

LIVE

AT THE LIBRARY

GET SET FOR
THE SUMMER

Live Music

Author Talks

Family Events

Local History

Theatre

Dance

UPCOMING
EVENTS

July - September
2023

Sandwell Libraries and Archives



Mostly **FREE**

Licensed bar available at all venues

JAMIE THYER & THE WORRIED MEN

In 1994, guitarist Jamie Thyer began writing and rehearsing with a rhythm section under the name of The Worried Men. Initially, they considered that their style and direction would place them on the outer peripheries of fashion motivated rock music yet, because of their ability to entertain, promoters and even record companies swiftly disproved this!

Venue: Central Library West Bromwich - FREE ENTRY

FRIDAY
**14
JULY**
7.30PM



THE SAM CHASE TRIO

The Sam Chase Trio hails from San Francisco, California. This juggernaut of a band blends rock n roll with folk music while maintaining the sensibilities and attitudes that come from growing up on a healthy diet of punk rock. The leader of the band is The Sam Chase himself, a natural storyteller with a voice that sounds as if it has weathered many an epic tale. With boot stomping orchestration and lyrics that have been immortalized on the tattooed skin of their fans, The Sam Chase Trio doesn't mess around.

Venue: Thimblemill Library - *Buy tickets www.skiddle.com

SATURDAY
**15
JULY**
7.30PM



BRUCE ADAMS QUARTET

Bruce Adams' legendary richness of tone has recently been enhanced by his partnership with Eclipse trumpets, providing him with a trumpet, flugel and cornet. An album of duos with Craig Milverton, Keepin' Out of Mischief Now, was released in the last few months to universal acclaim. Bruce's long career has brought him associations with many top players who value his spectacular technique and lyrical capacity – from Kenny Baker's Dozen to a regular feature spot in Alan Barnes' Octet.

Venue: Blackheath Library - FREE ENTRY

SATURDAY
**15
JULY**
7.30PM



POTATO HEAD JAZZ BAND

Spain's leading Dixieland band, the Potato Head Jazz Band from Granada in Andalusia, were building a fine reputation in the UK when Covid pretty much floored the entire music business. They were the Band of the Festival in the 2018 and 2019 Birmingham Solihull and Sandwell Jazz Festival, where their show-stopping, totally captivating performances won them a legion of followers.

Venue: Thimblemill Library - FREE ENTRY

SUNDAY
**16
JULY**
7.30PM



THE JOYS OF SINGING - VAL WISEMAN

Long established as one of the UK's top singers, Val Wiseman has established a relationship with the Festival with her performances of Lady Sings the Blues, the definitive Billie Holiday tribute, recorded by Big Bear Records at the Festival, and also as a solo performer. Val is also an enthusiast for the Bronte Sisters and combined her two passions by writing, with Brian Dee, Keeping the Flame Alive, a song cycle based on the Brontes.

Venue: Central Library West Bromwich - FREE ENTRY

MONDAY
**17
JULY**
2PM



Go to TicketSource www.ticketsource.co.uk to reserve tickets for free library concerts.

*Go to Skiddle www.skiddle.com to buy tickets for the Sam Chase Trio gig at Thimblemill Library.



MONDAY
17
JULY
7.30PM

VERONICA & MAX

Max and Veronica are Max de Bernardi (vocals and acoustic guitar) and Veronica Sbergia (vocals, washboard and baritone ukulele). Well-known musicians in the international blues scene, respected in their own right individually, together, as Max and Veronica. With just their voices and a few acoustic instruments, this delightful duo has assembled an extraordinary repertoire of American Roots music from country and folk, to ragtime and swing, from gospel to blues. You will be instantly captivated as you take an unforgettable journey through the musical history of the southern states of America during the 1920s and 1930s.

Venue: Great Bridge Library - FREE ENTRY

THE WASHBOARD RESONATORS

The Washboard Resonators are a duo that play foot-stomping blues, vaudeville, ragtime, hokum, skiffle, swing and folk like it was in the 1920s, 30s & 40s. On stage, you can expect a varied and entertaining show with upbeat songs, harmonies, tap dancing and an array of old instruments, including washboard, resonator guitars, banjo, ukulele, snare drum, suitcase bass drum, spoons and their very own invention the Kazoosaphone. The duo's material comprises of both original and carefully arranged traditional numbers by their favourite artists. These artists include Blind Boy Fuller, Louis Armstrong, Fred Astaire, Robert Johnson, Lonnie Donnegan, Tampa Red and The Washboard Rhythm Kings.

