



BRADFORD  
LITERATURE  
FESTIVAL

**FREE FAMILY EVENTS**

3 - 12 July 2026

CRAFTS · PERFORMANCES · FILMS · FACE PAINTING · STORYTELLING · THEATRE

# FESTIVAL PARTNERS

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## Funded By



Supported using public funding by  
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# BLF'S FAMILY PROGRAMME

Education Programme 3

## Free Family Fun Days:

Saturday 4 July 4 - 5

Sunday 5 July 6 - 7

Saturday 11 July 8 - 9

Sunday 12 July 10 - 11

Discounts and Concessions 12

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

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO SEE OUR FULL PROGRAMME**

Free tickets are available through discounts and concessions – see page 12



## WHO ARE WE?

Bradford Literature Festival (BLF) is an annual festival and year-round cultural outreach programme encompassing the best of literature, music, theatre, cultural discussions and family events. The festival believes in the life-changing power of literature to raise aspirations and confidence in young people, which is why they are at the heart of the festival programme. Whether attending our high-quality events through school or with family, there is something to engage, entertain and enrich children of all ages, from early years to teenagers.

## 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.



**YOUR EVENT. YOUR STAGE.**

**BRADFORD**

**LIVE**

**BRING YOUR EVENT INTO THE SPOTLIGHT**  
**BRADFORDLIVE.CO.UK**



# TELL YOUR TEACHER ABOUT BLF'S EDUCATION PROGRAMME

24 JUNE - 10 JULY 2026

## TEN DAYS OF FREE EVENTS

Interactive live performances, talks and workshops led by real writers, poets, scientists and historians. Topics will include Shakespeare, Ancient Egypt, American Independence, myths, classics and more. Tickets worth £25 - free for non-fee-paying schools.

## TAILORED TO KEY STAGE 2-4

ENGLISH | SCIENCE | PHSE | ART  
HISTORY | DRAMA | GEOGRAPHY



BRADFORD  
LITERATURE  
FESTIVAL

explore words  
discover worlds

BOOK NOW: [BRADFORDLITFEST.CO.UK/EDUCATION-PROGRAMME](https://bradfordlitfest.co.uk/education-programme)



## FREE & ACCESSIBLE LESSON PLANS

Explore BLF's range of ready-to-use classroom resources, available all year round. Download worksheets, videos and presentations to support teaching and bring curriculum topics to life.

DISCOVER MORE: [BRADFORDLITFEST.CO.UK/EDUCATION-PROGRAMME](https://bradfordlitfest.co.uk/education-programme)

# SATURDAY 4 JULY

Calling all heroes! Fly, zoom or wag your way into a **free** family day packed with super-powered fun. Enjoy face painting, walkabout acts, arts and crafts, storytelling and theatre in the city centre, before settling in for a screening of *Dog Man*. Capes encouraged, villains beware!

## THEATRE SHOW

📍 **City Park**

🕒 11.30 | 12:45 | 14:00 | **FREE**

### **Justin Credible and the Gems of Power**

Justin Credible, the handsomest, most super-duper hero of them all, has to face a new threat, this time from outer space! Aided by his brilliant sidekick, Honor Mission, Justin must try with all his might to thwart the evil plans of the Prince of Trinitron, Boniface!

## PERFORMANCES

📍 **City Park**

### **Punjabi Roots - Band Baja** 11:00

Enjoy the unmistakable sound of the Punjabi Roots Academy Baja Band as it brings a burst of music, colour and celebration to Bradford.

### **Dancers Bizarre** 12:15 | 14:30

Experience the vibrant music, movement and traditions of Romani dance as Dancers Bizarre brings a colourful celebration of culture to the heart of Bradford.

### **Punjabi Roots - Bhangra** 13:30

Experience the energy and excitement of Punjabi Roots Academy as it brings the vibrant tradition of bhangra to the heart of Bradford.

**GO ALL IN.** National Year of Reading 2026

## MEET THE AUTHOR

📍 **Hub, City Park**

🕒 14.00 | **FREE** | Book Online

### **Meet the Author: Sophie Anderson**

Join Sophie Anderson for a magical reading of her children's book *The House with Chicken Legs Runs Away*, the spellbinding return to the beloved world of Marinka and her extraordinary house.



**FREE  
FAMILY  
FUN DAYS**

## STORYTELLING

 **Imagination Station, City Park**

 **Gav Cross**

11.00 | 12.30 | 14.00

**Tom the Tale Teller**

11.45 | 13.15 | 14.30

Hear live storytellers perform heroic adventures throughout the day, then discover storytelling tips to help unleash your own super tales.

## ARTS & CRAFTS


 **Broadway &  
Imagination Station, City Park**

 11.00 - 15.00 **FREE** | Drop in

Unleash your powers with four completely different superhero craft activities, creating something super to take home for little heroes and adventurers.

## FILM SCREENING

 **Pictureville, National Science  
& Media Museum**

 11.00 (90 mins)

**FREE** | Book Online

### **Dogman**

When a police officer and his loyal dog become one heroic crimefighter, super-hilarious adventures and tail-wagging chaos inevitably follow.



