

BRADFORD
LITERATURE
FESTIVAL

28 JUNE - 7 JULY 2024

explore words, discover worlds



BRADFORD
LITERATURE
FESTIVAL



AWARDS & PRIZES

BOOK LAUNCHES

CONCERTS & PERFORMANCES

CONFERENCES

DEBATES

DIGITAL EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

FILMS & SCREENINGS

GIGS & NIGHTS OUT

IN CONVERSATION

KIDS & FAMILY

LECTURES

MASTERCLASSES

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PODCAST RECORDINGS

RECEPTIONS

SALONS

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TOUR

WALKS

WORKSHOPS

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TICKETS START FROM JUST £5

Free tickets are available through discounts and concessions – see page 142

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, 09.30–16.30
During Festival: Daily, 09.30–Last Show



BRADFORDLITFEST.CO.UK



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 Box Office or over the phone.

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 and concessions apply.

A WELCOME FROM OUR CHAIR



Welcome to this, the launch pad for what promises to be a wonderful Bradford Literature Festival 2024. We've come a long way since our first festival ten years ago. Back then, it was held over a weekend with just 25 events and audiences of 900. By 2015 we were starting to motor ahead to the point that last year there were 678 events to enjoy, with the audiences numbering way above even our most ambitious expectations at more than 116,000 people.

Right from that modest start, the BLF has been built on the belief that culture, literature and education have the power to change lives and communities, and that idea is what still drives us forward today. We are determined to be leaders in social inclusion and accessibility; we are the largest diversity-led cultural organisation in the country; and our goal is to deliver exceptional arts and cultural experiences for national and international audiences as well as for our all-important local communities.

That makes us very different in character from all the other cultural festivals around the UK. We want everybody to be able to share in the excitement. Last year, 85 per cent of our audiences took advantage of our ethical ticketing policy, which means events are free for people who would otherwise not be able to attend. Nearly half of both our audiences and

our artists were classified as ethnically diverse. Especially thrilling was the fact that we worked with over 63,000 children and young people, having already run the UK's largest World Book Day event.

All this has been made possible by the generous support over the years of our sponsors and friends. I'd like to pay particularly warm thanks to Arts Council England, a national institution that understands the values of the BLF and has been steadfast in its backing. I also want to give a big shout out to our Director Syima Aslam and her team, who pull off miracles almost as a matter of routine.

All kinds of exciting things are going to be happening in Bradford over the coming months, culminating in the City of Culture 2025. You can think of this year's BLF as the star-studded opening to more than a year of extraordinary cultural experiences. We hope this brochure will excite your imagination with its galaxy of interesting artists, and that you will join us in the summer for what will be a stimulating and hugely enjoyable 10 days.

Sir Richard Lambert
Chair of BLF Board



DIRECTOR'S WELCOME



I am delighted to welcome you to the 10th anniversary edition of the Bradford Literature Festival (BLF). Join us in this milestone year for an extraordinary 10-day journey featuring over 500 events designed for both children and adults.

From the outset, BLF's aim was to create a tangible difference; to raise aspirations and literacy levels, in Europe's youngest city, by creating an international destination literature festival that would inspire the next generation, both in Bradford and across the UK. A space for nuanced conversations about issues that affect us all, BLF has been called innovative and disruptive, and is now recognised as Europe's most diverse and eclectic literature festival.

BLF celebrates the written and spoken word in all its formats, from music and film to poetry and books. Whether you're a fan of the classics or do your reading on TikTok, you will find a home at BLF. As always, our events are rooted in the extraordinary communities we are privileged to serve, locally and nationally, reflecting both their interests and their concerns. Over the last 10 years, the cultural space has become increasingly polarised, reflecting the political realities of the societies in which we live. In this increasingly fragmented world, BLF is of fundamental

importance as it seeks to unite rather than divide through the power of words.

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 events ranging from AI and climate change to poetry and politics, 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, philosophy, science, history, and so much more. Our 2024 edition showcases the very best of global, regional, and local artistic talent, offering engaging discussions, insightful talks, electrifying performances, UK premieres, and immersive experiences.

This year's festival would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors and funders, including Arts Council England, Free Word, Peter Sowerby Foundation, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, the University of Bradford, Bradford City Council, Create Equity, Pears Foundation, Sigrid Rausing Foundation, British Council, Better Start Bradford and Old Possums Practical Trust. We are also excited to launch a new partnership with Doha Debates, a production of Qatar Foundation and IMI, the Islam and Muslims Initiative.

BLF was founded on the core principle that there should be no financial or social barrier to experiencing cultural excellence. Inclusivity is at the heart of everything we do, and we are proud to provide a platform for marginalised voices that might otherwise go unheard. 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.

We are so grateful for your support allowing us to bring to life the magic of words.

Syima Aslam
CEO & Artistic Director

FESTIVAL PARTNERS

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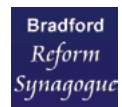
Hotel Partners



Catering Partner



Venue Partners



Cultural Partners



Doha Debates
Production of Qatar Foundation



THE ISLAM & MUSLIMS INITIATIVE
مبادرة الإسلام
والمسلمين



بينالي الفنون
الإسلامية
T. To



Islamic Arts
Biennale
2025



CONNECTING ROMA
C.I.C.



EARLY YEARS



Better Start
BRADFORD



COMMUNITY
FUND



In partnership with Better Start Bradford, our early years programme is full of stimulating activities for babies and their grown-ups to enjoy.

BABY CALM

City Park

Join us for an unforgettable experience that will benefit both you and your baby. Our certified infant massage instructor will guide 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.

During our classes, you will learn the art of baby massage and how it can benefit your baby's physical and emotional development, as well as valuable first aid techniques.

Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

Suitable for babies aged 12 months and under.

Monday 1 July | FREE
10:00 | 13:00 (45 mins)

TODDLE UP AND SIGN

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 frustrations.

Join the Toddle Up and Sign team for this fun and interactive session, using toys, stories, and nursery rhymes 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 children aged 0 to 3 years old.

Monday 1 July | FREE
11:30 (45 mins)

BABY RAVE

City Park

Get ready to dance and groove at BoomChikkaBoom's exciting Baby Rave. Our fun and lively event brings families together with great music and good vibes, creating a unique and memorable experience for all.

Not only is a Baby Rave a fantastic way to socialise with other families, but it's also great for your child's development. The sights and sounds will stimulate their senses and encourage their growth.

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 aged 0 to 5 years old.

Tuesday 2 July | FREE
10:00 | 13:00 (1 hour)



Save the date! The 7th Baby Week Bradford takes place from 14–20 November 2024. Stay up to date and join the mailing list at: www.babyweekbradford.org

FREE
FAMILY
EVENTS

BABIES ARE BEST



ARTVENTURERS

City Park

Join this interactive ARTventurers session, where your child will explore paints and creative play through a carefully planned session with lots of messy fun.

Nurture and develop children's creativity to explore, experiment and express themselves through a range of colourful and sensory activities.

This creative adventure is fun for babies, toddlers and children who love to get creative. Arty (old) clothing is required for you and your child to be fully immersed and enjoy the session.

Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

Suitable for children aged 6 months to 4 years old.

Wednesday 3 July | FREE

13:00 (45 mins)

Friday 5 July | FREE

10:00 (45 mins)



BABY YOGA

City Park

Baby Yoga is a wonderful way for parents and carers to boost their health and wellbeing and bond with their babies. Designed using standard yoga moves adapted specifically for babies, this class is suitable for anyone, including those new to yoga. Join 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.

Please bring along a simple shawl or blanket if you can.

Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

Friday 5 July | FREE

11:30 (45 mins) – Crawlers to 2 years | **13:00** (45 mins) – 12 weeks to pre-crawlers

RHYTHM TIME

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 to learn how to make music fun for your child, which will help you to unlock their potential. Come along, 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.

Suitable for children aged 0 to 14 months.

Thursday 4 July | FREE

10:00 | 13:00 (1 hour)



FREE to attend – Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

EDUCATION PROGRAMME



Monday 24 June – Friday 5 July

Bradford Literature Festival (BLF) has developed an expansive, free Education Programme that invites leading writers, publishers, performance poets, illustrators and 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 from 2–4.

The Education Programme is linked to the national curriculum and champions inclusivity, fostering 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-educate children can register and book for events. Places are limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

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

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

Find your voice and your inspiration.



↑ bradford.ac.uk



BRADFORD 2025
UK City of Culture



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF BLF

📍 **Shipley Market**

Keighley Airedale

The Broadway Bradford

Halifax Library

🔊 Exhibition

🕒 ALL FESTIVAL | **FREE** (Drop-in)

Take a look at our specially curated exhibition to celebrate 10 years of Bradford Literature Festival (BLF) with 10 iconic photographs from the past decade.

BLF is proud to be one of the largest literature festivals in the UK and Europe's most eclectic and diverse literature festival. The festival is renowned globally as an innovator within the culture sector and forges international partnerships, curating diverse, innovative and inclusive programmes.

Together, we celebrate the achievements of BLF, anticipating another year of artistic brilliance and contemporary discourse, combining renowned literary figures with up-and-coming voices to create dynamic programmes that spark dialogue and delight audiences.



PLANTS OF THE QUR'AN EXHIBITION

Sue Wickison

📍 **Gallery 4, Cartwright Hall**

🔊 Exhibition

🕒 ALL FESTIVAL | **FREE** (Drop-in)

A special opportunity to see Sue Wickison's stunning botanical illustrations in this exhibition of 31 paintings of plants mentioned in the Holy Qur'an.

First showcased at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Kew and now on display at Cartwright Hall, this exhibition is the culmination of a research project lasting several years, undertaken by Kew scientist, Shahina A. Ghazanfar, in collaboration with renowned scientific artist, Sue Wickison.

Visit bradfordmuseums.org for more information.

Join Shahina A. Ghazanfar and Sue Wickison in conversation on Saturday 29 June as they discuss the beautiful book that accompanies this exhibition.

**Bradford
District
Museums
& Galleries**



BRADFORD THROUGH THE LENS: IAN BEESLEY EXHIBITION

Ian Beesley

📍 **The Festival Hub, City Park**

🎫 Exhibition

🕒 ALL FESTIVAL | **FREE** (Drop-in)

Step into the captivating world of industrial Bradford through the lens of award-winning artist and photographer, Ian Beesley. In his book, *Life: A Retrospective*, Beesley presents a stunning collection of black and white photographs spanning over 45 years.

Join us on a journey through time and witness the evolution of Bradford through Beesley's masterful portrayal of life in its rawest form. From bustling factories to the quiet corners of the district, each image tells a story of resilience, innovation, and the timeless spirit of a community shaped by industry.



A HIVE OF ACTIVITY: AN EXHIBITION BY PHILLIP JACKSON

Phillip Jackson

📍 **The Festival Hub, City Park**

🎫 Exhibition

🕒 ALL FESTIVAL | **FREE** (Drop-in)

For almost 25 years, the Beehive Poets, a welcoming Bradford-based poetry collective, have been offering the people of Yorkshire the chance to share and enjoy each other's creative work.

This vibrant collection of photographs captures their time at the now closed New Beehive pub and the shared sense of reverie and creative endeavour that they still bring to their meetings today.

Phillip Jackson is a Bradford-born artist who specialises in documentary-style photography; he works with sensitivity and empathy seeking to capture the emotion of a moment and place in time.

The
Beehive
Poets



BEYOND THE BASSLINE: 500 YEARS OF BLACK BRITISH MUSIC

📍 **Western Entrance, City Hall**

🔊 Exhibition

🕒 **ALL FESTIVAL | FREE** (Drop-in)

For centuries, Black communities have created music in the UK, melding global influences into a Black British sound that has echoed through generations.

Beyond the Bassline: 500 Years of Black British Music at the British Library is the first major exhibition of its kind anywhere in the world. It is about more than just music. It's about the places where these sounds were born: the clubs, the carnivals and the stages. It is the voice of community, resistance, culture and joy. It is a celebration of the trailblazers and innovators that brought new music to the UK, and the layered Black experiences that have birthed a thriving musical culture and history.

This pop-up display from the Living Knowledge Network is brought to Bradford through a partnership between the British Library and Bradford Literature Festival. The Living Knowledge Network is a UK-wide partnership of national and public libraries, which supports

libraries to meaningfully connect with their communities by expanding access to inspiring experiences and sharing the UK's national heritage.

LIBRARY
BRITISH



HEAVEN, EARTH AND THE 10,000 THINGS: PETER SANDERS EXHIBITION

📍 **Norcroft Lounge, University of Bradford**

🔊 Exhibition

🕒 **ALL FESTIVAL | FREE** (Drop-in)

An unmissable opportunity to see British photographer Peter Sanders' exhibition *Heaven, Earth and the 10,000 Things: The Lives of the Muslims of China*, the first ever comprehensive photographic essay on China's Muslims.

This collection explores the links between Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism and Islam. Islam was introduced into China nearly 1,400 years ago, within 20 years of the death of the Prophet Muhammad. Gradually interwoven into the social and spiritual fabric of China. Harmonising with Confucian and Taoist principles, the Islamic presence in China has led to unique regional subcultures.

This exhibition is a UK exclusive.



CREATIVE ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

📍 **Great Hall, University of Bradford** | 🗣️ Conference

🕒 09:00 (Full Day) | £25

The highly anticipated Creative Economic Conference (CEC) is back for 2024, creating a platform for dynamic discussions between business and creative sector leaders.

Hosted at the University of Bradford, the CEC is set to gather influential minds from the realms of business, politics, and the creative industries.

In a day packed full of events, speakers will explore how the business and creative sectors can work together to drive innovation, inspire visionary thinking, and grow the economy regionally and nationally in a variety of talks, panel discussions and round table sessions.

Whether you are a business or creative sector leader, artist or entrepreneur, early career or student, the CEC promises to provide unique insights to drive growth, facilitate team development, forge new pathways for collaboration and investment, and expand your professional network.

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



DOWN T'ALLOTMENT

Bloomin' Buds

📍 **WomenZone Community Centre**

🎵 **Concerts & Performances**

🕒 **11:00 (1 hour) | £5**

Bloomin' Buds Theatre Company's brand-new play, *Down T'Allotment*, will take you on a journey into a vibrant community space where the soil is rich and the bonds are even richer.

Meet the diverse characters, each with their own dreams and struggles, united by their love for the land and joy of growing their own vegetables. Amidst the rows of kale and carrots, friendships blossom, secrets unravel and lives intertwine.

Through laughter, tears and the occasional sing-along, celebrate the resilience of community, the power of nature and the transformative magic of tending to something greater than oneself.



LUNCHBITE: WATERGATE 50 YEARS ON

Saeed Khan

📍 **The Festival Hub, City Park**

🎤 **Talks**

🕒 **12:00 (45 mins) | £5**

Join Professor Saeed Khan on a trip back to the Watergate Scandal, from the riveting Senate testimony to the equally gripping Frost–Nixon interviews.

Richard Nixon holds the dubious distinction of being the first, and only, person to resign the US Presidency. The impact of the controversy has influenced every scandal since, be it in politics or elsewhere, which will forever be known as a 'Gate'.

Khan will explore what the scandal meant for the American Presidency, media coverage, and the legacy it has left, including whether Watergate set the stage for the rise of Donald Trump and the current political climate.



BRADFORD THROUGH THE LENS

Ian Beesley

📍 **The Festival Hub, City Park**

🗣️ Talks

🕒 14:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join award-winning and internationally acclaimed artist and photographer, Ian Beesley, as he shares photographs from his new book, *Life: A Retrospective*, which captures over 45 years of the rich industrial history of Bradford, and how they intertwine with his own life.

Check out *Ian Beesley Exhibition: Bradford Through the Lens*, displayed at BLF's Festival Hub, to view a selection of Beesley's photographs from his book and become immersed in industrial Bradford.

Reflection Session

After the talk, join us for an optional reminiscence session on Bradford's industrial history, which offers an opportunity to share your personal memories.



THE STORY OF HISLO: WHERE HISTORY COMES TO LIFE

Abdullah Alkadi, Noorah Alkadi

📍 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 19:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for an exclusive presentation on Hislo, an innovative social platform poised to revolutionise the way we engage with history, community, and storytelling on travels to Saudi Arabia.

Discover how the platform allows you to share your stories and explore historical locations like never before, whether you plan to walk the Hijrah route or look for hidden gems in Makkah.

Join Dr Noorah Alkadi and Professor Abdullah Alkadi as they lead us through the evolution of Hislo, now one of the most popular apps for historical locations in Saudi Arabia.



THE LOST ART OF KINDNESS

Lemn Sissay

📍 **Festival Hub, City Park**

🗣️ Talks

🕒 19:00 (1 hour) | £7

Following the release of his recent 'experiment in hope', *Let the Light Pour In*, award-winning poet Lemn Sissay is on a mission to revive the lost art of kindness.

In a world often dominated by stress and negativity, small acts of kindness can have a profound impact on our wellbeing and the wellbeing of those around us. A smile, a kind word or a thoughtful action; simple gestures can create a ripple effect of positivity.

Join Lemn Sissay for an inspiring in-conversation event about the transformative power of kindness and how we need to incorporate it into our daily lives.



DAVID MCQUEEN IN CONVERSATION: THE BRAVE LEADER

David McQueen

📍 **The Design Exchange, The Innovation Centre**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 19:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for an insightful evening with David McQueen, a renowned leadership coach, international speaker, and facilitator. David has coached leaders across all sectors to embrace inclusive leadership, transforming their processes and policies to support diversity and reap the rewards.

Many leaders fear doing the wrong thing, so they do nothing. McQueen will show you how to think strategically about problem-solving and decision-making, embedding inclusivity in your organisation despite rapid changes.

Learn how to future-proof your talent management, product development, customer experience and more with McQueen, cofounder of Q Squared Ltd, host of The BRAVE Leader podcast, and a blogger on leadership and culture change.



MUSHAIRA: AN EVENING OF URDU POETRY

📍 **Main Hall, The Majestic Bradford**

🎵 **Concerts & Performances**

🕒 **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 with an unforgettable musical performance from Ustad Rafaqat Ali Khan of Sham Chaurasia Gharana.

This event is not suitable for very young children or babes in arms, who will not be admitted. Please book a ticket for every member of your party.



Please note this event is in Urdu.



ZABAVA: THE NEXT GENERATION

📍 **The Underground**

🎵 **Gigs & Nights Out**

🕒 **19:30 (3 hours 30mins) | £7**

Dust off your dancing shoes for an enchanting evening filled with lively music and dancing from local Romani and Traveller artists.

A Zabava is more than just a party; it's a grand celebration, a feast for the senses where everyone comes together to revel in the richness of music, culture, and community. This year, we are celebrating local, homegrown, Bradford talent – the next generation of Zabava performers.

Bradford Literature Festival is delighted to partner with Connecting Roma to bring you this event. It's open to all communities and everyone will be welcomed with open arms.



CONNECTING ROMA
— C.I.C. —

Head to City Park for an action-packed family fun day. Embrace your inner superhero with workshops, performances, and heroic activities for all ages.

SUPER CRAFTS

The Broadway Bradford | City Park

Use your special powers in our super drop-in craft sessions. Zoom down to Broadway to make your own superhero mask and flag or join in at City Park where you can transform an ordinary spoon into a legendary hero or make your own superhero cuffs.

10:00–16:00 (drop-in) | **FREE**

STORY SEEKERS

The Broadway Bradford

Play games, look for clues and unlock your imagination! Explore the centre of Bradford as this interactive trail takes you on a journey from Broadway to the heart of City Park. From fantasy and adventure to magic and fairy tales, discover the perfect ingredients to create your very own story.

10:00–16:00 (drop-in) | **FREE**

CODSWALLOP PRESENTS: CRASH! BANG! WALLOP!

City Park

Welcome to the bustling superhero town of Tweedle! Zap, the superhero, basks in the adoration of the community after breaking records as the speediest hero in all the town. Meanwhile, Plod, known for their power of slowness, feels overlooked and unappreciated. This action-packed story will follow the journey of these two heroes as they strive to save the day.

11:00 | 13:00 | 15:00 (30 mins) | **FREE**

SUPERHERO SPECTACULAR

FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS

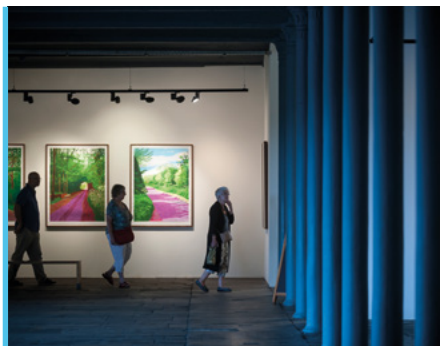
TWEEDLE TOWN AND BEYOND

City Park

Channel your inner Zap and Plod as you put your creative superpowers to the test in Codswallop's post-show drama workshops. Expect games, chaos and a whole heap of fun as you explore the power of teamwork and unleash your inner superhero.

11:30 | 13:30 | 15:30 (30 mins) | **FREE**


 Events are free. No booking required, just drop in.



HOCKNEY GALLERY TOUR: SALTS MILL

 **Hockney Gallery, Salts Mill**

 Tour

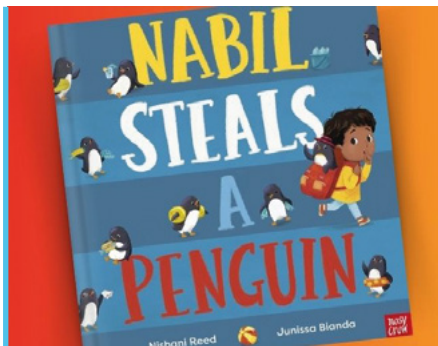
 09:45 (1 hour) | **£7**

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

The iconic Salts Mill houses one of the world's largest collections of Hockney's art, including his *Arrival of Spring* collection, much of which he created on his iPad.

This tour will cover Hockney's 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.




STORIES UNLOCKED: NABIL STEALS A PENGUIN

Nishani Reed

 **Waterstones**

 Workshop

 10:00 (45 mins) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

Celebrating curry, friendship and trying new things, join author, Nishani Reed, for a seriously silly event that is guaranteed to have little ones giggling.

When Pierre the penguin, fed up with eating fish at the zoo, has a taste of Nabil's delicious biriyani, Pierre decides that he absolutely must go home with him! But if Nabil's mum finds out about his hungry penguin stowaway, there's going to be big trouble.

With an interactive read-along and even a chance to draw your very own penguin, this is an event you won't want to miss!

Best suited to ages 3+.




YOGA ENERGY

Yoga Limba

 **Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford**

 Workshop

 10:00 (1 hour) | **£5**

Clear your mind and gain focus for the day ahead in this all-abilities Ashtanga Yoga session.

Rebecca Riley (Yoga Limba, Leeds) will lead a 60-minute session, the benefits of which will stretch far beyond flexibility. Reduce anxiety, boost your immunity, and put a spring in your step ahead of another busy day at Bradford Literature Festival!

Ashtanga is a dynamic form of yoga that promotes mental clarity and inner peace. We will practice sun salutations and a selection of standing and seated postures.


Participants will need to bring their own yoga mat.




WITH GREAT POWERS!

Gav Cross

 **City Park**

 Kids & Family

 10:30 | 12:30 | 14:30 (30 mins) |

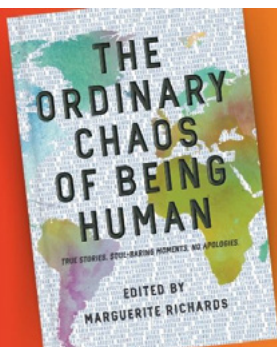
FREE (Ticketed)

Join master storyteller Gav Cross at the Bradford Literature Festival for a family-friendly session of ancient superhero tales from around the world.

Discover stories of goddesses, gods, and mischief-makers who have used their powers for both good and bad throughout millennia. This engaging event promises to captivate audiences of all ages with timeless adventures and mythical narratives.

Don't miss this opportunity hear about ancient legends and heroic feats from our wonderful storyteller. Perfect for the whole family, this storytelling session is sure to be an unforgettable experience filled with wonder and excitement.

For children of all ages.



THE ORDINARY CHAOS OF BEING HUMAN

Marguerite Richards, Saeida Rouass, Indlieb Farazi Saber

Banqueting Suite, City Hall

Panel

10:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join editor Marguerite Richards and contributors Saeida Rouass and Indlieb Farazi Saber for the UK launch of *The Ordinary Chaos of Being Human*. This compelling collection brings together personal stories from across the globe, offering a window into the lives of individuals from diverse Muslim backgrounds.

Experience unique narratives that range from schoolgirls in Yemen discovering a circus to an Iraqi soldier's unrequited love, capturing universal emotions of love, loss, and laughter.

Dive into these human experiences as the creators share their journey of curating these stories over four years, aiming to connect us all through intimate storytelling.



THE END OF LIBERAL DEMOCRACY

Anne Norton

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

Panel

10:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

In a world where leaders deny facts and Deepfake technology hijacks identities, disinformation spreads like wildfire through social media, threatening our society. Our panel asks: Are we heading towards mass surveillance and the erosion of liberal democracy?

