30th JUNE - 9th JULY 2017
400 Writers, 300 Events, 10 Days, 1 City
Bradford Literature Festival 2017

Directors’ Welcome

We are delighted to welcome you to the third annual Bradford Literature Festival hosted in association with our title partner, Provident Financial Group.

We are incredibly excited to share this year’s line-up of some of the best-known, and most inspiring, names from across the worlds of literature, poetry and politics. Our guests include poets Jackie Kay and Linton Kwesi Johnson, novelists Jeanette Winterson and Joanna Trollope, feminist Germaine Greer, and historian and politician Shashi Tharoor. Much-loved annual events, including our Bronte Heritage Tour, Lyrical Mehfil, and Sacred Poetry, return for another year, while our panels discuss everything from the future of monogamy to the implications of Donald Trump’s presidency for global politics.

The city of Bradford, nestled in the heart of Yorkshire, is defined by its literature, architecture, and landscape; its role as a meeting place for cultures from around the world; and the stories and mythologies that have developed around it. We are proud to celebrate this unique heritage within the festival and to embody the multitude of cultures that connect Bradford globally, while enriching our lives locally.

The festival’s focus on themes inspired by Yorkshire continues; showcasing everything from the region’s love of cricket, to local legends and literary heroes both historic and contemporary, from A.A. Dhand to Andrea Dunbar. The launch of our Arthurian strand brings King Arthur back to his true home and the original Camelot. While our Fairy Tales, Myths, and Legends theme marks the moment, a hundred years ago, when fairies came to life in a garden in Cottingley.

We also celebrate the 200th anniversary of Jane Austen, mark the 70 year anniversary of the partition of the Indian sub-continent, and the 100 year anniversary of the Balfour declaration. We have an entire strand of events devoted to the political, social and cultural impact of Empire and its repercussions today. While recognising the importance of history the festival also faces the future. The Future Living strand considers the role of technology in our lives, from work to relationships. For those who prefer their futurism with a dose of fiction, some of the finest sci-fi and fantasy authors discuss their visions for alternative worlds.

A lifelong love of literature starts at an early age, and there is a packed programme of children and young people’s events. Young Adult fiction authors will discuss issues that really matter to teens: from banned books, to mental health, to love, work and activism. Our free family fun days in the award-winning City Park are back, along with our free schools programme, storytelling sessions and interactive workshops.

The festival would not be possible without the generous support of our funders and sponsors. We would like to thank our title sponsor Provident Financial Group for their invaluable guidance, enthusiastic support and for extending their financial commitment for the next five years. We would like to thank Arts Council England and Bradford Council for their continued funding and encouragement; our key partner, the University of Bradford, for vital financial and marketing support since the festival’s inception. We are grateful to our hotel partner, Midland Hotel, our book partner, Waterstones, and our travel partner Virgin Trains East Coast who have provided infrastructure essential for creating the festival.

In today’s volatile, often divided, world the importance of cultural spaces where people can meet, without fear or prejudice, cannot be over-emphasised. The festival is accessible, welcoming to all and committed to meaningful discussion of the issues that matter. The written and spoken word surrounds us, and words are the invisible threads that bind us together. We look forward to welcoming you to the wonderful world of words.

Syima Aslam & Irna Qureshi
Festival Directors
Welcome from Provident Financial Group

Provident Financial are proud to sponsor the Bradford Literature Festival and delighted that our sponsorship has enabled the festival to grow rapidly, and gain a national profile for the city. It is wonderful to see Bradford transformed for ten days with exciting events and inspiring speakers that engage the imaginations of adults and children alike. The fact that BLF is free for the less well off, enabling access by people from all socio-economic backgrounds, makes it the standout cultural event in the UK.

BLF is an ambitious festival. Its ambition for this city and its people matches our own. Bradford is a fast-growing city. It has the eighth largest economy in England with growth outpacing the national economy. Yet Bradford has the potential to grow even more. It is the youngest city in the country, with nearly 30% of its population under 20. This makes it an important regional and national economic powerhouse of the future.

PFG has been a vital part of Bradford’s economic infrastructure since its inception in 1880. Alongside the organisation’s growth into a FTSE100 company, we are proud to have strengthened our Bradford presence. The future of Bradford is, therefore, of intrinsic importance to us.

It makes good business sense to invest in a city with a strong transport infrastructure and an abundant labour force. We considered this closely when we decided to keep, and grow, our head office in Bradford. However, companies which invest in the city also need access to the wider skills pool beyond Bradford. Similarly, companies outside Bradford need access to the city’s labour force. Ensuring that the new HS3 high speed rail link is routed through Bradford so that we connect into HS2, is therefore vital for unlocking the full economic potential of Bradford’s population, and for the economic prosperity of the north.

Bradford has a large pool of highly skilled people. However, we need to ensure those without skills don’t get left behind. At Provident, we recognise that the route to ensuring economic engagement is through addressing low levels of educational attainment and, we pride ourselves on being at the forefront of technological advances. Bradford is a hub of innovation with a thriving digital sector and culture. Young people today are born digital natives and we need to harness their tech savviness to connect them with reading and literacy. This will allow them to access educational and skills training opportunities, putting our city and its people at the heart of the Northern Powerhouse.

Literature frequently addresses the weird and wondrous nature of emerging technologies, as explored in BLF’s Future Living and Science Fiction events this year. The energy and innovation brought to Bradford by the festival showcases the vitality of Bradford itself; with unmissable events for all the family in iconic city centre venues, celebrating the power of culture and its potential to change lives. It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the literature hub of the North to be intrigued, inspired and above all entertained by this wonderful festival.

Peter Crook
Chief Executive, Provident Financial plc
Bradford Literature Festival 2017

Festival Partners and Sponsors

Title Partner

PFG Provident Financial Group

Key Partners

Cultural Partners

Bradford West Area Committee Community Chest

Facebook.com/bradfordlitfest
@bradfordlitfest

Festival Partners & Sponsors

Please Note: All sessions start at 8.30pm

- Readings from visiting poets – 2nd Monday
- Read-arounds – 1st & 3rd Monday
Bradford Literature Festival 2017

Festival Team

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Irna Qureshi

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We would also like to thank all of our festival guests and volunteers for their time and generous support throughout the festival.

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Websites

Facebook.com/bradfordlitfest
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Branding

Festival Partners & Sponsors

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Schools Events: 
Bringing the Festival to You

The Bradford Literature Festival’s school programme offers students across Bradford access to exciting, engaging and entertaining literature for all ages. This year’s extensive programme is bigger and better than ever.

It’s packed with eye-opening possibilities. We have Manga artists, publishers, performance poets, illustrators, journalists and more, all of whom are happy to share their skills and show students that there’s no singularly accepted form of literature: it all counts. With events featuring the Brontës, slimy slug superheroes, Islamic history, storytelling, political poetry, feminism, Greek myths and international relations, there really is something for everyone.

Sitting alongside our public programme, our school programme is integral to everything we do. We are dedicated to offering the opportunity to engage with amazing, life-changing literature to all students in Bradford and believe passionately in the power of words to open minds and develop students as well-rounded, interested and interesting individuals.

We can’t wait for you to join us for this unique celebration of literacy, literature and self-expression.

The school programme is open to all schools, free to schools within the Bradford district and available to students from Early Years to Sixth Form.

This year, for the first time, we have four very special events designed with your students in mind:

Friday 30th June – Writing Futures
Come and explore where literature can take your students with a unique chance to find out how to build a career in the creative industries, thanks to our panel of expert speakers.
Recommended for KS3, 4, and 5

Monday 3rd July – Myths, Legends and Fairy tales
Award-winning authors, Lari Don, Vivian French and Richard O’Neill bring you a spell-binding day all about how to craft a magical tale, with tips and advice on how to take a story from once upon a time to happily ever after. This is the ideal session for budding young writers.
Recommended for KS2

Friday 7th July – Film Screening of The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas + Q&A with Author John Boyne
Join acclaimed author, John Boyne, for this extra-special screening of the film adaptation of his celebrated book The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas.
Recommended for ages 12+

Friday 7th July – Performance Poetry Day
This session is an exciting chance for your students to experience poetry performed live. The UK’s brightest performance poets bring their spoken word poetry to Bradford in this one-off event that will get your students pumped up about the potential of contemporary poetry.
Recommended for KS2, 3 and 4.

WE’RE ALSO OFFERING:
Author visits to schools, as well as the chance to build a bespoke package for your institution.

Get in touch to find out more.

We look forward to welcoming you and your students to the festival this year!

For more information, contact us at: schools@bradfordlitfest.co.uk
Booking Information

Book Online:
www.bradfordlitfest.co.uk

Book by Phone:
Call the box office on 01274 238374
Monday - Friday 9am-5pm using your credit or debit card.

Book in Person:
Throughout the festival, tickets will be available for purchase in person at the Festival Hub in City Park.

However, please note that tickets will be removed from sale 30 minutes before the start of an event.
Children under the age of two who won’t require a seat do not require a ticket.

Accessibility and Inclusion

We are committed to making all our events as inclusive and accessible as possible, which is why our ticket prices remain low and many of our events are free.

If you are registered disabled, you are entitled to a free ticket for your support worker or chosen companion. Please let us know in advance if you have any specific requirements. You can contact the festival staff directly by calling us on our box office number: 01274 238374.

We also offer free and discounted tickets to the following groups*:
Over 65s, students, benefits recipients and those in social housing, refugees and asylum seekers.

*For more information and for full terms and conditions, please visit the festival website.

All ticket prices include VAT. We cannot offer ticket refunds unless an event has been cancelled.

Festival Hub

The Bradford Literature Festival Hub returns to City Park for 2017, transforming the centre of Bradford into a one-stop-shop for literature, socialising and entertainment for all the family.

For 10 days from 30th June, City Park is the place to be. Buy some books at the pop-up Waterstones bookshop, watch a movie on the Bradford Big Screen, hang out with friends or join in the fun with one of our free family-friendly activities. Of course, you can buy tickets to all of our other events at the Hub, too. You might even spot your favourite author or poet!

At the weekends during the Festival, the Hub will be even livelier, with themed shows and events celebrating superheroes, fairy tales, teddy bears and Harry Potter. Weekday workers won’t be left out though, as we’ve planned special bite-sized talks and workshops, only 45 minutes long, on everything from meditation to Brexit, all designed to fit into your lunch hour.

This year there will also be a selection of food and drinks stalls, meaning that families will have everything they need to make their trip to the city centre a spectacular day out, and that workers won’t have to venture far for a delicious snack to get them through the day.

With something for everyone, we can’t wait to welcome you!
The Technology Disruption Has Happened. What Will Your World Look Like?

Technology is set to transform the world and change the human race forever; the likely impact is both terrifying and incredibly exciting.

The fourth industrial revolution has drastically affected manual jobs and is now cutting into the traditionally middle class, professional sector. Will your workplace still need you in a few years’ time? Or will you have been replaced by a robot?

Join tech expert and digital veteran, John Straw, to explore the fascinating world of modern technological advancement. His latest book, *iDisrupted*, examines the changes beginning to re-shape the human domain and our daily lives.

The future is now; it’s time to catch up.

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Lunch Bites: Blue Skies over Brexit

‘Brexit means Brexit,’ says prime minister Theresa May. But what happens next?

During the referendum campaign, the government promised a better-funded NHS, and the potential for more Commonwealth immigration. The promise was all about “taking back control”, but the early signs are of storm clouds, and not sunny uplands, as the UK embarks on a path to a hard Brexit.

Farmers, scientists and many on low incomes will lose access to important EU funding sources, and leaving the single market may well lead to higher prices. In the worst case, Brexit could spell the beginning of the end of the United Kingdom if Scotland and Northern Ireland decide they would rather be in the EU than the UK.

Join Ehsan Masood, editor of *Research Fortnight*, as he puts on his tin hat and ventures into the biggest political earthquake that Britain has seen in 40 years.

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Yorkshire Adabee Forum Mushairah

For centuries, the mushaira has been a cherished part of the culture of the Indian sub-continent. Traditionally an intellectual forum where poets would share and enjoy each other’s work, the mushaira is a platform for creativity and self-expression, as well as an opportunity to celebrate and uphold the rich cultural heritage of the Urdu language.

We are pleased to once again bring you a quintessential Urdu mushaira in conjunction with the International Yorkshire Adabee Forum.

Now in its sixth year, the International Yorkshire Adabee Forum Mushaira features talented poets from around the world. With dinner and live music, this will be an unforgettable evening of enchanting poetry and captivating performance.
An understanding of language is essential for any writer, but to be a translator requires a mastery of language that is often overlooked. In order to truly capture the essence of the original, the translator must have a deep understanding of the nuances of both the initial text and the language into which it is being translated.

In this fascinating event journalist, Boyd Tonkin, will talk with writers and translators who have experienced the role of translation first-hand.

Join poet and author Johannes Anyuru, whose work has been widely translated from its original Swedish; Korean writer and translator Han Yujoo, whose book, The Impossible Fairy Tale, is her first to appear in English and Deborah Smith, who was the translator of Han Kang’s The Vegetarian, winner of the Man Booker International Prize.

**FRIDAY**

**30 JUNE**

**MAUREEN YOUNGER, JO ENRIGHT, INDER MANOCHA, STEFANO PAOLINI**

Alhambra Studio
7:30pm (150mins) **£10**

**An Evening of Comedy**

Back by popular demand, our flagship Evening of Comedy returns, bigger and better than ever in the fantastic setting of the Alhambra Studio. For this stand-out event, we have gathered some of the very best and brightest comedians working the UK circuit.

Your host for the evening, the inimitable Maureen Younger, will introduce you to none other than Inder Manocha, critically acclaimed for his 2014 Edinburgh Fringe show White Man’s Burden; stand-up, impressionist and beatboxer extraordinare, Stefano Paolini; and the award-winning tour de force of stage and screen, Jo Enright.

So sit down, get comfortable and prepare yourself for a night of belly laughs and brilliant entertainment.

Maureen Younger @maureenyounger
Jo Enright @jo_enright
Inder Manocha @stefanompaolini
Johannes Anyuru @londonkoreanist
Deborah Smith
Han Yujoo

**MAKING STORIES COMING TO LIFE**

**JOHANNES ANYURU, DEBORAH SMITH, HAN YUJOO**

City Hall Banqueting Suite
7:30pm (75mins) **£6**

**Playing with Language**

An understanding of language is essential for any writer, but to be a translator requires a mastery of language that is often overlooked. In order to truly capture the essence of the original, the translator must have a deep understanding of the nuances of both the initial text and the language into which it is being translated.

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We will be sharing some spine-tingling tales before setting off into the night for a unique tour of the hall. This event is not for the faint-hearted, but for those with a love of the supernatural and a creeping desire to find out more.

We hope you’re not afraid of the dark.

**MARK DAVIS, LES VASEY**

Bolling Hall Museum
11pm (120mins) **£6**

**Haunted: Ghost Stories at Bolling Hall**

The creaking staircases, twisting passages and unnerving portraits of Bradford’s Bolling Hall have played host to many a visitor, school trip or family day out. But have you ever stood alone in the city’s most haunted building in the dark of the night? Perhaps not.

Join us at 11 pm for an eerie exploration of the paranormal, as historians, Mark Davis and Les Vasey, take you back through time for a look at some of Bradford’s most frightening spectres. Hear stories of famous local ghouls, such as Chains Charlie, who stalks the passages of City Hall, and the ghost of Henry Irving that has been sighted at the Midland Hotel.

We will be sharing some spine-tingling tales before setting off into the night for a unique tour of the hall. This event is not for the faint-hearted, but for those with a love of the supernatural and a creeping desire to find out more.

We hope you’re not afraid of the dark.

