

# LIVE

## AT THE LIBRARY

# WHAT'S ON

## May - June 2023

# Sandwell Libraries and Archives



Live Music

Dance

Author Talks

Local History

Family Events

WARM SPACES IN SANDWELL

Visit Sandwell

[www.visitsandwell.com](http://www.visitsandwell.com)

Sandwell  
Metropolitan Borough Council



# PARTY IN THE LIBRARY

All our libraries will all be open on coronation day, Saturday 6 May. Sandwell Libraries will be hosting a number of parties and activities for all the family.

**Party starts at 11am at the following libraries:**

Brandhall Library  
Cradley Heath Library  
Glebefields Library  
Great Bridge Library  
Hamstead Library  
Hill Top Library  
Langley Library  
Oakham Library  
Oldbury Library  
Rounds Green Library  
Tipton Library

**Celebrate**  
**The King's Coronation**  
**in Sandwell**  
**Family Street Party**  
**Saturday 6 May**

**FREE All Welcome**

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

**Party starts at 1pm at the following libraries:** Central Library (West Bromwich), Blackheath Library, Bleakhouse Library, Great Barr Library, Smethwick Library, Stone Cross Library, Thimblemill Library, Wednesbury Library (*Ron Popple family show at Wednesbury Library - 2pm*)

**All our libraries will be showing the Coronation live, do come and join your community for this historic event.**

## Smethwick Library: Dhol Drumming

In celebration of the Coronation of King Charles III, Smethwick Library have invited all female Dhol drumming group Eternal Taal Entertainments. A perfect event for all the family.



**Sunday 7 May**  
**1pm - 2pm - FREE**

# WINDRUSH 75

## Meet Poet Gracey Bee

**Thursday 22 June - 1.30pm, Central Library West Bromwich**

This June marks 75 years since that voyage. It is a major national moment, a chance to come together and celebrate this shared history. Gracey Bee is a performance poet, storyteller, events host, organiser and facilitator. She also tours schools within Birmingham, with a local theatre company. Some of her work was published in 2022 'New Voices' by Offa's Press, in 2021 in 'Bedtime Stories', 'Tales for Children' and recently in 2023 by the 'Faith Initiative' magazine. Some of her other appearances include City Voices, Yes are cant - Alf Ender, Virtual Voices and Poetry Co'llab. She is also known for her 'Anansi Tales' at local libraries. In 2022 she was a Ledbury Festival Poetry Slam finalist. Gracey's aim when performing is to inspire, enlighten and entertain sometimes using her distinctive Jamaican dialect (patois). Her poetry promises to be as sweet as honey and refreshing to the soul.

**FREE - All Welcome**



POETRY ON LOAN

# Children and Families



**Juggling Jim Circus Workshop:** Tuesday 30 May: Blackheath Library - 11am, Bleakhouse Library - 2.30pm

Join Juggling Jim's circus workshop and learn new skills to amaze your family and friends! Juggling, Diabolo, Balance, Plate Spinning and much, much more. Workshops suitable for all ages and abilities. **FREE**

**Cat Wetherill:** Wednesday 31 May: Tipton Library - 11am, Stone Cross Library - 2.30pm

**DANGER! IMAGINATIONS RUNNING WILD!** Would you like to write better magic stories? Join Cat Weatherill, the best-selling author of WILD MAGIC to hear how she gets ideas. Then she will turn off the lights and you can write with her - by candlelight! Fun and magic are guaranteed. There will be a chance to ask Cat questions too. Suitable Age 8+. **FREE**

**Aaja Nachle Let's Dance Bollywood session:** Thursday 1 June: Smethwick Library - 12 noon, Central Library West Bromwich - 2.30pm

Aaja Nachle Let's Dance is a Bollywood dance company based in the West Midlands. Join us for a fun, family friendly Bollywood dancing session and learn some moves to the Bollywood beat. Suitable for ages 3-10. **FREE**

**Adrian Johnson Storyteller:** Thursday 1 June: Wednesbury Library - 11am, Oldbury Library - 2pm. Friday 2 June: Langleigh Library - 11am, Brandhall Library - 2.30pm

