

Heritage, Libraries and Arts

What's On in Oldham

April – October 2024





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Gallery Oldham

4 – 11

We've got a fantastic range of exhibitions over the next few months. Don't miss our programme of associated craft sessions and gallery talks too. You can explore the enchanting world of the Ocean Drifters or celebrate the 175th anniversary of the creation of the Borough of Oldham.

The Oldham Open is back too and we can't wait to see what artworks will be submitted.



live@thelibrary

12 – 14

The latest season of performance and spoken word is now booking. From children's drama to musical 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

15 – 23

We run a huge range of regular sessions and special events activities to suit all ages. Highlights this year include the return of Festival Oldham in June and the Oldham StoryFest in July. We also offer a range of activities for children and families in the school holidays.

Even more to explore 24 – 27

Find out more about the full range of services available from Oldham's Heritage, Libraries and Arts including volunteering opportunities, our Artist Network and Oldham Theatre Workshop. The Oldham Histories Festival also returns in September, organised by Local Studies and Archives.

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

Oldham Stories: Encounters with our Collections

A Permanent Gallery

Oldham Stories brings together our best loved objects, alongside some things which might surprise you. The display features a selection from our Natural History, Social History, Art and Archive collections.

Explore the wide range of local habitats and creatures in our Oldham's Wildlife section, from the tiny wood mouse often seen in our gardens to the majestic birds seen above our moors. You can also see a selection of Rugby League objects linked to Oldham players, as well as stories about well-known Oldhamers such as campaigner and pioneering politician Marjory Lees.

Wednesday 10 April, 2pm

A conversation with our natural history curator, and the Oldham Microscopical and Natural History Society. Specimens and microscopes to use.

Wednesday 8 May, 2pm

Art Curator Rebecca Hill will talk about a selection of artwork in Oldham Stories, including our latest acquisition by Zarah Hussain.

Image: Great Spotted Woodpecker



In Which Language Do We Dream?

Until 11 May

We are all familiar with news headlines and images of the so-called 'refugee crisis'. But what happens to those people displaced by war as they try to rebuild their lives? What about personal stories, and new relationships formed with friends and neighbours? And how do people hold on to loved ones and a past life that they have had to leave behind?

In Which Language Do We Dream? offers fresh insights into these issues through the eyes of the al-Hindawi family, who were forced to flee Syria due to the ongoing civil war. Rescued family photos are presented alongside contemporary photographs by Rich Wiles, and by al-Hindawi family member Ruba and her children. There is also a specially commissioned film of Whats App photos sent by their extended family.

An Impressions Gallery touring exhibition.

