

Heritage, Libraries and Arts

What's On in Oldham

October 2025 – April 2026





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Gallery Oldham

p4-11

Our new permanent displays are now open! We've also got a fantastic range of changing exhibitions over the next few months. Don't miss our programme of associated craft sessions and gallery talks too.

live@thelibrary

p12-14

The latest season of performances are now available to book. From children's theatre, drama, music and hard hitting comedy, there really is something for everyone. As always, we are delighted to showcase a range of new writing and local talent.

What's On listings

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We run a huge range of regular sessions and special events activities to suit all ages. From film showings to author talks, from baby fairs to wellbeing sessions, come along and get involved. Look out for the return of our popular Illuminate Festival in February!

Even more to explore

p24-27

There is a huge selection of services available from Oldham's Heritage, Libraries and Arts. Both Oldham Theatre Workshop and Oldham Archives are now operating from their purpose-built new sites.

Visit our shop

Looking for a special gift? The Gallery Oldham shop has a great selection of cards, crafts, gifts, children's toys and Oldham souvenirs to suit all pockets. You can also shop online with over 300 images from our collections available to buy as prints or as merchandise such as cards, coasters and mugs. **Visit artuk.org**

If you are a local artist and would like to find out more information about how to apply to sell your products in our shop please email: **GalleryOldhamShop@Oldham.gov.uk**

Explore our Collections

Restoration work has transformed our neighbouring building – the original Oldham Library, Art Gallery & Museum. Visitors can once again cross the bridge from Gallery Oldham to see our collections displayed in these restored gallery spaces.

In these new exhibitions you will find a range of stories about Oldham's history and the town's links with people and places across the globe. The restored 1800s art gallery now showcases a vibrant mix of beloved classics and exciting new additions to our art collection.

Still on display is the Oldham Stories exhibition that brings together a range of our favourite objects, alongside some things which might surprise you. The display features items from our Natural History, Social History and Art collections. As you explore the gallery foyer and spaces throughout the building, you'll uncover even more objects from our collections — each one with a story to tell.

Wednesday 8 October, 2pm

Explore behind the scenes in the art store with our art curator. Limited capacity.

Please book on Eventbrite.

Wednesday 12 November, 2pm

Explore the new displays with our social history curator.

Free, no need to book.



Pick and Mix

Until 18 October

Explore how Gallery Oldham's collection has inspired primary school aged children in our exhibition designed by and for our smaller visitors. This exhibition includes artworks by Bridget Riley and Lubaina Himid and features children's artistic responses to these.

Pick and Mix provides lots of opportunities for visitors to get creative and playfully explore art. We guarantee there will be something for all the family to discover, investigate and enjoy.

The exhibition would not be possible without the amazing artwork and help from our partners. These are Horton Mill Primary, Supreme Start School, GO Explorers toddlers and families and our teenage artists in the Collab Lab. A big thank you to everyone who helped make this exhibition so special!



Indian Perspectives by Tony Philips and Jasmir Creed

Until 3 January 2026

Indian Perspectives examines the legacies of British colonial rule of India and the experiences of people of Indian heritage living in Britain. It features more than 100 drawings and paintings.

Liverpool-born artist Tony Phillips uses his characteristic socially engaged drawings to look at the impact British colonial rule had on India and its people. He explores the cross-fertilisation of cultures ensuing from post-Independence Indian migration to Britain. Meanwhile, Jasmir Creed's oil paintings draw on her Anglo-Indian heritage to create large colourful paintings reflecting on issues around identity.

Saturday 27 September, 2pm

Exhibition launch and tour. Free, no need to book.

Image: British in India II (detail) by Tony Phillips



Connecting Threads 2 by Lynn Setterington

8 November 2025 – 7 March 2026

Lynn Setterington is an ethnographic embroiderer who engages with the world through stitch. Lynn has worked with communities worldwide and she combines popular culture, folk art and the everyday to make extraordinary artworks that celebrate what it means to be human.

This exhibition showcases her work including the World Wellbeing Map made with visitors to Oldham library in 2024 and five artworks loaned from museum collections and on show together for the first time. The textiles explore social injustices and the overlooked, raising awareness of issues in banners, quilts and embroidered cloths. Stitching for Setterington is a global communication device, a well-being strategy and a connector and most importantly, vital evidence acknowledging 'we are here'.

Saturday 8 November, 2pm

Exhibition launch and tour. Free, no need to book.

Wednesday 21 January, 2pm

Lynn will share some of her favourite projects from throughout her career. Free, no need to book.

