

The logo for the Barnsley Book Festival is centered on a large lime green circle. Inside this circle is a red sun partially obscured by a white cloud. The text 'BARNSELY BOOK FESTIVAL' is written in red, with 'BARNSELY' in a smaller font above 'BOOK FESTIVAL'. There are also three small red birds flying around the cloud. The background of the entire poster is a solid red color.

BARNSELY
BOOK
FESTIVAL

2 FEBRUARY – 23 MARCH 2024

— BARNSELY —
LIBRARIES

WELCOME



Welcome to the first Barnsley Book Festival, taking place from Friday 2 February to Saturday 23 March 2024.

We're bringing a host of brilliant authors, poets, writers, artists and speakers to Barnsley to celebrate our shared love for reading.

We'll be exploring themes ranging from politics, gaming, local history and neurodiversity, to romance, adventure and more.

We're excited to host internationally known authors from Barnsley, such as Andrew McMillan and Milly Johnson, as well as poetry powerhouses like Matt Abbott and Toria Garbutt. We're also looking forward to having brand new works from young writers, partying with Boomchickaboomb and getting creative with artists, including James Brunt and illustrator Liz Million.

As part of the festival we're showcasing many artists who have been commissioned to create new work, and we'll have a host of family activities for you to get involved in. We believe there is something for everyone.

We're delighted to be able to bring this festival to Barnsley, supported using public funding from Arts Council England as part of Barnsley Libraries' National Portfolio Organisation activity.

We know that many of the events will be popular, so please book in advance to avoid disappointment at barnsley.gov.uk/LibraryEvents or by scanning the QR code below.

We can't wait to see you.



Programme of events

February

Date	Event	Venue
Friday 2	Inventing the Lost Writer with Ian McMillan and Patrick Murphy	Library @ the Lightbox
Friday 2	You're Bard!	Barnsley Civic
Saturday 3	Story Time with Mama G	Library @ the Lightbox
Saturday 3	Barnsley Zine Fair	The Gallery @ Barnsley Civic
Tuesday 6	Reading With Pride - in conversation with the authors behind LGBTQIA+ books	Library @ the Lightbox
Wednesday 7	'Your Child Is Not Broken' Heidi Mavir, in conversation with Abigail Horne	Library @ the Lightbox
Saturday 10	The Detective Dog	Barnsley Civic
Saturday 10	A Reyt Queer Do in Darfield!	Darfield Library
Monday 12	Paul Morton - Bug Belly story and craft	Roundhouse Library
Monday 12	Land Art with James Brunt	Hoyland Library
Tuesday 13	Poetic Adventures with Dommy B	Library @ the Lightbox
Tuesday 13	Amazelab: Story Dioramas	Roundhouse Library
Tuesday 13	Amazelab: Story Dioramas	Cudworth Library
Tuesday 13	Plastic is everywhere...	Penistone Library
Thursday 15	Plastic is everywhere...	Library @ the Lightbox
Tuesday 13	Here be Dragons!	Experience Barnsley Museum
Wednesday 14	In My Own Words with Creative Recovery	Library @ the Lightbox
Wednesday 14	Make Moths Matter with Bridg Murray	Royston Library
Saturday 17	Make Moths Matter with Bridg Murray	Royston Library
Thursday 15	Wonderous Tales from the North - Dive into the captivating world of storytelling with Richard O'Neill	Goldthorpe Library
Thursday 15	The Happiest Ever After, Milly Johnson - Book Launch	Library @ the Lightbox
Friday 16	Dragon Drawing with Penny O'Neill	Library @ the Lightbox
Saturday 17	Pity, Andrew McMillan in conversation with Helen Mort - Book Launch	Library @ the Lightbox
Tuesday 20	'Instead of an Alibi' Geoff Hattersley, in conversation with Ian McMillan	Wombwell Library
Saturday 24	The Steel Girls At War with Michelle Rawlins	Dodworth Library
Sunday 25	Thumbelina	Barnsley Civic
Monday 26	Remembering Kes with Ronnie Steel	Cudworth Library
Wednesday 28	From Pickets to Poets with Matt Abbott	Lightbox @ the Lightbox