Venue: Cradley Heath Library - FREE ENTRY

WEDNESDAY
19
JULY
7.30PM



BEN TOURY

Benjamin Toury was born in La Châtre on January 20, 1982. Self-taught, his musical journey began early. When he was about 4 or 5 years old, while his bluesman father performed on stage, backstage, Benjamin dabbled on a small keyboard. He quickly picked up the notes he heard from familiar Blues discs and reproduced them on his keyboard. Ben's stylistic originality is asserted: a subtle mix of classical and Arabic sounding scales, based on contemporary rhythms. An energetic stage musician, his virtuoso playing thrills the theatres and festivals where he performs.

Venue: Great Barr Library - FREE ENTRY



THURSDAY
JULY
20
7.30PM

WINDY CITY WEATHERBIRDS

The Windy City Weatherbirds are a sextet of young professional musicians based in London, inspired by the high-octane Chicago jazz sound of artists such as Muggsy Spanier, Wild Bill Davison, Bobby Hackett and Jack Teagarden. Since setting out in 2019 the group has quickly established itself on the UK traditional jazz scene and regularly performs concerts around the country. The frontline of the band features the Pickering brothers - Daniel, Magnus and Joe, playing trombone, cornet and reeds respectively. Originally from Scotland, growing up in a musical family, the Pickering brothers were initially inspired by their grandparents' record collection! They later got their first start playing jazz in the Fife Youth Jazz Orchestra and the Stirling Jazz Orchestra before they eventually moved to London to study at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music in Greenwich.

Venue: Bleakhouse Library - FREE ENTRY

FRIDAY
JULY
21
7.30PM



NILS SOLBERG

Nils Solberg's career has encompassed a huge variety of styles and has seen him work with the likes of Bryan Ferry and Nigel Kennedy, but his main focus has been on gypsy jazz. Born in Durban, South Africa, of Norwegian descent, Nils grew up in England. Self taught, his life was changed upon hearing Django Reinhardt, and thereafter he dedicated himself to pursuing the art of acoustic swing. Other influences followed: Eddie Lang, Oscar Aleman and George Van Eps, though he subsequently broadened his style to encompass gypsy jazz, traditional, swing and mainstream jazz.

Venue: Wednesbury Library - FREE ENTRY



SATURDAY
JULY
22
7.30PM

Children and Families

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2023 - READY, SET, READ!

Cross the finish line with Sandwell libraries this summer by taking part in the Summer Reading Challenge 2023, Ready, Set, Read! A sport and games-themed reading challenge.

It's free to take part at all our libraries.

SUMMER
READING
CHALLENGE
2023

Ready,
Set,
Read!

WEDNESBURY LIBRARY SPECIAL LAUNCH

 **Saturday 8 July**

 **at 11am - 3pm**



PIXIE
FACE PAINTING
12pm - 2pm
FREE

**2 The Pointe SS Dance
Toddler Zumbini, 2pm - 3pm**

Zumbini is an amazing programme for both children and caregivers to enjoy together. Singing, dancing, playing instruments and amazing bonding with your little one.

FREE



Professor Black and the 12 Labours of Hercules - FREE

Wednesday 26 July: Central Library West Bromwich - 10.30am

Wednesday 26 July: Blackheath Library - 3pm

Hercules was one of the most famous Greek heroes, but he was not liked by everyone. To prove his strength he was given 12 tasks to perform. Did he succeed? Join Professor Black and find out! Includes story session, games, activities and design/drawing activity.

Black Country Giant book launch - Adrian Johnson - FREE

Thursday 27 July: Thimblemill Library - 10.30am and Smethwick Library - 2.30pm

The Black Country GIANT is a 56 page adventure story suitable for readers aged 7+. It is about the bravest, tallest young hero from West Bromwich who laughs and learns from Mister William Shakespeare, meets Sir Walter Raleigh and steps up to save his mum and the king from a most terrible fate.

Author - Kevin Green - FREE

Thursday 27 July: Glebefields Library - 10.30am

Friday 28 July: Tipton Library - 10.30am and Great Bridge Library - 2.30pm

Local children's author Kevin Green has created short reads and comic books to help those who may struggle with engaging and reading stories. On his mini tour of the three Tipton Libraries he will be sharing his stories to inspire children to enjoy reading and follow their dreams.