@BradfordLitFest

# SUNDAY 5 JULY

Step into the wonderful world of the 100 Acre Wood for a **free** family day packed with stories, creativity and adventure. With face painting, walkabout acts, crafts, theatre and film across the city centre, there's plenty to keep little ones busy. Don't Pooh-pooh it, come along and join the fun!

## THEATRE SHOW

📍 **City Park**

🕒 11.30 | 12:45 | 14:00 | **FREE**

### The 100 Acre Wood Bear Hunt

Once there was a bear of very little brain. And he had lost something. He knew it was important, because he knew it was missing, but it didn't matter how much he puzzled and pondered. He simply couldn't for the life of him remember what it was. There was only one thing for it; he was going to have to go on a Bear Hunt! After all, what else is a bear to do when they have lost something important?

## PERFORMANCES

📍 **City Park**

### Punjabi Roots - Band Baja 11:00

Enjoy the unmistakable sound of the Punjabi Roots Academy Baja Band as it brings a burst of music, colour and celebration to Bradford.

### Khula Arts 12:15 | 14:30

Feel the rhythm and energy of Khula Arts as it brings a vibrant celebration of African music, dance and culture to the heart of Bradford.

### Punjabi Roots - Bhangra 13:30

Experience the energy and excitement of Punjabi Roots Academy as it brings the vibrant tradition of bhangra to the heart of Bradford.

GO  
ALL  
IN.

National  
Year of  
Reading  
2026

## MEET THE AUTHOR

📍 **Hub, City Park**

🕒 14.00 | **FREE** | Book Online

### Zimarina Sarwar

Join author Zimarina Sarwar as she explores the themes of faith, self-discovery and spiritual growth at the heart of her book *Journey of the Soul*, sharing insights from the Islamic tradition and the lessons that inspired her writing.



**FREE  
FAMILY  
FUN DAYS**



## STORYTELLING

📍 **Imagination Station, City Park**

🕒 **Gav Cross**

11.00 | 12.30 | 14.00

**Noel Watkins**

11.45 | 13.15 | 14.30

Listen with wonder as live storytellers share 100 Acre Wood-inspired adventures throughout the day, plus tips for telling your own.

## ARTS & CRAFTS

📍 **Broadway & Imagination Station, City Park**

🕒 11.00 - 15.00 **FREE** | Drop in

Get creative with four different 100 Acre Wood-inspired craft activities, little adventurers can make something special to take home.

## FILM SCREENING

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

🕒 11.00 (90 mins)

**FREE** | Book Online

### Winnie the Pooh

Join Pooh and his friends in the Hundred Acre Wood for a gentle, adventure-filled with friendship, fun and honey.

# SATURDAY 11 JULY

Ahoy, adventurers! Dive into a **free** family day of underwater fun and pirate mischief in the city centre. Enjoy face painting, walkabout acts, arts and crafts, storytelling and theatre, then set sail for a screening of *Finding Nemo*. Come aboard for a fin-tastic day of treasures, tales and family fun!

## THEATRE SHOW

📍 **City Park**

🕒 11.30 | 12:45 | 14:00 | **FREE**

### Pirate Pandemonium

Join Captain Catt, the most feared pirate on the Spanish Main, and his bumbling first mate, Bo'Sun Brains, as they set off in search of adventure, lost islands and Trevor (whoever he is....sorry?...Oh! Ahem...) Treasure! Together, they learn what it takes to be a real-life pirate with sword-fighting practice, map reading training and plenty of "Arrrs."

## PERFORMANCES

📍 **City Park**

### Punjabi Roots - Bhangra 14:30

Experience the energy and excitement of Punjabi Roots Academy it brings the vibrant tradition of bhangra to the heart of Bradford.

### The Peace Artistes 12:15 | 13:30

Experience the infectious energy of The Peace Artistes, a vibrant street band bringing irresistible samba rhythms and powerful brass sounds to the heart of Bradford.



National  
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Reading  
2026

## MEET THE AUTHOR

📍 **Hub, City Park**

🕒 14.00 | **FREE** | Book Online

### Uzma Akser

Join Uzma Akser for a heartwarming family reading of *The Boy Who Loved Vacuum Cleaners*, a story about embracing the things that make us unique.

**FREE  
FAMILY  
FUN DAYS**



## STORYTELLING

**Imagination Station, City Park**

**Gav Cross** 11.00 | 12.30 | 14.00

**Sue Dyde** 11.50 | 13.20 | 14.35

Dive into live storytelling throughout the day, enjoying ocean adventures and learning tips to create your own sea-soaked underwater tales.

## ARTS & CRAFTS

**Broadway & Imagination Station, City Park**

11.00 - 15.00 **FREE** | Drop in

Dive into creativity with four completely different under-the-sea craft activities for little pirates, mermaids and ocean adventurers.

## FILM SCREENING

**Pictureville, National Science & Media Museum**

11.00 (90 mins)

**FREE** | Book Online

### Finding Nemo

A worried clownfish crosses the ocean to find his missing son, meeting unforgettable friends and discovering courage along the way.