March

Date	Event	Venue
March	Concerteenies Musical Stories	Various
Friday 1	Cashless Barnsley Book Sale	Library @ the Lightbox
Saturday 2	Amazelab: Story Dioramas	Thurnscoe Library
Saturday 2	Cashless Barnsley Book Sale	Library @ the Lightbox
Monday 4 – Saturday 23	Hidden Worlds – Exhibition by Beka H	Library @ the Lightbox
Saturday 2	Book Tote Bag Printing Workshop with Louise Ann Wright	Library @ the Lightbox
Sunday 3	Alice's Adventures in Wonderland	Barnsley Civic
Monday 4	Book Club Social	Library @ the Lightbox
Tuesday 5	The Shining: A Visual and Cultural Haunting with Craig Oldham	Parkway Cinema
Thursday 7	World Book Day Party! Hosted by Boomchikkaboom	Library @ the Lightbox
Friday 8	International Women's Day Drill Art with Brightbox	Roundhouse Library
Saturday 9	Tinking Poetry Reading with Karl Riordan	Library @ the Lightbox
Tuesday 12	Finding Your Voice, writing workshop with Maria Ferguson	Dodworth Library
Wednesday 13	Multilingual Open Mic Night	Library @ the Lightbox
Thursday 14	Remembering Kes with Ronnie Steel	Goldthorpe Library
Friday 15	The Making of Tomb Raider with Daryl Baxter	Barnsley Sixth Form College
Saturday 16	Illustration workshops with Liz Million	Penistone Library
Saturday 16	Inside the World of Bridgerton with Catherine Curzon	Cannon Hall Museum
Monday 18	Shakespeare Week Event	Library @ the Lightbox
Monday 18	Unleashing Memories Workshop and Open Mic with Toria Garbutt	Penistone Library
Wednesday 20	A Young Writers Open Mic	Library @ the Lightbox
Saturday 23	Volunteers : The Incredible Story of Kitchener's Army Through Soldiers' and Civilians' Own Words with Richard Van Emden	Library @ the Lightbox



Photo: Lydia Depledge-Miller

Friday 2 February 10am - 3pm

Inventing the Lost Writer with Ian McMillan and Patrick Murphy

Library @ the Lightbox

- Free, booking essential
- Suitable for ages 16+

Remember that great Barnsley novelist Eric Watson? Or that wonderful Victorian poet from Agnes Road, Dorothy Blossom? No, neither do we! But if you join poet Ian McMillan and artist Patrick Murphy, you can invent these lost writers and many more, write some of their work, and design their book covers. The Dorothy Blossom revival starts here!

Ian McMillan is a poet and broadcaster who has lived in Barnsley all his life; he presents the language cabaret *The Verb* on BBC Radio 3.

Patrick Murphy is a British artist, designer and curator. His work is exhibited internationally and held in public and private collections.

Friday 2 February 7.30pm

You're Bard!



Barnsley Civic

- Tickets available via barnsleycivic.co.uk

Shakespeare like you've never seen!

Four actors. Four Shakespeare shows. Endless possibilities.

You – the audience – decide everything, from the play to the performance style. Even which actor plays which part. This hilarious, unpredictable new show, featuring actors whose past experience includes the RSC, Bristol Old Vic and the West End, promises an unforgettable evening of Shakespeare.



Saturday 3 February 11am and 1pm

Story Time with Mama G

Library @ the Lightbox

- Booking essential
- Family
- BSL interpretation at 11am

Join “everyone’s favourite panto dame” (Metro) and 2022 Britain’s Got Talent semi-finalist, Mama G, for an uplifting story time that the whole family will love.

Mama G will share original stories and songs about being who you want and loving who you are, as well as some of the funniest picture books on the market. Families should get ready to sing, dance, shout out and groan at some really terrible jokes. Everyone is encouraged to dress up in their rainbow best, because you can bet your life that Mama G will be!

Saturday 3 February 10.30am - 4pm

Barnsley Zine Fair



The Gallery@ Barnsley Civic, S70 2HZ

- @barnsleyzinefair
- Free entry

We are pleased to launch the first ever Barnsley Zine Fair, which will feature 20+ local and national zine makers, writers and illustrators.

Since the 1930s, the international DIY zine scene has been a place for like-minded people who identify with specific sub-cultures, musical tribes, political parties, sporting teams or marginalised groups to share their ideas and experiences, through writing, poetry and art. Zines were essentially a form of blogging, predating social media and the internet.

Zines are predominantly self-published, hand-made magazines. The topics and themes covered in our first fair, include cooking, mindfulness, music, photography, queer politics, pop culture, rural life, travel, and plenty of ‘per zines’, aka personal biographical zines.

Tuesday 6 February 5.30-7pm

Reading With Pride – in conversation with the authors behind LGBTQIA+ books

Library @ the Lightbox

● Free, booking essential

Join authors Nicole Spencer-Skilen, AJ West and Phillip Ellis in conversation with Victoria Hyde as they discuss their inspiration behind their exciting publications.

Nicole Spencer-Skilen is a local author and number 1 best-selling author of Sapphic Romance, who has spent the last decade writing LGBTQIA+ novels.

AJ West is an award-winning, historical researcher and author. His second novel The Betrayal of Thomas True will be published in June 2024.

Philip Ellis is a contributing editor for Men's Health, covering relationships and LGBTQIA+ issues. His short fiction has been long-listed for the Commonwealth Short Story Prize.

Victoria Hyde is the founder of Insta Book Tours and one of the co-founders of The Book Party.



Wednesday 7 February 5-7pm

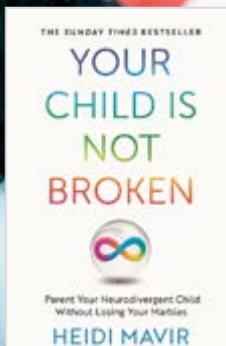
'Your Child Is Not Broken' Heidi Mavir, in conversation with Abigail Horne

Library @ the Lightbox

● Free, booking essential ● BSL

A trained Mental Health First Aider and CPD Accredited Trauma-Informed Professional, Heidi uses her knowledge, learning and experience to help other parents and carers to become powerful advocates for their neurodivergent kids.

