Welsh, Michael Pedersen

📍 **Pictureville, National Science & Media Museum**

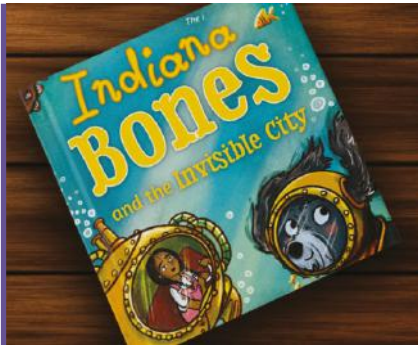
🗣️ Film & Screening

🕒 14:00 (2 hours 15 mins) | £7

Following a screening of the cult classic, *Trainspotting*, original novelist, Irvine Welsh, will be in conversation with prize-winning Scottish poet and author, Michael Pedersen, to discuss how his acclaimed novel has been translated from film to theatre show and soon-to-be musical.

It's hard to believe it's been 30 years since the novel *Trainspotting* first came out. Welsh's gritty, visceral tale of a gang of Scottish drug addicts and ne'er-do-wells exploded onto the literary scene and quickly became a publishing sensation, leading to box office gold in the shape of Danny Boyle's film adaptation.

Choose life. Choose spending some time in the company of Irvine Welsh.



STORIES UNLOCKED: INDIANA BONES AND THE INVISIBLE CITY

Harry Heape

📍 **Waterstones**

👨👩👧👦 Kids & Family

🕒 15:30 (45mins) | **FREE**

Dive into the deep and meet author Harry Heape as he brings his hugely popular stories to life. In another dogmungous detective tale, Indiana and Aisha embark on what just might be their twistiest adventure yet!

As the slithery Serpent reveals his plan to plunge the world into peril, our hairy hero and his pal Aisha are in a race against time to unravel the clues to stop him but they'll need to be brave as badgers when they get to the Invisible City. Why? Six million skeletons, that's why! It's going to be tricky because Indiana's mind is on something else, which means Aisha's going to need an ocean full of help from her friends.

Can Indiana get his mojo back and help before it's too late, or will they all end up in very deep water?

Best suited to ages 7+.



LIGHTS, CAMERA, MAKE-UP!

Pamela Clare

📍 **Innovation Suite, University of
Bradford - Bright Building**

🎓 Masterclass

🕒 15:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

If you have ever wondered how make-up artists create their flawless looks on film and TV screens or considered getting into the business yourself, then don't miss this one-hour masterclass and demonstration with Pamela Clare, AKA 'The Make-up Guru'.

Pamela has 30 years' experience as a professional make-up artist and educator. At this one-off event, she'll demonstrate not just the secrets of on-screen make-up, but also dig into the realms of some gruesome, special-effects prosthetics. You'll learn some tricks of the trade and get up close and personal with some gory props.

This isn't just an opportunity to learn about make-up artistry, but also a chance to find out more about the career of a make-up artist. From how to train in the trade to getting that first job, Clare will share all from the industry inside.



DR IRVING FINKEL'S HISTORY OF MAGIC

Dr Irving Finkel

Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College

Talk

15:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join Dr Irving Finkel, curator of the Middle Eastern department at the British Museum, in this talk to discover the origins of magic and how it still influences our understanding of the modern world.

Magic has been with us for more than a millennia and even today it holds a powerful sway over many people, from snapping wishbones to choosing lottery ticket numbers. Regardless of whether we personally 'believe' in magic or not, there's no doubt it has fascinated, frightened and entertained people for centuries and still has the ability to astound.

Who better to guide us through the history of magic and complex world of witchcraft than the global expert on the historic practices of Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia? Dr Irving Finkel lifts the lid on magic and reveals just how important its practice was to ancient civilisations like the Sumerians, Babylonians and Assyrians.



RED HOT CHILLI WRITERS LIVE PODCAST RECORDING

Abir Mukherjee, Vaseem Khan, Denise Mina, Ajay Chowdhury

The Banqueting Hall, City Hall

Podcast

15:45 (1 hour) | £7

Dive into the world of crime fiction with the Red Hot Chilli Writers for a recording of their brilliant and irreverent podcast.

In each episode authors Vaseem Khan and Abir Mukherjee take a wry look at the world of books, writing, and the creative arts, tackling everything from bestsellers to pop culture.

Funny and insightful and with a stellar list of past guests that has included the likes of Dean Koontz, Val McDermid and Ann Cleeves, expect the podcast hosts to throw in the odd dose of cross-cultural confusion. Join Khan and Mukherjee and their special guests, Denise Mina and Ajay Chowdhury, for this special on-stage live recording of their fantastic podcast, which dares to explore the parts other podcasts cannot reach.



I CAN'T BREATHE

Keith Ellison

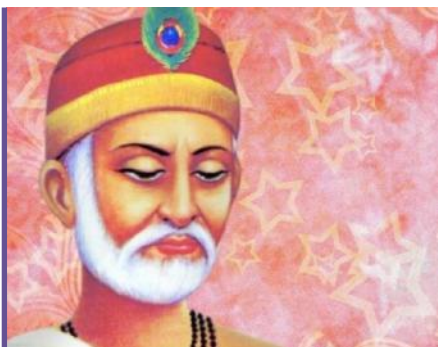
📍 **Main Theatre, The Alhambra Theatre** | 🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 16:00 (1 hour) | £7

The death of George Floyd, a black man killed by a white police officer, sparked global outrage and became a rallying cry for the Black Lives Matter movement. Join renowned US politician and lawyer Keith Ellison as he asks the question: how do we break the wheel of police violence and finally make it stop?

Minnesota Attorney General Ellison – the first Muslim to be elected to Congress, the first African-American to serve as representative from Minnesota, and the first as that state's Attorney General – will discuss his new book *Break the Wheel: Ending the Cycle of Police Violence*.

Don't miss this compelling conversation as he talks about George Floyd, the successful prosecution of the Derek Chauvin case, and how lasting change and racial justice can be achieved.



HARMONY OF HEARTS: KABIR'S PATH TO SPIRITUAL UNITY

**Francesca Orsini, Nasreen Rehman,
Kirpal Singh Panesar**

📍 **The Advanced Technology Centre
(ATC), Bradford College**

🗣️ Talk

🕒 16:00 (1 hour) | £7

Explore the remarkable life of Kabir, a 15th-century Indian mystic poet and saint, in this special event and find out why he was revered by Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs alike.

Kabir's teachings on spirituality, morality, and social justice transcended the boundaries of religion as he drew from both Hindu and Muslim traditions to promote unity and universal brotherhood. A strong, independent thinker, he was critical of religious rites and rituals that he deemed meaningless, instead emphasising the importance of our own inner spirituality.

Join Francesca Orsini, Professor of Hindi and South Asian Literature at the University of London, and author Nasreen Rehman for an exploration of Kabir's teachings and how they continue to be influential today. Kirpal Singh Panesar will perform a set of Kabir's dohas (poems).



WRITE WHAT YOU KNOW?

**David Barnett, Kerry Hudson, Kit de Waal,
Ayisha Malik**

📍 **Dye House Gallery, Bradford College**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 16:00 (1 hour) | £7

Who has the right to tell stories? Should they only be told by those who experience them, or does this silence voices that deserve to be heard? These are questions that go to the heart of the nature of storytelling and one that our panel of esteemed writers and experts, including Kit de Waal, David Barnett and Ayisha Malik, will explore.

They will dive into this hotly debated topic and whether a 'stay in your lane' perspective serves to edify marginalised writers, or pigeonhole them. We will also explore the fetishisation of diverse writers, and the voices elevated to create a more equitable and inclusive literary landscape. Join us for what promises to be a thought-provoking and engaging event.



THE BIRTH OF THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST

Afshin Shahi, Gardner Thompson

The Chamber, City Hall

Panel

16:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Discover how Western powers shaped the political and social landscape of the Middle East and the impact this has had on the Muslim world in this panel discussion.

Afshin Shahi, associate professor in Middle East Politics and International Relations at Keele University, and Gardner Thompson, author of *Legacy of Empire*, discuss the factors that led to the Ottoman Empire's collapse and how Western countries, particularly Britain and France, contributed to its downfall.

Colonial powers exploited the power vacuum left by the Ottomans, leading to the creation of artificial nation states in the Middle East, which often ignored ethnic, linguistic, and religious boundaries. Our panel will examine the legacy of Western intervention that continues to shape the modern Middle East and the impact it has on world affairs.



I'M BLACK SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE

Colin Grant, Malika Booker

Ernest Saville, City Hall

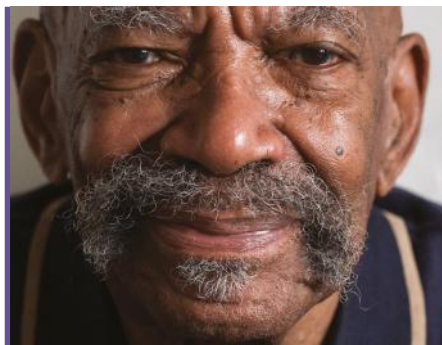
In Conversation

16:15 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join acclaimed authors Colin Grant and Malika Booker as they discuss their compelling perspectives on the complexities of identity, belonging, and cultural heritage. Central to their respective works is the transformative, challenging and rich Caribbean voice, that has both revived and redefined Britishness.

Grant will discuss his widely-praised and powerful new memoir, *I'm Black So You Don't Have to Be*, in which he examines his own experiences growing up in, and navigating, a predominantly white society. Pioneering poet and author Booker will be sharing insights into her latest works, which explore Black women's voices and reimagines Biblical characters through Caribbean voices.

Join these two literary trailblazers as they discuss what it means to be Black in today's world.



FINDING HOME

**Alford Gardner, Howard Gardner,
Nigel Guy**

📍 **John Stanley Bell Theatre, University
of Bradford**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 16:15 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

This is your chance to hear the incredible story of Alford Gardner, who travelled on the Empire Windrush from Jamaica in 1948. Now in his late 90s, Alford is one of the few passengers still alive and has written about his experiences for the first time.

Finding Home charts the uplifting highs and intolerant lows that West Indian migrants of his generation encountered when they arrived in the UK. From joining the RAF during the Second World War to being forcibly deported back to Jamaica once it was won – only to come back to the UK when the government decided it needed him again – Alford was part of this historic moment in British history.

Alford and his son Howard will appear at this special in-conversation event, chaired by Nigel Guy, to discuss the experience of the Windrush generation, the legacy they bequeathed and what it means to younger generations today.



TRENDING: TOXIC MASCULINITY

**Iman Amrani, Dr Mark McGlashan, Rachel
Louise Snyder, Osman Yousefzada**

📍 **Norcroft Auditorium, University of
Bradford**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 16:30 (1 hour) | £7

Whether it's the overt sexism of the 70s or the 'lad culture' of the 90s, the notion of men behaving badly is nothing new. But today we're seeing a rising tide of what's been labelled 'toxic masculinity.'

Panel chair Iman Amrani is joined by Dr Mark McGlashan, co-editor of *Toxic Masculinity: Men, Meaning, and Digital Media*, Rachel Louise Snyder, author of the award-winning *No Visible Bruises*, and Osman Yousefzada, author of *The Go-Between*. They will discuss how and why it's become so openly prevalent in Western society, the impact it has had on people's lives and what can be done to support victims and stop the promotion of toxic attitudes online.



FANTASY AND FUTURISM

Adrian Tchaikovsky, T.L. Huchu, Ever Dundas

📍 **Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 16:45 (1 hour) | £7

Expect some literary fireworks as we welcome a star-studded trio of science fiction and fantasy (SFF) legends to Bradford Literature Festival.

Adrian Tchaikovsky is author of the acclaimed *Shadows of the Apt* series, and *Echoes of the Fall* books, as well as several standalone novels. He's joined by T.L. Huchu, winner of the Nommo Award for African science fiction and fantasy, and dystopian sci-fi thriller writer Ever Dundas who's been dubbed the heir to the late Iain M. Banks.

Our award-winning panellists will share highlights from their latest releases and offer their thoughts on the reasons for the growing popularity of SFF.

Audience members are encouraged to take a lateral flow test beforehand and wear a mask at the request of the authors.



AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 MEET CUTES

Bolu Babalola, Kasim Ali, Tufayel Ahmed

📍 **Dye House Gallery, Bradford College**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 17:15 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for what's sure to be a fun-filled evening of laughter and romance as we celebrate love in all its forms with some of the best romantic comedy books.

We welcome the new generation of British romance writers transforming the industry and bringing heart-stopping romance to new audiences. Whether you're a hopeless romantic, a book enthusiast, or simply curious about exploring different cultures through literature, this event is definitely for you.

Our special guests include Bolu Babalola, acclaimed author of *Honey & Spice*, shortlisted for best debut at the British Book Awards 2023, Kasim Ali, author of *Good Intentions*, and Tufayel Ahmed, author of *This Way Out*. Join our panel as they chat all things 'meet-cute', their favourite romantic tropes and the new wave of romance writers inspiring a generation.



EXPERTS EXPLAIN: FORENSICS IN CRIME

Professor Angela Gallop, Carla Valentine, Graham Bartlett, Kate Bendelow

The Banqueting Hall, City Hall

Talk

17:15 (1 hour) | £7

Have you ever wondered how accurate the crime scenes are in some of your favourite detective novels and TV dramas? Find out the truth by immersing yourself in the world of forensic science, and discover how experts identify the tiny details that most people wouldn't spot.

This event brings together some of the UK's leading forensic and crime writing experts. Professor Angela Gallop, author of *How to Solve a Crime: Stories from the Cutting Edge of Forensics*, is joined by author and mortician Carla Valentine, and bestselling author and police procedural advisor Graham Bartlett. The event will be chaired by author and crime scene investigator, Kate Bendelow.

Together they will discuss how forensic knowledge can give authors and their stories an edge of authenticity, how details of forensic investigations add drama to the plot, and what it is that crime writers sometimes get wrong.



IN SEARCH OF THE RIVER JORDAN

James Fergusson

The Chamber, City Hall

In Conversation

17:15 (1 hour) | £7

Join award-winning author and journalist James Fergusson on an exciting journey as he tells the story of the River Jordan, one of the most revered, fought-over and weaponised waterways in the world.

Starting on the border between Syria and Lebanon, it flows through northern Israel to the Sea of Galilee before eventually emptying into the Dead Sea. It's a river that Fergusson knows very well, having travelled to every corner of Israel and Palestine in order to tell the story of the bitter conflict over its precious cargo. Along the way, he meets farmers, officials, soldiers, refugees, settlers, rioting youths, religious zealots and water experts, and engineers on both sides of the political divide.

Fergusson gives voice to the fears and aspirations of the region's inhabitants and highlights the key role of water in negotiating future peace as hydropolitics and water rights become the next humanitarian crisis. Join him for an unmissable journey laced with politics, history and religion.



AMISH TRIPATHI: THE IMMORTALS OF MELUHA

Amish Tripathi

📍 **The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College** | 🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 17:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join Amish Tripathi, one of the world's greatest fantasy writers and the man behind the fastest-selling series in Indian publishing history, for this special literary talk as he delves into *The War of Lanka*, the fourth book in his acclaimed *Ram Chandra* series. Hear the inspirations behind his amazing stories which follow the exploits and journeys of Ram, Sita and Raavan.

Tripathi has been likened to J.R.R. Tolkien and Paulo Coelho and burst onto the literary scene with *The Immortals of Meluha*, the first book of his *Shiva Trilogy* set in a world inspired by Hindu Gods.

Besides being a bestselling author, Tripathi is also a diplomat, TV host and film producer. His passion for history, mythology and philosophy, and finding beauty and meaning in all world religions echoes through his writing.



J.B. PRIESTLEY'S POSTSCRIPTS REVISITED

Saima Mir, Furaha Mussanzi, Bob Stanley, Dr Mark Goodall

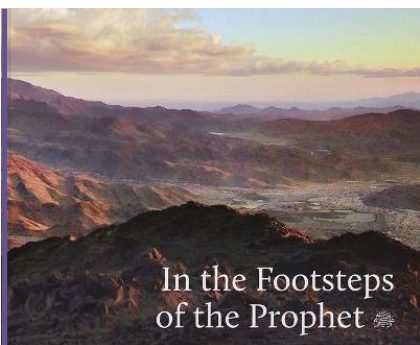
📍 **Ernest Saville, City Hall** | 🗣️ Panel

🕒 17:30 (1 hour) | £7

Celebrate Bradford-born J.B. Priestley's Postscript radio broadcasts more than 80 years after they were first aired on BBC radio in this panel discussion.

During Britain's darkest hours in the Second World War, Priestley's softly spoken Yorkshire tones helped boost the nation's morale. They reveal a lost world of make-do-and-mend, of tongue sandwiches and Bradford pie shops.

Writer and academic Dr Mark Goodall, from the University of Bradford, has worked with Bradford creatives to reinvent a new set of 'postscrips' for BBC radio inspired by Priestley's original Postscripts. Host Goodall is joined by daughter of Bradford crime writer Saima Mir, Saltaire's resident muso Bob Stanley, and Bradford-born Furaha Mussanzi, as they celebrate the links between Priestley and Bradford before telling their own personal stories about the modern world.



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE PROPHET FILM AND Q+A

Professor Abdullah Alkadi, Ovidio Salazar, Farah Abushullaih, Idries Trevathan and Kumail Almusaly

 **Pictureville, National Science & Media Museum**

 Panel

 18:00 (2 hours 15mins) | **£7**

Join us for the European premiere of a documentary film produced by The King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture (Ithra): *In the Footsteps of the Prophet*, directed by award-winning filmmaker Ovidio Salazar. Take a journey back in time to one of the most significant events in Islamic history: the migration of Prophet Muhammad from Makkah to Yathrib (later called Madinah) in C.E. 622.

Led by Professor Abdullah Alkadi, this fascinating documentary traces and maps out the milestones along the historical landmark sites between Mecca and Madinah.

The film screening will be followed by a discussion with director Ovidio Salazar, Professor Abdullah Alkadi, and from the King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture (Ithra), we will be joined by Farah Abushullaih, Idries Trevathan and Kumail Almusaly.



PASS THE MIC: OPEN MIC NIGHT

 **Mary Magdalene Church CIC**

 Concert & Performance

 18:00 (3 hours 30mins) | **Free**

Expect an electrifying evening as we bring together a collection of popular underground rappers and hip-hop talent for you to enjoy.

BLF is excited to collaborate with Mary Magdalene Church CIC, a community church based in Manningham, to present this unique, co-curated night of celebrated local, regional and national young music talent all sharing the spotlight in this live, spontaneous and thrilling event.

The doors open from 18.00 and all are welcome, so no need to book in advance. The doors will close once capacity is reached so arrive early to avoid disappointment!

Please note there may be some explicit language and this event is suitable for ages 12+.



NOVEL IDEAS

Freya North, Lucy Atkins

📍 **Dye House Gallery, Bradford College**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 18:30 (1 hour) | £7

What's it like being a successful writer? Find out from two bestselling authors about the highs and lows of being published.

Award-winning author Freya North has written 15 bestsellers translated into many languages. Her latest novel, *Little Wing*, is a powerful tale of resilience and forgiveness and follows two families over three generations, moving between the bewildering sprawl of London, suburban Essex, and the wild, unpredictable Outer Hebrides.

North is joined by award-winning author and journalist Lucy Atkins, whose latest novel *Windmill Hill* is a story of love, friendship and old secrets that refuse to be buried. Join these two authors as they discuss why they write, how they wrote their latest novels and what happens when they can't write at all.



KIT DE WAAL: WITHOUT WARNING AND ONLY SOMETIMES

Kit De Waal, Iman Amrani

📍 **Waterstones**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 19:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join bestselling author Kit De Waal in conversation with Iman Amrani as they take you on a journey through De Waal's captivating memoir.

Growing up in Birmingham in the 60s, De Waal navigated a household of extremes, where Christmas and birthdays were forbidden, and her father splurged on extravagant items.

Despite this, her love for literature blossomed, leading to her success as an author. Learn how she overcame adversity and be inspired by her story of resilience, courage, and hope in her new memoir, *Without Warning and Only Sometimes*.



FILM SCREENING: WINDRUSH: MOVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE

Dr Sharon Watson MBE, DL Christella Litras, Colin Grant, Phoenix Dance Theatre

 **John Stanley Bell Theatre**

 Film & Screening

 19:00 (1 hour 15mins) | £7

Join us for a special screening of Phoenix Dance Theatre's dazzling performance of Sharon Watson's *Windrush: Movement of the People*, as part of our Windrush 75 celebrations.

This groundbreaking production, which celebrates the rise of multicultural Britain and features an uplifting soundtrack with calypso, jazz, gospel and reggae, was the first contemporary dance work to explore the story behind the arrival of HMT Windrush Empire.

The screening will be followed by a Q&A with choreographer and former artistic director Sharon Watson MBE, DL and Christella Litras, who created the original score.



THE KITSCHIES 2023: AWARDS CEREMONY

Leila Abu el Hawa, Jared Shurin, Adam Roberts

 **Brewdog**

 Awards

 19:00 (1 hour 30mins)

Free ticketed event

The Kitschies have always been a joyous affair and we are delighted to host the awards ceremony celebrating the best speculative and fantasy fiction from 2022.

The annual, tentacle-themed Kitschies cover a broad church where the only rule is that the prizes go to 'novels containing elements of the speculative and fantastic', which means anything from satirical science fiction to genre-twisting books that almost defy description.

The categories include the Red Tentacle, for best novel, the Golden Tentacle, for best debut book, and the Inky Tentacle, for best cover art, with the winners receiving a total of £2,500 in prize money and an iconic hand-crafted Tentacle trophy. The Kitschies celebrate books that are as rich as they are varied, so expect the unexpected.

This is a ticketed event. Book now to avoid disappointment.



NORTHERN NOIR AT THE BAR

Liz Mistry, J.R. Ellis, A.A. Dhand, Helen Cox

📍 **The HideOut, Sunbridge Wells**

🎤 Workshop

🕒 19:30 (1 hour) | **£10**

Some say it's grim up north but these northern crime writers have kept us on the edge of our seats with their gritty thrillers. To find out why our region has become such a compelling creative muse to so many crime writers, we're inviting a panel of authors whose page-turning works all feature a northern noir backdrop.

Featuring a stellar lineup of A.A. Dhand, J.R. Ellis, Liz Mistry and Helen Cox, this intimate evening celebrates an array of Yorkshire writing talent at the historic Sunbridge Wells. So grab yourself a drink, settle in and join your favourite crime authors for an evening of noir readings, conversation and guaranteed black humour.

Tickets include one free drink.



LYRICAL MEHFIL

Alycia Pirmohamed, Isabelle Baafi, Zeina Hashem Beck, Safiya Kamaria Kinshasa, Anthony Joseph, Michael Pedersen, Ambareen Haseeb Ambar, hosted by Jo Bell

📍 **The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College**

🎤 Concert & Performances

🕒 19:30 (2 hours 30mins) | **£10**

Join us for our celebration of lyrical poetry at this year's edition of the ever popular Lyrical Mehfil.

Our dazzling array of poets reflects the most innovative international voices.

Acclaimed Urdu poet Ambareen Haseeb Ambar takes to the stage alongside critic and poet Isabelle Baafi. Michael Pedersen, author of upcoming *Cat Prince*, joins them for a fling of fantastic poems. Next up is poet and dancer Safiya Kamaria Kinshasa and Alycia Pirmohamed, author of *Another Way to Split Water*. We also present T.S. Eliot Prize winning Anthony Joseph and the internationally renowned Zeina Hashem Beck.

Hosted by Jo Bell.



A LIT NIGHT OUT: IRVINE WELSH

Irvine Welsh

📍 **Downstairs, Brewdog** | 🎧 Gig & Night Out

🕒 19:30 (4 hours 30mins) | £7

Trainspotting, the film adaptation of Irvine Welsh's bestselling novel of the same name, boasts one of the best soundtracks in cinema history. Techno, Britpop, rock and dance: *Trainspotting* has it all, creating one of the most memorable musical experiences in any film.

Welsh, the author behind it all, found himself with a film version of his iconic book that perfectly reflected his passion for music.

With a love for house and techno, Welsh has spread his wings and gone on to build himself a reputation as a much sought-after DJ. It's a role that has taken him all over the world, playing sets in clubs in London, Hong Kong and Miami. Expect tunes from house to techno and everything in between at this once in a lifetime gig.

**SUNDAY
25 JUNE**

**I need a
HERO!**

FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS

Find your inner superhero as we take over City Park and celebrate the best defenders, saviours and role models. We've been inspired by the real-life heroes of our city and we challenge you to find your own secret power and make the world a better place!

Literature Unlocked: Family Fun Day in City Park.

WRONGSEMBLE PRESENTS: I NEED A HERO

City Park

The planet is in serious peril at the hands of the world's most powerful supervillain! With so much devastation, danger and disaster afoot we need to find a hero, and fast (with a little help from the audience of course!) Following Bradford's very own Ms Marvellous, we'll learn that anyone can be the superhero in their own story with the right narrative behind them!

11.00 | 13.00 | 15.00 (30mins) | Free

SUPERHERO BOOTCAMP WORKSHOP

City Park Stage

Put your creative superpowers to the test during Wrongsemble's post-show workshops. Throw on your mask, adopt a secret identity and join us for a crash course in how to be a caped crusader!

11.30 | 13.30 | 15.30 (15mins) | Free

SUPERHERO WRIST CUFFS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Superhero wrist cuffs are the perfect accessory for any budding superhero looking to save the day! Join our fun, free craft sessions and learn how to design and make your own versions so you can become the hero you want to be. The sky's the limit!

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | Free

MOTIVATIONAL MAGNETS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Being a superhero or a legend is a demanding job! Remind yourself how fabulous you are by creating your own motivational magnet, or make one for the superhero in your life, maybe a family member or a friend?

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | Free

SUPERHERO BAG PUPPETS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Superheroes can be found in the strangest of places, you just have to be willing to look. Join us to turn a simple paper bag into a superhero to be reckoned with in this hands-on, fun craft session.

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | Free

Don't forget all our other amazing children's events for all the family,
details on the following pages.



Join us on this **FREE EVENT** throughout the day. No booking required, just drop in!



WRITE & SHINE

Gemma Seltzer

**Innovation Centre, University of
Bradford – Bright Building**

Workshop

09:30 (1 hour 30 mins) | £7

How can writing about our experiences help us understand the world? And can writing a diary transform our everyday lives?

In this special edition Write & Shine workshop, focusing on diary writing, you will learn the inspiration behind them and the craft involved in writing one. Gemma Seltzer, author of *Ways of Living*, will gently guide you through the process, discussing the diaries of well-known authors and the value of charting our experiences on the page.

So whether you're a writing novice, or someone who is interested in writing a diary but don't know where to start, this could be just what you need to help you get going. All you need is a notepad and pen.

Attendees are invited to arrive up to 15 minutes before the workshop starts so they can settle in.



CALLIGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Haji Noor Deen

**Bright MBA, University of Bradford –
Bright Building**

Workshop

10:00 (1 hour 45 mins) | £7

We're honoured to welcome the celebrated calligrapher Haji Noor Deen Mi Guang Jiang for a very special workshop. The acclaimed artist will demonstrate his peerless calligraphic technique, a remarkable fusion of Chinese and Arabic art. He will also offer insights on the form and function of his calligraphy.

As a Chinese Muslim, Haji Noor Deen's calligraphy is like an article of faith, akin to prayer with a paintbrush, with the sole aim of beautifying the word of God.

Join us for a rare opportunity to be taken through a step-by-step guide to learn the essential techniques of this unique calligraphy directly from the master craftsman himself.

There will also be an opportunity to view and purchase some of Haji Noor's original art pieces that have earned him worldwide acclaim.

**Note: THIS WORKSHOP WILL BE
DELIVERED IN ARABIC AND TRANSLATED**



GENTLE YOGA

📍 **The Norcroft Lounge,
University of Bradford**

🗣️ Health & Wellbeing

🕒 10:00 (1 hour) | £5

This Gentle Yoga class helps anyone of any age and ability to begin to rediscover gentle and natural movement in the body. Find the most comfortable route to improving your own mobility and strength necessary for everyday living.

We all have physical challenges often caused by stress, illness, repetitive movement or simply being a little too sedentary, which can reduce our enjoyment of life. This friendly and welcoming class will invite you to enjoy improved movement and relaxation in a gradual, rewarding and fun way. Please bring your own mat or contact us if you need to borrow one via boxoffice@bradfordlitfest.co.uk.



UNDERCLIFFE CEMETERY TOUR

Steve Lightfoot, John Jackson

📍 **Undercliffe**

🗣️ Heritage Tour

🕒 10:00 (2 hours) | £7

Take a trip in a time machine by strolling through Bradford's Undercliffe Cemetery, with its imposing granite obelisks, looming mausoleums and monumental sculptures.

Your tour guides will take you through the cemetery gates, summoning up tales of the authors, poets and painters who reside within its grounds. You will walk through the final resting place of Bradford's famous industrialists, mayors, and businessmen, all of whom have the most prominent spots in the cemetery, while those less well-off were relegated elsewhere.

Even in death, rigid social rules applied and here you will get a glimpse of Victorian Bradford's social hierarchy still at work.

This is an outdoor walking tour. Attendees are encouraged to wear comfortable footwear and weather-appropriate clothing.



STORYTELLING: HUMBLE HEROES

Kerima Mohideen

The Imagination Station, City Park

Kids & Family

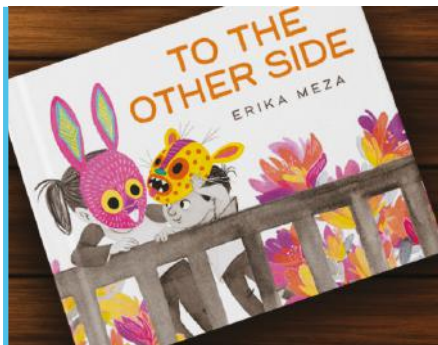
10.15, 12.15, 14.15 (30mins) | **Free**

Think you know what a superhero looks like? Come and join Kerima Mohideen and discover that not every hero needs big muscles, a cape and special powers.

Storyteller Mohideen will introduce you to folktales and true stories from South Asia and show you that heroes come in all shapes and sizes. Meet humble sailors, princesses down on their luck, brave tortoises, clever deer and many others who have to rely on their wits, the kindness of friends and maybe just a little magic in order to overcome great dangers and seemingly impossible obstacles.