Join Anne Norton, the author of *Wild Democracy*, and Professor Saeed Khan for a thought-provoking discussion on navigating a reality where truth is elusive and the implications for our democratic future.



BRADFORD POLICE MUSEUM HERITAGE TOUR

Martin Baines

📍 **Bradford Police Museum**

🗣️ Walks

🕒 10:30 (2 hours) | £7

Don't miss this fascinating tour of The Bradford Police Museum, where you can stand in the police cells that featured in the TV hit, *Peaky Blinders*, and the police cell from which Harry Houdini escaped!

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.

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



PLACES OF REVELATION

**Abdullah Alkadi, Hamza Yusuf,
Feraidoon Mojadedi**

📍 **St George's Hall**

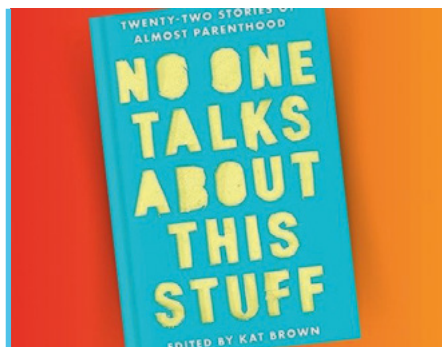
🗣️ Talks

🕒 10:30 (2 hours) | £7

Join Professor Abdullah Alkadi as he discusses his latest work, *Places of Revelation*, a profound journey to the heart of the Quran's origins.

Through meticulous research and engaging prose, Alkadi explores the sacred locales where Quranic verses were revealed, delving into their geographical and historical significance. With vivid descriptions and insightful analysis, Alkadi unveils how these revered sites influence contemporary interpretations of the Quran.

Professor Alkadi and Shaykh Hamza Yusuf, President of Zaytuna College will discuss Alkadi's research and the pivotal role of these historical landmarks. This discussion promises to illuminate the intersection of spirituality, scholarship, and heritage.



NO ONE TALKS ABOUT THIS STUFF: ALMOST PARENTHOOD

Kat Brown, Noni Martins

📍 **The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 10:45 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join editor Kat Brown and contributor Noni Martins for a conversation that isn't often heard. *No One Talks About This Stuff* is an anthology for almost-parents.

It is a place that shares journeys of loss and limbo, to confront social pressure and to find courage in the darkness of tragedies which happen every day yet are brushed under the carpet.

In this thought provoking, honest, and vulnerable discussion, Brown and Martins open a much-needed conversation about society, family and honouring the missing children we will never forget.



STORIES UNLOCKED: THE QUEEN NEXT DOOR

Marcela Ferreira

📍 **Waterstones**

🗣️ Kids & Family

🕒 11:00 (45 mins) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

Join author, Marcela Ferreira, as she introduces the characters from her book, *The Queen Next Door*. Play games, draw pictures, and travel to a faraway kingdom in this fun storytelling workshop.

What does it mean to be the Queen? Do you need a big kingdom? Then again, maybe you need an enormous bedroom in which to play. You'd need a crown, wouldn't you?

Best suited to ages 3+.



WORKSHOP: INSIDE THE INTERROGATION ROOM

Graham Bartlett, Chris Connel, Harriet Tyce

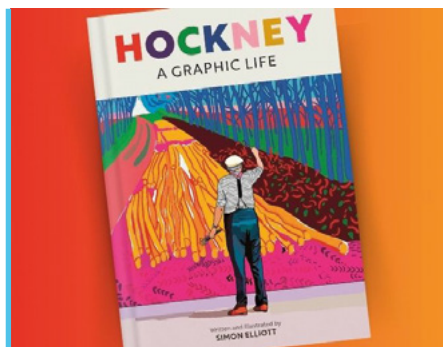
The Chamber, City Hall | Masterclass

11:00 (1 hour) | **£10**

Ever wondered what *really* happens inside the interrogation room? If you are an avid true crime fan or aspiring crime author, this is the workshop for you.

Graham Bartlett, former detective and now best-selling crime writer, joins us in the historic Chamber Room in City Hall as he interrogates our suspect, played by veteran actor, Chris Connel. Gain insights into what happens after an arrest, with acclaimed author and former barrister, Harriet Tyce, as the solicitor.

In this immersive demonstration, you will witness authentic police questioning, but the question is...guilty or not guilty?



THE COLOURFUL CANVAS OF HOCKNEY

Simon Elliot, Roz Hall

📍 **Meeting Room, Salts Mill**

🗣️ Talks

🕒 11:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for our annual Hockney Day as we delve into the kaleidoscopic life and artistic brilliance of David Hockney, the maestro who painted his world in pixels and pigments.

Simon Elliot, author of *Hockney: A Graphic Life*, will take us on an illustrated journey, sharing his own characterful, joyous and colourful illustrations, all designed on an iPad, paying homage to Hockney's iPad work.

Through these captivating illustrations, Simon will unveil the extraordinary life and artistic legacy of David Hockney, offering a biography unlike any other, bursting with colour and charm.



SALTIRE MODEL VILLAGE: HERITAGE WALKING TOUR

Maria Glot

📍 **Saltaire United Reformed Church**

🗣️ Walks

🕒 11:00 (1 hour 30 mins) | £7

Step into the past with our guided tour of Saltaire, the UNESCO World Heritage Site and historic model village surrounding West Yorkshire's iconic Salts Mill.

Opened in 1853 by philanthropist, Sir Titus Salt, the mill was the centrepiece of Saltaire's new and industrial utopian age, complete with an adjoining model village to house its many workers.

Led by Maria Glot, the tour will show what life would have been like living and working in Saltaire when Salts Mill was in its glorious heyday.

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



HOW TO BE A HERO

Flick Goodman

City Park

Kids & Family

11:30 | 13:30 | 15:30 (30 mins) |

FREE (Ticketed)

What makes someone a hero? Join storyteller Flick Goodman on an enchanting journey into the heart of famous folk stories, where we will uncover the essence of heroism.

Together, we'll explore the enduring traits that define a great hero, from bravery and selflessness to resilience and compassion. As part of this engaging experience, you'll have the opportunity to create your own unique three-word Pledge Poem, a personal tribute to the heroes in your life.

Celebrate everyday heroes through this insightful exploration, gaining a deeper understanding of what it truly means to be heroic.

Don't miss this chance to be inspired and to honour the hero within us all.

Best suited to age 7+.



WORKSHOP: EXPLORING THE LIFE BENEFITS OF POETRY

Afra Atiq

Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford

Workshop

11:30 (1 hour 30 mins) | **£7**

In this stimulating workshop, award-winning spoken word poet, Afra Atiq, will introduce you to the many benefits of injecting a bit of poetry into your lives.

Working with some of the poems that have inspired her during challenging times, Afra will show that there are many therapeutic reasons for writing poetry.

This workshop will lead you through some of the key techniques you'll need to start building your repertoire and show you how to find daily inspiration in the unlikeliest of places. All are welcome to bring along some of your own inspirational poems to share.

Afra Atiq will also perform at Lyrical Mehfil, Saturday 29 June at 7:30pm.



DAVE GIBBONS AND TIM PILCHER IN CONVERSATION

Dave Gibbons, Tim Pilcher

Banqueting Suite, City Hall

In Conversation

11:45 (1 hour) | **£7**

Calling all comic book fans! Join Dave Gibbons and Tim Pilcher as they discuss their fascinating careers, how the comic book industry has changed, and how their friendship turned into collaboration.

As co-creator of *Watchmen*, the bestselling graphic novel of all time, Gibbons is comic book royalty. His new book, *Confabulation: An Anecdotal Autobiography*, is full of stories about his journey from fanzine artist to infiltrating DC Comics in the 1970s, and being the first Comics Laureate.

Dave is joined by comic book expert, writer and historian, Tim Pilcher, who co-authored *Confabulation* and is current Chair of the Comic Book Alliance.



STORIES UNLOCKED: THE DREAM CATCHER OF PALESTINE

Kay Faraz

Waterstones

Kids & Family

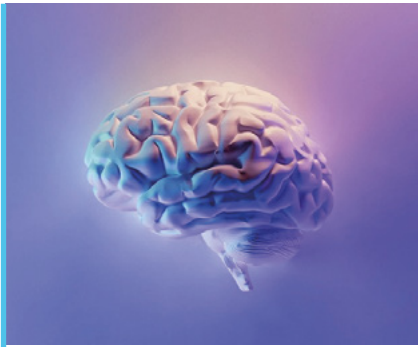
12:00 (45 mins) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

Join author, Kay Faraz, as she takes children on a journey exploring the universal themes of hope and courage.

The Dream Catcher of Palestine, the debut book in the *Children of Palestine* series, follows the journey of Omar, a young Palestinian child whose love for his family and land shines brightly, guiding him through everyday adventures and the challenges posed by the complex realities of their world.

Children of Palestine is a new children's picture book series, casting a spotlight on the lives of Palestinian children amidst the backdrop of their beautiful yet turbulent homeland.

Best suited to ages 7+.



IT'S NOT A BLOODY TREND!

Ellie Middleton, Kat Brown, Alicja Nocon

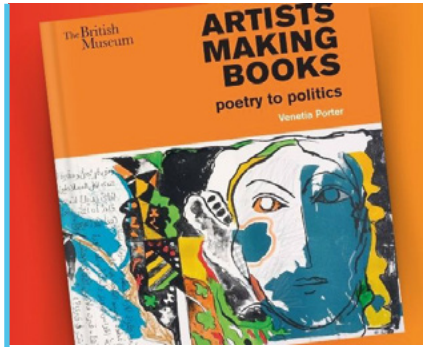
The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall

Talks

12:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join us for a fascinating discussion dismantling the taboos, stereotypes and misconceptions of being diagnosed as neurodivergent, and explore what happens after receiving a diagnosis.

Kat Brown, author of *It's Not A Bloody Trend: Understanding Life as an ADHD Adult*, and Ellie Middleton, author of *UNMASKED: The Ultimate Guide to ADHD, Autism and Neurodivergence*, will discuss their own personal experiences with chair Alicja Nocon, and deliberate how receiving a diagnosis can be an exciting opportunity to understand yourself and your brain, and better equip you to navigate a world designed for the neuro-normative.



ARTISTS MAKING BOOKS: POETRY TO POLITICS

Venetia Porter, Atef Alshaer

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

In Conversation

12:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

In the hands of artists and poets, books have been taking a radically different form since the advent of the artist's book in Paris in the early 20th century.

In this fascinating conversation, art historian Dr Venetia Porter, curator of the *Artists Making Books: Poetry to Politics* exhibition, and academic and writer Dr Atef Alshaer discuss the exhibition's accompanying book, a stunning collection of outstanding and fascinating artists' books.

Join us for an enthralling discussion as they delve into the relationship between artists and writers, and the influences that inform their work, from family to politics and everything in between.



IS THE UNITED NATIONS STILL FIT FOR PURPOSE?

Salman Shaikh

The Chamber, City Hall

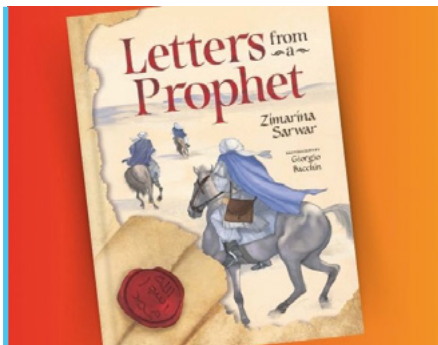
Panel

12:15 (1 hour) | £7

In the wake of recent events in Gaza, the question of the United Nations' effectiveness in addressing global challenges is increasingly being asked.

Our panellists will analyse the UN's role today, its successes and failures, and whether it remains fit for purpose in the current geopolitical climate. To what extent is it able to enforce international law and what is its impact on peace and security?

In this essential conversation, international relations, human rights, and the future of global governance are all under the spotlight. Join us for a thought-provoking conversation about the UN's relevance today.



STORIES UNLOCKED: LETTERS FROM A PROPHET

Zimarina Sarwar

Waterstones

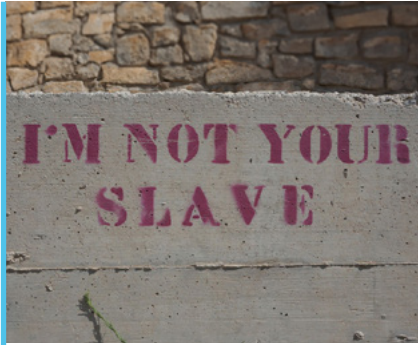
Kids & Family

13:00 (45 mins) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

Join author, Zimarina Sarwar, on an enchanting journey through *Letters from a Prophet*, where timeless wisdom awaits – a story just as relevant today as it was centuries ago.

Once upon a time, in the year 7AH (628AD), the Last Prophet of God sent important letters to distant lands, promising peace. Brave messengers embarked on grand adventures to deliver these special letters, journeying through vast landscapes and visiting magnificent palaces. Along the way, they encountered many different people and learned valuable lessons about faith and kindness.

Best suited to ages 7+.



WRITERSMOSAIC: REMEMBER ME

**Colin Grant, Ingrid Persaud,
Chitra Ramaswamy, Nicholas Rankin**

Banqueting Suite, City Hall

Panel

13:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Just beneath the surface of modern life lies denial, rage, the unreliability of memory and the assertion of equivalence.

Who suffered more under the English, descendants of the enslaved or the child labourers in Victorian factories?

WritersMosaic and Colin Grant are joined by three award-winning authors, Chitra Ramaswamy, Ingrid Persaud and Nicholas Rankin, for a fascinating debate on the hierarchies of suffering and whether being descended from victims absolves you of responsibility when you start to behave like a perpetrator.



WORKSHOP: HUES OF HOCKNEY, COLOURED PENCIL PORTRAITS

Roz Hall

Meeting Room, Salts Mill

Workshop

13:00 (1 hour 30 mins) | **£10**

Unleash your inner artist at the Bradford Literature Festival's exclusive workshop with artist and educator, Roz Hall.

Inspired by the vibrant works of David Hockney, this hands-on session invites you to explore the delicate art of coloured pencil drawing. Whether you're a budding portraitist or a still-life enthusiast, our workshop offers a unique opportunity to learn, create, and capture the world in radiant colour.

Join us in the beautiful Salts Mill, home to a large collection of David Hockney's original works, and transform simple sketches into stunning masterpieces.



FUTURE WORLDS PRIZE: THE FUTURE OF SCI-FI AND FANTASY

**Sarah Shaffi, Mahmud El Sayed,
Marve Michael Anson, M H Ayinde**

The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall

Panel

13:15 (1 hour) | £7

Three future stars of British science fiction and fantasy (SFF) join Sarah Shaffi to discuss their work and what draws them to the past, present and future of the genre.

Mahmud El Sayed explores Arabic and Islamic-inspired themes in a genre he calls 'Arabfuturism', Marve Michael Anson dives into her upcoming debut, *Firstborn of the Sun*, and M. H. Ayinde introduces *A Song of Legends*, due to be the first of an epic trilogy.

This promises to be a unique and lively exploration of an exciting genre, plus ticket holders will get a free Future Worlds Prize goody bag.



HOCKNEY GALLERY TOUR: CARTWRIGHT HALL

Gallery 4, Cartwright Hall

Tour

13:30 (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 in 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.





SARA PASCOE: WEIRDO

Sara Pascoe, Kasim Ali

📍 **St George's Hall** | 🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 13:30 (1 hour) | £7

You'll know her from *LadsLadsLads*, *Live at the Apollo* and *The Great British Sewing Bee*. Multi-award-winning comedian, Sara Pascoe, joins us for a special in-conversation with Kasim Ali about her debut novel, *Weirdo*.

Weirdo follows Sophie, an Essex gal who does her best to act like a normal, well-adjusted person while trying not to say her inner-monologue out loud, and trying to suppress her mild paranoia, pornographic visualisations and pathological lying.

Full of Pascoe's trademark wit and humour, *Weirdo* is a little bit messy, a little bit weird and a lot-a-bit funny.

16+ / Parental Discretion

Image: Rachel Sherlock



PAUL ROGERS: THE INSECURITY TRAP

Paul Rogers

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

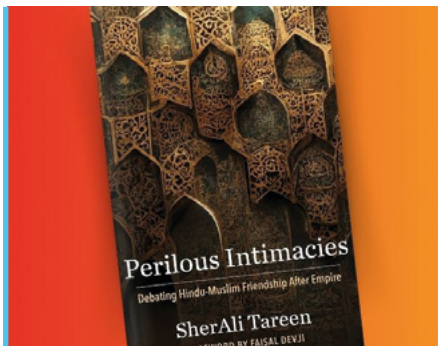
Lecture

13:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for a crucial conversation with Professor Paul Rogers as he discusses his latest book, *A Crowded, Glowering World: Paths to a Sustainable and Secure Future*. This talk will explore the interconnected challenges we face and deliver insights into understanding this global 'polycrisis'.

A respected authority on conflict analysis, Rogers has been remarkably prescient in his predictions, including the evolving dangers of climate change.

This is not just an academic discussion, it's a call to action. The book will outline practical steps that governments, businesses and citizens can take to foster a more secure and equitable world.



PERILOUS INTIMACIES: DEBATING HINDU-MUSLIM FRIENDSHIP

SherAli Tareen

The Chamber, City Hall

Talks

13:30 (1 hour) | £7

SherAli Tareen's fascinating new book, *Perilous Intimacies: Debating Hindu-Muslim Friendship after Empire*, explores how leading South Asian Muslim thinkers imagined and contested the boundaries of Hindu-Muslim friendship from the mid-18th to the mid-20th centuries.

In the context of Modi's India and the current-day rise of Hindu nationalism, this is a particularly timely conversation that will also delve into interreligious tensions and conflicts and consider what the future prospects might be for these two religions that share such a profound and intricate history.

Join SherAli Tareen and co-panelists for a thought-provoking exploration of a complex and sensitive topic.



WORKSHOP: CALLIGRAPHY WITH HAJI NOOR DEEN

Haji Noor Deen

📍 **Norcroft Auditorium, University of
Bradford**

🗣️ Workshop

🕒 13:30 (2 hours) | £10

Join celebrated calligrapher, Haji Noor Deen, for a very special workshop. The artist will demonstrate his unrivalled calligraphic technique, a remarkable fusion of Chinese and Arabic art, by writing verses from the Qur'an.

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

Don't miss this rare opportunity to learn the essential techniques of this unique calligraphy directly from the master craftsman himself.

This event will be delivered in Arabic and translated into English.



STORIES UNLOCKED: GAZA GUARDIAN

Kay Faraz

📍 **Waterstones**

👤 Kids & Family

🕒 14:00 (45 mins) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

Join us for an inspiring storytelling session with acclaimed author, Kay Faraz, as she takes us on a captivating journey through her book, *Gaza Guardian*.

Through the tale of a new superhero emerging to defend Gaza against the sinister Shadowbane, Faraz delivers a powerful message of resilience, inner strength, and the transformative power of unity.

Don't miss this opportunity to be uplifted and inspired by a story that encourages children to believe in themselves and their ability to overcome even the darkest of challenges.

Best suited to ages 7+.



ATIF TAUQEUR IN CONVERSATION

Atif Tauqeer, Tasneem Hassan

Student Central, SC0.51

In Conversation

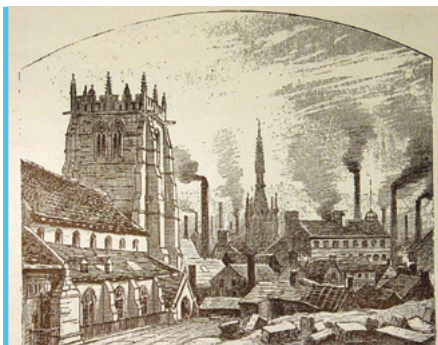
14:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

To mark the publication of his first Urdu language poetry collection, *Radd*, Bradford Literature Festival is hosting this special Urdu event with Atif Tauqeer, where he will discuss his writing and inspiration.

Atif Tauqeer is a hugely popular Pakistani journalist, poet, writer, vlogger and media researcher based in Germany. He is a poet rooted in tradition and modernity at the same time, one who grapples with the subjects of our time. Tauqeer has been hailed as a poet who stands out for his unfathomable talent and craft.

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

Please note this event is in Urdu.



BRADFORD CRIME SCENES: HERITAGE WALKING TOUR

Alan Whitrick

Bradford Police Museum

Walks

14:00 (2 hours) | **£7**

In this exclusive tour, experts from the Bradford Police Museum will take you on a journey through time to uncover the history of policing, crime and criminal justice, from the 19th century to the modern day.

From unsolved deaths at the Midland Hotel to the 'Humbig Billy' poisonings, Bradford is steeped in grisly Victorian mysteries that helped to inspire some of the 19th century's best crime writing. This tour will take you on a crime-themed adventure that you'll never forget.

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



The Bradford
Police Museum



ECHOES OF THE ORISHA

Inua Ellams, Ashley Thorpe, Chikodili Emelumadu

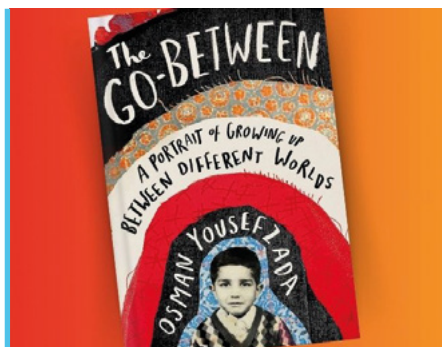
📍 **Banqueting Suite, City Hall** | 🔊 Panel

🕒 14:15 (1 hour) | £7

Join acclaimed novelist, poet and playwright, Inua Ellams, author of *The Half-God of Rainfall* and *Barber Shop Chronicles*, Ashley Thorpe, author of *The Boy to Beat the Gods*, and Chikodili Emelumadu, author of *Dazzling*, to celebrate the extraordinary tales of West African mythology.

You may be familiar with Greek mythology, but have you encountered the trickster Anansi, the spider, or the Orisha, the pantheon of Gods whose seeds are scattered across the African continent?

Whether you're a curious bystander or an expert in African folklore, our panel will guide you through mythological wonders and the work inspired by them.



THE GO-BETWEEN: OSMAN YOUSEFZADA IN CONVERSATION

Osman Yousefzada

The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall

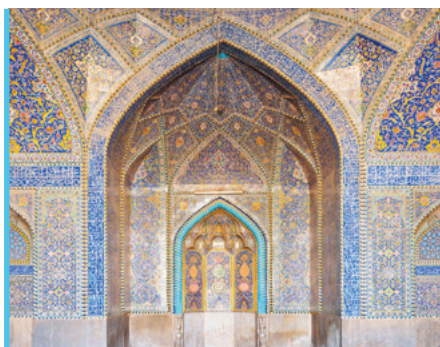
In Conversation

14:30 (1 hour) | £7

Visual artist, Osman Yousefzada, joins us for a conversation about his life and work that promises to be both humorous and harrowing, taking us from a closed community on the wrong side of the tracks to the world of the fashion industry and making clothes for Beyoncé and Lady Gaga.

Encapsulated in his acclaimed book, *The Go-Between*, which Stephen Fry reviewed as “one of the greatest childhood memoirs of our time”, are Yousefzada’s fascinating life and career spent navigating the dual burdens of racism and community expectations.

Yousefzada’s new exhibition, *Where It Began*, is at Cartwright Hall, Bradford, until 13 October.



THE ART OF ENLIGHTENMENT: ISLAMIC CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL CULTURE

Abdul Rahman Azzam, Muhannad Shono, Silke Ackermann

Norcroft Lounge, University of Bradford

Panel

14:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for a panel discussion on the rich heritage and contemporary resonance of Islamic art and architecture.

The panel includes Dr Silke Ackermann, Director of the History of Science Museum at the University of Oxford, and Dr Abdul Rahman Azzam and Muhannad Shono, two of the curators of the forthcoming Islamic Arts Biennale in Jeddah, which is the first exhibition of its kind and offers a forum for the display and discussion of Islamic arts and cultures from around the world.

Together, the panellists offer insights into the beauty and breadth of the arts of Islamic cultures, and the profound influence they have had on our shared present.



ISRAEL-PALESTINE: WHAT NEXT?

Salman Shaikh

The Chamber, City Hall

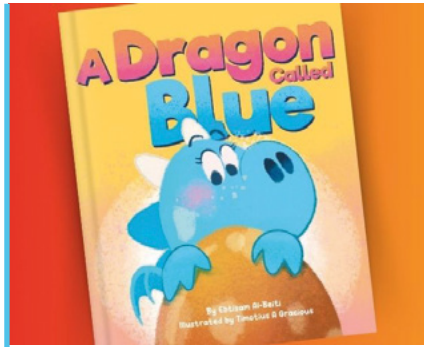
Panel

14:45 (1 hour) | **£7**

Engage in a critical discussion on the future of one of the world's most enduring conflicts. After World War II, the partition of Palestine aimed for peaceful coexistence between Jewish and Arab states. Instead, decades of conflict ensued, and with the ongoing Gaza crisis, the vision seems distant.