In 2023, Heidi published her book 'Your Child Is Not Broken: Parent Your Neurodivergent Child Without Losing Your Marbles' which made it to number 3 in the Sunday Times Best Seller list and the overall Amazon Best Seller list. Join us to hear Heidi discussing her work.



Saturday 10 February 11.30am and 2.30pm

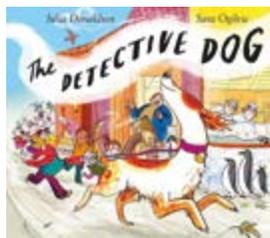
The Detective Dog

Barnsley Civic

- Tickets available via barnsleycivic.co.uk
- Family ● BSL ● Age Recommendation ages 3 -7

With British Sign Language, creative captions and spoken English, this engaging production celebrates books and the magic of reading in an inclusive and accessible performance. Expect captivating puppetry; surprising smells and toe-tapping music. For ages 3+.

THE DETECTIVE DOG [c] Julia Donaldson and Sara Ogilvie 2016 -
Macmillan Children's Books.



Saturday 10 February 10.30am-12noon

A Reynt Queer Do in Darfield!

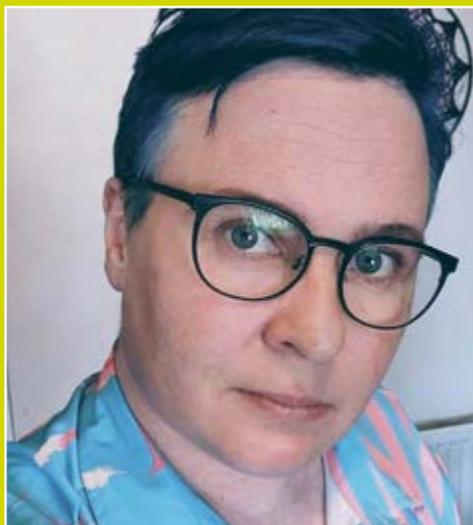
Darfield Library

- Free, booking essential

Maurice Dobson was born in Darfield in 1912, and soon made his presence felt. Openly gay at a time when homosexuality was still illegal, Maurice lived, loved and laiked: making himself an integral part of Darfield. Unapologetic, acid tongued, and a pillar of the community, Maurice's story deserves to be celebrated.

Join poet Tom Juniper for a celebration of Maurice's life and a look at Darfield in days gone by.

Tom is a poet based in Sheffield. Their work often focuses on the experience of being other, whether that's talking about being autistic or being part of the queer community, or about the Other as in strange and mysterious creatures from folklore traditions.



Monday 12 February 1-2.30pm

Bug Belly Story and Craft with Paul Morton

Roundhouse Library

● Free, drop in ● Family



It's Bug Belly's turn to babysit! The toddlers and froglets in Top Pond can't wait to try out their uncle's cool water slides, death-defying dragonfly drops, and fancy frogball games. But when Bug Belly's tummy goes GURGLE-GURGLE GLUMP! everyone knows it spells one thing, TROUBLE!!

Meet Bug Belly the Frog with local author and illustrator Paul Morton. A wonderful session of reading, giant artwork spreads, crafts and froggy fun. Find out how Paul draws the best 'boddies' in his books such as Sneaky Snake! The latest additions to the Bug Belly book series will also be on sale, and can be signed too!

Monday 12 February 10am-4pm

Land Art with James Brunt

Hoyland Library

● Free, drop in ● Family

James Brunt is a renowned land artist and author, whose work outside in the natural world has developed a huge online following. He works predominantly in his home county of Yorkshire, creating temporary rearrangements of natural materials.

James will be joining us at Hoyland library to talk about his first book (Land Art, creating artworks in and with the landscape) and creating a bespoke piece of work on site. There will also be plenty of materials on hand for people to come along and create their own masterpieces too.



Tuesday 13 February 11am-12noon

Poetic Adventures with Dommy B

Library @ the Lightbox

- Free, booking essential
- Family
- Suitable for ages 5+ and their grown-ups

In this high energy, interactive workshop, Dommy B will be acting out his poetic adventure stories whilst also safely teach taekwon-do techniques.

Dominic Berry is an award-winning poet. He was 2017 Glastonbury Festival Poet in Residence, winner of the 2020 and 2017 Saboteur 'Best Spoken Word Artist' award, and has toured his verse across USA, Canada, India, New Zealand, Australia, South America and mainland Europe.

Tuesday 13 February

Amazelab: Story Dioramas



Roundhouse Library - 10am-12noon
Cudworth Library - 1.30-3.30pm

- Free, booking essential
- Family

Join Amazelab to bring your favourite books and stories to life by creating your very own diorama.

Amazelab, are a local STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, maths) company with the aim of providing engaging opportunities to all.



**Tuesday 13 February
and Thursday 15 February**

Plastic Is Everywhere...