# SUNDAY 12 JULY

Calling all witches, wizards and magical creatures! Grab your wands and head to the city centre for a **free** family day filled with spellbinding fun, including face painting, walkabout acts, arts and crafts, storytelling and theatre, plus a screening of everyone's favourite ogre, *Shrek*. Magic, mischief and happily ever laughter await!

## THEATRE SHOW

 **City Park**

 11.30 | 12:45 | 14:00 | **FREE**

### The Battle of the Wizards

In a parallel reality to our own, the ancient wizard Master Skerrol and his apprentice welcome non-magical folk to join them in a celebration of magic! But not everything is as it seems. An agent of dark magic, Septimius Silvertongue, has heard that Skerrol is hiding a powerful magical artefact that would allow his evil master to win the war of light vs dark.

## PERFORMANCES

 **City Park FREE**

### Punjabi Roots - Band Baja 11:00

Enjoy the unmistakable sound of the Punjabi Roots Academy Baja Band as it brings a burst of music, colour and celebration to Bradford.

### Punjabi Roots - Bhangra 13:30

Experience the energy and excitement of Punjabi Roots Academy as it brings the vibrant tradition of bhangra to the heart of Bradford.

### Fat Cat Brass 12:15 | 14:30

Fat Cat Brass is a Yorkshire-based brass band known for their lively performances, bringing together popular tunes, big brass sounds and plenty of audience engagement.

**GO  
ALL  
IN.**

National  
Year of  
Reading  
2026

## MEET THE AUTHOR

 **Hub, City Park**

 14.00 | **FREE** | Book Online

### Olivia Mulligan

Join Olivia Mulligan for a delightful reading of her children's book *Reggie from the Hedgie*, a curious little hedgehog with a big personality.



**FREE  
FAMILY  
FUN DAYS**



## STORYTELLING

📍 **Imagination Station, City Park**

🕒 **Gav Cross** 11.00 | 12.30 | 14.00

**Storybees** 11.45 | 13.15 | 14.30

**FREE**

Listen with wonder as live storytellers perform magical tales throughout the day, sharing spellbinding tips for creating your own stories.

## ARTS & CRAFTS

📍 **Broadway & Imagination Station, City Park**

🕒 11.00 - 15.00 **FREE** | Drop in

Create magical keepsakes with four completely different spellbinding craft activities for little wizards and imaginative creatures.

## FILM SCREENING

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

🕒 11.00 (90 mins)

**FREE** | Book Online

### Shrek

A grumpy ogre's swamp is overrun by fairytale creatures, so he must rescue a princess to get his home back.

Warm, cheeky and packed with brilliant jokes, *Shrek* remains one of the great animated comedies. Celebrate its 25th anniversary with this big-screen family favourite. Don't miss it!

# DISCOUNTS AND CONCESSIONS

Bradford Literature Festival is committed to creating an inclusive and accessible programme, which is why our ticket prices remain low and why many of our events are free, ensuring that as many people as possible can access the festival.

**Concession tickets** can be booked for free. Simply visit the event web page and select the appropriate concession tickets for your party. Where free tickets are available, this will be clearly displayed on the ticket-purchasing page alongside the standard pricing options.



## DISABILITIES

Anyone in receipt of a disability benefit or other support.



## STUDENTS

Anyone over the age of 16 who is in full-time education.



## SENIOR CITIZENS

Anyone over the age of 65 – if a state pension is your sole source of income.



## TEACHERS AND EDUCATORS

Tickets may be free or discounted.



## BENEFIT RECIPIENTS

Anyone in receipt of a government-issued benefit or living in social housing.



## REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

Anyone with current UK refugee or asylum-seeker status.



## CARERS

If you are accompanying a disabled audience member who requires additional support.



## SPONSORS

Employees of sponsor organisations can benefit from discounted tickets.

**Community codes** are available to groups and service providers in West Yorkshire that support marginalised and underrepresented communities, from community centres to local grassroots groups, community faith organisations to networking groups. Eligible community groups receive a unique booking code which may be shared with members so they can book free tickets for events.

To register for a code or find out more information about our Discounts and Concessions visit our website: [bradfordlitfest.co.uk/concessions](http://bradfordlitfest.co.uk/concessions). Alternatively, you can call Box Office on **01274 044140** (Monday–Friday, 09:30–16:30 excluding bank holidays) or email [BoxOffice@bradfordlitfest.co.uk](mailto:BoxOffice@bradfordlitfest.co.uk).

ART LITERATURE HISTORY FILM MUSIC DEBATE POETRY COMEDY



BRADFORD  
LITERATURE  
FESTIVAL

SAVE THE DATE

11 - 20 JUNE 2027



MUSIC POETRY COMEDY ART LITERATURE HISTORY FILM MUSIC DEB

“We didn’t realize we were making memories,  
we just knew we were having fun.”

**A.A. Milne, Winnie-the-Pooh**

**[bradfordlitfest.co.uk](http://bradfordlitfest.co.uk)**

**     @BradfordLitFest**