Pop along and discover some of the amazing creatures and characters that exist in the world, if you just know where to look!

All our storytelling sessions are free but please make sure you book separate tickets for yourself and any children individually.



STORIES UNLOCKED: TO THE OTHER SIDE

Erika Meza

Waterstones

Kids & Family

10:30 (45mins) | **Free**

Heroes come in every shape and size and this beautiful picture book shows how courage reveals itself in lots of different ways.

A young boy and his older sister leave home to play a game. To win, she tells him, they must travel across endless lands together and make it to the finish line. Children they meet along the way imagine what might be waiting for them across the border: a spotted dog? Ice cream! Or maybe a new school. But the journey is tough, and the monsters are more real than they imagined.

Beautifully brought to life by author-illustrator Erika Meza, this is a fun, interactive story session exploring this moving book about the spirit and strength it takes to leave your home behind.

Best suited to ages 3+.



BIOLOGICAL SECURITY AFTER THE PANDEMIC

Professor Malcolm Dando

📍 **The Chamber, City Hall**

🔊 Talk

🕒 10:30 (1 hour) | £7

The Covid-19 pandemic showed how deadly an out-of-control virus can be. This talk explores what would happen if such viruses were weaponised, and what protocols are in place to prevent this happening in the future.

Biological security is all about the prevention of natural, accidental and deliberate disease in humans, animals and plants. This talk explores the global efforts to improve our understanding of the threats posed to our biosecurity, and why there needs to be greater cooperation among scientists around the world.

Join Emeritus Professor Malcolm Dando at the University of Bradford, as he explores whether existing international regulations are fit for purpose and, if not, what the consequences are for us all.



HOMELANDS: A PERSONAL HISTORY OF EUROPE

Timothy Garton Ash

📍 **The Banqueting Hall, City Hall**

🔊 In Conversation

🕒 10:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join renowned historian Timothy Garton Ash as he sheds light on a subject close to his heart and the focus of his latest book, *Homelands: A Personal History of Europe*.

Garton Ash has spent a lifetime studying Europe and this deeply personal book is full of vivid experiences, from his father's memories of D-Day and his own surveillance at the hands of the Stasi, to interviewing Albanian guerrillas in the mountains of Kosovo.

This is an opportunity to hear from one of our greatest writers on Europe as he explains why the need to protect this great continent has never been more urgent.



ON THE SHOULDERS OF RABBI STRAUSS: 150 YEARS OF BRADFORD'S JEWISH HISTORY

Nigel Grizzard

 **Bradford Reform Synagogue** |  Heritage Tour

 10:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of Rabbi Strauss's arrival in Bradford, join Jewish Heritage guide Nigel Grizzard as he pays tribute to one of the city's greatest sons.

Few, if any, people have had as big an influence on the story of Bradford and its Jewish roots as Rabbi Dr Joseph Strauss.

It was during the 19th century that Jewish settlers first came from Europe and helped boost the city's economic fortunes as it became the wool capital of the world. However, it was with the arrival of Rabbi Strauss in 1873 that Bradford's Jewish Community really started moving.

Not only was Rabbi Strauss one of the first Reform Rabbis in England, but he led Bradford's Jewish community for almost 50 years. He founded the city's Reform Synagogue, which became the home of the local Jewish community and to this day remains unchanged from its original design.



RETHINKING ISLAM & THE WEST SEMINAR: MIZAN AND THE NARRATIVE OF ISLAM

Dr Samir Mahmoud, Sheikh Hasan Spiker, Dr Yaqub Chaudhary, Yusuf Chaudhary, Ahmed Paul Keeler

 **Small Hall, University of Bradford**

 Panel

 10:30 (3 hours) | **£7**

Delve deeper into the rich history of Islam as we explore the dissonance between Islam as a religion and its portrayal in Western history in this eye-opening seminar led by the brilliant minds of Dr Samir Mahmoud, academic director of Usul Academy, Sheikh Hasan Spiker, lecturer at Zaytuna College, Dr Yaqub Chaudhary, fellow of Cambridge Muslim College, and Yusuf Chaudhary, doctoral candidate at Cambridge University's Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies.

Facilitating the seminar and Q&A session is Cambridge University Visiting Fellow Ahmed Paul Keeler, author of *Rethinking Islam and the West: A New Narrative for the Age of Crises* and proponent of the Mizan Narrative, which offers a fresh and authentic Islamic perspective on the unfolding of the Islamic World.

Join us for what promises to be a morning of enlightenment and discovery.

This event is ages 10+ as the content is not suitable for young children.



MEET THE PUBLISHER

Molly Crawford (Simon & Schuster), Niki Igbaroola (Jacaranda Books), Sarah Savitt (Virago), Habiba Desai & Sara Razzaq (Fox and Windmill)

 **Richmond D1, University of Bradford**

 1:1s

 From 11:00 | **£7**

Calling all aspiring authors! How would you like expert, one-to-one advice on getting your work published?

Would you like a top publishing editor to read your work and give you feedback? Well, here's your chance. Whether you are writing fiction, non-fiction or a children's book, you can book a 30-minute session with an editor from a renowned international publishing house.

Get world-class advice to help untangle your plot with an expert or learn how to write an attention-grabbing pitch.

Spaces are limited and booked on a first come, first served basis. If you're looking for feedback on your writing and how it could be improved, you are kindly asked to submit the first two chapters of your manuscript, or up to 8,000 words, in advance.



FUNNY LOOKING KIDS: FAMILY COMEDY SHOW

Gav Cross

📍 **Studio, Bradford Theatres**

👨‍👩‍👧 **Kids & Family**

🕒 **11:00 (1 hour) | £7**

Chaos, games, stories, sketches and, of course, jokes – lots of them! That's what's on the menu with the Funny Looking Kids crew. Join Gav and his pals for a large dollop of family-friendly fun that's chock full of energy and wacky antics that will delight the kids.

This comedy club is an alternative comedy show with plenty of laughter and a strong twist of the surreal.

The rules are simple: no swearing. No peanuts. No uniforms. But feel free to bring jokes.

This family comedy event is perfect for children aged six and over.



YORKSHIRE EMERGING WRITERS: GETTING YOUR FOOT IN THE DOOR

Karen Powell, Ross Raisin, Saara El Arifi

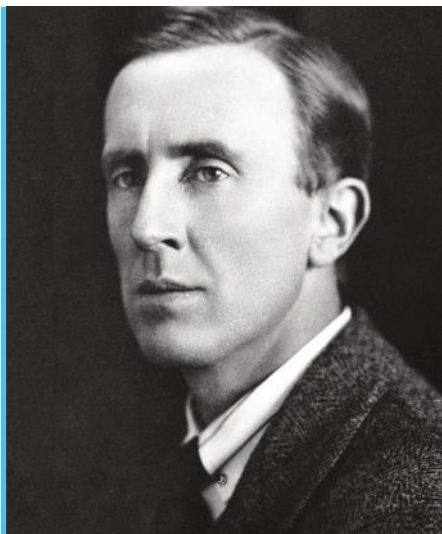
📍 **Ernest Saville, City Hall**

🗣️ **Panel**

🕒 **11:00 (1 hour) | £7**

Are you a budding novelist? Have you ever wondered how writers get their break? This informative panel discussion featuring some of the country's most gifted authors will discuss how they got their literary careers up and running.

Saara El-Arifi, author of *The Final Strife*, Karen Powell, whose new book *Fifteen Wild Decembers* is out in the autumn, and Ross Raisin, author of *A Hunger*, will share tips on how to navigate the publishing industry and some of the pitfalls to avoid.



TOLKIEN & LEWIS: FRIENDSHIP THAT REDEFINED FANTASY

John Garth, Diane Purkiss

 **Dye House Gallery, Bradford College** |  In Conversation

 11:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis changed the world of fantasy writing forever. But did you know these two literary giants were also close friends?

The two men belonged to Inklings, a literary discussion group based at Oxford University, and it was here where their friendship blossomed. Tolkien even admitted that for a long time that while he was writing his epic Lord of the Rings trilogy, the author of the Narnia novels was his only audience.

But how far did their influence on one another go? Join Tolkien biographer John Garth and Professor Diane Purkiss for what promises to be a fascinating discussion as they explore the bonds between Tolkien and Lewis, their shared interest in myths and Christian beliefs, and the impact they had on each other's work.



WORKSHOP: POEMS OF PRAISE IN A BROKEN WORLD

Zeina Hashem Beck

📍 **R01.02 – Bright Building, University of Bradford** | 🗣️ Workshop

🕒 11:00 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

How can poetry help us celebrate the daily, our ephemeral lives, and a world we know is filled with hurt? Can poetry truly reflect the human experience and take its writer, and its reader, on a journey of wondrous every-day discovery, when the time we spend on earth has such capacity for pain?

In this workshop we will read, discuss, and write poems that insist on wonder, attempting to do what Rainer Maria Rilke describes in the following lines of his *The Duino Elegies*:

“O tell us, poet, what is it you do?”

– I praise.

This workshop is being facilitated by internationally acclaimed Lebanese poet, Zeina Hashem Beck, whose latest collection, *O*, was published by Penguin in 2022 and named a Best Book of the Year by Literary Hub and The New York Public Library.



CRIME WRITING WORKSHOP WITH A.A. DHAND

A.A. Dhand

📍 **Innovation Centre, University of
Bradford – Bright Building**

🗣️ Workshop

🕒 11:30 (1 hour 30 mins) | £7

Join us for a gripping crime-writing workshop with A.A. Dhand, the award-winning author of the bestselling *Harry Virdee* series. Whether you want to create a nail-biting courtroom drama or a hard-boiled noir thriller, you won't want to miss this opportunity to learn from one of the best in the business.

During this 90-minute workshop, Dhand will share his expertise on the craft of crime writing, including how to develop a strong plot, create complex and believable characters, and craft a tense and suspenseful narrative.

The event will start with an introductory talk from our host, followed by a practical workshop. The workshop has limited capacity, so don't miss the chance to fine-tune your craft and receive guidance and advice on how to pen your next bestseller.



SUDAN AND THE MAHDIST LEGACY

**Leila Aboulela, Dr Hengameh Ziai,
Fergus Nicoll**

📍 **Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford
College**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 11:45 (1 hour) | £7

Join our panel discussion on Sudan's troubled history and the legacy of the Mahdi – a Sudanese sheikh who declared himself the prophesied redeemer of Islam in the late 19th century, seizing control of Sudan from the previous Ottoman-Egyptian government.

Sudanese author Leila Aboulela's new novel, *River Spirit*, is set against this backdrop and tells the story of a people who gained independence from foreign rule through willpower, subterfuge, and sacrifice.

Dr. Hengameh Ziai, an expert in African and Middle Eastern history, and author and broadcaster Fergus Nicoll will also join the discussion on religious empires, nationalism, and the Mahdi's controversial legacy.



THE RISE OF GLOBAL POPULISM

Marc Owen Jones, Christophe Jaffrelot, Rana Ayyub

📍 **The Banqueting Hall, City Hall**

🔊 Panel

🕒 11:45 (1 hour 15mins) | £7

Global populism has been on the rise in recent years, with the election of leaders like Donald Trump in the United States, Jair Bolsonaro in Brazil, Narendra Modi in India, among many others, including in the UK.

While claiming to represent the interests of common people, it has led to a resurgence of nationalism and protectionism, as well as increasing polarisation and fragmentation within societies.

Our panel will explore the rise of global populism, how disinformation campaigns are a key tool for populist and authoritarian leaders alike, and how by exploiting digital technologies, these actors can amplify their messages and shape public opinion in ways that were previously impossible.



THE LEGACY OF THE BRADFORD COUNCIL FOR MOSQUES

Sher Azam, Ishtiaq Ahmed

📍 **The Chamber, City Hall**

🔊 Panel

🕒 11:45 (1 hour) | £7

Today, Bradford is a thriving multicultural city and in this engaging panel discussion we assess the legacy of the pioneering Bradford Council for Mosques (CfM).

The organisation, created in 1981, was the first Muslim umbrella body of its kind in the country. It was set up as a forum to support the needs, and raise the concerns, of the Muslim community as it came of age in Britain.

It has fostered interfaith links across the district and beyond as part of its aim to create a fairer society for all. Over the last four decades, the organisation's campaigning initiatives have helped establish Bradford as a beacon of community cohesion.

Join author Ishtiaq Ahmed and Sher Azam, a founding member of CfM, as they discuss its positive legacy and the transformative effect it has had on the city.



STORIES UNLOCKED: SUPERHEROES ALWAYS FIGHT BACK ...OR DO THEY?

Kate Thompson

📍 **Waterstones**

👨👩👧👦 **Kids & Family**

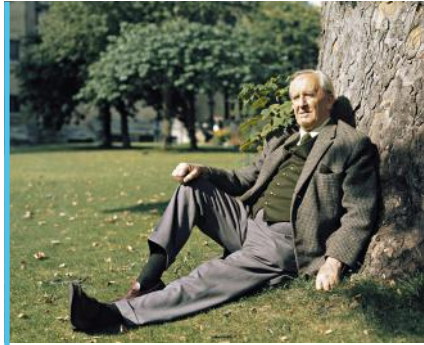
🕒 **12:00 (45mins) | FREE**

Arthur dreams of being a mega-fast superhero with the strength to fight and banish the baddie next door. But when Grandpa explains that the best superheroes actually save the day by being kind, Arthur realises that we all have a superpower inside and that an act of kindness, no matter how small, really can change the world.

In this fun, playful workshop, author Kate Thompson will help you find the superhero inside you with lots of creative songs and activities for your little one to join in with.

Using lively rhyming text and a fun cast of characters, *Superheroes Always Fight Back... Or Do They?* shows how kindness truly is the most amazing superpower of all.

Best suited to ages 3+.



WHO WAS J.R.R. TOLKIEN?

John Garth, Grace Khuri, Professor

Adam Roberts

📍 **Dye House Gallery, Bradford College**

🗣️ **Panel**

🕒 **12:15 (1 hour) | £7**

Tolkien's sprawling fantasy worlds full of hobbits, elves and orcs have delighted millions of readers – yet the man himself remains a mystery. Discover Tolkien's own story arc from our panel of experts.

Despite coming from a privileged background Tolkien faced a great deal of hardship, from being orphaned in childhood, to nearly losing the love of his life, and surviving the horrors of the battlefield during the First World War. Here we delve into how Middle Earth was shaped by Tolkien's lived experiences, and explore the inspiration for his memorable characters.

To help answer these questions, we've gathered a group of Tolkien experts and enthusiasts, including sci-fi writer and lecturer, Professor Adam Roberts, Tolkien biographer John Garth, and Grace Khuri, the first Oxford postgraduate to write a PhD solely on Tolkien. Join them as they shed fresh light on the man behind the fame.



CYBERNETICS & GHOSTS: LIVING, THINKING AND WRITING WITH TECHNOLOGY

Michael Salu, Irenosen Okojie, Sara Saab

Ernest Saville, City Hall

Panel

12:15 (1 hour) | £7

Don't miss this inspiring and thought-provoking panel discussion exploring the transformative role technology plays in our lives and literature today.

This special event, in partnership with WritersMosaic, is based on the influential online magazine's guest edition examining the digital future of writing, inspired by Italo Calvino's seminal 1967 essay, *Cybernetics and Ghosts*.

How has technology influenced the way we live? How much does it shape the way we think, read and write in our day-to-day lives? Join WritersMosaic guest editor, Michael Salu, and the guest edition's contributing writers, including critically acclaimed Nigerian-British author Irenosen Okojie, and fiction writer and poet Sara Saab, as they explore human agency in the age of algorithms and the different ways technology empowers us, but also changes our behaviour.



NORTH COUNTRY

Karen Lloyd, Helen Mort, Anita Sethi, Jason Allen-Paisant

The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College

Panel

12:15 (1 hour 15mins) | £7

From the windswept Pennine moors to the unspoiled beaches of Northumberland, the North has a landscape like no other place on Earth.

Its rushing waterfalls, ancient woodlands, limestone pavements, and miles of hedgerows and drystone walls have carved out a unique identity that has inspired some of the world's greatest artists and writers. And yet these cherished places face a multitude of threats from pollution, climate change and urban sprawl.

The fragile beauty of this landscape, and the challenges it faces, are captured in a new anthology, *North Country: An Anthology of Landscape and Nature*, which brings together writers and poets both past and present. Our panelists include Karen Lloyd who edited this book, poet Helen Mort, journalist and writer Anita Sethi, and award-winning poet and writer Jason Allen-Paisant.

Join them as they discuss what the landscape of the North means to them and why we need to reconnect with nature in order to protect it for future generations.



YOUR STORY MATTERS WORKSHOP

Nikesh Shukla

📍 **Bright MBA, University of Bradford –
Bright Building**

🗣️ Workshop

🕒 12:15 (2 hours) | £7

Whether you're writing edgy crime fiction or a gentle children's story, having good dialogue is key to creating believable characters and capturing the attention and imagination of your readers.

In this practical workshop with author, editor and writing mentor Nikesh Shukla, participants will work on the skills they'll need to create convincing, momentum-building dialogue that will bring characters vividly to life and instil them with distinct, relatable voices.

Shukla will show you how to write decent dialogue that feels spoken, real and moves the plot along whilst avoiding exposition and still feeling characterful. Taking tips from his book, *Your Story Matters*, he will help you master this crucial aspect of the creative process and give you insights into the craft of writing, character and plot. If you're a budding writer then don't miss out!



I HAVE A DREAM: 60 YEARS

Attorney General Keith Ellison, Peter Ling, Dr Patricia Turner

📍 **The Chamber, City Hall**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 13:00 (1 hour) | £7

'I have a dream.' This four word message of hope delivered on the steps of Washington DC's Lincoln Memorial by Martin Luther King Jr. is recognised around the world.

60 years on from MLK's famous speech that helped transform the civil rights campaigner into a 20th century icon, we examine his life and legacy and ask whether the dream he hoped to one day see has been distorted.

Our panel of very special guest speakers, including Attorney General Keith Ellison, author Patricia Turner and civil rights scholar Dr. Peter Ling, will reflect on the man whose radical actions and words changed the tide of racial discrimination in the US, and started a chain reaction around the world. Join them as they discuss the impact of this powerful speech, re-explore King's legacy following the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement and ask the question 'Where are we today – and is it where MLK intended?'



RACHEL LOUISE SNYDER - WOMEN WE BURIED, WOMEN WE BURNED

Rachel Louise Snyder

Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College

Talk

13:00 (1 hour) | £7

Hear Snyder as she tells her own story, which is as dramatic as many of those she has covered during her career as an award-winning journalist.

After decades spent reporting on abuse and violence around the globe and telling other people's stories, she has now focused on her own. She was just eight years old when her mother died, and her grief-stricken father thrust the family into an evangelical, cult-like existence halfway across America.

In her unflinching memoir, *Women We Buried, Women We Burned*, she charts her journey from teenage runaway to reporter on the global epidemic of violence against women. Snyder will discuss her astonishing story, the collective power of grief, faith and love, and how she transformed her life, in what promises to be an illuminating conversation.



THE ART OF CALLIGRAPHY

Haji Noor Deen

Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford

Talk

13:00 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

Experience the magic of Arabic calligraphy with world-renowned master Haji Noor Deen. This unforgettable event is perfect if you want to explore the art of calligraphy, gain a new perspective on the expression of faith, and experience the kind of magic that comes with this mastery.

As the creator of the piece *The Ninety-Nine Names of God*, permanently displayed at the British Museum, Noor Deen has dedicated his life to creating a unique calligraphy style that seamlessly blends the traditional Arabic script with Chinese calligraphic techniques, resulting in a beautiful and harmonious form of art. Witness his astonishing technique first-hand and gain an intimate look into its essential role as an expression of his faith and relationship with God.

This talk will be delivered in Arabic and translated, so everyone can fully appreciate the beauty and significance of Noor Deen's work.



BRADFORD MILLENNIUM WAY HERITAGE TOUR

Graham Kemp

📍 **Victoria Hall, Saltaire**

🔊 Heritage Tour

🕒 13:00 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

Want to find out more about Saltaire's history and visit some of West Yorkshire's most stunning beauty spots? Then this walking tour is for you.

Starting at Victoria Hall in Saltaire, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, this 2.5-mile circular walk along a stretch of Bradford's Millennium Way is led by Graham Kemp. You will venture to Roberts Park and up to the breathtaking Shipley Glen, with a short stop for refreshments at The Glen pub.

During the walk, Kemp will discuss the architecture of Saltaire and the story behind its development, as well as the natural beauty of the surrounding landscape.

He will also talk about his book, *A Companion to the Bradford Millennium Way*, which contains his own handwritten notes, sketches and maps, recounting his experiences walking this popular route.

Comfortable footwear and weather-appropriate clothing are essential.



UK PREMIERE: SEVEN WINTERS IN TEHRAN

📍 **John Stanley Bell, University of Bradford**

🔊 Films & Screenings

🕒 13:00 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

In Tehran, 2007, Reyhaneh Jabbari had a meeting with a new client, advising the businessman on the interior decoration of his clinic. But when she arrived, the meeting turned out to be in an apartment, not an office. When he attempts to rape her, she stabs him in self-defence, killing him in the process. Later that day, she is arrested for murder.

This compelling documentary covers the trial and the consequences faced by Jabbari. Director Steffi Niederzoll Frank uses secretly recorded videos provided by Jabbari's family, their memories and reactions, and the letters written by Jabbari in prison. This chilling documentary is about the fate of a woman who became an international symbol of resistance and women's rights.

Persian with English subtitles.
Age rating 15.



PHILOSOPHY IN THE AGE OF THE PYRAMIDS

Bill Manley, John J. Johnston

The Banqueting Hall, City Hall

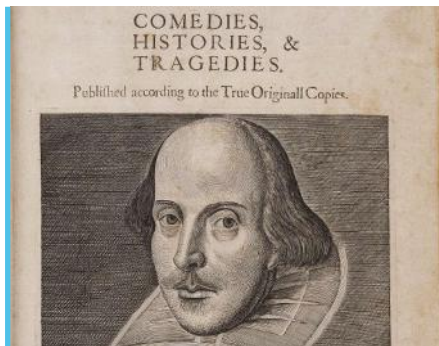
In Conversation

13:15 (1 hour) | £7

Join Egyptologists Bill Manley and John J. Johnston for an exclusive in-conversation event discussing Manley's latest book, *The Oldest Book in the World: Philosophy in the Age of the Pyramids*.

Delve into Manley's translation of the ideas and teachings of Ptahhotep, which offers timeless insights into proper conduct, justice, and the art of living a meaningful life. Explore the ideas and teachings of the oldest surviving statement of philosophy in the ancient world and examine the origins of writing and philosophy, shedding light on the enduring power of the written word.

Don't miss this thought-provoking insight into the Pyramid Age and the origins of writing and philosophy.



SHAKESPEARE'S FIRST FOLIO AT 400

Dr Kathryn Harkup, Hannah Khalil, Dr. Chris Laoutaris

Dye House Gallery, Bradford College

Panel

13:30 (1 hour) | £7

Share with us the brilliance of the Bard as we celebrate the 400th anniversary of one of the greatest books in Western literature – the First Folio.

We've brought together a panel of very special guests who will delve deeper into the astonishing and enduring legacy of Master William Shakespeare's Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies, aka the First Folio. They will discuss how and why it came to be published, as well as the incredible impact these 36 plays continue to have on contemporary culture.

Our esteemed panellists include Dr Kathryn Harkup, author of *Death by Shakespeare: Snakebites, Stabbings and Broken Hearts*; award-winning playwright Hannah Khalil, writer in residence at The Globe; and Dr Chris Laoutaris, a Shakespeare scholar and author of *Shakespeare's Book: The Intertwined Lives Behind the First Folio*. Together they will celebrate this truly iconic book.



ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE: A WORLD HISTORY

Eric Broug

📍 **Ernest Saville, City Hall**

🔊 Talk

🕒 13:30 (1 hour) | £7

Discover the wonders of Islamic architecture with artist and educator Eric Broug as he takes you on a mesmerising journey through one of the greatest Islamic art forms.

From homes and gardens to great religious buildings, Islamic architecture uses geometry and colour to wondrous effect. Dutch-born Broug has been fascinated with Islamic architecture and geometric design for more than 25 years, and his new book *Islamic Architecture: A World History* explores its impact over the centuries right up to the present day, drawing inspiration from buildings in countries as wide ranging as Cambodia, Canada, Mauritania and Myanmar.

Join him for a solo talk as he explores the extraordinary global influence of Islamic architecture.



FINDING YOUR FEET WITH THE FIRST FOLIO: SHAKESPEAREAN STORYTELLING WORKSHOP

Julia Smith

📍 **Innovation Centre, University of Bradford – Bright Building**

🔊 Workshop

🕒 13:30 (2 hours) | £7

Don't miss this amazing opportunity to delve into the creation of one of the most important books in the Western literary canon and discover what made William Shakespeare the timeless genius that he became.

In this interactive adult workshop, led by Royal Shakespeare Company member and playwright, Julia Smith, you will explore and unpick some of Shakespeare's most famous speeches, as drawn from the 18 plays that we could have lost had it not been for the First Folio.

The workshop, which is part of the celebrations marking the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's First Folio, will also focus on storytelling and rhetoric, as well as the importance of telling our own stories and finding our voice. No experience is necessary. Just bring yourself and a pen.



STORIES UNLOCKED: MY NAME IS SUNSHINE SIMPSON

G.M. Linton

Waterstones

Kids & Family

14:00 (45mins) | **Free**

We all need a bit of sunshine in our lives – Sunshine Simpson! Come and meet Sunshine's creator, G.M. Linton, and join her for this fun storytelling session where you'll learn about the joyful legacy of the Windrush Generation.

In *My Name is Sunshine Simpson*, our sunny protagonist tries to go on adventures like her grandad tells her, but bad luck keeps getting in the way. Her new friend Evie is fast becoming a FRENEMY, her home haircut is a DISASTER, and the school showcase is so STRESSFUL! Everything seems to be going wrong!

Sunshine needs to find her voice, but can she break through the clouds to stand tall, stand proud, and show the world she can shine like the hero she is? Join Linton as she invites you to celebrate your own family, heritage and community, all the things that help us shine brightly – just like Sunshine Simpson.

Best suited to ages 9+.



SETTING THE CRIME SCENE: HOW LANDSCAPES SHAPE A STORY

**Martin Griffin, Denise Mina, S.J. Parris,
Vaseem Khan**

The Chamber, City Hall

Panel

14:15 (1 hour) | **£7**

Whether it's gritty city centre streets or wild and windswept moors, landscapes have had a huge impact on crime writing. Our panel will discuss how landscape can add atmosphere to the narrative, what makes certain locations so important to a story and why they chose particular settings for their own books.

Crime fiction offers the perfect blend of people and place where the location becomes as indispensable as the characters themselves, with fans often flocking in their droves to see the settings of their favourite books for themselves.

Our panel of leading crime authors, Vaseem Khan, Denise Mina, S.J Parris and Martin Griffin will explore what it means to set the crime scene.



I AM, I AM, I AM: SYLVIA PLATH AND HER LEGACY

Heather Clark, Sarah Corbett, Degna Stone

📍 **Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College** | 🗣️ Panel

🕒 14:15 (1 hour) | £7

Sylvia Plath was one of the 20th century's most iconic writers, captivating and inspiring readers and authors alike.

60 years on from her untimely death, Plath's unflinching, confessional style of writing continues to influence writers, and her book *The Bell Jar* has inspired countless people around the world to become poetry lovers, or even poets themselves.

In this event our panel – which includes internationally-renowned Plath biographer Heather Clark; Sarah Corbett, who edited the 2022 anthology *After Sylvia*; and poet Degna Stone – will explore the legacy of a pioneering writer who was ahead of her time.



ON THE MAP: THE DRUGS ISSUE

A.A. Dhand, Stephen Snow, Mohammed Qasim, Saima Mir

The Banqueting Hall, City Hall

Panel

14:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join our panel of experts and writers as they get to grips with the drugs issue and discuss whether the time has come for a fresh approach to a problem that hasn't gone away.

Are we having the right conversations, or do they need to be tailored to specific geographical areas and communities? Saima Mir, author of acclaimed Asian gangster novel *The Khan*, hosts this panel discussion exploring whether the current methods of policing Bradford's drugs and criminal networks require a rethink, and a better understanding of who and what is involved.

Joining Mir will be fellow Bradford author A.A. Dhand, author of a series of crime novels set in Bradford, featuring police detective Harry Virdee; Steve Snow, a former detective chief inspector and advisor to Dhand on his books; and Dr Mohamed Qasim, visiting research fellow at the London School of Economics and the author of *Young, Muslim and Criminal*.



FUNNY LOOKING KIDS: FAMILY COMEDY SHOW

Gav Cross

Studio, Bradford Theatres

Kids & Family

14:30 (1 hour) | **FREE**

Chaos, games, stories, sketches and, of course, jokes – lots of them! That's what's on the menu with the Funny Looking Kids crew. Join Gav and his pals for a large dollop of family-friendly fun that's chock full of energy and wacky antics that will delight the kids.

This comedy club is an alternative comedy show with plenty of laughter and a strong twist of the surreal.

The rules are simple: no swearing. No peanuts. No uniforms. But feel free to bring jokes.

This family comedy event is perfect for children aged six and over.



DYSTOPIA NOW

Anwar Hamed, Rachelle Atalla

Dye House Gallery, Bradford College

Panel

14:45 (1 hour) | £7

Ever thought that some dystopian futures seem a little too close for comfort? Join our panel as they debate fact vs fiction. Among our panellists are Anwar Hamed, contributing author to *Palestine +100*, the first anthology of contemporary science fiction from Palestine, and Scottish-Egyptian novelist and short story writer Rachelle Atalla, author of *Thirsty Animals*.

Dystopian narratives are intended to offer cautionary tales about the hazards of unchecked power, technological advancements, and environmental degradation, but such fantasies are lived realities in many countries around the world. Our panel's respective works shine a light into their own lives and wider societal concerns; join them as they unpick the truth behind western dystopian narratives, the inspirations behind their work and the truth beneath the futuristic veneer.



LOYAL ENEMY: THE LIFE AND FICTIONAL WORKS OF MARMADUKE PICKTHALL

Peter Clark, Hassan Mahamdallie, Sarah Pickthall

Ernest Saville, City Hall

Panel

14:45 (1 hour) | £7

Join historian and writer Peter Clark, playwright Hassan Mahamdallie, and artist-producer Sarah Pickthall – Marmaduke Pickthall's great-niece – for a special launch event celebrating the republication of Marmaduke Pickthall's popular novel, *Said the Fisherman*, as they discuss the impact that Pickthall's travels and spiritual journey had on his fiction writing.