The two-state solution has been the longstanding goal of resolving the Israeli–Palestinian conflict but faces significant challenges. Is it still viable? What are the alternatives?

Join our panel as they explore the complexities and potential pathways to lasting peace in this historically conflicted region. Don't miss this opportunity for valuable insights.



STORIES UNLOCKED: A DRAGON CALLED BLUE

Ebtisam Al-Beiti

Waterstones

Kids & Family

15:00 (45 mins) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

Author Ebtisam Al-Beiti brings her boundless energy and new book, *A Dragon Called Blue*, all the way from Dubai.

Blue is the bluest blue dragon there could ever be, but worries that things are about to change, and she's a little bit scared of the small brown egg that's appeared in her den. Join Blue for a colourful adventure as she learns about the changes that life sometimes throws our way.

Best suited for ages 3+.




RUMI & IQBAL: DIVINE LOVE

Feraidoon Mojadedi

 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre**

 Talks

 15:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join Ustadh Feraidoon Mojadedi, a renowned community leader from the Bay Area, as he shares insights into the spiritual wisdom of poets, Rumi and Iqbal.

From a young age, Mojadedi was captivated by poetry, a passion that led him to teach about Rumi's works globally, from California to Konya, Turkey, where Rumi rests.

Hear how Rumi and Iqbal, though from different eras, embraced Divine Love, promoting themes of self-discovery and connecting with the divine. Discover their profound impact on spiritual introspection and unlocking one's true potential at this inspiring event.




CAN CRIME EVER BE COSY?

Antony Johnston, JM Hall, Katy Watson

 **Banqueting Suite, City Hall**

 Panel

 15:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for a thought-provoking panel event, showcasing the UK's foremost cosy crime authors, including Katy Watson, JM Hall and Antony Johnston. These popular authors share a passionate love for their genre, and together will embark on a quest to decipher whether crime can ever truly be cosy.

Dive into the realm of cosy mystery books, your perfect haven for lighthearted escapism. With the genre growing in popularity once again, the question lingers...can crime genuinely exude cosiness?

Explore the charm, wit, and intrigue of cosy crime fiction as we unravel the mystery. Don't miss this unique opportunity to delve into the heart of this captivating literary discussion.





MIRIAM MARGOLYES IN CONVERSATION

Miriam Margolyes

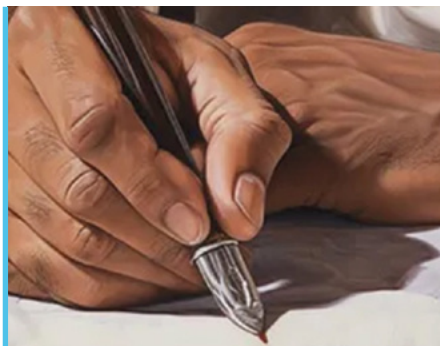
📍 **St George's Hall** | 🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 15:15 (1 hour) | £7

Miriam Margolyes, one of the UK's most iconic and recognisable actors, joins us for a very special conversation about her memoir, *Oh Miriam!*

Her memoir covers everything from 'How to Stay Married' to 'Don't Let the B*st*rds Get You Down'; how to break the thickest conversational ice; why swearing is actually good for you (though not on the *Today* programme); and the unexpected things she learned at school.

Join Miriam, Britain's naughtiest national treasure, as she shares stories from the uproarious adventure that is her life well lived.



IKTARA: THE JOSH MALIHABADI STORY

Atif Tauqeer

Student Central, SC0.51

Films & Screenings

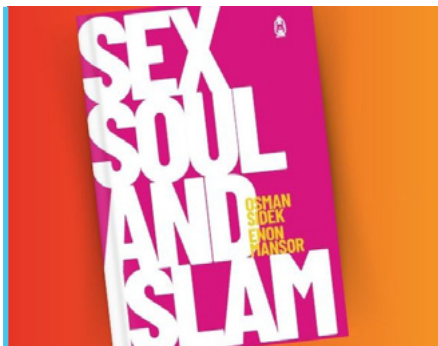
15:30 (1 hour 30 mins) | £7

A film about the life and times of Josh Malihabadi, one of history's great Urdu poets. The film explores the grand themes of Josh's poetry and uncovers the conflicts and controversies that his legacy faces today.

Josh Malihabadi, popularly known as the Shayar-e-Inqalab (the poet of revolution), was one of the finest Urdu poets of the era of British India. Known for his liberal values and challenging the established order, he wrote over 100,000 couplets and more than 1,000 rubaiyat in his lifetime.

Released in 2023 by directors, Fahim Hamid Ali and Ali Umair, the film stars Yousuf Kamal, Azra Mohiuddin and Rahil Siddiqui.

Please note this event is in Urdu.



SEX, SOUL AND ISLAM

Osman Sidek, Enon Mansor

The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall

Talks

15:45 (1 hour 30 mins) | £7

Join authors Enon Mansor and Osman Sidek as they delve into the intersection of sex, soul and Islam in their award-winning book, *Sex, Soul and Islam*.

The authors challenge prevailing views within Muslim communities, advocating for a balanced approach rooted in prophetic insights. Drawing from their extensive experience in marital counselling and sexual education, Mansor and Sidek offer practical guidance for navigating relationships and intimacy.


Led by journalist Remona Aly, they will explore these profound themes and engage with the authors' expertise, understanding that sexual intimacy is integral to spiritual growth.



BALLOTS ACROSS BORDERS: ELECTION YEAR 2024 FOR INDIA, THE US, AND THE UK

Naz Shah, Hassan Abedin, Nabeela Rasheed

 **The Chamber, City Hall** |  Panel

 16:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join us for an engaging panel discussion as we explore the potential for transformative change as three of the world's largest economies head to the polls this year.

More than 4 billion people are eligible to vote in an election in 2024, as we delve into the electoral landscapes of India, the United States, and the United Kingdom, to examine the key issues shaping each nation's political discourse and how these elections will impact international relations, economic policies, and global democratic trends.

This is an overview of the 2024 elections and their potential to influence the future trajectory of global politics and economics. Whether you are a political enthusiast, a student of international relations, or simply curious about global democratic processes, this panel will offer valuable insights and stimulating discussion.



PLANTS OF THE QUR'AN

Shahina A. Ghazanfar, Sue Wickison

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

In Conversation

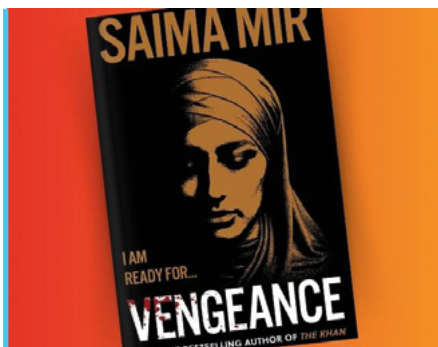
16:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join author and botanist at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Shahina A. Ghazanfar and renowned scientific illustrator, Sue Wickison, in conversation, as they discuss their stunning book *Plants of the Qur'an*.

The first book ever to investigate the etymology and history of the plants mentioned in the Qur'an, the book gives descriptions and beautiful, detailed illustrations showing the plants' habitats, leaves, flowers, fruits and dissections.

Ghazanfar and Wickison will present their insightful research and observations. Whether you are a follower of the Qur'an, green fingered or just curious, this event is unmissable.

Accompanying exhibition: Cartwright Hall Art Gallery 22 June – 8 September.



SAIMA MIR: BACK WITH A VENGEANCE

Saima Mir

Banqueting Suite, City Hall

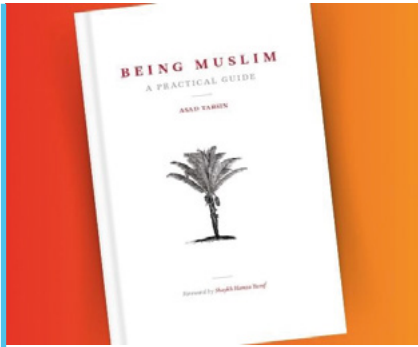
Talks

17:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Celebrate the launch of *Vengeance*, the eagerly awaited sequel to Saima Mir's *The Khan*, at our exclusive in-conversation event.

Saima, originally a journalist in Bradford, draws from her rich cultural heritage as a British Pakistani. In her talk she will explore the deep connections and inspirations behind her characters and settings.

Join us to gain unique insights into Mir's creative process and the intricate ties between her narratives and real-world locales. This event promises a deep dive into thrilling plots and rich storytelling, ideal for fans of intense thrillers and nuanced narratives.



BEING MUSLIM

Asad Tarsin

📍 **Great Hall, University of Bradford**

🗣️ Talks

🕒 17:30 (1 hour 30 mins) | £7

Join Dr Asad Tarsin as he expertly navigates through the essential concepts and timeless wisdom gleaned from over 20 reputable authorities in Islam.

Being Muslim: A Practical Guide is meticulously crafted by Dr Tarsin, and gives practical and valuable insights, allowing you to grasp the essence of what it truly means to be Muslim.

Whether you are embarking on your journey into Islam or seeking to refresh your understanding of its foundational principles, *Being Muslim* will bestow the most fundamental aspects of the faith, no matter your level of familiarity with Islam.



DIVINE MELODIES: YOUTH NASHEED SHOWCASE

📍 **Mary Magdalene Church CIC**

🗣️ Concerts & Performances

🕒 18:00 (3 hours) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

Join us for a vibrant celebration co-curated with the inspiring young people of Mary Magdalene CIC.

Talented youth from our local and regional communities will be taking to the stage to recite Nasheed. Nasheed is a form of vocal music rich in spiritual themes that is popular within Islamic cultures, aimed to inspire and uplift listeners. It is usually performed a cappella without instrumental accompaniment, although some modern interpretations may include percussion.

This is a chance to experience a unique blend of voices and soulful melodies, including performances by some of the region's renowned Nasheed artists.





NORTHERN NOIR AT THE BAR

**Liz Mistry, M W Craven,
Trevor Mark Thomas**

**The Priestley Coffee Lounge & Bar,
Bradford Playhouse**

Panel

19:30 (1 hour 30 mins) |

£10 (No Concessions)

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. Find out why our region has become such a compelling creative muse to so many crime writers at this intimate evening event.

Grab yourself a drink and join crime authors, Liz Mistry, M. W. Craven and Trevor Mark Thomas for an evening of noir readings, conversation and guaranteed black humour.

This event is for those aged 18+. You may be asked to provide proof of age at this event.

Tickets include one free drink. BLF's Discounts and Concessions policy does not apply to this event.



LYRICAL MEHFIL

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

Concerts & Performances

19:30 (2 hours 30 mins) | **£7**

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

Mehfils are traditional gatherings of courtly entertainment performed for small audiences in the homes and palaces of South Asian nobility, and the assembly of talent at this event is fit for a king.

This year, a dazzling line-up of poets reflecting some of the most innovative international voices will descend on Bradford, bringing a range of poetic styles and voices to this intimate event.

This year's line-up includes Afra Atiq joining us all the way from Dubai, Palestinian poet Atef Alshaer, Carlos Andrés Gómez from the USA, and Yorkshire's own John Siddique, with more exciting names to be announced.



THE SPIRIT OF TOGETHERNESS: AN EVENING OF GOSPEL

**Krakov Gospel Choir, The Celebration Choir, Hot Gospel,
Huddersfield Community Choir**

St George's Hall | Concerts & Performances

19:30 (3 hours) | £7

Join us for an uplifting evening of soul-stirring gospel melodies. From its roots in spirituality to its evolution into a global phenomenon, gospel music touches hearts and lifts spirits.

This is a showcase of gospel choirs and performers from across West Yorkshire, each bringing their own unique flair and passion to the stage, with a special performance from the Kraków Gospel Choir from Poland.

The Spirit of Togetherness is a celebration of everything this timeless genre represents: hope, faith and the power of music to uplift and inspire.

This event has been co-curated by the Windrush Generations team and Colin Williams of The Celebration Choir.



Set sail for a day of adventure at our family fun day! In City Park, dive into traditional tales from across the seven seas, from mermaids to mythical beasts.

PIRATE CRAFTS

The Broadway Bradford | City Park

Ahoy there! Craft your very own pirate telescopes in our swashbuckling workshop at Broadway or transform paper plates into enchanting mermaids and majestic ships and make your own paper captain's hat or pirate parrot down in the city park.

10:00–16:00 (drop-in) | FREE

STORY SEEKERS

The Broadway Bradford

Play games, look for clues and unlock your imagination! Explore the centre of Bradford as this interactive trail takes you on a journey from Broadway to the heart of City Park. From fantasy and adventure to magic and fairy tales, discover the perfect ingredients to create your very own story.

10:00–16:00 (drop-in) | FREE

CODSWALLOP PRESENTS: SPARKLEBEARD AND THE MYSTERIOUS MERLION

City Park

Join Captain Sparklebeard, explorer extraordinaire, and his crew on a mission to document the mythical and magical creatures of the seven seas. Pop a parrot on your shoulder and grab a cutlass to help this rag-tag band of misfits on their mighty quest to find one creature never found before, The Mysterious Merlion.

11:00 | 13:00 | 15:00 (30 mins) | FREE

FANTASTIC FOLKTALES



FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS

SWASHBUCKLING ADVENTURERS

City Park

Captain Sparklebeard's escapades don't stop when he leaves the stage. Stick around after each performance for a new chaotic quest with the crew at Codswallop. Learn how you can have an adventure anywhere with just a little imagination and the power of storytelling.

11:30 | 13:30 | 15:30 (30 mins) | FREE



Events are free. No booking required, just drop in.



TAI CHI

Bar

The Festival Hub, City Park

Workshop

10:00 (1 hour) | **£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 it is thought to date back to the practice of a 14th-century Taoist monk.

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

Experience the system of coordinated body posture and movement by learning some simple moves of your own.



LITTLE GERMANY: HERITAGE WALKING TOUR

Nigel Grizzard

Merchants House

Walks

10:00 (1 hour 45 mins) | **£7**

Explore the architectural history and industrial heritage of Bradford's vibrant cultural quarter, Little Germany, on this informative walking tour led by local historian, Nigel Grizzard.

Attracted by the wool trade, groups of primarily Jewish-German merchants settled in Bradford during the mid-19th century. They constructed buildings to store their exportable goods, mirroring the ornate structures found in their European home.

Grizzard's walking tour will bring you face-to-face with this forgotten world by leading you through the country's largest collection of beautiful, listed buildings.

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



Harper
North

MEET THE PUBLISHER WITH HARPER NORTH

Jonathan De Peyer 📍 **Room D3, Richmond Building, University of Bradford**

Genevieve Pegg 📍 **Room D5, Richmond Building, University of Bradford**

🗣️ Workshop

🕒 10:30 | 11:05 | 11:40 | 13:00 | 13:35 | 14:10 (30 mins) | £7

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

Whether you are writing fiction or non-fiction, you can book a 30-minute session with an editor from renowned publishing imprint, Harper North.

Get world-class feedback on your writing, expert insight into the publishing process or learn how to write an attention-grabbing pitch.

Spaces are limited and allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, with only one session available per person to ensure fairness. Multiple reservations by the same individual will be cancelled.



TRADITIONAL TALES WITH A TWIST!

Gav Cross

📍 **City Park**

👨‍👩‍👧 **Kids & Family**

🕒 10:30 | 12:30 | 14:30 (30 mins) |

FREE (Ticketed)

Join the Bradford Literature Festival's master storyteller, Gav Cross, as he brings folktales to life for the whole family. Experience enchanting stories that will captivate audiences of all ages.

Discover timeless tales that you'll want to share again and again, creating lasting memories with your loved ones. This engaging event promises to transport you to magical worlds through the power of storytelling.

Perfect for families, this session is an opportunity to bond over stories filled with wonder and adventure. Don't miss out on this unforgettable experience at the Bradford Literature Festival.

For children of all ages.



STORIES UNLOCKED: THE MAGIC CALLALOO

Trish Cooke

📍 **Waterstones**

👨‍👩‍👧 **Kids & Family**

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

Bradford-born master storyteller, Trish Cooke, explores her new book, *The Magic Callaloo*, inspired by her ancestors and the roads they walked.

Long ago and far away, a magic callaloo plant grew in a village square. Whoever ate one of its leaves was granted a wish. With only one leaf left, Mister and Missus, desperate for a child, pluck it to make their dream come true... and so the tale begins.

Based on the story of *Rapunzel* and inspired by stories of enslaved Africans, the book features beautiful imagery and a message that sows the seeds of hope.

Best suited to ages 3+.



WORLDS WITHIN WORDS

Lauren Beukes, John Connolly

📍 **The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall**

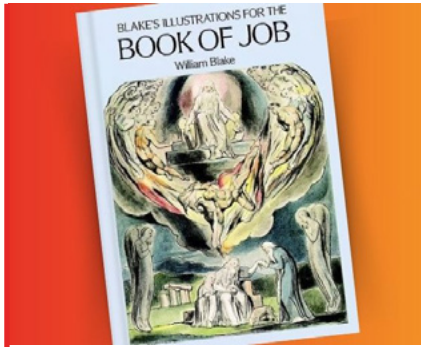
🗣️ Panel

🕒 10:30 (1 hour) | £7

Whether you're a writer yourself or you just enjoy being immersed in a good book, our authors will reveal their secrets for creating immersive scene settings and worlds.

We've brought together Lauren Beukes, author of bestselling novel, *The Shining Girls*, whose work straddles the speculative and literary, and celebrated crime author John Connolly, best known for his *PI Charlie Parker* series, to share their best tips and tricks to convey authenticity.

Join us to learn how acclaimed writers bring stories vividly to life, ensuring readers are fully engaged and invested in the narrative.



BLAKE'S ROLE IN MODERN MENTAL HEALTH

Jason Wright, Stephen Pritchard

📍 **Banqueting Suite, City Hall**

🗣️ In Conversation

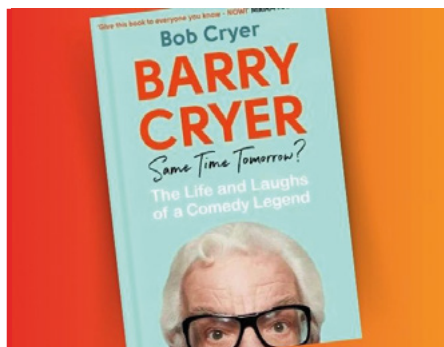
🕒 10:45 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for a captivating discussion as author Jason Wright teams up with Stephen Pritchard from the Blake Society to explore the transformative power of William Blake's work in modern mental health and addiction recovery.

Delve into the depths of Blake's *Illustrations of the Book of Job* and discover how these poignant themes resonate with contemporary psychoanalysis and psychotherapy techniques. Wright masterfully connects Blake's vision of despair, redemption and hope to the journeys individuals face in overcoming trauma today.

This engaging event will offer fresh perspectives on using historic literary insights to foster healing and growth in modern therapy. Don't miss this unique blend of art, literature, and psychological recovery.





PRIESTLEY AND THE PYTHONs

Bob Cryer, Steve Abbott, Lindsay Sutton

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

Panel

11:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join this vibrant discussion with Bob Cryer, son of comedy legend, Barry Cryer, as he divulges anecdotes of his father's incredible life and career from his new book, *Barry Cryer: Same Time Tomorrow*, including how Cryer called up his literary hero, J.B. Priestley, and went over for tea with the Monty Python troop.

J.B. Priestley was a prolific writer, playwright, and social commentator. Though his work was often serious in nature, Priestley had a wicked sense of humour.

Cryer will be joined by Steve Abbott, manager-turned-producer for Monty Python, and Lindsay Sutton, Chair of the J.B. Priestley Society.



WORKSHOP: WRITING YOUR LIFE, AN INTRODUCTION TO MEMOIR

Marguerite Richards

Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford

Workshop

11:00 (1 hour 30 mins) | **£10**

Join author and memoir editor Marguerite Richards in this engaging workshop designed for anyone inspired to write about their lives. We'll address common doubts, explore memoir structure, and use the hero's journey as a template, highlighting the differences between memoir and autobiography.

Collaborate with peers to craft your memoir's thesis statement, serving as your writing roadmap. This beginner-friendly approach provides essential rules before teaching you how to break them creatively.

Don't worry if your memoir's focus is still unclear; this workshop is your creative playground. Come, let's enjoy the journey of writing your story together.



UNDERCLIFFE VICTORIAN CEMETERY: HERITAGE WALKING TOUR

Steve Lightfoot, John Jackson

📍 **Undercliffe Cemetery**

🔊 Walks

🕒 11:00 (2 hours) | **£7**

Step back in time to Victorian Bradford as local historians, Steve Lightfoot and John Jackson, lead you on a fascinating tour of Undercliffe Cemetery. Throughout this eye-opening 'toddle round the tombs', Lightfoot and Jackson will share insights into the cemetery's history, from its opening in 1854 to the present day.

An engaging experience for historians and curious locals alike, this atmospheric walking tour will forever change your understanding of Undercliffe Cemetery and all who rest there.

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



GREAT BOOKS FROM GREAT TRADITIONS WITH SHAYKH HAMZA YUSUF

Hamza Yusuf, Aisha Subhani, Asad Tarsin

📍 **St George's Hall**

🔊 Panel

🕒 11:00 (2 hours) | **£7**

We are honoured to host Shaykh Hamza Yusuf, Dr Aisha Subhani, and Dr Asad Tarsin for this engaging discussion to celebrate the launch of *The Combinatorial House of Wisdom* and *Al Farabi, Book of Letters*.

The Combinatorial House of Wisdom is a structured guide to classical Arabic literature focusing on exact and rational sciences. It explores the innovative techniques used by key figures who influenced the creation of the first Arabic dictionary, the rhythms of Arabic poetry, and the development of algebra. Meanwhile, *Al Farabi, Book of Letters* explores the intersection of logic, language, philosophy, and religion.

Join us for an enlightening discussion of the popular Islamic Zaytuna Curriculum Series with these highly regarded academics.





MAGICAL CREATURES AND MYTHICAL BEASTS

Beth Guiver

📍 **City Park**

🗣️ Kids & Family

🕒 11:30 | 13:30 | 15:30 (30 mins) |

FREE (Ticketed)

Join storyteller, Beth Guiver, for her timeless tales and participate in lots of singing, strange noise-making and laughing. Welcome to the magical world of fearsome dragons, hungry yetis, quarrelsome giants, mermaids and talking wolves. Here, we step into the unknown and find ourselves in a mythical landscape where the impossible comes true. These exciting adventures will entertain and enchant.



ZINE MAKING WORKSHOP

Munaza Kulsoom

📍 **Room D01.25 Horton D Building (at the entrance to Horton Barn), University of Bradford**

🗣️ Workshop

🕒 11:30 (2 hours 30 mins) | **£10**

Self-taught artist, Munaza Kulsoom, founder of self-publishing organisation, Bradical Press, will host this special zine-making workshop. In just two hours, you'll collate ideas, words, photos and drawings into copies of your very own self-published pocket zine.

Coming in all shapes and sizes and based on just about any imaginable subject, zines have long been a creative platform for people to share, express and engage with their ideas, experiences and communities.



SO YOU'RE PUBLISHED, NOW WHAT?

Saeida Rouass, Kasim Ali

📍 **The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall**

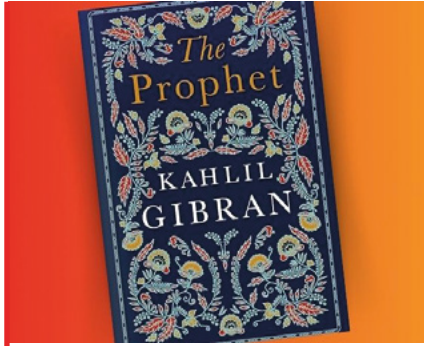
🗣️ Panel

🕒 11:45 (1 hour) | £7

Have you published your first book and are wondering what comes next? Whether you're facing motivation challenges, inspiration hurdles, or doubts about your career path, join us for an insightful discussion.

Saeida Rouass, author of *Eighteen Days of Spring in Winter*, and Kasim Ali, known for *Good Intentions*, will share experiences and advice on building a sustainable writing career, overcoming obstacles, and managing professional relationships in publishing.

This event is a must for emerging authors aiming to navigate the complexities of their literary journey.



BLAKE AND GIBRAN: POETS OF PROPHETIC VISION

Stephen Pritchard, John Siddique

📍 **Banqueting Suite, City Hall**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 12:00 (1 hour) | £7

Witness a unique conversation as the Blake Society's Stephen Pritchard and poet, John Siddique, explore the similarities between two hugely influential writers and artists: William Blake and Kahlil Gibran.

Blake, a celebrated poet, painter and printmaker, inspired Gibran's bestselling book, *The Prophet*. Both shared interests in biblical readings, rebelled against church corruption and held similar sociopolitical visions, earning Gibran the epithet 'twentieth-century Blake'.

Join us for an exploration of the work of these iconic poets of prophetic vision.





A STROKE OF THE PEN: REMEMBERING SIR TERRY PRATCHETT

Rob Wilkins, Stevie Finegan

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

🕒 12:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for a spell-binding event celebrating the life and work of the award-winning and bestselling author, Sir Terry Pratchett, best known for his *Discworld* series.