Image: World Wellbeing Map (detail) by Lynn Setterington



Women Portraits: Trades and Professions by Charlotte Hodes

17 January – 9 May

This exhibition, by artist Charlotte Hodes, is engaged with the representation of trades and professions. It focuses on the contributions made by women from the Oldham and Manchester regions from the late 1800s, a period of increasing demand for equal rights for women, through to the present day.

The exhibition takes the form of ornate vases and intricate large-scale papercuts, proposing alternative, imagined representations of women identified through the tools associated with their professions. Underpinning this exhibition is a call for optimism in the face of global societal and economic challenges, with the desire to celebrate women's enfranchisement and autonomy.

Saturday 17 January, 2pm

Exhibition launch and tour. Free, no need to book.

Wednesday 18 March, 2pm

Exhibition tour. Free, no need to book.

Image: Astrophysics (detail) by Charlotte Hodes



Once Upon a Time

21 March - 5 September

Once Upon a Time... there was an amazing exhibition filled with beautiful art by five incredible illustrators: Gillian Flint, Gillian Hibbs, Holly Sterling, Jarvis, and Sharon Davey. Together, they created a magical world to spark imaginations and celebrate the joy of storytelling.

Once Upon a Time is a family-focused, fun-filled space where everyone can enjoy brilliant books and special stories. With cosy corners for reading, colourful artwork to explore, and hands-on activities to dive into, it's a place where creativity comes to life.

When you've finished exploring the exhibition, head over to Oldham Library to borrow some of the books featured in the show.

We'll be announcing our exciting activity programme closer to the exhibition launch. Keep an eye on our social media and website for updates and special events.

Image: Library (detail) by Holly Sterling



Gallery Four

Gallery Four features work by groups or individuals who live or work in Oldham, or whose subject matter relates to Oldham in some way. If you would like to exhibit in this space, please email katie.maden@oldham.gov.uk for more details.

Palettes to Spray Cans by Bill Eiffert, Deggy, Dylan Lisle

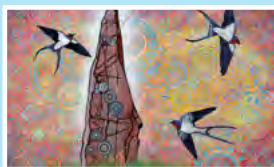
Until 18 October

This group exhibition from members of 1853 Studios, explores the evolution of painting from the 16th century Renaissance through to contemporary pop culture and street art.

Ancestors Awakening: Neolithic Treasure by Peter Yanowski

**8 November 2025 –
3 January 2026**

Peter Yankowski's artwork is influenced by patterns, from 5000-year-old petroglyph symbolism, Neolithic artefacts and ancient sites visited. Each artwork is a journey of mythological adventure, self-expression, and a deep fascination with prehistoric culture.



150 years of Oldham Rugby League Football Club

10 January - 7 March

The Oldham Rugby League Heritage Trust is pleased to present an exhibition in collaboration with Gallery Oldham to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Oldham RLFC. Acknowledged as one of the finest collections of rugby memorabilia in the world, the displays will feature shirts, caps, medals, photographs programmes and much more.



All Around the World by Linda Edwards

21 March – 30 May

This exhibition is a vivid journey through colour and culture — from Brazil's warmth to Arctic stillness, crowned by Northern Lights over Saddleworth. Immersive paintings and suspended globes invite wonder, designed to stir the senses and awaken a longing to explore.



Donations and enquiries

Our specialist curators provide a free identification and advice service, although we are unable to give valuations. Please make an appointment in advance

Art and Craft

Rebecca.Hill@oldham.gov.uk

Natural History

Patricia.Francis@oldham.gov.uk

Social and Local History

Karen.Heatley@oldham.gov.uk

Adult Art & Craft

We offer a range of creative sessions for adults. Booking via EventBrite is essential. Please check our website for details.

Crochet Basket with T-Shirt Yarn

**Saturday 11 October,
10.30am – 1pm
£25 per person, Gallery
Oldham**

This workshop is suitable for beginners and those more advance wanting to try different crochet techniques to create a basket or even make a little pumpkin!



Embroidery: Thread Journal

**Saturday 18 October,
10am-4pm
Or session repeated
Saturday 14 March,
10am-4pm £10 per ticket
(Class only), £35 per ticket
(Class and starter kit),
Gallery Oldham**

The Sew Unique Thread Journal class is an inspiring workshop with Stephanie Evans. Sharing tips and techniques that will help you to create your very own thread journal. Book via evanssent.com



Fluid Bears and Mindful Paint-a-Trinket

**Saturday 24 January,
10.30am
£30 per person, Gallery
Oldham**

Using pouring paint, create your own colourful fluid bear. Followed by some mindful pottery painting. Part of the Healthy New Year festival.