Few literary figures have quite such an intriguing story as Marmaduke Pickthall. A celebrated novelist and Muslim convert, he was responsible for arguably the biggest shift in British understanding of the Quran.

A special collection of his short stories, *A Question of Precedence and Other Middle East Stories*, has recently been published by Beacon Books, with his entire fiction collection due for release soon.



BEGINNING TO END: AN INTRODUCTION TO NARRATIVE PLOT

Ayisha Malik

📍 **Bright MBA, University of Bradford – Bright Building**

🔊 Workshop

🕒 14:45 (1 hour 45mins) | £7

Transform your scribbles into a page-turning manuscript with this workshop from one of the best in the business. Critically acclaimed author Ayisha Malik will show you how to create a compelling plot for your story. She will focus on developing your narrative arc, structure and character development.

Malik is an author and tutor for Curtis Brown Creative and Faber Academy. In this workshop, you will be guided on the key elements in creating a novel: getting your characters from A to B to C. Perfect for anyone who has characters in mind but isn't sure how to create a narrative out of them, or someone who's keen to write a novel but doesn't know where to start.

Places are limited so book your place now to avoid disappointment.



SHIMMERING LIGHT MAWLID: SHAAM

SHAAM, Shaykh Ahmed Saad, Shaykh Amir Nawaz

📍 **The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College**

🔊 Concert & Performance

🕒 15:00 (2 hours) | £7

Join us for an uplifting event of spiritual poetry as the nasheed group SHAAM takes us through *The Shimmering Light Mawlid*, a beautiful poem written by Al-Habib Umar bin Hafiz. This special event will also mark the official UK launch of the new book, *Breezes of the Elect*, a collection of classical poems featuring *The Shimmering Light Mawlid* and other timeless works. Don't miss this opportunity to experience the uplifting performance by SHAAM who will be joined by Shaykh Ahmed Saad and Shaykh Amir Nawaz. Be amongst the first to get your hands on a copy of this incredible book.



STORIES UNLOCKED: ONYEKA AND THE RISE OF REBELS

Tolá Okogwu

Waterstones

Kids & Family

15:30 (45 mins) | **FREE**

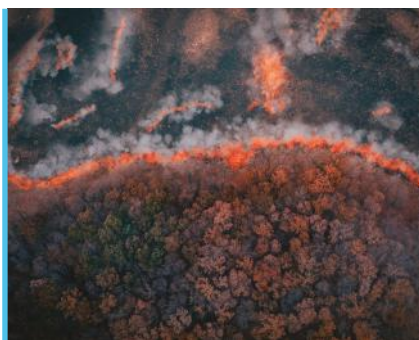
Meet author Tolá Okogwu and get to know her very special superhero Onyeka.

Onyeka is the newest addition to the Academy of the Sun, a prestigious school where children with superpowers are trained to battle for the truth. But all is not as it seems.

Having uncovered head teacher Dr Dòyinbó's hidden agenda behind the Academy of the Sun, Onyeka and her friends are on the run. But they've got bigger problems to worry about – they desperately need to find a way to restore Niyi's Ike superpower and they need to locate Onyeka's missing parents.

Okogwu will challenge everything you know about superheroes and tell you what it's really like to have superpowers in your hair.

Best suited to ages 8+.



CARBON COLONIALISM

Laurie Parsons, Professor Jo Sharp

Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College

In Conversation

15:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join Laurie Parsons in conversation with Jo Sharp, professor of geography at the University of St Andrews, for an in-depth look at how our responses to the climate crisis can be made more equitable across the globe. Parsons' new book, *Carbon Colonialism*, highlights the scale of the challenges that lie ahead.

The climate crisis is arguably the biggest challenge facing the world today. The effects are being felt now with vulnerable communities around the world bearing the brunt of it. Is globalisation making the situation worse and what does fair environmental stewardship look like? Our panel considers the possible solutions and how the world needs to adapt.



SHASHI THAROOR ON AMBEDKAR: A LIFE

Shashi Tharoor

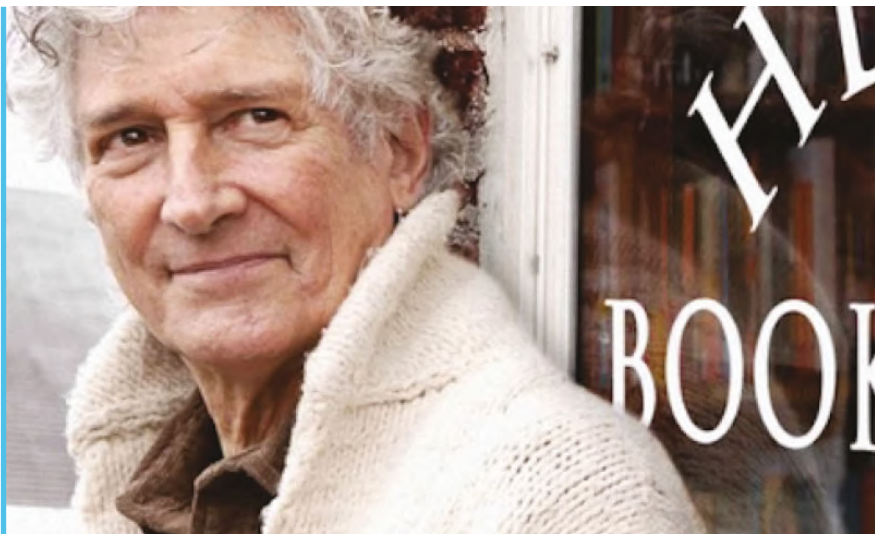
 **The Chamber, City Hall** |  In Conversation

 15:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Babasaheb Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar is viewed as one of the greatest Indians that ever lived. Chiefly responsible for outlawing untouchability, most of all he is hailed as the father of India's constitution.

In his new biography, politician and bestselling author Shashi Tharoor tells Ambedkar's story, describing the many hurdles Ambedkar overcame in a society that stigmatised the community he was born into.

Ambedkar: A Life offers fresh insights into Ambedkar's life, his disputes with other political and intellectual giants of his era, including Gandhi and Nehru, and his single-minded determination to invest India with a visionary constitution.



SPECIAL PREVIEW SCREENING: HELLO, BOOKSTORE

📍 **John Stanley Bell, University of Bradford** | 🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 15:30 (2 hours) | £7

Without books and bookstores there would be no Bradford Literature Festival. *Hello, Bookstore* is a tribute to all bookstores and their passionate staff, but most of all is the story of one bookshop in Lenox, Massachusetts. Known as The Bookstore, it's owned by Matt Tannebaum and is at the very heart of its community, until Covid-19 strikes. Tannebaum then must figure out how to keep his business alive while he isn't allowed to open. Or, after over 40 years of having its doors open, is this the end of the store?

Tannebaum is a garrulous, charming bibliophile who has created a shop where readers can make friends as well as literary discoveries. *Hello, Bookstore* is about the love of reading and the creative and entrepreneurial spirit of its owner, as well as a reminder of the endless inspiration and essential community and cultural service that bookshops provide.

Courtesy of Bulldog Film Distribution. This film is certified 12A. You may be asked to provide proof of age at this event.



THE GREEN ENERGY TRANSITION

Henry Sanderson, Amir Sharif

The Banqueting Hall, City Hall

Panel

15:45 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join our expert panel as they tackle one of the greatest challenges facing our political and business leaders: creating a thriving and sustainable economic model that also protects the planet.

The existing global economic system simply isn't geared up for that as it revolves around creating profit through upscaling production and economies of scale. So how do we change this entrenched position?

It's a question that our panel, featuring Amir Sharif, Professor of Circular Economy at the University of Bradford, and Henry Sanderson, journalist and author of *Volt Rush*, will address. They will explore the gap between the current economic system and one that doesn't damage the environment, the policy shifts needed to make it happen and how long it will take to get there. This issue goes to the very heart of creating a sustainable future for all of us.



ISLAMICATE SCIENCE FICTION

Haris A. Durrani, Hammad Rind

Dye House Gallery, Bradford College

Panel

16:00 (1 hour) | **£4**

Explore the rich and varied world of Islamicate science fiction with our expert panel of writers. This sci-fi genre incorporates Islamic culture and mythology into its storytelling, often diving into futuristic scenarios, or reimagining Islamic history and tradition.

Our panel, which includes sci-fi writer Haris A. Durrani, will talk about their own work and Islamicate sci-fi in general, as they explore the themes, worlds and wonders this exciting genre contains. They will also discuss the intersection of Islamic culture and science fiction, the impact and influence of past authors and their work and the continuing influence of Arab science-fiction around the world.

Join our panel and immerse yourself in this supercharged storytelling tradition.



VAL MCDERMID: QUEEN OF CRIME

Val McDermid, Abir Mukherjee

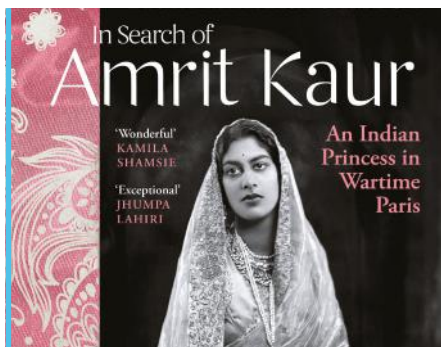
The Chamber, City Hall | Talk

16:45 (1 hour) | **£7**

Hailed as one of the most successful crime writers in the world, Val McDermid is also among the most prolific, with more than 40 novels, short story collections and non-fiction books to her name.

Since her 1987 debut, *Report for Murder*, this crime writing maestro has sold a staggering 18.5 million books around the world. Her multi-award winning series and standalone novels have been adapted for TV and radio, most notably the *Wire in the Blood* series featuring clinical psychologist Dr Tony Hill and DCI Carol Jordan, which starred Robson Green and Hermione Norris.

During a career spanning more than 35 years, the Scottish-born writer has won numerous international awards for her work, including the CWA Gold Dagger and the Stonewall Writer of the Year. Join Val as she talks with Abir Mukherjee about her extraordinary life and career.



IN SEARCH OF AMRIT KAUR: AN INDIAN PRINCESS IN WARTIME PARIS

Livia Manera Sambuy, Saeed Khan

The Banqueting Hall, City Hall

In Conversation

17:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join award-winning journalist Livia Manera Sambuy, in conversation with Saeed Khan, as she discusses her remarkable journey of uncovering the truth about the incredible Punjabi princess, Amrit Kaur.

It was during a visit to a Mumbai museum that Italian journalist Livia Manera Sambuy stumbled across a photograph of Princess Amrit Kaur that changed her life.

The accompanying caption claimed that the Punjabi princess sold her jewels in occupied Paris during World War Two to save Jewish lives, only to be arrested by the Gestapo and sent to a concentration camp where she died within a year.

Astonished by the story, Sambuy began searching for the truth, embarking on a journey into the history of the British Raj, the diamonds and sapphires of 20th century aristocrats, and uncovering a cast of extraordinary figures including bankers, explorers and spies.



THE JOY OF WINDRUSH: WINDRUSH GENERATIONS CELEBRATION

Main Theatre, The Alhambra Theatre

Concert

17:00 (2 hours) | FREE

June 2023 will mark the 75th anniversary of the arrival of HMT Empire Windrush at Tilbury Docks in Essex. To mark this significant milestone, a commemorative service of thanksgiving and celebration will be hosted by Windrush Generations who will take over the Alhambra Theatre.

Carrying some 500 skilled workers and their families from the Caribbean and Commonwealth, HMT Empire Windrush brought with them their talents, skills and culture to help rebuild the UK in the aftermath of the Second World War. The Windrush Generation, and their descendants have made significant contributions to the social, cultural and economic fabric of the United Kingdom.

This special service will provide the opportunity for churches to come together in joyous fellowship as we recognise and reflect on the vital role played by this generation in Bradford and beyond to honour their legacy.



BREAKING THE MOULD: A NEW ERA OF WORLDBUILDING

Adrian Tchaikovsky, Saara El-Arifi, Haris A. Durrani

📍 **Dye House Gallery, Bradford College**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 17:15 (1 hour) | £7

Discover how a new era of worldbuilding is dawning in science fiction and fantasy writing from two of its biggest and brightest young stars.

Adrian Tchaikovsky is the award-winning SF and fantasy writer whose new book, *City of Last Chances*, has been earning rave reviews, and Saara El-Arifi is the bestselling author of *The Final Strife*, the first part of a trilogy inspired by her Ghanaian and Arabian heritage.

These two literary talents are part of a new wave of inspiring writers who are drawing on influences from around the world, and attracting fresh audiences to the SFF genres with their broad appeal and exciting, inclusive stories.

Tchaikovsky and El-Arifi will be joined by Haris A. Durrani, author of *Technologies of the Self*, as they discuss the inspirations and influences that have helped them craft their worlds.



WHAT LIGHTS MY FEMINIST FIRE?

Leila Aboulela, Rachel Louise Snyder, Florence Schechter, Anita Sethi, Malu Halasa

📍 **Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 17:15 (1 hour 15mins) | £7

What does it mean to be a feminist right now? And how has social media, along with modern feminist movements such as the Everyday Sexism Project and #MeToo, shaped people's perceptions?

Feminism has come a long way over the past century, yet the struggle for gender equity continues today with the legacy of England's Lionesses countered by the global infringement on Trans women's rights and the US decision to overturn its Roe v Wade ruling, causing millions of women to lose the constitutional right to have an abortion.

Join us for a series of short, inspirational talks from our panel on what being a feminist means to them. They'll share their personal motivations and introductions to feminism, and discuss how technology has enabled ordinary people from all over the world to unite in the battle for political, economic, personal and social equality for women.



ALT-WALLAHS: THE MUSLIM MANOSPHERE

Dr Hizer Mir, Hussein Kesvani

📍 **Ernest Saville, City Hall**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 17:30 (1 hour) | £4

Join us for this engaging and thought-provoking discussion exploring the relationship between Islam, masculinity and politics.

This event will delve into a new category of thought called 'Alt-Wallah' within the Islamicate, at the intersection of a supposed crisis of masculinity, the Alt Right, and Muslim men.

Our panel includes Dr Hizer Mir, co-authors of the essay *A "Crisis of Masculinity"? The West's Cultural Wars in the Emerging Muslim Manosphere*, and journalist and writer Hussein Kesvani, author of *Follow Me Akhi: The Online World of British Muslims*. Together they'll explore this topic and the broader debates around gender, religion and identity in the Muslim community.



PETER SANDERS IN CONVERSATION

Peter Sanders

📍 **Pictureville, National Science & Media Museum**

🗣️ Talk

🕒 17:30 (1 hour 15mins) | £7

Join us to hear from Peter Sanders, one of the most celebrated photographers of the Muslim world. Sanders' captivating retrospective will take you on an incredible journey spanning over 55 years, starting with his early days photographing rock 'n' roll legends like Jimi Hendrix and Bob Dylan, to his spiritual awakening and his focus on capturing the beauty of the Muslim world.

As one of the first Westerners to photograph the Holy Pilgrimage of Hajj, Sanders has an unparalleled perspective on the cultural and religious significance of this event. He has traveled extensively throughout the Middle East and North Africa, capturing stunning portraits and breathtaking landscapes, amassing a collection of over half a million images.

In addition to his retrospective, Sanders will share, for the first time, photographs of lost and forgotten Islamic heritage sights, including Syeda Khadijah's house, Syeda Aminah's grave, and photography from Jabal al-Nur. Through his lens, Sanders has captured the rich history and culture of the Muslim World, including its hidden treasures that are often overlooked or forgotten.

Don't miss this rare opportunity to see these captivating images.



SEBASTIAN FAULKS IN CONVERSATION

Sebastian Faulks

📍 **Nave, Cathedral**

🔊 In Conversation

🕒 18:00 (1 hour) | £7

Sebastian Faulks is one of our greatest writers and author of a string of bestselling books including *Birdsong* and *Charlotte Gray*.

In a literary career spanning more than 35 years, the multi-award-winning novelist has carved out a reputation as a master of historical fiction. His latest novel, *Snow Country*, is an epic story of love and loss that sweeps across Europe as it recovers from one war and hides its face from the advent of another. Hailed as another masterpiece from Faulks, it's a story full of exquisite yearnings, dreams of youth and the sanctity of hope.

Join this giant of literary fiction as he discusses his work, why he is drawn to wartime stories and why fiction set during the two world wars continues to resonate with audiences today.



IN CONVERSATION: LINTON KWESI JOHNSON

Linton Kwesi Johnson, Dr Emily Zobel Marshall

📍 **The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College**

🔊 In Conversation

🕒 18:00 (1 hour) | £7

We are delighted to welcome literary titan, Linton Kwesi Johnson in conversation about his latest book, *Time Come*, published as part of his 70th birthday celebrations.

One of the greatest writers and poets of our time, as well as a hugely respected activist, Johnson is a genuine cultural icon. As prolific as he is profound, Johnson's career began in the 1970s when he first emerged as a revolutionary reggae poet.

Time Come is his latest book and first prose selection, which brings together some of his most powerful nonfiction work, including book and music reviews, lectures, and speeches. Spanning five decades, this collection draws on his Jamaican roots and on Caribbean history to explore the politics of race that still informs the modern Black British experience.

Chaired by Dr Emily Zobel Marshall.



SHEHAN KARUNATILAKA IN CONVERSATION

Shehan Karunatilaka

Waterstones

In Conversation

19:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

A “rollercoaster journey through life and death”. That’s how judges described Shehan Karunatilaka’s *The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida*, winner of the 2022 Booker Prize.

Karunatilaka’s work shines a light on his Sri Lankan homeland for the rest of the world to see and this, his second novel, comes more than a decade after his literary debut. It’s a supernatural satire set amid a murderous civil war and tells the story of Maali Almeida, war photographer, gambler and closet gay man, who wakes up dead. With no idea who killed him, Maali has seven moons to contact the people he loves most and lead them to a hidden cache of photos of civil war atrocities that will rock Sri Lanka.

Don’t miss this opportunity to listen to the world-renowned author as he discusses his literary journey and shares some of the inspirations behind his work



TWENTY YEARS ON: JUDI JACKSON CELEBRATES NINA SIMONE

Judi Jackson

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

Concert & Performance

19:30 (2 hours 30mins) | **£10**

Experience the magic of Nina Simone as the amazing multi-instrumentalist and singer Judi Jackson brings her music to life in this joyful celebration of a jazz legend.

Simone’s remarkable voice and virtuosic piano playing created a legacy of liberation, empowerment, passion and love that continues to delight and inspire musicians and music fans alike, 20 years after her death. From her 1959 breakthrough *I Loves You Porgy*, to 1960s civil rights ballads like *Sinnerman*, and the classic *My Baby Just Cares for Me*, Simone’s incredible songs span classical, folk, gospel, blues, jazz, R&B, and pop.

Join Jackson and her brilliant band for what promises to be an unforgettable performance as they take us on a journey through Simone’s most iconic and inspirational melodies, paying homage to her lyrical mastery and the legacy she has left behind.



A JOURNEY THROUGH BOLLYWOOD

Navin Kundra, 515 Crew

📍 **St George's Hall** | 🎵 Concert & Performance

🕒 19:30 (3 hours) | £20

Take a musical trip down memory lane with Navin Kundra and The 515 Crew in this live concert celebrating the golden era of the world's biggest film industry.

Music from Bollywood films has provided the soundtrack to people's lives for generations, and this concert will feature evergreen masterpieces immortalised in the masterful voices of playback singers like Kishore Kumar and Mohammed Rafi, as well as contemporary classics.

Songs are at the heart of Bollywood films and crucial to their popularity. The top poets of the day often write the lyrics which can become part of the everyday language.

Kundra's mesmerising voice will transport the audience through the heady days of the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s, through to the present day. Join him for what promises to be an unforgettable Bollywood odyssey!



LUNCH BITE: A HISTORY OF MODERN POP

Bob Stanley and Tessa Norton

📍 **The Festival Hub, City Park** | 🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 12:00 (45mins) | **£5**

Join Bob Stanley and Tessa Norton, who co-wrote *Excavate!: The Wonderful and Frightening World of The Fall*, in conversation as they explore the story of pop music from the early days of recorded music to the present day.

Pop music didn't begin with Elvis in 1956 or even with the first seven-inch singles in 1949. So, who were the earliest record stars and why did swing pretty much disappear after the Second World War?

Stanley's book, *Let's Do It: The Birth of Pop*, tells the definitive story of the birth of pop, from the invention of the 78rpm record at the end of the 19th century to pop's modern age, from the famous names to the unheralded songwriters and arrangers behind some of our most enduring songs.



BRADFORD MECHANICS INSTITUTE: UNDER YOUR FEET

Tricia Restorick

📍 **The Festival Hub, City Park**

🔊 Talk

🕒 14:00 (1 hour) | £5

The original (and glorious) Mechanics Institute building was located opposite the City Hall, precisely where the Festival Hub will be located. So it's fitting this talk should be all about the original Victorian building.

The Institute itself was established in 1832 and 39 years later the new Mechanics Institute building was opened on Bridge Street. It boasted shops, a newsroom, library, teaching rooms, a 1,500-seat lecture theatre – where Bradford Festival Choral Society rehearsed for decades – and an upper-floor restaurant. It became a Bradford landmark for 100 years before being demolished in the 1970s, amid much protest, with the Mechanics Institute moving to Kirkgate which is still its home today.

In this illustrated talk hosted by Institute president Tricia Restorick you will learn all about the building and its fascinating history.



EVENING CONVERSATIONS: ONE WOMAN SHOW

Sudha Bhuchar

📍 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre**

🔊 Concert & Performance

🕒 19:30 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

This brilliant one-woman show cuts across the generations. Acclaimed actor and writer Sudha Bhuchar invites you into a warm-hearted world of storytelling.

As a middle-class, multicultural mother of millennial sons, Bhuchar lives a 'squeezed middle' life in Wimbledon. But as she navigates her career, family and returning to India, she's prompted to investigate her own sense of home and place in the world.

Her cross-continental childhood is certainly a far cry from that of her fiercely British, mono-lingual sons with their comfortable upbringing in leafy suburbia.

Bhuchar invites her boys to 'crack open a cold one' and share their views on life. But how do they view her dual heritage and what does it mean for them? This joyful monologue invites you to carry on the conversation long after you've left the theatre.



LUNCH BITE: THE HAPPY VALLEY WITH A JEWISH TWIST

Nigel Grizzard

 **The Festival Hub, City Park** |  Talk

 12:00 (45mins) | **£5**

Sally Wainwright's brilliant BBC TV drama *Happy Valley* kept a nation on tenterhooks – but what do you know about the Jews of *Happy Valley*? Find out who were they and why were they important in this talk from historian and tour guide Nigel Grizzard.

The Calder Valley is home to a small, yet significant Jewish community that has made its mark in this historic corner of West Yorkshire. Grizzard tells a story that starts with *The Life of Sarah in the Book of Genesis*, takes in the great rabbi and sage known as 'the Choftez Chaim', and includes survivors of the Holocaust, pioneering doctors and many more remarkable people. This is a West Yorkshire story you'll be glad you discovered.



UKRAINE & UKRAINIANS IN BRADFORD

Tim Smith

The Festival Hub, City Park

Talk

14:00 (1 hour) | **£5**

Join photographer Tim Smith for this engaging illustrated talk celebrating the 75th anniversary of Ukrainians first settling in Bradford.

The city has a rich history of welcoming people into the community and this poignant event, marking Refugee Week, tells the story of the local Ukrainian community, from the post-war refugees to those recent arrivals fleeing the war in their homeland.

Smith has been photographing the Ukrainian community in Bradford since the 1980s, initially working with those who were displaced by the Second World War, their children and grandchildren. Join him for what promises to be a fascinating talk as he recounts the stories of some of those living in exile in Bradford's 'Little Ukraine', and shows a selection of his photographs taken during past trips to Ukraine.



WOOD OWL AND THE BOX OF WONDERS

Hoglets Theatre

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

Kids & Family

16:30 (45mins) | **£7**

Come and join us for this beautiful new play for pre and primary-aged children.

A lonely little owl wants nothing more than to fly into the night and join his friends. But how can he, when he is made from wood?

The arrival of another lonely soul changes his life as he strives to help.

Join Hoglets Theatre on a magical journey of singing owls, fantasy worlds, friendship and love.

Featuring beautiful handmade puppets, original songs and music and an age-old message that the love we show to others comes back to us in time.

You will need separate tickets for yourself and any children you are bringing, so please make sure you book for yourself and any children individually.



BRADFORD MECHANICS INSTITUTE: THROUGH THESE DOORS

📍 **Bradford Mechanics Institute**

🗣️ Talk

🕒 18:30 (1 hour) | £7

This illustrated talk will take you through some of the key figures who left their mark on Bradford and beyond. For nearly 200 years the Bradford Mechanics Institute has been at the heart of city life but who were the movers and shakers associated with the Institute that helped put Bradford on the map?

People like Alderman Dr Thomas Beaumont, a founding committee member who introduced street lighting, improved sanitary conditions and established England's first Temperance Society in Bradford, and the industrialist, philanthropist and cabinet minister, Sir W.E. Forster, a former president of the Institute, were two such visionaries.

Over the years, this venue has attracted a cross section of Bradfordians, from clerks and engineers to wool barons and politicians. Find out who else helped shaped Bradford's story and left behind a legacy that's still being talked about today.



THREE WORLDS: AVI SHLAIM AND MARC DAVID BAER IN CONVERSATION

Avi Shlaim, Marc David Baer

📍 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 19:00 (1 hour) | £7

In 1950, Avi Shlaim was just five years old when antisemitic violence following the 1948 Arab-Israeli War forced his family to flee their beloved Iraq to live in a newly-created Israel.

In his new book, *Three Worlds: Memoirs of an Arab-Jew*, Avi Shlaim describes how his mother had many Muslim friends in Baghdad, but no Zionist ones, and recalls how the Iraqi Jewish community, once celebrated for its ancient heritage and rich culture, was sprayed with DDT upon its arrival in Israel.

Join acclaimed Israeli-British historian Avi Shlaim in conversation with fellow historian and author Marc David Baer about the disappearing heritage of Arab-Jews caught in the crossfire of secular ideologies.



FAMILY FINDINGS: WHO AM I?

Professor Mark Thomas, Angela Findlay

📍 **Waterstones**

🔊 Panel

🕒 19:00 (1 hour) | £7

Have you dipped into your family's past? Family trees used to be the exclusive domain of kings and queens, but thanks to the internet and the development of new scientific techniques everyone now seems to be exploring their past.

Ancestry has become big business with DNA home-testing kits now readily available, but how accurate is the science behind them and what if different tests yield different results?

Sometimes when we explore the past we find unpalatable truths, something Angela Findlay writes about in her moving and honest memoir, *In My Grandfather's Shadow*, in which she confronts the reality of being the granddaughter of a Nazi general. Findlay and her fellow panellists, Simon Keegan, author of *DNA of the Celts*, and Mark Thomas, Professor of Evolutionary Genetics at University College London, will discuss the accuracy of DNA tests and how they can be improved, as well as the impact that uncomfortable discoveries about your family history can have on your life.



A GOOD DEATH

Professor Andrew Doig, Sarah Tarlow, Colin Philpott

📍 **Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College**

🔊 Panel

🕒 19:00 (1 hour) | £7

Is there such a thing as a good death and, if so, what does it look like? Join our panellists as they explore the delicate subject of mortality and what it means to have 'a good death.'

Andrew Doig, Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Manchester and author of *This Mortal Coil*, and Sarah Tarlow, Professor of Historical Archaeology at the University of Leicester and author of *The Archaeology of Loss*, will discuss whether or not the definition of a good death has changed through history. They will be joined by Colin Philpott, author of *Deathday*, a novel set in 2045 where euthanasia at 90 is compulsory. Together, they will consider what a good death and, indeed, a bad one might look like not just in the past, but also in the future.

Join them for this special event addressing a question that all too often gets swept under the carpet.



LUNCH BITE: CENTURIES OF CRICKET IN BRADFORD

Colin Philpott

The Festival Hub, City Park

Talk

12:00 (45mins) | **£7**

Calling all cricket buffs. Join Trustee of Yorkshire Cricket Foundation and cricket enthusiast, Colin Philpott, for an illuminating talk about the history of the sport in Bradford.

Headingley might be the home of cricket in Yorkshire today, but the sport has been played in Bradford for more than 175 years, and in 1902 the city's Park Avenue Cricket Ground played host to a match against between England and old rivals Australia.

Many of the greatest names in cricketing history including Don Bradman and Geoff Boycott have played at Park Avenue. The ground fell into disrepair in the 1990s but is now being redeveloped and may one day host first-class cricket again.

Join Colin Philpott as he pitches a perfect delivery and shows why cricket remains such a popular sport in the city today.



150 YEARS OF BRADFORD CITY HALL

Simon Ross Valentine

The Festival Hub, City Park

Talk

14:00 (1 hour) | **£5**

For the past 150 years, Bradford City Hall has proudly stood in the heart of the city centre. But did you know it's home to Victorian police cells, or that Winston Churchill once gave a rousing wartime speech to a huge crowd outside?

Built in a grand, Gothic style and opened in 1873, this Grade I listed building is the crowning achievement of the prolific local architects Lockwood & Mawson and a symbol of Bradford's wealth. Originally called the Town Hall (its name was officially changed in 1965), it was hailed as a "magnificent architectural triumph" and showed the rest of the world how important Bradford was at a time when it became 'Worstedopolis', the textile capital of the world.

The story of this famous landmark is told in a new book, *Bradford City Hall: 150 years of Civic Pride*, by writer and lecturer Dr Simon Ross Valentine. Join him for this special talk, part of our new series of events exploring the city's heritage, celebrating its 150th anniversary.



BRADFORD IN BLUE PLAQUES

Simon Cunningham

📍 **Western Entrance, City Hall**

🗣️ **Heritage Tour**

🕒 **16:00 (1 hour 30mins) | £7**

What have Charles Dickens, Winston Churchill and Harry Houdini got in common? The answer is they've all been hosted by St George's Hall, one of the city centre buildings that boasts a blue plaque.

Bradford District is home to 40 blue plaques, each celebrating a notable person, building or landmark – and, during this 90-minute walking tour, you'll learn the history and stories behind some of its most famous signs hiding in plain sight.