Penistone Library - Tuesday 10am
Library @ the Lightbox - Thursday 1.30pm

- Free, booking essential
- Family

Join us for some whacky fun with local, ukulele busting duo, McShane & Shaw for the premiere of their new song, Plastic is Everywhere. Children (6-11years) can make their own puppet creation from recycled plastic to groove along to a puppet dance-a-long with children's theatre company, Tell Tale Hearts. Why not bring the whole family to enjoy live music & the children's puppet dance-a-long to celebrate the release of McShane & Shaw's new song with a specially commissioned Puppet film, starring puppets by Kazbah Theatre.

Tuesday 13 February
10am-12noon and 1-3pm

Here be Dragons!

Experience Barnsley Museum

- Family

Create your own mythical map in this free, drop-in workshop, part of the Magic of Middle Earth exhibition.

The Magic of Middle-earth exhibition is dedicated to the work of J.R.R Tolkien and the generations of writers, artists, musicians, filmmakers, environmentalists, creators, and game designers he influenced. The exhibition at Experience Barnsley Museum allows visitors to go beyond 'The Hobbit' and 'The Lord of the Rings' epic fantasy novels to discover the artistic legacy of Tolkien's incredible fantasy world.

Wednesday 14 February
5-7.30pm

In My Own Words

Library @ the Lightbox

- Free, booking essential

LOVE STORIES?? So do we!!

Creative Recovery brings you 'In My Own Words' - An alternative Valentines Day event of spoken word performances and 'love stories'.

We invite you to join us as people share their own heartfelt tales, stories of lived experience, and explorations of love - whatever that may mean to them - as we launch our Moth-inspired spoken word event.



Wednesday 14 February
and Saturday 17 February

Make Moths Matter with Bridg Murray

Royston

- Free, drop in
- Family

Did you know that moths play a vital role in our biodiversity? These often-overlooked pollinators are an indicator species telling us about the health of an environment and climate change. Local artist Bridg Murray is on a mission to make moths matter! Come along to her drop-in craft workshop, where she will show you and your family how to create your own paper moth brooch, badge or bookmark, all whilst learning about these fascinating creatures.

Bridg Murray is a visual artist based in South Yorkshire.



Friday 16 February 11am-12noon and 1-2pm

Dragon Drawing with Penny O'Neill

Library @ the Lightbox

● Free, booking essential ● Suitable for ages 6+ ● Family

Join Penny and learn how to draw and create your own Dragon character.

Penny O'Neill is a writer and illustrator based in South Yorkshire. Her main interests are children's books and comics, and she likes to draw fun characters that get up to all sorts of crazy adventures.



Thursday 15 February 10.30am

Wonderous Tales from the North – Dive into the captivating world of storytelling with Richard O'Neill

Goldthorpe Library

● Free, drop in ● Family

Are you ready for an unforgettable storytelling adventure?

Join us for Wonderous Tales from the North featuring the award-winning storyteller and author, Richard O'Neill, in an event that promises to be an interactive, fun-filled, and truly Northern storytelling experience.

Immerse yourself and the whole family in the magic of storytelling as Richard O'Neill shares a treasure trove of his Northern tales, with special guest appearance from Little Geordie the dancing doll.



Thursday 15 February 6.30-8pm

The Happiest Ever After, Milly Johnson – Book Launch

Library @ the Lightbox

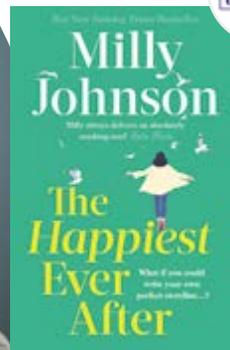
- £16.99 ticket including book and goodie bag
- £10.00 ticket only
- BSL
- Event supported by Barnsley Book Vault

Join us for a fun packed evening with Milly at Library @ the Lightbox, tickets must be booked in advance.

Polly Potter is surviving, not thriving. The only place where her life is working is on the pages of the novel she is writing – there she can create a feistier, bolder, more successful version of herself – as the fictional Sabrina Anderson. But what if it was possible to start over again? To leave everything behind, forget all that went before, and live the life you'd always dreamed of? What if you could write your own perfect storyline...?

Milly Johnson was born, raised and still lives in Barnsley. A Sunday Times bestseller, she is one of the Top 10 Female Fiction authors in the UK with millions of copies of her books sold across the world. In 2020, she was honoured with the Romantic Novelists' Association's Outstanding Achievement Award.

A writer who champions women and highlights the importance of friendship and community, Milly's characters are celebrations of the strength of the human spirit.



Saturday 17 February 11am-1pm

Pity, Andrew McMillan in conversation with Helen Mort – Book Launch

Library @ the Lightbox

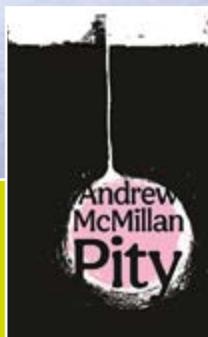
- £14.99 ticket including book. £4.00 ticket only
- BSL ● Event supported by Barnsley Book Vault

The town was once a hub of industry. A place where men toiled underground in darkness, picking and shovelling in the dust and the sleek. It was dangerous and back-breaking work but it meant something. Once, the town provided, it was important, it had purpose. But what is it now?