**MAUREEN YOUNGER, JO ENRIGHT, INDER MANOCHA, STEFANO PAOLINI**

Alhambra Studio
7:30pm (150mins) **£10**
Superheroes Day

Join us for a super special day and learn everything you need to become a true hero. The Wonder Heroes hit City Park at 10:00am for a day of interactive performances, followed by a free screening of animated adventure *Big Hero 6* at 11:30am.

Throughout the day, you can drop into various superhero workshops, hone your skills at the Wonder Hero Academy or get creative and try your hand at pop-art and origami. Why not come dressed as your favourite hero or invent your own unique character to show us on the day?

**Join us for free events throughout the day. No booking required, just drop in!**

**Fun for little kids, big kids and adults alike!**

*Big Hero 6*

**FILM SCREENING**

2014 | PG | 108 mins
11.30am FREE

City Park

*Make Your Own Hero Workshop*

11am - 4pm FREE
Bradford College, David Hockney Building

Design your own character and costume and create a heroic bookmark or stationary clip to keep your pages safe from villains.

Superhero Cuff Workshop

11am - 4pm FREE
Bradford College, David Hockney Building


**Pop Art Kerpow Workshop**

11am - 4pm FREE
Bradford College, David Hockney Building

Create your own fabulous ‘Kerpow’ badge or room decoration, straight from the pages of a comic.

**Wonder Heroes Show**

10:00am - 10:45am, 1:15pm - 2pm, 3pm - 3:45pm FREE
City Park

The world is under threat from a virus concocted by the evil Dr. Z; a virus that he intends to release into Bradford’s Mirror Pool! Luckily, Thor has spotted the threat from Asgard and has assembled his pals, Wonder Woman and Wonder Man, to help him. Thor and his team of Wonder Heroes will attempt to strike down Dr. Z in a stunning demonstration of parkour and stage combat.

**Wonder Hero Academy Workshop**

10:45am - 11:15am, 2pm - 2:30pm, 3.45pm - 4:15pm FREE
City Park

Drop in after the show (above) to learn how to be a Wonder Hero and test your new-found abilities against Wonder Woman and Thor.
Christopher de Bellaigue’s new book challenges this preconception, demonstrating that dogmas were similarly challenged and new worlds imagined across the Middle East as well as the West. Christopher reveals the hidden histories of modernising sultans and proto-feminists, uncovering the exchanges of goods and ideas between east and west that constitute the early history of globalisation. Yet he also shows the darker side to this history, revealing the forces of reaction that sought to repress new ideas that endangered the status quo.

Join Christopher as he launches The Islamic Enlightenment and discusses this exciting new book with journalist and broadcaster Ehsan Masood.

**Djinn Possession: Dispelling the Myth**

What are the djinn? Creatures of mythology or creatures of reality? Are they inhabitants of this world or creations of a parallel universe, bleeding through into our own?

Islamic texts describe the djinn as being made of smokeless fire, capable of both good and evil, and who, along with humans and angels, make up the three sapient creations of God. Many Muslims believe djinn are real creatures, capable of causing physical and mental harm to human beings. This can lead to mental health issues being falsely attributed to djinn possession, resulting in backstreet exorcisms and religious treatments that can leave patients in a worse state than before.

Join Islamic psychologist, Rasjid Skinner, as he sifts facts from fiction by addressing questions such as ‘what is the Islamic take on djinns?’, ‘how common is this belief?’ and ‘do djinn possessions really take place?’.
Pakistan: Past, Present & Future

Seventy years ago Pakistan was created to realise the vision of a modern, pluralistic state. The country had a tumultuous birth and has faced many challenges historically and continues to face challenges today.

As one of the borders of the USA's war on terror, Pakistan has had to make difficult choices and decisions as to the global role it plays. Meanwhile, Pakistani diaspora communities exist around the world and its historic culture is gaining a foothold in world music, cinema and literature. The UK is home to the largest overseas Pakistani community in the world, and British Pakistanis are the second largest ethnic minority population in the country.

The Force is with Us

Have you ever wished that you lived in a galaxy far, far away? Would you love to learn how to speak Droid, how to draw a Wookie and get the chance to meet new Star Wars characters? If so, this is the ultimate event for you.

Bringing together JAKE, illustrator extraordinaire and the artist behind How to Speak Droid with R2-D2, and Tom Huddleston, author of Star Wars fiction including the Star Wars: Adventures in Wild Space series, we will explore the galaxy, from Coruscant to Tatooine.

All Jedi and Sith welcome - just make sure to bring your lightsabers!

Partition: Vision Versus Reality

The division of British India into India and Pakistan in 1947 changed the course of history, the effects of which are still being felt today.

Partition was the culmination of Gandhi and Nehru’s vision of a free India, Jinnah’s vision of Pakistan and the British government’s haste to leave. Each of the key players had their own vision for the future of the two countries.

Seven decades on, our expert panel will take a frank look at the truth behind Partition, ask whether the objectives of any of these visions were ever realised and, if not, how they compare to the reality of modern-day India and Pakistan.

This event brings together Professor of Indian History, William Gould, author and journalist, Dilip Hiro, and Yasmin Khan, author of The Great Partition: The making of India and Pakistan.

What is it that makes some books stand out as potential bestsellers? What makes publishers fall over themselves and offer apparently vast sums to new writers?

The news that Penguin Random House paid more than $60 million to secure the rights to the memoirs of Barack and Michelle Obama confirmed that we are living in an era of unprecedented publishing fees. Bidding wars are not consigned to books by the rich and famous; rumours abound of six-figure advances, handed over to debut novelists by publishers desperate to snap up works that could be the next big literary hit.

Our expert panel, chaired by Danuta Kean, includes Lisa Milton of HarperCollins, Ailah Ahmed of Little, Brown and Virago, and Kate Nash of Kate Nash Literary Agency. This is an exclusive chance to find out what the cut and thrust of the industry really entails for writers and publishers working today.
We live in a manic society and most people’s lives are on permanent fast-forward. The modern workplace is characterised by a never-ending regime of restructures and budget cuts. Uncertainty prevails. Social media, school pressures, relationships and a whole load of hormones buzzing around mean that no-one is immune.

How to be Happy provides an antidote to this crazy world. The workshop uses cutting-edge research to explore how you can be you, brilliantly. Andy Cope will share some of the secrets of positive psychology and explain how learning new habits of thinking and behaviour will sustain personal brilliance. Get ready to feel re-energised and enthused for the challenges that lie ahead, no matter your age.

Whisper it quietly, but this event might just change your life.

Modern culture seems to pride itself on scientific advancement, yet we are still as enchanted and seduced by myth as our distant ancestors. You need only take a stroll around a shopping centre or surf the net to be confronted by the legions of Narcissus snapping their selfies, tech giants boldly re-branding the forbidden fruit, or political factions brandishing flags and reciting mantras. In an increasingly divided modern climate, do we use allegory to give voice to ideas that we might be otherwise unable to express?

Chaired by Yvette Huddleston, our acclaimed panel, including Peter Conrad, James Ball and Jared Shurin, are faced with the Herculean task of examining our obsession with myths and assessing what advantages there may be to seeing the legendary in the everyday.

Are you a budding artist? Have you ever wondered how to create weird and wonderful Manga characters? This is your chance to work with a professional Manga artist, from the team at Sweatdrop Studios, to learn insider secrets and master the art of Manga.

Sweatdrop Studios has been creating original comics and artwork for over 15 years and their team includes professional illustrators and writers with numerous accolades and awards in the comic industry. In this event, artist and illustrator, Ruth Keattch, will be on hand to give you all the advice you need to hone your craft.
Are you a poet who doesn’t yet know it? Join Polarbear (aka Steven Camden), one of the UK’s most sought-after spoken word poets, for a unique, interactive event in which he needs YOUR help to finish his new poem.

Come and explore the power of language in this fun, inspiring and creative performance-led workshop.

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

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Billed on its release as “Thatcher’s Britain with her knickers down”, Rita, Sue and Bob Too is a classic British comedy drama and one of Bradford’s best-loved films.

Based on Andrea Dunbar’s semi-autobiographical stage plays, the film follows two teenagers from Bradford’s run-down Buttershaw estate as they embark on a farcical fling with a married man.

The film captures the mood of its era, transporting viewers on a darkly comic and chaotic journey around 1980s Bradford.

Enjoy Rita, Sue and Bob Too in all its northern glory.

Why not join us later in the day for our event ‘Andrea Dunbar the Writer’ featuring Bob himself, actor George Costigan. See page 37 for more information.

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The cricketing history of Yorkshire is long and illustrious. In the 1890s, the White Rose club became one of the first county cricket teams in England to be accorded senior status and is still going strong in the 21st century – as many as six members of the England 2015 Ashes squad hailed from mighty Yorkshire!

Our expert panel, comprised of sports writers John Fuller, Stuart Rayner and Anthony Clavane, in conversation with Huw Turbervill, will take a look at the club’s defining moments, explore what it is about the Yorkshire psyche that lends itself so well to cricket and ask why it is that a strong Yorkshire side seems to be crucial to the success of the England team.

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JOHANNES ANYURU, TABISH KHAIr, TARIQ MEHMOOD
Dye House Gallery, Bradford College
11.30am (60mins) £6

Writing Radicalisation
Global fragmentation and the search for identity are reshaping the world. The last century has seen increasing waves of migration, often driven by the economics of wealth or war.

Join three writers as they discuss the themes of migration and radicalisation that lie at the heart of their new books. Johannes Anyuru's A Storm Blew In is part the story of a search for identity and part mourning for the loss of a homeland. The same factors lead in a different direction in Tariq Mehmood's Song of Gulzarina, which travels from Bradford to Pakistan and back again, while Tabish Khair's Just Another Jihadi Jane tells the tale of Islamist radicalisation from inside the lives of two young, Yorkshire girls.

This important event, chaired by Claire Chambers, will examine the search for identity in an increasingly war-torn, fragmented world and the extreme consequences this can bring.

The Science of Star Wars

Could you ever build a lightsaber? What is The Force and how does it work? How powerful was the Death Star? And might this ever be a reality?

This event could be your chance to get answers to the burning questions that have baffled fans since the pre-Republic era.

Join Jedi Master (or is that Sith Lord?) Karl Byrne as he answers the questions you've always wanted to ask about the science from a long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away...

Austenesque

It is a truth universally acknowledged that Jane Austen has inspired generations of new writers.

Her timeless novels have been reworked in many forms, including the decade-defining TV moment involving Colin Firth in a wet shirt, the newspaper columns that eventually became Bridget Jones' Diary and the classic Bollywood-style film, Bride and Prejudice.

Join three fantastic female writers who have each been inspired by Austen's stories. Natasha Farrant and Jo Baker have both revisited Austen's works from different character perspectives, whilst Ayisha Malik's romantic comedies bring Austen's forward-thinking feminism into the world of Muslim dating.

Chaired by Jodie Matthews, expect a fun-filled discussion of everything Austen, as we ask what it is about her stories that keeps us coming back for more.

Reading Through Adversity

How do the books you read inspire you in your day-to-day life? When times are tough, are there certain novels, poems or passages that help you to navigate your way through the darkness?

This event will explore how the act of reading can help us centre and empower ourselves amidst the turmoil of modern life and the chaos of contemporary culture.

Writer and activist, Mona Eltahawy, charity director and ex-prisoner, Pete White and playwright, Sudha Bhuchar join event chair Ralph Dartford, to discuss the works that have helped them through some of the most difficult periods of their lives. Each with their own personal and very different story, our panelists will come together through the shared experience of reading through adversity.
Go into any bookshop and you might marvel at the vast sea of popular literature, often filled with similar characters, recurring themes and ‘in-vogue’ genres. Major publishers seem to be concerned with spotting ‘the next big thing’ - books that hold the potential to generate bestselling series and global franchises. Enter the Indie publishers, many of which work with a similar ethos, striving for quality and providing opportunities for a wide range of literature from writers of every denomination. This event will explore the influence that Indie presses exert upon the publishing world and examine how they are changing the way that books are commissioned, sold and consumed.

Join event chair Steve Dearden, Kevin Duffy, co-founder of Bluemoose Books, Allesandro Gallenzi of Alma Books, and Valerie Brandes of Jacaranda as they discuss the politics of indie publishing.

**Fantasticaly Great Women Who Changed the World**

Bursting with beautiful illustrations and astounding facts, Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World is the perfect introduction to some of the incredible women who have helped to shape the world in which we live.

In this fun and interactive reading, author Kate Pankhurst (a descendent of Emmeline Pankhurst) welcomes you to fly through the skies with explorer Amelia Earhart, make mind-boggling discoveries with scientist Marie Curie and explore the astounding lives of Frida Kahlo, Anne Frank and more.

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.
**The Reality Behind Dystopian Futures**

The genre of dystopian fiction may at times seem like fantasy, stories set in futuristic worlds where life is unrecognisable from what it is today, but are these worlds closer than we think?

There is growing concern that the biggest threat facing humanity today is climate change, a theme that is repeated across emerging works of the dystopian genre. Stories of environmental collapse, humanity forced to contend with extreme weather conditions or to find another planet on which to live.

This event brings together the worlds of science and fiction as authors E. J. Swift and Sarah Govett, who have both written novels set in troubling futures, join science writer and environment editor, Oliver Morton, to discuss the most important question of all: could these dystopian futures ever become a reality?

**Branwell Brontë Storyboard Revealed**

This year marks the bicentenary of the birth of Branwell Brontë, the brother whose own work was overshadowed by that of his more famous sisters.

We will celebrate Branwell’s life with the creation of a permanent storyboard, placed on North Parade in the centre of Bradford, close to the original location of Branwell’s art studio which he used between 1838-39.

The storyboard will feature portraits completed by Branwell during his time at the Bradford studio and mark the spot as an area of importance in the artistic and literary heritage of the city.

Join Bruce Barnes, poet and Branwell expert, for the unveiling of this monument to Branwell Brontë. The event will be followed by a special reading of Branwell’s poetry and prose, with light refreshments served in the nearby City Gent. As a souvenir of the event, guests will receive the Cartwright Hall Gallery catalogue, *Branwell Brontë & his Circle: Artistic life in Bradford 1830-50*.

**Whatever Next! Storytelling with Sue Dyde**

Baby Bear’s got a very important mission, but can he make it to the moon and back before bath time? First, he needs to find a rocket, a pair of space boots and a space helmet – surely, he must be able to find them in the house!

Come and join Baby Bear on a wonderful space adventure as he soars high into the night sky, makes friends with an owl and has a picnic on the moon, all before his mum calls him for bath time.

Storyteller Sue Dyde brings to life one of Jill Murphy’s most beloved and imaginative books, *Whatever Next!*. For all the little explorers who let their imaginations run wild, join Sue in this lively event of stories, poems and adventure!

**Star Wars: From Samurai to Jedi**

You may think you know all there is to know about Star Wars, but do you really?

Many people are aware that George Lucas was heavily influenced by legendary Japanese filmmaker Akira Kurosawa’s 1958 epic *The Hidden Fortress*. The film’s combination of comedy, fairy-tale archetypes and sword fighting action, told from the perspective of lower status characters, is easily recognisable throughout the franchise.

However, what fewer people know is that Star Wars also resembles *Kokoro*, one of the most famous novels in modern Japanese literature.

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of *A New Hope*, Japanese culture expert, Damian Flanagan, will share the inside story of how a samurai classic inspired the Jedi legend.

This event will provide a thrilling insight into how two cultures can come together and inspire a generation. It’s one for fans of Star Wars and Japanese culture alike.
SATURDAY
01 JULY

ROB BAGCHI, DUNCAN HAMILTON, BOYD TONKIN
City Hall Banqueting Suite
12:30pm (75mins) £6

Cricket: Empire’s Greatest Export?