Led by Bradford Civic Society Chair Simon Cunningham, this is a great opportunity to visit Bradford's oldest street, before exploring areas commemorating the work of its iconic residents, such as nursery care pioneer Florence Moser.



STORIES OF LIFE, LOVE AND LOSS

Sarah Tarlow, Clover Stroud

📍 **Waterstones**

🗣️ **Panel**

🕒 **19:00 (1 hour) | £7**

It has been said that grief is the price we pay for love – but how do we cope with loss and can the pain be soothed?

As an academic and archaeologist, Sarah Tarlow knows all about death, having devoted her working life to the study of burial practices and the rituals of grief. Yet nothing could have prepared her for the reality of illness, care-giving and losing someone you love.

She explores all this in her bold and intimate memoir *The Archaeology of Loss*, and will be joined in conversation by writer and journalist Clover Stroud, author *The Red of My Blood*, which charts her fearless passage through the first year after her sister's sudden death.

Together they will discuss the idea of living with grief in modern society and why writing and talking about grief, no matter how painful, is important and can help soften a process that we all go through in our lives.



WHERE IS LOVE: A ONE WOMAN SHOW

Jennifer Johnson

📍 Brontë Lecture Theatre, Bradford College | 🎤 Concert & Performance

🕒 19:00 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

Don't miss this premiere performance of *Where is Love*, a powerful story about sisterhood, family secrets and broken hearts that still manages to leave you laughing.

Written by Jennifer Johnson and based on a true story, this Bloomin' Buds Theatre Company production tells the chilling coming-of-age experience of a Bradford lass called Shelly born in 1959, and her brave fight against the cycles of domestic abuse.

Following the performance will be a Q&A with the cast and production team about the making of the show and the themes it explores.

Don't pass up the chance to see this gritty tale before it heads to the Edinburgh Fringe.

Suitable for ages 14+.



LUNCH BITE: SONNETS AND SARNIES

Ralph Dartford, Stefan Mohamed, Sanah Ahsan, Kate Fox

📍 **The Festival Hub, City Park**

🎧 Workshop

🕒 12:00 (1 hour) | £5

Pop along for a literary lunch break filled with powerful poetry. Our line-up features a tasty array of writers, who come to offer you dynamic readings and explorations of some of the biggest issues in the world today.

Join our host, stand-up poet and broadcaster Kate Fox, poet and editor Ralph Dartford, spoken word artist and writer Stefan Mohamed, and poet, presenter and educator Sanah Ahsan, for some clever wordplay that is sure to fill you with inspiration and creative energy for the rest of the day.



FEED YOUR MIND: DEAR BRADFORD & LOOK AT US

📍 **Impressions Gallery**

🎬 Film & Screening

🕒 12:30 (1 hour) | **FREE**

Join us for a special screening of two short films that explore the impact migration has on people's lives.

Dear Bradford (21mins) is a visual poem and a love letter to our city that tells an intergenerational story of migration – one that will be familiar to families across the UK.

Look at Us (4mins) is a homage to past generations and the Pakistani diaspora.

The screenings, part of Impressions Gallery's *Feed Your Mind* series, will be followed by a Q&A session with *Dear Bradford* scriptwriter and narrator, Farhaan Mumtaz, as well as *Look at Us* director, Hussina Raja, and scriptwriter, Farrah Chaudhry.

This event ties in with the photographic exhibition *Zaibunnisa* by Maryam Wahid, which tells the story of Wahid and her mother's journey to Lahore. The gallery exhibition runs until 1 July.



THE PEOPLE'S PALACE: THE STORY OF BRADFORD'S NEW VIC

Mark Nicholson

📍 **The Festival Hub, City Park**

🔊 **Talk**

🕒 **14:00 (1 hour) | £7**

The Beatles played here, as did The Rolling Stones, and now you can discover the incredible story of the former Bradford Odeon in this revealing talk about one of the city's most beloved buildings.

Join Mark Nicholson, author of *The People's Palace: The Story of Bradford's New Vic*, as he tells the story of the Bradford Odeon. It's a fascinating tale full of big names, highs and lows, and how this famous city landmark was saved from demolition.

The book charts its history from its construction on a former brewery site in 1929 to its life as a popular cinema and much-lamented closure in 2000. Nicholson interviewed former staff, including projectionists, a ballroom disc jockey and a theatre organist, to help bring the story of the building to life. It's a story with a happy ending as next year this iconic building will reopen as Bradford Live, an exciting new, 3,800-capacity venue.



IN MEMORIAM: JOAN LINGARD

Kersten England, Mariam Ansar, Jonathan Douglas CBE

📍 **City Library, City Park**

🔊 **Panel**

🕒 **18:00 (1 hour) | £7**

This tribute to Joan Lingard, the late and much-missed author, is a celebration of her work, which used fiction to show young people that friendship and empathy could triumph over prejudice.

These ideas are discussed by Lingard's daughter, Kersten England, and author Mariam Ansar, as they explore how attitudes to politics, identity and communities in conflict have changed over time in young adult books.

From Lingard's *Kevin and Sadie* series of popular novels set in Northern Ireland during the Troubles to Ansar's *Good for Nothing* exploring contemporary Bradford, they will consider why the representation of young people facing conflict issues and identity problems is just as crucial for young readers today as it was in the past. Join them and panel chair, Jonathan Douglas, CEO of the National Literacy Trust, as they celebrate Joan's legacy alongside emerging new voices in young adult fiction.



UNDERCLIFFE CEMETERY TWILIGHT TOUR

Steve Lightfoot

📍 **Undercliffe Cemetery**

🔊 Heritage Tour

🕒 18:00 (2 hours) | £7

Take a trip in a time machine by strolling through Bradford's Undercliffe Cemetery, with its imposing granite obelisks, looming mausoleums and monumental sculptures.

Your tour guides will take you through the cemetery gates at dusk, summoning up tales of the authors, poets and painters who reside within its grounds. They will walk you through the final resting place of Bradford's famous industrialists, mayors, and businessmen, all of whom have the most prominent spots in the cemetery, while those less well off were relegated elsewhere.

Even in death, rigid social rules applied and here you will get a glimpse of Victorian Bradford's social hierarchy still at work.

This is an outdoor walking tour. Attendees are encouraged to wear comfortable footwear and weather-appropriate clothing.



LET'S TALK ABOUT THE MENOPAUSE

Dr Pragya Agarwal, Sharon Blackie, Alice Smellie

📍 **Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College**

🔊 Panel

🕒 18:00 (1 hour) | £7

Why are we still whispering the word 'menopause'? It's a taboo that should have been smashed decades ago, yet it's only now that we're finally starting to have meaningful, public conversations about the M word.

Our panel will have an open and honest conversation about the menopause and how it affects women's lives everywhere. They'll discuss this second half of life as a new beginning and dispel Western society's current understanding of it as some kind of declining, final chapter.

Join Dr Pragya Agarwal, award-winning author of *Hysterical*, Dr Sharon Blackie, psychologist and author of *Hagitude*, and Alice Smellie, who co-authored *Cracking the Menopause* with Mariella Frostrup, as they put outdated clichés to bed.



POETRY WITH A PUNCH

Peter deGraft-Johnson, Bee Asha Singh, Stefan Mohamed, Emy.P, Dr Sanah Ahsan, Anthony Anaxagorou, Roger Robinson, Suhrab Sirat, Aviva Dautch, hosted by Joelle Taylor

 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre** |  Concert & Performance

 19:00 (2 hours 30mins) | **£10**

Our annual explosion of political poetry and unflinching wordplay is back, exploring social issues through some high-octane performances.

Taking to the stage this year is a rollicking line-up of poets and spoken word artists hosted by Joelle Taylor, including Bee Asha Singh, Stefan Mohamed, Emy.P, Dr Sanah Ahsan, Anthony Anaxagorou, Roger Robinson, Suhrab Sirat (with translations from Farsi by Aviva Dautch). Each will bring their own brand of lyrical mastery to the stage.

This event is always hugely popular, so book in advance to avoid disappointment.



MANNI AND REUBEN COE: BROTHER. DO. YOU. LOVE. ME.

Manni Coe, Reuben Coe, Kerry Maule

📍 **Waterstones** | 🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 19:30 (1 hour) | £7

If ever there was a message of hope, resilience and love, it's the extraordinary and inspiring story of brothers Manni and Reuben Coe. In conversation, the brothers will take you on their heartwarming journey.

Locked down during the Covid pandemic, Reuben became increasingly isolated living in a care home for adults with learning disabilities. For over a year he hadn't spoken, unable to express his thoughts and feelings except on paper with felt-tip pens. Unsupported by an overstretched care system, Reuben sent his older brother, Manni, a desperate text message: 'brother. do. you. love. me.' Leaving his home in Spain, Manni took Reuben out of care and moved them both into a cottage in the countryside to rebuild the bonds of brotherhood and set Reuben on the road to recovery.

The two brothers talk to multi-award-winning broadcaster Kerry Maule about their incredible journey in this unforgettable event which will celebrate the importance of love, care and kindness.



LUNCH BITE: FINDING OURSELVES THROUGH FAIRYTALES

Dr Sharon Blackie

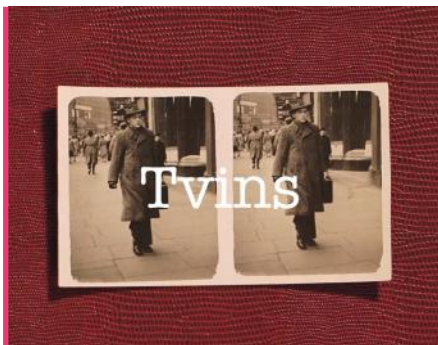
The Festival Hub, City Park

Talk

12:00 (45mins) | **£5**

It doesn't matter how old you are, you never outgrow fairytales. As humans we're hardwired to enjoy stories. They help us make sense of the world in childhood, teaching us the building blocks of life that guide us as we grow older. Come and join writer, psychologist and mythologist Dr Sharon Blackie, and explore the many ways we can find ourselves in fairytales.

Myths, fairytales and folk traditions not only nourish our imaginations, they can help us understand the challenges we face today. They can also show us how to reimagine ourselves, because these stories are all about transformation and seeing the world, and our place in it, in a different light.



TVINS - GERMAN JEWISH BRADFORD

Nick Toczek

The Festival Hub, City Park

Talk

14:00 (1 hour) | **£5**

Discover the remarkable story of Jewish teenage twins who fled to Bradford from Nazi Germany in this poignant talk, which includes a short film.

The story of Fritz and Hans Toczek who took the names Fred and John after settling in England, is told in a nine-minute film called *Twins*, made by John's eldest son, Nick. In 1938, sent by their father, the teenage twins left their Cologne hometown for the UK to escape growing anti-Semitism, eventually settling in Bradford.

The twins have since died and this moving film is told through the eyes of their children. This fascinating talk by writer Nick Toczek will also discuss Bradford's rich immigrant heritage and how he explored his Jewish family history in the city.



THE ROMANI AND TRAVELLER 'VOICE' IN WORLD LITERATURE

Dr Adrian Marsh

Banqueting Suite, City Hall

Talk

17:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join Dr Adrian Marsh, an academic of Romani-Traveller origins and an eminent researcher in Romani studies, as he takes us on a journey exploring the history and influence of Romani and traveller literature and poetry.

This illuminating talk will chart the origins of Romani literature, from the evolution of oral storytelling and the poetry that flourished via cultural traditions, through to the shift to the written word and the establishment of the International Romani Writers Association. It will explore Romani poetry and literature as identity and examine the Romani 'voice' in world literature and its influence.

With live poetry readings from Bradford residents with Romani-Traveller heritage, this compelling journey will shine a light on the rich cultural heritage of Romani-Traveller Literature and celebrate its role and reach.

This event is delivered in partnership with Connecting Roma CIC.



DHIKR MEDITATION FOR WOMEN

Ustadha Iffet Rafiq

Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford

Workshop

18:30 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

Experience the uplifting spiritual joy of Dhikr in this special gathering.

Dhikr is a form of Islamic meditation in which phrases or prayers are repeatedly mentioned in order to remember God. It's typically accompanied by specific breathing to bring about relaxation of the mind, body and soul.

It polishes the heart and is the source of the divine breath that revives the soul. Dhikr as practised by Sufis is the invocation of Allah's divine names, verses from the Quran, or sayings of the Prophet in order to glorify Allah.

Join Ustadha Iffet Rafeeq for this life-affirming, women-only event that will uplift your soul.



ENGLAND, MUGHAL INDIA AND THE ORIGINS OF EMPIRE

Professor Nandini Das, Rana Safvi

📍 **Banqueting Suite, City Hall**

🎨 Panel

🕒 19:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join Nandini Das and Rana Safvi for this illuminating talk as they discuss one of the most important encounters in the history of colonialism.

Professor Das will discuss her ground-breaking new book, *Courting India: England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire*, which charts the British arrival in India in the early 17th century. The story centres on Thomas Roe who arrived in India in 1616 as James I's first ambassador to the Mughal Empire.

Professor Das's fascinating history of Roe's four years in India offers an insider's view of a Britain in the making. She's joined by writer, translator and podcaster Rana Safvi, author of 10 books on culture, history, and the monuments of India and Sufism. Join them as they challenge our understanding of Britain's early empire.



LANDSCAPE AND LYRICS: THE POETS OF YORKSHIRE

Ralph Dartford, Kate Fox, Jo Bell

📍 **The Chamber, City Hall**

🎨 Panel

🕒 19:00 (1 hour) | £7

Our panel, including poets Ralph Dartford, Kate Fox and Jo Bell, will discuss the Yorkshire landscape and its influence on their own work, as well as those who have gone before, and why it remains such a great place for poetry.

From Ted Hughes to Simon Armitage, Yorkshire has produced some of our greatest poets, but what is it about God's Own Country that inspires such lyricism and poetic prowess?

For Hughes, it was the verdant Calder Valley landscape of his youth which he later seared onto the page, and this small corner of the world, with its wild moors and ever-changing weather, left a mark on Sylvia Plath, too.

Today, a new generation of poets are drawing inspiration from Yorkshire's heritage and diverse communities. This inspired conversation is chaired by Jo Bell.



SONGBOOK WITH RICHARD THOMPSON

Richard Thompson

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

In Conversation

19:00 (1 hour 15mins) | **£7**

The legendary British singer-songwriter Richard Thompson joins us for a talk to explore the musical influences that have shaped him during a remarkable career spanning more than 55 years.

As a teenager, Thompson found himself at the epicentre of an extraordinary moment in British culture. In 1967, at the age of just 18, he co-founded legendary folk rock group Fairport Convention and helped them to invent a new genre of music.

In this popular annual event which celebrates the very best of songwriting, Richard dives into his incredible musical journey to discuss the joy of music, both as a listener and performer. He will also reflect on his relationship with bandmate Sandy Denny, and his memories of playing alongside Jimi Hendrix and Nick Drake and the impact they had on him. This is your chance to get to know an icon of British music.



AN EVENING OF COMEDY

Reginald D. Hunter, Tez Ilyas, Nabil Abdulrashid, Sophie Duker, Louise Young

St George's Hall

Concert & Performance

19:30 (2 hours 15mins) | **£12**

If laughter is the best medicine, then get your dose at what has become a much-loved festival tradition: our Evening of Comedy, featuring some of the best comedians in the UK.

Headlining is legendary stand-up Reginald D. Hunter, who's joined on the bill by compere Tez Ilyas, Sophie Duker, Nabil Abdulrashid and Louise Young.

Whether you're a comedy regular or just someone who loves a good laugh, this rib-tickling event will have something for everyone. Don't miss our packed line-up featuring biting satire, quick-witted brilliance and a good dollop of uproarious stand-up. Celebrate the weekend with this sure-fire night of hilarity.

The recommended age for this event is 16+.

**SATURDAY
1 JULY**

ADVENTURE OVER THE RAINBOW

We are **BURSTING** with colour as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the NHS with loads of fun, feel-good, creative activities to brighten up your weekend.

WRONGSEMBLE PRESENTS: NERVES OF STEELE

City Park

Lily Steele dreams of adventure, far-off places, and escaping her everyday life in Yorkshire. But when she discovers an incredible secret hiding in her family tree, Lily realises the mystery of her past might help solve the unknowns of her future. She'll need to face some epic trials, but with a little help from the audience, and some incredible characters from her family tree, she'll soon discover she has 'nerves of steele'.

11.00 | 13.00 | 15.00
(30mins) | **Free**

THE RAINBOW RANGERS WORKSHOP

City Park Stage

Discover how being an adventurer isn't all about bravery. Together we'll explore how kindness is the most powerful tool for change in this playful post-show session led by our energetic cast.

11.30 | 13.30 | 15.30
(15mins) | **Free**

MINDFUL MANDALA SPINNER

**The Imagination
Station, City Park**

Chill out with this colourful craft activity and learn to make your own dazzling spinners to help you drift and dream. All our arts and craft activities are free and there's no need to book. Just drop in and start creating!

10.00-16.00 (drop in)
| **Free**

**Don't forget all our other amazing children's
events for all the family, details on the
following pages.**

*Thank you
NHS*

Join us for **FREE EVENTS** throughout the day.
No booking required, just drop in!

FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS

RAINBOW SNOWSTORM

The Imagination Station, City Park

It might be hard to catch a rainbow but we can help! Trap it in one of our stunning snowstorms so you can take it home and keep it forever. This free, playful craft activity will keep even the busiest hands entertained.

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | **Free**

RAINBOW BIRD

The Imagination Station, City Park

Birds are some of nature's most dazzling animals and our Rainbow Bird is no exception. See how many colours you can add to this beautiful crafty creation and make it the most spectacular creature in the city.

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | **Free**

YORKSHIRE

GUYANA



HOCKNEY GALLERY TOUR: SALTS MILL

 **Salts Mill**

 Tour

 9:45 (1 hour) | **£7**

Bradford-born painter, printmaker and photographer David Hockney is among the greatest and most influential artists alive today.

The iconic Salt's Mill, in the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Saltaire, is home to one of the world's largest collections of his art. The Grade II listed building houses a permanent exhibition of the artist's work including his famous *Arrival of Spring* collection, much of which he created on his iPad.

This tour of one of the largest permanent exhibitions of David Hockney's artwork will cover his earliest pieces from his days at Bradford College of Art, through to his printmaking work and portraits.

Please meet the tour guide in the ground floor foyer at the main entrance (with the sliding glass doors) to Salts Mill. The tour will start promptly.



BRADFORD POLICE MUSEUM: HERITAGE TOUR

 **Bradford Police Museum**

 Heritage Tour

 10:00 (2 hours) | **£7**

Do you fancy standing in the police cells that featured in the TV hit *Peaky Blinders*? Then don't miss out on this fascinating tour of The Bradford Police Museum.

The museum is located in the historic City Hall where you will get a unique insight into the history of policing and the development of crime and punishment in Bradford, from the early 19th century right up to the present day.

The tour will take you to the original Victorian prison cells that now form part of Bradford Police Museum, many of whose occupants were destined for the noose between 1874 and 1974. Visitors can stand in the police cell that Harry Houdini escaped from, and then climb up the dock steps to the beautifully preserved Victorian court room which has been featured in TV and film productions including *Coronation Street*.

The tour also includes the museum's newly launched exhibition which highlights the history of the evolving story of the relationship between the police and Bradford's communities over the last 50 years.



KNOWING YOURSELF: TWO DAY COURSE

Mohammed Isaaq

📍 **Day 1: Norcroft Auditorim**

Day 2: The Norcroft Lounge

🔊 Course

🕒 10:00 - 13:30 | **£70 for 2 days**

Discover yourself by getting to know the four temperaments. This centuries old science recognised by great thinkers such as Ibn Sina, Al Ghazali and St. Thomas Aquinas will be delivered in great depth by Mohammed Isaaq over two days. You'll learn about the history of the four temperaments, recognising your own primary and secondary temperament.

You will learn to understand why you and those around you behave in certain ways and respond to situations according to the temperament.

This journey of self development will explain how ancient wisdoms can be turned into action plans for your own personal development.

Don't miss this opportunity to unlock the door to greater self awareness and a more fulfilling life.



STORYTELLING: HOLDING UP THE SKY

Cassandra Wye

📍 **The Festival Hub, City Park**

👨👩👦 Kids & Family

🕒 12:30 (45mins) | **FREE**

Unleash your imagination and head off on unforgettable adventures with storyteller Cassandra Wye.

Join Wye for uplifting and entertaining stories about the day and night-time sky as she explores how we are all *Holding up The Sky*. From rescuing the sun, to liberating the moon and cleaning up the planet Earth – these stories celebrate what we can achieve when we all work together!

Fizzing with exuberance, energy and enthusiasm, her love of stories and storytelling knows no boundaries. She'll swoop you off to faraway places beyond your imagination where anything could happen!



UNDERSTANDING EMILY

Dr Claire O'Callaghan, Dr Michael Stewart

French Ballroom, The Midland Hotel

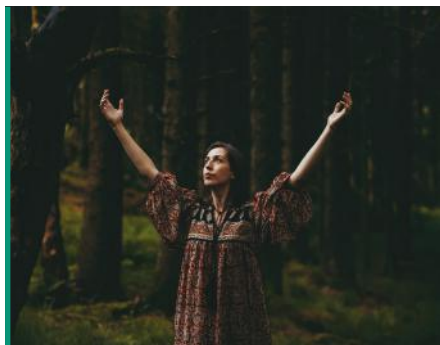
Lecture

11:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Emily Brontë has inspired everyone from Kate Bush to Sylvia Plath – but what makes arguably the most enigmatic of Haworth's famous literary siblings such an attractive subject for filmmakers and biographers?

The middle of the three Brontë sisters, Emily was largely unknown as a writer during her lifetime. *Wuthering Heights*, her passionate love story set on the windswept moors of West Yorkshire, was initially released in 1847 under her pseudonym Ellis Bell just a year before her death from tuberculosis.

In the decades since, it has been adapted numerous times for stage and screen and continues to leave its mark on our modern cultural landscape. To mark the 175th anniversary of her death, Brontë expert Dr Claire O'Callaghan, author of *Emily Brontë Reappraised*, and award-winning author and lecturer Michael Stewart, lead a discussion of her legacy, her relationship with her sisters and whether she really was the wild child of the moors.



THE WITCHES SURVIVAL GUIDE

Jennifer Lane, Rosie Wood

Ernest Saville, City Hall

Talk/Workshop

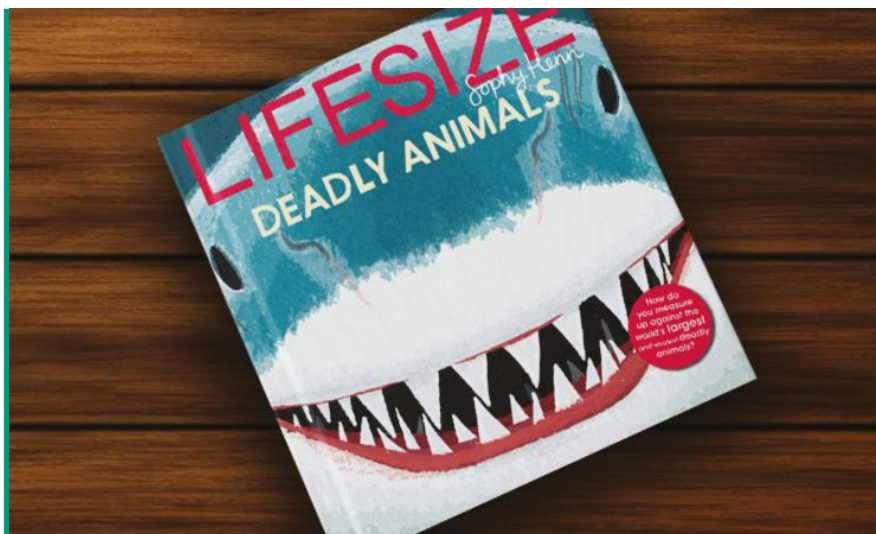
11:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Experience the magic and mystique of witchcraft this summer solstice with an enchanting interactive talk led by acclaimed author of *The Witch's Survival Guide*, Jennifer Lane.

Witchcraft often conjures images of women in tall black hats casting spells but this hasn't always been the case. Back in medieval Britain, witches were healers valued for their knowledge of different plants and herbs that they used as remedies for various ailments.

In-conversation with Rosie Wood, Lane will delve into the traditions of this fascinating craft, sharing her knowledge on how to use different plants and herbs for remedies and providing practical tips on how to harness the power of magic for healing, empowerment, and positive change.

Whether you're an experienced practitioner or a curious beginner, this talk promises to inspire and empower you on your journey of self-care and self-discovery.



STORIES UNLOCKED: LIFESIZE DEADLY ANIMALS

Sophy Henn

📍 **Waterstones** | 🗣️ Kids & Family

🕒 12:30 (45mins) | **Free**

Fancy a really wild adventure? Join author Sophy Henn and step into her fantastic book to see how you measure up against some of the world's most amazing DEADLY animals.

In this fun, interactive session with Sophy, she'll take you on an exciting journey featuring LIFESIZE illustrations of some of the world's smallest and biggest deadly animals to help you think about how you compare with these amazing creatures – watch out for the LIFESIZE black caiman jaws, Burmese python, slow loris and much more!

This huge, playful book and session is the perfect introduction to animals for young children. Climb in and go on your own adventure!

Best suited to ages 3+.



BEING HERE NOW, A MEDITATION

John Siddique

📍 **University of Bradford – Bright Building**

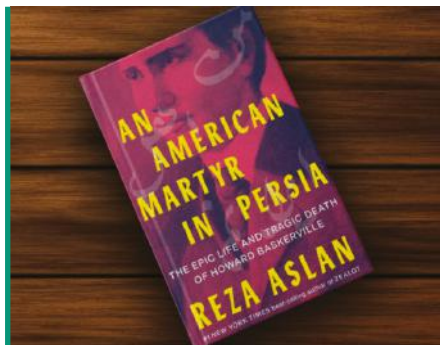
🔊 Workshop

🕒 11:00 (45mins) | £5

Join renowned author and sacred teacher John Siddique for this beautiful, revitalising meditation session and discussion on how we can be effective in the world by recognising our natural, implicit awareness.

This session is suitable for people from all backgrounds and faiths, and is informed by his work both as an author and practitioner.

John's latest books are *Signposts of The Spiritual Journey* and *SO (Selected Poems 2011-21)*. His work has featured in Time, Women and Home, The Tablet, Granta, the Guardian, Poetry Review, the Rialto and on BBC Radio 3 and 4.



REZA ASLAN: AN AMERICAN MARTYR IN PERSIA

Reza Aslan

📍 **The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College**

🔊 In Conversation

🕒 11:00 (1 hour) | £7

Prepare to be wowed by New York Times bestselling author Reza Aslan and his astonishing story of the little-known American missionary hailed as a hero in Iran.

Aslan will discuss his incredible new biography, *An American Martyr in Persia*, which charts the story of Howard Baskerville, a Christian missionary from South Dakota who travelled to Persia (modern-day Iran) in 1907. Baskerville was there to teach English and preach the gospel but became embroiled in a democratic revolution, and in 1909 he was killed in battle alongside his students.

His martyrdom spurred on the revolutionaries who removed the shah from power, and to this day, Baskerville's tomb in the city of Tabriz remains a place of pilgrimage. Join Aslan, an internationally acclaimed writer, producer, and religious scholar, as he proves that one person's actions can reverberate the world over.



IN SEARCH OF BOUDICA

Duncan Mackay

Dye House Gallery, Bradford College

Talk

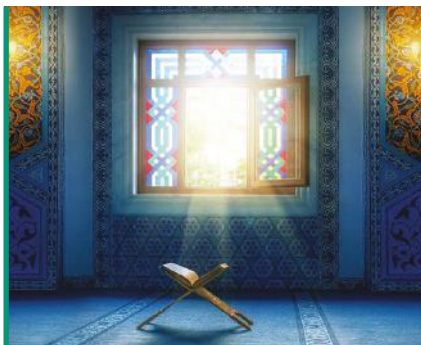
11:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join writer, archaeologist and author of *Echolands: A Journey in Search of Boudica*, Duncan Mackay, as he delves into the history and legend of one of Britain's most iconic figures – Boudica, the warrior queen who led the greatest rebellion the country has ever seen.

The iconic figure was at the head of an army of tribesmen that took on the might of the Romans with such ferocity that she came close to driving them out of Britain before she was finally defeated. On the eve of battle against the Roman empire, Boudica roused her forces declaring: "It is not as a woman descended from noble ancestry, but as one of the people that I am avenging lost freedom."

The Queen of the Iceni, Boudica, led arguably the greatest rebellion the country has ever seen. Mackay will separate fact from myth to explore the legacy of this powerful symbol of female power and heroism.

Don't miss this exciting talk about one of history's most fascinating and inspiring figures.



A DERVISH GUIDE TO READING RUMI

Mahmoud Mostafa, Khadim Chishti

**The Norcroft Lounge,
University of Bradford**

Panel

11:00 (1 hour 15mins) | **£7**

Join Mevlevi teachers Mahmoud Mostafa and Khadim Chishti, and other Mevlevi dervishes, for this interactive discussion on how the *Masnavi* can guide us through our everyday challenges.

Rumi's *Masnavi* is perhaps the most celebrated text within Sufism, the mystical heart of Islam. The *Mevlevi* Order grew out of Rumi's teachings and has been guiding dervishes through the *Masnavi* for over 800 years. Sufi whirling (or turning) is a form of moving meditation rich with spiritual symbolism.

Audience members will be invited into a safe, non-judgmental space to share their own responses to passages from this deeply transformative work.



THE WAR YOU DON'T SEE

John Stanley Bell, University of Bradford

Film & Screening

11:00 (1 hour 30 mins) | **£7**

John Pilger's *The War You Don't See* (2011) is a powerful and timely investigation into the media's role in war, tracing the history of 'embedded' and independent reporting from the carnage of World War One to the destruction of Hiroshima, and from the invasion of Vietnam to the current war in Afghanistan and disaster in Iraq.

As weapons and propaganda become even more sophisticated, the nature of war is developing into an 'electronic battlefield' in which journalists play a key role, and civilians are the victims – but who is the real enemy?



BRADFORD'S ARCHITECTURAL GEMS HERITAGE TOUR

Graham Kemp

The Festival Hub, City Park

Heritage Tour

11:00 (1 hour 30 mins) | **£7**

Discover some of Bradford's architectural wonders and the amazing stories behind them on this illuminating tour.