Image: Rami, Bridlington, East Yorkshire, June 2020 © Rich Wiles



The Song by Bani Abidi

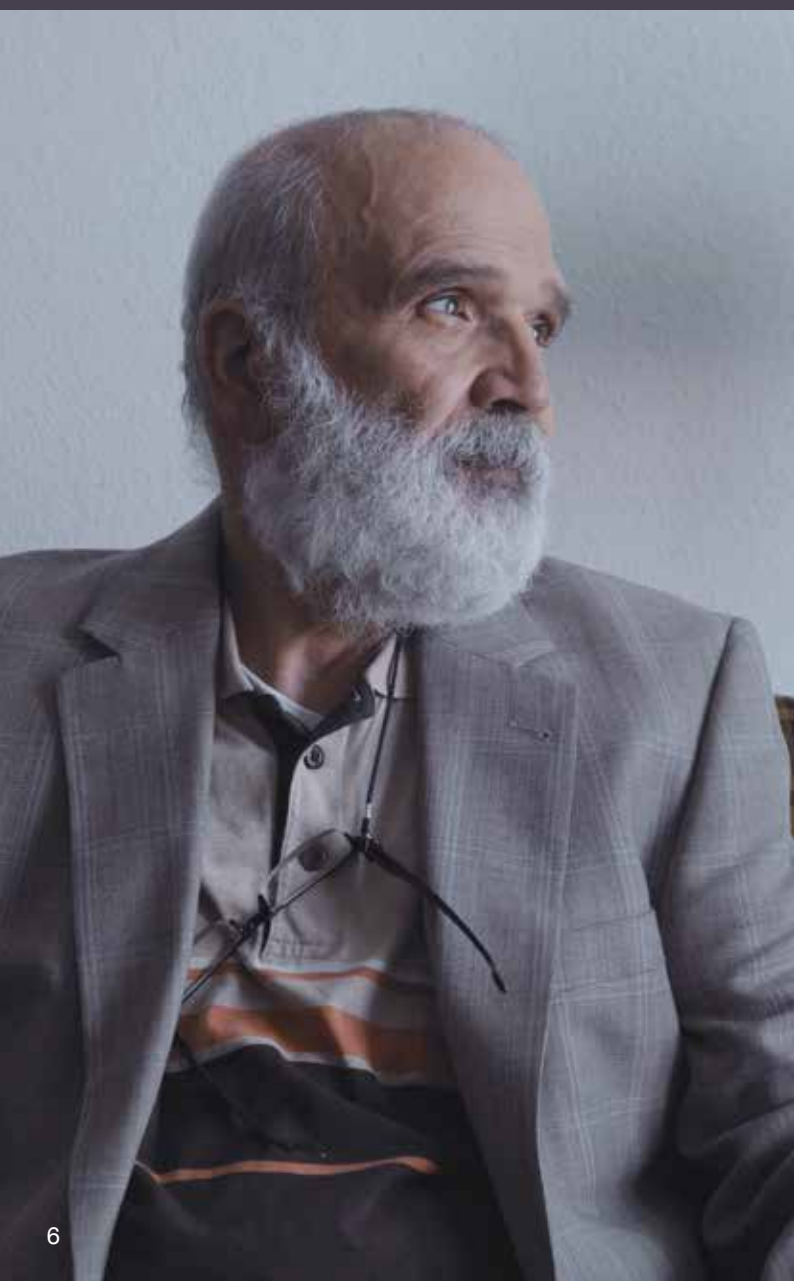
Until 1 June

Bani Abidi is a Pakistani artist who works with video, photography and drawing. She studied fine arts at the National College of Arts in Lahore and at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. In 2011, she was invited to the DAAD's Berlin Artists-in-Residence Programme and has lived in Berlin ever since.

The Song draws on Bani Abidi's interest in sound and migration, and on what it means to be acoustically displaced. An older man, who is a recent arrival to Europe, confronts the silence of his allotted Berlin apartment, finding his own way to settle down.

Commissioned by Film and Video Umbrella, Contemporary Art Society, John Hansard Gallery and Salzburger Kunstverein. Supported by Arts Council England. Presented by Contemporary Art Society to Gallery Oldham.

Image: Bani Abidi, The Song, 2022, film still.
Courtesy of the artist and Film and Video Umbrella.



Ocean Drifters

25 May – 7 September

Oldham is a long way from the sea so we are bringing the ocean to Gallery Oldham this summer. Set your imagination free and join a host of giant jellyfish from inflatable artists Designs in Air in this new, fun interactive exhibition.

These extraordinary animals have drifted along on ocean currents for millions of years, even before dinosaurs roamed the earth. Pulsing along across the world's oceans they can be found in deepest darkest depths and along shallow tropical coastlines.

We promise that they won't sting but they may tantalise you with their tentacles.

Watch out for family events linked to this exhibition, see page 16 and page 20 for more details.



One Seven Five: An incomplete history of Oldham in 175 objects

15 June 2024 – 11 January 2025

2024 sees the 175th anniversary of the founding of the borough of Oldham. To celebrate, a variety of today's Oldhamers have selected objects which tell fascinating stories about our area through the years. We'll be showcasing stories of Olympic glory, a pet wasp, and some gems from Oldham's art and natural history collections which you may not have seen.

Wednesday 19 June, 2pm

Take a close-up look at a selection of the objects and stories in the exhibition, with some of the people who chose them.

Wednesday 17 July, 2pm

Explore how Oldhamers have used nature to improve their lives in the town, from the Beautiful Oldham Society to Northern Roots. This talk also runs on Saturday 22 June as an Audio-described talk at 10.30am and BSL signed talk at 2pm.

Wednesday 11 September, 2pm

To celebrate Oldham Histories Festival, take a step into Oldham's past and discover how power was brought to Oldham in Networks of Power.



The Oldham Open 2024

20 September – 23 November

It's that time again...the Oldham Open is here. This exhibition showcases the extraordinary range of talented artists living, working or studying in the borough of Oldham.