During the 20th century, when British colonial forces left the subcontinent and Commonwealth states regained their independence, there were few aspects of British rule that the regions were inclined to keep. There was, however, one pastime of British culture that remained: cricket.

The passion for this particular British export has grown to become a national sport in both India and Pakistan. Research also shows that in the UK, people of South Asian heritage are up to six times more likely to play cricket than their white counterparts.

Chaired by Huw Turbervill, our panel includes acclaimed sports writers Rob Bagchi and Duncan Hamilton and journalist Boyd Tonkin. This event will step into the history of cricket in South Asia and explore how it has become embedded in the cultural imagination of the subcontinent.

MAJID DARJAZI, KATE EVANS, OLIVIER KUGLER
Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford
12:45pm (60mins) £6

Comics from Crisis

There are currently over 65 million forcibly displaced people in the world – the highest levels of displacement since records began.

At this timely event, three comic artists and writers of graphic novels will discuss the importance of comics and graphic novels in expressing this burning global issue.

Cartoonist Kate Evans will draw on her time spent volunteering at the refugee camp in Calais and her latest release Threads, a beautifully illustrated cartoon that reflects these experiences. Olivier Kugler’s work detailing the plight of Syrian refugees has brought their stories to a wider audience and earned him international illustration awards.

Majid Darjazi is himself an Iranian refugee and will share his personal experiences of this and his career as a cartoonist.

Asma Elbadawi, Sabrina Mahfouz, Kamila Shamsie
Dye House Gallery, Bradford College
12:45pm (75mins) £6

The Things I Would Tell You: British Muslim Women Write

Including tales of Islamic Tinder, governmental blackmail and an actor’s ghostbusting dreams dashed by her perpetual casting as a jihadi bride, the stories, poems and essays in The Things I Would Tell You immediately obliterate narrow-minded stereotypes of British Muslim women.

Join editor, Sabrina Mahfouz, and contributors, Kamila Shamsie and Asma Elbadawi, to discuss the significance of the cultural challenges and personal accomplishments showcased within this groundbreaking, eclectic collection of new writing.

The event will consider how these narratives transcend time and place in order to educate, empower and encourage the reader and ultimately help to change the blinkered impressions of British Muslim women still shockingly prevalent in contemporary society.

JASON BERESFORD
Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College
1pm (60mins) £3 Children’s Event Ages 6+

The Fabulous Four Fish Fingers

When a pants-eating anteater escapes from prison and sweets start going missing across town, there’s only one group that can save the day: The Fabulous Four Fish Fingers (Gary, Bel, Ruby and Morris, to their mums).

In this fantastic, hilarious event, author Jason Beresford invites you to become the fifth Fish Finger and help take on the world’s most dastardly super villains.

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

Box Office: 01274 238 374
www.bradfordlitfest.co.uk

Facebook.com/bradfordlitfest
@bradfordlitfest

Rob Bagchi
@unforgivenvb

Duncan Hamilton

Boyd Tonkin

Majid Darjazi
Kate Evans
@cartoonkate
Olivier Kugler
@olivierkugler

Asma Elbadawi
Sabrina Mahfouz
Kamila Shamsie

Jason Beresford
@jason_beresford
DIBYESH ANAND, SASHA BUTT, SAR DAR
MASOOD KHAN, NITASHA KAUL

Advanced Technology Centre,
Bradford College
1pm (75mins) £6

The View from Kashmir

In 1947, the state of Kashmir became a casualty of partition. Part of it went to newly-formed Pakistan, whilst the other became disputed territory, promised a plebiscite which never took place.

The initial plebiscite should have posed the question of whether Jammu Kashmir would become part of India or Pakistan, but as the years have gone by, there has been increasing agitation from the Kashmiri people for a united Kashmir, free of both countries.

This is a question of great importance for many British citizens, as 70% of the Pakistani diaspora community in the UK hails from Kashmir.

Join our panel of experts, Sardar Masood Khan, President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Professor Dibyesh Anand and Sasha Butt, British Kashmiri activist. Chaired by Kashmiri writer, academic and economist Nitasha Kaul, this event will analyse the changing narrative inside and surrounding Kashmir.

SIMON KEEGAN

The Repository, Bradford College
1pm (60mins) £6

King Arthur of the North

Arthur is the king who never left us. The Arthurian legend is embedded in centuries of British history and literature, enticing historians and enthusiasts to scour the British Isles in search of physical evidence of the famous Camelot, home to King Arthur and his knights.

Last year’s festival launched Simon Keegan’s Pennine Dragon, which argued that the real King Arthur was a chieftain from the York area: Arthwys ap Mar. Simon’s latest book, The Lost Book of King Arthur, reveals the ancient written source that proves King Arthur’s origin as a Northern King. It identifies two of Arthur’s famous ‘Grails’ that are inscribed with his final battle, his final resting place and Dragon title, giving photographs of the locations where you can go and see them.

Join Simon Keegan as he talks about a very real King Arthur whose legendary Grails can be located right on our doorstep in the north of England.

GEORGE COSTIGAN, CLAIRE MACDONALD, ADELLE STRIPE

City Hall Chamber
1pm (75mins) £6

Andrea Dunbar the Writer

Andrea Dunbar began writing her play The Arbor at the age of 15. Just three years later, it premiered at London’s Royal Court Theatre. Her 1987 film, Rita, Sue and Bob Too, has become a northern cult classic.

Andrea’s life was short and troubled, but also very productive and her honest depictions of life on a run-down Bradford estate have made her one of Yorkshire’s most inspirational writers.

We are delighted to welcome actor George Costigan (Bob) to talk about his experiences acting in Rita, Sue & Bob Too. Revd. Dr. Claire MacDonald will reflect on her time spent with Dunbar at Keighley Women’s Aid, and writer Adelle Stripe will discuss her debut novel, Black Teeth and a Brilliant Smile, which was inspired by Dunbar’s extraordinary life and works.

This event will examine how Dunbar captured the humour, humanity, and hope of some of Bradford’s most deprived areas.

QUEENS OF SYRIA

In 2013, 50 Syrian refugee women came together to stage a new version of Euripides’ timeless play, The Trojan Women, the ancient Greek tragedy about the plight of women in war.

Performed in Amman, the capital of Jordan, it was an extraordinary moment in which the 21st century women found their own experiences reflected in a story written thousands of years ago.

This powerful documentary tells the remarkable story of these extraordinary women, all the way from the war zone to the stage. Described as one of the most urgent, important and affecting plays of recent years, this film offers a glimpse into the incredible, personal tale of women not only surviving, but telling their stories and refusing to be silenced.

“I have a scream I want the whole world to hear, but I wonder if it will be heard.” Suaad, member of Syria: The Trojan Women cast.
JOANNA TROLLOPE
Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford
1:30pm (60mins) £6

Joanna Trollope In Conversation

We are delighted to welcome bestselling, award-winning novelist, Joanna Trollope, to talk about Sense and Sensibility, her 21st century setting of Austen’s classic as well as her admiration for Jane Austen (and Charlotte Bronte) and her career to date.

Trollope (and yes, she is a distant relative of Victorian novelist Anthony Trollope) has won many fans with her consistently powerful novels on life in England, family dynamics, their problems and their victories. Once dismissed by some critics as the queen of ‘Aga sagas’, her more recent work has evolved to cover subjects such as feminism, broken families and adoption, with the mood growing darker with each novel.

In her own words: “Anyone who thinks my novels are just read by nice ladies in Guildford would be amazed if they came along to one of my readings.”

In conversation with Yvette Huddleston, Joanna will discuss the secrets of her success and her latest novel, City of Friends.

NIKESH SHUKLA, ISABEL COSTELLO, MOLLY FLATT
The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall
1:30pm (75mins) £6

Writing and Thriving in the Digital Age

With the growing influence of social media and the rising trend of crowdfunding and self-publishing, this event will ask how writers can best keep up with the changing literary landscape and make the most of modern technology in an increasingly digital world.

Writer Nikesh Shukla, explains how he harnessed the power of crowdfunding to publish his award-winning anthology The Good Immigrant (crowned Britain’s favourite book in 2016), blogger and author Isabel Costello shares her experience of publishing in digital and audio formats and Bookseller editor Phillip Jones, gives us a unique insight into the power of social media in the publishing world.

Join chair, David Barnett, and our expert panel for an informative discussion of the pros, pitfalls and possibilities of writing in the digital age.

ROBERT IRWIN, SF SAID
Norcroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford
1:30pm (75mins) £6

Arabian Nights: The Original Science Fiction

Kitāb ʿālī layla wa-layla, or the Arabian Nights, is a rich collection of stories within stories that effectively invented many of the modern forms of writing. Astonishingly, even science fiction is woven into this rich tapestry, a genre that many people believe started with Jules Verne in the 19th century.

The Adventures of Bulukiya tells of the quest for the herb of immortality, a journey across seas, through hell and then out into the cosmos. In Abdullah the Fisherman and Abdullah the Merman, the underwater world precedes Verne’s 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea. This text from the Islamic Golden Age was imagining aspects of the modern world hundreds of years before the science fiction masters of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Join event chair Ziauddin Sardar and authors, Robert Irwin and SF Said, for an extraordinary journey into the imaginations of the great storytellers of antiquity.

CHRIS HAUGHTON
City Library
2pm (60mins) FREE Children’s Event
Ages 3+ Please Book in Advance

Goodnight Everyone

Join woodland families of all shapes and sizes - from the tiniest mouse to the biggest bear - as they say “goodnight!” in this interactive reading of Chris Haughton’s gorgeously illustrated, starlit bedtime story.

Exploding with glorious, vibrant colour, Goodnight Everyone is a beautiful read for the littlest and biggest among us.

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

Nikesh Shukla
Isabel Costello
Molly Flatt
Robert Irwin
SF Said
Chris Haughton
Rebel Girls

Pushing boundaries and challenging expectations is the prerogative of teenage girls. They told you not to do something so, naturally, you broke the rules. After all, some rules were made to be broken.

Your parents told you not to stay out late, teachers told you not to be too opinionated and your friends warned you against being too clever.

The rebellious teenager is no new phenomenon and literature has featured some of the feistiest young female characters who are interesting, relatable and empowering and have shattered the stereotype of the moody, melodramatic teen girl.

Join our panel of female authors, Natasha Farrant, Lisa Williamson and Olivia Levez, and their trio of heroines, as they discuss rebellious girls who are unafraid to break boundaries, make mistakes and be themselves.

The T20 Revolution

As recently as the early 2000s, cricket was a sport that trundled along at a leisurely pace. It was characterised by hazy summer afternoons, lily-white outfits, and frequent tea breaks. Since 2003, this perception of the sport has been turned on its head by the official introduction of the Twenty20 format. Suddenly, international matches can have fluorescent pink equipment, fireworks for every wicket and even cheerleaders, thanks to the phenomenal commercial success of the limited overs game.

Our panel, featuring Rob Bagchi, David Hopps, Huw Turbervill and Tim Wigmore, will explore T20’s past, present and future, starting with village cricket, moving up to the international ranks and eventually forming entirely new franchises, such as the Indian Premier League and Big Bash. They will also attempt to answer the all-important question: will T20 kill test cricket?

Manga Workshop

Have you ever wanted to improve your Manga drawing skills? Perhaps you’d like to develop your Manga storytelling abilities, or wondered how to create the perfect Manga character? This is your chance to work with a professional Manga artist, from the weird and wonderful team at Sweatdrop Studios, to learn insider secrets and master the art of Manga.

Sweatdrop studios have been creating original comics and artwork for over fifteen years and their team includes professional illustrators and writers with numerous accolades and awards in the comic industry. In this event, artist and illustrator Ruth Keattch will be on hand to give you all the advice you need to hone your craft.

Spy Dog

Forget 007, it’s time to meet GM451: the Spy Dog – and the first of her kind.

In Andy Cope’s bestselling children’s series, Lara (the world’s first Secret Service mongrel) finds herself in the midst of adventure, fighting crime and injustice while trying not to get too fond of the family she’s chosen to look after her.

Come along on a hugely entertaining top secret mission with author, Andy Cope, as we follow in Lara’s paw prints to uncover evil masterminds and have a lot of fun along the way.

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.
Jeff Brazier: Surviving Loss

The loss of a loved one, be it a parent, child, partner or friend, leaves a permanent mark upon the lives of those left behind.

Jeff Brazier, reality star turned life coach, joins event chair, Peg Alexander, for an exploration of love, loss and strength as they discuss Jeff's own life and his new book The Grief Survival Guide: How to Navigate Loss and All That Comes with It.

Since the tragic loss of ex-partner, Jade Goody, in 2009, Jeff has been a single dad to their two sons, helping them come to terms with the loss of their mother. Having experienced bereavement in many forms, this event will see Jeff offer words of support and advice from someone who has been through grief and survived.

Camelot Through the Ages

The legendary tales of King Arthur and his knights have been embedded in the British cultural consciousness for over 1000 years. Along with the predestined King Arthur, the sage wizard Merlin and the romance of Lancelot and Guinevere, one of the most enduring themes of the Arthurian legend is the setting of Camelot itself.

For many centuries, historians and Arthurian enthusiasts have endeavoured to identify the location of Camelot, determined to prove where the castle and court existed, be it in Wales, the West Country, or even right here in West Yorkshire.

Join Peter Field, Emeritus Professor at the University of Bangor and former President of the International Arthurian Society, and event chair Remona Aly, as they discuss his theory that the true location of Camelot is right here in Yorkshire.

All About Me

Being young isn't always easy. Either someone's telling you that you need to think about your future and act like an adult, or you're frustrated because you're being treated like a child and can't do what you want.

Life throws all kinds of curveballs at you, from the spots on your face to the loves of your life.

Gemma Cairney, former fashion stylist, Radio 1 DJ, and author of Open: A Toolkit for How Magic and Messed Up Life Can Be joins us for an open and honest debate about the issues that can affect all young people.

In conversation with local campaigner, 16 year old Mehmoona Parvez, Gemma will discuss the big, bad and beautiful things that growing up is all about: from relationships to families to mental health and everything in between.
How to Create a Storybook and Get Published

What are the magic ingredients that go into producing the best-loved and bestselling children’s books? Whether you need tips on writing the perfect story, creating the most lovable pictures, or just how to get your work in the shops, this event will illuminate the process of writing, illustrating and publishing from once-upon-a-time to happily ever after.

This enlightening event will feature acclaimed children’s book creator, Chris Haughton, of A Bit Lost, Oh No George!, and Shh! We Have A Plan, his editor, Maria Elizabeth Tunney, and Walker picture book publisher, Deirdre McDermott, as they discuss the process of writing and publishing for young children.

Come along to find out how you could become the next bestselling children’s author.

Alif Layla: Genies, Djinn & Arabian Nights

Tales of magic lamps, powerful genies and the granting of wishes have always had a hold on our imagination, clearly demonstrated by the enduring popularity of Disney’s Aladdin. These fantastic tales originate from the Kitab ‘Alif layla wa-layla, One Thousand and One Nights, or as they’re more commonly known, the Arabian Nights.

Collected across the centuries by multiple authors, translators and scholars, the original tales are rooted in the fables and folklore of the East and their stories of magic, sorcerers and exotic lands have enchanted a global audience, inspiring authors, artists and filmmakers alike.

Join journalist, Boyd Tonkin, in conversation with Arabian Nights experts Robert Irwin and Marina Warner as they investigate the true origins of these tales, and explore how the Djinn of the Arabian Nights has morphed through time to become the Genie of the western imagination.

What’s in My Head?

Taking care of yourself means taking care of your mind. There has long been a stigma surrounding mental health issues that has meant young people are often reluctant to talk about things that might be getting them down.