Birmingham Centre for Arts Therapies (BCAT) - Summer Activities - FREE

Monday 31 July: Great Barr Library - 10.30am and Hamstead Library - 2.30pm

Friday 4 August: Rounds Green Library - 10.30am and Brandhall Library - 2.30pm

Monday 7 August: Great Bridge Library - 10.30am and Hill Top Library - 2.30pm

Monday 21 August: Cradley Heath Library - 10.30am and Oakham Library - 2.30pm

Tuesday 22 August: Central Library West Bromwich - 10.30am and Thimblemill Library - 2.30pm

Wednesday 30 August: Bleakhouse Library - 10.30am and Glebefields Library - 2.30pm

A mix of art, music, drama, music and games to support this years Summer Reading Challenge on Ready, Set, Read! theme. Suitable for ages 5-10.



Author Laura Wooldridge - Wanda Meets Berry - FREE

Tuesday 1 August: Oldbury Library - 11am and Cradley Heath Library - 2.30pm

Thursday 17 August: Bleakhouse Library - 10.30am

Join Laura, Author of Berry and Wanda go to the stars, an interactive children's picture book that supports children's well-being. The workshop will include storytime, yoga, breathing techniques, games and crafts.



Tickets available from the library and online at TicketSouce scan QR code on page 6

What Not Theatre presents **The Stealer of Stories - FREE**

Wednesday 2 August: Thimblemill Library - 2.30pm

We follow the story of Grimm, a little boy with dyslexia living in a town called Harmony. Little Grimm adored listening to stories about far away lands and adventures of gold; his father would create magical worlds to transport them both. But Grimm truly longed for another ending...he dreamed of being able to read. An accessible, relaxed performance for all the family suitable ages 4+.

Spectacular Stained Glass - FREE

Thursday 3 August: Wednesbury Library - 2.30pm, Thursday 10 August: Bleakhouse Library - 2.30pm

Thursday 17 August: Smethwick Library - 2.30pm

Listen to Maureen Waldron talk about the fantastic stained glass in Sandwell. Have a go at designing your own stained glass window during the session.

Funtime Theatre - Jack and the Beanstalk - FREE

Friday 4 August: Tipton Library - 10am

Join Jack and Dame Trot in this Giant family pantomime as they try to defeat the evil giant high up in the sky!



Pixie Face Painting - FREE

Tuesday 8 August: Stone Cross Library - 2pm

Fantastic free face painting and glitter tattoos.



Author Sam Sedgman - FREE

Wednesday 9 August: Langley Library - 10.30am

and Central Library West Bromwich - 1pm

Grab your ticket for adventure with award-winning author Sam Sedgman, as he showcases the magic of rail travel in his bestselling mystery series Adventures on Trains. This globetrotting series of action, mystery and adventure stories follows young Harrison Beck and his journalist uncle Nathaniel Bradshaw, as they solve crimes on amazing railway journeys around the world.



Peter Chand Storyteller - FREE

Friday 11 August: Great Barr Library - 10.30am

Wednesbury Library - 12.30pm and Stone Cross Library - 3.30pm

Renowned British Punjabi Storyteller Peter Chand will be bringing his world stories to Sandwell sure to thrill, inform, and engage, audiences of all ages. All his tales are interactive and lively and have mesmerised audiences of all ages across Britain, Canada, Belgium, Greece and India amongst other places. We hope you can join him and be carried away by the power of traditional Storytelling where you will encounter flying mice, belligerent elephants and enchanted drums. More information on www.peterchand.com



Booster Cushion Theatre

Old McDonald and Three Pigs Plus - FREE

Monday 14 August: Brandhall Library - 2.30pm

Tuesday 15 August: Glebefields Library - 10.30am

The Three Pigs are fed up with singing "Eee aye eee aye oh!" every day and bravely decide to move away from Old McDonald's farm. Join the kind farmer and all of their animal friends in helping the little pigs build homes of their own, but beware, the big bad Wolf is on the prowl. A colourful and fun interactive show, full of props, pop ups and audience participation!

Booster Cushion Theatre

Sporty Hansel, Gretel and You Who...? FREE

Monday 14 August: Blackheath Library - 10.30am

Tuesday 15 August: Hamstead Library - 2.30pm

Hansel and Gretel have been turned into oven gloves and don't know what to do! They decide to go on a journey around the world looking for food and some friends. They bump into some woodland animals who just want to play sports all the time, luckily they know the best way out of the forest is with an audience wide relay race. But while taking part, the siblings get trapped by the Witch. Luckily, the Gingerbread Man has a great idea to save them, he'll just need some help...