Create Your Own Leather Wallet – A Hands-On Workshop

**Saturday 11 April, 10.30am
£30 per person, Gallery
Oldham**

Join us for a relaxing and rewarding experience where you'll craft your own leather wallet using high-quality, upcycled leather off-cuts. No previous skills are needed – you'll be guided step-by-step through traditional leatherworking techniques, with plenty of time to learn, create and enjoy.



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LipService Theatre Presents

Funny Stuff

Wednesday 1 October, 7pm, Oldham Library
Theatre Space, £6

Sue Ryding is one half of legendary comedy duo LipService. In 2022 her comedy partner Maggie Fox died, and Sue was left with a shipping container full of stage props, costumes, wigs, hats, shoes, sheep, you name it. In this humorous and creative response to grief this show looks at all the "stuff" we accumulate, hoard and hate to let go.



The Dreamers Presents

The Reunion

Wednesday 29 October, 7pm, Oldham Library
Theatre Space, £6

The cast of Elder African and Caribbean women have come together to devise this new play. *The Reunion* will revisit the club scene in 1970s and beyond. Visiting Manchester icons such as The Hacienda, The Cat's Whiskers, The Millionaire and even The Shrine in Lagos, Nigeria. There will be plenty of opportunity to sing, hum, dance or sit back and enjoy the performance!



live@thelibrary

Oldham Theatre Workshop in association with Live@thelibrary and Oldham Coliseum Theatre Presents

Hansel & Gretel

***Various dates and times throughout December,
Oldham Library Theatre Space, £8**

After the huge success of last year's 'Tales of the Toymender', Oldham Theatre Workshop's professional company is working in association with Oldham Coliseum and Live@thelibrary to present one of the world's best loved fairytales. Join Hansel & Gretel this Christmas for some inventive storytelling, song and laughter. For Ages 4+. **A relaxed performance will be on Saturday 13 December at 2pm.*



Megan Hickie Presents

Live@OPEN: The Badger List

**Friday 30 and Saturday 31 January, 7pm,
Oldham Library Theatre Space, £6**

Millie has a list. A list of people who have wronged her. And what starts as petty, silly acts of revenge grow into something she never expected, when someone close to her; someone she trusted and loved, ends up on her list. This new comedy drama explores the danger of badgers, men and how dangerous a girl can be when pushed too far. For Ages 14+.



live@thelibrary

Half Moon Theatre and The Blanket
Fort Club Presents

Last Unicorn Airways

Friday 20 February, 11am and 2pm, Oldham
Library Theatre Space, £5

Join two playful baggage handlers as they unpack a globe-trotting adventure from a magical final flight, where every suitcase tells a story. Among them is The Flying Trunk, a spellbinding Arabian Nights-inspired tale of a daring storyteller and his enchanted flying suitcase, adapted from Hans Christian Andersen's timeless tale. For ages 4+.



The Loose Cannons Presents

The Name of the Dame

Wednesday 11 March, 7pm, Oldham Library
Theatre Space, £6

Dames, detectives, stylish hats, "car chases" ... this parody of the film noir genre has got a gag rate that fires faster than a Tommy-gun and is marginally less painful. If you like Airplane, the oeuvre of Mel Brooks, dicey puns and sight gags, this show is probably for you.



One Tenth Human Presents

So Unfair

Wednesday 1 April, 11am and 2pm, Oldham
Library Theatre Space, £5

Welcome to our interactive science demo with a twist! We need YOU to take on some big challenges. *How can we make things fairer? What could go wrong if we don't?* Help us save the day with unexpectedly ridiculous adventure involving engineering challenges, bad dad jokes, and an extraordinary quantity of molten chocolate. A brand-new show for 7–10-year-olds and their grown-ups.



What's On: October

Our Beautiful Oldham: Art Workshops

Thursday 2 October 1.30-2.30pm

Bookable via Eventbrite

Bring nature to life in this artist-led workshop, where you will create artwork that will feature in our new permanent nature gallery coming in summer 2026. Suitable for children 2-5 years old. Free

Pop Poetry

Thursday 2 October, 2pm, Oldham Library

Free Drop In

Sit down and have a brew in our pop-up greenhouse. Write a poem with the support of one of our artists and be part of creating a new community poetry zine. For Black History Month, we will be chatting and writing about Black stories, alternative histories, freedom, struggle and culture.



Menopause Cafe with Mindful Dove

Thursday 2 October 9:30 - 11:30am and Tuesday 14

October 12:00 - 2:00pm, Failsworth Library

Free Drop In

A drop in Menopause Cafe for anyone looking for some support and advice.