Whether these things are happening at home, at school, or socially, they are a normal part of growing up. If you’re feeling lost, helpless, or even just a little bit low, reading a good book can make you feel less alone and equip you with the tools needed to take positive steps in life.

Event chair Steve Dearden will be joined by acclaimed YA authors, Steven Camden, (Nobody Real) and Sarah Mussi, (Room Empty) to talk about how mental health issues can affect young people and how they are writing books that get what you’re going through.

Slugboy Saves the World

In Mark Smith’s hilarious book, 11-year-old Murdo McLeod (aka ‘Slugboy’) is the world’s worst superhero.

Thanks to a strangely tasty-looking radioactive garden slug, Murdo now has a host of not-so-super and oh-so-gross abilities that he must use to save the world. In this fun, interactive session, hear about Slugboy’s adventures and help Mark think of silly names, terrible powers and ridiculous weaknesses to make the worst superhero ever!

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.
**AFSHIN SHAHI**  
City Hall Banqueting Suite  
3:30pm (60mins) £6

**Nostopia**
What do President Trump and the head of so-called Islamic State, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, have in common? What do Jeremy Corbyn and Marine Le Pen have in common? How about President Erdogan and Nigel Farage, do they have anything in common? It may surprise you to hear that yes, in fact, they do: they all suffer from Nostopia.

During the 19th and 20th centuries, utopian ideologies emerged as people searched for better visions of the future. These movements were fueled by a deeply held belief that the future would be better. We fought and died for the future, but where is our utopia today?

This is the age of Nostopia; an age in which nostalgia and utopia combine and promise a vision of our glorious history, regenerated to ‘rescue’ the masses from the ills of modern life. Join academic, Afshin Shahi, for a fascinating look into the phenomenon of Nostopia, as he argues that visions of the past now have the power to mobilise change.

Afshin Shahi  
@afshinshahi

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**COCO KHAN, SABRINA MAHFOUZ, NIKESH SHUKLA**  
Dye House Gallery, Bradford College  
3:30pm (75mins) £6

**The Good Immigrant**
The book that beat Harry Potter to become the readers’ favourite of 2016, *The Good Immigrant* is a collection of powerful and moving essays that reach to the heart of what it means to be black, Asian or Minority Ethnic in Britain today.

Join event chair Ralph Dartford, editor Nikesh Shukla and contributors, Coco Khan and Sabrina Mahfouz, for a behind-the-scenes look at the people, stories and experiences featured in this groundbreaking collection.

Showcasing the humanity behind the dry statistics and nationalist rhetoric that surround modern British immigration, *The Good Immigrant* is a shining example of the power of storytelling in bringing human beings together.

Coco Khan  
@cocobyname
Sabrina Mahfouz  
@sabrinamahfouz
Nikesh Shukla  
@nikeshshukla

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**OLIVER MORTON**  
The Repository, Bradford College  
4pm (60mins) £6

**The Planet Remade: How Geo-Engineering Could Change the World**
In this important and insightful event, British science writer and environment editor, Oliver Morton, explores the history, politics and cutting-edge science of geo-engineering and weighs the promise and perils of a number of controversial strategies.

A small but increasingly influential group of scientists has been exploring proposals for planned human intervention in the climate system. Potential approaches include a stratospheric veil against the sun, the cultivation of photosynthetic plankton and fleets of unmanned ships seeding the clouds.

Here, Oliver will address the fear that comes with seeing humans as a force of nature, while asking what it might mean - and what it might require of us - to try to use that force for good.

Oliver Morton  
@eaterofsun

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**AKRAM KHAN, ARTHUR I MILLER**  
Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College  
4pm (75mins) £6

**Colliding Worlds: Where Art Meets Science**
In recent decades, an exciting new art movement has emerged in which artists utilise and illuminate the latest advances in science.

Such provocative creations as a live rabbit implanted with the fluorescent gene of a jellyfish and a gigantic glass and chrome sculpture of the Big Bang can be seen in traditional art museums and magazines, while others are being made by leading designers at Pixar, Google’s Creative Lab and the MIT Media Lab.

Join Arthur I. Miller, author of *Colliding Worlds*, and Akram Khan, Professor of Experimental Particle Physics at CERN, as they discuss this new frontier and demonstrate that these two fields are not divided, but interconnected.

From NanoArt to Big Data, Miller and Khan will reveal the extraordinary possibilities that emerge when art and science collide.

Akram Khan  
@profakramkhan
Arthur I Miller  
@arthurimiller
Is Monogamy Dead?

Is it still possible to spend a lifetime with the same person? Or have we simply lost our belief in ‘the one’ and ‘till death do us part’? That is the question author, Rosie Wilby, asks in her latest book, *Is Monogamy Dead?: Rethinking Relationships in the 21st Century.*

In this captivating event, chaired by Iain Bloomfield, Rosie and fellow writers, Mona Eltahawy and Ziauddin Sardar, will discuss the changing nature of relationships and the evolution of monogamy in an increasingly fluid and interconnected world.

With growing numbers of people embracing the idea of polyamorous and open relationships, there is a growing question mark over the concept of the traditional couple and whether it ever really worked. Our panel will explore whether human nature has ever truly been monogamous and ask what the future of sex, love and relationships might look like.

**Game of Thrones Quiz**

Know your White Walkers from your Wildlings? Your Targaryens from your Tyrells?

Then why not join us for the ultimate *Game of Thrones* challenge, as super-fan Tom Huddleston tests your knowledge on the books and TV series, in the deepest, darkest dungeons of Sunbridge Wells.

Battle it out to be crowned King or Queen (of GOT knowledge) in the North and earn the right to come back next year and compete for free to defend your title.

Brace yourselves … the *Game of Thrones* quiz is coming!

**The Cottingley Fairies: 100 Years On**

In 1917, it was thought that fairies could be found at the bottom of a garden right here in Bradford. Two young cousins, Elsie Wright and Frances Griffiths, shocked the world with a series of astonishing photographs that appeared to show scenes of fairy gatherings at Cottingley Beck.

Authentication by none other than Sir Arthur Conan Doyle led to fairy-mania spreading far and wide. Since then, the story has taken on a life of its own, attracting global attention through books and film.

A century on and against the backdrop of this magical story, academic Merrick Burrow, author Vivian French and photographer John Hyatt, join event chair Kirsty Logan, to examine why children everywhere continue to be fascinated by fairies and ponder the legacy of the Cottingley story.

**Can There be a Post Gender Utopia?**

Since Caitlyn Jenner’s iconic Vogue cover in 2015, transgender issues have been given increasing prominence in the mainstream media. With a growing understanding of gender as more than just a male-female binary, can we move to a future where it no longer matters? Or does our biology still ultimately determine much of our life experience.

Writer and LGBT activist, Juno Dawson, and founder of the Women’s Equality Party, Catherine Mayer, join event chair Jodie Matthews, for a frank discussion of the realities of gender in the modern world.

This event will explore the ways in which we might challenge the discrimination still faced by women, transgender and non-binary people. Can we move beyond male and female boundaries and towards a gender-equal world?
The Lady of Shalott: Tennyson’s Camelot

“She hath no loyal knight and true, The Lady of Shalott.”

Alfred, Lord Tennyson’s *The Lady of Shalott* is an iconic poem of the Victorian era. It has inspired a vast cultural output, from Pre-Raphaelite art to Scandinavian pop music. However, it is by no means the only poem inspired by the Arthurian legend and the setting of Camelot.

Since Thomas Mallory’s *Le Morte D’Arthur* - the seminal Arthurian text in the English language - writers like Tennyson and Edmund Spenser have re-imagined Camelot to write allegories relevant to their times. Along with *The Idylls of the King*, Tennyson’s Camelot is one of the most famous.

Event chair Remona Aly is joined by two experts on the Arthurian legend, Raluca Radulescu and Matthew Townend, to consider the context and significance of Tennyson’s Camelot and its continuing relevance today.

Writing Empire

Writing is a form of resistance, particularly where cultures face erasure by oppressive forces. Throughout the history of Empire, there have been writers willing to speak out and to offer their own truths to counter dominant narratives.

Skilled novelists can make experiences that seem distant to us feel close and real, breaking down barriers between ourselves and others and enabling us to see the world in a different light.

Kamila Shamsie’s *A God In Every Stone* transported us into the lived experiences of Empire, while Nitasha Kaul’s *Residue* explored the complexities of exile from a decolonising nation and the blending of different heritages and cultures.

Join Kamila and Nitasha, in conversation with event chair, Boyd Tonkin, as they discuss what it means to write about the legacies of empire in a world where imperial pasts are increasingly viewed with nostalgia.

An Audience with Jeanette Winterson

“Book collecting is an obsession, an occupation, a disease, an addiction, a fascination, an absurdity, a fate. It is not a hobby. Those who do it must do it” – Jeanette Winterson.

Join us for an unmissable evening in the company of one of Britain’s most admired writers, the multi-award-winning Jeanette Winterson. Covering some of her most important influences and key themes of her work, Jeanette will talk about her life, her passions and her career, which began with the sensational *Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit*.

Over 30 years later, Jeanette’s work continues to explore themes of gender, physicality and the imagination, fairy tales, sexual identity and LGBT issues, as well as books such as *The Passion* and *Sexing The Cherry* have secured her a place amongst Britain’s greatest authors.

In this event, Jeanette will discuss her work, life and love of Shakespeare, which influenced her latest book *A Gap in Time*.

The Crows Plucked Your Sinews

Based on real events and incorporating epic Somali lyrical tradition, *The Crows Plucked Your Sinews* is a powerful, innovative and critically acclaimed one-woman show.

The lives of two women are depicted in parallel: a young Somali woman in London watching the assassination of Osama Bin Laden on the television and her formidable great-grandmother, a fearsome Dervish warrior defending her native soil in British Somaliland a century earlier. The two women are connected in an electrifying exchange that intimately explores the violence of empire and the poetry of resistance.

After the performance, writer and director, Hassan Mahamdallie, and company members will lead an open discussion on the themes and issues raised by his piece.
Lyrical Mehfil

Scottish makar, Jackie Kay, headlines this spectacular evening of poetry, featuring an unrivalled line-up of artists that cuts across the cultural divide and brings together an eclectic range of poetic styles and artistic voices from around the world. Inspired by traditional mehfils - gatherings of courtly entertainment performed for small audiences in the homes and palaces of South Asian nobility - it is a unique chance to experience a range of different voices and hear new and unfamiliar poetic verse in a cosy and intimate setting.

Accompanying Jackie Kay in our acclaimed line-up are Aviva Dautch, Raymond Antrobus, Jo Brandon, Naeem Haider, Shazeera Quraishi and Steven Camden, AKA Polarbear.

The Midland Hotel, Forster Square, Bradford, BD1 4HU
To book please ring our events team on 01274 735735 email: events@midland-hotel-bradford.com
Join a whole host of fairy tale friends as they turn Bradford into a magical, mythical wonderland. The Grimm Mash Up starts at 10:00am with an interactive performance adventure featuring everybody’s favourite characters, followed by a free screening of DreamWork’s Shrek at 11:30am.

We’ll also have free workshops throughout the day where you can show off your fairy tale talents, create your own fire breathing dragon or paper lantern and even make your own Rune script!

Join us for free events throughout the day. No booking required, just drop in!
King Arthur-Inspired Glass Painting Workshop

Come and join in this amazing King Arthur-inspired creative workshop where you will be creating colourful paintings on frames and glasses.

Be inspired by designs taken from the stained glass windows of the Tintagel Castle (King Arthur's Great Hall), swords, shields, crests, knights and old English manuscript calligraphy.

Immerse yourself in the myth and legend of King Arthur, making unique and personal pieces of creative artwork to take home with you.

From unsolved deaths at the Midland Hotel where staff were found dead beneath the dinner lift, to Rimmington's Pharmacy where the 'Humbug Billy' poisonings were investigated, Bradford is steeped in grisly Victorian mysteries that helped to inspire some of the 19th century's best crime writing.

This premiere event, specially devised by experts from the Bradford Police Museum, will take you on a tour through time to uncover the history of policing, crime and criminal justice from the 19th century to the modern day.

Dressed in authentic Victorian garb, our guides will escort you on a walking tour of historic locations that have become synonymous with crime and give you an insight into the events that shaped the dark and murky parts of the city's folklore.

Embroidery Comics Workshop

Have you always wanted to make your own comic? Now you have the chance to work with an award-winning comics artist to create your own pieces – with a twist.

Gareth Brookes makes weird and humorous graphic novels using experimental materials. In this unique event, you will be taught three or four basic stitches with which to create your own bespoke embroidery artwork.

With Gareth’s help, you will create a beautiful embroidered piece to take home and treasure.

This event is suitable for ages 7+, however, children under ten years old will require the help of an adult. All materials will be supplied.

Wonder Woman: From Amazon Warrior to UN Ambassador

Demi-goddess and Amazonian warrior Princess Diana of Themyscira - otherwise known as Wonder Woman - is the ultimate female superhero and remains one of the most iconic, kick-ass creations of the 20th century.

However, when the United Nations announced that Wonder Woman was a new honorary ambassador for women in 2016, it faced an internal and external backlash. Many felt that Wonder Woman was over-sexualised and that her role as the ultimate American pin-up girl and her use of violence, did not make her relatable to women and girls worldwide.

Join Wonder Woman experts, Joan Ormrod and Michael Goodrum, and feminist comics writer, Leah Moore, as they discuss Wonder Woman’s origins and cultural significance from past to present.
Although negative attitudes towards non-Christian religions have existed in the west for centuries, recent years have seen an undeniable increase in the unsettling trend towards a distinct distrust of Islam.

Whether it’s France banning the burkini, UKIP proposing a ban on veils, or President Trump’s anti-Muslim rhetoric, Islamophobia is becoming more accepted and, frighteningly, more mainstream. The ramifications of this current distrust have real-world consequences for Muslims, with people encountering prejudice across their daily routines, at the workplace and even in their children’s schools.

Our panel brings together French and European Politics lecturer, Jim Wolfreys, Franco-British broadcaster, Myriam Francois, and International Relations expert, Dibyesh Anand, to discuss the current global trend of Islamophobia, the role played by governments and media and its political and personal ramifications for Muslims.

AFSHIN SHAHI, DAVID OLUSOGA, KIM WAGNER
Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College
10:30am (60mins) £6

3 x 15: The Forgotten History of Empire

A recent poll found that nearly half of all British people are proud of the country’s imperial history. Given this, how accurate is our historical understanding of Empire?

Three experts offer us insights into the consequences of Empire for the people who lived under British colonial rule in Africa, the Middle East and the Indian Subcontinent. In accessible 15-minute segments, these talks offer the essential historical background crucial for understanding the ongoing legacies of the British Empire in these regions today.

Join historian and broadcaster, David Olusoga, international relations expert, Afshin Shahi, and author and historian, Kim Wagner, as they discuss the role of the British Empire in the wider world.

AFSHIN SHAHI
The Repository, Bradford College
10:30am (60mins) £6

Hydropolitics: Conflicts of the Future

With sea levels rising at a disturbing rate, it may not seem conceivable that water could ever run out. But right now, across the globe, conflict is breaking out between peoples over this most essential of natural resources.

A decade ago, the thinking was that hydropolitics – the politics of water – would perhaps become an issue at some point in the far future. We would, the theory went, eventually stop squabbling over oil and move on to argue over water instead. Only we got the timescales wrong: that time is now. It is estimated that in less than 10 years’ time, more than half the world’s population will face water vulnerability.

Join Dr Afshin Shahi, expert in international relations and Middle East politics, as he explains that looking deeper into the current conflicts will reveal water at the heart of everything. The stuff of life has become something we will fight to the death over.