There is always a wide variety of artists and styles, across drawing, painting, photography, ceramics and sculpture. Work is for sale, so it's a great opportunity to pick up some Christmas presents while supporting artists in our area.

There is a £5 non-refundable charge for each entry. Visit our website for details. You can also email galleryoldham@oldham.gov.uk or call **0161 770 4653** for more information on how to enter.

Wednesday 16 October, 2pm

Join curator Rebecca Hill to take a look at some of the entries in this year's Oldham Open exhibition.



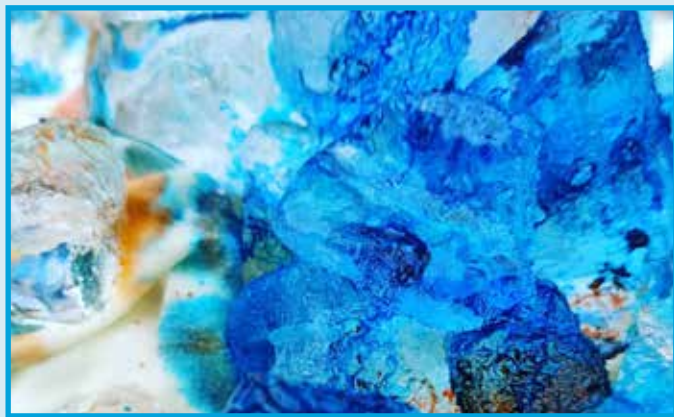
Gallery Four

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 nick.duke@oldham.gov.uk or more details.

'Melting Pot', Soleil Dee

Until 1 June

Explore the joy of African fabrics in this colourful exhibition by Oldham based artist EvaD Ould-Okojie. Using traditional textile techniques such as Adire and Batik, EvaD explores her Nigerian heritage and has created a range of beautiful artworks.



Lucy Eyres – 'Shine Bright'

15 June – 7 September 2024

Lucy Eyres is a 13 year old artist, currently studying at Bright Futures School for Children with Autism in Greenfield. Her exhibition is a collection of works that give us an insight into how Lucy, who has autism and is non-verbal, sees the world around her and how she is able to express herself through art.



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 History

Karen.Heatley@oldham.gov.uk

Archives and Local Studies

Janice.Hicks@oldham.gov.uk



Adult Art and Craft

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

Life Drawing

Thursdays – 11 April, 9 May, 13 June, 11 July, 8 August, 12 September, 10 October, 6.30 – 8.30pm, £10 per person per session, Gallery Oldham

From beginners to more advanced, our life drawing sessions are the perfect opportunity to develop your skills.



Batik Workshop with Soleil Dee

**Saturday 13 April, 10.30am – 1.30pm
£35 per person, Gallery Oldham**

Batik is the art of creating beautiful designs on fabrics using resist techniques. In this new workshop you will work with an artist to design and create your own textile pieces.

Flower Watercolour: 3-week course

Saturdays – 11 May, 18 May, 25 May, 10am – 1pm, £60 per person, Gallery Oldham

Create your very own work of art to take home, using vivid watercolours in a fluid fun style.



Macrame Plant Hanger Workshop

Saturday 14 September, 12noon – 2pm, £15 per person, Gallery Oldham

In this workshop you will learn how to make this beautiful macrame plant hanger using a combination of knots and well... more knots!



Embroidery: Thread Journal

**Saturday 19 October, 10.30am – 12.30pm
£10 per ticket (Class ONLY), £35 per ticket
Class and starter Kit), Gallery Oldham**

The Sew Unique Thread Journal class is an inspiring workshop where Stephanie will be sharing tips and techniques that will help you to create your very own thread journal.

live@thelibrary: Family

Dommy B presents

Make Some Noise

Wednesday 10 April,
10.30am, Oldham
Library, £5

There'll be rhymes, jokes,
and lots of opportunity to
make some noise in a
celebration of the power
of sound and friendship.



Goofus Theatre
presents

Carried By The Wind

Tuesday 28 May, 1pm and 3pm, Oldham Library, £5

Come and join Margarinee and Basket, two strolling
carnival players as they hit the road and follow a beautiful
feather that could lead them anywhere... CARRIED BY
THE WIND is a pop up, playful non-verbal journey with
puppetry, masks and music for all ages.