Art Club (10-16 years)

Saturday 4 October, 1.30-3.30pm, Gallery Oldham,

free, booking required via Eventbrite

A mini-series of workshops to learn, test and develop your creative skills with others.

Small Cinema: Hook

Saturday 4 October, 2pm, Oldham

Library, £3.50 per person, booking

required via Eventbrite

These sensory-friendly screenings are a relaxed way to enjoy the cinema with your family. Expect dimmed lighting, unrestricted seating, a friendly atmosphere and quieter volumes. Join us from 12.30pm for a free craft session before the screening.



Ping Pong - A Health Film Screening

Wednesday 8 October, 12:30pm -

2:15pm, Oldham Library

Eight players with 703 years between them compete in the World over 80s Table Tennis Championships in Inner Mongolia.

This film is as much about the tenacity of the human spirit as it is a meditation on mortality.

Free, booking essential via Eventbrite



Menopause 101 – Making Menopause Positive

Friday 10 October 10am – 12noon

at Oldham Library Free, Booking essential Via Eventbrite

Get ready to dive into all things menopause and women's health with Menopause Champion and Health and Wellness coach Caryn Clarke. Discover practical tips, expert advice, and connect with fellow women going through similar experiences. Light breakfast refreshments provided.



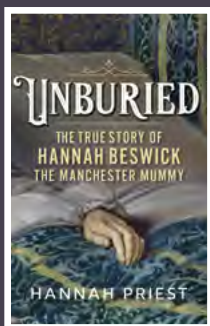
What's On: October

Author Talk: Unburied by Hannah Priest

Tuesday 14 October 6.30-7.45pm, Gallery Oldham

Free, booking essential via Eventbrite

Join historian Hannah Priest as she explores the macabre tale of Hannah Beswick, an eighteenth-century woman immortalised by James Dronsfield (Jerry Lichenmoss) as "The Peter Street Mummy, a Legend of Birchen Bower". There are many stories about why Beswick was mummified, including a wish to protect the gold she buried in Hollinwood.



Jim Smith: Barry Loser

Saturday 25 October, 11 am and 2pm, Oldham Library, free, booking required via Eventbrite

GK and Flea are back to take on every kind of virus – the techy kind, the fame kind, and the snotty cold kind! Join bestselling author Jim Smith for a hilarious draw-along, storytelling and comic tips. Perfect for ages 7+. Free, booking via manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

Small Cinema - Wallace and Gromit: The Curse of the Were Rabbit

Tuesday 28 October, 2pm, Oldham Library,

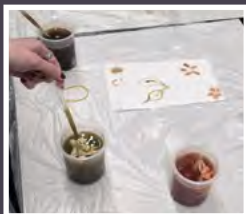
£3.50 per person, booking required via Eventbrite

These sensory-friendly screenings are a relaxed way to enjoy the cinema with your family. Expect dimmed lighting, unrestricted seating, a friendly atmosphere and quieter volumes. Join us from 12.30pm for a free craft session before the screening.

GO With Manchester University

Wednesday 29 October, 1-3pm, free, drop-in, Gallery Oldham

This natural fabric and dye workshop delivered by Manchester University will bring our Lynn Setterington exhibition to life.



Story Time With Mama G

Story Time With Mama G

Thursday 30 October –

Various times and venues:

Chadderton Library, 10.30am,

Oldham Library 12.30pm,

Limehurst Library, 2.30pm

All sessions are free and drop-in

Mama G will be singing songs and sharing stories including her very own book Oh Yes I Am.

Suitable for all ages and everyone!



Collab Lab (10-16 years)

Thursday 30 October, 1.30-3pm. Gallery Oldham, free, booking required via Eventbrite

Explore Gallery Oldham's collections and exhibitions in our hands-on creative activities and work alongside professional artists.

What's On: November

Art Club (10-16 years)

Saturday 1 November, 1.30-3.30pm, Gallery Oldham, free, booking required via Eventbrite

A mini-series of workshops to learn, test and develop your creative skills with others.

Extra Small Cinema – Room on the Broom

Friday 7 November, 10 – 11am and 11.30 – 12noon, Oldham Library

£2 per person (both adults and children require a ticket) bookable via Eventbrite

Our baby cinema screenings are the perfect introduction to the magic of cinema for little ones, with comfy seating, sensory play materials, dimmed lighting and quieter volumes.

Baby Photobooth

Wednesday 12 November, 10am-12noon, Oldham Library £9 per child, bookable via Eventbrite

Baby Photobooth is the perfect opportunity to have your little one's portrait taken. Each ticket includes one printed image and the opportunity to purchase more directly from the photographer.

GO! Artists - Oldham Art Fair

Saturday 15 November 2025, 10am-4pm

A community art fair celebrating local artists and supporting the future of Gallery Oldham.