Take the iconic Wool Exchange building, for instance. Designed in a Venetian Gothic style and completed in 1867, it was described as a "secular paean to Bradford's role as the hub of the world's wool trade". Today, it's probably the most stunning bookshop in the country.

From the Alhambra Theatre, which takes its name from the palace in Granada, to St George's Hall, one of the oldest concert halls still in use in Europe, Bradford is full of fantastic buildings, and Graham Kemp – author, architect, enthusiast and proud Bradfordian – knows everything there is to know about them. Join him on this tour of some of the city's hidden, and not so hidden, gems.



THE ART OF LEATHER CRAFT WORKSHOP

Munira Mendonça

📍 **Bright Building, Teaching Room, University of Bradford** | 🗺️ Workshop

🕒 11:00 (2 hours 30mins) | **£10**

Other workshop times are available: 1 July - 14:15, 2 July 11:00 and 14:30

Discover the ancient art of leather making with Munira Mendonça, a master craftswoman and artist with over 20 years of experience. Her unique and exclusive leather products are handcrafted in the heart of Granada, using centuries-old techniques and innovative designs inspired by Islamic art patterns.

Delve into one of the world's oldest crafts with a true expert. From leather notebooks and journals inspired by Islamic motifs like the mosaic tiles of the Alhambra Palace in Granada to beautiful handbags and wallets, Mendonça's timeless creations are a harmonious blend of form and function created from natural materials.

In this one-of-a-kind workshop, you'll have the opportunity to learn from a true artisan and create your own timeless leather product. All materials will be provided, so come ready to learn and create something beautiful that will last a lifetime. Join us for an unforgettable experience in the art of leather making.



SPRING CANNOT BE CANCELLED: DAVID HOCKNEY IN NORMANDY

Martin Gayford

Canal-side Roof Space, Salts Mill

Talk

11:15 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join us for our annual Hockney Day and gain an insight into the mind of one the world's greatest artists. In this talk, you'll uncover why David Hockney was drawn to the lush and colourful Normandy landscape.

The renowned Bradford-born artist set up a studio in northern France, using the enforced isolation of the Covid-19 lockdowns to capture the arrival of spring in a series of bold and brilliant paintings.

These artworks, inspired by the changing landscape throughout the seasons, are explored in a new book, *Spring Cannot be Cancelled*, co-written by Hockney with his friend and long-time collaborator Martin Gayford. Inspired by their conversations, and illustrated by some of Hockney's new Normandy iPad drawings, the book reaffirms art's capacity to connect and inspire us. Join Gayford as he shares his unique insights into the life and work of an artist who has so much to teach us, not only about how to see but also about how to live.



BLF'S MASTER STORYTELLER

Gav Cross

The Imagination Station, City Park

Talk

11.15, 13.15, 15.15 (30mins) | **FREE**

Stop by for an adventure or two with Gav Cross and you never know, you might just find your own inner storyteller! Join Gav, our resident master storyteller and funny man here at BLF, as he wields his storytelling powers and wows you with magical journeys, wild adventures and crazy capers!

These delightful interactive story sessions will entertain young and old with their magical, mystical and sometimes downright silly characters and escapades. Don't miss this storytelling bonanza – it'll keep you glued to your seat.

All our storytelling sessions are free but please make sure you book separate tickets for yourself and any children individually.



UNVEILING PERSPECTIVES: THE POLITICS OF THE HIJAB

**Myriam François, Orkideh Behrouzan,
Yassmin Abdel-Magied**

Dye House Gallery, Bradford College

Panel

11:30 (1 hour 15 mins) | **£7**

Delve into the multifaceted history and significance of the hijab, a garment transcending time and religions yet often associated with Islam and oppression.

Listen to thought-provoking discussions about the hijab as both a symbol of liberation and constraint, examining its political dimensions and diverse interpretations among Muslim women.

The panel explores topics ranging from Iran's right-to-choose movement and France's hijab ban, to the rise of Islamophobic attacks against hijab-wearing women in the UK. This conversation seeks to understand the evolving personal and political perspectives on the hijab and envision their future implications.



STORIES UNLOCKED: LET'S FILL THIS WORLD WITH KINDNESS

Alexandra Stewart

Waterstones

Kids & Family

11:45 (45 mins) | **FREE**

Come and join storyteller Alexandra Stewart in this fun interactive workshop and discover the wonderful power of kindness!

In this uplifting collection of stories by Stewart, children are introduced to real-life heroes and heroines who have chosen to act in kindness, even when they have been faced with challenges many would struggle to overcome.

Sometimes we all feel the weight of the world on our shoulders, but in this engaging workshop you can join Stewart and be reminded that we are all stronger than we think. Come and explore how empowering and enjoyable kindness can be.

Best suited to ages 9+.



BABY DOES A RUNNER: ANITA RANI IN CONVERSATION

Anita Rani

📍 **Great Hall, University of Bradford** | 🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 12:30 (1 hour) | £7

Bradford-born Anita Rani is one of our much-loved broadcasters, best known for *BBC's Woman's Hour*, *Countryfile* and *The One Show*.

Unveiled as the new University of Bradford Chancellor earlier this year, Rani is also a bestselling writer earning rave reviews for her heart-warming memoir, *The Right Sort of Girl*. She has followed this up with a novel, out this summer, which follows the story of Baby, a woman who seemingly has everything until the chance discovery of some love letters between her grandfather and another woman takes her on a journey of self-discovery.

Join Anita Rani as she discusses her debut novel and why she's so passionate about Bradford and her Yorkshire roots.



INSPIRED BY EMILY

Bella Ellis, Karen Powell, Tasha Suri

📍 French Ballroom, The Midland Hotel

🔊 Panel

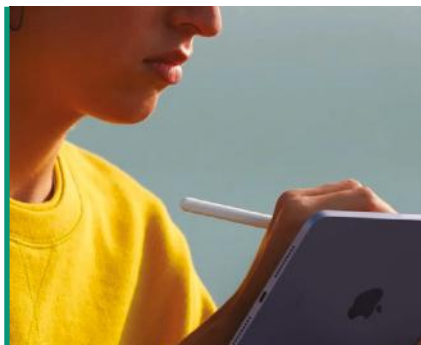
🕒 12:30 (1 hour) | £7

Few novels have been as influential or had such a profound impact as Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*, but what makes her story so compelling today, more than 175 years after it was written?

Join our gathered group of authors as they discuss how this story with its unforgettable characters and dark, gothic imagery, not only defined a generation but continues to inspire writers, artists, songwriters and filmmakers.

Bella Ellis, author of the popular *Brontë Sisters Mystery* series, is joined by Karen Powell, whose forthcoming book *Fifteen Wild Decembers* is a reimagining of Emily's tragically short life, and Tasha Suri, author of the *Wuthering Heights*-inspired young adult epic *What Souls Are Made Of*.

By putting *Wuthering Heights* and Emily's thought-provoking spiritual poems under the literary magnifying glass, they'll explore her incredible legacy and show why she remains such an inspiring figure for readers and writers alike.



HOCKNEY'S JOINERS IPAD ART WORKSHOP

Roz Hall

📍 Salts Mill

🔊 Workshop

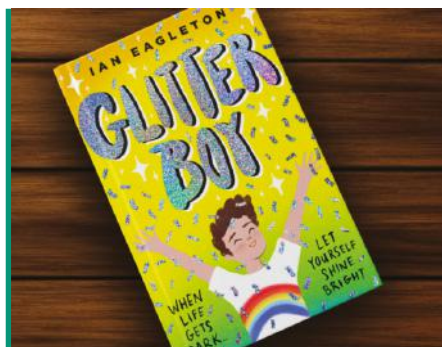
🕒 12:45 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

Ever wondered how David Hockney is able to create such astonishing masterpieces using an iPad? This Hockney-inspired workshop will guide you through the process of creating your very own intricate photo collage using an iPad's camera and drawing tools.

The iconic artist has embraced technology in the way he works and this digital art workshop, led by artist and educator Roz Hall, will show you how to take and import photos, use layers to build up an image, and use painting tools to add details to your digital photos to create your own work of art.

Hall, whose work has been featured by Apple and Microsoft, has also taught at Tate Britain, the V&A and the BBC.

This workshop is for ages 16 and over. iPads will be supplied.



STORIES UNLOCKED: GLITTER BOY

Ian Eagleton

📍 Waterstones

👂 Kids & Family

🕒 13:00 (45mins) | **Free**

Being true to who you really are is so important, and as we celebrate this on this weekend of free, feel-good family activities, join us for this exciting, interactive meet-the-author session – when life gets dark you have to let yourself shine!

Join *Glitter Boy* author Ian Eagleton and meet James, the hero of our story. James loves dancing, poetry, and Mariah Carey (not in that order, though, because Mariah would obviously be first!). His teacher, Mr Hamilton, is getting married to his boyfriend and it seems that James will be part of a surprise choir performance at the wedding.

But James's father seems uncomfortable about this, and a lot of other things – like any mention of Mr Hamilton, and how James talks about his new friend Joel. The secrets are building up, and James is starting to doubt himself. Can he find the strength to let the truth out?

Best suited to ages 8+.



RUMI LECTURE: THE UNIVERSAL APPEAL OF RUMI'S POETRY

Professor Jawid Mojaddedi

📍 The Advanced Technology Centre
(ATC), Bradford College

👂 Lecture

🕒 13:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Jalal ad-Din Muhammad Rumi (d.1273) is the most celebrated mystical poet in the Islamic world and his *Masnawi* is widely regarded as the greatest Sufi poem ever written.

Though he lived over 800 years ago, Rumi remains one of the most widely-read and influential voices today, both in print and on social media. His popularity continues to grow with each new generation of thinkers who look to his poetry for guidance and spiritual questioning.

Jawid Mojaddedi, professor of religion at Rutgers University and an expert in early and medieval Sufism, has translated five volumes so far of Rumi's *Masnawi* as Oxford World's Classics editions. His translations stay true to the original work by presenting Rumi's mature mystical teachings in simple and attractive rhyming couplets.

Join Professor Mojaddedi for our annual Rumi Lecture as he discusses what makes Rumi's poetry distinctive in the original Persian and how this can explain his universal and enduring appeal.



IN CONVERSATION: ANGELA RAYNER

Angela Rayner

📍 **Midland Hotel**

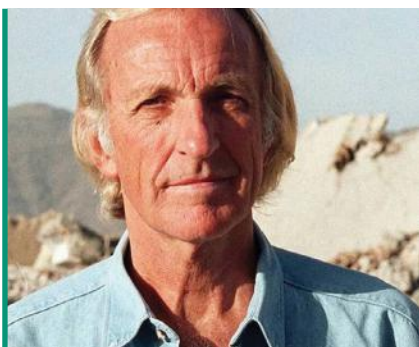
🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 13:00 (1 hour) | £7

Deputy leader of the Labour Party Angela Rayner joins us to share the story of her journey from Stockport to Westminster.

As a teenager, Angela left her local comprehensive at 16 with no qualifications and a baby already on the way, after being told she would 'never amount to anything'. Less than 20 years later, she is Deputy Leader of the opposition and has dedicated her political life to telling the stories of those who have been denied a voice.

Join us as Angela shares her unique story in her own words.



BREAKING THE SILENCE: TRUTH AND LIES IN THE WAR ON TERROR

📍 **John Stanley Bell,**

University of Bradford

🗣️ Film & Screening

🕒 13:00 (1 hour) | £7

In his hard-hitting documentary film, *Breaking The Silence: Truth And Lies In The War On Terror*, award-winning journalist and documentary filmmaker, John Pilger, dissects the truth and lies in this so-called 'war on terror'.

The 9/11 attacks sparked sweeping changes in US foreign and security policy, which President George W Bush characterised as the 'war on terror'. It was these policies that led to confrontation with extremist groups like al-Qaeda and prefaced the invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq.

Pilger investigates the discrepancies between American and British claims supporting this 'war' and the facts on the ground as he finds them in Afghanistan and Washington, DC. The result is an unflinching film that doesn't pull any punches.

Dir. Steve Connelly, John Pilger. 2003.
(adv E)



COUP AGAINST DEMOCRACY: IRAN 70 YEARS ON

Afshin Shahi, Javaad Alipoor

📍 **The Banqueting Hall, City Hall**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 13:00 (1 hour 15mins) | £7

70 years after Mohammad Mosaddegh was dramatically overthrown, join our panel of experts as they explore the coup's impact on Iran and its enduring legacy.

Mosaddegh was Iran's popular, democratically-elected prime minister when he was ousted, with clandestine support from foreign powers, in August 1953. The coup served as a rallying cry for the revolutionaries and a symbol of the country's struggle against Western interference, playing a significant role in the 1979 Iranian Revolution, which overthrew the Shah and established an Islamic Republic.



ISLAMOPHOBIA

Rana Ayyub, Yassmin Abdel-Magied, Naz Shah, Reza Aslan, Hassan Abdein

📍 **Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College**

🗣️ Lecture

🕒 13:15 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

Anti-Muslim sentiment is nothing new, ranging from everyday hate speech and discrimination to more extreme activism like the Christchurch mosque shootings in 2019.

Join our panel for a deep dive into the historical roots of Islamophobia, the role of the media in perpetuating anti-Muslim sentiment, the impact of counter-terrorism policies on Muslim communities, and the intersection of Islamophobia with other forms of discrimination, such as racism and xenophobia.

Our special guests include Indian journalist Rana Ayyub, Australian broadcaster Yassmin Abdel-Magied, Iranian-American author Reza Aslan, and Naz Shah, Labour MP for Bradford West. Chaired by Hassan Abdein.



WAYS OF READING: TAROT WORKSHOP

Rosie Wood

Bright Building MBA, University of Bradford

🎨 Workshop

🕒 13:15 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

Tarot cards have been around for centuries, and their symbols have been adapted and transformed countless times. But what can the cards reveal, and how can we use them to guide us?

Tarot involves a deck of 78 playing cards with four suits and first emerged in Italy in the 15th century. Over the years they've been used by poets and artists – Salvador Dalí even created his own deck – as well as ordinary people interested in exploring alternative beliefs.

In this hands-on workshop with poet and occultist Rosie Wood, who has been reading tarot for almost a decade, you will learn about tarot's origins and how cartomancy works. You'll also take part in a series of creative exercises showing you how to read the cards in sequence. Join Wood and learn how to harness this ancient craft.



WOMEN IN MYTHOLOGY

Jennifer Saint, Nikita Gill, Sarah Clegg

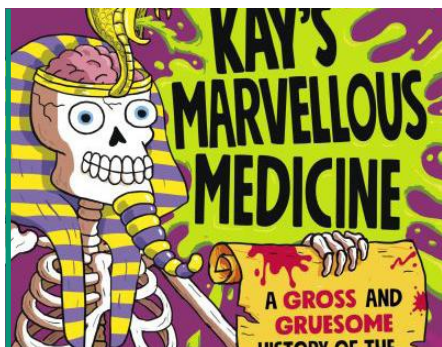
Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College

🎤 Panel

🕒 13:30 (1 hour) | £7

Whether it's Medusa, the terrifying Gorgon who turned everyone that met her gaze to stone, or the six-headed Scylla of Homer's *Odyssey*, the depiction of female characters in mythology leaves a lot to be desired. They're often either hideous monsters sending sailors to their doom, or evil temptresses luring men to an equally grim fate. But why is this?

Jennifer Saint, author of *Atalanta and Elektra*, teams up with Nikita Gill, author of *The Girl and The Goddess*, and Sarah Clegg, whose literary debut *Woman's Lore: 4000 Years of Sirens, Serpents and Succubi* was published in the spring, to explore the patriarchal origins of these epic myths. Together they will discuss how a fresh wave of women writers are reimagining ancient tales, freeing the female characters from the shackles of misogyny, and helping to inspire new heroines.



ADAM KAY: KAY'S MARVELLOUS MEDICINE, A GROSS AND GRUESOME HISTORY OF THE HUMAN BODY

Adam Kay, Henry Paker

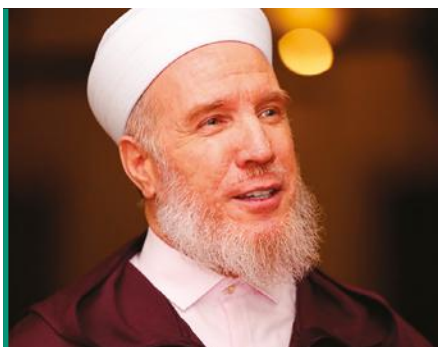
Studio, Bradford Theatres

Kids & Family

13:30 (1 hour) | £7

Discover the answers to questions like 'why did hairdressers cut off their customers' legs?' and 'why did people get paid for farting?' It's time to explore the gross and gruesome history of the human body in *Kay's Marvellous Medicine*.

Kay is joined by illustrator, comedian and writer Henry Paker for some gruesome live drawing.



GUIDES TO GOODNESS: DALĀ'IL AL-KHAYRĀT

Shaykh Muhammad Al-Yaqoubi

St George's Hall

In Conversation

13:30 (2 hours) | £7

Composed in the 15th century by the Moroccan Sufi scholar Muhammad Sulaymān Al-Jazūlī al-Shādhilī, *Dalā'il al-Khayrāt* was the first major work to compile litanies of peace and blessings for the Prophet Muhammad. Among some spiritual orders, most notably the Jazuli branch of the Shadhili order, its recitation has endured as a daily practice for over five centuries.

Al-Jazūlī was inspired to pen the book after seeing a girl miraculously cause a well to overflow. When he questioned her, she revealed that the secret behind her spiritual prowess was constantly invoking blessings and peace on the best of creation, Prophet Muhammad.

Join Shaykh Muhammad Al-Yaqoubi for this spiritual event to celebrate the acclaimed *Dalā'il al-Khayrāt* and the launch of its new translation, *Guides to Goodness*. The event will open with a rendition from the Musafirun singers.



HOCKNEY GALLERY TOUR (CARTWRIGHT HALL)

Jill Iredale

📍 **Cartwright Hall**

🎧 **Heritage Tour**

🕒 14:00 (30 mins) | £7

Join our gallery tour guide for a special insight into Hockney's world. Set within the picturesque grounds of Lister Park, Bradford's civic art gallery, Cartwright Hall, is home to a spectacular public collection of work by the Bradford-born artist David Hockney.

Cartwright Hall is believed to be the place Hockney found inspiration as a child and houses a wide range of his work from his formative years right through to the present day. Special emphasis is also given to how the landscape, people and culture of Yorkshire and Bradford helped mould him into the man who is regarded by many as 'Britain's greatest living artist'.



DARK IMAGININGS: EMILY AND HEATHCLIFF

Bella Ellis, Samantha Ellis and Simon Marsden

📍 **French Ballroom, The Midland Hotel**

🎧 **Panel**

🕒 14:00 (1 hour) | £7

As fictional romances go, they don't come much more tempestuous than Heathcliff and Catherine's in Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*. And it's one that has gripped generations of readers.

From Heathcliff and Catherine's tumultuous and obsessive relationship, to the themes of revenge, jealousy and control, Emily and her sisters offer a compelling critique of the dangerous elements of romantic love.

Bella Ellis, author of *A Gift of Poison*, the latest in the *Brontë Sisters Mystery* series, and playwright and screenwriter Samantha Ellis, are joined by Simon Marsden, author of *Emily Brontë and the Religious Imagination*. They will explore the enduring popularity of *Wuthering Heights* and its continued relevance in contemporary conversations about toxic masculinity, codependency, and the perils of idealised love.



WHILE WE WATCHED

📍 **Pictureville, National Science & Media Museum**

🎬 Film & Screening

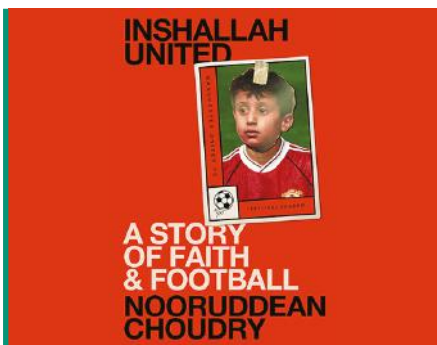
🕒 14:00 (1 hour 35mins) | £7

A turbulent newsroom drama intimately chronicling the working days of broadcast journalist Ravish Kumar as he navigates a spiralling world of truth and disinformation.

This powerful documentary on Indian television news carries many messages for the way we look at global broadcast news. It highlights that news doesn't just report; it can also be a mirror that distorts reality, misleading and misrepresenting facts for viewers.

Indian TV journalist Kumar presents a nightly show on NDTV in Delhi. Famous for his unflinching take-downs of the ruling establishment during his long-running prime-time news hour, he is in trouble for not following the government line. Receiving threatening phone calls and death threats, he is under constant police protection. When the broadcasts start to be jammed and audiences fall, can the station survive?

Hindi and English with English subtitles. This film is certified 15. You may be asked to provide proof of age at this event. Courtesy of MetFilm.



INSHALLAH UNITED WITH NOORUDDEAN CHOUDRY

Nooruddean Choudry, Ismail Amla

📍 **The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College**

🗣️ In Conversation

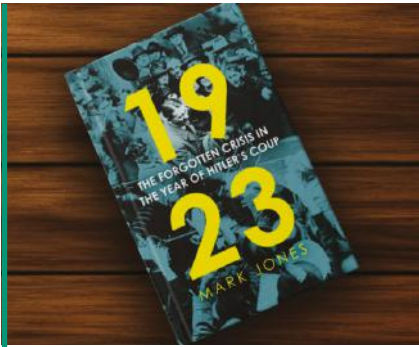
🕒 14:15 (1 hour) | £7

Join Nooruddean Choudry as he takes you on a journey celebrating the importance of identity and place, discussing what it was like being an Asian Mancunian kid in the late 1980s and 1990s.

Manchester is the birthplace of The Stone Roses, the Class of '92 and... Nooruddean Choudry. Born in 1979 – the same year Margaret Thatcher became Prime Minister, Sid Vicious died, and Ayatollah Khomeini overthrew the last Shah of Iran – Nooruddean, or Noz, is the British-born son of a Pakistani family who grew up a Muslim, Manchester United-supporting, Morrissey-loving, working-class Manc.

His new book, *Inshallah United*, is a deeply personal story of faith and football that charts his life growing up as a strictly halal Stretford Ender, a devout Muslim and diehard Red. This is a must-see event for all lifelong football fans.

Chaired by Ismail Amla.



HITLER'S RISE TO POWER

Mark Jones

📍 **Ernest Saville, City Hall**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 14:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

2023 marks 90 years since Adolf Hitler's fateful rise to power in Germany.

It is also a century since Hitler's failed putsch in a Munich beer hall during a period which saw the rise of nationalism as democratic consensus in Europe broke down, populist rhetoric translated into actual violence on the streets and the forces of liberalism underestimated the strength of their enemies.

Mark Jones, author of *1923: The Forgotten Crisis in the Year of Hitler's Coup*, will explore how and why Hitler and the Nazis were able to come to power, and how they remained in power for so long, and consider their impact on people's lives and the terrifying lessons that this dark chapter in human history has for the world today.



SALTAIRE MODEL VILLAGE WALKING TOUR

Maria Glot

📍 **Saltaire Unitarian Church**

🗣️ Heritage Tour

🕒 14:30 (1 hour 30mins) | **£7**

Take a step back in time with our guided tour of Saltaire – the historic model village surrounding West Yorkshire's iconic Salts Mill and UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Opened in 1853, the mill was the brainchild of manufacturer and philanthropist Sir Titus Salt and the centrepiece of his vision for Saltaire's new industrial utopian age, complete with an adjoining model village to house its many workers. Today, Salts Mill is home to one of the world's largest collections of David Hockney art.

This popular tour will be an insight-filled look at this mid-19th century village and will show what life would have been like living and working in Saltaire when Salts Mill was in its industrial heyday. Comfortable footwear and weather-appropriate clothing is essential.



SIR MICHAEL PALIN IN CONVERSATION WITH ANITA RANI

Michael Palin, Anita Rani

 **Great Hall, University of Bradford**

 In Conversation

 14:30 (60mins) | **£10**

Sir Michael Palin's travels have seen him venture to all corners of the world, and his latest journey took him to Iraq. In 2022, he travelled the length of the River Tigris to get a sense of what life is like in a region of the world that once formed the cradle of civilisation, but in recent times has witnessed bloodshed and destruction.

His 1,000-mile odyssey, captured with characteristic warmth, humour and grace in his new book, *Into Iraq*, was one of sharp, sometimes brutal, contrasts – one minute he was exploring the old streets of Baghdad and the next he was in the war-torn city of Mosul.

Palin first rose to fame as a member of the legendary Monty Python team and has gone on to establish himself as a hugely popular actor, writer and television presenter.

We are delighted to welcome this much-loved polymath to the festival. He will talk to television presenter Anita Rani about his fascination with travel and his portrait of a complex country few outsiders now get to see.



THE COMING WAR ON CHINA

 **John Stanley Bell,**
University of Bradford

 Film & Screening

 14:30 (2 hours) | **£7**

When the United States, the world's biggest military power, decided that China, the second largest economic power, was a threat to its imperial dominance, two-thirds of US naval forces were transferred to Asia and the Pacific. This was the 'pivot to Asia', announced by President Barack Obama in 2011. China, which in the space of a generation had risen from the chaos of Mao Zedong's 'Cultural Revolution' to an economic prosperity that has seen more than 500 million people lifted out of poverty, was suddenly the United States new enemy.

The Coming War on China is John Pilger's most recent film – his 60th documentary and arguably his most prescient. Completed in the month Donald Trump was elected US President, the film investigates the manufacture of a 'threat' and the beckoning of a nuclear confrontation.



THE RISE OF DAVID HOCKNEY: FROM ECCLESHILL TO LA

James Cahill, Jill Iredale

📍 Cartwright Hall

🗣️ Talk

🕒 14:45 (1 hour) | £7

Discover how David Hockney was transformed from a talented northern artist to world famous icon in this special talk as part of the festival's Hockney Day celebrations.

Marking 70 years since Hockney first went to Bradford School of Art, art critic and writer James Cahill, author of *David Hockney (Lives of the Artists)*, will discuss the importance of this period and how it shaped Hockney's early work.

In-conversation with Jill Iredale, Cahill will also show how Hockney made his mark in Swinging London during the 1960s as a portraitist, and went on to make a big splash in Los Angeles when he moved there in the 1970s. Here, his figurative paintings captured the zeitgeist of West Coast living.

This talk is the perfect opportunity to explore the early career of one of the world's greatest artists.



EMBRACING RADICAL BRAINS

Dr Louise Creechan, Alicja Nocon, Holly Smale, Onyinye Udokporo

📍 Dye House Dance Studio,
Bradford College

🗣️ Panel

🕒 14:45 (1 hour) | £7

Positive change often comes from people who think outside the box, so why do we still not embrace, encourage, and understand those minds fully?

Our expert panellists include Holly Smale, author of the bestselling *Geek Girl* series, as well as independent neurodiversity and wellbeing trainer, consultant and coach, Alicja Nocon. lecturer of literary Medical Humanities, Dr Louise Creechan, also joins the panel with her research on neurodiversity, illiteracy, education, and disability studies. The conversation will be chaired by author, entrepreneur, educator, and pioneer of social mobility, Onyinye Udokporo. They will share their experiences and show there is something truly radical about how neurodiverse people see the world.



Actual Investors



WOMAN, LIFE, FREEDOM

Afshin Shahi, Javaad Alipoor, Orkideh Behrouzan, Malu Halasa, Fari Bradley

The Banqueting Hall, City Hall

Panel

14:45 (1 hour 30mins) | **£7**

In this thought-provoking panel discussion, our speakers will explain why the recent wave of protests in Iran are also a result of the broader desire for democracy, civil liberties, and freedom for minority groups such as the Baloch, Sunnis, and Kurds. The protests have attracted global attention, but they aren't just about the hijab and the right to choose.

These demonstrations are a reflection of the growing desire for change among the Iranian people, particularly women, who are pushing for greater autonomy and freedom of choice. Join writer, director and actor Javaad Alipoor, Associate Professor in Middle East politics and international relations at Keele University, Afshin Shahi author and medical anthropologist Orkideh Behrouzan, sound artist Fari Bradley, and author and editor of the forthcoming anthology *Woman, Life, Freedom*, Malu Halasa, as they reflect on the impact of the protests, where they are going and what the future holds for Iran at this critical moment in its history.



STORIES UNLOCKED: GLOW, THE WILD WONDERS OF BIOLUMINESCENCE

Jennifer N. R. Smith

Waterstones

Kids & Family

15:00 (45mins) | **FREE**

Dive into an astonishing world of wonder in this interactive session with author Jennifer N. R. Smith.

Join the illustrator and author who'll take you on a magical journey to the deepest ocean trenches, through winding networks of caves and into the darkest corners of the forest to experience the wonder of bioluminescence.

The natural world is brought to life in vivid detail in her book, *Glow*, which explores the remarkable way animals and plants light up of their own accord, and what we can learn from their incredible glow-in-the-dark abilities.

Get your creative skills at the ready and be awed by this stunning non-fiction book. Printed using UV printing techniques with a fifth spot colour, the illustrations literally glow on the page making for a truly awe-inspiring experience.

Best suited to ages 7+.



THE LONG WALK TO FREEDOM: REMEMBERING NELSON MANDELA

Lord Peter Hain, Hassan Abdein, Hisham Hellyer

Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College

Panel

15:00 (1 hour) | £7



WHIRLING DERVISHES: MEVLEVI SEMA

Mahmoud Mostafa, Khadim Chishti

The Norcroft Lounge, University of Bradford

Workshop

15:00 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

A decade after his death, Nelson Mandela continues to inspire people around the world. At this unique event our panel will discuss the legacy of one of the greatest figures of the 20th century.

Few, if any, people are held in such high esteem as Mandela. His life's work as an activist, politician and passionate advocate for equality touched millions of lives and his global reputation remains intact.

Anti-apartheid campaigner Lord Peter Hain, who has had his own extraordinary political career, is joined by analysts Hassan Abdein and Dr Hisham Hellyer to take a look back on Nelson Mandela's legacy in the pursuit of peace, justice and reconciliation in South Africa and beyond, and consider how that legacy is viewed today.

Join us for a truly mystical event of divine remembrance, poetry, and whirling.