WhatNot Theatre: Flotsam and Jetsam's Voyage To The Trash Vortex - FREE

Wednesday 23 August: Tipton Library - 3pm

Landlubbers, join WhatNot Theatre for bottle top treasure, sea shanties and a mischievous giant plastic bag squid. Legendary Pirates Flotsam and Jetsam are no ordinary buccaneers of folklore; they are the founding members of the PPPI. The Plastic Plundering Pirates Initiative. They're mission to scour the seas collecting plastic riding the waves and build a fleet of ships made entirely of waste plastic. An interactive, relaxed and accessible experience, with the odd movie reference, for all the family about recycling with a piratey twist. Suitable for ages 4+

Summer Dance Workshop With ME Dance Company - FREE

Saturday 26 August: Central Library West Bromwich, 12pm - 2.30pm

This class is open to all of any ability, there will also be a short showcase of performances work from ME dancers. Suitable for ages 7+

Author Serena Patel - FREE

Tuesday 29 August: Oldbury Library - 10.30am and Wednesbury Library - 2.30pm

Come along and meet author Serena Patel as she talks about her 'Anisha, Accidental Detective' book series. Full of mysteries, family and friendship, it's also a little bit daft. There's a lobster, a rat, exploding volcanos and missing grooms to keep you gripped! Serena will also talk about her work and there will be a small craft activity too.



Author Uncle Brow Brows - FREE

Friday 1 September: Langley Library - 10.30am and Smethwick Library - 2.30pm

Join debut author/illustrator Uncle Brow Brows as he takes you on a rhythmic rhyming rollercoaster sharing the story of Wild Yak Yip hunting for excitement high, high up on a Himalayan hill! You will also be able to ask questions, win a signed poster, enjoy a craft activity, and he will be signing copies of his book too.



Designed for Children aged 5-11, in this 1 hour workshop they will embark on a thrilling quest that will put their skills in Maths and English to the test! They will overcome challenges and puzzles to uncover the mystery of the missing Blaze he Phoenix, mascot of The Explore Games! Look out for sessions and book your FREE tickets on TicketSource scan QR code below.

ALL INFORMATION CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINTING

Local History - Black Country Day Celebrations

Black Country Day Talk: Rowley Regis in Old Photographs - FREE



Friday 14 July, Blackheath Library - 10.30am

A nostalgic tour around Rowley Regis with photographs from Sandwell Archives collection.

Black Country Day Talk:

Oldbury in Old Photographs - FREE

Friday 14 July, Langley Library - 10.30am. A nostalgic tour around Oldbury with photographs from Sandwell Archives collection.

www.blackcountryfestival.co.uk

Stories, songs and memories from **Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp - FREE**

Friday 31 July, Central Library West Bromwich, 1pm - 4pm

Family Activity Day

Friday 31 July, Thimblemill Library, 6pm - 8.30pm

Book Talk and film screening



ALL INFORMATION CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINTING

TICKETSOURCE SCAN QR CODE



by Untied Artists



SAVE THE DATE

THE HEAD GARDNER

Over the last few years the nation has been getting down and dirty with the soil and the seeds, the roots and the tubers. From windowsill herb gardens to grand projects, it seems we can't get enough of the green-fingered stuff. Brothers Jake and Warren Oldershaw have been propagating a delightful theatre show that digs deep into the reasons why we could all do with a bit more horticulture in our lives. During each performance they'll design, draught and bring to life a unique and beautiful garden; share fascinating stories of different plants and species; tell personal tales of why gardening is so important for mental health, and maybe even throw a few songs into the mix. **Blooming lovely!**

- Blackheath Library:** Friday 7th July - 10.30am
- Tipton Library:** Monday 10th July - 2pm
- Wednesbury Library:** Thursday 13 July Matinee- 2.30pm, evening performance 7.30pm
- Smethwick Library:** Friday 14 July - 2pm
- Central Library:** Wednesday 19 July - 2pm

EVENTS SUPPORTED BY



THEATRE

Tickets available from the libraries and online at www.bctouring.org.uk/gardener



LIVE AT THE LIBRARY

Wednesbury Literature Festival



Venue: **Wednesbury Library**



Crime Author: MJ Arlidge
Tuesday 5 September - 6pm

Author Talk: Gina Maddison
Wednesday 6 September: 6pm

Scarlett Oak Theatre Company:
The Zoo That Comes to You
Thursday 7 September: 10am