Gong Bath - Self Care Week

Monday 17 November, 12:30 - 1:45pm at Failsworth Library

Join us as week focus on 'Mind and Body' during Self Care Week. We'll be joined by Martyn for a fantastic Gong Bath session. This unique event is specially designed to promote overall health and well-being.

£7, booking essential via Eventbrite.



Museum Takeover Day

Saturday 22 November, 10.30am-12noon

Free, booking required via Eventbrite.

Toddlers are taking over Gallery Oldham. Fun and creative play based around nature and habitats. Suitable for 2–5-year-olds and their families.

What's On: December / January

Small Cinema

**Saturday 6 December,
Arthur Christmas, 10am,
Polar Express, 2pm,
£3.50 per person**

**Oldham Library, booking
required via Eventbrite**

These sensory-friendly screenings are a relaxed way to enjoy the cinema with your family. Expect dimmed lighting, unrestricted seating, a friendly atmosphere, and quieter volumes. For both screenings, children will receive a Christmas craft to complete at home.



Merry Mindfulness Crafts

**Tuesday 9 December 1pm -
3pm + Monday 15 December
10am - 12noon, Oldham Library
Free booking essential via
Eventbrite.**

Don't be lonely this Christmas....
come join us for a fun and
relaxing festive crafting session.

Let's take a break from the hustle and bustle of the holiday season and focus on being present in the moment while chatting with our friendly team at Oldham Libraries. Whether you're a seasoned crafter or a beginner, this event is perfect for anyone looking to unwind and get creative. We'll provide all the materials you need, so just bring yourself!



GO! Saturday

**Saturday 17 January 2026, 1pm-3pm, free, drop-in,
Gallery Oldham**

Explore collage and layered illustration in our family workshop to celebrate the launch of our Charlotte Hodes exhibition.

Healthy New Year Festival 2026

**Friday 23 and Saturday 24
January, 10am – 2pm,
Oldham Library**

Free exercise classes, health checks, author talks, information stalls and art for wellbeing activities. Join us for a fantastic start to 2026 and a Healthy New Year.

**Free, booking essential for
some activities.**



Baby Fair: Healthy Baby Happy You

**Friday 30 January, 10am-1pm, Oldham Library, free
drop-in, workshops are bookable via Eventbrite**

Find out about the amazing offer Oldham has for under 4's and their families at our annual Baby Fair. With free workshops and activities through-out the day.

What's On: **Illuminate**

Illuminate

Saturday 21 February

Gallery Oldham and venues across Oldham Town Centre, 6pm - 9pm. Free.

Step into a world of wonder as ILLUMINATE returns to Oldham. This free, family-friendly festival transforms the town centre into a glowing celebration of creativity, innovation and community spirit.

Venues across Oldham including Gallery Oldham, Oldham Library, Parliament Square, High Street, Oldham Parish Church, and the new Event Space and Market will come alive with dazzling light installations, live performances, immersive art trails and interactive experiences designed to delight all ages.

From illuminated parades to cutting-edge digital projections, ILLUMINATE 2026 promises to be bigger and brighter than ever. Local artists and international talent will come together to light up iconic landmarks and hidden corners with stories that inspire and connect. As darkness falls, Oldham will shine with colour and imagination, offering visitors a chance to see the town in a whole new light.

Take Part in ILLUMINATE and join the illuminated parade by taking part in one of our family lantern workshops. Plenty of sessions to choose from.

Saturday 31 Jan, 7 and 14 February

Tuesday 17, Wednesday 18 and Thursday 19 February

10am – 12.30pm and 1.30pm – 4pm, Gallery Oldham, Free Sessions are bookable via Eventbrite



What's On: February / March

Author Talk: Richard Hooton

Wednesday 18 February, 6:00pm, Oldham Library

Free Booking Essential

Richard Hooton has won numerous prizes for his short fiction. His debut novel, *The Margaret Code* will be published on paperback in January 2026. It follows eighty-nine-year-old Margaret as she attempts to solve the murder of her best friend.



Collab Lab (10-16 years)

Thursday 19 February,

1.30-3pm, Gallery Oldham, free, booking required via Eventbrite

Explore Gallery Oldham's collections and exhibitions in our hands-on creative activities and work alongside professional artists.

GO! with the University of Manchester

Saturday 28 February,

1-3pm, free, drop-in, Gallery Oldham

A paper making workshop delivered by the University of Manchester will bring our Charlotte Hodes exhibition to life.