Set across three generations of South Yorkshire mining family, Andrew McMillan's short and magnificent debut novel is a lament for a lost way of a life as well as a celebration of resilience and the possibility for change.

Andrew McMillan was born in Barnsley in 1988. His debut collection of poetry, *physical*, was 'the sort of once-in-a-generation debut that causes everyone to sit up and take notice' according to Sarah Crown. *physical* was the only poetry book to ever win the Guardian First Book Award and in 2019 was voted as one of the Top 25 Poetry Books of the Past 25 Years by the Booksellers Association. His second collection, *playtime*, won the inaugural Polari Prize. A third collection, *pandemonium*, was published in 2021 and in 2022 he co-edited the acclaimed anthology *100 Queer Poems*, which was shortlisted in the British Book Awards. He is professor of contemporary writing at Manchester Metropolitan University and a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

Helen Mort is an award winning author based in Sheffield. Helen has written poetry collections, a novel and short story collection. She appears regularly on BBC Radio and has taught creative writing for over 10 years as Senior Lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan University.



Tuesday 20 February 5-7pm



'Instead of an Alibi' Geoff Hattersley, in conversation with Ian McMillan

Wombwell Library

● Free, booking essential

Geoff Hattersley is from Wombwell and was a leading figure in the huge growth of poetry in South and West Yorkshire in the late 1980s and early 1990s, publishing new poets with his *The Wide Skirt* magazine and press, and publishing work of his own with Bloodaxe books.

A new collection, *Instead of an Alibi*, has just been published by Broken Sleep Books. In this event in Wombwell Library, Geoff will be in conversation with Ian McMillan about his life and writing, and he'll read poems old and new.

Saturday 24 February 10am

The Steel Girls at War with Michelle Rawlins

Dodworth Library

● Free, booking essential

The Steel Girls At War is Michelle's fourth book in the historical fiction series *The Steel Girls*, based on the remarkable generation of Sheffield women who worked in the city's steel industry during the Second World War. Come along to Dodworth Library for an illustrated talk, delving into the real stories and lives of these special women.

Michelle Rawlins is an international award winning freelance journalist, author and university teacher with over 25 years experience working for national newspapers, magazines and online publications.



Sunday 25 February 1.30pm and 4.30pm

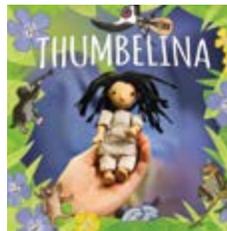


Thumbelina

Barnsley Civic

● Tickets available via barnsleycivic.co.uk ● Family

An enchanting tale of a miniature girl finding her place in the big wide world.



Brought to life through dance, live music and song, Thumbelina is a gentle and playful performance with the beauty of the natural world at its heart.

Children are invited to take part in Thumbelina's journey, build a shelter from sticks and escape with her from a hungry toad. Through their play Thumbelina gains the strength to carry on and make it safely home.

"A beautiful, moving, and magical afternoon for both of us!" Audience Feedback

**Monday 26 February 5.30-6.45pm
and Thursday 14 March 5.30-6.45pm**

Remembering Kes with Ronnie Steel

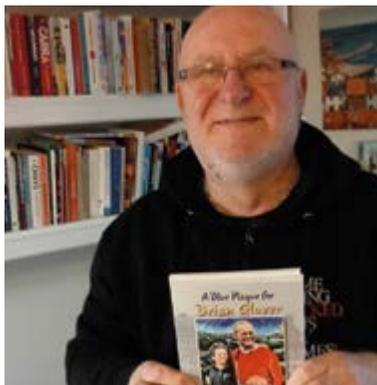
Cudworth Library and Goldthorpe Library

● Free, booking essential

Barnsley-born author Ronnie Steele has published two books about growing up in the town in the 1960s: 'Build it for Barry' and 'A Blue Plaque for Brian Glover'. Both collections are full of humorous anecdotes

about his schooldays, and how he was inspired by two teachers in particular – local legends Barry Hines, who wrote 'A Kestrel for a Knave', and Brian Glover, who acted in the iconic film 'Kes' and went on to forge an amazing career on screen.

Ronnie is a former teacher and was instrumental in securing lasting tributes to both men: lobbying for a blue plaque to celebrate Glover's life and fundraising for the 'Kes' statue honouring Barry Hines in Barnsley town centre.



Wednesday 28 February 5.30-7pm

From Pickets to Poets with Matt Abbott

Library @ the Lightbox

- Free, booking essential
- Suitable for ages 16+

40 years on from the pivotal Miners' Strike, Wakefield-born poet Matt Abbott invites you to explore local heritage and history through the power of words. Matt's relaxed and accessible sessions will help you to shape your memories and thoughts in vivid and dynamic ways. Open to writers of all experience.