Family show that recalls and shares some of the Black Country's greatest heroes in an interactive, storytelling show that includes jumping competitions, yo yo spinning and colouring in. **FREE**

**Author Serena Patel:**

Thimblemill Library, Friday 2 June - 11am

Glebefields Library, Friday 2 June - 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 a little bit daft and there's a lobster, a rat, exploding volcanos and missing grooms to keep you gripped! **FREE**

**Ron Popple: Bendy Balloon Show - FREE**

Wednesbury Library, Saturday 6 May - 2pm

Saturday 3 June: Cradley Heath Library - 11am and Central Library West Bromwich - 2pm



Children are challenged to get reading over the summer holidays. From July to September, through taking part in the free Challenge, children will be able to join a superstar team and their marvellous mascots as they navigate a fictional summer obstacle course brought to life with illustrations by children's illustrator Loretta Schauer, rewarded by free incentives including stickers.



# LIVE MUSIC

## FIONA BEVAN



The Friends Of Thimblemill Library are pleased to welcome British-Canadian songwriter, singer and multi-instrumentalist Fiona Bevan & Scottish singer songwriter Adam Beattie. Fiona Bevan is also a multi-platinum songwriter, writing hit songs for other artists including the award-winning number one song 'Little Things' for One Direction with Ed Sheeran, plus singles for Lewis Capaldi, Aurora, Tom Walker, Kylie, Backstreet Boys, Joy Crookes, 5 Seconds Of Summer, Mika, Natalie Prass and Matthew E. White. She has also recently been writing with Nile Rodgers, Natalie Imbruglia, Lukas Nelson, Amos Lee and Luke Sital-Singh. Adam Beattie a scottish singer-songwriter and guitarist Adam Beattie has become a celebrated musician of the London scene.

**Thimblemill Library**

**Saturday 3 June**

**Time: 7.30pm**

**Tickets available online at [www.skiddle.com](http://www.skiddle.com): Concessions - £8, General Entry - £12 - plus booking fee**

## Tom Heyes



Tom Heyes is an professional singer/musician (Alto Saxophone & Clarinet) living in Great Barr, Birmingham, England, who sings and plays a wide range of music genres - Swing, Jazz, Soul, Pop, Country and Rock & Roll. Several musical artists Tom has been inspired and sings songs by include Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Tom Jones, Elvis Presley, Sammy Davis Jr, Bobby Darin, Nat King Cole, Tony Bennett, Harry Connick Jr, Jerry Lee Lewis, Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons, David Bowie, The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Prince and Bruno Mars.

**Stone Cross Library**

**Monday 12 June**

**Time: 2.30pm**

**FREE - A £2 donation to the library will be more than appreciated.**

## The Sam Chase Trio



The Friends Of Thimblemill Library are excited to welcome San Francisco based folk rock & roll entertainers The Sam Chase Trio (Sam Chase on lead vocals & guitar, Chandra Johnson on violin/viola & Devon McClive on cello).

The Sam Chase Trio, also known as "The God Particle Of Music," by all who have hypothesized of his existence before his discovery 10 years ago, eminent singer-songwriter The Sam Chase strides out of the hadron collider flanked on one side by Chandra Johnson, violin heroine, and on the other by Devon McClive, renowned and feared cellist at large. Their songs matter to the masses in the same way that the Higgs boson gives mass to all matter. Their music is the Big Bang to a universe of sound.

**Thimblemill Library**

**Saturday 15 July**

**Time: 7.30pm**

**Tickets available online at [www.skiddle.com](http://www.skiddle.com): Concessions - £8, General Entry - £12 - plus booking fee**



**THE BIRMINGHAM, SANDWELL & WESTSIDE JAZZ FESTIVAL WILL RETURN FOR THE 39TH YEAR. From 14 July – 23 July 2023**

Look out for the festival brochure, for full details.