LARI DON
Michele Sutton, Bradford College
10:30am (60mins) £3 Children’s Event Ages 7+

Spellchasers

Magic, adventure and danger collide in Lari Don’s exciting fantasy trilogy, Spellchasers, as Molly Drummond finds herself on the receiving end of a particularly nasty witch’s curse!

Along with four magical classmates – a kelpie, a dryad, a sphinx and a mysterious toad – Molly balances her time between doing her homework and going on dangerous quests to solve her curse conundrum.

Join author, Lari Don, in this spellbinding event as she reads from her new book and talks about the myths and legends that inspire her.

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.
Have you ever kept a diary? If you have, you’ll know the powerful feeling of putting your thoughts to paper and telling your greatest secrets to somebody who will never judge you.

John Siddique has been described as one of the best poets of a generation, but he also knows the power that journalling can have on improving our mental health and well-being.

In this exclusive workshop, John will offer practical tips and guidance on how to keep a journal and how to get the most out of the writing experience.

This session will be great fun for beginners and experienced writers alike. Please bring a notebook and pen with you.

Meet the Literary Agent

This is an exclusive event for anyone currently in the process of writing a book.

Would you like the opportunity to put your first chapter under the nose of a leading Literary Agent? Well, now is your chance.

Kate Nash understands what it’s like being an author; she’s had several of her own novels published. She founded the Kate Nash Literary Agency in January 2009 and now represents an array of bestselling authors.

A ticket to this event will buy you a 10-minute time slot and a one-on-one interview with Kate herself. During your meeting, she will provide feedback and advice to help you progress with your work and ultimately move a step closer to becoming a published author.

Attendees will be allotted a 10-minute time slot between 10:30am and 4pm and asked to supply a short manuscript or first chapter by no later than 28th June.
The Rebel Queen + Director Q&A

The Rebel Queen reveals the forgotten history of Maharani Jindan Kaur: the firebrand female leader who stood up against an Empire.

Wife of one Maharajah and mother of another, Jindan Kaur was the last Sikh ruler of Lahore whose life is almost unbelievable. Forcibly separated from her son, imprisoned by the British, escaping and travelling hundreds of miles to safety, she led two wars against the British and refused to cooperate right up to the end of her rebellious life.

World experts and commentators along with rare archival images reveal the triumphant and tragic story of this fearless challenger to British Empire.

The film will be followed by a Q&A with the director, Michael Singh, and historian and author, Christy Campbell, author of The Maharajah’s Box.

Jackie Kay In Conversation with Lemn Sissay

Few British poets have tackled questions of identity, sexuality, immigration, race, discrimination and gender as fearlessly as Jackie Kay and Lemn Sissay; few poets anywhere have done so with such style, acclaim and resounding success.

This one-off event is a rare chance to see two of the country’s best-loved and most inspirational contemporary poets in conversation and an opportunity for the writers to set their own agenda and discuss the topics and issues at the forefront of their creative minds.

This will be an open and unscripted discussion between two pioneers of the arts, who have both made the remarkable transition from marginal voice to national treasure and whose work has reverberated around the globe.
The Tartan Turban: A Scot at Maharaja Ranjit Singh’s Court

The travels of Scottish-American explorer, Alexander Gardner,clip the line between credible adventure and creative invention. At a time when no other outsider had managed any comparable feat, Gardner roamed the deserts of Turkestan, rode around the world’s most fearsome knot of mountains and fought as the first American in Afghanistan.

While Gardner’s contemporaries generally believed his far-fetched accounts, future historians have been more sceptical. Fame finally caught up with him during his long retirement in Kashmir, where he dressed in tartan, lived as a native and regaled audiences with tales of his past, before he passed away and left the whereabouts of his accumulated fortune a mystery.

Join Kersten England, Chief Executive of Bradford Council, as she talks with historian, John Keay, about his new biography of Gardner and unravels the greatest enigma in the history of travel.

John Keay
Advanced Technology Centre,
Bradford College
11:45am (60mins) £6

Why We’re Losing the War on Terror

After the tragic events of 9/11, the western world declared war on terror, promising to ‘make the world a safer place’. Today, 15 years on, the UK faces a level of threat not seen in over 40 years. So, are we losing the war on terror?

As the world changes, terrorism changes with it and authorities everywhere are constantly playing catch-up. Between armed forces fighting in the Middle East and security forces trying to prevent attacks on our doorstep, the threats to peace seem increasingly ubiquitous and abstract.

At this event, we welcome Professor Paul Rogers, expert in international security, to explain why we haven’t won the war on terror and to offer his take on the true nature of threats to the UK.

Paul Rogers
The Repository, Bradford College
11:45am (60mins) £6

Creating Stories

Acclaimed children’s author, Vivian French, and award-winning illustrator, Petr Horácek, need your help to create an amazing new book!

Come along and lend a hand as they write and illustrate a book from scratch in this creative and participatory workshop, all about how a story gets made.

With your help, they will create a brand new story and show you how to make your ideas come to life with nothing but a pen and a piece of paper.

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

Vivian French
Petr Horácek
Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre,
David Hockney Building, Bradford College
11:45am (60mins) £3 Children’s Event Ages 7+

Incarnations: The History of India in 50 Lives

For all India’s myths, its wealth of stories and its moral epics, many influential figures of Indian history remain curiously unknown. In his authoritative and illuminating work, author Sunil Khilnani brings to life 50 extraordinary men and women whose contributions have shaped both India and the world.

Journeying across India in pursuit of their stories, visiting slum temples, Ayurvedic call centres, Bollywood studios, textile mills and Mughal fortresses, Khilnani paints incisive portraits of emperors, warriors, philosophers, artists, iconoclasts and entrepreneurs. Some of these historical figures are famous, while others are unjustly forgotten.

Join Khilnani as he explores over 2000 years of Indian and world history through the lives that light up its rich heritage and its continuous ferment of ideas, from the spiritualist Buddha to the capitalist Dhirubhai Ambani, through the ancient world to the modern day.

Sunil Khilnani
City Hall Chamber
12pm (60mins) £6

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Sunil Khilnani
City Hall Chamber
12pm (60mins) £6

You can purchase tickets for all events via our website, www.bradfordlitfest.co.uk, or by calling our box office on 01274-238-374.
Game of Thrones: Myths & History

Game of Thrones is a phenomenon. For fans of the books, or the HBO super-hit series, it has taken over their lives. Everybody wants to know everything.

George R.R. Martin himself has stated that he takes his inspiration straight from the history books and you may well have heard that many of the storylines are based on Medieval British History.

In this must-see event for all Thrones-addicts, Carolyne Larrington, author of Winter is Coming: The Medieval World of Game of Thrones, and fantasy author and GOT super-fan, Tom Huddleston, will delve into the myths and history of the bestselling series.

From direwolves, sigils and giants in medieval texts; old gods and the Weirwood in Norse myth; and a gothic, exotic orient in the eastern continent, Essos - it turns out that the world of GOT could be closer to our own than we ever imagined.

Tom Huddleston
@TomHuddleston_

Carolyne Larrington
@profcarolyne

Noel Smith, Pete White
City Hall Banqueting Suite
12:15pm (60mins) £6

Reading Behind Bars

For most people, reading is a way of imagining ourselves in a different position, place, or even another world. There are, however, some situations where the power of literacy and stories to transport the reader is even more important.

Prison can be a desperate place for men and women serving custodial sentences, but for some it can also be a space for reflection and change.

This event brings together two men who have experienced the reality of the prison system and have come out on the other side.

Join us as we delve into the astonishing experiences of Pete White and Noel ‘Razor’ Smith, their time both in prison and out and how literature has helped to change their lives.

This is a true tale of redemption through reading and will be chaired by broadcaster Peg Alexander.

Tom Huddleston
@TomHuddleston_

Carolyne Larrington
@profcarolyne

Noel Smith
@NoelWhite

Pete White
@PositivePrison

The Bare Lit Anthology

The 2016 debut of London’s Bare Lit Festival, with its groundbreaking dedication to the works of diaspora writers and its innovative use of crowd-funding, sent a shockwave around the literary world and garnered national and international acclaim.

To coincide with the triumphant return of the festival in 2017, Bare Lit published the first Bare Lit Anthology, showcasing short stories, poems and genre-defying works from award-winning British authors of colour.

We have gathered together an acclaimed panel of festival and anthology contributors to discuss the inspirations and background behind Bare Lit, its impact and relevance in contemporary society and to explore where this unstoppable festival phenomenon might go next.

Tom Huddleston
@TomHuddleston_

Carolyne Larrington
@profcarolyne

Noel Smith
@NoelWhite

Pete White
@PositivePrison

Raymond Antrobus, Kavita Bhanot, Courttia Newland
Dye House Gallery, Bradford College
12:15m (75mins) £6

Holy Terrors

Welsh writer Arthur Machen was a true master of the macabre, sometimes seen as Britain’s answer to HP Lovecraft, but he remains relatively unknown. New film Holy Terrors, featuring four of Machem’s finest supernatural stories, aims to redress this neglect.

Set in Victorian and Edwardian England, the stories of deadly ritual, wartime ghosts, drugs, crime, and murder retain their chilling quality to the present day. Filmed on location in Whitby, the films star Timothy Greenwood and feature the voices of Joyce Brannagh and Jon Preece.

After the film, Machen experts Mark Valentine, Ray Russell, and Gail-Nina Anderson, along with filmmaker Mark Goodall, will discuss Arthur Machen’s life and work.

Tom Huddleston
@TomHuddleston_

Carolyne Larrington
@profcarolyne

Noel Smith
@NoelWhite

Pete White
@PositivePrison

Gail-Nina Anderson
Mark Goodall
Ray Russell
Mark Valentine
Student Central Cinema, University of Bradford
12:45m (120mins) £6 Film Screening & Panel Discussion

Box Office: 01274 238 374
www.bradfordlitfest.co.uk

@bradfordlitfest
Paul Batten
David Hockney Building, Bradford College
1pm (45mins) £3 Children’s Event Ages 5+

A Dragons Tale: Performance

 Foolishly, John Lambton throws the strange, googly-eyed fish back into the river. It grows and grows and GROWS until…well, you’ll have to come along and find out!

Using puppets, music, beautiful scenery and a little bit of magic, The Dragon’s Tale is a captivating performance, based on the legend of the Lambton worm, written and performed by Paul Batten of Theatrix Arts.

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

Petř Horáček
Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College
1pm (60mins) £3 Children’s Event Ages 3+

Storytelling with Pictures

Have you ever wondered how your favourite illustrations were created?
Perhaps you’re a budding illustrator, or maybe you just love colourful characters!

Much-loved characters like Puffin Peter, Blue Penguin and Silly Suzy Goose, have been brought to life by award-winning Czech illustrator Petř Horáček, whose storybook The Mouse Who Reached the Sky was shortlisted for the IBW book award in 2016.

Join Peter for this intimate storytelling event and watch him bring to life some of his most heart-warming characters with a live drawing session.

Suitable for anybody, from age 3 to 103.
Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

Christy Campbell, Lemn Sissay
Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College
1pm (60mins) £6

Lost Princes of Empire

Duleep Singh, or the Black Prince of Perthshire, was a ruling Maharaja in India, taken into British care at the age of 10. Anglicised and prevented from contacting his mother, he lived a lavish lifestyle at various British country houses, with little understanding of his own heritage.

Dejazmatch Alemayehu Tewodros was the son of an Ethiopian Emperor. Upon the death of his father at the hands of the British army, he was taken against his dying mother’s wishes and sent to Britain. Alemayehu died of pleurisy in Leeds at the age of 18.

This event will shed light on the human tragedy that lies behind the grand narratives of Empire. Poet Lemn Sissay, an expert on the story of Prince Alemayehu, and Christy Campbell, author of The Maharajah’s Box: An Imperial Story of Conspiracy, Love and a Guru’s Prophecy will reveal the fascinating lives of the Lost Princes of Empire.
It can feel overwhelming to try to make sense of what is going on in the world today. Politics has become dramatically more polarised, climate change is an ever-increasing threat and terrorism seems to be spreading - and that’s just what we see on the news - what else might be going on that we’re yet to hear about?

Our event features three speakers who have their finger on the international pulse and will bring you up to date with both national and worldwide events. Join Bishop Nick Baines, Professor Paul Rogers and writer, politician and diplomat, Shashi Tharoor, for a truly global update on current affairs, as they discuss how what happening today might affect us all tomorrow.

Join feminist writer, Mona Eltahawy, MP Naz Shah and novelist and lawyer, Hina Belitz, for a frank discussion of hymen obsessions, exploring why the control of female sexuality remains prevalent across cultures and what this means for the equality and well-being of women.

Female Genital Mutilation is illegal throughout Britain. Despite this, more than 20,000 girls a year remain at risk in the UK. Meanwhile, mainstream private clinics are increasingly advertising surgery to repair the hymen, a purely aesthetic practice with no medical benefit, designed to suggest a woman’s virginity. These practices and beliefs attach a high moral value on the control of female sexuality, which, in its most extreme form, can even lead to honour killings.

This event, chaired by Aisha K Gill, will ask why contemporary culture continues to be so obsessed with the hymen.

The word ‘Islam’ is in the headlines all the time, but how much do we really know about the thinking that shaped the world’s second-largest faith?

Religious thinkers, political leaders, lawmakers, writers and philosophers have all helped to shape the 1400-year-long development of the religion of Islam. But who were these people? What do we know of their lives and the ways in which they influenced their societies?

Join author Chase F. Robinson as he discusses his latest book, Islamic Civilization in 30 Lives. Weaving together the lives and experiences of 30 ambitious men and women, this enlightening book creates a rich narrative of Islamic civilisation, from the Prophet Muhammad, to the world conqueror Timur and the Ottoman Sultan Mehmed II. What emerges is a fascinating portrait of the richness and diversity of Islamic societies since the 7th century.

Crime writing has sunk its teeth into Bradford, playing on the city’s unique history, northern grit and diverse communities.

Thrilling new novels by authors such as our bestselling panelists, Bradfordians A. A. Dhand and Liz Mistry, have hit the top of the fiction charts, providing twisted glimpses into a beloved city of familiar streets suddenly dark, deceiving and dangerous.

In this event, chaired by author Michael Stewart, our panel will discuss what it is about the character of Bradford that keeps it at the forefront of this new, distinctly northern, noir phenomenon.
Doctor Who: Legends of the Time Lords

Myths hold up a mirror to our past, present and future, explaining our culture, our history, our hopes and fears. In this must-see event for all Whovians and fans of myths and legends, Doctor Who writer, Richard Dinnick, brings the heroes, villains, gods and monsters of the Whoniverse to life.

Far from Austen’s home in Southern England, the metropolitan elite of Pakistan – mostly women – hold Regency afternoon teas in honour of their favourite novelist. In a society where a good marriage is still the key to a prosperous future, the world of Austen’s writing, which to British readers seems old fashioned and quaint, is very real and entirely relevant for many young women.

In this fascinating talk, Moni Mohsin, author of Austen-inspired novels such as Duty Free and member of the Jane Austen Society of Islamabad, sheds light on this lesser-known aspect of Austen’s legacy. This unique event will provide a fascinating glimpse into a culture which may at first glance seem far away, but which is linked closely to ours through a shared love of all things Austen.

The Books They Don’t Want You to Read

Why do some schools and parents ban books that they claim are dangerous? What messages might be hidden in their pages that authority figures find threatening?

Books on subjects such as sexuality, radicalisation and race can help us navigate our way through otherwise hidden issues and those that could be considered dangerous can also be the ones that have the biggest potential to change the way we think about the world. So, should YA fiction be censored to solely focus on subjects which are deemed “suitable” and “appropriate” for teenagers?