Tell Tale Hearts presents

The Bluebird

Thursday 30 May,
11.30am, Oldham
Library, £5

What is the bluebird's
secret power and where
could it be hiding? In
the Land of Memory or
Future? We need your
help to find the answers.
Suitable for families and
children aged 5 years+.



Image: Carried By the Wind



live@thelibrary: Comedy

Ragged Edge Productions

Mystery of the Blue Moon Saloon

Saturday 11 May, 7pm, Oldham Library, £6

An American Wild West town in 1870. A travelling English Theatre company are performing scenes from Shakespeare when lone gunslinger The Wanderer comes up to a gang of outlaws. When the gun smoke clears, Mrs Speakwell lies dead.

Emmerson and Ward Productions and Sam Danson presents

Bi-Topia

Thursday 18 July, 7pm, Oldham Library, £6

This joyful, chaotic and honest coming-of-age story, exploring the authentic Bisexual experience, bravely delving into under-represented links between poor mental health, sexuality and masculinity.

Contains some adult references, strong language, mental health, mention of suicide, violence and themes of a sexual nature. Recommended age 14+.



Bridge Tea House Pop Up Theatre

Shirley Knot the Siren

Thursday 19 September, 7pm, Oldham Library, £6

A new musical comedy performed by Debbie Bridge. Join a real-life siren who reveals all her secrets of the Merworld. Based on several fables, Shirley Knot the Siren takes you to the depths of the ocean as only a siren knows it.



live@thelibrary: Drama and New Writing

Miranda Prag presents

An Attempt to Lose Time

Wednesday 24 April, 7pm, Oldham Library, £6

Featuring musings on climate change, quantum physics, the destruction of humanity and dinosaurs, this solo show sees Miranda leave the city, travel to a remote Scottish island and form questionable relationships with moorhens in her quest to escape time.

Sarah Nelson presents

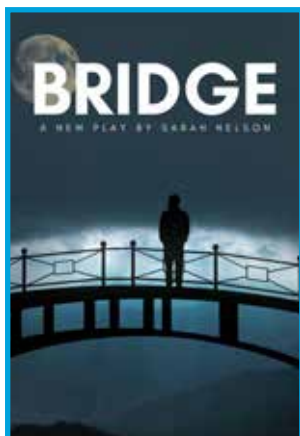
Bridge

Friday 26 and Saturday

27 April, 7pm,

Oldham Library, £6

On a dark night, Jacob stands on a motorway bridge, wrong side of the railings. Liam, an off-duty paramedic happens to walk past. One man whose job it is to save people and one who has come to a moment in his life where he needs to be saved.



Romiley Little Theatre presents

Miss Julie

Tuesday 25 June, 7pm, Oldham Library, £6

Northern England. 1951. The Festival of Britain is in full swing. Post-war austerity is losing its bite and things are starting to change. But for Miss Julie, they aren't changing fast enough.



Sam Lowe presents

The Imposter

Thursday 12 September, 7pm, Oldham Library, £6

This is Sam, he sometimes feels like a fraud. He is a Theatre Practitioner and Magician, but when a Magician performs a magic trick, everyone knows there is some kind of deception involved.



What's On: April

Story Time with Goats

Tuesday 2 April, 2–4pm, free, booking essential via Eventbrite, Failsworth Library

Choose your favourite books at Failsworth library and after a short walk enjoy cuddles and stories with Northern Lily's friendly goats.

Our Lowry Landscape

Wednesday 3 April, 1–3pm, free, no booking required, Gallery Oldham

Create a large-scale landscape by adding a notable Oldham building and a self-portrait in artist LS Lowry's style to celebrate Gallery Oldham's previous hosting of Lowry's "Going to the Match".

Storywalk: What the Ladybird Heard

Thursday 4 April, 12noon–4pm, free, booking essential via Eventbrite, Alexandra Park

An outdoor adventure bringing one of our favourite picture books to life.

Small Cinema: Aladdin (1992) (U)

Saturday 6 April, 12noon craft activity, 2pm film screening, £3.30 per person, booking essential via Eventbrite

Get ready for a whole new world of crafts, the magic of film and spending time together in a relaxed setting

GO! Buzz

Wednesday 10 April, 12noon–2pm, free, booking essential via Eventbrite, Gallery Oldham

Learn all about bees with Gallery Oldham's beekeeper, Damson from Hive5, make a bee hotel and then watch her inspect the hives on our roof through the balcony window.