Hear from Rob Wilkins, Pratchett's friend and former assistant, as he recounts his memories with the celebrated author, and shares some of the early short stories that preluded Pratchett's masterful *Discworld* series.

Wilkins is now head of the Pratchett literary estate, and author of the only authorised biography of Pratchett's life, *Terry Pratchett: A Life With Footnotes*. He is joined in conversation by literary agent, Stevie Finegan (Zeno Agency), a lifelong admirer of the Discworld.



STORIES UNLOCKED: THE WILDSMITH SERIES

Liz Flanagan

📍 **Waterstones**

👨👩👧👦 Kids & Family

🕒 12:30 (45 mins) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

We are all story-makers! Explore the stories of Rowan, the magical Wildsmith, as she encounters dragons, witches, and other mythical creatures in this exciting storybook workshop with author, Liz Flanagan.

Learn how Flanagan's own experience of fostering cats and her love of wild places inspired her to write this amazing series. Children will be inspired to write their own stories using material from their own lives and discover the fantastical in the everyday!

Best suited to ages 8+.



FROM PEN TO PUBLISHED

📍 **The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall**

🗣️ Panel

🕒 13:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join us for a 360-degree view of a book's journey from the manuscript stage to the hands of readers.

Bringing together a literary agent and a publisher, we'll talk through the process of finding an agent, submitting to publishers, and the editing process – what to expect, what might be challenging, and the role of an author within the process.

Find out how to avoid the slush pile, the pros and cons of indie publishing versus larger publishing houses, and how the whole cycle works from submission to bookshelf.

Followed by a Q&A, so do bring any questions you have.



FILM SCREENING: I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO

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

🎬 Films & Screenings

🕒 13:00 (1 hour 45 mins) | £7

Mark the 100th anniversary of James Baldwin's birth by watching Raoul Peck's award-winning documentary, inspired by Baldwin's final unfinished project.

In 1979, Baldwin planned *Remember This House*, a personal exploration of the lives and tragic deaths of his friends Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King, Jr. By his death in 1987, only 30 pages were written. Peck's film vividly brings to life what Baldwin left unfinished, showcasing the enduring impact of his work and activism.

Join us for this rare screening and rediscover Baldwin's powerful legacy.



JEWISH MANNINGHAM: HERITAGE WALKING TOUR

Nigel Grizzard

📍 **Bradford Reform Synagogue**

🚶 Walks

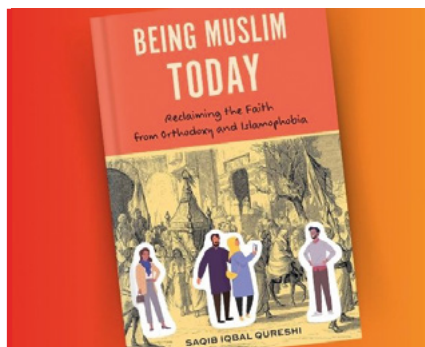
🕒 13:00 (2 hours) | £7

Uncover the cultural history and lasting impact of Bradford's Jewish community in this tour of Manningham, an area that was once home to the city's thriving Jewish Quarter.

Arriving around 1820, a growing community of German Jews transformed this small corner of Bradford into a bustling hub of industrial trade and breathtaking architecture. Local historian, Nigel Grizzard, will lead you around Manningham while sharing stories about the merchant princes who helped shape the space.

This stroll through Manningham's illustrious Jewish Quarter will start inside Bradford Synagogue and span approximately two miles.

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



BEING MUSLIM TODAY: RECLAIMING FAITH FROM ORTHODOXY AND ISLAMOPHOBIA

Saqib Iqbal Qureshi

📍 Banqueting Suite, City Hall

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 13:15 (1 hour) | £7

The truths of every religion are challenged and re-written, giving us some of history's most enduring debates, but perhaps no other religion suffers as much from the dualistic fallacy of 'good' and 'evil' as Islam.

Orthodoxy's interpretation is idyllic and omniscient, simplistic to a fault. Islamophobes, at the other extreme, cultivate stereotypes that are far from the reality. *Being Muslim Today* muffles the noise to give us a robust and honest take on Islam.

Join author Saqib Qureshi for a frank discussion confronting stereotypes while encouraging Muslims to acknowledge the diversity of the Islamic tradition and accept that some things are simply unknowable.



WORKSHOP: CALLIGRAPHY WITH HAJI NOOR DEEN

Haji Noor Deen

📍 Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford

🖌️ Workshop

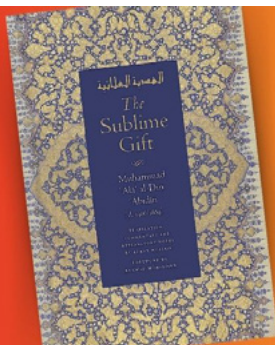
🕒 13:30 (2 hours) | £10

Join celebrated calligrapher, Haji Noor Deen, for a very special workshop. The artist will demonstrate his unrivalled calligraphic technique, a remarkable fusion of Chinese and Arabic art, by writing verses from the Qur'an.

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

Don't miss this rare opportunity to learn the essential techniques of this unique calligraphy directly from the master craftsman himself.

This event will be delivered in Arabic and translated into English.



THE SUBLIME GIFT

Azhar Hussain, Abdal Latif Whiteman

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

Talks

14:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join Azhar Hussain to discuss *The Sublime Gift* (*Al-Hadiyya al-'Ala'iyya*), a renowned legal text in the Hanafi school of Islamic jurisprudence that covers Islamic worship, creed, lawful and prohibited matters, and points of decorum, with additional legal subtleties.

Hussain translated and added commentary notes to the book for easy comprehension, with ample space for student annotations. The book is enriched with extensive footnotes clarifying meanings, providing proofs, and referencing authorities.

Hussain will explain how the additional chapters include an introduction to the Hanafi school, scholar biographies, and notes on contemporary questions, making it an indispensable resource for students and scholars.



ABU ZAHRA FOUNDATION



WOMEN AND MISOGYNY: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Samia Rahman, Heather Parry

The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall

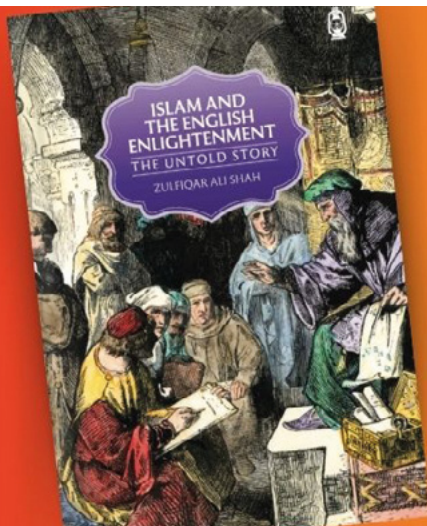
Panel

14:15 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join us for a thought-provoking panel discussion delving into the complex historical, contemporary and prospective landscapes of misogyny and its impact on women worldwide.

In this pressing event, we will shed light on the current state of affairs, exploring the various forms of misogyny prevalent in today's world, including systemic discrimination, gender-based violence and cultural biases. Looking towards the future, our panelists will engage in forward-thinking dialogue, envisioning strategies and initiatives to challenge and dismantle misogyny in all its forms.

Join us as we embark on a journey through time, examining the past, confronting the present and envisioning a future free from the shackles of misogyny.



ISLAM AND THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT

Zulfiqar Ali Shah

📍 **Banqueting Suite, City Hall** | 🗣️ Panel

🕒 14:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for an illuminating conversation that charts the evolution of the Enlightenment, its Islamic influences and its relevance in the modern world, where those ideals still serve as the cornerstone of the world's strongest democracies.

2024 marks 300 years since the birth of Immanuel Kant and 330 years since the birth of Voltaire, two of the best-known philosophers of the European Enlightenment, a philosophical movement that revolved around rationalist thought, scientific enquiry and religious toleration, all principles that were deeply rooted in the Islamic tradition.

Looking back at the work of Kant, Voltaire and others, our panel reveals the fascinating untold story of the cross-fertilisation of Western and Islamic philosophy, and the reformers who helped produce the modern world.



STORIES UNLOCKED: THE BOY TO BEAT THE GODS

Ashley Thorpe

📍 **Waterstones**

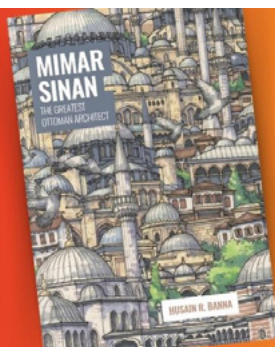
👤 **Kids & Family**

🕒 14:30 (45 mins) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

In this thrilling meet-the-author workshop with Ashley Thorpe, explore the exciting Yoruba mythology from his bold and fearless book.

What if you had the power of the gods? Kayode dreams of eating the forbidden fruit of the Orishas, so he can gain their power and stop those merciless beings who terrorise his people. When the opportunity strikes, Kayode takes on new and difficult-to-control powers, he joins forces with a shapeshifting trickster god and a vengeful princess to save his sister and put an end to the mighty Orishas.

Best suited to ages 8+.



MIMAR SINAN: THE GREATEST OTTOMAN ARCHITECT

Husain R. Banna

📍 **Festival Hub, City Park**

👤 **In Conversation**

🕒 15:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Step into the realm of architect Mimar Sinan, considered the greatest architect of the classical period of Ottoman architecture, as we invite you to join author Husain R. Banna for a captivating discussion centered around his debut book, *Mimar Sinan: The Greatest Ottoman Architect*.

In this fascinating event, Banna explores the life and works of arguably one of the greatest architects of all time, whose work has inspired countless people and left an indelible mark on the world. So much so that his work captivated the mind, heart and spirit of the book's author, Husain R. Banna, when he was just 10 years old.

Join this inspiring event in discussion with Professor Saeed Khan, as we learn all about the young author's insight into Islamic Architecture and the great genius of Mimar Sinan.



AND STILL WE RISE

Carlos Andrés Gómez, Mahogany Browne

📍 **John Stanley Bell Lecture Theatre, University of Bradford** | 🗣️ Panel

🕒 15:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for a captivating celebration of Maya Angelou and James Baldwin, two monumental figures in American literature and champions of civil rights.

Dive into their deep friendship, shared passions, and the profound impact they had on each other's work and the wider cultural landscape. Our panel discussion will explore their contributions to literature, their commitment to social justice, and the enduring legacy of their voices.

Don't miss this opportunity to honour the lives and works of Angelou and Baldwin, exploring how their bond shaped their creative output and advocacy.



MEET THE AGENT: STEVIE FINEGAN

Stevie Finegan

📍 **Room D3, Richmond Building,
University of Bradford**

🗣️ **Workshop**

🕒 **15:00 (1 hour) | £7**

Are you an aspiring writer? Don't miss this unique opportunity to talk to literary agent, Stevie Finegan, from Zeno Agency.

Specialising in fantasy, science fiction, graphic novels, non-fiction, and children's fiction, Stevie is eager to discuss ideas and share advice about the agenting process.

This roundtable event will be an intimate and fully engaged session where all questions are welcomed. There are limited spaces, so don't miss your chance to take advantage of this special opportunity for writers.



STORIES UNLOCKED: THE OLIVE TREE

Kay Faraz

📍 **Waterstones**

🗣️ **Kids & Family**

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

Join us for a captivating storytelling session with acclaimed author, Kay Faraz, as she shares the heart-warming tale of *Olive Tree*, the story of a tiny olive tree ravaged by a storm.

Faraz weaves a narrative of resilience, hope, and the enduring spirit of the Palestinian people. As Layla wraps her arms around the tree, whispering words of encouragement, you will be inspired by the power of determination and the ability to overcome adversity.

Discover the journey of the olive tree and its symbolic resonance with the strength and resilience of Palestine in this moving narrative.

Best suited to ages 7+.



THE ETHICS OF AI: THE IMPACT OF AI ON FAITH

Austin Tiffany, Nathan Mladin,
Nicole Pearson

📍 The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

🔊 Panel

🕒 15:30 (1 hour) | £7

In a world that is growing ever more reliant on AI and technology, we explore its impact on faith and the complexity of AI ethics in this expert panel discussion.

Dr Nathan Mladin and Dr Austin Tiffany will discuss the new *AI, Ethics & Faith* handbook.

Join them as they explore the relevance of faith and AI, the moral dilemmas AI brings and the question: is it possible to act before it's too late?



ART AND CLASS: HOW THE MIDDLE CLASSES HIJACKED THE NATION'S GALLERIES

David Kennedy

📍 The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall

🗨️ In Conversation

🕒 15:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for an enlightening discussion with David Kennedy as he delves into the fascinating history and cultural shift in art gallery visitation.

We look back to 1857, when over 1.3 million people, including workers, royalty, and literary giants, attended the Manchester Art Treasures Exhibition – a cultural phenomenon open to all classes.

Today, however, less than 8% of gallery visitors come from working-class backgrounds. Why this change?

David explores these pressing questions in his latest book, *Art and Class: How the Middle Classes Hijacked the Nation's Galleries*. Don't miss this captivating exploration of class dynamics in cultural spaces.



JOHN CONNOLLY IN CONVERSATION

John Connolly

📍 **Banqueting Suite, City Hall**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 15:45 (1 hour) | £7

Join acclaimed author, John Connolly, as he unveils *The Instruments of Darkness*, the 21st riveting instalment in the beloved Charlie Parker series.

Delve deep into the storyline and explore the enigmatic character of Charlie Parker as John shares exclusive insights. But that's not all – get ready to discover the secrets behind Connolly's extensive career as a beloved mystery and thriller writer.

Don't miss your chance to be part of this unforgettable event, filled with intrigue, suspense, and literary brilliance.

Image © Iván Gimenez Costa



THE BARAKAH EFFECT: MORE WITH LESS

Mohammed Faris

📍 **Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford**

🗣️ Talks

🕒 16:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join Mohammed Faris, executive coach and bestselling author of *The Productive Muslim: Where Faith Meets Productivity*, as he delves into his groundbreaking new book, *The Barakah Effect: More with Less*.

Reintroducing the ancient wisdom of Barakah and juxtaposing it with modern-day realities, Faris offers a renewed perspective on living more with less. This enlightening event provides the perfect opportunity for those seeking to create greater balance in their lives.

Don't miss out on this insightful conversation that promises to reshape your approach to fulfillment and productivity.

KETEBE

KETEBE: INSPIRING IMAGINATIONS THROUGH CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Ömer Faruk Yeni, Hiba Noor Khan,
Khizra Ahmed

📍 The Festival Hub, City Park

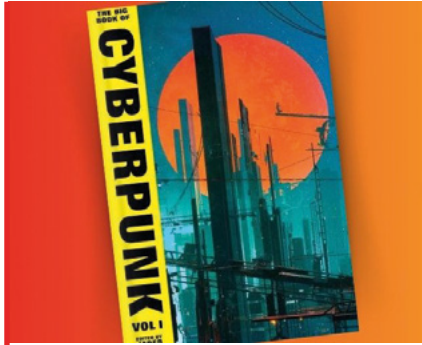
🔊 Panel

🕒 16:30 (1 hour) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

Join us in celebrating the launch of Ketebe Publishing in the UK, with a special panel discussion featuring writer, Hiba Noor Khan, illustrator and graphic designer, Khizra Ahmed, and editor and cultural consultant, Ömer Faruk Yeni.

This event aims to foster collaboration and creativity, whether you are a budding writer, editor, illustrator, or even an aspiring young talent. If you are seeking mentorship from established professionals, this event aims to foster collaboration and creativity.

The panel will explore different cultural heritages in children's literature and uncover innovative approaches that celebrate diversity and inclusivity while educating and entertaining young readers.



THE BIG BOOK OF CYBERPUNK

Jared Shurin, Lauren Beukes, E.J. Swift

📍 The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall

🔊 Panel

🕒 16:45 (1 hour) | **£7**

Jared Shurin, award-winning anthologist and editor of *The Big Book of Cyberpunk*, is joined by two of its contributing writers: author Lauren Beukes, bestselling author of *The Shining Girls*, and E. J. Swift, award-winning author of *The Coral Bones*.

Cyberpunk fiction has always offered space for imaginative storytelling to discuss, and even predict, the near future. Since the 1980s, the genre has posited questions and scenarios that examine virtual reality, cybernetics and AI, and their effect upon ordinary lives, communities and culture – realities we are now facing today.

Join us for a lively discussion about the role speculative fiction can play as we reimagine the world around us and how cyberpunk can help us shape the world of tomorrow.



GLOBE PLOTTERS: INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES IN CRIME FICTION

Vaseem Khan, Saeida Rouass, Alex Gray, Sarah Hussain

Banqueting Suite, City Hall

Panel

17:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Delve into the thrilling world of crime fiction as we are joined by acclaimed authors, Vaseem Khan, Alex Gray, Sarah Hussain, and chair, Saeida Rouass. They will discuss their gripping novels, each set in a different corner of the globe.

These authors will share their unique perspectives on weaving intricate tales of mystery, suspense, and intrigue. Explore the dynamic interplay of crime, culture, and location, and gain insights into how international influences shape their storytelling.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with the minds behind some of the most compelling crime fiction, and uncover the secrets lurking across borders.



AI FIGHTING CRIME

Hassan Ugail

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

Talks

17:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

As one of the foremost experts in the field of AI, Professor Hassan Ugail's talk on the transformative power of AI in solving real-world problems is not to be missed.

With his research and application of cutting-edge AI solutions for biometric face recognition and analysis, Ugail is playing a crucial part of solving crimes, including helping to unravel the real identity of the two Russian spies at the heart of the Salisbury Novichok poisoning case.

Find out about his current projects with police forces across the world and what is on the horizon for the future of AI crime-fighting.



THE HAMZIYYA OF IMAM AL-BUSIRI

Hamza Yusuf, Fes Singers, Abdal Latif Whiteman

📍 St George's Hall

🔊 Book Launch

🕒 17:30 (2 hours) | £7

Join us for the launch of the first-ever complete translation of Imam al-Busiri's poem, *Qasīdat al-Hamziyya*, translated by Shaykh Hamza Yusuf, who will be accompanied by the Fes Singers from Morocco.

Qasīdat al-Hamziyya is less known than Busiri's monumental *Qasīdat al-Burda*, but is a greater literary accomplishment, comprising 456 verses. Busiri's masterpiece encapsulates the biography and virtues of Prophet Muhammad, making it a unique contribution to the tradition of the panegyric form.

Published by Abu Zahra Press and Sandala, this event offers the English-speaking world an insight into this time-honoured tradition.



ABU ZAHRA FOUNDATION



JOANNE HARRIS: THE MOONLIGHT MARKET

Joanne Harris OBE, Kasim Ali

📍 The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 18:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for an enthralling evening as Joanne Harris, celebrated author of *Chocolat*, launches her first fantasy novel in six years, *The Moonlight Market*.

Dive into a hidden London where photographer Tom, drawn to the mysterious Vanessa, discovers a secret market where charms are traded for memories. Witness as he navigates a world of ancient factions and mystical creatures.

Joanne will be joined by Kasim Ali, author of *Good Intentions*, for a captivating conversation. Don't miss this night of literary magic and hidden worlds!



LUNCH BITE: THOSE INCOMERS, THE BRONTËS

Patrick O'Sullivan

The Festival Hub, City Park

Talks

12:00 (45 mins) | **£7**

Join us for an enlightening event that explores the Irish roots and connections of the Brontë family, reflecting on how their story mirrors the experiences of many immigrant families today.

Discover the ways in which the Brontës' heritage influenced their lives and literary works, offering a fresh perspective on this storied family through the lens of Diaspora Studies.

Refresh and deepen your understanding of the Brontës' Irishness and its impact on their identity and writings, placing their experiences alongside those of contemporary immigrants. Engage with us in this unique exploration of one of literature's most famous families and their lasting legacy.



WILLIAM 'BUCKSHOT' FORSTER AND THE BRADFORD IRISH

Aidan Enright

The Festival Hub, City Park

Talks

14:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join us for a captivating talk from historian, Aidan Enright, delving into the intricate dynamics between the Bradford Irish community and William Edward Forster, the very person from whom Bradford Forster Square takes its name.

This deep dive will paint a vivid picture of the social landscape of the Bradford Irish, delve into the life of William Edward Forster, and explore the intricacies between Forster, the volatile politics of Ireland, and the vibrant Bradford Irish community.

Reflection Session

After the talk, join us for an optional reminiscence session of Bradford's history and the Bradford Irish community, which offers an opportunity to share your memories.



POETRY FOR THE MANY: JEREMY CORBYN AND LEN MCCLUSKEY

Jeremy Corbyn, Len McCluskey

📍 **St George's Hall**

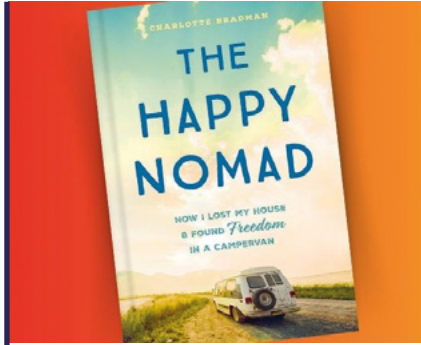
🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 18:30 (1 hour) | £7

Jeremy Corbyn and Len McCluskey share a passionate belief in a fairer, more equal Britain, as well as a lesser-known lifelong enthusiasm for poetry. An unexpected but welcome collaboration, the pair have come together with an anthology, *Poetry for the Many*.

With poems from William Blake to Emily Dickinson, Stevie Smith to Linton Kwesi Johnson, it also features guest selections from the likes of Rob Delaney, Julie Hesmondhalgh, Ken Loach, Maxine Peake, Michael Rosen, Alexei Sayle and Gary Younge.

Join Corbyn and McCluskey as they discuss the poems that continue to inspire, move and enlighten them in their political careers.



THE HAPPY NOMAD

Charlotte Bradman

📍 **Festival Hub, City Park**

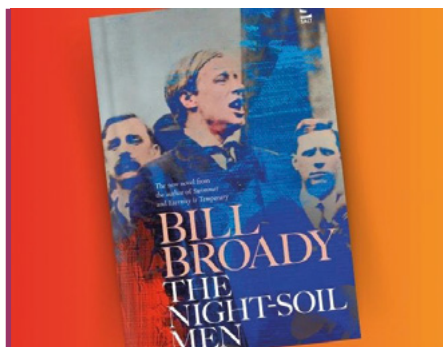
🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 19:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join local author, Charlotte Bradman, as she shares her remarkable story of breaking free from a turbulent past, mounting debts and the monotony of the nine-to-five grind, to embrace a simpler way of life in her beloved campervan.

The Happy Nomad shares laughter, tears and moments of profound insight to cherish the gift of time and the connections forged on the road – it's a real journey of self-discovery.

Join us as we celebrate Bradman's journey from loss to liberation, and discover the transformative power of embracing life's simple pleasures.



LUNCH BITE: THE ORIGINS OF THE INDEPENDENT LABOUR PARTY

Bill Broady

The Festival Hub, City Park

Book Launch

12:00 (45 mins) | **£7**

Join us for the launch of *The Night-Soil Men*, a riveting historical novel by Bradford author, Bill Broady.

This book explores the origins of the Independent Labour Party in Bradford, in 1893, through the lives of Fred Jowett, Philip Snowden and Victor Grayson. It spans four decades, from the socialist fervour of the early 20th century through World War I to the interwar years.

Broady masterfully blends ambition, loyalty and betrayal with humour and gritty realism. Dive into a story set against a backdrop of political intrigue and social change.



THE BRADFORD EXHIBITION OF 1904

Christopher Gaffney

The Festival Hub, City Park

Talks

14:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Embark on a captivating journey with Professor Christopher Gaffney as he unveils the fascinating history of Bradford's most monumental event, The Bradford Exhibition. In 1904, Lister Park bore witness to the grandeur of the largest festival ever held in Bradford, drawing an astounding 2.5 million visitors over its duration.

Join us as we delve into this extraordinary exhibition, piecing it together through archival treasures, vintage postcards, geophysical surveys and excavations.

Reflection Session

After the talk, join us for an optional reminiscence session, which offers a unique opportunity to share and celebrate your personal memories related to Bradford's storied past.



A DRAGON'S DAY OUT

Gemma Curry

📍 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre**

👨‍👩‍👧 **Kids & Family**

🕒 **16:30 (45 mins) | FREE (Ticketed)**

Join us on this enchanting journey featuring beautiful handmade puppets, original music and a wonderful story created by children and families at BD4 Community Trust.

When Duncan leaves the nursery for the very first time, he fears what lies beyond the big, black, swooshing doors.

A journey into the unknown feels disastrous for a little dragon. But when he begins to see the magic of the everyday, a whole new world emerges!

BLF and Hoglets Theatre Company worked in partnership with BD4 Community Trust to collaborate on our Children's theatre programme as part of a Paul Hamlyn Grant-funded project.