Matt Abbott is a Wakefield-born poet and activist. His debut collection 'Two Little Ducks' explores working-class support for Brexit, set against the backdrop of his experiences volunteering in a refugee camp. He's also a children's poet and educator. Notable poetry commissions include Nationwide Building Society, Mercedes Benz, and Kellogg's UK



Photo: Mark Tighe

Friday 1 and Saturday 2 March 9.30am-3.30pm

Cashless Barnsley Book Sale

Library @ the Lightbox

We're bringing back the Book Sale for two days only, on the ground floor of the Library @ the Lightbox – please bring a bag, but note there will be no cash, only card payments will be accepted.

Monday 4th - Saturday 23rd March

Hidden Worlds – Exhibition by Beka H

Library @ the Lightbox

Explore the Library @ the Lightbox during the month of March and discover hidden worlds through special interactive bookends which have been carefully created as part of community workshops held at the library.

Created by artist Beka H and guests as part of a Creative Commission for Barnsley Libraries.

Saturday 2 March 10am-1pm

Book Tote Bag Printing Workshop

Library @ the Lightbox

● Booking essential, £10 per person ● Suitable for ages 16+

Join printmaker Louise Ann Wright and create your very own tote bag to take home. Louise will guide you through the block printing process, you'll carve your own repeat pattern stamp to take away with you along with your own printed organic cotton tote bag, using sustainable materials and water based eco printing inks.

Barnsley based British artist Louise Ann Wright creates work inspired by the patterns found in organic forms. Working with drawing, painting and printmaking, Wright explores minute details and mark making. After graduating in 2009, her work has been exhibited locally and nationally alongside working with community art based projects. In 2022 she was awarded a residency at Cannon Hall Museum where she grew and foraged pigment from the landscape, leading to current research on the sustainability of natural pigments as part of her Fine Art MA.





Saturday 2 March
10am-12noon

Amazelab: Story Dioramas

Thurnscoe Library

- Free, booking essential
- Family

Join Amazelab to bring your favourite books and stories to life by creating your very own diorama.

Amazelab, are a local STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, maths) company with the aim of providing engaging opportunities to all.

Sunday 3 March 1:30pm and 4pm

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

Barnsley Civic

- Tickets available via barnsleycivic.co.uk
- Family

Box Tale Soup take you down the rabbit hole into a world of wondrous fantasy and curious characters. No matter how young or old, everyone will find their own moment of magic and make it safely home again – the only danger is, you may not want to leave!

Monday 4 March 5-6.30pm

Book Club Social

Library @ the Lightbox

- Free, drop in

Ever wanted to join a book group but not sure what it's all about? Or are you already part of a book group and want to meet other like-minded people? Then come join us for a brew and a natter at our first book club social.

Tuesday 5 March 7pm

The Shining: A Visual and Cultural Haunting with Craig Oldham

The Parkway Cinema

- Tickets £8, via barnsley.parkwaycinemas.co.uk

This special screening of The Shining will be introduced by a Q&A with Craig Oldham. Craig is concept and series editor of Epiphany



Editions which include The Shining: A Visual and Cultural Haunting an immersive, multi-dimensional examination of one of the most infamous films in cinematic history. This loose-leafed and beautifully boxed book-disguised as the 'writing project' Jack is typing throughout the course of the film-explores the film's cultural legacy through exclusive essays, original recollections, contributions from cultural luminaries, and art and visual ephemera.

Craig has been named as one of the most influential designers working in the UK, and has written books on a range of topics, including education, culture, and politics. He is also Rough Trade Books Creative Director and obviously an all-round good guy!

Thursday 7 March 3.30-5pm

World Book Day Party! Hosted by Boomchikkaboom

Library @ the Lightbox

● Free, booking essential ● Family

Join us for an after-school World Book Day costume party at the Library @ the Lightbox. Come along in your World Book Day costumes and be ready to strut down our costume party parade catwalk, hosted by party experts Boomchikkaboom.



Friday 8 March 3.30-5pm

International Women's Day Drill Art with Brightbox

Roundhouse Library

● Free, drop in ● Family

Learn the basics of using a drill while making your own piece of art to take home!

Drill Art is an award-winning activity from Brightbox. The best part is you don't need any previous experience of using the tools!

The Girls with Drills campaign by Brightbox aims to get more girls and women confidently using power tools! They are a South Yorkshire based organisation with pop-up makerspaces in schools, community venues and festivals.

Saturday 9 March 11am-12.30pm

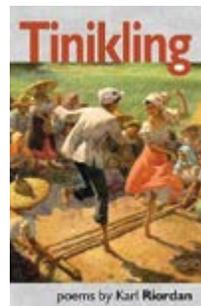
Tinkling Poetry Reading with Karl Riordan

Library @ the Lightbox

● Free, booking essential

Over the past five years Karl Riordan and his Filipino wife, Jeni, have been forced to live thousands of miles apart by the UK government that expects him to raise £22k to 'sponsor' her. Taking its title from a traditional Philippine folk dance, Tinkling choreographs a complicated dance between love, racism and bureaucracy. It's a book about love, geography and learning to pick your way through the hurdles and traps of a relationship while navigating the 'hostile environment' of the UK immigration system.