Dommy B's Outdoor Adventure

Thursday 11 April, 12noon–4pm, free, booking essential via Eventbrite, Alexandra Park

One of our favourites is back. This time he's in a park sharing poetic storytelling and having lots of fun!

World Book Night

Murder Mystery Night – The Death of the Great Detective

Thursday 18 April, 6.30pm, Oldham Library, £6, booking required

The Great Detective Sherlock Holmes is dead! Or is he? The game is afoot with the hilarious Highly Suspect as Chief Inspector Lanyard is found shot, stabbed and strangled.



Earth Day

Saturday 20 April, 10.30am, free, booking essential via Eventbrite, Gallery Oldham

Make reusable food wrap from old vinyl banners with Plastic Shed, a Community Benefit Society bringing people together to turn plastic waste into new, useful things.

What's On: **May**

Small Cinema **The Lego Movie (U)**

Saturday 4 May, 2pm, £3.30 per person, booking essential via Eventbrite

Join Emmet on his epic adventure to save the lego world.

Mind Matters

13 – 19 May

This Mental Health Awareness Week and Dementia Action Week, take some time for your mind. Our mental wellbeing sessions will include singing for the soul, armchair exercise and yoga.

Storytime with Goats

Tuesday 28 May 11am–1pm, free, booking essential via Eventbrite, Failsworth Library

Choose your favourite books at Failsworth library and after a short walk enjoy cuddles and stories with Northern Lily's friendly goats.

Ocean Drifters

Wednesday 29 May, 1–3pm, free, no booking required, Gallery Oldham

Explore our Ocean Drifters – Jelly Fish exhibition and then dive deeper under the sea with a fun sensory session for families.

The Elves and the Shoemaker

Thursday 30 May, 1pm, free, booking essential via Eventbrite, Chadderton Library

A modern show with songs based on the traditional fairytale by the Brothers Grimm. Learn about friendship, solving problems, and empathy – literally putting yourself in someone else's shoes. (Recommended age 5–7 years).

Pipes and Poo workshops with One Tenth Human

Thursday 30 May, 1 – 3pm, free, booking essential via Eventbrite, Gallery Oldham

An exciting exploratory workshop for budding scientists and their families delivered by an award winning theatre company.



What's On: Festival Oldham

Festival Oldham

Saturday 1 June

Oldham Town Centre, 12noon-4pm, free

Oldham's annual outdoor arts festival celebrating arts, culture, community and place.

Join us as we showcase the very best local, regional and national street theatre, music, dance and visual arts as it transforms spaces across the Town centre.

As part of the 175th anniversary of Oldham becoming a municipal borough in 1849 the festival will celebrate its people, places and their pastimes. Don't miss a jam-packed programme of accessible, family friendly entertainment and activities with something for all.

Make sure you visit Gallery Oldham to see the One Seven Five exhibition and take part in the creative activities taking place on site for the Festival.

For more information on the festival programme and festival artist commissions go to:

www.oldham.gov.uk/festivaloldham



What's On: June

CrimeFest: Authors Day

Saturday 8 June, 10am–3pm, £10, booking essential via Eventbrite, Oldham Library

Celebrate National Crime Reading Month with our panel of authors, David Nolan, Karen Woods and Chris Frost. A full day packed with thrilling questions and workshops to help you write your own crime novel. Refreshments and lunch provided.

Crimefest: Small Cinema Knives Out (12A)

Saturday 8 June, 5pm, £3.30 per person, booking essential via Eventbrite

When renowned crime novelist Harlan Thrombey (Christopher Plummer) is found dead at his estate just after his 85th birthday, the inquisitive and debonair Detective Benoit Blanc (Daniel Craig) is mysteriously enlisted to investigate.

Loneliness Awareness Week 12 – 18 June

We all get lonely, it's time to talk about it. Join us at our Chatty Crafts sessions, enjoy a cuppa whilst you chat and craft with others.

The Extra Small Cinema

25 June, 10–11.30am £2 per person, booking essential via Eventbrite, Oldham Library.

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

CrimeFest: 10 Ways to Write Criminally Good Fiction

Saturday 29 June, 1pm, free, booking essential via Eventbrite, Oldham Library

David Nolan's 'Manc Noir' books are all set in Oldham, the number one question he gets asked is... How do you write a book? From keeping it short and simple to taking situations and characters from real life, he'll talk you through the techniques that have helped him.