Extra Small Cinema: Zog

Wednesday March 4, 10 – 11am and 11.15am – 12.15pm, Oldham Library

£2 per person (both adults and children require a ticket) bookable via Eventbrite

Our baby cinema screenings are the perfect introduction to the magic of cinema for little ones with comfy seating, sensory play materials, dimmed lighting and quieter volumes.

Art Club (10-16 years)

Saturday 7 March, 1.30-3.30pm, Gallery Oldham, free, booking required via Eventbrite

A mini-series of workshops to learn, test and develop your creative skills with others.

World Book Day

Saturday 7 March, 1-2pm, free, booking essential, Oldham Library

Author and Illustrator Jarvis will be delivering a fun and interactive World Book Day workshop.

What's On: March /April

Forgotten Soldiers

23 March - 25 April, Gallery Oldham foyer

Mahtab Hussain's collaboration with the Royal British Legion and British Future honours the forgotten soldiers of the British Indian Army in WWII, bringing their stories to life through art and public engagement.

Let's Talk Women's Health

Various dates and times throughout March

Free, booking via Eventbrite.

Join us in March as we mark International Women's Day and Women's History month with events including author talks, female health information stalls, wellbeing walks, art for wellbeing and much more.



GO! Family - Sophie Tyrrell Workshops

Wednesday 1 April and Wednesday 8 April 1-3pm, Free, drop-in, Gallery Oldham

Join local artist Sophie Tyrrell in one of 2 workshops inspired by her current exhibition at Gallery Oldham.

Dave Draws with You

Saturday 2 April, 2 – 4 pm, free, booking essential via Eventbrite, Gallery Oldham

In this workshop you'll learn how to draw like Dave Draws and create an artistic map of your community.

Collab Lab (10-16 years)

Thursday 8 April, 1.30-3pm, Gallery Oldham, free, booking required via Eventbrite

Explore Gallery Oldham's collections and exhibitions in our hands-on creative activities and work alongside professional artists.

What's On: **Regular Sessions**

Gallery Oldham and Oldham Libraries run regular sessions for Early Years with stories, rhymes and sensory play. GO Baby and GO Explorers are perfect for making new discoveries and our Bounce and Rhyme sessions in all libraries promote language and social development. We also have regular Baby Days for babies and parents to socialise as well as important health information.

GO! Baby

Thursdays, 10.30am-12noon, term-time only

Gallery Oldham, free, no booking required

A fun, free sensory stay and play session for under 2s and their families.



Toddler Sense at Gallery Oldham

Saturdays 4 Oct, 1 Nov, 7 March, 4 April

10.30am – 12noon, Gallery Oldham

Bookable via Becky at Toddler Sense:

oldham@toddlersense.co.uk

A whole new world of sensory stimulation, play, fun adventures and learning for your toddler. Join the team from Toddler Sense as they take over our toddler sessions!

Bounce and Rhyme

Various times and locations across Oldham, check our website for up to date information. Free, no booking required.

Enjoy songs, stories and rhymes, musical instruments and sensory play in weekly sessions that are perfect for bumps and babies.

Bedtime Stories

Wednesdays 8 Oct, 12 Nov, 11 Feb and 8 April at Oldham Library

Wed 10 Sept at Lees Library, Mon 8 Dec at Chadderton Library and Wed 18 March at Crompton Library, 5.30 – 6.30pm

Free, no booking required

Wear your favourite pjs and join us for singing, rhyming, milk and fruit!

Little Reads

24 Oct, 28 Nov, 30 Jan, 27 Feb, 27 March and 24 April, 10-10.30am and 11-11.30am, Oldham Library, free, no booking required

Little Reads is a fun, interactive workshop using songs and stories to explore children's picture books. Perfect for under 4's and their families in partnership with Manchester Literature Festival.

What's On: Regular Sessions

Don't miss these regular sessions for adults that run throughout the year

Chatty Crafts

Meeting once a month at Oldham Library, various dates and times. Feeling lonely from time to time is something we all experience. Are you interested in connecting with new people in a friendly and welcoming environment? Join us for our new Chatty Crafts session, where you can dive into creativity while enjoying a chat and a warm cuppa! We meet in the foyer at Oldham Library.

Free, booking essential via Eventbrite



Menopause Cafe with Calm Ahead

Every Wednesday, Oldham Library 11am - 1pm

A new drop in Menopause Cafe for anyone looking for some support and advice. Join us for a chat, get some advice and meet others at our welcoming weekly sessions. **Free, drop in.**

Dementia Cafe

First Thursday of the month 1 - 2.30pm at Oldham

Library. A relaxed and informal drop-in session. Pop in and enjoy a cup of tea and a friendly chat. **Free, Drop In**

Reading Friends Low Vision Group

Fourth Wednesday of the month, 11am – 12.30pm, Oldham Library.