Whirling is the central meditational practice of the Sufi Mevlevi Order. The turning of the body echoes the solar system as it orbits the sun, helping worshippers to abandon personal desires and focus on God. Accompanying the dhikr will be recitations of Rumi's poems and whirling dervishes from the Mevlevi Order, the spiritual school founded on the teachings of Rumi.

The sema will be led by teachers Mahmoud Mostafa and Khadim Chishti, and a group of whirling dervishes. This gathering is open to people of all faiths and none, whether to actively participate, or to simply witness this great celebration of love.



BEHIND THE BRONTËS WITH BLAKE MORRISON

Blake Morrison

📍 **French Ballroom, The Midland Hotel**

🔊 Lecture

🕒 15:15 (1 hour) | £7

The works of Charlotte, Emily and Anne Brontë have left an indelible mark on modern popular culture which continues to inspire writers of today. Blake Morrison in particular created *We Are Three Sisters* – a play centred around the lives of the Brontë siblings.

Morrison will deliver the Blavatnik Honresfield Brontë lecture, exploring the sisters' remarkable legacy and discussing some of the rare manuscripts and first-edition books that form part of the Blavatnik Honresfield Library. The Blavatnik Honresfield Library was purchased for the nation in 2022 by the Friends of the National Libraries, with the support of the Blavatnik Family Foundation, the National Heritage Memorial Fund and many other generous supporters.

Morrison will be joined by a special guest to breathe new life into the Brontës' magical words. This event is presented in partnership with the British Library.



AFGHANISTAN'S UNHEARD VOICES: STORIES OF RESILIENCE

Christina Lamb, Rabia Nasimi, Parwana Fayyaz

📍 **The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College**

🔊 Panel

🕒 15:30 (1 hour) | £7

It's hard to imagine what life is like for women in Afghanistan today. Since the Taliban's resurgence in 2021, their lives have once again become restricted.

Banned from universities and schools, forced out of elected offices and stopped from entering parks and gyms, Afghan women face an increasingly uncertain future.

Join award-winning journalist and author Christina Lamb, campaigner Rabia Nasimi and poet Parwana Fayyaz for an important conversation on the critical situation facing the women of Afghanistan today and how they are finding ways to make their voices heard.



ONETRACKMINDS

Kate Fox, Nikita Gill, Saeed Khan, Rhik Samadder, Osman Yousefzada, Adam Shakinovsky, Kristian Brodie

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

Gig & Night Out

15:30 (1 hour 30 mins) | **£7**

This live music and storytelling event is an entertaining cross between *Desert Island Discs*, *The Moth Radio Hour* and TED Talks, exploring the transformative power of music.

Our band of vibrant writers, thinkers and musicians present a thought-provoking story about how a song has inspired them and how music helps shape the way we live our lives.

We all have a story about a song that has changed our lives. It might be a ballad or a pop song we fell in love to or a piece of classical music that helped us through difficult times.

Join us for this unique event and experience the power of music bringing people together.



ADAM KAY: UNDOCTORED

Adam Kay, Dr Amir Khan

Great Hall, University of Bradford

Talk

16:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Award-winning author of *This is Going to Hurt*, Adam Kay will talk about his follow-up book *Undoctored* with Dr Amir Khan.

This is Going to Hurt was the publishing phenomenon of the century, read by many millions, and adapted into a major TV series – but it was only part of the story.

Undoctored, Kay's funniest and most moving book yet, covers what's happened since hanging up his scrubs. Battered and bruised from his time on the NHS frontline, Kay looks back, moves forwards and opens up some old wounds.

Kay is an BAFTA-winning writer and comedian. His debut book, *This is Going to Hurt*, is a literary sensation: a Sunday Times number one bestseller for over a year, winning a record-breaking four National Book Awards and selling over three million copies.



25 YEARS OF THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT

David Donoghue, Philip Stephens, Gerry Foley

• **Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College**

🔊 Panel

🕒 16:15 (1 hour) | £7

It has been 25 years since the Good Friday Agreement helped bring peace to Northern Ireland, but how stable is that peace today?

Join our panel as they discuss the legacy of this historic deal and what it means to the people of Northern Ireland and their future. Today, the country has avoided returning to the bloodshed of the past, but the peace that exists is troubled and far from secure.

This panel discussion, chaired by broadcast journalist Gerry Foley, includes David Donoghue, one of the Irish government's negotiators who worked on the deal and author of *One Good Day: My Journey to the Good Friday Agreement*, and writer and historian Philip Stephens, who is working on a book about British-Irish relations.



WRITING YORKSHIRE

Mariam Ansar, Linda Green, Jennie Godfrey, Liz Mistry

• **The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College**

🔊 Panel

🕒 16:45 (1 hour) | £7

What better way to while away an afternoon than revelling in Yorkshire's rich literary heritage?

This popular event makes a welcome return to the festival as we discuss the authors and stories that have taken inspiration from Yorkshire, using its backdrop, history and surrounding areas as a literary muse.

Joining us this time out are Mariam Ansar, author of *Good For Nothing*, set in a fictional Yorkshire town, author Jennie Godfrey whose debut *The List of Suspicious Things* is due out next year, bestselling novelist Linda Green, whose latest book, *In Little Stars*, came out last year, and Liz Mistry, author of *End Game*, the latest in her Detective Nikki Parekh series of gritty, crime fiction, police procedural stories set in Bradford.

Sit back and relax as our panellists discuss the many ways that writers have been shaped by God's Own Country.



THE STATE OF THE (POETRY) NATION

**Joelle Taylor, Karen McCarthy Woolf,
Jeremy Noel-Tod**

French Ballroom, The Midland Hotel

Awards & Prizes

16:45 (1 hour) | **£7**

We are delighted to host the Forward Prizes for Poetry in this special event revealing the shortlist for this year's prizes, including a new category for the 'Best Single Poem – Performed'.

The Forward Prizes for Poetry are the most influential awards for new poetry in the UK and Ireland, celebrating fresh talent as well as internationally established names.

Alongside the exclusive announcement of the shortlists from the BLF's stage, award-winning poet Joelle Taylor and her fellow poet and judge, Karen McCarthy Woolf, will discuss the state of poetry in the UK, highlighting the key themes preoccupying poets today, how poetry is changing, and offering tips on what makes a good poem.

So, if you're a poetry fan eager to discover whose name is on everyone's lips, then you won't want to miss out on this.

Chaired by Jeremy Noel-Tod.



GLOBAL CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING WITH THE BRITISH ACADEMY

**Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford
College**

Panel

17:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

The British Academy Book Prize for Global Cultural Understanding celebrates the best works of non-fiction that have contributed to public understanding of world cultures.

Now in its 11th year, the prestigious £25,000 prize champions books that speak directly to the urgent challenges of our times, from racism to the growing climate crisis.

The British Academy is the UK's national academy for humanities and social sciences, and eligible books come from a wide range of subjects, including archaeology, history and psychology.

This special festival event in partnership with The British Academy, ahead of the announcement of this year's winner in November, brings together an inspirational panel of writers to discuss their work and the importance of encouraging greater global cultural understanding.



SPECIAL PREVIEW SCREENING: BAATO

📍 John Stanley Bell, University of
Bradford

🎬 Film & Screening

🕒 17:00 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

The documentary film *Baato* is a beautifully crafted, clear-eyed chronicle of the construction of a trans-national highway in Nepal and the lives it impacts along the way.

In particular, directors Kate Stryker and Lucas Millard reveal the impact of the project on a family living in a heretofore isolated community in the Himalayas of northeastern Nepal. Hoping to sell medicinal plants in urban markets, the woman and her family travel deep into the Himalayas of Nepal as construction of a new highway starts to transform the mountain landscape.

The documentary explores the many dimensions that come into play with an infrastructural project of this scale, both in terms of economic and political forces, as well as the backbreaking and often dangerous labour involved in construction. Through the documentary, viewers will learn about the road's journey through Nepal and how its creation impacts those near and far.



TOM CREWE AND JAMES CAHILL IN CONVERSATION

Tom Crewe, James Cahill

📍 Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford
College

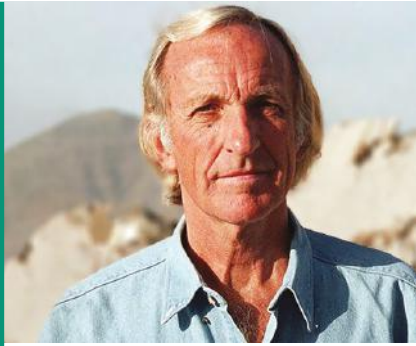
🎤 In Conversation

🕒 15:45 (1 hour) | £7

Don't miss this literary meeting of minds with acclaimed writers, Tom Crewe and James Cahill.

Crewe's dazzling debut novel, *The New Life*, has been praised for its virtuoso brilliance. Set in London during the tail end of the Victorian era, the story revolves around John and Henry, whose shared vision for the future unites them to write a revolutionary book in defiance of convention and the law. Their daring book threatens to throw John and Henry and all those around them into danger. How far should they go to win personal freedoms?

Crewe will be joined by Cahill, whose widely praised debut new novel, *Tiepolo Blue*, is a bold story of art, privilege and power and was recently shortlisted for the Author's Club 'Best First Novel Award.'



JOHN PILGER IN CONVERSATION

John Pilger, Anthony Hayward

📍 **Great Hall, University of Bradford**

🗣️ In Conversation

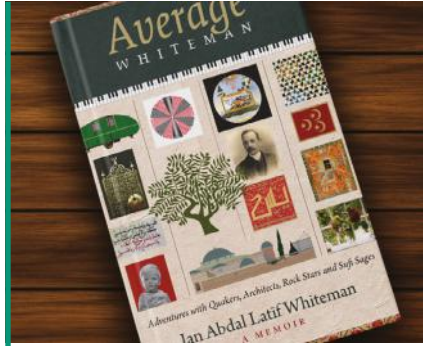
🕒 17:30 (1 hour) | £7

This is an unmissable opportunity to join one of the great documentary makers of our time, as we celebrate the work of the legendary John Pilger.

John is acclaimed as a trailblazing journalist tackling imperialist and authoritarian regimes and holding those in power to account. He's made more than 60 films, exposing injustices and human rights abuses around the world.

Today, he laments what he sees as a contrived consensus of ignorance and prejudice in international affairs and the refusal to question our largely Americanised worldview.

Join John Pilger for this special in-conversation event with fellow journalist Anthony Hayward and hear from this fearless, award-winning journalist.



AVERAGE WHITEMAN: IAN WHITEMAN AND RICHARD THOMPSON IN CONVERSATION

Ian Abdal Latif Whiteman, Richard Thompson, Ovidio Salazar

📍 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 17:45 (1 hour) | £7

Get ready to immerse yourself in the fascinating real-life stories of two extraordinary musicians, Ian Abdal Latif Whiteman and Richard Thompson. They take the stage with filmmaker Ovidio Salazar for a captivating conversation about the power of music and faith, and their encounters with real holy men, and not-so-holy men, as detailed in Whiteman's illuminating and entertaining memoir, *Average Whiteman*.

Join these long-time friends for a conversation that promises to be an unforgettable exploration of the early days of psychedelic rock and how Islam played a significant role in that scene.



CALEB AZUMAH NELSON AND JESSICA GEORGE IN CONVERSATION

Caleb Azumah Nelson and Jessica George

Waterstones

In Conversation

19:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Fiction can be a powerful force, helping unpick the rules and identities imposed on us.

These ideas go to the heart of Caleb Azumah Nelson's work. His acclaimed debut, *Open Water*, established him as a literary sensation and now he's back with *Small Worlds*, an exhilarating story about fathers and sons, faith and friendship and the worlds we build for ourselves.

Caleb is joined by Jessica George whose stunning debut novel, *Maame*, charts the story of a modern woman attempting to weave together the threads of her life that make her who she is. These two acclaimed fiction writers will explore perceived notions of identity and discuss the influences behind their own work.



SHADEN: ALL HELL BROKE LOOSE

Shaden Fakhri, Mario Moubarak

Studio, Bradford Theatres

Concert & Performance

19:30 (1 hour 45mins) | **£7**

If you like comedy that's edgy, racy and challenges the status quo, then Lebanese comedian, activist and all round rebel Shaden should be right up your street.

As the Middle East's first openly queer comedian, Shaden defies social taboos and addresses supposedly no-go topics such as female sexuality, homosexuality, racism, religion, and mental health in her shows.

Bold and outspoken, she uses her role as an influential online activist to criticise the ruling political forces and failing sectarianism in her homeland. And her popularity is growing. More than 10,000 people have seen her critically-acclaimed show, *SHIAA SEEDS*, since 2018, and now Shaden brings her *All Hell Broke Loose* show to Bradford and with it her defiant, non-conformist spirit.

This show will be in Arabic only with no translation.



SUFİYANA KALAAM

Fareed Ayaz, Abu Muhammad Qawwal & Brothers Group

📍 **St George's Hall**

🎵 **Concert & Performance**

🕒 **19:30 (2 hours) | £20**

An iconic annual event, this year's Sufiyana Kalaam welcomes Fareed Ayaz, Abu Muhammad Qawwal & Brothers Group, hailed among the world's finest exponents of Qawwali – a hypnotic, vocal-driven form of Sufi music rich in poetic and mystical symbolism.

Qawwali is part of a musical tradition that stretches back more than 700 years, connecting this event to generations of poets and performers through time. A firm audience favourite, this will be a mesmerising evening of Sufi poetry combined with dance, celebrating the musical traditions of the Punjab and the Indian subcontinent fused with orchestral sounds.

Prepare to be taken on an immersive journey that will hark back to the traditional setting of a haveli, creating a truly unmissable experience.



ZABAVA: AN EVENING OF MUSIC & DANCE

📍 **Princes Ballroom, Midland Hotel**

🎵 **Gig & Night Out**

🕒 **20:00 (3 hours) | £7**

Dust off your dancing shoes and join us for this wonderful evening of traditional, yet modern music and dance by Romani and Traveller artists.

A Zabava is a giant party, a fun-filled feast of entertainment to delight all your senses! A tradition in the Romani and Traveller communities, this joyous evening brings people together to celebrate music, culture and community.

Bradford Literature Festival is pleased to partner with Connecting Roma, a not-for-profit community organisation working with the Roma community in Bradford, to bring a wonderful line up of celebrated Romani and Traveller bands and artists together for one night only.

This event is open to all communities and everyone will be welcomed with open arms.



CONNECTING ROMA
— C.I.C. —

**SUNDAY
2 JULY**

Arabian Nights

Adventure into an intoxicating world of history, mystery and magical tales as we celebrate the wonders of the Middle East and all it has to offer.

WRONGSEMBLE PRESENTS: THE GENIE, THE PRINCESS AND THE FORTY THIEVES

City Park Stage

Scheherazade is the weaver of 1001 tales, and she's here to transport you on the flying carpet of imagination to the far flung worlds of wonder that live within her stories. Three tales from the Arabian Nights are brought to life for families in a flurry of music, magic and puppetry.

11.00 | 13.00 | 15.00 (30mins)
| Free

STORY WEAVERS WORKSHOP

City Park Stage

Fancy yourself as a storyteller? Put your skills to the test in Wrongsemble's workshop.

Following the lead of the weaver of 1001 tales you'll bring your very own magical stories to life.

11.30 | 13.30 | 15.30 (15mins)
| Free

ARABIAN DESERT SCENE NIGHTLIGHTS

**The Imagination Station,
City Park**

Be transported to a different world when you join us to make your very own magical nightlight scene. Cut, craft, colour and share your own unique style with this free, drop-in session for dreamers everywhere.

10.00-16.00 (drop in) **| Free**

FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS

ARABIAN NIGHTS: BEJEWELLED CUFFS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Shine like the star that you are with these bedazzling, bejewelled cuffs. Twinkling with all the colours of the rainbow these simple, fun creations will help you transform yourself and stand out from the crowd.

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | **Free**

ARABIAN NIGHTS: CRAZY CAMELS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Create your own crazy camels in this fun, free arts and craft session for all ages. Design and make your own colourful, wacky friend to go on adventures with in the wild world beyond.

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | **Free**

**Don't forget all our other amazing children's events for all the family,
details on the following pages.**



Join us on this **FREE EVENT** throughout the day. No booking required, just drop in!



BRONTË HERITAGE BUS TOUR

Christa Ackroyd

📍 **National Science and Media Museum**

🔊 Heritage Tour

🕒 8:45 - 17:00 (all day) | **£35**

The festival's flagship event is back by popular demand for another foray into the world of the Brontë family. For Brontë fans, this is a truly unmissable event, offering a unique glimpse into the lives and works of Bradford's most famous siblings.

This specially curated tour is led by broadcaster and Brontë enthusiast Christa Ackroyd and features a number of highlights. Journey by vintage coach to the Brontës' childhood home in Thornton village and lunch (included) at Branwell Brontë's favourite local spot, the Lord Nelson pub. All the while, you'll be treated to stunning views of the same moors that called to Heathcliff and Cathy, as well as intriguing historical insights on the family from our knowledgeable guide and host.

The tour includes admission to the Brontë Parsonage Museum, located in the house where the sisters wrote their beloved novels, along with an exclusive talk by the museum's knowledgeable staff.



LITTLE GERMANY HERITAGE TOUR

Nigel Grizzard

📍 **Festival Square, Peckover Street**

🔊 Heritage Tour

🕒 10:00 (1 hour 30mins) | **£7**

Take a step back in time and see Bradford as it was during Victorian times when it was the wool capital of the world.

This walking tour of Little Germany is packed full of stories. You'll see how the prosperous wool industry boomed in the area and get an insight into the history and heritage of what is now Bradford's vibrant cultural quarter.

As wool merchants from all over Europe – particularly Jewish immigrants from Germany – settled in the area during the 19th century, the neighbourhood became a destination for busy commerce and stunning architecture. Many of the buildings they constructed to store their goods for export mirrored the ornate ones found in their European homelands.

Led by local historian Nigel Grizzard, this tour calls for suitable clothing and footwear as you wind through the streets filled with a history that has a little bit of Germany with a Yorkshire twist.



THE SEASONS WITHIN: WOMB COURSE

Ustadha Iffet Rafeeq

📍 **Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College**

🔊 Workshop

🕒 10:00 (4 hours) | **£10**

Women are deeply affected by the natural rhythm of their monthly cycles. In this workshop Iffet Rafeeq will take you through a journey to help you to map your menstrual cycle like the seasons in a year.

Ustadha Iffet will help you understand your monthly pattern in fluctuating moods, energy levels, metabolism, and libido as well as offering advice on diet and lifestyle to help you live in sync with your cycle. Learning the seasons of your body is essentially unlocking your innate superpower as a woman.



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE BRONTËS: HERITAGE WALK

Dr Michael Stewart

📍 **The Old Bell Chapel**

🔊 Heritage Tour

🕒 10:00 (5 hours) | **£7**

Follow in the footsteps of Yorkshire's famous literary siblings and take a walking tour of the Brontë Stones with originator and author, Michael Stewart.

Starting at the Brontës' birthplace in Thornton village and ending in Haworth, this is a unique opportunity to hear the story behind the written responses of Carol Ann Duffy, Kate Bush, Jackie Kay, and Jeanette Winterson to the famous literary siblings – each piece specially commissioned by Bradford Literature Festival in 2018.

Please note that this nine-mile route is roughly a five-hour trek that takes you through narrow stiles, uneven ground, hills, steps, and slippery surfaces – as well as some breathtaking scenery. Appropriate footwear is essential and please bring a packed lunch!

Meeting point: The Old Bell Chapel, Thornton. This is a linear walk that ends in Haworth. Return transport will not be provided.



STORYTELLING: I'M A STORYTELLER GET ME OUT OF HERE

Beth Guiver

The Imagination Station, City Park

Kids & Family

10.15, 12.15, 14.15 (30mins) | **FREE**

Join Beth Guiver for exciting stories about disguise, clever tricks and getting out of trouble using your wits, just like the famous storyteller Scheherazade from *One Thousand And One Nights*.

What would you do in a REALLY TRICKY SITUATION like when someone wanted to eat you, or had given you an impossible and deadly challenge? Would you hatch a cunning plan or spin a good story?

Storyteller Beth Guiver will be entertaining audiences with well-known stories that tell us what to do when we get in hot water, and how to get out of it too! You can expect singing pumpkins, fast-talking hares and one very picky princess.

All our storytelling sessions are free but please make sure you book separate tickets for yourself and any children individually.



HOCKNEY PORTRAIT PAINTING FOR KIDS

Roz Hall

Bright MBA, University of Bradford
– **Bright Building**

Workshop

10:30 (1 hour 30mins) | **£7**

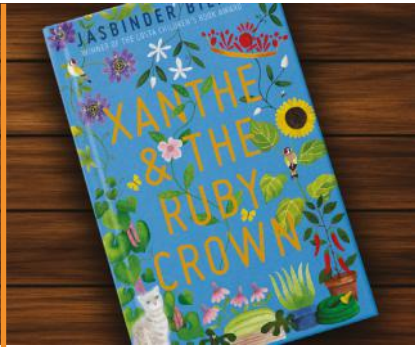
Calling all young artists!

Create your very own personal portrait and learn to paint like the great David Hockney.

The Bradford-born artist is famous for his big, bold and bright colours – but have you ever wondered how he has managed to swap paint brushes and canvases for an iPad and still create amazing art?

This digital art workshop, led by artist and educator Roz Hall, will demonstrate some of the simple techniques he uses to create his stunning artworks. Join Hall and discover the joy of creating digital paintings. It's time to be inspired and unleash your inner artist.

This workshop is for children. iPads will be supplied.



STORIES UNLOCKED: XANTHE AND THE RUBY CROWN

Jasbinder Bilan

📍 **Waterstones**

👨👩👧👦 Kids & Family

🕒 11:00 (45mins) | **FREE**

Meet Costa award-winning author Jasbinder Bilan as she dives under the covers of her stunning new novel *Xanthe And The Ruby Crown*.

Xanthe loves visiting her grandmother in her tower-block flat with its bright rooftop garden. So when Nani is diagnosed with dementia, she is determined to help her remember who she is and her family history. A mysterious cat leads archaeology-obsessed Xanthe to some unexpected answers and hidden mementoes from Nani's past as she uncovers her family's secrets.

A tale of hidden memories, family, refugees and belonging with a magical twist. Find out the inspiration behind Bilan's books, her journey to becoming a successful writer, and listen to her read a snippet from her latest story.

Suitable for ages 9+.



YOGA ENERGY

📍 **The University of Bradford, Norcroft Auditorium**

🗣️ Workshop, Health & Wellbeing

🕒 11:00 (1 hour) | **£5**

Clear your mind and focus on the day ahead with this Ashtanga Yoga session ideal for all abilities.

Ashtanga is a dynamic form of Hatha Yoga that promotes mental clarity and inner peace. It is rooted in vinyasa, the flowing movements between positions, with a focus on energy and breath.

Rebecca Riley, from Yoga Limba in Leeds, will lead a 60-minute session, the benefits of which will stretch far beyond flexibility – reducing anxiety, boosting immunity and putting a spring in your step ahead of another busy day enjoying all the festival has to offer!

Please bring your own mat or contact us if you need to borrow one via boxoffice@bradfordlitfest.co.uk



SHOCK AND AWE: THE IRAQ WAR 20 YEARS ON

John Pilger, Haifa Zangana, Paul Rogers

📍 **Great Hall, University of Bradford**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 11:00 (1 hour) | £7

20 years on from the Iraq War, our special guests explore the legacy of this hugely contentious conflict in what is sure to be an excoriating panel discussion.

The US-led invasion of Iraq, supported by Tony Blair's government, plunged the country into decades of chaos and unrest and provoked global criticism, leading to some of the largest public demonstrations in history. How do Iraqis and non-Iraqis feel about the war, 20 years on?

Our speakers, including acclaimed journalist and filmmaker, John Pilger, novelist Haifa Zangana, novelist and former prisoner of Saddam Hussein's regime, and Paul Rogers, emeritus professor of peace studies at the University of Bradford, will discuss the build-up to the conflict, how it was covered by the media, and its enduring legacy.



THE ARTIST AND THE ETHICS

Joelle Taylor, Jeremy Noel-Tod, Anthony Anaxagorou, Sanah Ahsan

📍 **Dye House Gallery, Bradford College**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 11:00 (1 hour) | £7

Maintaining a reputation – for better or worse – has always been difficult to do as a writer or artist. In our information-saturated age, with ethics evolving alongside the years, has it become impossible to separate the artist from their work?

This question of how to reconcile the relationship between art and artist is a complex one. Roland Barthes, in his influential essay *Death of the Author*, suggests that an author's life should not be considered when interpreting a work of art. However, many people today find it difficult to separate the two.

Join our panellists, Anthony Anaxagorou, Joelle Taylor and Jeremy Noel-Tod, as they ask whether it's possible to judge an artist's work purely on its merits. Chaired by poet and psychologist, Sanah Ahsan.



THE GOLDEN AGE OF ISLAM

Akbar Ahmed, Shamim Miah

📍 **Ernest Saville, City Hall**

🗣️ In Conversation

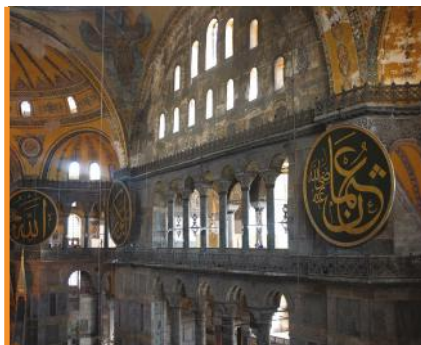
🕒 11:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for a captivating event delving into the Golden Age of Islam, as we bring together distinguished experts Ambassador Akbar Ahmed and Dr Shamim Miah.

Renowned anthropologist and Islamic scholar, Ambassador Ahmed, will discuss his new book, *The Flying Man: The Golden Age of Islam and its Contribution to Science and Philosophy*, illuminating the lives and legacies of key Muslim personalities and their profound influence on the West.

Ambassador Ahmed will be in conversation with Dr Shamim Miah, author and lecturer whose new book, *Ibn Khaldun: Education, History and Society*, sheds light on Ibn Khaldun's pivotal contributions in this area.

Engage in a thought-provoking exploration of Islamic intellectual history and its enduring impact on the modern world.



RECALLING THE CALIPHATE

Salman Sayyid, Mahmood Chandia

📍 **The Banqueting Hall, City Hall**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 11:00 (1 hour) | £7

Don't miss this thought-provoking panel discussion on the continued significance of the Caliphate in modern Muslim discourse. Although often viewed negatively in the West as an outdated institution, for Muslims, the end of the Ottoman Empire marked the end of the last Muslim Caliphate, and its legacy still holds a sense of nostalgia and romanticism.

This event will explore the debate on the revival of the Caliphate and its relevance in contemporary Islamic politics. Dr. Salman Sayyid from Leeds University and Dr. Mahmood Chandia from the University of Central Lancashire bring their extensive research and knowledge to the discussion.

Together, they will talk about the fall of the last Caliphate and the political vacuum it left in the Muslim world, whether or not it could – or should – be reimagined in the 21st century, and how it shapes contemporary Muslim political thinking.



THE WORLD TODAY

Professor Paul Rogers

The Chamber, City Hall

Panel

11:00 (1 hour 15 mins) | **£7**

Join our panel in this popular annual event as they dissect the big issues and offer analysis on what's happening in the world today and how it might affect us all tomorrow.

Trying to make sense of what is happening in the world can feel overwhelming at times. You only have to turn on the news or scroll through stories on social media to be met with a barrage of negativity – whether it's the growing climate crisis and the war in Ukraine or fears about a rising tide of poverty and our polarised political landscape.

However, it's not all bad news – and thankfully our guest speakers, including Paul Rogers, emeritus professor of peace studies at the University of Bradford, have their finger on the international pulse.



UK PREMIERE: ONE THOUSAND WOMEN AND Q&A

John Stanley Bell, University of Bradford

Film & Screening

11:00 (1 hour 30mins) | **£7**

This powerful documentary, taking place between 2016 and 2020, unearths an unexpected aspect of life for women in Iran: wrestling.

Wrestling is a sport that has a very long history in Iran, going back to ancient times. *One Thousand Women* follows a group of young women in modern times who are tackling overwhelming obstacles to find their space in the exclusively masculine realm of wrestling in Iran. Together, they learn how they deal with a strict Islamic dress code or face a ban on wrestling with Israeli athletes.

Directed by Morgan Illanlou, who was imprisoned by the Iranian regime in October 2022, *One Thousand Women* is an awe-inspiring group portrait of exceptionally strong women engaged in a never-ending fight for equal opportunities.

The screening will be followed by a Q&A with the son of Morgan Illanlou, Parsa Pirhadi, and Javaad Alipoor.

Persian with English subtitles.



BLF'S MASTER STORYTELLER

Gav Cross

📍 **The Imagination Station, City Park** | 🗣️ Talk

🕒 11.15, 13.15, 15.15 (30mins) | **FREE**

Stop by for an adventure or two with Gav Cross and you never know, you might just find your own inner storyteller! Join Gav, our resident master storyteller and funny man here at BLF, as he wields his storytelling powers and wows you with magical journeys, wild adventures and crazy capers!

These delightful interactive story sessions will entertain young and old with their magical, mystical and sometimes downright silly characters and escapades. Don't miss this storytelling bonanza – it'll keep you glued to your seat.

All our storytelling sessions are free but please make sure you book separate tickets for yourself and any children individually.



IN CONVERSATION: VASAY CHAUDHRY

Vasay Chaudhry

📍 **The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College**

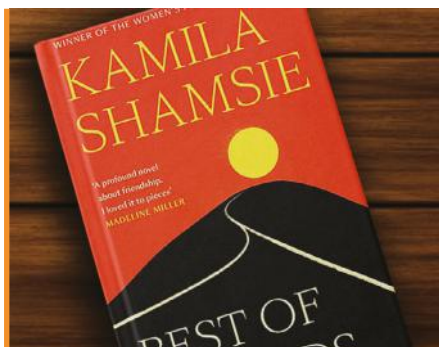
🔊 In Conversation

🕒 11:30 (1 hour) | £7

Vasay Chaudhry is one of Pakistan's best-loved and most well-known public figures working in screen and media. He's a screenwriter, actor, director, producer, host, and comedian, and now he's coming to Bradford to share stories about his life.

His films *Jawani Phir Nahe Ani* (one and two), which he wrote and directed, were the highest grossing films in Pakistani cinema and broke all the previous box office records. His successes include hosting the comedy show, *Mazaqrat*, on Dunya News for 10 years, and is the president of Screen Writer's Association of Pakistan and the vice-chairman of Punjab film Censor Board.