What's On: July

Summer Reading Challenge – Marvellous Makers

Various dates and venues throughout Summer, free

This year's Summer Reading Challenge will get your creative juices flowing and encourage reading over the summer:

<https://hla.oldham.gov.uk/libraries>

Sign Up at Oldham StoryFest

Saturday 13 July, 11am–3pm, free, no booking required, Oldham Library

Be part of Oldham's first ever Children's Story Festival and sign up for this year's Summer Reading challenge as we fill Oldham library with inspiring children's authors, illustrators and activities.

Collab Lab: Summer School

Tuesdays 30 July and 6, 13, 20 and 27 August, 1–4pm, free, booking essential via Eventbrite, Gallery Oldham

Our amazing Creative Summer School is back.

Work with a different artist each week to explore new materials and techniques. All materials and refreshments provided. Suitable for young people age 10 to 16.



What's On: August

Khushi Festival

2,3,4 August Oldham Library and venues across Oldham Town Centre

Khushi: Oldham's female led happiness festival returns for 2024 showcasing work made by local and national South Asian communities.

Through a series of dynamic projects that bring artists and communities together, Khushi will take over Oldham Library and Gallery Oldham presenting a rich mix of performance, spoken word and visual arts of events that will offer something inspiring for everyone.



National Play Day

Wednesday 7 August, 10.30 – 12noon, free, no booking required, Gallery Oldham

Celebrate all things playful for National Play Day and dress for mess.

Wednesday 21 August, 2pm, free, no booking required, Gallery Oldham

Make an underwater themed balloon model inspired by the Ocean Drifters exhibition.



What's On: September

Summer Reading Challenge – Celebration Day

Saturday 7 September, 11am–3pm, free, no booking required, Oldham Library and Gallery Oldham

Celebrate your Summer reading achievements with a day full of interactive activities to enjoy with the whole family.

Small Cinema: Roald Dahl Day

Saturday 14 September, 12 noon craft activity, 2pm film screening, £3.30 per person, booking essential via Eventbrite

Explore the wonders of Roald Dahl on the big screen in this special Small Cinema session with swashboggling crafts.

Extra Small Cinema

25 September, 10–11.30am £2 per person, booking essential via Eventbrite, Oldham Library

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

What's On: October

Monster Mash!

Saturday 26 October, 1–3pm, Gallery Oldham

Tuesday 29 October, 4–6pm, Lees Library

Thursday 31 October, 4–6pm, Chadderton Library

All free, booking essential via Eventbrite

Boogie and bop your way through our creative spaces and bookshelves at our spooky family silent discos. Suitable for all. Costumes encouraged.



What's On: **Regular sessions**

Don't miss these regular sessions that are on throughout the year

GO! Baby

25 April, 9 and 23 May, 13 and 27 June, 11 and 25 July, 12 and 26 September, 10.30am–12noon, free, no booking required, Gallery Oldham

Sensory exploration and play sessions for 0 – 2 year olds and their families.

GO! Explorers

6 April, 6 July, 5 October, 10.30am–12noon, £4 per child, no booking required, Gallery Oldham

New and improved, this seasonal session is perfect for confident walkers up to 4 years. Explore the world, be creative and discover the joys of the seasons in our messy play sessions.

Baby Photobooth

Thursday 6 June, 10.30am–12noon, £9 per child, booking essential via Eventbrite, Oldham Library

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

Bookbuds

Wednesdays 6 March, 5 June, 4 September, and 4 December, 10.30am–12noon, free, no booking required, Oldham Library

Introduce your little one to the library with these seasonal book themed play sessions for under 2's, packed full of sensory and messy play.

Bedtime Stories

Tuesdays 2 April, 30 April, 4 June, 9 July, 6 August, 3 September, 8 October, 5.30–6.30pm, free, bookable via Eventbrite, Oldham Library

Wear your favourite pjs and join Lorenza from 'Eliza Says' for signing, rhyming, warm milk, and toast.

Little Reads

Fridays 26 April, 31 May, 28 June, 26 July, 30 August, 27 September, 25 October, 10–10.30am, free, no booking required, Oldham Library

Interactive workshops using dance, songs and stories to explore children's picture books. Perfect for under 5's and their families in partnership with Manchester Literature Festival.