KATE BOTTLEY IN CONVERSATION

Kate Bottley

📍 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre**

🗣️ **In Conversation**

🕒 **18:30 (1 hour) | £7**

The UK's favourite vicar, Kate Bottley, returns to Bradford to share some life lessons (and lasagne, if you're lucky). Her book, *Have A Little Faith*, is for everyone, whether you have faith or not yourself.

If you find yourself contemplating the big questions of life and death, dealing with confidence, conflict, or loneliness, Bottley is here to share the journey and offer pearls of wisdom.

Whatever it is that you believe in, whatever it is that gives you hope, this evening promises to be a warm cup of tea for the heart and soul.



FREDA SHAFI: SUITORLAND

Freda Shafi

The Festival Hub, City Park

In Conversation

18:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join us for an evening with award-winning content creator, food columnist, producer and now published author, Freda Shafi, as we delve into her debut novel, *Suitorland*.

Set in a Yorkshire terraced house in the 1970s, we meet the 'it' girls of the community and their Punjabi mother, Halima, as Farrah and her sisters prepare for their 'rishtay' meetings, where prospective suitors and their families would visit with a view to marrying one of the sisters.

Hailed as the South Asian version of the popular Netflix series, *Bridgerton*, Freda's book discusses the complexity of mother–daughter relationships, culture clashes, and secrets that make a family stronger, and those that can tear one apart.



RUBY WAX: I'M NOT AS WELL AS I THOUGHT I WAS

Ruby Wax

St George's Hall

In Conversation

19:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Don't miss Ruby Wax's raw, dark, and funniest stage show yet, returning in 2024 after a sold-out 2023 tour.

Wax will discuss her search for peace and meaning in life – a quest that led her unexpectedly to a mental institution, revealing the elusive nature of happiness. Open about her battles with bipolar disorder and depression, she reflects on her personal and professional experiences with mental health.

Wax offers insights and support to others facing their own mental health challenges, providing a blend of humour and heartfelt guidance.



LUNCH BITE: BRADFORD'S HAUNTED HISTORY

Adam Sargent

The Festival Hub, City Park

Talks

12:00 (45 mins) | **£7**

Join storyteller and Haunted Haworth Ghost Tour guide, Adam Sargent, as he explores the mysteries that lie beneath Bradford's haunted façade.

Bradford, with its rich history spanning centuries, holds more than just tales of industrial prowess and cultural diversity. Amidst its bustling streets and quaint corners, whispers persist of ghostly apparitions and eerie occurrences, weaving a tapestry of haunting legends.

From the spectral echoes within the ancient rooms of Bolling Hall to the phantom footsteps echoing through the cobbled streets of Little Germany, Bradford's haunted history casts an ethereal veil over the city.



A LIFE IN THE LEAGUE

Ikram Butt, Robbie Hunter-Paul, Ian Stafford

The Festival Hub, City Park

Talks

14:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Hosted by Ian Stafford of Bradford Bulls, this event will delve into the lives and experiences of Yorkshire Rugby League's Robbie Hunter-Paul and Ikram Butt.

Hunter-Paul's illustrious career playing for Britain's top Rugby League clubs and his tenure as Bradford Bulls' CEO are sure to provide a wealth of stories and insights, as will Butt's ground-breaking achievement as the first British Muslim to represent England in Rugby.

Enjoy anecdotes and reflections on the dedication and challenges that accompany 'A Life in the League.'

Reflection Session

After the talk, join us for a reminiscence session to share your memories of Bradford Bulls' past.





DOWN T'ALLOTMENT

Bloomin' Buds

The Gateway Centre

Concerts & Performances

15:30 (1 hour) | £5

Bloomin' Buds Theatre Company's brand-new play, *Down T'Allotment*, will take you on a journey into a vibrant community space where the soil is rich and the bonds are even richer.

Meet the diverse characters, each with their own dreams and struggles, united by their love for the land and joy of growing their own vegetables. Amidst the rows of kale and carrots, friendships blossom, secrets unravel and lives intertwine.

Through laughter, tears and the occasional sing-along, celebrate the resilience of community, the power of nature and the transformative magic of tending to something greater than oneself.


Bloomin' Buds
Theatre Company



AN EVENING WITH THE BEEHIVE POETS

Beehive Poets

The Festival Hub, City Park

Concerts & Performances

18:30 (1 hour) | £7

In 2025, this local Bradford-born, community poetry collective will celebrate 25 years of sharing and exploring poetry together.

Named after their old meeting point, renowned public house, The New Beehive Inn, Bradford, the collective boasts a fascinating history. The stage will come alive with readings from poets and, together, we will reflect on the collective's roots and embrace its future.

This evening will also be an opportunity to see fascinating photographs taken by local photographer, Phillip Jackson, capturing the essence of the collective.

This event promises to be a testament to shared creativity, camaraderie and the enduring magic of poetry.

The
Beehive
Poets



KATE FOX: BIGGER ON THE INSIDE

Kate Fox

📍 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre** | 🎧 Concerts & Performances

🕒 19:00 (1 hour 30 mins) | £7

Join stand-up poet, author and Radio 4 regular, Kate Fox, in a special performance of the poetry collection, *Bigger on the Inside*, set to launch at Bradford Literature Festival.

Previously a sellout show, her new book explores neurodiversity through the lens of Doctor Who, as a neuroqueer imaginary of Timelords, psychologists, octopuses, sparkly things and mushrooms.

You don't have to be neurodivergent or a Whovian to enjoy Fox's trademark mixture of funny, thoughtful stand-up poetry, but if you are, then you might find this as exciting as she finds octopuses, dungarees with dogs on them, and sea swimming.



DOWN T'ALLOTMENT

Bloomin' Buds

The Rockwell Centre

Concerts & Performances

11:00 | 16:00 (1 hour) | **£5**

Bloomin' Buds Theatre Company's brand-new play, *Down T'Allotment*, will take you on a journey into a vibrant community space where the soil is rich and the bonds are even richer.

Meet the diverse characters, each with their own dreams and struggles, united by their love for the land and joy of growing their own vegetables. Amidst the rows of kale and carrots, friendships blossom, secrets unravel and lives intertwine.

Through laughter, tears and the occasional sing-along, celebrate the resilience of community, the power of nature and the transformative magic of tending to something greater than oneself.



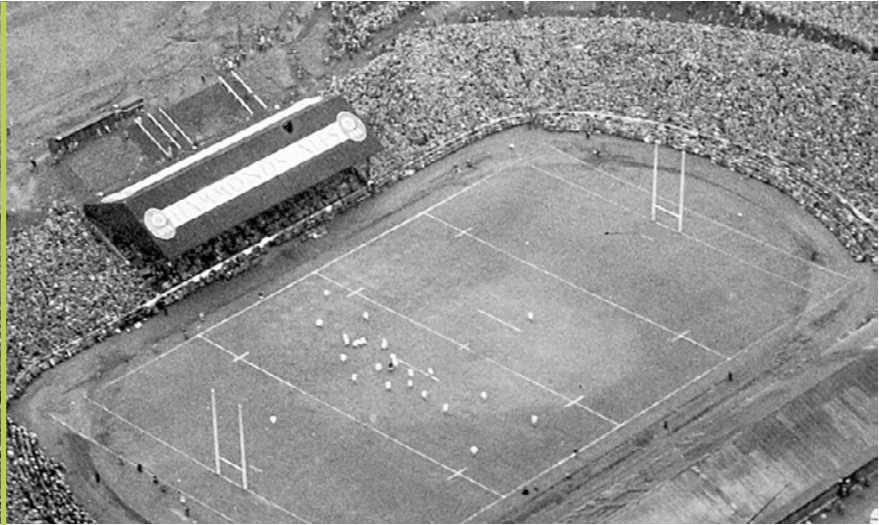
LUNCHBITE: SONNETS AND SARNIES

The Festival Hub, City Park

Concerts & Performances

12:00 (45 mins) | **£7**

Pop along with your sarnies 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 us for some clever wordplay that is sure to fill you with inspiration and creative energy for the rest of the day.



BEYOND THE PITCH: A STADIUM'S STORY

John Mason

📍 **Bradford Bulls, Bartercard Odsal Stadium** | 🗣️ Walks

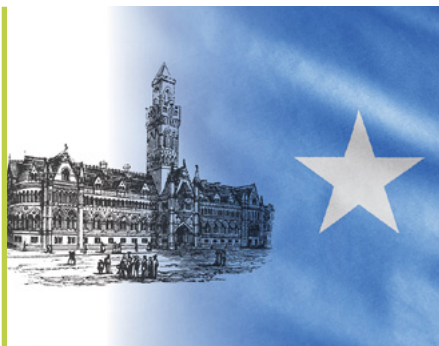
🕒 13:00 (1 hour 45 mins) | £7

Join us for a fascinating tour of Odsal Stadium, the beloved home of Bradford Bulls, as the club celebrates its 90th anniversary year.

Steeped in local history, the stadium has been witness to countless historic events since its establishment in 1934. From World War II to its starring role in a Hollywood film, this captivating tour will take you on a journey through the stadium's storied history and you'll even get the chance to have your winning moment on the pitch.

Under the guidance of seasoned expert, John Mason, a long-time fan and heritage volunteer, you will discover some of the fascinating narratives that have shaped this iconic landmark.





A SOMALI VILLAGE IN COLONIAL BRADFORD

Fozia Bora

The Festival Hub, City Park

Talks

14:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

In May 1904, the Great Exhibition in Lister Park showcased a standout exhibit: the Somali Village, where 60 Somali individuals resided in a walled compound for six months. They drew an impressive 348,550 visitors, making it the most lucrative attraction at the exhibition.

In this fascinating talk, Fozia Bora tells the stories of some of these Villagers – often polyglot cosmopolitans, and Bradford's earliest-known Muslim community – who speak from the past through the recovery of written, oral and photographic archives.

Reflection Session

After the talk, join us for an optional reminiscence session to share your stories and be part of Bradford's living history.



SHAPARAK KHORSANDI: SCATTER BRAIN

Shaparak Khorsandi

Great Hall, University of Bradford

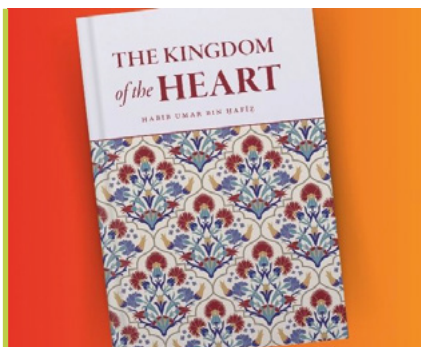
In Conversation

19:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Much-loved comedian and TV regular, Shaparak Khorsandi, shares her rollercoaster ride of a life, shaped by undiagnosed Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), in her latest publication, *Scatter Brain*.

Khorsandi talks all things, from shoplifting to her attraction to toxic men, and you'll discover what it's really like to live a life out of control.

Whether you suspect you may have ADHD, or you're just here for the ride, Khorsandi will share her heart-breaking and hilarious journey of self-discovery. Who knows where it may lead to?!



THE KINGDOM OF THE HEART

Amjad Tarsin

📍 **Banqueting Suite, City Hall**

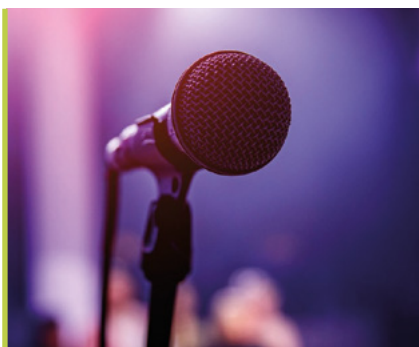
🔊 Book Launch

🕒 19:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for an evening with Ustadh Amjad Tarsin from Al-Maqasid in Pennsylvania, US, as he introduces *The Kingdom of the Heart*. This latest work of Habib Umar has been translated into English from Arabic by Tarsin.

Tarsin will discuss the importance of nurturing the spiritual aspect of the heart, highlighting how our outward actions are deeply connected to the state of our hearts, and will provide valuable insights into how our behaviour influences our inner being.

Tarsin, as covered in the book, will offer guidance on internalising the wisdom found in acts of devotion, believed to have a purifying effect on the heart.



POETRY WITH A PUNCH

📍 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre**

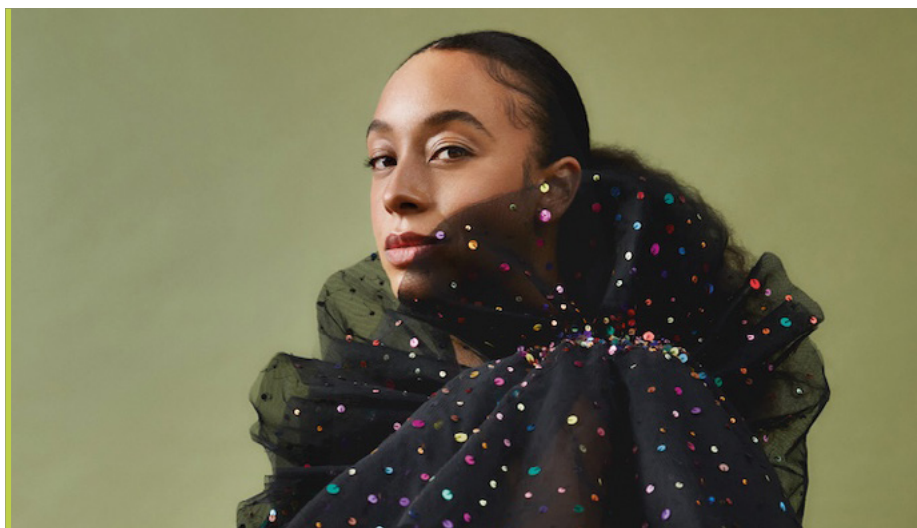
🔊 Concerts & Performances

🕒 19:30 (2 hours 30 mins) | £10

Join us for our annual explosion of political poetry and unflinching wordplay, exploring social issues and the state of the world through some high-octane performances designed to inspire, challenge and provoke.

Taking to the stage this year will be a rollicking line-up of sharp-tongued poets and spoken word artists, each bringing their own brand of poetic mastery to the stage. Combining exciting up-and-comers with established names working at the top of their game, this larger-than-life event promises to be powerful, dynamic and packed full of new perspectives.

Join us for this hugely popular annual event and book early to avoid disappointment!



CORINNE BAILEY RAE: THE STORIES BEHIND THE SONGS

Corinne Bailey Rae

📍 **Bradford Cathedral** | 🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 19:30 (1 hour 30 mins) | £7

You'll know her songs, but do you know the stories behind them? Two-time Grammy winner, Corinne Bailey Rae, returns to her Yorkshire roots for a special night celebrating her latest album, *Black Rainbows*.

Inspired by her visit to Stoney Island Arts Bank, a cathedral of Black art in Chicago, and meeting with the celebrated artist, Theaster Gates, who created the space, Corinne was transformed, as was her work. The result is *Black Rainbows*, a deep exploration of generational truth and the long arm of history.

This is a night like no other. Prepare to be immersed in the resonances of *Black Rainbows* as Corinne offers a glimpse into her chrysalis transformation and shares the intimate stories that shaped each song.

This event is co-produced with the British Library as part of Beyond the Bassline: 500 Years of Black British Music.



DOWN T'ALLOIMENT

Bloomin' Buds

The Rockwell Centre

Concerts & Performances

11:00 (1 hour) | £5

Bloomin' Buds Theatre Company's brand-new play, *Down T'Alloiment*, will take you on a journey into a vibrant community space where the soil is rich and the bonds are even richer.

Meet the diverse characters, each with their own dreams and struggles, united by their love for the land and joy of growing their own vegetables. Amidst the rows of kale and carrots, friendships blossom, secrets unravel and lives intertwine.

Through laughter, tears and the occasional sing-along, celebrate the resilience of community, the power of nature and the transformative magic of tending to something greater than oneself.


Bloomin' Buds
Theatre Company



LUNCH BITE: THE SECRETS OF BRADFORD BECK

Barney Lerner

The Festival Hub, City Park

Talks

12:00 (45 mins) | £7

A hidden secret lies below the city of Bradford, and Chair of 'Friends of Bradford Beck', Barney Lerner, is here to tell all. Beneath our bustling town flows an underground river system, which has disappeared from view since the industrial boom in the 20th century.

Once known as the 'Mucky Beck', Lerner will divulge its history and tell us all about the Plaque Trail, where plaques mark the route of the Beck beneath your feet and reveal lines of a wonderfully evocative poem.

Find out about our town's hidden history in this fascinating illustrated talk.



WEAVING THE FUTURE

Tim Smith

The Festival Hub, City Park

Talks

14:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

In this heritage talk, you'll explore how Britain's textile industry is being reinvented for the 21st century.

Using photographs taken over the past 120 years, Tim Smith will show how the innovative spirit that once powered the textile industry remains alive and well.

A vast array of fibres is driving a new industrial revolution. Discover how traditional technologies are used to develop pioneering materials, from biomedical textiles used in the human body to aerospace vehicles exploring our solar system.

Reflection Session

After the talk, join us for an optional reminiscence session on Bradford's industrial history to share your personal memories.



ROOTS & RHYTHMS: SOUNDS OF BLACK BRITISH MUSIC

DJ Paulette, Mykaell Riley

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

Panel

19:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join two icons of the Black British music scene: Manchester legend DJ Paulette, one of the Hacienda's first female DJs, and Mykaell Riley, Director of the Black Music Research Unit and Co-Curator of *Beyond the Bassline*.

Immerse yourself in the music that defined generations as these living legends share the songs that inspired them and their reflections on lives lived in an industry that hasn't always welcomed them.

Beyond the Bassline: 500 Years of Black British Music, runs until Monday 26 August at the British Library, London, with a taster at Bradford City Hall for the festival.

Event co-produced with the British Library.



AN EVENING OF COMEDY

**Shaparak Khorsandi, Aurie Styla,
Scott Bennett, Priya Hall**

📍 **St George's Hall**

🎤 **Concerts & Performances**

🕒 **19:30 (2 hours 30 mins) | £15**

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.

Included on the bill this year are beloved comedians, Shaparak Khorsandi, Scott Bennett, Priya Hall and compere, Aurie Styla.

Whether you're a comedy regular or 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+.



A LIT NIGHT OUT: BHANGRA & BOLLYWOOD BEATS WITH DJ RITU

DJ Ritu

📍 **The Underground**

🎤 **Gigs & Nights Out**

🕒 **19:30 (3 hours) | £7**

Get ready for an electrifying club night like no other! Join us for an unforgettable evening filled with the hottest Bollywood beats and pulsating Bhangra rhythms spun by the renowned DJ Ritu.

Experience the perfect blend of the latest chart-toppers and timeless classics to keep you grooving.

Mark your calendar, bring your friends and let loose on the dance floor at our spectacular club night!

This event is for those aged 18+. You may be asked to provide proof of age at this event.

Image: Michelle Robello.

**SATURDAY
6 JULY**

**When you go down the woods today, there will be a big surprise!
Explore tales, crafts, and adventures inspired by nature in this family
fun day at City Park.**

WOODLAND CRAFTS

The Broadway Bradford | City Park

Design your own nature-themed crafts in our drop-in workshops. Join us in Broadway where we will be making beautiful paper leaves or journey down to the city park where you can make your creature crafts from hedgehog fans to owl bird feeders.

10:00–16:00 (drop-in) | **FREE**

STORY SEEKERS

The Broadway Bradford

Play games, look for clues and unlock your imagination! Explore the centre of Bradford as this interactive trail takes you on a journey from Broadway to the heart of City Park. From fantasy and adventure to magic and fairy tales, discover the perfect ingredients to create your very own story.

10:00–16:00 (drop-in) | **FREE**

**FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS**

**Tree-mendous
Tales**

CODSWALLOP PRESENTS: AMELIA AND THE ACORN

City Park

Amelia and Christopher are on a grand adventure exploring nature, through lush fields and winding, muddy paths. On her travels, Amelia finds an acorn and dreams of growing an oak tree, big and strong. With a little help from the audience, some determination and a bit of magic, anything is possible!

11:00 | 13:00 | 15:00 (30 mins) | **FREE**

DREAMING OF TOMORROW

City Park

Are you determined, patient and caring like Amelia? Join Codswallop after each performance for a fun and interactive workshop to unlock your power and dream for the future! Featuring games and activities perfect for young actors, activists and their families, you will leave feeling inspired and ready to change the world!

11:30 | 13:30 | 15:30 (30 mins) | **FREE**



BRADFORD STORIES BUS

📍 **Storytelling Bus, City Park**

🔊 Workshop

🕒 10:00 (Full Day) | **FREE** (Drop-in)

Bradford Literature Festival is delighted to host The National Literacy Trust's Bradford Stories Bus in City Park, and the 2024 Bradford Libraries Summer Reading Challenge.

This unique and enchanting vintage American school bus has been converted into an incredible book haven and exciting event space, with seating areas, bookshelves, a 'selfie space' and soft furnishings.

This space is devoted to running literacy-based events for children, young people, families and communities, including storytelling, writing and reading activities.

Here all weekend.



FROM DEEP IN THE FOREST...

Gav Cross

📍 **City Park**

👨👩👧👦 Kids & Family

🕒 10:30 | 12:30 | 14:30 (30 mins) |

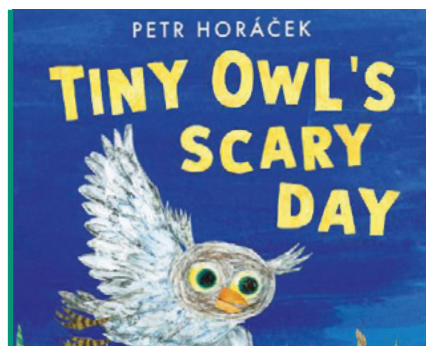
FREE (Ticketed)

All the best stories happen deep in the woods. Join Bradford Literature Festival's master storyteller, Gav Cross, for enchanting tales from the forest.

Enjoy a delightful time filled with story and nonsense as Gav shares whimsical stories of apples, treetops, and more. Come and immerse yourself in a world of imagination and adventure, where every twist and turn brings a new tale.

Don't miss this magical opportunity to muck about with stories in the heart of nature. Join us for an unforgettable storytelling experience in the enchanting woods.

For children of all ages.



STORIES UNLOCKED: TINY OWL'S SCARY DAY

Petr Horáček

📍 **Waterstones**

🔊 Workshop

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

Join author, Petr Horáček, in this interactive story session for his new picture book.

Tiny Owl wants to explore the day. Mummy Owl says the day can be dangerous, but Tiny Owl isn't scared! So, when Mummy Owl is asleep, Tiny Owl tiptoes out of the nest and flies off. There are all kinds of other birds and animals out during the day, and everything is so colourful! But maybe night-time is best for owls after all...

Can you be brave like Tiny Owl and join us on this adventure?

Best suited to ages 3+.



ISLAMOPHOBIA AND ANTI-SEMITISM: LANGUAGE OF HATE

📍 **Small Hall, University of Bradford**

🔊 Panel

🕒 10:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join our panel for an urgent and honest analysis of the pervasiveness of Islamophobia and anti-Semitism, which have seen a resurgence in the wake of recent events in the Middle East, leaving both Muslim and Jewish communities vulnerable.

Exploring the historical roots, current trends, and societal impacts of these forms of discrimination, as well as the role that media, politics, and social networks can play in spreading hate, this panel asks what we can do to rebuild bridges, combat hate speech, and shape a shared future.



WHY CAN'T I SEE MY GP?

Ellen Welch, Nighat Arif

The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall

In Conversation

10:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Drs Ellen Welch and Nighat Arif unveil the challenges facing UK general practice today, exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic.

This event explores the strains on primary care services, presenting insights from GPs nationwide and historical perspectives 76 years after the NHS's inception. Our speakers will address critical questions such as: How did we reach this crisis? Are systems better abroad? What are the possible solutions for the future?

Engage in this crucial discussion to understand the current state of general practice, its impact on both patients and healthcare staff, and explore potential pathways to improvement.



OUR LADY FĀTIMA AL-ZAHRĀ

Yahya Rhodus

St George's Hall

Talks

10:45 (1 hour 15 mins) | **£7**

Join us for an enlightening book launch with Shaykh Yahya Rhodus from Al-Maqasid, Pennsylvania, as he recounts the life story of Fātima.

Our Lady Fātima al-Zahrā illuminates the life and virtues of the eminent Fātima, highlighting her pivotal role in preserving the lineage of her father, Muhammad, the Messenger, through her union with Alī. Fātima exemplified bravery, strength, forbearance, duty, grace, and protectiveness.

The accessible style and approach of both the book and the event make this suitable for all ages. Discover the life of Lady Fātima al-Zahrā.



THE ESSENTIAL MARTIN LINGS

Reza Shah-Kazemi

📍 Banqueting Suite, City Hall

🗣️ Talks

🕒 11:00 (1 hour) | £7

Discover the essential writings of the late scholar, Martin Lings, curated by Dr Reza Shah-Kazemi.

This collection brings together some of the most remarkable chapters from Lings' extensive body of work, including his insights into the perennial philosophy, and writings on Islam and Sufism.