**[www.birminghamjazzfestival.com](http://www.birminghamjazzfestival.com), [www.visitsandwell.com](http://www.visitsandwell.com)**



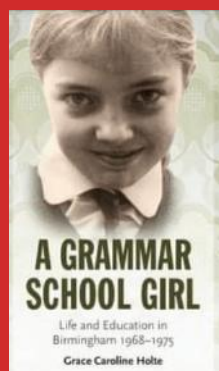
# LOCAL HISTORY AND AUTHOR TALKS

## Oldbury in Old Photographs

**Venue: Oldbury Library, Wednesday 3 May, 2pm - FREE ENTRY**

A nostalgic tour around Oldbury with photographs from Sandwell Archives collection.

## Meet Author Gina Maddison



**Venue: Thimblemill Library, Friday 5 May, 2pm**

**Venue: Wednesbury Library, Wednesday 10 May, 2pm**

**Venue: Great Barr Library, Monday 15 May, 2.30pm**

A Grammar School Girl is the sequel to Grace Caroline Holte's popular The Girl from Guildford St, an account of an idyllic Sixties childhood, growing up in the Back to Backs of Aston and Lozells, which housed Birmingham's working class families. The Sixties seemed a golden decade to many Brummies at a time when Birmingham was known as the Workshop of the World and the City of a Thousand and One Trades. It was a time of radical political change, the birth of the Open University, and England's victory in the 1966 World Cup and in the Swinging Sixties, Great Britain led the world in fashion and music.

## From Workhouse to Hospital

**Venue: Thimblemill Library, Wednesday 10 May, 2pm - FREE ENTRY**

**Venue: Tipton Library, Tuesday 27 June, 11am - FREE ENTRY**

What happened when you were ill before the NHS? Join Local Studies Librarian Maureen Waldron as this talk takes you from the workhouse at West Bromwich through to present day looking at healthcare provision and how it developed in Sandwell.

## Celebrations and Visits - Royalty in Sandwell

**Venue: Blackheath Library, Monday 15 May, 2pm - FREE ENTRY**

In this historical year of the Coronation of King Charles III, we look back at times when there were celebrations of other coronations, and at occasions when members of the Royal Family visited us.

## The Home Front in Sandwell

**Venue: Rounds Green Library, Wednesday 24 May, 2pm - FREE ENTRY**

What did you do in the war Grandad? Join Local Studies Librarian Maureen Waldron to look at how the people of Sandwell coped during WW11. Examining entries from school log books to see how they managed at the beginning of the war, looking at extracts from a nursery schools to find out what happened when children were evacuated as well as seeing photos of bomb damage.

## Black Lake Colliery Disaster

**Venue: Wednesbury Library, Wednesday 14 June, 2pm - FREE ENTRY**

**Venue: Great Barr Library, Wednesday 21 June, 2pm - FREE ENTRY**

A blue print drawing of a colliery disaster began the discovery of the tragedy of the men & families at this West Bromwich mine.

**Tickets available from the library and online at [ticketsource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk) scan QR Code**

**Stay up to date with what's going on in Libraries.**

*There's always something going on at the library – from regular events like rhymetime, knit & natter to holiday activities, author talks, live music, courses, and workshops.*

 Sandwell Libraries  @sandwellLibs  [www.visitsandwell.com](http://www.visitsandwell.com)

All information correct at time of printing







Sandwell Museums and Arts Service

Discover your Museums

# What's on at Sandwell Museums May and June 2023





## Bromwich Hall

**Open Day - Textile Demonstrations.** Sat 13 May 11am-3pm. All ages. Free event, no need to book.

**Through the Cracks - Terrifying ghostly stories with Mint Theatre Society.** Fri 26 May 7.30pm. Suitable for 12 years and above, children must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets £8.50. For more information and to book go to - [ticketsource.co.uk/mint-theatre-society/through-the-cracks/e-oxlplv](https://ticketsource.co.uk/mint-theatre-society/through-the-cracks/e-oxlplv)