Our Reading Friends Low Vision Group meet once a month at Oldham Library. Come along to this friendly, informal group to meet others and take part in craft and wellbeing activities. **Free, Drop In**

Mindfulness Walks

Meeting every other month at Failsworth Library, various dates. A friendly, relaxed mindfulness walking group led by Kim Harrison, a nature based mindfulness guide.

Free, booking essential via Eventbrite



Get involved

Take Part: Volunteering Opportunities



For anyone interested in volunteering at Oldham Heritage, Libraries and Arts please register with Take Part Oldham to view the available opportunities.

Visit <https://takepartoldham.volunteermakers.org>



Friends of Gallery Oldham

Join our Friends Group to support the gallery, receive a regular newsletter and take part in a series of events and tours specially for members. Membership now gives a discount in the Gallery shop! For more information visit the Friends website <http://www.gofriends.org.uk>



Oldham Artist Network

A meeting place for creative people to gain advice and network with other professionals working in the creative industries. Local artists and makers, voluntary and community sector workers and individuals with an interest and passion to work creatively in their local community are all welcome.

Meeting Dates:

Monday 13 October 2025, 6-8pm, Oldham Library

Monday 12 January 2026, 6-8pm, Oldham Library

Monday 13 April 2026, 6-8pm, Oldham Library

Monday 13 July 2026, 6-8pm, Oldham Library

Artist's Newsletter

Are you an artist or creative with a link to the local area? Sign up to join our artist database and receive the monthly artist newsletter to find out about all the latest funding advice and creative opportunities.

To sign up, head to: <https://hla.oldham.gov.uk/get-involved/creative-industries/>

Artist Advice and Support

Our Creativity and Culture team aims to support you and to help bring your creative ideas to life. For a one-to-one advice session or to discuss project proposals please get in touch. We also have Artist Access Grants available to Oldham artists and creatives to enable them to access learning and research opportunities. These grants are available between £100-£500. For more information please email: culture.team@oldham.gov.uk



Oldham Archives

The amazing collections at Oldham Archives have a new home. For the first time in more than 50 years, our archives and local studies resources are stored together under one roof.

Please note that we have new opening hours as well as a new home.

Monday – Friday 10am – 5pm

Saturday – 10am – 1pm

Call in at our new home on the corner of Parliament Square and Ascroft Street to explore the stories of places and people that make Oldham so unique.

T: 0161 770 4654

E: archives@oldham.gov.uk

Family History and Local History

Whether it's family or local history you're interested in, we have resources that bring the stories of the past to life. As well as archives, photographs, books, maps and newspapers, we provide free access to digital resources including Ancestry and FindMyPast. Our friendly team can provide advice to help you find your place in history.

Where Are We Now?

12 September-24 December, free, drop-in

Find out more about the history of our new site in our small display showing how it has changed from a block of Edwardian Offices to the Town Square Shopping Centre, via a car park and a bus station. The display can be seen during our normal opening hours.

Oldham Billposting Co Ltd			O/m.Billposting Co.Ltd.	Office & Warehouse
Charles Thwaites & Sons <i>QT</i>			O/m.Billposting Co.Ltd.	Office
Charles Thwaites & Sons <i>QT</i>			O/m.Billposting Co.Ltd.	Office
Tom Hayes			O/m.Billposting Co.Ltd.	2 Offices
<i>Thos R. Lee.</i> R.G.Schofield & Son <i>at Town Sq</i>		<i>10 Lysc</i>	O/m.Billposting Co.Ltd.	2 Offices
Dyson Slater & G.			Dyson, Slater & G.	Office Ground F
Dyson, Slater & G.			Dyson, Slater & G.	Offices Ground
Heywood & Ogden			W.L.Slater	Offices
Heywood & Ogden			L. Slater & G W	Office
Provident Clothing & Supply Co. Ltd.			L. Slater & G W	Office
Heywood & Ogden <i>QT</i>			L. Slater & G W	Room 8
Cowper & Dean Ltd			T.R.Wrigley Ex.	Office
Megson & Nicholson,			Thos.Dunkerley Ex.	Office 1st floor
William Wrigley & Son			R.Wrigley Ex.	Office
William Wrigley & Son			R.Wrigley Ex.	Office
Abraham Jackson & Co			R.Wrigley Ex.	Office

Clegg Street ratebook from the *Where Are We Now?* display

Oldham Theatre Workshop

Join our community of young performing artists and unlock your creative potential.

If you are aged 6 to 25 yrs and interested in devising and performing original theatre, then Oldham Theatre Workshop is the place for you.