Delve into Lings' reflections on the spiritual dimensions within Shakespeare's mature plays, such as *Hamlet*, as well as his exploration of Qur'anic calligraphy and illumination, and celebrated translations of Sufi mystical poetry classics.

Dr Shah-Kazemi will guide us through select passages from the book, focusing particularly on the mystical depths found within *Hamlet*.



FIXING FRANCE

📍 The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

🗣️ Panel

🕒 11:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join journalist, Nabila Ramdani, as she unveils her book, *Fixing France: How to Repair a Broken Republic*.

Exploring the evolution of France's Fifth Republic since the 1958 Algerian war, Ramdani provides insights from her Algerian heritage, examining politics, economics, societal changes and feminism.

Join Ramdani as she exposes the harsh realities and sparks crucial dialogue about the future trajectory of the French republic, exploring whether France's foundation was a castle built on sand and what it will take to forge a resilient future.




WORKSHOP: CALLIGRAPHY WITH HAJI NOOR DEEN

Haji Noor Deen

 **Norcroft Auditorium, University of
Bradford**

 Workshop

 11:00 (2 hours) | **£10**

Join celebrated calligrapher, Haji Noor Deen, for a very special workshop. The artist will demonstrate his unrivalled calligraphic technique, a remarkable fusion of Chinese and Arabic art, by writing verses from the Qur'an.

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

Don't miss this rare opportunity to learn the essential techniques of this unique calligraphy directly from the master craftsman himself.


This event will be delivered in Arabic and translated into English.




WE'RE GOING ON A WHERE HUNT?

Eden Ballantyne

 **City Park**

 Kids & Family

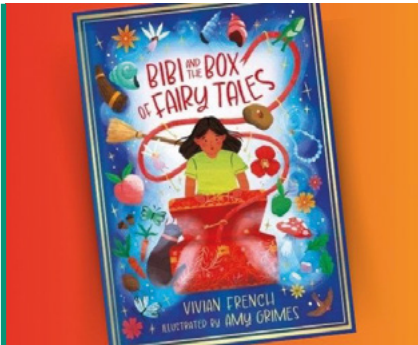
 11:30 | 13:30 | 15:30 (30 mins) |

FREE (Ticketed)

Join storyteller Eden as he leads brave adventurers into an unknown woodland, all without leaving City Park.

Who knows what we will find there? Bears, badgers, or boggarts might await us in this imaginative journey. Come and explore a world of mystery and adventure, where the boundaries of reality blur, and every step brings new surprises. This unique storytelling event promises excitement and wonder for all ages.

Don't miss the chance to embark on this magical adventure in the heart of City Park. Join us and see what fantastical creatures we might encounter!



STORIES UNLOCKED: BIBI AND THE BOX OF FAIRY TALES

Vivian French

📍 **Waterstones**

👨👩👧👦 Kids & Family

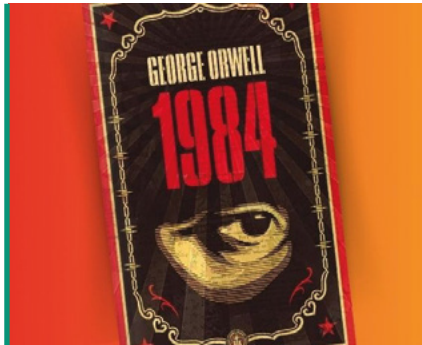
🕒 11:30 (45 mins) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

Join master storyteller and author, Vivian French, in this interactive story session exploring seven original fairy tales to bewitch and enthrall.

Bibi doesn't believe in fairies, but when she meets her fairy godmother, the tiniest of hopes flickers in her mind. Seven quests to seven lands that will open a magic box and grant her a wish...could it be true? Whisked away with her trusty companion, Silvestro the cat, Bibi quests with giants, dragons, wizards, witches, water spirits, unicorns, trolls, and gnomes.

Can Bibi earn the keys to open the box and unlock her belief in fairy magic?

Best suited to ages 5+.



ORWELL'S 1984: 75 YEARS ON

Dorian Lynskey

📍 **Small Hall, University of Bradford**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 11:45 (1 hour) | **£7**

Published in 1949, George Orwell's dystopian novel, *1984*, remains a seminal work of the 20th century, frequently referenced in political and cultural discussions.

Orwell's depiction of an authoritarian state explored themes of totalitarianism, mass surveillance and the role of truth in society, inspiring authors like Margaret Atwood and Haruki Murakami.

With the rise of surveillance, state propaganda and threats to free speech today, *1984* feels more relevant than ever. Join us for a discussion on the book's legacy and an Orwellian perspective on the current world.



HOW NOT TO LET HAVING KIDS RUIN YOUR SEX LIFE

Karen Gurney

The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall

Talks

11:45 (1 hour) | **£7**

The arrival of a baby can significantly challenge a couple's intimacy, but it doesn't have to diminish your connection. Join Dr Karen Gurney, a certified psychosexologist and clinical psychologist, in a vital discussion on sustaining a fulfilling sexual relationship amidst the demands of parenthood.

This event offers practical tips for maintaining intimacy, transforming your dynamic from tired co-parents to connected partners. Discover strategies to adapt to bodily, identity, and priority changes without losing the passion. Don't miss the opportunity to learn how to keep your sex life vibrant and enduring.

16+ / Parental Discretion



THE MAKING AND BREAKING OF THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST

Barnaby Rogerson, Eugene Rogan

Banqueting Suite, City Hall

Panel

12:15 (1 hour) | **£7**

Renowned experts, Barnaby Rogerson and Eugene Rogan, take a deep dive into the watershed moments that helped make and, at times break, the modern Middle East.

In his new book, *The House Divided*, Rogerson argues that at the heart of the Middle East's conflicts and proxy wars is a 1,400-year-old schism between Sunni and Shia, which created a slender fault-line across the region shaping its religious, ethnic and national identities and rivalries.

Meanwhile, Rogan's new book, *The Damascus Events*, charts the outbreaks of disorder across the Levant in the crisis years of the Ottoman Empire, when increasing social tensions resulted in the massacre of thousands of Christians in the beleaguered Syrian capital.

Join our experts as they unpick the chequered history of the modern Middle East, and ask some challenging questions of a diverse region that is both incredibly culturally rich and yet fragile from the effects of empire and past and present power rivalries.



STORIES UNLOCKED: FAIRY TALES FOR THE FEARLESS

Gareth P Jones

📍 **Waterstones**

👨👩👧👦 Kids & Family

🕒 12:30 (45 mins) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

Join Gareth P. Jones, creator of the *Fairy Tales for the Fearless* series, for some fun as we explore the animal characters in his books.

Every fairy tale needs a hero, but what if it isn't who you expect? Rabunzel has ears so long she gets locked away in a high hutch. CinderGorilla wants to go to the Disco Ball, but her mean aunt and cousins won't allow it.

An empowering musical and interactive session, this is perfect for any little reader who loves a twist in the tale!

Best suited to ages 3+.



KATE MOSSE: THE GHOST SHIP

Kate Mosse

📍 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre**

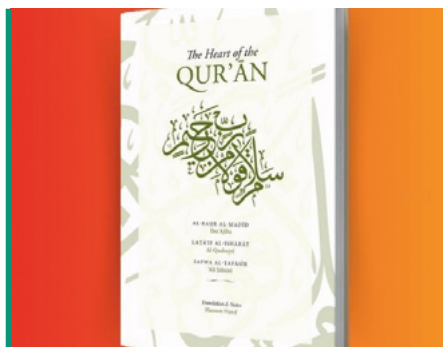
🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 12:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join award-winning and bestselling novelist, Kate Mosse, as she spills all on the thrilling third novel in the *Joubert Family Chronicles*.

A sweeping and epic queer love story, ranging from France in 1610 to Amsterdam and the Canary Islands in the 1620s, *The Ghost Ship* is a thrilling novel of adventure and buccaneering, love and revenge, stolen fortunes and hidden secrets on the High Seas. Most of all, it is a tale of defiant women in a man's world.

Mosse will share how she meticulously researched for her gripping, thrilling and spectacularly written new work.



THE HEART OF THE QUR'ĀN

Haroon Hanif

📍 **St George's Hall**

🔊 **Book Launch**

🕒 **12:45 (1 hour 15 mins) | £7**

Join Shaykh Haroon Hanif as he launches his latest book, *The Heart of the Qur'ān*, a translation of Sūrah Yāsīn.

This translation includes interpretations from three esteemed tafsīrs (commentaries of Qur'an), each offering unique perspectives: a contemporary synopsis by Shaykh Muhammad 'Alī Al-Sābūnī, a detailed examination by Shaykh Ahmad ibn 'Ajība, and spiritual insights by Shaykh 'Abdu'l-Karīm bin Hawāzin al-Qushayrī.

Explore the myriad benefits of reciting Surah Yāsīn, and delve into its depths to discover its profound significance firsthand.



BRITISH-PALESTINIAN VOICES: SELMA DABBAGH AND N.S. NUSEIBEH

N.S. Nuseibeh, Selma Dabbagh

📍 **Small Hall, University of Bradford**

🔊 **In Conversation**

🕒 **13:00 (1 hour) | £7**

Join us for a compelling conversation with British-Palestinian writers, Selma Dabbagh and N.S. Nuseibeh, as they delve into the nuances of cultural heritage in their works.

Dabbagh's novel, *Out Of It*, portrays a Gazan family navigating life under occupation, while Nuseibeh's *Namesake* explores myths and identities shaping Muslim and Arab perceptions.

Together, they'll discuss the impact of their shared heritage and the intricacies of creating distinct literary voices amid historical and modern challenges. Don't miss this insightful exploration of identity, belonging, and the transformative power of narrative.



STORIES UNLOCKED: PENG AND SPANNERS

Steve Webb

📍 **Waterstones**

🔊 Kids & Family

🕒 13:30 (45 mins) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

Join the hilarious author and illustrator, Steve Webb, as he introduces your new favourite superheroes: a sarcastic penguin and a clever cat with a tool belt.

Peng and Spanners are investigating the craziest pizza mystery ever in this brand-new graphic novel series.

Learn how to draw the characters and create your very own graphic novel comic strips. Expect laughter and mayhem!

Best suited to ages 8+.



THE FORGOTTEN CRISIS IN SUDAN

📍 **Banqueting Suite, City Hall**

🔊 Panel

🕒 13:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join our panel of experts to discuss the ongoing crisis in Sudan. Ignored by the world's media, intense fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) has led to over 14,000 deaths and millions displaced.

Critical infrastructure, including healthcare and sanitation, has collapsed. Over 8 million people are internally displaced and 1.8 million have fled to neighbouring countries. Nearly 18 million face severe food insecurity, and 10,500 suspected cholera cases have been reported.

Our panel will examine the complexities of the issues, efforts to negotiate peace and how much needed relief can be found for the affected population.




JOELLE TAYLOR: THE NIGHT ALPHABET

Joelle Taylor

 **The Studio, Alhambra Theatre**

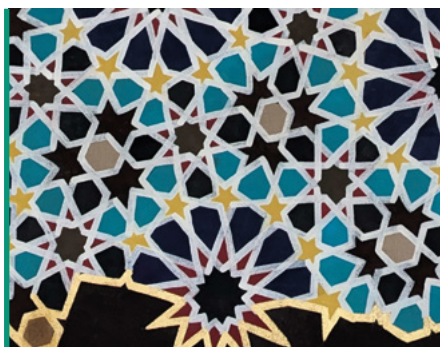
 In Conversation

 14:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

Embark on a mesmerising journey through time and space with *The Night Alphabet*, the electrifying debut novel from award-winning poet, Joelle Taylor.

A dazzlingly bold and original work, *The Night Alphabet* is a deep investigation into human nature and violence against women and is a conversation not to be missed. A fierce, tender and highly uncomfortable study of power, agency and resilience, this novel pulls no punches.

Join Taylor as she delves into the dystopian cityscape of futuristic Hackney in 2233, where Jones, adorned with copious tattoos, seeks to complete her extraordinary gallery with a final, blood-inked line that connects her stories.




WORKSHOP: MANUSCRIPT ILLUMINATION

Mahmud Manning

 **Norcroft Auditorium, University of
Bradford**

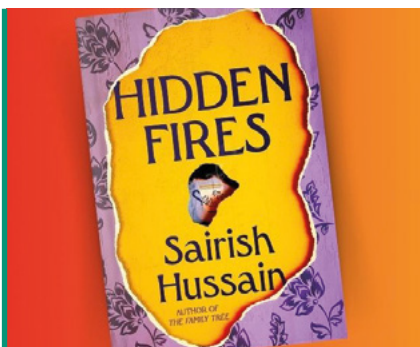
 Workshop

 14:00 | 16:00 (1 hour 30 mins) | **£10**

Experience the art of Illumination and discover the highly revered art of decorating manuscripts.

The application of gold or silver to books dates back to the 10th century and is still used by artists around the world today. In this fascinating workshop, Mahmud Manning will show you examples of Illumination and how ancient techniques are used throughout many cultures and religions.

Manning is a master illuminator and his introduction to this intricate craft will explain how these skills and materials are used to bring beauty and colour to texts. You will also get the chance to decorate a manuscript page yourself and unleash your own creative side.



SAIRISH HUSSAIN: HIDDEN FIRES

Sairish Hussain

📍 **The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall**

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 14:15 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join Bradford's own Sairish Hussain as she discusses her latest novel, *Hidden Fires*, at the Bradford Literature Festival, in conversation with Mariam Ansar.

Set during Ramadan 2017, this poignant narrative interlaces the lives of Yusuf, haunted by his past, and his granddaughter, Rubi, facing a cultural clash after moving to London. As buried secrets emerge, they confront painful memories and forge a new bond.

Celebrated for her Costa Prize-shortlisted work, Hussain's *Hidden Fires* delves into grief, loss and the power of family across history. Don't miss this insightful exploration of personal and collective pasts.



KNOW YOURSELF

Alex Carberry

📍 **Small Hall, University of Bradford**

🗣️ Talks

🕒 14:15 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join Alex Carberry's lecture as he explores personality and bio-types through ancient wisdom.

Carberry will dive into the interplay between elements and seasons in his meticulously crafted books, unveiling timeless teachings of spiritual insight. He provides a roadmap to self-discovery using the transformative power of wisdom, empowering you to understand human behaviour and the world around you.

Embark on a journey of self-discovery with Carberry as your guide, unlocking the secrets of the universe in this enlightening talk.




STORIES UNLOCKED: THE TIME TRAVELLERS

Sufiya Ahmed

 **Waterstones**

 Workshop

 14:30 (45 mins) | **FREE** (Ticketed)

Join Sufiya Ahmed in this exciting meet-the-author workshop and learn what inspired her to write this journey through time.

Suhana, Mia and Ayaan are thrown together on a trip to Parliament, where they are fascinated by all the history that happened there. Little do they know that they will be living that history themselves when they are transported back to 1911!

Suhana wants to explore, but Mia and Ayaan are anxious to get back. Then they lose each other...will they be able to return to the present without changing the course of history forever?

Best suited to ages 3+.




IRAN AT THE CROSSROADS

Eugene Rogan

 **Banqueting Suite, City Hall**

 Panel

 14:45 (1 hour) | **£7**

Iran, a key player in the Middle East, has had long-standing tensions with the United States, marked by decades of diplomatic strife and conflict, fuelling numerous proxy wars across the region – from Lebanon and Syria to Yemen and Iraq.

Iran's influence extends through its support of militant groups and political factions, contributing to regional complexities. The recent conflict in Gaza has exacerbated tensions between Israel and Iran, raising fears of regional escalation.

Join our expert panel for an understanding of Iran's pivotal role and how the persistent US–Iranian tensions are crucial to comprehending the broader dynamics of Middle Eastern geopolitics.



TREATISES OF IMAM AL-GHAZALI

Yahya Rhodus

📍 **St George's Hall**

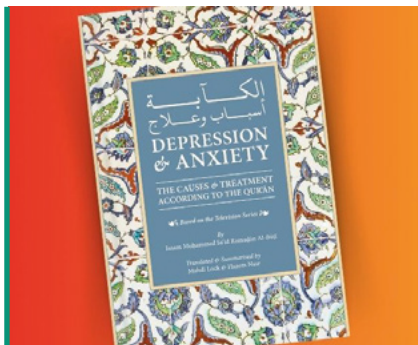
🗣️ Talks

🕒 14:45 (1 hour 15 mins) | £7

Join us for the eagerly awaited launch of *Treatises of Imam al-Ghazali*. This extensive book set explores the deep wisdom of Imam al-Ghazali, a renowned Islamic scholar and philosopher from the medieval era, touching on topics like religious doctrine, Sufism, eschatology, truth, and knowledge.

Shaykh Yahya Rhodus from Al-Maqasid, US, will take us through the books, providing invaluable guidance on spiritual and everyday matters, from the nature of truth to the pursuit and benefits of knowledge.

Don't miss this chance to deepen your understanding of philosophy and spirituality.



HEALING WITH THE QUR'AN: DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY

Mahdi Lock

📍 **Small Hall, University of Bradford**

🗣️ Book Launch

🕒 15:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join translator, Mahdi Loch, as he delves into *Depression and Anxiety: The Causes and Treatment According to the Qur'an*, promising an insightful exploration of these prevalent issues.

Loch will illuminate often overlooked factors, highlighting the various types of depression and anxiety, and uncover the importance of strengthening one's connection for healing and empowerment.

This event offers spiritual enrichment, guiding attendees to detach from worldly concerns, purify their hearts, and understand their purpose. Don't miss this opportunity to gain valuable insights and tools for emotional wellbeing.




Doha Debates

Production of Qatar Foundation

DOHA DEBATES TOWN HALL: NARRATIVE POWER – IS THE WEST PROMOTING GLOBAL JUSTICE?

Remona Aly

 **Great Hall, University of Bradford** |  Debate

 15:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

This town hall will explore how whether Western media, politics and public rhetoric shape global narratives about justice.

It will examine claims that the West promotes free speech while silencing dissent, using examples like the global war on terror to discuss how potential patterns of narrative control play out on the world stage.

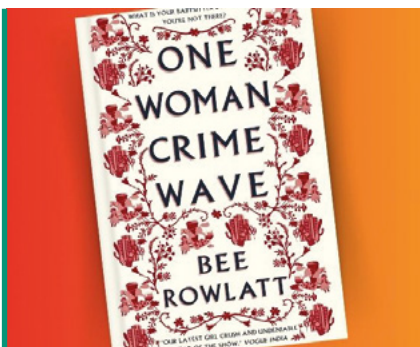
Are Western media and politics a force for good, or are they just advancing their own interests?

Expert guests, students and recent graduates join us on stage at the Bradford Literature Festival as we delve into these pressing questions.



Doha Debates

Production of Qatar Foundation



BEE ROWLATT: ONE WOMAN CRIME WAVE

Bee Rowlatt

The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall

In Conversation

15:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join Bee Rowlatt as she discusses her anticipated debut novel, *One Woman Crime Wave*. In this gripping event, Rowlatt introduces us to 15-year-old Ashleigh, the neighbourhood's favourite babysitter, but Ashleigh has an appetite for secrets...

Drawing inspiration from J.B. Priestley's *An Inspector Calls* in this fast-paced, witty and scalpel-sharp debut, Rowlatt examines the limits of what money can buy and how easily the fragile web of middle-class privilege can be torn.

Don't miss this opportunity to delve into this cleverly crafted narrative, which blends humour with poignant social commentary and entertains as much as it enlightens.



RUMI LECTURE: RUMI IN CONTEXT

William Chittick

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

Talks

16:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

World-renowned Rumi expert, Professor William Chittick, explores the Islamic worldview that inspired the work of one of the most beloved poets of all time.

Rumi remains one of the most widely-read voices today, but to what extent do people who have read his poetry in translation know about his teachings in the Islamic tradition?

Chittick places the 13th-century poet into his own context by looking at the meaning of love in his poetry and at one of his main inspirations – a scholar of the previous century, Ahmad Sam'ani. Join us for a fascinating insight into a poet whose popularity grows with each new generation.



JERUSALEM THROUGH THE AGES

Matthew Teller

Banqueting Suite, City Hall

In Conversation

16:00 (1 hour) | **£7**

In this fascinating conversation, we explore the historical, cultural and religious significance of one of the world's oldest and most contested cities, which is holy to the three major Abrahamic faiths.

Jerusalem's rich tapestry of history includes conquest, conflict and coexistence, each leaving its mark on the city. From the ancient walls of the Old City to the Western Wall, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Dome of the Rock, Jerusalem serves as a focal point for millions of believers worldwide.

Join us for an informative event as we ask: what does the ancient city of Jerusalem stand for today?



HEAVEN, EARTH AND THE 10,000 THINGS

Peter Sanders, Haji Noor Deen

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

Talks

17:30 (1 hour 30 mins) | **£7**

Heaven, Earth and the 10,000 Things:

The Lives of the Muslims of China offers a representative selection from the first ever comprehensive photographic essay on China's Muslims, curated by British photographer, Peter Sanders.

Join us for the launch of Sanders' book, exploring links between Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Islam, with Sanders and renowned master of Arabic calligraphy from China, Haji Noor Deen.



SUFIYANA KALAAM

Orchestral Qawwali Project

📍 **St George's Hall** | 🎵 Concerts & Performances

🕒 19:30 (2 hours) | £20

On our tenth anniversary, we welcome back the now world-famous Orchestral Qawwali Project, who made their debut at Bradford Literature Festival in 2021, featuring composer and arranger Rushil Ranjan and singer Abi Sampa.

Qawwali, the most popular form of Sufi music, is part of a musical tradition that stretches back more than 700 years. A firm audience favourite, this will be a mesmerising evening of Sufi poetry, celebrating the musical traditions of the Punjab and the Indian subcontinent, fused with orchestral sounds.

Prepare to be taken on an immersive journey that harks back to the traditional setting of a haveli, creating a truly unmissable experience.

**SUNDAY
7 JULY**

Let us cast a spell over you on our enchanting family fun day at City Park! Experience magic shows, spellbinding activities, and mystical adventures for all.

MAGICAL CRAFTS

The Broadway Bradford | City Park

Make mischief and mayhem in our drop-in craft sessions. Create your very own wizard wands in Broadway before hopping on your broom to fly down to City Park to design your own flying familiar companion or construct charming toadstool houses.

10:00–16:00 (drop-in) | **FREE**

STORY SEEKERS

The Broadway Bradford

Play games, look for clues and unlock your imagination! Explore the centre of Bradford as this interactive trail takes you on a journey from Broadway to the heart of City Park. From fantasy and adventure to magic and fairy tales, discover the perfect ingredients to create your very own story.

10:00–16:00 (drop-in) | **FREE**

CODSWALLOP PRESENTS: GRIZELDA'S MISTAKE

City Park

Grizelda is the perfect witch with perfect magic school grades. She always makes her potions right, flies her broom at the correct speed and never messes up a spell...until now! Everything is going wrong for this young witch and her day is full of magical chaos. Can summoning her uncle, Mysterious Musa the Djinn, help her wish away her problems and make her perfect once again?

11:00 | 13:00 | 15:00 (30 mins) | **FREE**

**FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS**

**MAGICAL
MAYHEM**



MAGIC IN MISTAKES

City Park

Can't get enough of Grizelda and her magical antics? Fear not: after every performance, you can join Codswallop for more mystical mayhem and mistakes. Meet Mysterious Musa and the cast, perfect your wand-waving stance and create some spectacular spells of your own.

11:30 | 13:30 | 15:30 (30 mins) | FREE



Events are free. No booking required, just drop in.



BRONTË HERITAGE TOUR

Christa Ackroyd

📍 **Brontë Heritage Tour, The Midland Hotel**

🚶 Walks

🕒 08:45 (Full Day) | **£35** (No Concessions)

For Brontë fans, this heritage tour is a truly unmissable event, offering a unique insight into the lives and works of Bradford's most famous siblings.

Led by Brontë enthusiast, Christa Ackroyd, the tour features a number of highlights, including the Brontës' childhood home in Thornton and lunch (included) at Branwell Brontë's favourite local spot, The Lord Nelson pub.

The tour includes admission to the Brontë Parsonage Museum, and an exclusive talk by the museum's knowledgeable staff.

Although this is a bus tour, some outdoor walking is involved. Attendees are encouraged to wear comfortable footwear and weather-appropriate clothing.



YIN YOGA

Yoga Limba

📍 **Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford**

🧘 Workshop

🕒 09:30 (1 hour) | **£5**

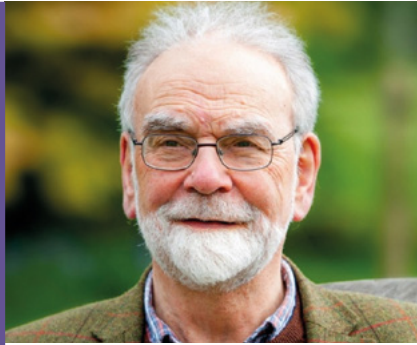
Spend an hour relaxing your body and restoring your feeling of equilibrium. Yin Yoga offers a series of gentle passive stretches to ease body and mind – it is suitable for all bodies and levels of experience.