In this special event, Vasay joins Bradford Literature Festival to bring his globally renowned warmth, charm, and charisma to our stages.



BEST OF FRIENDS: KAMILA SHAMSIE IN CONVERSATION

Kamila Shamsie

📍 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre**

🔊 In Conversation

🕒 11:30 (1 hour) | £7

Don't miss this unique opportunity to listen to one of the great modern literary voices – the multi award-winning author Kamila Shamsie.

Her latest novel, *Best of Friends*, won the 2022 Women's Prize for Fiction, and has been hailed as a "shining tour de force" by fellow author Ali Smith.

This dazzling new novel about friendship, identity and the unknowability of other people opens in Karachi in 1988 when best friends Maryam and Zahra are 14 years old. As Pakistan's dictatorship falls and a woman comes to power, the world suddenly seems full of possibilities.

The story moves forward to present-day London where these two influential women remain bound together by loyalties, disloyalties, and the memory of a fateful night.

Join Kamila for this special in-conversation event.



PICASSO: OUTSIDE THE FRAME

Anthony Anaxagorou, Aviva Dautch, Sanah Ahsan, Dave Haslam

📍 **Dye House Gallery, Bradford College** | 🗨️ Panel

🕒 12:15 (1 hour 15mins) | £7

It's 50 years since Pablo Picasso's death so why does he continue to have such an influence on artists, writers, filmmakers and even musicians?

Famous for his iconic, genre-defining paintings that changed the way we think about art, Picasso was also a brilliant sculptor, printmaker, ceramicist and theatre designer. A creative tour de force throughout his life, he formed close friendships with writers and poets, including André Breton and Guillaume Apollinaire.

Our panellists – poets Anthony Anaxagorou, Aviva Dautch and Sanah Ahsan – will explore his astonishing legacy and share their ekphrastic poetry to one of Picasso's paintings. They will be joined by chair Dave Haslam, author of *Adventure Everywhere* – the seventh book in his acclaimed *Art Decades* series – who will start the event with an introduction to the great man's life.



THE POWER OF ACTIVISM: HUSSAIN IBN ALI

Reza Aslan

📍 **The Banqueting Hall, City Hall** | 🗣️ Talk

🕒 12:30 (1 hour) | £7

Hussain ibn Ali, grandson of the Prophet Muhammad, is a symbol of courage and resistance against oppression. His legacy continues to inspire countless individuals around the world, transcending the tragedy of his death at the Battle of Karbala and the subsequent schism between Sunni and Shia Islam.

One notable example is the Iranian-American writer and public speaker, Reza Aslan, who has often drawn parallels between the struggles of Hussain and contemporary issues of human rights and social activism.

Join Reza for an enlightening talk about the enduring legacy of Hussain ibn Ali, a figure who, while often seen as polarising within Islam, has the potential to be a unifying force for social justice and freedom of speech.



SCREENING AND Q&A: FINDING ALAA

Myriam François

📍 **John Stanley Bell, University of Bradford** | 🗣️ Film & Screening/In Conversation

🕒 13:00 (1 hour) | £7

Myriam François' directorial debut, *Finding Alaa*, tells the story of a grandfather, Azdyne Amimour, searching for his five-year-old granddaughter Aicha; the daughter of an ISIS terrorist responsible for the 2015 Paris Attack.

Believing her to be in a refugee camp in Northern Syria, Azdyne begins a journey to save her in a way that he could never save his son. The film explores themes of guilt and innocence, identity and belonging, as we meet the 'other victims of ISIS' – the families torn apart in its wake, trying to atone for crimes they never committed.

This special screening will be followed by an interview with the director, Myriam François.



A WOMAN'S LIFE ON THE ROAD: SARA WHEELER AND CHRISTINA LAMB IN CONVERSATION

Sara Wheeler, Christina Lamb

📍 **The Advanced Technology Centre
(ATC), Bradford College**

🔊 In Conversation

🕒 13:00 (1 hour) | £7

"I do not wish to be good. I wish to be hell on wheels, or dead." So said the indefatigable war correspondent and travel writer, Martha Gellhorn.

This fearless spirit is imbued in our two panellists: Sara Wheeler, whose new book *Glowing Still: A Woman's Life on the Road* charts her adventures to some of the most exciting and far-flung places on the planet, and award-winning journalist and bestselling author Christina Lamb, one of Britain's leading foreign correspondents.

Join the duo for a conversation exploring their remarkable lives in transit and the challenges and rewards of working as trailblazing women in two notoriously male-dominated fields, as well as the work they have both done to platform the plight and stories of other women.



JEWISH MANNINGHAM HERITAGE TOUR

Nigel Grizzard

📍 **Bradford Reform Synagogue**

🔊 Heritage Tour

🕒 13:00 (1 hour 45mins) | £7

Come along and enjoy this illuminating walking tour of Manningham, an area that was once home to the city's thriving Jewish Quarter.

Bradford's Jewish community dates back more than 200 years, during which time it has helped shape the city's cultural and social life. After arriving in the first quarter of the 19th century, a growing community of German Jews transformed this small corner of the city into a bustling hub of industrial trade and breathtaking architecture, including the stunning Bradford Reform Synagogue.

Led by local historian Nigel Grizzard, who will share stories about the colourful merchant princes who helped shape the local area, this informal tour calls for suitable clothing and footwear as you wind through the streets filled with history.



TIGER WORK: BEN OKRI IN CONVERSATION

Ben Okri

📍 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre** | 🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 13:00 (1 hour) | £7

Booker Prize-winning author Ben Okri tackles the biggest existential challenge facing the world today, climate change. His new book, *Tiger Work*, blends fiction, essay and poetry with imagined messages from beyond the end to make a powerful and personal appeal for change before there is no world left for us to fix.

These warnings are combined with a vision of an idyllic past in Okri's recent novel, *The Last Gift of the Master Artists*, which shows a world in the moments before everything changed and innocence was lost with the arrival of the Transatlantic slave trade.

Join one of the foremost writers of our age, as he takes us on a journey full of stories, changing worlds, and hope.



HOCKNEY'S JOINERS IPAD ART WORKSHOP

Roz Hall

**Bright MBA, University of Bradford –
Bright Building**

Workshop

13:00 (2 hours) | £7

Ever wondered how David Hockney is able to create such astonishing masterpieces using an iPad? This Hockney-inspired workshop will guide you through the process of creating your very own intricate photo collage using an iPad's camera and drawing tools.

The iconic artist has embraced technology in the way he works and this digital art workshop, led by artist and educator Roz Hall, will show you how to take and import photos, use layers to build up an image, and use painting tools to add details to your digital photos to create your own work of art.

Hall, whose work has been featured by Apple and Microsoft, has also taught at Tate Britain, the V&A and the BBC.

This workshop is for ages 16 and over. iPads will be supplied.



IN SEARCH OF THE DIVINE: LIVING HISTORIES OF SUFISM IN INDIA

Rana Safvi

Dye House Gallery, Bradford College

Talk

13:45 (1 hour) | £7

Enjoy a real insight into the mystical dimension of Islam in this fascinating exploration of the rise of Sufism in India.

Let renowned writer, scholar and translator Rana Safvi, author of *In Search of the Divine*, take you on a spiritual journey as she delves into Sufism, recognised for its inclusive nature, as well as its ethics of love and compassion and devotional music, art and architecture.

Safvi will discuss her book which evokes in vivid detail the sacred atmosphere she encountered during her research – the reverent crowds, the strains of qawwali and the undeniable yet often forgotten contributions of women in Sufism.

This is a unique opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of Sufi beliefs and why they might offer hope for the future.



JEREMY CORBYN: REFLECTIONS ON GENEVA

Jeremy Corbyn, Professor Paul Rogers

📍 **St Georges Hall**

🔊 In Conversation

🕒 14:00 (1 hour) | £7

Don't miss this unique opportunity to hear from Jeremy Corbyn as he reflects on his historic speech at the UN's headquarters in Geneva in 2017.

In his powerful and wide-ranging speech, the former Labour Party leader outlined the challenges facing the world and how a Labour government under his leadership would tackle them. He highlighted four main threats faced by humanity: the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of a small corporate elite, exacerbated by tax avoidance; climate change; the refugee crisis, and what he called a "bomb first, and think and talk later" approach to conflict resolution.

Six years on, these issues have become even more pressing. Can we really overcome these threats and create a world of mutual benefit and support? Join Jeremy in conversation with Professor Paul Rogers as he discusses the challenges facing humanity and how we can overcome them.



REFUGEE PROPHETS: FROM MOSES TO MUHAMMAD

Reza Aslan

📍 **The Banqueting Hall, City Hall**

🔊 Panel

🕒 14:00 (1 hour 15mins) | £7

Don't miss this insightful and timely talk that sheds light on the power of prophetic teachings to inspire positive change.

The theme of prophecy and the experiences of refugees are explored in this thought-provoking discussion that draws parallels between the current refugee crisis and the experiences of prophets from the Jewish, Christian, and Islamic traditions, illustrating the bond between the stories of Moses, Jesus, Joseph, and Muhammad, and the experiences of refugees today.

This enlightening panel discussion will provide a unique perspective on the current refugee crisis by highlighting the struggles, challenges, and resilience of these prophets who were forced to flee their homes and communities. It will focus on how we can learn from the experiences of these prophets and apply their teachings, supporting and advocating for refugees in the modern world.



A LANGUAGE IS A DIALECT WITH AN ARMY AND A NAVY

Keith Kahn-Harris, Kübra Gümüşay, Daniel Hahn

The Chamber, City Hall

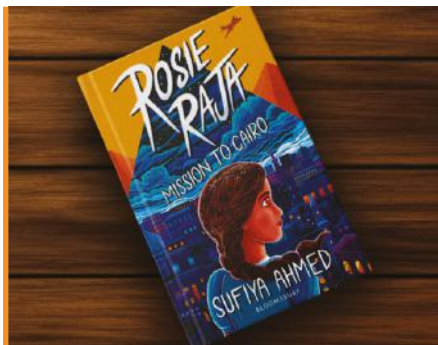
Panel

14:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Language and dialect are part of who we are; they can unite us and they can also spark conflicts and violence. In this panel discussion we explore the role they play in shaping national identity and the world around us, what happens when one language becomes more dominant than another and the potential challenges faced by multilingual societies.

Three language experts – sociologist and writer Dr Keith Kahn-Harris; writer and activist Kübra Gümüşay, author of *Speaking and Being*; and writer and translator Daniel Hahn – come together to deepen our understanding of the complex role that language plays in shaping our world, by illustrating the value of linguistic diversity and the problems that arise when certain languages are eroded, and what happens when our language is no longer fit for purpose.

FW
FREE WORD



STORIES UNLOCKED: ROSIE RAJA, MISSION TO CAIRO

Sufiya Ahmed

Waterstones

Kids & Family

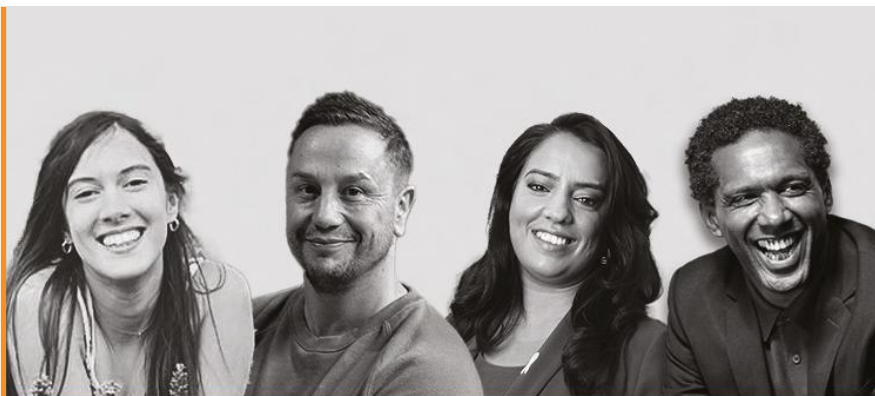
14:00 (45mins) | **£7**

Go back in time with Rosie Raja as she returns for another action-packed and electrifying adventure.

This time around, Rosie finds herself undercover in the magnificent and scorching city of Cairo, officially to make sure Egypt's amazing historical artefacts are kept safe from the Nazis... but really to root out a traitor in the British ranks. With the stakes higher than they've ever been, can she and her father keep each other safe?

Join author Sufiya Ahmed for this fun interactive session where you will learn more about our determined heroine Rosie and put your spy skills in to action with our spy decoding workshop!

Suitable for ages 9+.



LOST IN THE SYSTEM: CRISIS IN CHILDREN'S CARE

Lemn Sissay, Naz Shah, Chris Wild, Rebekah Pierre

 **The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College** |

  Panel

14:30 (1 hour) | £7

Award-winning author, poet and broadcaster, Lemn Sissay, invites you to join him as he explores the institutional care system today.

Sissay, whose poignant and powerful bestselling memoir *My Name is Why* was a reflection on his own childhood in care, has been highly critical of children's social care provision in the UK. He recently published a powerful article accusing Children's Commissioner Rachel de Souza of failing to champion children and young people in care at a crucial time.

Joining the writer and performer are Chris Wild, author of *The State of It*, and Bradford West MP, Naz Shah, who will reflect on her own experience of the care system, and care-experienced journalist Rebekah Pierre as event chair. As well as examining the flaws in the institution, the panel will discuss what must be done to protect some of the most vulnerable people in society.



YOU HAVE NOT YET BEEN DEFEATED

Omar Robert Hamilton, Kamila Shamsie

📍 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 14:30 (1 hour) | £7

How far would you be prepared to go to speak your mind?

This special event focuses on the story of activist Alaa Abd el-Fattah, arguably the most high-profile political prisoner in Egypt, whose book, *You Have Not Yet Been Defeated*, much of it written in prison, keeps the spirit of the 2011 revolution alive.

Abd el-Fattah's first cousin, writer and filmmaker Omar Robert Hamilton, joins award-winning novelist Kamila Shamsie, as they discuss Abd el-Fattah's work and the courage of political prisoners who lose their freedom simply for expressing their views and protesting against authoritarian regimes.

Presented in partnership with English PEN.

FW
FREE WORD



OUR RIVER... OUR SKY

📍 **John Stanley Bell, University of Bradford**

🎬 Film & Screening

🕒 14:30 (2 hours) | £7

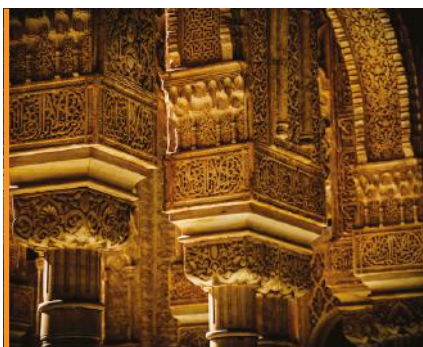
Set in Baghdad during the winter of 2006, extreme sectarian violence is rife across the country, with nightly curfews amid the ongoing occupation. Struggling writer and anxious mother, Sara, is at the heart of a small Baghdad community, where other ordinary Iraqis are trying to live their lives.

Throughout the chaos and destruction, they never let their hopes for the future fade, but are repeatedly forced to ask themselves a painful question: who does Baghdad really belong to now?

Maysoon Pachachi's fiction feature debut is remarkable and moving; a compelling view of everyday life in a war zone.

Our River ... Our Sky won the British Independent Film Award for best ensemble picture and it is remarkable for the interweaving stories and cast of memorable characters.

Arabic with English subtitles. This film is certified 15. You may be asked to provide proof of age at this event.



GHAZAL WRITING WORKSHOP

Aviva Dautch

📍 **Innovation Suite, University of
Bradford – Bright Building**

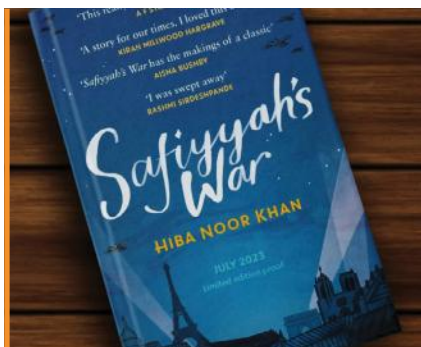
🗨️ Workshop

🕒 15:00 (2 hours) | **£7**

The ghazal is an ancient form of poem originating from the Arabian peninsula and rooted in South Asia and Persia. As a poetic form, it continues to enchant and beguile people today.

It's characterised by its profound expressions of love, loss and longing, and for posing deep metaphysical questions. For centuries, writers have poured their emotions into this elegant and passionate art form – and now you can do the same.

In this group workshop, led by author, poet and translator Aviva Dautch, you will come together with fellow literature lovers and discover how the ghazal spread across continents, why it is enjoying a revival and precisely how you could write one for yourself.



STORIES UNLOCKED: SAFIYYAH'S WAR

Hiba Noor Khan

📍 **Waterstones**

🗨️ Kids & Family

🕒 15:00 (45mins) | **FREE**

Meet author Hiba Noor Khan and be the first to dive under the covers of this brand new adventure book and join our heroine Safiyyah on an a journey like no other.

War comes to the streets of Paris and Safiyyah's life changes for ever. Her best friend's family have fled, and the bombing makes her afraid to leave the mosque where she lives. But when her father is arrested by the Nazis for his secret resistance work, it falls to Safiyyah to run the dangerous errands around the city. It's not long before hundreds of persecuted Jews seek sanctuary at the mosque.

Can Safiyyah find the courage to enter the treacherous catacombs under Paris and lead the Jews to safety?

Best suited to ages 9+.



FORGOTTEN FOODS: MEMORIES AND RECIPES FROM SOUTH ASIA

Rana Safvi, Sadaf Hussain, Siobhan Lambert-Hurley

📍 **The Grove, Hockney Building,
Bradford College**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 15:00 (1 hour 15mins) | £7

Discover the culinary delights of Muslim South Asian cookery in this special event celebrating long-forgotten recipes, with a rich helping of histories and cultures.

Forgotten Food is a project all about preserving Muslim South Asia's unique heritage linked to food, culture and literature – from culinary memories to lost recipes. In this session, we will talk about the project's delectable anthologies of food writing, *Dastarkhwan* and *Forgotten Food*, with author Rana Safvi, *Indian Masterchef* winner, Sadaf Hussain, and food historian Siobhan Lambert-Hurley.

Taste delicious morsels from the past recreated from 19th-century Urdu and Persian cookbooks using heritage rice varieties resurrected by the project team. It's time to let your taste buds have a party!



HYPER-INDIVIDUALISM: A 21ST CENTURY OBSESSION

Cathy Reay, Max Dickins, Professor Christina Victor

📍 **Dye House Gallery, Bradford College**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 15:15 (1 hour) | £7

Has life in the 21st century become all about the cult of the individual? Back in the 1970s, when the so-called "Me Generation" first made headlines, it was seen as little more than a talking point, but now individualism has arguably become the guiding principle of our times.

Today, individuality and self-expression are rightly celebrated and nurtured, but at what cost to our shared sense of community? Our expert panellists, including journalist Cathy Reay, author Max Dickins, and Professor Christina Victor, will discuss how society has changed and ask whether our obsession with individualism has eroded community values.



WENDY MITCHELL: ONE LAST THING

Wendy Mitchell

📍 The Chamber, City Hall

🔊 In Conversation

🕒 15:30 (1 hour) | £7

Wendy Mitchell is living proof that we don't need to fear anything. Join the inspirational bestselling author as she discusses living with dementia and why we need to talk about death. After her diagnosis of young-onset dementia in 2014, all of Mitchell's old fears melted away. What more was there to be afraid of when she faced her worst fear – losing her own mind?

While living with her condition and facing the extreme changes that come along with a degenerative illness, Mitchell wrote two Sunday Times bestselling books. Just as she normalised conversations about living with dementia, she now wants to normalise conversations on dying – to prepare herself and her loved ones for the end, and to appreciate the life she has left.

In her final book, *One Last Thing*, Mitchell embarks on a journey exploring death from all perspectives, reminding us that to get on with life we need to come to terms with our own mortality.



WHAT DOES A JEW LOOK LIKE?

Keith Kahn-Harris, Robert Stothard

📍 The Banqueting Hall, City Hall

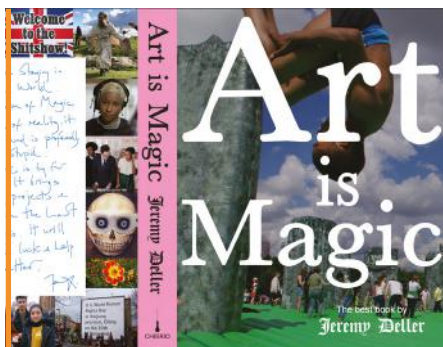
🔊 In Conversation

🕒 15:45 (1 hour) | £7

What does a Jew look like? All too often the response is someone who wears a black hat and coat and has a beard. The real answer to the question is far more complicated and much more interesting.

This question is at the heart of a collaboration between writer and sociologist Keith Kahn-Harris and award-winning photographic artist and journalist Robert Stothard. Fed up with media clichés around a 'typical' Jewish person, they set out to illustrate the diversity of the Jewish community – and hear people's stories.

Their book, *What Does a Jew Look Like?*, celebrates the countless ways that men and women can be Jewish in Britain today. For those of you curious to find out more, this illuminating conversation is designed to surprise, inform and beguile.



ART IS MAGIC

Jeremy Deller, Bob Stanley

📍 **The Advanced Technology Centre
(ATC), Bradford College**

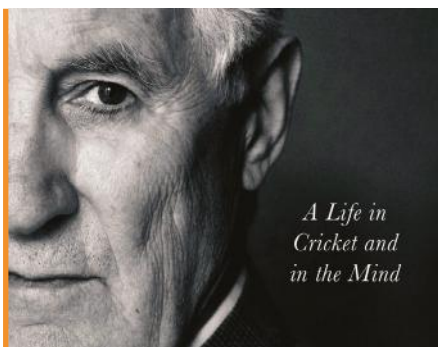
🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 15:45 (1 hour) | £7

Jeremy Deller is a celebrated artist who has won the Turner Prize and spent time with Andy Warhol at his New York studio – but what makes him tick?

Much has been written about Deller since he burst onto the art scene in the 1980s. Now for the first time he's pulled together all of his cultural touchstones in his new book, *Art is Magic*, in which he discusses the art, dance music, film, politics and history that have inspired him.

His work ranges from conceptual art to huge installations. He has collaborated with everyone from brass bands to fellow artists and filmmakers, drawing inspiration from all manner of places, events and even animals, including Stonehenge, the Miners' Strike and bats. Don't miss this chance to listen to one of Britain's most talented artists, in-conversation with Bob Stanley, talk about his work and the influences behind it.



MIKE BREARLEY: A LIFE IN CRICKET

Mike Brearley

📍 **Great Hall, University of Bradford**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 16:00 (1 hour) | £7

"If you go on like this, you'll do nothing but play cricket all your life." These were the exasperated words of Mike Brearley's mother. Little did she know he was destined to become one of England's finest cricket captains.

This is your chance to hear from a true sporting icon as Brearley discusses his new book, *Turning Over the Pebbles: A Life in Cricket and in the Mind*, and reflects on a lifetime of the sport, from joyful childhood games to his captaincy in the legendary 1981 Ashes series, leading England to one of their most famous victories.

A trained psychoanalyst, Brearley's memoir draws on literature, religion and leadership, which he blends with incredible cricketing memories. Join him as he takes you on the ups and downs of a remarkable sporting life.



FREE WORD LECTURE

Rana Ayyub

📍 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre** | 🗣️ Lecture

🕒 16:00 (1 hour) | £7

Award-winning investigative journalist and opinion columnist Rana Ayyub delivers this year's inspirational Free Word Lecture, celebrating the political power of words to uphold free speech.

Author of the controversial *Gujarat Files: Anatomy of a Cover Up*, Ayyub was previously an editor with Tehelka, an investigative magazine in India, and is now a columnist for *The Washington Post*. She has reported on religious violence, extrajudicial killings by the state and insurgency. An outspoken critic of Narendra Modi's government, Ayyub has been the victim of widespread online trolling and received multiple death threats.

In this unmissable lecture, Ayyub explores the transformative and democratising power of words and the importance of freedom of expression.

FW
FREE WORD



JULIE HESMONDHALGH: AN ACTOR'S ALPHABET

Julie Hesmondhalgh

📍 **Dye House Gallery, Bradford College**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 16:15 (1 hour) | £7

Julie Hesmondhalgh has starred in some of our biggest TV shows, including *Broadchurch*, *Coronation Street* and *Happy Valley* and now she's lifted the lid on life as an actor.

In her candid and empowering book, *An Actors' Alphabet*, she draws on her decades of experience on stage and screen – including playing the first transgender character in British soap – offering a glimpse of the realities of life in today's industry, and how to navigate it. A passionate advocate of the arts, she makes a powerful case for their importance to society, but also calls out the industry on what it needs to change to make it more accessible and inclusive.

Join Hesmondhalgh for a refreshingly honest and humorous insight into what being an actor is really like, whether you dream of a life treading the boards, or are simply curious to know what actually goes on in this wondrous, madcap industry.



SAMANTHA SHANNON AND TASHA SURI IN CONVERSATION

Samantha Shannon, Tasha Suri

📍 **The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 17:15 (1 hour) | £7

Fantasy writing was once a male-dominated world, but not any more thanks to a growing band of exciting female authors who are making a name for themselves and attracting a whole new audience.

Women like Samantha Shannon and Tasha Suri, who are taking the genre in new directions. Female empowerment is at the heart of the latest epic in Shannon's *Roots of Chaos* cycle, as well as Suri's provocative and powerful *Burning Kingdoms* trilogy, which continues with *The Oleander Sword*.

These two friends and award-winning literary trailblazers have helped to usurp the Western male-centric narrative in dystopian and fantasy fiction. Join them as they discuss the key influences behind their work, the importance of strong female literary protagonists, the people who have championed them along the way, and what they wish they'd known before starting out.



SIR LENNY HENRY AND LEMN SISSAY IN CONVERSATION

Sir Lenny Henry, Lemn Sissay

📍 **St George's Hall** | 🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 17:00 (1 hour) | £7

Sir Lenny Henry, one of the nation's best-loved actors and comedians, is joined by multi award-winning author and poet Lemn Sissay. The lives of these two giants of British culture intersected over 40 years ago, a chance encounter that changed Sissay's life profoundly. Reunited once more, they share the stage for what promises to be an unforgettable event.

Rising to the Surface charts Henry's career through the 1980s and 1990s, and his journey from seaside summer seasons to award-winning elder statesman of TV, and the highs and lows that came with success. Sissay explored his own childhood in his striking 2019 memoir, *My Name Is Why*; a story of neglect and determination, misfortune and hope, cruelty and triumph, the institutional care system, race, family and the meaning of home.

In this long-awaited conversation, these two colossal talents discuss their fascinating journeys and the obstacles they have overcome along the way.



DEAD POETS LIVE: SYLVIA PLATH

Denise Gough

📍 **St Apostles Church, Heptonstall**

🎵 Concert & Performance

🕒 18:00 (1 hour 30mins) | £7

Experience the power and fragility of Sylvia Plath's poems like never before as we celebrate her astonishing work with Dead Poets Live, starring acclaimed actor Denise Gough.

Plath was just 30 when she died and yet in her brief career she produced some of the greatest and most electrifying poetry of the 20th century. Her best-known poems, including *Lady Lazarus*, *Daddy*, and *Tulips*, arrived in an extraordinary torrent of creativity unleashed in her final months, and were posthumously collected in *Ariel*.

60 years on, in Heptonstall - where Plath is buried and where she spent several months between 1956 and 1959 – Dead Poets Live retrace her exhilarating and nail-biting poetic journey as she raced towards the definitive voice of those final poems. Join Gough for a memorable evening, as she brings the tension and drama of those incredible poems to life.



POLARI LITERARY SALON

Paul Burston, Juno Roche, Joelle Taylor, Nikita Gill

📍 **The HideOut, Sunbridge Wells**

🎵 Salon

🕒 18:30 (1 hour 15mins) | £7

Polari, the multi award-winning LGBTQ+ literary salon, makes a welcome return to Bradford with a panel of exciting writers for a lively evening that is guaranteed to inspire and enchant.

Known for its high energy, thought-provoking performances, Polari is a heady mix of live literature with a cabaret feel where the performers happen to be writers.

Not your average literary event, each salon showcases the best in established and emerging LGBTQ+ talent. Founder Paul Burston will be joined by writer and campaigner Juno Roche, along with poets Joelle Taylor and Nikita Gill, for a lively evening that is guaranteed to inspire and enchant.



SACRED MUSIC

📍 **Cathedral** | 🎵 Concert & Performance

🕒 18:30 (1 hour 45mins) | £7

The beautiful Bradford Cathedral is the glorious backdrop for an evening of transcendent and sacred recitals from different faith traditions to bring the festival to a close.

This annual event is a rare opportunity to enjoy devotional music and traditional poetry from across the world in one stunning location. Furaha Mussanzi will sing devotional songs a cappella in both Lingala and Swahili, Klezmer Klassica will present their stunning meld of Jewish klezmer music and classical music, and Bradford Cathedral Choir will provide a meditative moment with Gregorian chanting.

With more artists yet to be announced, this is sure to be a truly uplifting and reflective experience full of musical enjoyment as well as spiritual inspiration. The perfect way to round off Bradford Literature Festival 2023.