Adult Author: Freya Berry
Thursday 7 September: 2pm

Children's Author: Liz Flannagan
Saturday 9 September: 1.30pm

Local History / Poetry Walk:
Ian Bott and Heather Wastie

Monday 11 September: 2pm
Start Wednesbury Library finish at Wednesbury Art Gallery

Author Talk: Annie Murray
Tuesday 12 September: 2pm

Ian Bott: Black Country Murders
Wednesday 13 September: 2pm

Real Fiction by AKA Dance
Friday 15 September: 7pm

Brendan Hawthorne
Saturday 16 September: 6pm

FREE

Booking Recommended

Tickets available from the library and online at TicketSource Scan QR code on page 6



Telephone: 0121 569 4940





Sandwell Museums and Arts Service

Discover your Museums

What's on at Sandwell Museums July and August 2023



Have a Fun And Boston

Arty Summer

At Sandwell Museums

31 July - 1 September



Sandwell Museums and Arts Service

During the summer holidays there's lots of FAB arty and creative stuff going on at Sandwell Museums.

There will be a variety of different children's and family workshops, drop in sessions and performances taking place at Wednesbury Museum and Art Gallery, Oak House Museum, Haden Hill House Museum and Bromwich Hall Museum.

brilliant badge making
weaving

drumming

drawing

sculpture

sessions for children with additional needs

music making

puppet shows



You can find the full programme at sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums and look out for updates on social media @SandwellMuseums



39TH BIRMINGHAM JAZZ & BLUES FESTIVAL JULY 14TH TO 23RD 2023

At Sandwell Museums

All events are FREE. No need to book.
For full festival listings go to birminghamjazzfestival.com

**Saturday 15 July, 2pm, Digby Fairweather
Bromwich Hall**

Digby has always been as well known for his bubbling personality and encyclopaedic knowledge of jazz as for his considerable trumpet skills. This knowledge has seen him produce a slew of jazz books, enjoy a major career as a jazz broadcaster and produce many recordings.



**Sunday 16 July, 2.30pm
Chick Wren's Rollin River Band
Oak House Museum**

**Friday 21 July, 7pm, Will Killeen Band
Wednesbury Museum and Art Gallery**

Born in County Mayo, Ireland, Will Killeen is an acoustic guitarist, singer and songwriter who offers a dazzling mix of Celtic roots and authentic blues.



**Saturday 22 July, 12pm, Hot Club of Halifax
Wednesbury Museum and Art Gallery**

**&
Sunday 23 July, 2pm, Hot Club of Halifax
Haden Hill House Museum**

The Hot Club of Halifax are a collective of seasoned musicians offering dynamic and charismatic renditions of songs and tunes from the Django gypsy jazz repertoire.



SANDWELL MUSEUMS AND
ARTS SERVICE

AIM Programme

Look out for AIM

go to sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums
Social media @SandwellMuseums



AIM is Sandwell Museums and Arts Service's programme of activities, talks and workshops for adults

Bromwich Hall Open Days

Saturday 15 July 11am - 3pm

Discover and explore this fantastic medieval building and enjoy live music at 2pm as part of the Jazz Festival. Free, no need to book.

Saturday 19 August 11am - 3pm

Explore the buildings and young visitors can enjoy our games and messy play activities out in the grounds. Bring a picnic and sit on the turf seat!

Free, no need to book.

Summer Fun

at Haden Hill House Museum

Sunday 23 July 12pm - 4pm

Enjoy family entertainment throughout the afternoon and listen to the live jazz performance at 2pm. Light refreshments available but why not bring a picnic to enjoy in the park? Free event, no need to book.

Lyng Community Fun Day at Oak House Museum

Friday 18 August. Time to be confirmed.

Go to sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums for updates.

Galton Valley Pumping Station Open Days

Saturday 8 July & Saturday 12 August 11am - 3pm (last admissions 2.30pm)

Take a walk along the mainline canal in Smethwick off the bridge on Brasshouse Lane and visit the pumping station. Free, no need to book.

Look out for Heritage Open Days 8 - 17 September Including - Medieval Mahem at Bromwich Hall

Saturday 16 September & Sunday 17 September 11am - 4pm

For more information and full listings of what's on at Sandwell Museums please go to sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums and visitsandwell.com