We offer a range of high-quality activities from one off workshops to large scale productions at our studios in the centre of Oldham.

All our activities are inclusive, enjoyable, exciting and of a high quality. Our approach is to encourage and involve the individual in their self-development while respecting differing preferences and needs.



For more information visit our website: **www.oldhamtheatreworkshop.co.uk**

Spotlight on our work

After a successful 2-week run of shows at Oldham Library Theatre; we are pleased to present a FREE, filmed version of 'Chasing The Wind' for anyone who missed it.



'Chasing The Wind' is a heartwarming theatrical production centred around the poignant story of a young person who selflessly donates their heart to another. This touching narrative unfolds as an incredible journey, exploring themes of generosity, bravery, and the indomitable human spirit.

www.oldhamtheatreworkshop.co.uk/chasingthewind



Schools

Schools can bring groups to any library and Gallery Oldham for library skills introductions, tours and workshops. For more information, please visit: <https://hla.oldham.gov.uk/schools/> or contact us by emailing librariesandgalleryschools@oldham.gov.uk

If you would like your school to take part in these visits, please complete this booking form: <https://www.oldham.gov.uk/class-visit>

We also offer loans boxes which are available to book: <https://www.oldham.gov.uk/loans-box>

Oldham Schools Linking Project

Children from different geographical, ethnic, religious and socio-economic backgrounds work together to explore identity, celebrate diversity, champion equality and promote community.

Participating schools visit Gallery Oldham and Castleshaw Education Centre as well as visiting their linked school and hosting a visit to their school.

If you would like to join Oldham Schools Linking Project, please email librariesandgalleryschools@oldham.gov.uk

World Book Day School Workshops with Jarvis

Thursday 5 March, 9.30–11.30am and 1–3pm, free, email librariesandgalleryschools@oldham.gov.uk to book, Failsworth Library AM and Crompton Library PM

Award Winning Children's Author and Illustrator Jarvis will be running four workshops for reception and Year 1 classes (an hour each) about his new book Bear and Bird: The Cloud. This will include readings from his Bear and Bird series, a draw along and then pupils will make bear and bird a new animal friend of their own.

Primary School Steer Network

Our School Steer Network meets three times a year and is an opportunity to build a partnership approach to the programmes that we deliver. Opportunities for teachers include free CPD, author events, workshop trials and lots more.

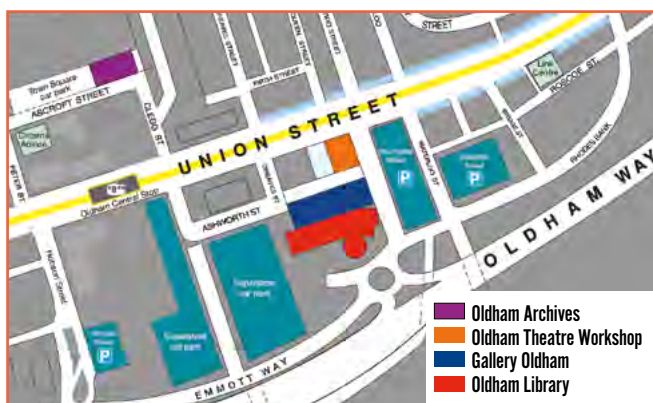
For more information and to join email jenny.allen@Oldham.gov.uk

Visit us

Gallery Oldham and Oldham Library are part of Oldham's Cultural Quarter, OL1 1AL

The nearest Metrolink tram stop is Oldham Central on Union Street.

Oldham's main bus station is a 10 minute walk away. The nearest car parks are Southgate Street and Waterloo Street.



For directions to any of Oldham's branch libraries please scan the QR code or visit hla.oldham.gov.uk/libraries/local-libraries



Opening times

Gallery Oldham: Tuesday to Saturday 10am – 5pm

Oldham Library: Monday to Thursday 9am – 8pm,
Friday to Saturday 9am – 5pm

Both are closed on Sundays and Bank Holidays

Access at the Cultural Quarter

There are two disabled car parking spaces on Greaves Street and several spaces on Southgate Street car park.

Our buildings have large lifts, accessible toilets, baby changing facilities and a baby feeding room.

Oldham Library / Gallery Oldham has an Eating Space where you can eat your own food.

Filming and photography

Filming and photography (including the recording of your voice) may take place in our buildings and be used across our marketing media for promotional purposes. More information regarding how your personal data is used can be found in our privacy notice here: www.oldham.gov.uk/HLAprivacy

Visit our website

For all our latest information and an up to date What's On calendar please visit hla.oldham.gov.uk