Our panel, chaired by Steve Dearden, includes the founding father of YA fiction, Melvin Burgess, whose first novel Junk sparked national debate, along with Tariq Mehmood, author of The Song of Gulzarina and Juno Dawson, author of Margot & Me. Join our authors as they discuss the “dangerous” books that they think you need to read.

Embroidery Comics Workshop

Have you always wanted to make your own comic? Now you have the chance to work with an award-winning comics artist to create your own pieces – with a twist.

Gareth Brookes makes weird and humorous graphic novels using experimental materials. In this unique event, you will be taught three or four basic stitches with which to create your own bespoke embroidery artwork.

With Gareth’s help you will create a beautiful embroidered piece to take home and treasure.

This event is suitable for ages 7+ however, children under ten years old will require the help of an adult. All materials will be supplied.
Journalling Workshop

The practice of keeping a journal can be transformational to our work, health and wellbeing. In this exclusive event, poet and author John Siddique will show you how a journal can enhance your life and awaken your creativity.

As well as being an Honorary Fellow in Creative Writing at Leicester University and the former Canterbury Laureate, John is a spiritual teacher and the founder of Authentic Living, and his work aims to encourage people to discover their "true naturalness".

In this unmissable journalling workshop, John will help you to explore the ways that writing and memoir can be harnessed as tools of holistic self-development.

This session will be of value to beginners and the most experienced writers alike. Please bring a notebook and pen with you.

A Dragon’s Tale: Workshop

The fantastical puppets featured in A Dragon’s Tale brought the old folk tale of the Langton Worm to life. Now is your chance to meet the puppets themselves and even create your very own dragon!

Join Paul Batten, artistic director of Theatrix Arts, for a behind-the-scenes glimpse at the puppet theatre, where he will share the secrets of bringing magical creatures to life on the stage.

In this fun and creative workshop, you will have the opportunity to create your own dragon puppetry and learn some of the tricks of the trade that could help you to become a master puppeteer!

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

My Dad’s Beard

Join author, Zanib Mian, as she reads from her wonderful picture book, My Dad’s Beard, told from the perspective of a young boy who loves his father (and his beard) very much. From tickly kisses to how it looks at different times of the day, come along to find out why he admires it and why Grandma, Mum and his little sister love it too!

Following the reading, Zanib will lead a fun workshop for little fingers, giving you the chance to make a beard of your very own (as long and as tickly as you want!).

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

Loyal Enemies: Britain’s First Muslims

The first convert to Islam in Britain was William Abdullah Quilliam, born William Henry, the son of a Methodist preacher. William opened Britain’s first working Mosque and was just one of many Christians to convert to Islam during the Victorian period. These early British Muslims suffered persistent allegations of ‘divided’ loyalties, and were considered to be torn between the British Crown and the Ottoman Empire.

Join acclaimed historians, Jamie Gilham and Ron Geaves and writer Myriam Francois-Cerrah, as they reveal the fascinating story of Muslims in Victorian Britain. The panel will consider how these early converts shared many of the same anxieties and faced much of the same hostility experienced by modern Muslims in Britain today.

This event, chaired by journalist Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, will provide much needed context and a unique insight into the past, present and future of British Islam.
We are all aware of Britain’s involvement in the slave trade and of West Indian immigrants arriving in Britain to serve in the armed forces during the early 20th century. However, did you know that the relationship between Britain and people whose origins lie in Africa stretches all the way back to the Roman empire?

In his landmark BBC television series, David Olusoga documented this enduring and yet often overlooked relationship. From the African Romans who guarded Hadrian’s Wall in the 3rd century AD, to the black trumpeter of the Tudor courts, he uncovered a history that is as surprising as it is revealing.

In this enlightening event, David will share original records, expert testimony and contemporary interviews, as well as personal discoveries made through his own genetic and genealogical research, to give voice to the forgotten history of black people in Britain.
The Black Prince

In the modern world, the idea of information spreading rapidly and ‘going viral’ is certainly nothing new. However, in 1517 when Martin Luther nailed his “95 Theses” to the door of a Church, he could not have known what it would set in motion.

The influence of the printing press in the revolution that followed is important; the internet leap of the early modern world. Equally as important was its translation from elitist Latin to the common German tongue, eventually allowing the whole of Europe, to share in Luther’s outrage.

Five centuries on, join Renaissance literature expert, Professor Brian Cummings and Bishop Nick Baines, as they approach the Reformation from their own wide-ranging perspectives and explore the fascinating parallels between the issues and advancements of the reformation and the modern day.

Neil Gaiman: Dream Dangerously

Neil Gaiman is one of the world’s most beloved storytellers; a New York Times #1 bestselling author who has built a major reputation with novels such as Sandman, Coraline and The Graveyard Book, many of which have now been adapted for film and television.

Over the last two decades, Gaiman has thrilled his fans with special live readings and book-signings and in 2013 he set out on the largest book signing tour in history. Spanning 40 cities in three months, the tour was billed as the final signing tour he’ll ever make; one last chance to talk to the fans who love his work and show his appreciation for their years of support.

This documentary by Patrick Meaney follows him on that journey, combining tour footage with extensive interviews, and with the help of friends such as Michael Sheen, George R. R. Martin and Jonathan Ross, tells the unprecedented story of Neil’s life.
Disrobing Mr Darcy

When considering the quintessential romantic hero, few characters have come close to the strength, valour and all-out perfection of Jane Austen’s dashing Mr Darcy. Played by a host of actors across film, theatre and television all over the world, from Hollywood to Bollywood. In the 1940s, we swooned over Laurence Olivier and in the 1990s he was iconised by Colin Firth, before going on to seduce a new generation of fans as they watched him fall in love with hapless heroine, Bridget Jones.

Our panel, made up of historian Carol Dyhouse and Austen expert Janet Todd, will examine what it is about the character of Mr Darcy that has set the bar for heroic heartthrobs ever since. Why is it that this particular man has so enthralled audiences since the 1800s? Join us as we explore the origins of Mr Darcy and ask whether Austen created the ideal man because she was unable to find him in real life.

Carol Dyhouse
Moni Mohsin
Janet Todd

Enter the Whoniverse

Calling all Whovians!

Doctor Who has been defeating monsters and saving planets for well over 50 years. Join us as we discover the secrets of the Time Lord with the writers who bring him to life.

Authors Jonathan Morris, Cavan Scott and Mike Tucker have all spent time in the Whoniverse and written thrilling new adventures, the latest of which feature the Doctor and his newest companion, Bill. With in-depth knowledge of everything Whovian, these writers will provide a unique and unrivalled insight, making this an absolute must-see event for fans and fantasy-lovers alike.

Chaired by David Barnett, be prepared for a frightfully good time as our panel discuss everything from the Shining Men to the Night Doctor and delve into the stories of one of the universe’s best-loved heroes.

Jonathan Morris
Cavan Scott
Mike Tucker

Myths & Legends From Around the World

Jump aboard and buckle up for a journey into the fantastic worlds of myth and legend with your captain, intrepid folktale explorer, Saviour Pirotta. Saviour is a bestselling children’s author, renowned for his adaptations of ancient tales. Join him on a richly illustrated tour of six continents through different storytelling traditions from every corner of our globe.

Perfect for adventurers big and small, these entertaining and beautifully told folktales will transport you to snow-capped mountains, burning hot deserts and deep green jungles. All you need to bring is your imagination.

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

Saviour Pirotta

Saviour Pirotta

Carol Dyhouse
Moni Mohsin
Janet Todd

Jonathan Morris
Cavan Scott
Mike Tucker
SUNDAY 02 JULY

MONA ELTAHAWY, DAMIAN FLANAGAN, CHRISTOPHER DE BALLAIGUE
Norcroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford
3:30pm (75mins) £6

Writing Revolution

Litigation has the power to change lives, whether on a personal level, in relationships, or in politics. It is something that many people turn to in times of turmoil; we look to our favourite writers to help us make sense of the world around us.

Across genres, writing has been used as a political tool and works such as Dickens’ Great Expectations and Wilfred Owen’s Anthem for Doomed Youth have become infamous for making explicit political statements. Conversely, other writers and artists such as Billy Joel have purposely avoided discussing their politics in public.

In this stellar panel, writers Mona Eltahawy, Damian Flanagan and Christopher de Bellague discuss how a writer might negotiate their political views within their career and whether their writing can ever, and should ever, be removed from the world of politics.

Mona Eltahawy @monaeltahawy
Damian Flanagan @DamianFlanagan
Christopher de Bellague @bellagueC

BISHOP NICK BAINES, MYRIAM FRANCOIS, ZIAUDDIN SARDAR
Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College
4pm (75mins) £6

Can There Be a British Islam?

Ever since the 16th century, Muslims have lived, worked and practised their faith in England and now Islam is the second-largest religion in the UK. Despite this, many still view British and Islamic values as two opposing sets of ideals.

In China, Islam has become fused with Chinese cultural identity. This can be seen in the classic Chinese architecture of the mosques and the development of a distinct Chinese-Arabic language.

Join Bishop Nick Baines, writer Myriam Francois and cultural critic Ziauddin Sardar, as they discuss whether this level of integration is possible within the UK and if so, what are the issues that are holding it back? This panel questions whether there can be an Islam that is distinctly British, combining cultural and religious traditions to create a new, unique British Muslim identity.

Bishop Nick Baines @nickbaines
Myriam Francois @MyriamFrancoisC
Ziauddin Sardar @ziauddinsardar

GERVASE PHINN
Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford
4pm (60mins) £6

Gervase Phinn In Conversation

A hero in school staff rooms throughout the country, we are thrilled to welcome comedian, author, poet, broadcaster, educational guru and “born raconteur” (The Guardian) Gervase Phinn to this year’s Festival.

A man of many talents, best-known for his uproarious accounts of life as a school inspector, his latest novel, Secrets at the Little Village School, is packed full of humour, warmth and village drama.

In conversation with Peg Alexander, Phinn will give a unique and personal insight into his extraordinary life and career. Covering everything from his childhood growing up in Yorkshire in the 1950s and his years as a teacher, to being a bestselling author and appearing on some of Britain’s best-loved television programmes. Come along and share in the compelling, funny, heart-warming tale of a Yorkshire lad with a sharp eye for detail and a wicked ear for comedy.

Gervase Phinn

SHASI THAROOR
City Hall Chamber
4pm (60mins) £6

Inglorious Empire: What The British Did to India

For many Britons, the age of Empire – when Britannia ruled the waves and vast swathes of the world – is the golden age of British history.

But what was the true cost of Empire for the colonies and their citizens? British imperialism justified itself as enlightened despotism for the benefit of the governed. Yet, beyond conquest and deception, the Empire blew rebels from cannons, massacred unarmed protesters, entrenched institutionalised racism, and caused millions to die from starvation.

Join author and Indian Politician, Shashi Tharoor, as he demonstrates how every supposed imperial “gift”, from the railways to the rule of law, was designed in Britain’s interests alone. In this bold and incisive reassessment of colonialism, Tharoor exposes to devastating effect the inglorious reality of Britain’s stained Indian legacy.

Shashi Tharoor @ShashiTharoor

Box Office: 01274 238 374
www.bradfordlitfest.co.uk

Facebook.com/bradfordlitfest
@bradfordlitfest

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LGBT 50

Five decades after the landmark legislation that changed gay rights forever, how far has the LGBT community come and how far does it have left to go?

The Sexual Offences Act 1967 decriminalised private homosexual acts between two men over the age of 21. Whilst the act was a significant victory for the LGBT+ community, battles are still being fought to bring true equality.

Our panel, featuring some of Britain’s most influential LGBT+ figures, Polari founder, Paul Burston, activist, Phyll Opoku-Gyimah and human rights campaigner, Peter Tatchell, will celebrate some of their own LGBT heroes, discuss how much progress has been made over the past half-century and assess what issues the community still has to tackle today.

Paul Burston, Phyll Opoku-Gyimah, Peter Tatchell
City Hall Banqueting Suite
4pm (75mins) £6

Angela Carter: A Celebration of Her Life and Works

Join us as we delve into the wicked humour and irreverent feminism of one of Britain’s most revered writers.

Angela Carter’s lifelong attraction to fantasy and the fairy tale genre informed her novels, from The Magic Toyshop (1967) to Wise Children (1991). The vibrant and often twisted world of the fairy story perfectly matched her particular brand of sexual, subversive fiction.

One of the most celebrated authors of the 20th century, her stories have inspired art, film, television and a whole generation of new writers.

Join event chair, Boyd Tonkin, and authors Christopher Frayling, Edmund Gordon and Kirsty Logan for a look into the life and works of Angela Carter, a modern icon of the fairy tale genre.

Christopher Frayling, Edmund Gordon, Kirsty Logan
The Repository, Bradford College
4pm (75mins) £6

Post Truth Satire in Comics & Graphic Novels

At this stand-out event, two acclaimed artists will explain why comics and graphic novels might be among the most effective platforms for satire and examine the central role they can play in negotiating our post-truth world.

Hannah Berry’s highly anticipated graphic novel, Livestock, offers a socio-political satire on the relationship between politics, the media and the rest of us. Tom Humberstone takes his pick from world news when choosing source material for his satirical cartoons, he is a former political cartoonist for the New Statesman and regular long-form comic journalist for The Nib, Vox and Cartoon Movement.

So how do graphic artists like Hannah and Tom tackle the news when the global media and influential figures seem to be shifting away from objective facts, appealing instead to people’s instincts, emotions and personal beliefs?

Hannah Berry, Tom Humberstone
Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford
4:30pm (60mins) £6
Until relatively recently, nasheeds, the traditional devotional music of Islam – the equivalent of hymns - have always been sung in either Arabic or Urdu. However, over the past two decades, second generation Muslims, born and raised in the UK, have responded to this by producing nasheeds in the English language.

What started off as devotional practice has since evolved and with hordes of intensely devoted fans, many groups are now more akin to boy bands like One Direction than traditional naat singers of yesteryear. For some, this amalgamation of religion and popular culture is problematic.

Join former Malaysian popstar and Critical Muslim editor, Shanon Shah, Deputy Director of the Muslim Institute, Samia Rahman and journalist, Ehsan Masood, as they discuss this Islamic pop phenomenon.
From beastly undead beings dressed in shrouds, to pale, slim, sophisticated figures wearing suits; our idea of the vampyre has evolved over time. What is it about these characters that has given them such an enduring appeal throughout the history of mass culture?

Christopher Frayling has spent 45 years exploring the history of the vampyre in literature, from classics of the genre like Bram Stoker’s Dracula and Angela Carter’s The Bloody Chamber, to lesser-known stories from the vampyre heartlands of eastern Europe. You could say that vampyres are in his blood. Will Hill has uses the mythology of vampyres in his gripping Department 19 series, in which a young man is drawn into a secret government agency that has been battling against dark forces for centuries.

Join Will and Christopher for a gripping account of the history of these fictitious figures that continue to captivate readers and audiences the world over.

Featuring adult language, nudity and scenes of a sexual nature, this film has been rated 15.

Banned in India on its release in 2016 for being ‘lady-oriented’, Lipstick Under My Burkha is an unapologetically feminist film following four feisty women in small-town India.

Though stifled and trapped in their worlds, these four women assert their rights and claim their desires through small acts of courage and stealthy rebellion. This important, beautiful film is about women who refuse to be confined by the restrictions placed upon their lives by others and instead choose to fight for their small freedoms where they can.

Since its release, Lipstick Under My Burkha has gone on to win the Oxfam Award for Best Film on Gender Equality and Glasgow Film Festival’s Audience Award.