Karl Riordan works as a Library Assistant. His writing has been published in many magazines and in 'How Do You Sleep? New Stories by Sheffield Writers'. He currently lives in Sheffield. His first collection of poems, The Tattooist's Chair, was also published by Smokestack.



Tuesday 12 March 5.30-7.30pm

Finding Your Voice, writing workshop with Maria Ferguson

Dodworth Library

- Free, booking essential

Having a unique and distinguishable voice is integral to a writer's success. But how do we weave our individual identities through our work with authenticity? Join writer and performer Maria Ferguson for a series of creative writing exercises to help you find your literary voice. Whether you're a published writer or just want to try something new, this workshop will help you say what you want, in a way only you can say it!



Maria Ferguson is an award-winning writer and performer from Romford, now living in Leeds. She has been a resident artist for the Roundhouse and Battersea Arts Centre and commissioned by the Royal Academy of Art, Stylist magazine and BBC Radio. Her debut one-woman show *Fat Girls Don't Dance* won a Saboteur Award for Best Spoken Word Show and her follow-up *Essex Girl* won Show of the Week at VAULT Festival.

Wednesday 13 March 5.30-7pm

Multilingual Open Mic Night

Library @ the Lightbox

- Free, drop in and sign up on the night

Join us for a multilingual open mic night hosted by Livia Barreira. Whether you've got a passion for poetry, spoken word or music and whatever your language we want to hear from you!

Livia Barreira is a Brazilian-British journalist, writer and a Sheffield ambassador for migrant communities. She is the author of the book *Living in Sheffield: Our Journeys as Migrant Women*. Her book celebrates the richness of diversity through the stories of 8 amazing migrant women.





Friday 15 March 6pm

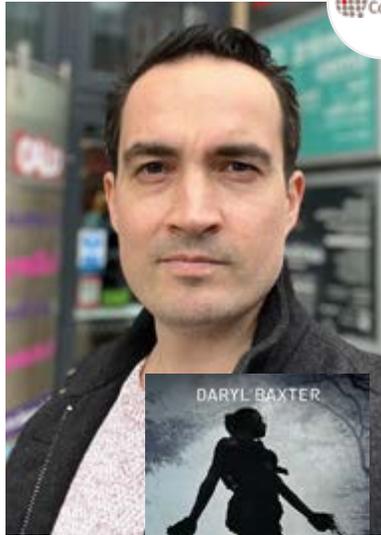
The Making of Tomb Raider with Daryl Baxter

Barnsley Sixth Form College

● Free, booking essential

Daryl is Features Editor at iMore, a site that covers everything Apple. He's appeared on BBC News, Radio Times, and more for his insights into gaming and tech. He's also the author of 'The Making of Tomb Raider', telling the story of the development of the first two games. He's also working on the next book, revolving around an aspect of games from the last 50 years.

The talk will go into detail about writing 'The Making of Tomb Raider' during the pandemic - from a blank page in February 2020 to a complete manuscript in January 2021. It will also go into approaching the second book, which is set to be released in April 2024.



Saturday 16 March 10.30-11.30am and 1-2pm

Illustration workshops with Liz Million

Penistone Library

● Free, booking essential ● Family

Join illustrator Liz Million for an interactive and engaging drawing workshop at Penistone library. These fast-paced sessions will leave children (and adults) buzzing with ideas and characters to create their own stories.



Saturday 16 March 2.30pm



Inside the World of Bridgerton with Catherine Curzon



Cannon Hall Museum

● Free, booking essential

In her revealing guide to the Regency, *Inside the World of Bridgerton*, Regency expert and bestselling novelist Catherine Curzon takes readers on a journey through this fascinating era. From the social whirl of high society to fashion, medicine and, of course, romance and marriage, she examines what it is about the Regency that still fascinates audiences today.

Catherine Curzon writes books about old Hollywood and even older royalty. Her work has been featured online by BBC News, The Daily Express, Vanity Fair, Elle Australia and many others. Writing as one half of Ellie Curzon, she is also a bestselling author of World War Two novels.

March

Concerteenies Musical Stories

Various locations and dates

- Free, booking advised
 - Family
- Check the Barnsley Libraries events page for specific dates, times and venues: barnsley.gov.uk/LibraryEvents

Energetic music, storytelling and bubbles!

Join narrator, Polly Ives, and spell-binding instrumentalists for vibrant reimaginings of popular children's stories, for kids aged 3-7. With original music composed by Paul Rissmann, Concerteenies Musical Stories concerts are a lively mix of stories, image projection and musical audience participation. They are centred around stunning performances from professional musicians in a relaxed and child-friendly environment.



**Monday 18 March 5-6pm Writing Workshop
and 6.30-7.30pm Open Mic**

Unleashing Memories with Toria Garbutt

Penistone Library

- Free, booking essential

Memories transport us back in time, evoking emotion and sensations. If you have a passion for poetry and a mind full of memories, this workshop is for you. All levels of experience welcome.