**Oak Apple Day.** Tue 30 May 11am-3pm. All ages. Free event, no need to book.

**AIM (Adults In Museums) - Local History Talk with Mike Hodder.** Wed 7 June 10.30am. Free event, no need to book.

**Open Day - Magic and Balloons.** Sat 17 June 11am-3pm. All ages. Free event, no need to book.

## Oak House Museum

**Green Man Celebration.** Sun 14 May 11am-3pm. All ages. Free event, no need to book.

**Jubilee Arts Archive Festival.** Various dates and activities including -  
**The Big Art Project** Tue 30 May, Wed 31 May, Thu 1 June 1pm-3pm, Sun 4 June 11am-2pm. Ages 5+, children must be accompanied by an adult. Free activities. For more information about all the activities and events in the festival go to [sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums](https://sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums)

## Wednesbury Museum and Art Gallery

**Exhibition - In 3D. Sculptural representations of the human form, individual and collective identity.** Open when the museum is open, Wed & Thu 11am-4pm, Sat 11am-2pm. Free entry.

**Exhibition, Local History Gallery - Chance Glass.** Open when the museum is open, Wed & Thu 11am-4pm, Sat 11am-2pm. Free entry.

**AIM (Adults In Museums) - When the Chances came to Smethwick.** Wed 17 May 11.30am. Talk with local historian Maureen Waldron. Free event, no need to book.

**Design a (plastic) stained glass window decoration.** Wed 31 May 11.30am and 1.30pm. Ages 9-13, also suitable for families looking for SEND activities where numbers are limited and the space is quiet and calm. £5 per child. Book at [ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts](https://ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts)

**Decorate a glass jar.** Thu 1 June 11.30am and 1.30pm. Ages 9-13, also suitable for families looking for SEND activities where numbers are limited and the space is quiet and calm. £5 per child. Book at [ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts](https://ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts)

**Wednesbury Day Celebrations.** Sat 17 June 11am-2pm. All ages. Free event, no need to book.



## Haden Hill House Museum

**The Fabulous 40s.** Mon 1 May 12pm-4pm. All ages. Free event, no need to book. (Please note car parking is at a premium so please be considerate).

**TAM (Tots At Museums) - Play Time.** Every Thursday in May and June (excluding half term 1 June) 11am-3pm. Under 5s. Free drop in, self directed play sessions, no need to book.

**A Warm Welcome at Haden Old Hall.** Every Thursday in May and June (excluding half term 1 June) 11am-1pm. All ages. Free, no need to book.

**Relaxed Opening.** Every Thu and Fri 10am-11am. All ages. This is an autism friendly opening and for those who need a quieter time in the museum. Free entry, no need to book.

**AIM (Adults In Museums) - Craft Workshop.** Wed 17 May 11am-12.30pm. Rag rugs with Jan Casserley. £5 per participant, all materials included. Please book at [ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts](http://ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts) or tel:01384 569444

**AIM (Adults In Museums) - Do you remember the 1950s?** Wed 24 May 11.30am-12.30pm. Interactive talk with local historian John Billingham. Free event, please book at [ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts](http://ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts) or tel:01384 569444

**Weddings at Haden Hill House.** Sat 20 May & Sun 21 May 2pm-4.30pm. Are you looking for a wedding venue? Come and discuss your plans with our friendly, experienced staff. Free event, no need to book.

**Jubilee Arts Archive Festival.** Various dates and activities including -

**From The Archives Photography Exhibition.** Open when the museum is open, Thu & Fri 11am-4.30pm, Sat & Sun 2pm-5.30pm. Free entry, no need to book.

For more information about all the activities and events in the festival go to [sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums](http://sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums)

**AIM (Adults In Museums) - Historical Stroll around upper Haden Hill Park.**

Fri 16 June 11.30am-12.30pm. Join John Billingham and find out about the interesting history of this area. Free event, please book at [ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts](http://ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts) or tel:01384 569444

## Galton Valley Pumping Station

**Open Days.** Sat 13 May & Sat 10 June 11am-3pm, last admissions 2.30pm. Free event, no need to book.

## Bishop Asbury Cottage

**Open Day.** Tue 9 May 1pm-3.30pm. Free event, no need to book.

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