From the unnerving tales of the Brothers Grimm to the nail-biting films of Hitchcock and the mind-bending novels of Stephen King, scary stories have always had a peculiar hold on us.

Come with us as we journey to the chilling edge of myths and fables and fire up the shadowy depths of our imagination to examine whether there is more to our liking for a scary tale than meets the eye. Does horror help us to confront the very real fears that we all face in everyday life? Or are we simply biologically programmed to enjoy the rush?

Join event chair Yvette Huddleston and authors Kirsty Logan, Juno Dawson and Peadar Ó Guilín for a thrilling exploration into the human psyche and the frightening allure of horror films and fiction.
Lunch Bites: Journalism

Now, more than ever, good journalism is crucial to society. With the proliferation of fake news, growing digitisation of papers, and increasing anxiety over who controls large media outlets, the role of the journalist is changing rapidly. On top of this, journalism is a notoriously difficult profession for young writers to break into.

If it’s your dream to be a top journalist, bringing the world up to date on the most important issues of the day, reviewing the latest film releases, or reporting from major sporting events, come and get advice from someone who’s done it.

Join journalist, and editor, Samia Rahman for an event that tells you all you need to know about what it means to be a journalist today.

Political Memoirs: Harriet Harman & Rachel Reeves

A fantastic double-bill featuring two generations of female Labour politicians. Harriet Harman’s recent autobiography, Harriet Harman: A Woman’s Work, explores 40 years of the political landscape, from civil liberties in the 1970s, through the dark days of the 1980s and into power in the 1990s. During her time as a student and then again in Parliament, she has faced sexism and fought it all the way.

Rachel Reeves, meanwhile, represents a new generation of MPs and, as the author of Alice in Westminster, offers a fascinating insight into the life of Alice Bacon, the first woman to serve as MP for Leeds, elected in the Labour Landslide of 1945.

In conversation with Colin Philpott, these two inspirational women provide an unrivalled account of political life, from a perspective that is still shockingly rare in modern British and global politics: that of the female politician.

Lunch Bites: Meditation

If you’re feeling fed up with the daily grind, lacking energy and struggling to keep concentration through the afternoon, it’s time to take a break and take care of yourself.

Research has shown that mindfulness meditation can bring a wealth of health and well-being benefits, reducing stress, improving concentration and self-awareness and increasing happiness.

Spiritual teacher, John Siddique, will bring his meditation sessions to the beautiful location of Bradford’s City Park, offering the opportunity for anyone to dedicate a small portion of their day to some TLC. Take a chance to relax, reset and reconnect with yourself – all during your lunch break!

Mount Sinai: A History of Travellers and Pilgrims

Author, George Manginis, draws upon his expertise in the cultural traditions of the Mediterranean and Middle East to guide us through the rich history of Mount Sinai. This event will explore how the summit, its landscape and its significance have transformed from 300 BCE to the present day.

A place of immense sacred value for people of the Abrahamic faiths, the summit of Mount Sinai plays an important role in religious pilgrimage and worship, with thousands of Christians, Jews and Muslims travelling to Egypt each year to scale the mountain and, in so doing, become closer to God.

Incorporating archaeological interpretation, art history and textual criticism, this event has something for seasoned scholars and budding historians alike.

Afterwards, audience members will have the unique opportunity to question George Manginis on this fascinating subject.
Beehive Poets

Bradford’s own Beehive Poets launch their poetry pamphlet, Bee 6, a collaboration with Côte Poets, the arts magazine and writing group based in the south of France.

This special reading of the collection will reflect local interest such as the Brontës, but will also have an international flavour; the Brontës were, after all, eurhythms.

Potter’s Potions

All Aurors, Ministers for Magic and Owl Post Office employees need a way to let their hair down at the end of the working day and Bradford Literature Festival is bringing you the chance to hit the town in magical style!

Whether you are partial to Felix Felicis, the Drought of Living Death, or if you are brave enough to sample some Polyjuice Potion, the wizarding staff at Alibi are on hand to create all your favourite potions in delicious cocktail form.

Your teacher for the evening will be the one and only Professor Snape! Join him for this grown up take on potion making, which brings the magic of the Hogwarts dungeons to Sunbridge Wells.

This event is for adults only and will include two unique cocktails, one alcoholic and one virgin, made especially for you on the night.

Lunch Bites: Fantasy Fiction

Take time away from the monotony of the everyday and escape into a world of fantasy fiction. After a fantastic appearance at last year’s Festival, bestselling science fiction author of The Gaia Chronicles and award-winning poet, Naomi Foyle, joins us once again for an inspiring lunchtime discussion.

Foyle will offer a unique insight into the wonders and worlds of this exciting and extremely popular genre and will discuss her own work, a science-fantasy quartet set in a post fossil-fuel Mesopotamia.

Dreams of a Refugee: From the Middle East to Mount Everest

Mostafa Salameh is one of only 13 people ever to climb the Seven Summits and conquer the North and South Pole – a feat known as ‘The Explorers Grand Slam’. Born in Kuwait to Palestinian refugee parents, it was never Mostafa’s intention to become a climber. However, in 2004, while living an indulgent party lifestyle in Edinburgh, a vivid dream changed his life forever. Seeing himself standing upon the world’s highest peak reciting the call to prayer, Mostafa felt that he had experienced a divine intervention and took it upon himself to make the profound dream a reality. In 2008, Mostafa became the first Jordanian ever to climb Mount Everest.

Join us and share in Mostafa’s incredible story of scaling the highest peaks and conquering the deadliest landscapes.
The Toll

Motor-mouthed poet and barroom balladeer, Luke Wright, is back with his powerful blend of Bohemian romanticism and poignant, contemporary critique.

_The Toll_ is a performance of poems and passages from Wright’s recently published collection of the same name. Touring the flat-roofed pubs and half-bought couches of Brexit Britain, these performances capture the strange, visceral beauty of life in the fleeting modern moment.

A raconteur beyond his years who regularly hits the road with kindred spirit, John Cooper Clarke, and writes “cool poems” according to one Patti Smith, Wright’s voluble verse mixes the wistful and the comic to take his audience on an unforgettable trip.

Mark Davis

Historical Tour: Undercliffe Victorian Cemetery by Twilight

Follow historian, author and photographer, Mark Davis, to the centre of the historic Undercliffe Cemetery and discover a vast underworld of mossy mausoleums, crumbling columns and ornate obelisks.

From the resplendent Egyptian temple-tomb of radical liberal MP, Alfred Illingworth, to the unmarked graves of Mark’s own ancestors, Victorian Bradford’s very own city of the dead is an experience like nothing else. This unique tour will illuminate once forgotten stories and bring the rich history of the cemetery and its inhabitants back to life.

As a child, Mark found himself equally fascinated and frightened by the cemetery’s brooding Gothic architecture. As an adult, he spent five years capturing the cemetery’s atmospheric majesty for his book, _Necropolis, City of the Dead._

Peter Sanders

The Art of Seeing: Photography Masterclass

Multi-award-winning photographer, Peter Sanders, began his career as a rock and roll photographer in London in the 1960s, photographing legends such as Jimi Hendrix, Bob Dylan and the Rolling Stones. After converting to Islam, he has now documented some of its most sacred places and met with Muslim scholars, Hindu swamis and Sufi saints.

This is a unique opportunity to be part of a small group, and to receive direction from a master photographer on how to tell stories with pictures. Peter will bring his wealth of professional and personal experience and advise you on the best way to improve your art.

- In the morning Peter will hold a series of short masterclasses which will focus on the art of framing a picture and telling a story through images. This will also cover other aspects such as editing and re-touching.
- In the afternoon, participants will be given the opportunity to go out into the city and capture their own images and asked to focus on capturing some of Bradford’s stunning architecture.
- The class will reconvene to assess their images at which point Peter will provide individual feedback and advice.

This class is suitable for all budding photographers, from the amateur to the avid. However, each participant must bring a digital camera and a laptop.
Lunch Bites: Poetry

The monotonous daily grind of meetings, work jargon and the constant use of technology means that a day in the office can begin to drag and you’re left slowly counting down the hours until you can clock off. It can be difficult to produce even one creative thought.

Take the opportunity to re-energise and reinvigorate your mind and join us for an event that will once again get your creativity flowing. In this 45-minute poetry bite, a fantastic line-up of poets from the wider festival will use their quick wit and inventive take on the written and spoken word to galvanise and inspire you.

Festival Hub, City Park
12:15pm (45mins) £3

Hope Springs Eternal

Why do we always root for the underdog? Why are we drawn to tales of overcoming impossible odds and what makes tragedy and despair such essential ingredients in the life-affirming narrative phenomenon of hope?

Join acclaimed author, Rowan Coleman, award-winning writer and journalist, David Barnett and successful screen actor-turned-author, George Costigan, as they discuss how the books we read affect the way we live our lives, causing us to wrestle with the problems of our protagonists just as we celebrate their successes.

Don’t miss three of the UK’s finest authors discussing the importance of hope as a theme in contemporary fiction and its significance in today’s testing times.

Yorkshire Rows: Four Mums in a Boat

In 2016, four friends, Janette Benaddi, Helen Butters, Niki Doeg and Frances Davies, came together to take on an extraordinary challenge.

Juggling full-time jobs, family responsibilities and a grueling training regime, they set their sights on becoming the first women to cross 3000 miles of treacherous ocean in the toughest row in the world, The Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge.

Two years’ worth of planning, preparation and fundraising later, they found themselves standing on the edge of the San Sebastian harbour in the Canary Islands and went on to smash a Guinness World Record by becoming the oldest all-female crew to row across an ocean.

In conversation with Yvette Huddleston, this will be a celebration of independence, perseverance and enduring friendship, as the four ‘ordinary working mums’ discuss their inspirational Sunday Times Best Seller, Four Mums in a Boat.

@yorkshirerows
From Bags to Blenders: The Journey of a Yorkshire Businessman

What do the world’s first Adidas sports bag and the Nutribullet have in common? They both began life in Keighley! The journey began when Peter Black – born Hans Schwarzschild – left Nazi Germany in the 1930s and moved to London. At the outbreak of World War Two, he moved to West Yorkshire and set up his firm.

Initially using old army webbing to make shopping bags, Peter Black became one of Marks & Spencer’s leading suppliers and it was once said that every family in Keighley had someone working at the firm.

Join Gordon Black, son of Peter and author of From Bags to Blenders: The Journey of a Yorkshire Businessman, for a fascinating event at which he will share his ideas for creating the culture of teamwork and passion that makes a successful business.

Breakup Monologues

“It’s not you, it’s me”. With this classic line, hearts have been broken across the globe. In this riotous performance, a group of funny women share their experiences of breaking up and being broken up with, as well as how we can come through to the other side with style, grace and, very occasionally, a whole lot of embarrassment.

Join minister, BBC radio presenter, comedian and author, Maggie Whitehouse, who has been dumped by eight men including two husbands and several TV personalities; comedian and actress, Wendy Wason, who has toured her one-woman show nationwide and Allyson June Smith, who regularly tours the UK with Stewart Francis and Jason Manford.

This fantastic comic insight into the truth behind the breakups has been put together by writer, comic and broadcaster, Rosie Wilby. From the most devastating breakup to conscious uncoupling, Rosie and her guests will have you laughing through the pain.

Gone: A Girl, a Violin, a Life Unstrung

Join world-renowned violinist, Min Kym, as she reflects on the dramatic highs and despairing lows that have shaped her incredible musical career.

Born in Korea and raised in the UK, Min became the youngest ever pupil at the Purcell School of Music at just seven years old and won her first international prize when she was only 11. A decade later, as her professional career was taking off and with a world tour on the horizon, Min’s extremely rare 1696 Stradivarius violin was stolen from outside a train station café and her whole life fell apart.

This extraordinary event will see Min discuss her shattering feelings of loss and betrayal as well as the devastating effects of the theft on her music, before turning to the incredible power of the bond between a musician and their instrument and how she recovered her inspiration.

The event will be chaired by BBC news presenter and journalist, Gwenan Edwards, and will culminate in a spectacular performance as Min revisits some of her favourite pieces by composers such as Brahms, Paganini, Massenet, Gluck, Bach and Fauré.
This evening of poetry comes at you with an unapologetic political punch, headlined by the father of dub poetry himself, Linton Kwesi Johnson, and accompanied by a spectacular line-up of writers and spoken word and performance poets.

Introduced by Javaad Alipoor, the festival welcomes Anthony Anaxagorou, Zeina Hashem Beck, Zodwa Nyoni, Zia Ahmed and Damien Le Bas. Prepare to be confronted with spirited, passionate verse that doesn’t hold back, as this informal mix of powerful and dynamic poets takes on the issues of our time.

When ‘The Governor’ goes on leave following a heart attack, power is handed to his menacing deputy, Qazi Ahad, who immediately sets in place strict new laws and harsh punishments. Under this new jurisdiction, Sameena’s brother is sentenced to death and when Qazi offers her a trade, she must decide whether saving her brother’s life is worth losing her honour.

Shakespeare’s Measure for Measure is brilliantly transported to Pakistan in this excellent Urdu-language film. The timelessness of Shakespeare’s works and universal themes create the perfect backdrop against which to interrogate modern Pakistani society.

The screening will be followed by a special Q&A session with Director Ahmed Jamal.

For Parents, Teachers and those who work with Young People.

Join Poppy Jaman, an internationally respected mental health advocate and CEO of Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) England, for a workshop that could one day save a life.

We go through many life changes and transitions during our childhood and teenage years, with exam pressures, online bullying and the changing nature of friendship being just some of the issues faced by young people today.

With one in 10 young people experiencing mental health issues and the current stigmatisation surrounding mental health, many young people are reluctant to talk about their problems.

This workshop is for parents, carers, educators and anybody who works with young people and is designed to provide practical advice on how to recognise, care for and support young people dealing with mental illness.
John Boyne In Conversation

Bradford Literature Festival is delighted to welcome bestselling author John Boyne, for this very special in-conversation event. John is the author of nine books for adults, as well as five for younger readers and a highly acclaimed short story collection.

His works are distinctive in their profoundly moving and deeply personal stories, often set in some of history’s darkest moments - the perfect example of this being *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, a New York Times Number 1 bestseller that went on to be adapted into an award-winning feature film.

John’s latest novel, *The Heart’s Invisible Furies*, is set in his native city of Dublin with a sweeping 70-year history of Ireland as the backdrop to a moving personal story of discovery and self-fulfilment. In this event, he will discuss his phenomenal career to date and the inspiration behind his incredible stories.

JOHN BOYNE
Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College
7pm (60mins) £6

Poppy Jaman

For Businesses and Employers.

Join Poppy Jaman, an internationally respected mental health advocate and CEO of Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) England, for a workshop that could one day save a life.

Poppy will explain why the presence of Mental Health First Aiders is crucial to transforming workplace culture; after all, employees are key to the functioning of a business and ensuring the physical and mental well-being is critical to a happy and productive workforce.

This workshop will give your senior staff members the tools they need to spot early signs of mental illness, both in themselves and those around them, and demonstrate the best way to go about providing the necessary help and support.

Mental health affects us all at some point in our lives and having the knowledge to support a colleague who may be experiencing poor mental health can make all of the difference.

Mental Health First Aid

POPPY JAMAN
Re:Centre, University of Bradford
1:30pm (210mins) £10

Lunch Bites: Dance of Universal Peace

“If you can talk you can sing, if you can walk you can dance” – African proverb.

Inspired by the wisdom and sacred phrases of many different spiritual traditions, *Dances of Universal Peace* are a form of celebration and meditation performed through sound and movement.

In these dances, participants form a spiritual circle and through rhythmic chanting and sacred utterances, offer an experience of joy, peace and heart-opening connection.