Toria's debut poetry album, *Hot Plastic Moon*, was released on CD with *Nymphs and Thugs* in 2014 and her first book, *'The Universe and Me'* was published in 2018 by Wrecking Ball press. Her work has been featured in *The Guardian*, *The Big Issue North* and on BBC radio. Toria's new collection *'Another Time in Space'*, published by Wrecking Ball Press, is out now.



Monday 18 March 11am

Shakespeare Week Event

Library @ the Lightbox

- Free, drop in
- Family

Join us at 11am at the Library @ the Lightbox for a very special event to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Shakespeare Week, with the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust.

Don't miss out on seeing the Shakespearean surprise we have in store!

Wednesday 20 March 5.30-7pm

A Young Writers Open Mic



Library @ the Lightbox

- Contact jasonwhite@barnsleycivic.co.uk to reserve a definite reading slot or put your name down on the night

Calling all young people aged 14 -25 from across Barnsley! In partnership with Barnsley Civic and Hive South Yorkshire, we are hosting an open mic featuring spoken word performances from members of young peoples' groups Barnsley Young Writers and Next Big Thing.

This event is open to both new and experienced young writers. If you write poems, tell stories, compose lyrics, spit bars, or have anything else to say out loud to a supportive audience, this is an evening to celebrate your words, ideas and talents in a warm atmosphere.

Saturday 23 March 2.30pm



Volunteers : The Incredible Story of Kitchener's Army Through Soldiers' and Civilians' Own Words – with Richard Van Emden

Library @ the Lightbox

● Free, booking essential

What greater pride might a young man feel than to serve shoulder to shoulder with his friends in time of war? To enlist into the army with his pals, chums, mates, filling the ranks of battalions that drew their strength from the local community, from amongst factory workers, miners, shop-workers and tradesmen. In August 1914, what more fitting role was there to play than to answer the country's call to arms?

After the success of his previous books, *The Somme*, *The Road to Passchendaele*, and *1918*, best-selling Great War historian Richard van Emden returns to the beginning of the War with this, his latest volume, including an unparalleled collection of soldiers' own photographs taken on their privately-held cameras. Drawing

on long-forgotten memoirs, diaries and letters written by the men who enlisted, Richard tells the riveting story of Kitchener's volunteers, before they went to fight.

Richard Van Emden graduated from Newcastle University in 1988, and obtained an MA from Reading University in the following year. After working as a journalist he became a freelance writer and researcher. Having worked on several historically based television series, he wrote his first book, *Tickled to Death to Go* which he has followed up with several highly acclaimed and commercially successful titles, including *Britain's Last Tommies*, *Boy Soldiers*, *The Last Fighting Tommy*, *The Quick and the Dead*, *Meeting the Enemy* and *Tommies Ark*.

Supported by Pen & Sword Publishing.

How to join the library

It's quick and easy to join the library online, we will let you know when your card is ready to collect from your nearest library, or we can post it to you.

You can also join in branch, you'll need to bring proof of your ID, if you're under 16 you will need a guarantor.

It's free to borrow books from our libraries, adults can borrow up to 20 books and children can borrow up to 10 books at a time.

To join as a member, or find out more information please visit barnsley.gov.uk/Services/Libraries/Join-The-Library/

Volunteering at Barnsley Book Festival

Can you offer people a friendly welcome?

Would you like to meet writers and authors?

Could you get others excited about the books you are reading?

Do you have any time to spare in February/ March 2024?

If so, we would love to hear from you. Speak to a member of the libraries staff or contact us for more information:

barnsleylibraryenquiries@barnsley.gov.uk

Readers groups

Our readers' groups give you the opportunity to discuss books, authors and genres with others, in a friendly and informal group.

They're open to anyone who is, or would like to become, a member of the library.

New members are always welcome and there's no need to book a place – just drop in.

We run various readers groups across the borough, to find out more ask in your local branch or find details on the events and activities section of Barnsley Libraries website.

Venue information

Barnsley Book Festival takes place at a range of venues across the borough of Barnsley.

Accessibility: we've tried hard to make sure that all the Barnsley Book Festival events are accessible, if you require assistance, please contact the venue directly to discuss requirements. Some events include a BSL interpreter, these are highlighted in the programme.

Concessions: we have a limited number of free 'golden tickets' available for paid for events, these are available to those who are on unemployment or disability benefit, full-time students, senior citizens, and young people up to 21 years old. Proof of status or ID is required. Please contact us on barnsleylibrariesNPO@barnsley.gov.uk if you would like to request a 'golden ticket', these are first come first served.

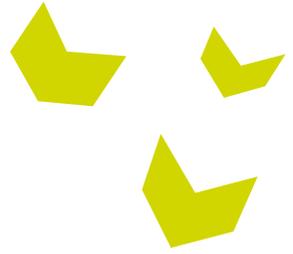
THANK YOU

Barnsley Book Festival has been made possible with support from our contributors, partners and venues, and we'd like to say a huge thank you for their input.

The programme is supported by using public funding by Arts Council England.

Contact us:
barnsleylibrariesnpo@barnsley.gov.uk

Book online:
barnsley.gov.uk/LibraryEvents



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

BARNSELEY
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Funded by
UK Government

Designed by Black Bee Creative
Printed by Hot Metal Press