22 JUNE - 2 JULY 2023

THURSDAY 22 JUNE

19.30 - 20.30	Henry VIII: The Heart and the Crown	Waterstones	15
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FRIDAY 23 JUNE

09.00 - 17.30	Creative Economic Conference	University of Bradford	16
10.00 - 11.00	Baby Rave	The Imagination Station, City Park	8
ALL FESTIVAL	The Windrush Stories: Don't Give Up	The Festival Hub, City Park	17
ALL FESTIVAL	The Folio Society: Illustration Award 2023 Exhibition	The Festival Hub, City Park	17
ALL FESTIVAL	Bradford Stories Bus	City Park	18
ALL FESTIVAL	Becoming the Brontës: Brotherton Library Exhibition (Leeds)	Brotherton Library, Leeds	18
12.00 - 12.45	Lunch Bite: Pink Floyd: 50 Years	The Festival Hub, City Park	19
13.00 - 14.00	Baby Rave	The Imagination Station, City Park	8
14.00 - 15.00	The Curse of Milner Field Mansion	The Festival Hub, City Park	19
19.00 - 20.00	Ben Aaronovitch & Jonathan Stroud in Conversation	Waterstones	20
19.00 - 20.00	The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho	Bradford Cathedral	20
19.00 - 23.00	Mushaira: Yorkshire Adabee Forum	The Majestic, Bradford	21
19.30 - 21.15	Allama Muhammed Iqbal's Shikwa	St George's Hall	21

SATURDAY 24 JUNE

10.00 - 10.45	Tai Chi	The Festival Hub, City Park	24
10.00 - 12.00	Bradford's Historical Crime Scenes: Heritage Walking Tour	Bradford Police Museum	24
10.00 - 13.30	Rethinking Islam & the West: A New Narrative for the Age of Crises	Great Hall, University of Bradford	25
10.00 - 16.00	Flouncing Flamingos	The Imagination Station, City Park	23
10.00 - 16.00	Cheshire Cat Mask	The Imagination Station, City Park	23
10.00 - 16.00	Funky Flowers	The Imagination Station, City Park	23
10.15 - 10.45	Storytelling: The Adventures of Fatima	The Imagination Station, City Park	25
10.30 - 11.15	Storied Unlocked: A Different Kind Of Freedom: A Romani Story	Waterstones	26
10.30 - 11.30	The World In 2030	The Chamber, City Hall	26
10.30 - 11.30	Why Blake Matters Today	Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College	27
10.30 - 11.30	Astropolitics: The New Frontier	The Banqueting Hall, City Hall	28
10.45 - 11.45	Healthcare Here: Who's Getting Served?	Ernest Saville, City Hall	28
11.00 - 11.30	Wrongsemble Presents: Garden's End	City Park Stage	23
11.00 - 12.00	Algorithmic Realities	Small Hall, University of Bradford	29
11.00 - 12.00	How To Get Your Poetry Published	Dye House Gallery, Bradford College	30
11.00 - 12.00	Meet The Agents	University of Bradford - Bright Building	30
11.00 - 12.30	An Introduction to Islamic Geometric Design	Innovation Suite, University of Bradford - Bright Building	31
11.15 - 11.45	BLF's Master Storyteller	The Imagination Station, City Park	32
11.30 - 11.45	The Gardener's Guide To Green Fingers Workshop	City Park Stage	23

SATURDAY 24 JUNE

11.30 - 12.30	Unearthing Urdu Poetry: In Conversation with Tasneem Hassan	Ernest Saville, City Hall	31
11.45 - 12.30	Stories Unlocked: Cosima Unfortunate Steals A Star	Waterstones	32
11.45 - 12.45	Lost To The World	The Chamber, City Hall	33
11.45 - 12.45	An Introduction to William Blake	Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College	33
11.45 - 12.45	From Fighting Crime to Writing Crime	The Banqueting Hall, City Hall	34
12.00 - 13.00	Inspired by J.B. Priestley's English Journey	Ernest Saville, City Hall	34
12.00 - 13.00	Michael Parkinson: Memories, Moments and Declarations	Main Theatre, The Alhambra Theatre	35
12.15 - 12.45	Storytelling: The Adventures of Fatima	The Imagination Station, City Park	25
12.15 - 13.15	New World Order: China & Russia	The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College	35
12.15 - 13.15	Remembering Manto: The Life and Work of a Fearless Writer	Dye House Gallery, Bradford College	36
12.30 - 14.30	Foraging Walk at Bradford's Judy Woods	Judy Wood (Station Road entrance)	37
12.30 - 13.00	Meet the Agents 1:1 Sessions : Oli Munson, Sara Langham, Jamie Cowen	Richmond D1, University of Bradford	37
13.00 - 13.30	Wrongsemble Presents: Garden's End	City Park Stage	23
13.00 - 14.30	Workshop: Poems at the Intersection of the Divine & the Profane	MBA, Bright Building	38
13.00 - 13.45	Stories Unlocked: War of the Wind	Waterstones	38
13.00 - 15.00	Soap Writing Workshop with Kirsty Halton	Innovation Suite, University of Bradford - Bright Building	39
13.00 - 15.15	Los Constructores De la Alhambra and Q&A	John Stanley Bell Theatre, University of Bradford	40
13.00 - 14.00	Inspired by Blake	Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College	40
13.15 - 13.45	BLF's Master Storyteller	The Imagination Station, City Park	31
13.15 - 14.15	A Century Celebration of Kahlil Gibran's The Prophet	The Banqueting Hall, City Hall	41
13.15 - 14.15	Stuart Maconie: The Full English	The Chamber, City Hall	41
13.30 - 13.45	The Gardener's Guide To Green Fingers Workshop	City Park Stage	23
13.30 - 14.30	Painted People: The History of Tattoos	Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford	42
13.30 - 14.30	Dispatches from the Diaspora: Gary Younge in Conversation	The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College	42
13.30 - 14.30	Nibbies Salon in Partnership with The Bookseller	Dye House Gallery, Bradford College	43
13.45 - 14.45	Do You Believe Me?	Ernest Saville, City Hall	43
13.45 - 15.00	Traditional Oral Storytelling Workshop with Richard O'Neill	The Norcroft Lounge, University of Bradford	44
14.00 - 15.00	Tackling the Climate Emergency: Mayor of London Sadiq Khan	Main Theatre, The Alhambra Theatre	44
14.00 - 14.45	Stories Unlocked: The Magic of Endings	Waterstones	45
14.00 - 15.00	The Importance of Grassroots Boxing	Tasif Khan Community Boxing Academy	45
14.00 - 16.15	Thirty Years of Trainspotting with Irvine Welsh	Pictureville, National Science & Media Museum	50
14.15 - 14.45	Storytelling: The Adventures of Fatima	The Imagination Station, City Park	25
14.15 - 15.15	Creating Dune: The Influences of Arrakis	Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College	46

22 JUNE - 2 JULY 2023

SATURDAY 24 JUNE

14.30 - 15.30	Redefining Black Masculinity	The Banqueting Hall, City Hall	46
14.30 - 15.45	The Ottomans: From Conquest to Collapse	The Chamber, City Hall	47
14.30 - 16.30	The Way of the Prophets	St George's Hall	47
14.30 - 15.30	Remembering Stephen Lawrence: 30 Years on	Auditorium, Fountains Church	48
14.45 - 15.45	Philosophy and Life	The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College	48
14.45 - 15.45	Among the Eunuchs	Dye House Gallery, Bradford College	49
15.00 - 15.30	Wrongsemble Presents: Garden's End	City Park Stage	23
15.00 - 16.00	The Vagina Dialogues	Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford	49
15.00 - 16.00	The Daily Feminist	Ernest Saville, City Hall	50
15.15 - 15.45	BLF's Master Storyteller	The Imagination Station, City Park	31
15.30 - 15.45	The Gardener's Guide To Green Fingers Workshop	City Park Stage	23
15.30 - 16.15	Stories Unlocked: Indiana Bones and the Invisible City	Waterstones	51
15.30 - 16.30	Lights, Camera, Makeup!	Innovation Suite, University of Bradford - Bright Building	51
15.30 - 16.30	Dr Irving Finkel's History of Magic	Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College	52
15.45 - 16.45	Red Hot Chilli Writers Live Podcast Recording	The Banqueting Hall, City Hall	52
16.00 - 17.00	I Can't Breathe	Main Theatre, The Alhambra Theatre	53
16.00 - 17.00	Harmony of Hearts: Kabir's Path to Spiritual Unity	The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College	54
16.00 - 17.00	Write What You Know?	Dye House Gallery, Bradford College	54
16.00 - 17.00	The Birth of the Modern Middle East	The Chamber, City Hall	55
16.15 - 17.15	I'm Black So You Don't Have to Be	Ernest Saville, City Hall	55
16.15 - 17.45	Finding Home	John Stanley Bell Theatre, University of Bradford	56
16.30 - 17.30	Trending: Toxic Masculinity	Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford	56
16.45 - 17.45	Fantasy and Futurism	Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College	57
17.15 - 18.15	Around the World in 80 Meet Cutes	Dye House Gallery, Bradford College	57
17.15 - 18.15	Experts Explain: Forensics in Crime	The Banqueting Hall, City Hall	58
17.15 - 18.15	In Search of the River Jordan	The Chamber, City Hall	58
17.30 - 18.30	Amish Tripathi: The Immortals of Meluha	The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College	59
17.30 - 18.30	J.B. Priestley's Postscripts Revisited	Ernest Saville, City Hall	60
18.00 - 20.15	In the Footsteps of the Prophet: Film and Q+A	Pictureville, National Science & Media Museum	61
18.00 - 21.30	Pass the Mic: Open Mic Night	Mary Magdalene Church CIC	61
18.30 - 19.30	Novel Ideas	Dye House Gallery, Bradford College	62
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19.00 - 20.15	Film Screening: Windrush: Movement of the People	John Stanley Bell Theatre	63
19.00 - 20.30	The Kitschies 2023: Awards Ceremony	Brewdog	63
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10.00 - 11.00	Gentle Yoga	The Norcroft Lounge, University of Bradford	69
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10.00 - 16.00	Superhero Wrist Cuffs	The Imagination Station, City Park	67
10.00 - 16.00	Superhero Bag Puppets	The Imagination Station, City Park	67
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10.30 - 11.15	Stories Unlocked: To The Other Side	Waterstones	70
10.30 - 11.30	Biological Security after the Pandemic	The Chamber, City Hall	71
10.30 - 11.30	Homelands: A Personal History of Europe	The Banqueting Hall, City Hall	71
10.30 - 11.30	On the Shoulders of Rabbi Strauss: 150 Years of Bradford's Jewish History	Bradford Reform Synagogue	72
10.30 - 13.30	Rethinking Islam & The West Seminar: Mizan and the Narrative of Islam	Small Hall, University of Bradford	73
11.00 - 11.30	Wrongsemble Presents: I Need a Hero	City Park Stage	67
11.00 - 11.30	Meet the Publisher: Molly Crawford, Sarah Savitt, Niki Igbaroola, Habiba Desai, Sara Razzaq	Richmond D1, University of Bradford	73
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11.00 - 12.00	Yorkshire Emerging Writers: Getting Your Foot in the Door	Ernest Saville, City Hall	74
11.00 - 12.00	Tolkien & Lewis: Friendship that Redefined Fantasy	Dye House Gallery, Bradford College	75
11.00 - 12.30	Workshop: Poems of Praise in a Broken World	R01.02 - Bight Building, University of Bradford	76
11.30 - 12.15	Superhero Bootcamp Workshop	City Park Stage	67
11.30 - 13.00	Crime Writing Workshop with A.A. Dhand	Innovation Centre, University of Bradford - Bright Building	77
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11.45 - 13.00	The Rise of Global Populism	The Banqueting Hall, City Hall	78
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12.15 - 13.30	North Country	The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College	80
12.15 - 14.15	Your Story Matters Workshop	Bright MBA, University of Bradford - Bright Building	81
13.00 - 13.30	Wrongsemble Presents: I Need a Hero	City Park Stage	67

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13.00 - 14.00	Rachel Louise Snyder: Women We Buried, Women We Burned	Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College	82
13.00 - 14.30	The Art of Calligraphy	Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford	82
13.00 - 14.30	Bradford Millenium Way Heritage Tour	Victoria Hall, Saltaire	83
13.00 - 14.30	UK Premiere: Seven Winters in Tehran	John Stanley Bell, University of Bradford	83
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13.30 - 13.45	Superhero Bootcamp Workshop	City Park Stage	67
13.30 - 14.30	Shakespeare's First Folio at 400	Dye House Gallery, Bradford College	84
13.30 - 14.30	Islamic Architecture: A World History Talk	Ernest Saville, City Hall	85
13.30 - 15.30	Finding your Feet with the First Folio: Shakespearean Storytelling Workshop	Innovation Centre, University of Bradford - Bright Building	85
14.00 - 14.45	Stories Unlocked My Name is Sunshine Simpson	Waterstones	86
14:15 - 15:15	Setting the Crime Scene: How Landscapes Shape A Story	The Chamber, City Hall	86
14:15 - 14:45	Storytelling: Humble Heroes	The Imagination Station, City Park	70
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14.30 - 15.30	On the Map: The Drugs Issue	The Banqueting Hall, City Hall	88
14.30 - 15.30	Funny Looking Kids: Family Comedy Show	Studio, Bradford Theatres	88
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14:45 - 15:45	Loyal Enemy: The Life and Fictional Works of Marmaduke Pickthall	Ernest Saville, City Hall	89
14.45 - 16.30	Beginning to End: An Introduction to Narrative Plot	Bright MBA, University of Bradford - Bright Building	90
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15.00 - 17.00	Shimmering Light Mawlid: Shaam	The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College	90
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15:30 - 16:30	Carbon Colonialism	Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College	91
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16.00 - 17.00	Islamicate Science Fiction	Dye House Gallery, Bradford College	94
16:45 - 17:45	Val McDermid: Queen of Crime	The Chamber, City Hall	95
17.00 - 18.00	In Search of Amrit Kaur: An Indian Princess in Wartime Paris	The Banqueting Hall, City Hall	96
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17:15 - 18.30	What Lights My Feminist Fire?	Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College	97
17.30 - 18.30	Alt-Wallahs: The Muslim Manosphere	Ernest Saville, City Hall	98
17.30 - 18.45	Peter Sanders In Conversation	Pictureville, National Science & Media Museum	98

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18.00 - 19.00	In Conversation: Linton Kwesi Johnson	The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College	99
19.00 - 20.00	Shehan Karunatilaka In Conversation	Waterstones	100
19.30 - 22.00	Twenty Years On: Judi Jackson Celebrates Nina Simone	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	100
19.30 - 22.30	A Journey Through Bollywood	St George's Hall	101

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12.00 - 12.45	Lunch Bite: A History of Modern Pop	The Festival Hub, City Park	102
14.00 - 15.00	Bradford Mechanics Institute: Under Your Feet	The Festival Hub, City Park	103
19.30 - 21.00	Evening Conversations: One Woman Show	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	103

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18.30 - 19.30	Bradford Mechanics Institute: Through These Doors	Bradford Mechanics Institute	106
19.00 - 20.00	Three Worlds: Avi Shlaim and Marc David Baer in Conversation	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	106
19.00 - 20.00	Family Findings: Who Am I?	Waterstones	107
19.00 - 20.00	A Good Death	Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College	107

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10.00 - 11.00	SEND Creative Play	The Imagination Station, City Park	8
11.00 - 11.45	Baby Yoga (older)	The Imagination Station, City Park	9
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14.00 - 15.00	150 Years of Bradford City Hall	The Festival Hub, City Park	108
16.00 - 17.30	Bradford in Blue Plaques	Western Entrance, City Hall	109
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19.00 - 20.30	Where Is Love: A One Woman Show	Brontë Lecture Theatre, Bradford College	110

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10.00 - 11.00	Baby Calm	The Imagination Station, City Park	9
12.00 - 13.00	Lunch Bite: Sonnets and Sarnies	The Festival Hub, City Park	111
12.30 - 13.30	Feed Your Mind: Dear Bradford & Look at Us	Impressions Gallery	111

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18.00 - 20.00	Undercliffe Cemetery Twilight Tour	Undercliffe Cemetery	113
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19.30 - 20.30	Manni and Reuben Coe: Brother. Do. You. Love. Me.	Waterstones	115

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13.30 - 14.15	Adventure Babies: Sensory Storytelling Sessions	The Imagination Station, City Park	9
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18.30 - 20.00	Dhikr Meditation for Women	The Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford	117
19.00 - 20.00	England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	118
19.00 - 20.00	Landscape and Lyrics: The Poets of Yorkshire	The Chamber, City Hall	118
19.00 - 20.15	Songbook with Richard Thompson	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	119
19.30 - 21.45	An Evening of Comedy	St George's Hall	119

SATURDAY 1 JULY

09.45 - 10.45	Hockney Gallery Tour: Salts Mill	Ground floor foyer at the main entrance, Salts Mill	122
10.00 - 12.00	Bradford Police Museum: Heritage Tour	Bradford Police Museum	122
10.00 - 13.30	Knowing Yourself: Two Day Course	Day 1: Norcroft Auditorium Day 2: The Norcroft Lounge	123
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10.00 - 16.00	Rainbow Snowstorm	The Imagination Station, City Park	121
10.00 - 16.00	Rainbow Bird	The Imagination Station, City Park	121
10.15 - 11.00	Storytelling: Holding up The Sky	The Imagination Station, City Park	123
11.00 - 11.30	Wrongsemble Presents: Nerves of Steele	Stage, City Park	120
11.00 - 12.00	Understanding Emily	French Ballroom, The Midland Hotel	124
11.00 - 12.00	The Witches Survival Guide	Ernest Saville, City Hall	124
12.30 - 13.15	Stories Unlocked: Lifesize Deadly Animals	Waterstones	125
11.00 - 12.00	Being Here Now, A Meditation	Bright Building MBA, University of Bradford	126
11.00 - 12.00	Reza Aslan: An American Martyr in Persia	The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College	126
11.00 - 12.00	In Search of Boudica	Dye House Gallery, Bradford College	127
11.00 - 12.15	A Dervish Guide to Reading Rumi	The Norcroft Lounge, University of Bradford	127
11.00 - 12.30	The War You Don't See	John Stanley Bell, University of Bradford	128
11.00 - 12.30	Bradford's Architectural Gems Heritage Tour	The Festival Hub, City Park	128

SATURDAY 1 JULY

11.00 - 13.30	The Art of Leather Craft Workshop	Bright Building, Teaching Room, University of Bradford	129
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11.15 - 12.15	Spring Cannot Be Cancelled: David Hockney in Normandy	Canal Side Roof Space, Past the Year of Normandy Exhibition, Salts Mill	130
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11.45 - 12.30	Stories Unlocked: Let's Fill This World With Kindness	Waterstones	131
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12.30 - 13.30	Baby Does A Runner: Anita Rani in Conversation	Great Hall, University of Bradford	132
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13.00 - 14.00	Rumi Lecture: The Universal Appeal of Rumi's Poetry	The Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), Bradford College	134
13.00 - 14.00	In Conversation: Angela Rayner	Princes Ballroom, Midland Hotel	135
13.00 - 14.00	Breaking the Silence: Truth and Lies in the War on Terror	John Stanley Bell, University of Bradford	135
13.00 - 14.15	Coup against Democracy: Iran 70 Years On	The Banqueting Hall, City Hall	136
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14.30 - 15.30	Hitler's Rise to Power	Ernest Saville, City Hall	141
14.30 - 16.00	Saltaire Model Village Walking Tour	Saltaire Unitarian Church	141
14.30 - 15.30	Sir Michael Palin in Conversation with Anita Rani	Great Hall, University of Bradford	142
14.30 - 16.30	The Coming War on China	John Stanley Bell, University of Bradford	142

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SATURDAY 1 JULY

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14.45 - 15.45	Embracing Radical Brains	Dye House Gallery, Bradford College	143
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15.00 - 16.00	The Long Walk to Freedom: Remembering Nelson Mandela	Dye House Dance Studio, Bradford College	145
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11.00 - 13.30	The Art of Leather Craft Workshop	Bright Building, Teaching Room, University of Bradford	129
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11.00 - 12.00	Shock and Awe: The Iraq War 20 Years On	Great Hall, University of Bradford	160
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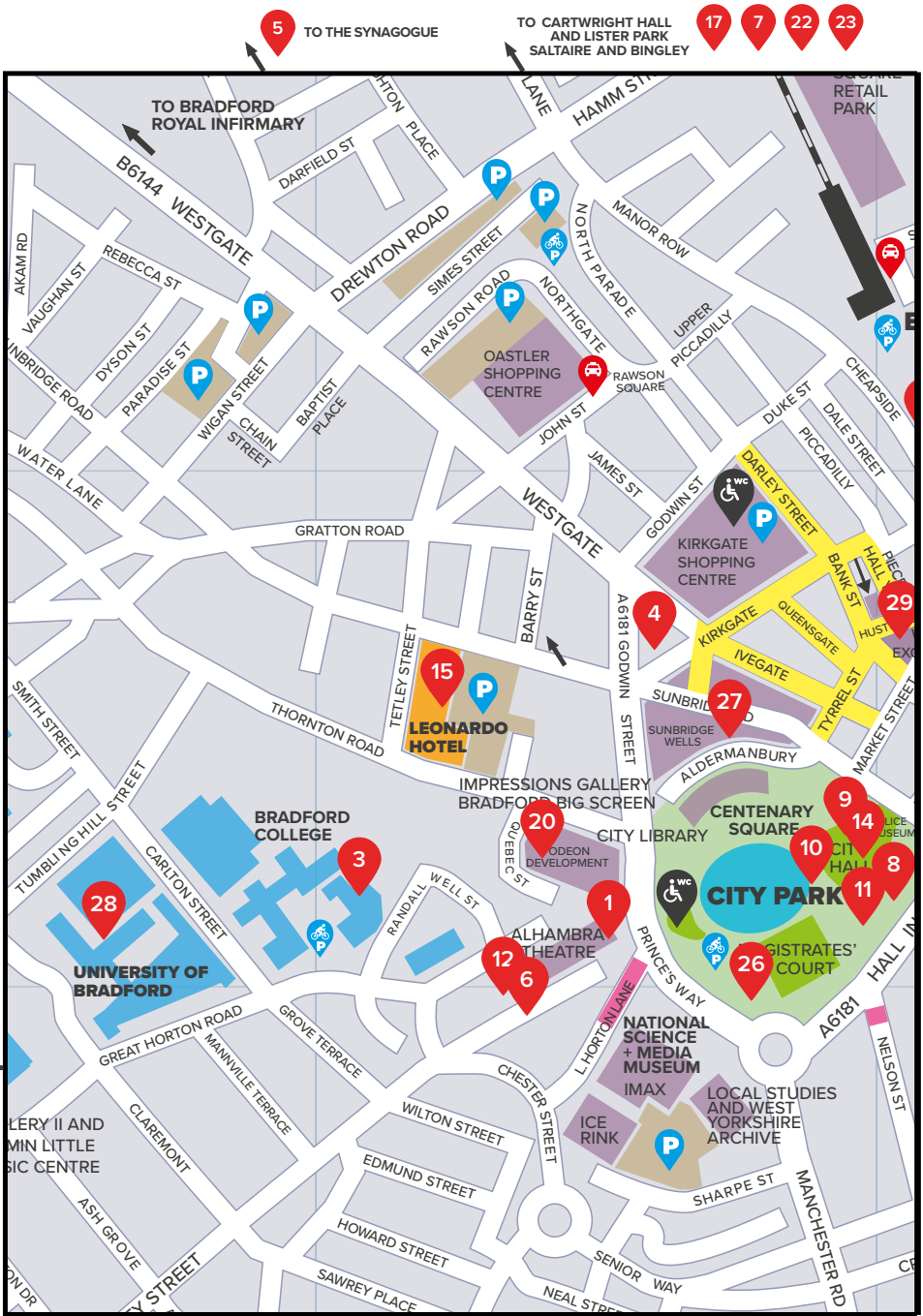
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Old Bell Chapel

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TO THE SYNAGOGUE

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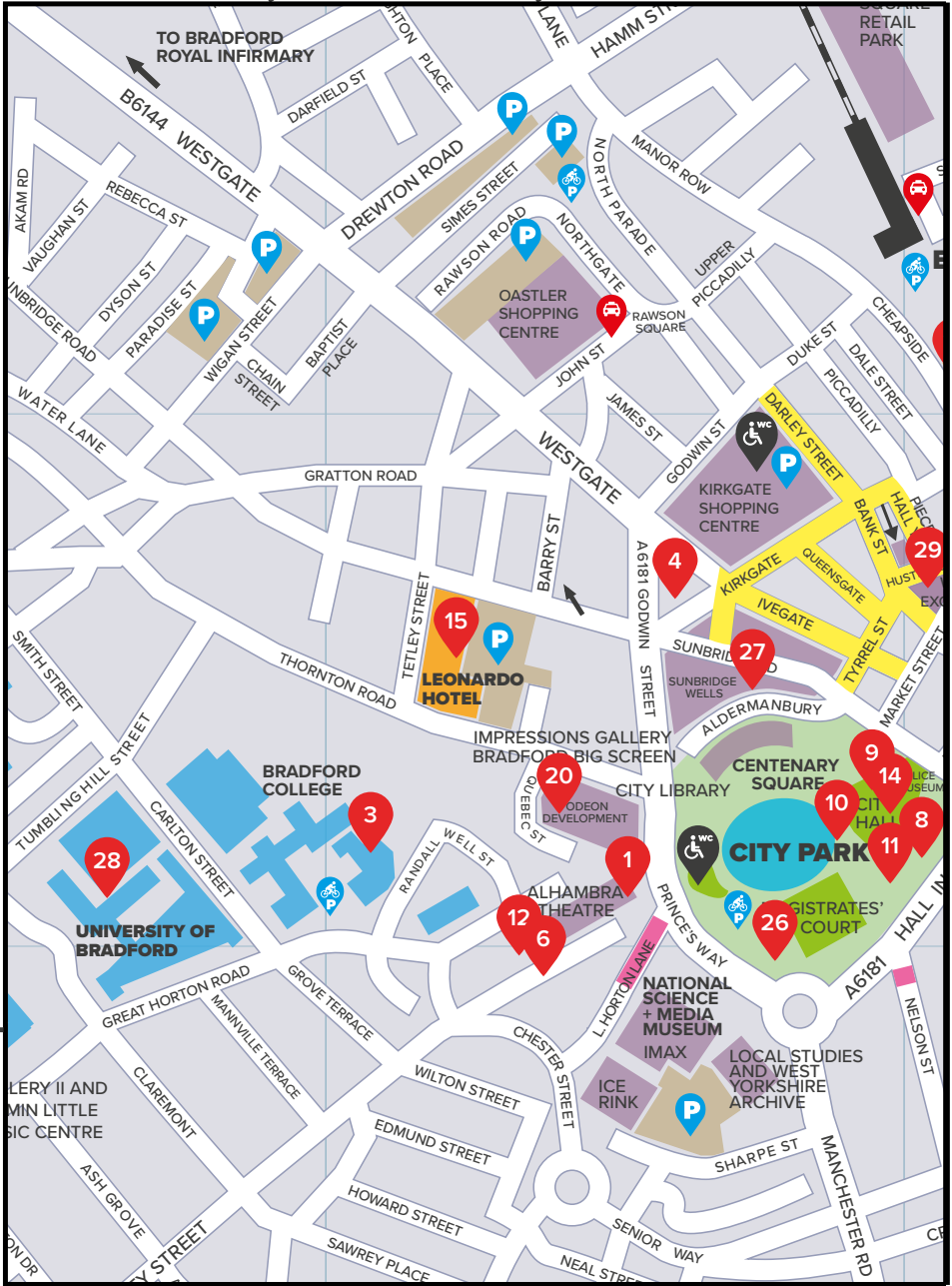
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VENUES

- 1 The Alhambra Theatre & Studio
- 2 Bradford Cathedral
- 3 Bradford College
 - Advanced Technology Centre (ATC)
 - Lecture Theatre D1
 - The Dye House Dance Studio
 - The Dye House Gallery
 - The Grove
- 4 Bradford Mechanics Institute
- 5 Bradford Reform Synagogue
- 6 Brewdog
- 7 Cartwright Hall
- 8 The Impressions Gallery
- 9 City Hall
- 10 City Library
- 11 City Park
- 12 The Fountains Church
- 13 Kala Sangam Arts Centre
- 14 The Imagination Station
- 15 Leonardo Hotel Bradford
- 16 The Light Cinema
- 17 The Majestic Bradford
- 18 Marks & Spencers
- 19 The Midland Hotel
- 20 National Science & Media Museum
- 21 Old Bell Chapel
- 22 Saint Mary Magdalene Church
- 23 Salts Mill
- 24 St George's Hall
- 25 St Thomas, The Apostle Church
- 26 Storytelling Bus
- 27 Sunbridge Wells
- 28 The University of Bradford
 - Bright Building
 - MBA Suite
 - Horton D Building
 - Horton Barn Building
 - Innovation Suite
 - Norcroft Building
 - Auditorium
 - Lounge
 - Richmond Building
 - Great Hall
 - John Stanley Bell Lecture Theatre
 - Small Hall
 - Student Central
 - The Biko Room
- 29 Waterstones

KEY

- Pedestrian roads
- Buses only
- Place of interest
- Public Buildings
- University/College
- Hotels
- Car Parks
- Cycle Parking
- Taxi ranks
- Public toilets with disabled facilities
- Tourist Information Centre

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Bradford Literature Festival is committed to creating an inclusive and accessible programme, which is why our ticket prices remain low and why many of our events are free, ensuring that as many people as possible can access the festival as possible.

Where free tickets are available, this will be clearly displayed on the ticket-purchasing page alongside the standard pricing options. There are a range of concessions and discounts are available for those visitors who qualify and wish to attend ticketed events.

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Anyone over the age of 16 who is in full-time education.



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Anyone over the age of 65 – if a state pension is your sole source of income you are eligible to attend for free.



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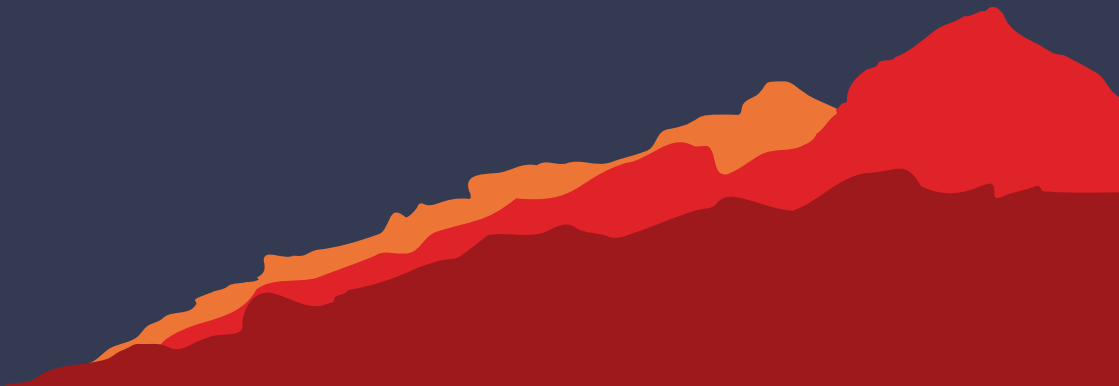
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