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.



What's On: Regular sessions

Art Club

**Saturdays 6 April, 4 May, 6 July, 5 October
1.30–3.30pm, free, booking essential via Eventbrite,
Gallery Oldham**

A monthly mini-series of workshops for young people, age 10 to 16, to learn, test and develop your creative skills with others.

Young Book Club

**18 April, 16 May, 20 June, 11 July, 15 August,
19 September, 17 October Third Thursday of each
month, 4.30–5.30pm, free, booking essential via
Eventbrite, Oldham Library**

Take part in our newest session where you'll explore a new book each month, meet other young people and discover your new favourite characters. All books and light refreshments provided.

Young Games Club

**9 April, 14 May, 11 June, 9 July, 13 August,
10 September, 8 October, 4.30–5.30pm, free,
booking essential via Eventbrite, Oldham Library**

Enjoy playing board games and cards, explore different games and meet new people. All games and light refreshments provided. Age 10 to 16.

Intergenerational Music Making

**Tuesdays 30 April, 7 May, 14 May and 21 May,
4–5pm, free, no booking required, Lees Library**
Intergenerational Music Making welcome all generations to come and make music together.

Digital Drop in for Business

**First Wednesday of the month 2–4pm, Oldham
Library, book via Eventbrite**

These Build a Business sessions are designed to empower small businesses with all aspects of technology for your venture. Get help with Domains & Hosting, website design, App development, digital marketing and much more.

Start Up Huddle

**First Wednesday of the month 4.30pm,
Oldham Library**

Sessions making it easier for anyone, anywhere to start and scale a business. "Huddlers" meet regularly as a community once a month to share challenges facing their start up and solicit input on potential solutions from others.

Build a Business Coffee Morning

**Second Wednesday of the Month 10am–12noon,
Oldham Library**

Come and meet other local businesses, have a hot drink and find out about free support available to you in Oldham.

Free Accountancy Drop In with DCW Accounting

**Second Thursday of the Month 10am–12noon,
Oldham Library**

Build a Business at Oldham Library are delighted to be working with DCW Accounting to offer a free accountancy advice drop-in clinic. Come along for impartial, professional advice.

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>

Oldham Artist Network

Oldham Artist Network is 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.

Our next meetings are on the following dates:

10 June 2024, 6–8pm, Oldham Library.

9 September 2024. 6–8pm, Oldham Library.

Visit our website to book your place.

Artist Network Newsletter

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

For more information contact

nick.duke@oldham.gov.uk

Oldham Music Network

Are you involved in Oldham's thriving live music scene, and want to connect with venues, promoters, musicians, and other industry professionals? Then join us in the Oldham Live Music Network over on Facebook.

<https://bit.ly/OldhamMusicNetwork>

Artist's Surgeries

The Creativity and Culture team aims to support you and to help bring your creative ideas to life. For a one-to-one surgery on funding advice or to discuss project proposals/ ideas please contact: Rachel.Wood@oldham.gov.uk



Oldham Local Studies and Archives

The amazing collections at Oldham Local Studies and Archives can help you uncover the stories of places and people that make Oldham so unique. Whether it's family or local history you're interested in, we have resources that bring the stories of the past to life.

T: 0161 770 4654

E: archives@oldham.gov.uk

Temporary Service 2024–2025

A temporary service is now operating on the ground floor of Oldham Library, while we wait for our new home at Spindles to open. Our digital resources are available as usual, alongside microfilmed resources and a small selection of books. We are not able to accept new donations or provide access to our physical collections until the Spindles site is ready.

Family History and Local History

Enjoy free access to family history websites including Ancestry and FindMyPast where you can search the Census from 1841 to 1921 plus other sources that support your research. Our friendly team are here to help with family and local history advice on a drop-in basis.