Rebecca Riley of Yoga Limba, Leeds, will lead a 60-minute session, the benefits of which will stretch far beyond flexibility – reducing anxiety, boosting immunity, and helping you wind down after a busy and stimulating week at Bradford Literature Festival.

Participants will need to bring their own yoga mat.



The Brontë Society
Brontë Parsonage
MUSEUM



A LIFE'S JOURNEY: THE STORY BEHIND A BOOK

Ahmed Paul Keeler, Muhammad Jalal

📍 **Small Hall, University of Bradford**

🎧 Podcast Recording

🕒 10:00 (1 hour 15 mins) | £7

Join us for a live podcast recording as host, Muhammad Jalal, meets Ahmed Paul Keeler to recount his life journey, from his childhood to navigating trauma in English boarding schools, and ultimately to finding solace in Islam.

As a teen, Keeler organised plays and later established the groundbreaking Signals Gallery. His crowning achievement was the World of Islam Festival in 1976. At 70, he penned *Rethinking Islam and the West*, questioning society's obsession with progress and advocating for balance, explored further in *A Life's Journey*.

Listen live to Keeler's memories and what led him to be the man he is today.



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE BRONTËS: HERITAGE WALKING TOUR

Michael Stewart

📍 **294 Thornton Road, Brontë Bell
Chapel, Thornton Village**

🚶 Walks

🕒 10:00 (Full Day) | £7

Set off on a walking tour from The Old Bell Chapel, Thornton, following in the footsteps of the Brontës, taking you from their birthplace in Thornton village to the Brontë Parsonage Museum in Haworth.

Your guide and Brontë Stones project creator, Michael Stewart, will share the stories behind the written responses of Carol Ann Duffy, Kate Bush, Jackie Kay and Jeanette Winterson to the famous literary sisters, which were specifically commissioned by the festival in 2018.

A nine-mile, linear five-hour trek, this walking tour passes through narrow styles, slippery surfaces, steps and uneven ground.

Appropriate footwear and weather-durable clothing is essential. You will stop for a picnic halfway through your walk, so make sure you bring a packed lunch and plenty of water.



STUPID STORIES FOR SILLY SAUSAGES!

Gav Cross

City Park

Kids & Family

10:30 | 12:30 | 15:30 (30 mins) |

FREE (Ticketed)

Mayhem master storyteller Gav Cross has a trove of stories to share. Expect tales of chaos, with things that go burp in the night.

These stories are bound to be very silly and might get loud. Join us for a lively storytelling session full of laughter and unexpected twists. His energetic style and humorous tales will entertain and delight audiences of all ages.

Don't miss out on the fun and the chance to experience storytelling like never before. Prepare for a wild ride through Gav's imaginative and chaotic narratives.

For children of all ages.



THE ANNEXATION OF THE PUNJAB: 175 YEARS ON

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

Talks

10:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join us for a thought-provoking event marking the 175th anniversary of the British annexation of the Punjab, a pivotal moment in South Asian history that followed on from the 1849 Second Anglo–Sikh War, where the British East India Company defeated the Sikh Empire led by Maharaja Duleep Singh.

The strategic importance of the Punjab, with its fertile land and significant location between British India and Central Asia, made it a crucial acquisition for the British, allowing them to control important trade routes and enhance their military advantage in the region.

This event will also consider the annexation's role in shaping modern Punjab and its diasporic communities, particularly its division during the Partition of India in 1947, which led to massive displacement and violence, profoundly affecting the demographic and cultural landscape of the region.



PRESCRIPTION FOR HAPPINESS

David Healy

📍 **The Chamber, City Hall**

🗣️ Talks

🕒 10:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Over eight million people in the UK are on antidepressants, with approximately two million people having taken them for five years. Here, we question the benefits and downsides of a prescription for happiness.

Join psychiatrist, psychopharmacologist, scientist and author, Dr David Healy, as he shares the history of psychopharmacology, his clinical trials research in the area, and the impact of both trials and psychotropic drugs on our culture.

With an ever-increasing portion of our society becoming reliant on pills for positivity, unknown long-term side effects, and an industry profiting from every prescription, what does the future hold?



LEGACIES OF THE BRITISH MANDATE IN PALESTINE

📍 **Banqueting Suite, City Hall**

🗣️ Talks

🕒 10:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Explore a crucial chapter in Middle Eastern history as we delve into the British Mandate in Palestine, which spanned from the collapse of the Ottoman Empire after World War I until the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

This period was marked by the emergence of nationalist movements and uprisings from both Arab and Jewish communities. Many viewed this era as a betrayal of the promised Arab independence, as it saw successive waves of Jewish immigration. This ultimately led to the United Nations' plan to partition the territory.

Join us for a timely examination of how the British administration in post-Ottoman Palestine still resonates today.



FORTIFYING THE SELF

Mohammed Isaaq

📍 **Great Hall, University of Bradford**

🗣️ Talks

🕒 11:00 (2 hours) | £7

Join educator, Mohammed Isaaq, for an extraordinary exploration of Al-Wird al-Latif, a collection of prayers and affirmations compiled by Imam Al-Haddad from Tarim, Yemen.

Discover how these prophetic affirmations can fortify your self by shaping your outlook, providing essential guidance, assisting with emotional management, and boosting overall wellbeing.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn how incorporating these practices into your life can lead to a healthier, more robust state.



DANCING BLUE BUTTERFLIES

Jumana Moon

📍 **City Park**

👨‍👩‍👧 Kids & Family

🕒 11:30 | 13:30 | 15:30 (30 mins) |

FREE (Ticketed)

Join storyteller Jumana Moon for enchanting and wondrous tales from near and far. Discover stories of remarkable fish, fanciful wishes, fantastic feasts, a troupe of dancing butterflies, and a magical cat.

Experience a world of imagination and adventure through her captivating storytelling. Don't miss the chance to be transported to magical realms and enchanted places with every word she weaves.

Suitable for all ages, Jumana Moon's tales promise to delight, inspire, and spark the imagination. Come and let the magic of storytelling unfold before your eyes.



ISLAM AND CONFUCIANISM

Sachiko Murata

📍 **The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall**

🗣️ Talks

🕒 11:30 (1 hour) | £7

Professor Sachiko Murata, a distinguished Japanese scholar of religion, takes us on a captivating journey into the intersections of Islamic and Confucian thought.

Islam had been present in China for almost a thousand years before Muslim scholars wrote about religion in Chinese. To express Islamic teachings about God, the world, and the human role in creation, they drew from the Neo-Confucian tradition of the time, synthesising elements of Confucianism, Daoism and Buddhism.

The vision of Islam offered to their fellow Muslims was thoroughly traditional and completely congenial with Chinese modes of thinking. Join us to find out more about the fascinating dialogue between these traditions.



WORKSHOP: INTRODUCTION TO EMOTIONAL FREEDOM TECHNIQUE

Shamim Rehman

📍 **Small Hall, University of Bradford**

🗣️ Workshop

🕒 11:30 | 14:30 (1 hour) | £10

Learn the basics of Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT), also referred to as tapping or psychological acupressure. Led by holistic healer, Shamim Rehman, this workshop will equip you with the knowledge and skills for EFT as an alternative treatment for physical pain and emotional distress.

This technique of tapping the body is believed to create a balance in your energy system, treat pain and manage emotions and troubling thoughts.

The practice of EFT dates back to the 1960s and has since been developed over the years and is now used in a variety of settings including healthcare, pain management and general wellbeing.



THE ART OF CALLIGRAPHY LECTURE

Haji Noor Deen, Meriem Abida

📍 **Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford**

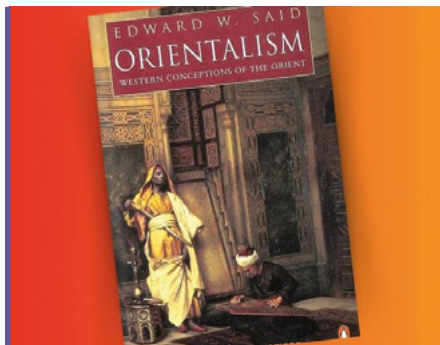
🗣️ Talks

🕒 11:30 (1 hour 30 mins) | £7

Experience the magic of Arabic calligraphy with this talk from world-renowned master, Haji Noor Deen Mi Guang Jiang. 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.

Learn about Noor Deen's astonishing technique and witness first-hand an intimate look into its essential role as an expression of his faith and relationship with God.

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



EDWARD SAID: ORIENTALISM REVISITED

Saeed Khan

📍 **Banqueting Suite, City Hall**

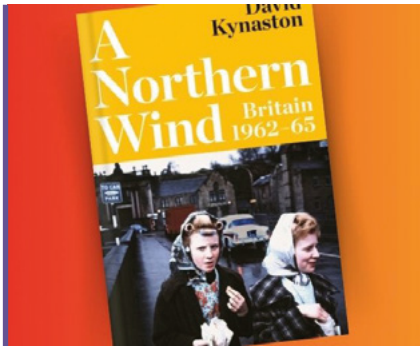
🗣️ Talks

🕒 11:45 (1 hour) | £7

Join Professor Saeed Khan as he delves into Edward Said's groundbreaking 1978 work, *Orientalism*.

Said's critique highlighted how Western scholars often view the Middle East and Muslim world as the 'Other' – a perspective that has influenced fields and shaped policies for nearly five decades. This discussion will explore how Said's ideas on Western perceptions of the East remain relevant today, evident in ongoing issues like Islamophobia, the refugee crisis and regional conflicts.

Professor Khan will examine how Orientalism persists in modern dialogues, influencing contemporary views and conversations about the Middle East and beyond.



TALES OF A NEW JERUSALEM

David Kynaston, Aaqil Ahmed

📍 The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

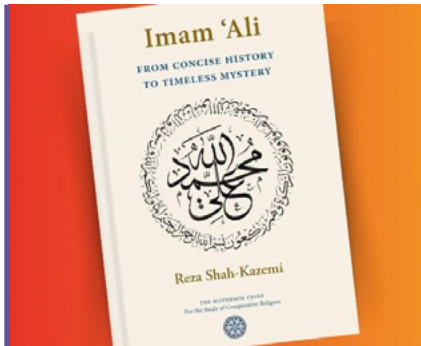
🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 12:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join one of the foremost chroniclers of post-war Britain, David Kynaston, as he introduces his new book, *A Northern Wind*, and charts the seismic political and social change that typified the early 1960s.

In the latest in his series, *Tales of a New Jerusalem*, Kynaston shows how, from 1962 to 1965, almost everything changed, from the arrival of the Beatles to a sex scandal that rocked the Tory government.

Looking at landmark events like the Cuban Missile Crisis, the assassination of JFK, and the funeral of Winston Churchill, Kynaston compellingly transforms how we understand post-war Britain.



IMAM ALI: FROM CONCISE HISTORY TO TIMELESS MYSTERY

Reza Shah-Kazemi, Barnaby Rogerson

📍 Banqueting Suite, City Hall

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 13:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join author Dr Reza Shah-Kazemi and historian Barnaby Rogerson to discuss the intricate dimensions of Imam Ali, the fourth caliph of early Islam, who serves as the fountainhead of Shi'ite and Sufi lineages.

Delving into inspirational and controversial aspects of Ali's life, spanning ethical, individual, political, and social realms, this discussion will look at the historical perspective alongside the spiritual. Through a unique portrait, Ali is unveiled as a paragon of statesmanship, chivalry, and mysticism, embodying both action and contemplation.

Despite potential sectarian divides, Dr Shah-Kazemi's book emphasises Ali's potential to unite Islam as a symbol of wisdom and compassion, offering insights accessible to both Muslims and non-Muslims alike.



BREAKING BOUNDARIES: ANNE BRONTË'S FEMINIST LEGACY

Samantha Ellis, Rose Gant

The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall

Talks

13:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for a thought-provoking discussion as we celebrate the enduring feminist legacy of Anne Brontë, a pioneering voice in Victorian literature, with Brontë scholar, Rose Gant, and author, Samantha Ellis.

Anne, often overshadowed by her sisters, Charlotte and Emily, challenged societal norms and championed women's rights through her groundbreaking novels and poetry.

From her portrayal of strong, independent female characters to her unflinching exploration of themes, such as domestic abuse, addiction, and female agency, Anne's writings continue to resonate with modern audiences and inspire generations of feminists.



THE WORLD TODAY

**Paul Rogers, Nabila Ramdani,
Hassan Abdein**

The Chamber, City Hall

Panel

13:00 (1 hour) | £7

Professor Paul Rogers heads up a panel of experts for our annual current affairs event that takes a 360-degree view of the complex issues affecting the world today.

From the possibility of a new regional war in the Middle East to the challenges and possibilities posed by the upcoming UK and US elections, our guest speakers have their fingers on the international pulse and plenty to say.

Joining Paul Rogers this year are analyst, Hassan Abdein, and journalist, Nabila Ramdani.



AYURVEDA: AN ANCIENT TAPESTRY FOR MODERN LIFE

Sonja Shah-Williams

📍 **Small Hall, University of Bradford**

🔊 Talks

🕒 13:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for a talk from Sonja Shah-Williams as she shares the wisdom and life-changing principles of Ayurveda.

Sonja Shah-Williams has curated a collection of Ayurvedic practices and remedies to aid sleep, increase energy, boost immunity, relieve digestive problems, improve relationships, and much more. Her new audiobook, *An Ancient Tapestry For Modern Life*, explains how Ayurveda helps us understand our unique responses to food, exercise, lifestyle, relationships, and the environment.

Discover how these eternally applicable principles offer clarity on health and balance, relevant to anyone regardless of age, sex, ethnicity, beliefs, or religion.



PALESTINE IN WORDS

📍 **St George's Hall**

🔊 Concerts & Performances

🕒 13:00 (1 hour 15 mins) | £7

Join us for an unmissable sharing of words, as our high-profile line-up of artists will bring to life the rich narrative of Palestine through captivating readings of letters, poetry, speeches, and historical texts.

From the Balfour Treaty that changed everything to Refaat Alareer's tragic poem 'If I Must Die' that emerged from the current conflict in Gaza, this event offers a unique and powerful perspective on Palestine's past, present, and future.

Promising a profound exploration of the Palestinian experience, this event delves into the heart of its history, culture, and ongoing struggle for justice.



EMPEROR OF ROME: MARY BEARD IN CONVERSATION

Mary Beard

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

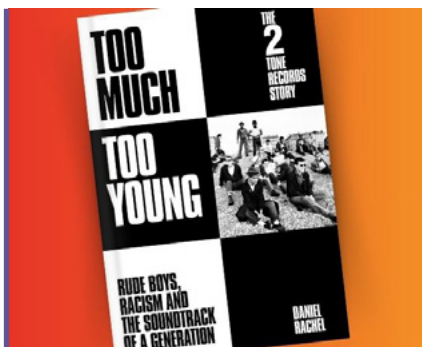
🕒 13:30 (1 hour) | £7

Meet legendary TV historian, Mary Beard, as she shines a spotlight on the emperors who ruled the Roman empire, from Julius Caesar to Alexander Severus.

Emperor of Rome is not your usual chronological account of Roman rulers, focusing instead on the colourful personalities of emperors over the centuries.

Beard goes directly to the heart of popular fantasies about what it was to be Roman, offering a fascinating insight into Roman history as it has never been presented before.

Image: Lion TV



TOO MUCH TOO YOUNG: THE 2 TONE RECORDS STORY

Daniel Rachel, Aaqil Ahmed

📍 The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

🗣️ In Conversation

🕒 13:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join musician-turned-award-winning-author, Daniel Rachel, for the incredible story of the 2 Tone label exploding into the national consciousness. Records by The Specials, The Selecter, Madness, The Beat, and The Bodysnatchers burst into the charts and an iconic youth movement was born.

2 Tone was Black and White: a multi-racial force of British and Caribbean island musicians singing about social issues, racism, class and gender struggles, and taking up the fight against right-wing extremism.

Highlighting the challenges of mixing pop and culture, *Too Much Too Young* is the fascinating story of an iconic music label and the soundtrack of a generation.



WORKSHOP: CALLIGRAPHY WITH HAJI NOOR DEEN

Haji Noor Deen

📍 Norcroft Auditorium, University of
Bradford

🗣️ Workshop

🕒 14:00 (2 hours) | £10

Join celebrated calligrapher, Haji Noor Deen, for a very special workshop. The artist will demonstrate his unrivalled calligraphic technique, a remarkable fusion of Chinese and Arabic art, by writing verses from the Qur'an.

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

Don't miss this rare opportunity to learn the essential techniques of this unique calligraphy directly from the master craftsman himself.

This event will be delivered in Arabic and translated into English.



BEYOND BORDERS: THE FUTURE OF MIGRATION

Aamna Mohdin, Naz Shah

The Chamber, City Hall

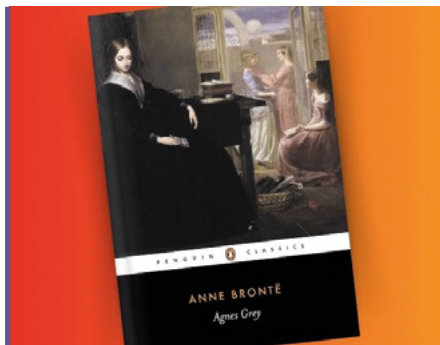
Panel

14:15 (1 hour) | £7

The controversial policy of relocating asylum seekers to Rwanda has put the UK's attitude towards immigration under the spotlight, raising questions about the outsourcing of the government's human rights obligations.

As the climate crisis intensifies, with millions expected to be displaced in the coming years, creating a surge in climate refugees, how might these policies respond to such an impending emergency? And what are the legal and ethical ramifications of not responding?

Featuring journalist, Aamna Mohdin, author of *Scattered: The Making and Unmaking of a Refugee*, and Naz Shah, MP for Bradford West, this panel considers first-hand accounts from the frontlines of the refugee crisis and takes a critical look at the complexities and contradictions of seeking asylum in the UK today.



ANNE BRONTË AND AGNES GREY: PARALLELS OF RESILIENCE AND REALITY

Adelle Hay, Nick Holland

The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall

Talks

14:30 (1 hour) | £7

On the 175th anniversary of the death of Anne Brontë, we are joined by authors and Brontë experts, Adelle Hay and Nick Holland, to explore her life, legacy, and her debut novel, *Agnes Grey*.

Set against the backdrop of 19th-century England, this poignant novel follows the experiences of Agnes, a governess, as she navigates the complexities of love, morality, and social class, which is argued to mirror Anne's own life.

Whether you're a lifelong fan of the Brontës or new to their literary legacy, this event promises to be a captivating journey into the heart and mind of Anne Brontë and her timeless masterpiece, *Agnes Grey*.



HUSAM ZOMLOT IN CONVERSATION

Husam Zomlot

📍 **Great Hall, University of Bradford** | 🔊 In Conversation

🕒 15:00 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for a compelling event with Dr Husam Zomlot, the Palestinian Ambassador to the UK, discussing the unfolding humanitarian crisis in Gaza and current political dynamics in the wake of Israeli retaliation for the October 7 attacks.

Born in a refugee camp in Rafah, Dr Zomlot has lost several family members in the current conflict. He will explore the challenges and opportunities for peace and the future of Palestinian diplomacy.

With his extensive experience and deep understanding of international relations, Dr Zomlot will provide a nuanced perspective on the ongoing conflict and the role of diplomacy in resolving it. Don't miss it.



DOCUMENTING DISASTER

Matthew Robinson, Aaqil Ahmed

📍 **The Chamber, City Hall**

🔊 Panel

🕒 15:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for a compelling discussion on the ethics of documenting and reporting humanitarian crisis zones, exploring the fine line that journalists and filmmakers have to tread between help and harm.

Addressing when to film and when not to, this event discusses the challenges of avoiding 'misery porn' and ensuring ethical, impactful storytelling while safeguarding those involved.

Featuring film and TV editor, Matthew Robinson, who shares his extensive humanitarian work, including filming aid convoys in Greece, refugee camps, and surgeries in Tanzania.



RUSSIA 100: FROM STALIN TO PUTIN

John Russell

📍 **Banqueting Suite, City Hall**

🔊 Panel

🕒 15:30 (1 hour) | £7

Join us for an insightful panel discussion exploring the intricate layers of Russia's historical and contemporary landscape.

This year marks the centenary of a pivotal moment: Vladimir Lenin's death and the subsequent rise of Joseph Stalin, a Georgian strongman who would become the longest-serving leader of the Soviet Union until 1953. 2024 is also the year that Vladimir Putin controversially started his fifth presidential term.

This panel will examine the enduring impact of the Soviet legacy shaped by Lenin, Stalin and their successors and how it influences Russia's current political climate.



GAY ICONS: THE HISTORY OF LGBTQ+ FASHION

Paul Burston, Joelle Taylor, Eleanor Medhurst

The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall

Panel

16:00 (1 hour) | £7

Step into the vibrant world of LGBTQ+ fashion as we take a captivating journey through its rich and diverse history.

From the androgynous styles of the 1920s to the bold statements of the Stonewall era and beyond, this event will uncover the evolution of LGBTQ+ fashion as a form of self-expression, resistance, and identity.

With award-winning poet, playwright and author, Joelle Taylor, fashion historian, Eleanor Medhurst, and Polari host and curator, Paul Burston, this lively event promises to be a fascinating deep-dive into the wardrobes of our LGBTQ+ past.



WORKSHOP: ELEVATE HABIT MASTERY WITH MERIEM ABIDA

Meriem Abida

Small Hall, University of Bradford

Workshop

16:30 (1 hour) | £10

In this engaging 60-minute experience, you can unlock your full potential by delving into the science of habits, decoding routines, setting SMART goals, and mastering habit formation techniques.

Gain insights into habit loops, self-awareness, and goal-setting, empowering yourself to shape your journey with intention, through interactive discussions and practical activities.

From identifying existing habits to crafting personalised action plans, ELEVATE equips you with the tools and motivation needed to achieve greatness in every aspect of your life. Empower yourself to create a positive ripple effect towards professional growth, personal fulfilment, and lasting transformation.



FREE WORD LECTURE

The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

Lecture

16:30 (1 hour) | **£7**

Join us for our annual Free Word Lecture, which aims to uphold the ethos of free speech with a focus on the power and politics of words.

Continuing the legacy of the Free Word Centre, an international centre for literature, literacy and free expression, this annual event creates a platform for writers to spark stimulating conversations and challenge our assumptions about the world.

Following in the footsteps of previous speakers Ben Okri and Rana Ayyub, this year's lecture promises to be another unmissable event exploring the transformative and democratising power of words and the importance of freedom of expression.



HIJRAH WALK: RETRACING PROPHETIC FOOTSTEPS

Hijrah Group

Great Hall, University of Bradford

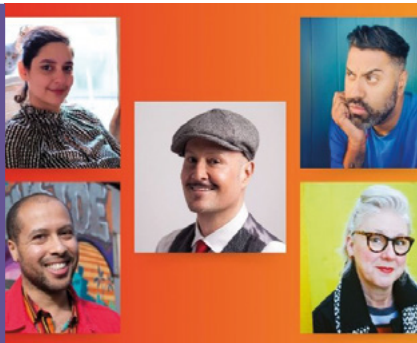
Films & Screenings

17:30 (2 hours) | **£7**

Delve into history and witness the legacy of the Prophet's momentous migration brought to life through film and discussion.

Inspired by Professor Abdullah Alkadi's presentation and documentary screening at the Bradford Literature Festival 2023, a diverse group of 13 individuals from seven different countries across the globe embarked on a historic journey, following in the exact footsteps of the Prophet Muhammad on the migration route from Makkah to Madinah.

Experience the culmination of this remarkable expedition with a world-premiere documentary screening, captivating presentation, and an engaging panel discussion featuring members of the Hijrah group.



POLARI LITERARY SALON

**Paul Burston, Golnoosh Nour,
Jay Gadhia, Karen McLeod, Dean Atta**

**The Priestley Coffee Lounge & Bar,
Bradford Playhouse**

Salon

18:30 (1 hour 30 mins) | £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 an incredible line-up including Dean Atta, Golnoosh Nour, Karen McLeod and Jay Gadhia.



SACRED MUSIC

Bradford Cathedral

Concerts & Performances

18:30 (2 hours) | £7

Bradford Literature Festival comes to a spectacular close with a celebration of devotional music from across the religious spectrum.

Bradford Cathedral provides a fitting backdrop against which prayerful music in a multitude of languages will fill the air, offering the audience a rare chance to hear authentic recitals of a wide variety of sacred music styles together in one beautiful venue.

Individual artists, choirs and worship groups will take the stage alongside poets and writers on an evening that will offer musical enjoyment as well as spiritual inspiration.