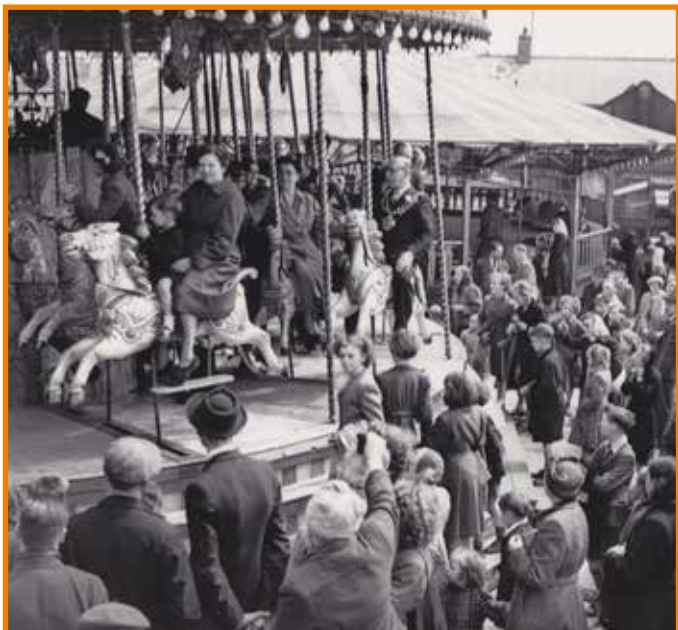
Oldham Historical Research Group has a wealth of information about the history of Oldham on their website <http://www.pixnet.co.uk/Oldham-hrg>

Look out, too, for items from the archives in the displays and exhibitions at Gallery Oldham.

Oldham Histories Festival and Heritage Open Days

Friday 6 – Sunday 15 September 2024

This year's theme is Routes, Networks and Connections and our programme includes gallery talks, town centre walks and behind the scenes tours. If you're curious about the history around you, look out for the festival brochure.



Oldham Theatre Workshop

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

If you are aged 6 to 25 years 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

In November 2023 Oldham Theatre Workshop produced a brand new musical 'STRIKE!'.

The show was performed at the OTW studios by a cast of young people from across the borough.

'Meet the 19th century Matchstick girls and discover the hidden true story of these incredible young women and their fight for equality.'

If you missed the live performances, you can watch the film of the show by following the link below.
www.oldhamtheatreworkshop.co.uk/strike



Schools

Schools can bring groups to any library and Gallery Oldham for library skills introductions, tours and workshops. For more information, please visit the schools page on our website or contact us by emailing librariesandgalleryschools@oldham.gov.uk or calling **0161 770 4643**.

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

At Gallery Oldham, we help schools enhance their teaching of Key Stage 1 and 2 Art, English, History and Science through our workshops and loans boxes which are available to book through our website.

live@thelibrary: Schools

Book your class onto one of our live@theLibrary shows specifically aimed at schools.

Whispered Tales presents

Refuge Island

**Friday 21 June, 10.30am, 11.30am and 2pm,
Oldham Library**

Marking refugee week Refuge Island is a 20-minute dance performance that explores stories of female migration and the human capacity to offer a place of refuge in times of crisis. As a lone woman appears on a surreal pedestrian refuge island, we begin to hear just why she braved the elements to leave her home and settle here in a new place of refuge

To book your class to come and see this performance contact: Jenny.Allen@oldham.gov.uk



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. We also showcase a selection of items made by local artists and craftspeople. Every purchase supports the work we do.

You can also shop online with **Art UK**. Over 300 images from our collections are available to buy as prints or as merchandise such as cards, coasters and mugs. Visit artuk.org

Visit our new website

For our latest news and up to date visitor information visit hla.oldham.gov.uk

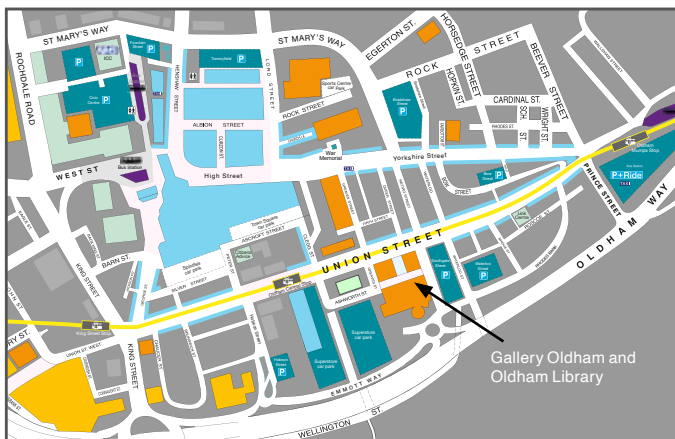


Visit us

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 park is Southgate Street.



For directions to any of Oldham's branch libraries please 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.