27 JUNE – 7 JULY 2024

EXHIBITIONS

ALL FESTIVAL	Celebrating 10 Years of BLF	Shipley Market Keighley Airedale The Broadway Bradford Halifax Library	10
ALL FESTIVAL	Plants of the Qur'an Exhibition	Gallery 4, Cartwright Hall	10
ALL FESTIVAL	Bradford Through the Lens: Ian Beesley Exhibition	The Festival Hub, City Park	11
ALL FESTIVAL	A Hive of Activity: An exhibition by Phillip Jackson	The Festival Hub, City Park	11
ALL FESTIVAL	Beyond the Bassline: 500 Years of Black British Music	Western Entrance, City Hall	12
ALL FESTIVAL	Heaven, Earth and the 10,000 Things: Peter Sanders Exhibition	Norcroft Lounge, University of Bradford	12

THURSDAY 27 JUNE

09:00–16:30	Creative Economic Conference	Great Hall, University of Bradford	13
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FRIDAY 28 JUNE

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12:00–12:45	Lunchbite: Watergate 50 Years On	The Festival Hub, City Park	14
14:00–15:00	Bradford Through the Lens	The Festival Hub, City Park	15
19:00–20:00	The Story of Hislo: Where History Comes to Life	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	15
19:00–20:00	The Lost Art of Kindness	Festival Hub, City Park	16
19:00–20:00	David McQueen in Conversation: The BRAVE Leader	The Design Exchange, The Innovation Centre	16
19:00–23:00	Mushaira: An Evening of Urdu Poetry	Main Hall, The Majestic Bradford	17
19:30–23:00	Zabava: The Next Generation	The Underground	17

SATURDAY 29 JUNE

09:45–10:45	Hockney Gallery Tour: Salts Mill	Hockney Gallery, Salts Mill	20
10:00–10:45	Stories Unlocked: Nabil Steals a Penguin	Waterstones	20
10:00–11:00	Yoga Energy	Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford	21
10:00–16:00	Handy Heroes	City Park	18
10:00–16:00	Find your Inner Superhero	The Broadway Bradford	18
10:00–16:00	Superhero Spoon Puppets	City Park	18
10:00–16:00	Superhero Wrist Cuffs	City Park	18
10:00–16:00	Story Seekers	The Broadway Bradford	18
10:30–11:00	With Great Powers!	City Park	21
10:30–11:30	The Ordinary Chaos of Being Human	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	22

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10:30–11:30	The End of Liberal Democracy	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	22
10:30–12:30	Bradford Police Museum Heritage Tour	Bradford Police Museum	23
10:30–12:30	Places of Revelation	St George's Hall	23
10:45–11:45	No One Talks About This Stuff: Almost Parenthood	The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall	24
11:00–11:30	Codswallop Presents: Crash! Bang! Wallop!	City Park	18
11:00–11:45	Stories Unlocked: The Queen Next Door	Waterstones	24
11:00–12:00	Workshop: Inside the Interrogation Room	The Chamber, City Hall	25
11:00–12:00	The Colourful Canvas of Hockney	Meeting Room, Salts Mill	26
11:00–12:30	Saltaire Model Village: Heritage Walking Tour	Saltaire United Reformed Church	26
11:30–12:00	Tweedle Town and Beyond	City Park	19
11:30–12:00	How to Be a Hero	City Park	27
11:30–13:00	Workshop: Exploring the Life Benefits of Poetry	Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford	27
11:45–12:45	Dave Gibbons and Tim Pilcher in Conversation	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	28
12:00–12:45	Stories Unlocked: The Dream Catcher of Palestine	Waterstones	28
12:00–13:00	It's Not a Bloody Trend!	The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall	29
12:00–13:00	Artists Making Books: Poetry to Politics	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	29
12:15–13:15	Is the United Nations Still Fit for Purpose?	The Chamber, City Hall	30
12:30–13:00	With Great Powers!	City Park	21
13:00–13:30	Codswallop Presents: Crash! Bang! Wallop!	City Park	18
13:00–13:45	Stories Unlocked: Letters from a Prophet	Waterstones	30
13:00–14:00	WritersMosaic: Remember Me	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	31
13:00–14:30	Workshop: Hues of Hockney, Coloured Pencil Portraits	Meeting Room, Salts Mill	31
13:15–14:15	Future Worlds Prize: The Future of Sci-fi and Fantasy	The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall	32
13:30–14:00	Tweedle Town and Beyond	City Park	19
13:30–14:00	How to Be a Hero	City Park	27
13:30–14:00	Hockney Gallery Tour: Cartwright Hall	Gallery 4, Cartwright Hall	32

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13:30–14:30	Paul Rogers: The Insecurity Trap	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	34
13:30–14:30	Perilous Intimacies: Debating Hindu-Muslim Friendship	The Chamber, City Hall	34
13:30–15:30	Workshop: Calligraphy with Haji Noor Deen	Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford	35
14:00–14:45	Stories Unlocked: Gaza Guardian	Waterstones	35
14:00–15:00	Atif Tauqeer in Conversation	Student Central, SC0.51	36
14:00–16:00	Bradford Crime Scenes: Heritage Walking Tour	Bradford Police Museum	36
14:15–15:15	Echoes of the Orisha	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	37
14:30–15:00	With Great Powers!	City Park	21
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14:30–15:30	The Art of Enlightenment: Islamic Contributions to Global Culture	Norcroft Lounge, University of Bradford	38
14:45–15:45	Israel–Palestine: What Next?	The Chamber, City Hall	39
15:00–15:30	Codswallop Presents: Crash! Bang! Wallop!	City Park	18
15:00–15:45	Stories Unlocked: A Dragon Called Blue	Waterstones	39
15:00–16:00	Rumi & Iqbal: Divine Love	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	40
15:15–16:15	Miriam Margolyes in Conversation	St George's Hall	41
15:30–16:00	Tweedle Town and Beyond	City Park	19
15:30–16:00	How to Be a Hero	City Park	27
15:30–16:30	Can Crime Ever Be Cosy?	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	40
15:30–17:00	Iktara: The Josh Malihabadi Story	Student Central, SC0.51	42
15:45–17:15	Sex, Soul and Islam	The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall	42
16:00–17:00	Ballots Across Borders: Election Year 2024 for India, the US, and the UK	The Chamber, City Hall	43
16:30–17:30	Plants of the Qur'an	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	44
17:00–18:00	Saima Mir: Back with a Vengeance	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	44
17:30–19:00	Being Muslim	Great Hall, University of Bradford	45
18:00–21:00	Divine Melodies: Youth Nasheed Showcase	Mary Magdalene Church CIC	45
19:30–21:00	Northern Noir at the Bar	The Priestley Coffee Lounge & Bar, Bradford Playhouse	46
19:30–22:00	Lyrical Mehfil	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	46
19:30–22:30	The Spirit of Togetherness: An Evening of Gospel	St George's Hall	47

SUNDAY 30 JUNE			
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10:00–11:45	Little Germany: Heritage Walking Tour	Merchants House	50
10:00–16:00	All Hands on yer Telescope!	The Broadway Bradford	46
10:00–16:00	Pirate Hats	City Park	46
10:00–16:00	Rocking Mermaids and Swaying Ships	City Park	46
10:00–16:00	Pirate Parrot Tube Puppets	City Park	46
10:00–16:00	Story Seekers	The Broadway Bradford	46
10:30–11:00	Meet the Publisher with Harper North: Jonathan De Peyer	Room D3, Richmond Building, University of Bradford	51
10:30–11:00	Meet the Publisher with Harper North: Genevieve Pegg	Room D5, Richmond Building, University of Bradford	51
10:30–11:00	Traditional Tales with a Twist!	City Park	52
10:30–11:15	Stories Unlocked: The Magic Callaloo	Waterstones	52
10:30–11:30	Worlds Within Words	The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall	53
10:45–11:45	Blake's Role in Modern Mental Health	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	53
11:00–11:30	Codswallop Presents: SparkleBeard and the Mysterious Merlion	City Park	46
11:00–12:00	Priestley and The Pythons	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	54
11:00–12:30	Workshop: Writing Your Life, An Introduction to Memoir	Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford	54
11:00–13:00	Undercliffe Victorian Cemetery: Heritage Walking Tour	Undercliffe Cemetery	55
11:00–13:00	Great Books from Great Traditions with Shaykh Hamza Yusuf	St George's Hall	55
11:05–11:35	Meet the Publisher with Harper North: Jonathan De Peyer	Room D3, Richmond Building, University of Bradford	51
11:05–11:35	Meet the Publisher with Harper North: Genevieve Pegg	Room D5, Richmond Building, University of Bradford	51
11:30–12:00	Swashbuckling Adventurers	City Park	47
11:30–12:00	Magical Creatures and Mythical Beasts	City Park	56
11:30–14:00	Zine Making Workshop	Room D01.25 Horton D Building (at the entrance to Horton Barn), University of Bradford	56
11:40–12:10	Meet the Publisher with Harper North: Jonathan De Peyer	Room D3, Richmond Building, University of Bradford	51
11:40–12:10	Meet the Publisher with Harper North: Genevieve Pegg	Room D5, Richmond Building, University of Bradford	51
11:45–12:45	So You're Published, Now What?	The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall	57
12:00–13:00	Blake and Gibran: Poets of Prophetic Vision	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	57

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12:30–13:15	Stories Unlocked: The Wildsmith Series	Waterstones	59
12:30–13:30	A Stroke of the Pen: Remembering Sir Terry Pratchett	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	58
13:00–13:30	Codswallop Presents: SparkleBeard and the Mysterious Merlion	City Park	46
13:00–13:30	Meet the Publisher with Harper North: Jonathan De Peyer	Room D3, Richmond Building, University of Bradford	51
13:00–13:30	Meet the Publisher with Harper North: Genevieve Pegg	Room D5, Richmond Building, University of Bradford	51
13:00–14:00	From Pen to Published	The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall	59
13:00–14:45	Film Screening: I Am Not Your Negro	John Stanley Bell Lecture Theatre, University of Bradford	60
13:00–15:00	Jewish Manningham: Heritage Walking Tour	Bradford Reform Synagogue	60
13:15–14:15	Being Muslim Today: Reclaiming Faith from Orthodoxy and Islamophobia	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	61
13:30–14:00	Swashbuckling Adventurers	City Park	47
13:30–14:00	Magical Creatures and Mythical Beasts	City Park	56
13:30–15:30	Workshop: Calligraphy with Haji Noor Deen	Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford	61
13:35–14:05	Meet the Publisher with Harper North: Jonathan De Peyer	Room D3, Richmond Building, University of Bradford	51
13:35–14:05	Meet the Publisher with Harper North: Genevieve Pegg	Room D5, Richmond Building, University of Bradford	51
14:00–15:00	The Sublime Gift	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	62
14:10–14:40	Meet the Publisher with Harper North: Jonathan De Peyer	Room D3, Richmond Building, University of Bradford	51
14:10–14:40	Meet the Publisher with Harper North: Genevieve Pegg	Room D5, Richmond Building, University of Bradford	51
14:15–15:15	Women and Misogyny: Past, Present and Future	The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall	62
14:30–15:00	Traditional Tales with a Twist!	City Park	52
14:30–15:15	Stories Unlocked: The Boy to Beat the Gods	Waterstones	64
14:30–15:30	Islam and the Age of Enlightenment	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	63
15:00–15:30	Codswallop Presents: SparkleBeard and the Mysterious Merlion	City Park	46
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15:00–16:00	Meet the Agent: Stevie Finegan	Room D3, Richmond Building, University of Bradford	66
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15:30–16:00	Magical Creatures and Mythical Beasts	City Park	56
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15:30–16:30	The Ethics of AI: The Impact of AI on Faith	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	67
15:30–16:30	Art and Class: How the Middle Classes Hijacked the Nation's Galleries	The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall	67
15:45–16:45	John Connolly in Conversation	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	68
16:00–17:00	The Barakah Effect: More with Less	Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford	68
16:30–17:30	Ketebe: Inspiring Imaginations through Children's Literature	The Festival Hub, City Park	69
16:45–17:45	The Big Book of Cyberpunk	The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall	69
17:00–18:00	Globe Plotters: International Perspectives in Crime Fiction	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	70
17:00–18:00	AI Fighting Crime	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	70
17:30–19:30	The Hamziyya of Imam al-Busiri	St George's Hall	71
18:30–19:30	Joanne Harris: The Moonlight Market	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	71

MONDAY 1 JULY

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11:30–12:15	Toddle Up and Sign	City Park	6
12:00–12:45	Lunch Bite: Those Incomers, The Brontës	The Festival Hub, City Park	72
13:00–13:45	Baby Calm	City Park	6
14:00–15:00	William 'Buckshot' Forster and the Bradford Irish	The Festival Hub, City Park	72
18:30–19:30	Poetry for the Many: Jeremy Corbyn and Len McCluskey	St George's Hall	73
19:00–20:00	The Happy Nomad	Festival Hub, City Park	73

TUESDAY 2 JULY

10:00–11:00	Baby Rave	City Park	6
12:00–12:45	Lunch Bite: The Origins of the Independent Labour Party	The Festival Hub, City Park	74

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TUESDAY 2 JULY

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14:00–15:00	The Bradford Exhibition of 1904	The Festival Hub, City Park	74
16:30–17:15	A Dragon's Day Out	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	75
18:30–19:30	Kate Bottley in Conversation	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	75
18:30–19:30	Freda Shafi: Suiterland	The Festival Hub, City Park	76
19:00–20:00	Ruby Wax: I'm Not As Well As I Thought I Was	St George's Hall	76

WEDNESDAY 3 JULY

12:00–12:45	Lunch Bite: Bradford's Haunted History	The Festival Hub, City Park	77
13:00–13:45	ARTventurers	City Park	7
14:00–15:00	A Life in the League	The Festival Hub, City Park	77
15:30–16:30	Down T'Allotment	The Gateway Centre	78
18:30–19:30	An Evening with The Beehive Poets	The Festival Hub, City Park	78
19:00–20:30	Kate Fox: Bigger on the Inside	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	79

THURSDAY 4 JULY

10:00–11:00	Rhythm Time	City Park	7
11:00–12:00	Down T'Allotment	The Rockwell Centre	80
12:00–12:45	Lunchbite: Sonnets and Sarnies	The Festival Hub, City Park	80
13:00–14:00	Rhythm Time	City Park	7
13:00–14:45	Beyond The Pitch: A Stadium's Story	Bradford Bulls, Bartercard Odsal Stadium	81
14:00–15:00	A Somali Village in Colonial Bradford	The Festival Hub, City Park	82
16:00–17:00	Down T'Allotment	The Rockwell Centre	80
19:00–20:00	Shaparak Khorsandi: Scatter Brain	Great Hall, University of Bradford	82
19:00–20:00	The Kingdom of the Heart	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	83
19:30–21:00	Corinne Bailey Rae: The Stories Behind the Songs	Bradford Cathedral	84
19:30–22:00	Poetry with a Punch	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	83

FRIDAY 5 JULY

10:00–10:45	Baby Yoga	City Park	7
11:00–12:00	Down T'Allotment	The Rockwell Centre	85
12:00–12:45	Lunch Bite: The Secrets of Bradford Beck	The Festival Hub, City Park	85
13:00–13:45	Baby Yoga	City Park	7

FRIDAY 5 JULY

14:00–15:00	Weaving The Future	The Festival Hub, City Park	86
19:00–20:00	Roots & Rhythms: Sounds of Black British Music	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	86
19:30–22:00	An Evening of Comedy	St George's Hall	87
19:30–22:30	A Lit Night Out: Bhangra & Bollywood Beats with DJ Ritu	The Underground	87

SATURDAY 6 JULY

10:00–16:00	A Woodland for a City	The Broadway Bradford	88
10:00–16:00	Owl Bird Feeders	City Park	88
10:00–16:00	Woodland Creature Puppets	City Park	88
10:00–16:00	Hedgehog Fans	City Park	88
10:00–16:00	Story Seekers	The Broadway Bradford	88
10:00–16:00	Bradford Stories Bus	Storytelling Bus, City Park	90
10:30–11:00	From Deep in the Forest...	City Park	90
10:30–11:15	Stories Unlocked: Tiny Owl's Scary Day	Waterstones	91
10:30–11:30	Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism: Language of Hate	Small Hall, University of Bradford	91
10:30–11:30	Why Can't I See My GP?	The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall	92
10:45–12:00	Our Lady Fātima al-Zahrā	St George's Hall	92
11:00–11:30	Codswallop Presents: Amelia and the Acorn	City Park	89
11:00–12:00	The Essential Martin Lings	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	93
11:00–12:00	Fixing France	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	93
11:00–13:00	Workshop: Calligraphy with Haji Noor Deen	Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford	94
11:30–12:00	Dreaming of Tomorrow	City Park	89
11:30–12:00	We're Going on a Where Hunt?	City Park	94
11:30–12:15	Stories Unlocked: Bibi and the Box of Fairy Tales	Waterstones	95
11:45–12:45	Orwell's 1984: 75 Years On	Small Hall, University of Bradford	95
11:45–12:45	How Not to Let Having Kids Ruin Your Sex Life	The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall	96
12:15–13:15	The Making and Breaking of the Modern Middle East	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	96
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12:30–13:30	Kate Mosse: The Ghost Ship	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	97

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13:30–14:30	The Forgotten Crisis in Sudan	Banqueting Suite, City Hall	99
14:00–15:00	Joelle Taylor: The Night Alphabet	The Studio, Alhambra Theatre	100
14:00–15:30	Workshop: Manuscript Illumination	Norcroft Auditorium, University of Bradford	100
14:15–15:15	Sairish Hussain: Hidden Fires	The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall	101
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14:30–15:00	From Deep in the Forest...	City Park	90
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15:30–16:00	We're Going on a Where Hunt?	City Park	94
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15:30–16:00	Dancing Blue Butterflies	City Park	114
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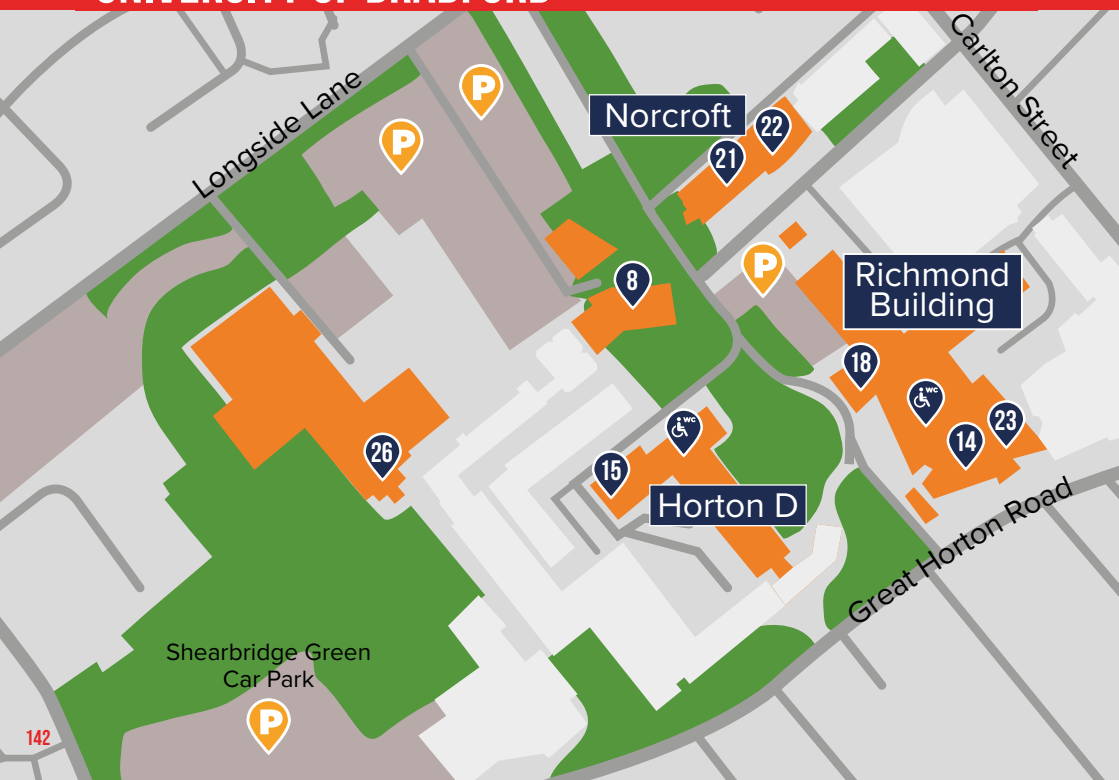
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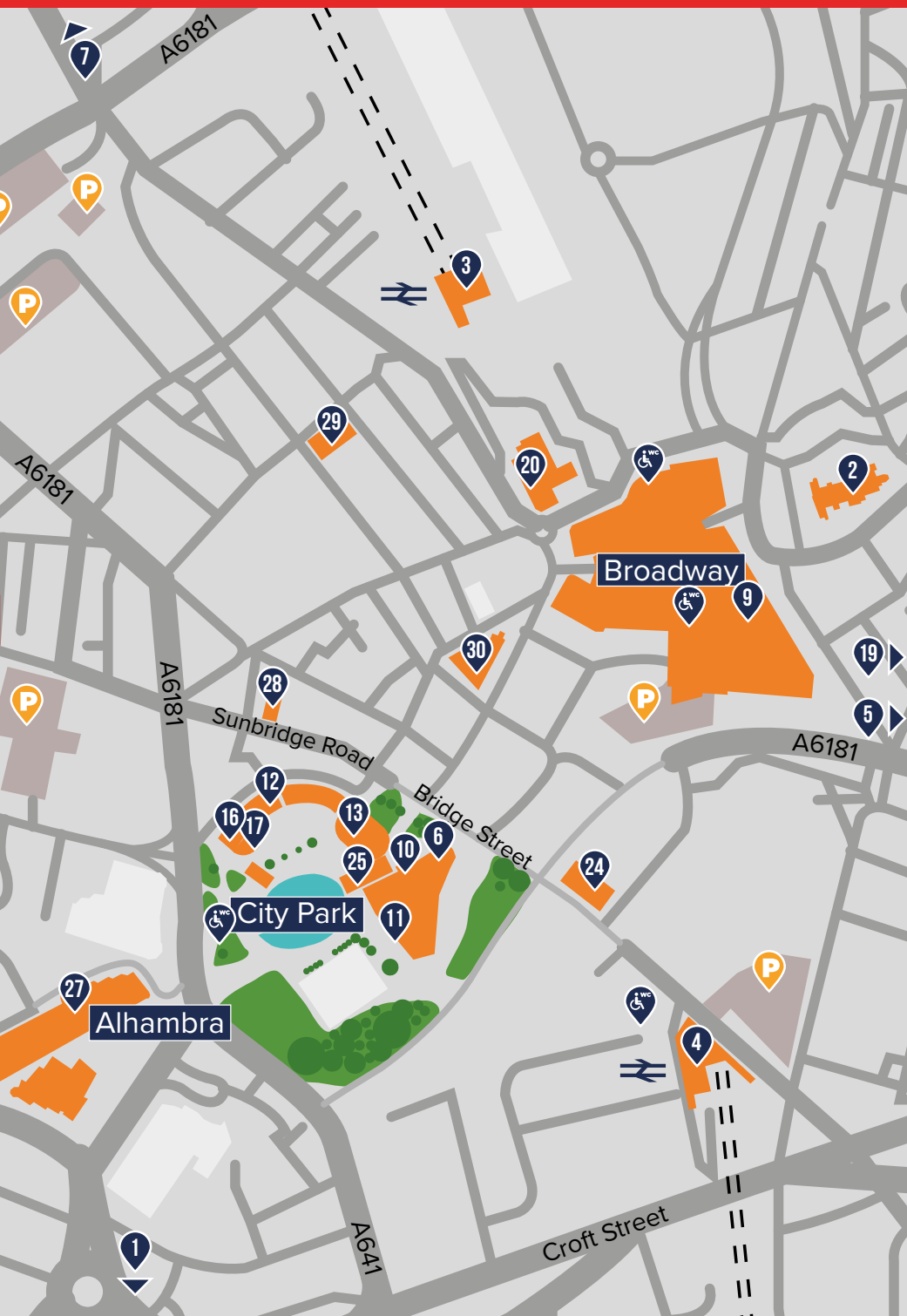
VENUE MAP

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Bartercard Odsal Stadium | 11 City Hall, Western Entrance (Accessible) | 21 Norcroft Auditorium |
| 2 Bradford Cathedral | 12 City Library | 22 Norcroft Lounge |
| 3 Bradford Forster Square Station | 13 Festival Hub | 23 Small Hall |
| 4 Bradford Interchange | 14 Great Hall | 24 St George's Hall |
| 5 Bradford Playhouse | 15 Horton Barn | 25 Storytelling Bus |
| 6 Bradford Police Museum | 16 The Imagination Station | 26 Student Central |
| 7 Bradford Reform Synagogue | 17 Impressions Gallery | 27 The Studio, Alhambra Theatre |
| 8 Bright Building | 18 John Stanley Bell Lecture Theatre | 28 Sunbridge Wells |
| 9 The Broadway Shopping Centre | 19 Little Germany Heritage Tour, Merchants House | 29 The Underground |
| 10 City Hall, Main Entrance | 20 The Midland Hotel | 30 Waterstones, The Wool Exchange |
|  Parking |  Train Station |  Public Toilets with Disabled Facilities |

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VENUE MAP

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