In these dances, participants form a spiritual circle and through rhythmic chanting and sacred utterances, offer an experience of joy, peace and heart-opening connection.

Led by international dance leader and musician Jilani Cordelia and accompanied by beautiful live music, this event is open to those of all faiths or none, all ages and all abilities. It is an opportunity to briefly forget the stresses and tensions of everyday life and enjoy a moment of togetherness.

JILANI CORDELIA
Festival Hub, City Park
12:15pm (45mins) £3

John Boyne In Conversation

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JOHN BOYNE
Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College
7pm (60mins) £6
JONATHAN HASKEL, KATE RAWORTH, EHSAN MASOOD
Norcroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford
7pm (60mins) £6

The Trouble with Economics

Is economics ready to face the perfect storm of challenges coming its way? Along with politics and philosophy, economics dominates the British political establishment’s undergraduate education. But does it give them the tools to handle threats from job insecurity to climate change?

Join Kate Raworth of the University of Oxford, author of the bestselling Doughnut Economics: How to think like a 21st Century Economist, in conversation with Jonathan Haskel, Professor of Economics at Imperial College Business School and an adviser to the Treasury.

This event will also feature journalist Ehsan Masood, as he launches his new book The Great Invention: The Story of GDP.

MAYA BLAKE, FRANK BRINKLEY, FLO NICOLL
City Hall Banqueting Suite
7pm (75mins) £6

How Not to Write Bad Sex

When it comes to writing sex, how is that some writers get our pulses racing, whilst others leave us stifling a laugh?

Even some of literature’s most prestigious names have been unsuccessful when putting pen to paper to describe the throes of passion.

In the world of erotic literature, sex can easily go from oh-so-right, to oh-so-wrong and all it takes is a misplaced word or badly considered sentence.

Chaired by Arifa Akbar, our expert panel includes Frank Brinkley, spokesperson for the Literary Review’s now infamous Bad Sex in Fiction award, Mills & Boon editor Flo Nicoll and erotic fiction author Maya Blake, join us for a fascinating and enlightening discussion of how (and how not) to write bad sex.

PAUL BURSTON, VG LEE, KIRSTY LOGAN, DAVID MCALMONT, THE TIME-TRAVELLING SUFFRAGETTES
Stein Bier Keller
7pm (150mins) £6

Polari: The LGBT Literary Salon

Polari has come a long way from its inception above a Soho pub. Now celebrating its 10th year, the award-winning LGBT literary movement calls London’s Southbank Centre its home and regularly takes the show on tour, with its Literary Salon providing an eclectic experience at venues and festivals around the country.

Polari founder and your host for the evening, Paul Burston, will introduce acclaimed vocalist and songwriter, David McAlmont; novelist, poet and performer, Kirsty Logan; writer, singer and post-punk poet, Rosie Garland, accompanied by Eilish McEvil and award-winning author and stand-up comedian, VG Lee, for a night of thought-provoking discussion and outrageous entertainment.

Paul Burston @paulburston
David McAlmont @davidmcalmont

VG Lee @vglee_lee
Kirsty Logan @KirstyLogan
The Time-Travelling Suffragettes

Maya Blake @mayablake
Frank Brinkley @eph_bee
Flo Nicoll @flonicoll

Jonathan Haskel @haskelecon
Kate Raworth @KateRaworth
Ehsan Masood @ehsanmassod

Maya Blake
Frank Brinkley
Flo Nicoll

VG Lee
Kirsty Logan
The Time-Travelling Suffragettes
FRIDAY
07 JULY

YASMIN ALIBHAI-BROWN, LOUISE DOUGHTY, ALYS FOWLER

Waterstones, The Wool Exchange
7pm (75min) £6

The Third Act

Overall divorce rates are falling, but they have increased among women aged 55 to 59. In these days of economic independence, women are not just earning more, they are less dependent on their spouses at every level, leading many to question the value of their marriage and their partner.

What lies at the root of this dissatisfaction? Is it that they have spent decades building carefully constructed identities, the perfect career, husband and children, only to find that they are either unachievable or, dissatisfaction? Or is it just that women finally have the confidence to live life on their own terms?

This event, chaired by Yvette Huddleston, will explore how economic independence, longer life and increasing emotional and sexual confidence are shaping the relationships of women as they age. Our panel includes writers Louise Doughty, Yasmin Alibhai-Brown and Alys Fowler, who come armed with their own experiences of love, life and finding satisfaction.

NICK PAGE

Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford
7:30m (45mins) £6

A Nearly Infallible History of the Reformation

Five centuries ago, a guy called Martin Luther nailed some ideas to a church door and so began the reformation. Or perhaps there was a little more to it than that.

You’ve probably been told that the reformation paved the way for the industrial revolution, religious freedom and lots of other great things. But what actually happened? Who were the key players? Who won and who lost? Who were the heroes and villains?

Informed by in-depth research, historical analysis and state of the art guesswork, unlicensed historian Nick Page gives you the chance to get clued up on the wonderful whirlwind that was the church in late medieval Europe.

Join him for a fast-paced scintillating examination of one of the most interesting periods in European history.

RICHARD O’NEILL

Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College
7:30m (60mins) £6

I-Gypsy: From Nomad to iPad

From Victor Hugo’s Esmeralda to Bizet’s Carmen, Emily Brontë’s Heathcliff to My Big Fat Gypsy Wedding, the nomadic Romani people have fascinated artists and the public alike and have been portrayed as everything from outlaws to romantic heroes. But what is it really like to be Romani in the 21st century?

I-Gypsy is a one-man show from multi-award-winning storyteller and author, Richard O’Neill, that provides a fascinating and humorous insight into an upbringing in a large nomadic family and its interaction with the modern world, from the 1960s to the present day.

1000 years of Roma history, originating in India and including caravans, horses, farm work, King Henry VIII, the missing hedgehog and David Essex, all feature in this captivating show presented through stories, musings, anecdotes and pictures.

AIK PRODUCTIONS WITH TARA ARTS

Alhambra Studio
7:30pm (120mins) £6

Combustion

Bradford-born Asif Khan’s debut play is a fabulously comic take on the combustion surrounding young British Muslim lives in the North.

The play is set in Bradford, during the month of Ramadan. Latching on to the latest grooming scandal, racists plan to march through the city, while Shaz, a local garage mechanic, desperately tries to keep his business running smoothly so that he can marry well. In this combustible atmosphere, his sister, Samina, is determined to make her voice heard.

This exciting new production will make you laugh out loud as it takes a comic look at the increasingly explosive rhetoric being used in Britain today. Combustion is generously supported by Philip and Christine Carne (The Carne Trust) and Arts Council England.
If you go down to City Park today, you’re sure to find a big surprise!

The Bear family and all their friends are descending on Bradford to hold the annual Teddy Bears’ Picnic. There will be an exciting interactive show featuring Goldilocks and other fairy tale stories at 10:00am, followed by a free screening of Britain’s favourite bear film, Paddington, at 11:30am.

We will be holding free workshops throughout the day to keep all the family entertained. You could join our bear choir, make a bear lantern, create your own bear costume and find out how to invoke the spirit of a mighty bear warrior. You could even bring your own picnic to share with all your new bear friends.

JOIN US FOR FREE EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE DAY. NO BOOKING REQUIRED, JUST DROP IN!

**The Furry Tales**
10am - 10:45am, 1:15pm - 2pm, 3pm - 3:45pm
City Park

This magical performance is inspired by Goldilocks and the Three Bears and features a wonderful mix of other fairy tale stories. It will introduce you to tales such as The Magic Pot, found by the Bears on their woodland adventures, and is the only hope of making enough porridge to feed all the bears at the picnic – but they’re going to need your help to make the magic work! Why not bring your very own picnic and favourite bear to join in the party?

**Paddington**
FILM SCREENING
2014 | PG | 95 mins
11.30am FREE
City Park

After a deadly earthquake destroys his home in Deepest Darkest Peru, a young bear makes his way to England in search of a new life. This is a fantastically funny film for all the family, with lots of laughs and plenty of marmalade sandwiches!

**The Bear Choir Workshop**
10:45am - 11:15am, 2pm - 2:30pm, 3:45pm - 4:15pm FREE
City Park

When the show is over, join us for a magical sing-along workshop to the tune of ‘The Bare Necessities!’ We’ll have you swinging and singing as the grizzly choir comes together to perform everyone’s favourite bear song.

**Beary Scary Masks and Claws Workshop**
11am - 4pm FREE
Bradford College, David Hockney Building
Transform yourself into a bear by making a grizzly bear head and a pair of ferocious bear claws.

**Bear Lanterns Workshop**
11am - 4pm FREE
Bradford College, David Hockney Building
Create a beary special paper lantern based on bear stories from around the world!

**Bear Rattle Workshop**
11am - 4pm FREE
Bradford College, David Hockney Building
The bear is symbolic of family and fierce protection; invoke the spirit of the mighty protective bear warrior with a magical bear rattle.
JOHN SUTHERLAND
French Ballroom, Midland Hotel
10am (60mins) £6 An A-Z of the Brontë Family

The Brontësaurus
As we begin a weekend of events about one of Britain’s foremost literary families, author John Sutherland discusses fun facts about the Brontës from his book, The Brontësaurus.

Charlotte, Emily and Anne wrote some of the best-loved books in the English language and this event offers bite-sized insights into their brilliance and the lives of the whole Brontë family. The session is an ideal introduction to anyone just discovering their work, while seasoned Brontë fans will also enjoy this opportunity to learn new information.

Prepare to be intrigued as John discusses everything from the bumps on Charlotte’s head to whether the Reverend Brontë carried a loaded pistol.

ANTHONY ANAXAGOROU
Seminar Room 1, David Hockney Building, Bradford College
10am (90mins) £6 Suitable for All Ages 13+

Poetry Workshop
Are you a budding writer? Would you like to hone your craft under the guidance of one of the UK’s leading spoken word poets?

In this exclusive workshop, award-winning poet, fiction writer, essayist, publisher and poetry educator, Anthony Anaxagorou, will share his work process and help you develop your powers of self-expression through the written word.

Anthony’s started writing poetry aged just 14 and is heavily influenced by hip-hop and rap. His emotive, raw spoken word poetry has led him to tour extensively around the world and earned him the 2016 BBC Young Writer Award.

Join Anthony to nurture your talent and strengthen your control of poetic language.
Nigerian Voices

Join us for a special event celebrating our city's Nigerian heritage.

Thanks to generous funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Nigerian Community Association of Bradford and New Leaders Network have carried out a long-awaited project to develop a historic account of personal stories of migration from Nigeria to Bradford.

Young volunteers interviewed elderly members of Bradford's Nigerian community and their stories have been captured in a specially commissioned book, *Nigerian Voices*, and an accompanying documentary.

This event features a screening of the documentary, an African drumming display, along with contributions from British-Nigerian poets, Joshua Idehen and Indigo Williams, who will discuss the influence of their community on British society and culture and the many ways in which their heritage has shaped their own writing.

Nick Toczek

In a special family show for all ages from nought to 90, Bradford’s own globe-trotting, bestselling children’s poet and popular performer, Nick Toczek, will be presenting terrific tales of grizzly bears!

The event will feature a selection of bear poems alongside bear puppetry, bear stories and more. After all, if you go down to Bradford Literature Festival today, you are in for a big surprise…

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

Jerusalem: The Anthem

I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand:
Till we have built Jerusalem,
In England’s green & pleasant land.

William Blake’s short poem, written over 200 years ago, continues to rouse passions wherever it is heard. It wasn’t until 1916, when Sir Hubert Parry set the poem to music, that it achieved national status.

Used across the party political spectrum in the early 1900s, the newly retitled Jerusalem went on to become the anthem of English patriotism. But what would Blake, a man previously charged with high treason, make of his poem being used to encourage patriotic fervour?

The Very Revd Jerry Lepine is joined by author and poet Ben Okri, Blake expert Jason Whittaker and cultural commentator Boyd Tonkin, to discuss the origins and evolution of this much-loved yet increasingly divisive poem and enjoy a special performance by the Bradford Cathedral Choir.

Khidmat-e-Khalq

“Love towards All, Malice towards None” - Khawaja Gharib Nawaz

In an age where reasoned thought is drowned out by noise, the words of the 11th century Sufi Saint Hazrat Khawaja Moinuddin Hasan Chishty, are more apt than ever before.

Khawaja Gharib Nawaz is revered by Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs alike and his shrine draws pilgrims from around the world. The principles of the Chishty order in India are based on his teachings that the highest form of devotion is generosity towards others and respect for religious differences.

Join Syed Salman Chishty, the 26th generation hereditary custodian of the 11th century shrine to hear about this message of love and tolerance that has resonated through the ages across all faiths.
Secrets of Crime Writing

Join us for a thrilling exploration into one of the most popular and best-loved modern literary genres. Crime fiction has been filling shelves and entrancing readers since the 19th century, exposing us to the criminal underbelly of the fictitious world.

In this event, four of the finest crime writers working today share the secrets of their success, from the subtleties of suspense to setting the perfect crime scene.

Acclaimed authors Vaseem Khan, Abir Mukherjee and Alex Caan join host A. A. Dhand to discuss what makes a bestselling crime thriller. By exploring the key elements and themes of their work, from making and breaking tension to the surprising power of humour, these writers will shed valuable light on how to close your own case in the thriving genre of contemporary crime writing.

Tiff Needell In Conversation

With a glittering career spanning almost half a century, Tiff Needell is one of the biggest names in the world of British racing. From humble beginnings at a Brands Hatch driving school in 1970, Needell scaled the racing ladder from Formula Ford through Formula 3, all the way to motor racing’s premier competition, Formula 1. He has competed in some of the world’s most famous and challenging races, including the Belgian Grand Prix and 24 Hours of Le Mans.

After retiring from professional racing, Tiff embarked on a successful media career, presenting popular car shows, Top Gear and Fifth Gear, and writing for leading car magazines. He even had the dubious honour of being the suspected identity of The Stig!

Tiff will discuss his fascinating career and reveal just what it is like to be at the very centre of the driving world.

Yoga

The ancient practice of yoga works on improving well-being through integration of mind, body and breath. However, there are also many potential health benefits including reduced stress, improved mobility and increased flexibility and strength.

Experienced instructor Kirsten Agar Ward will host two separate classes, the morning session will be a beginners introduction whilst the afternoon session is suitable for anyone with one year or more yoga experience.

Please wear comfortable and unrestrictive clothing and remember not to eat before the sessions! Participants may wish to bring a blanket or thick towel for their comfort.

The Missing Brontë

Branwell, the only son of the Brontës, has always been written out of the family’s story as a drunken wastrel; even his self-portrait has been expunged from the painting of his sisters. In the bicentenary of his birth, Brontë biographer, Juliet Barker, argues that it is time to reassess Branwell and acknowledge the pivotal role he played in his sisters’ creative lives.

From a young age, Patrick Branwell Brontë appeared to share much of his sisters’ talent. Drifting between jobs and suffering the humiliation of a failed relationship, Branwell gave in to drug and alcohol addiction and died at the young age of 31.

Join Juliet Barker, an internationally recognised expert on the Brontë family, for an authoritative account of Branwell’s life; a revealing and enlightening discussion about an often overlooked member of the Brontë family.
The internet is awash with amateur journalists, avid opinion writers who make the most of social platforms to share their views on everything from the news of the day to the latest episode of 13 Reasons Why.

Do you feel like you have something to say? And if you do, where do you start? Simple: right here.

This workshop from multi award-winning Guardian journalist, Yasir Mirza, will give you the skills you need to tell your own authentic story and immerse yourself in the world of news and journalism.

This fun event will feature games, group discussions and time to develop your own work on the areas that interest you most.

Opinion Writing Workshop

Justin Miles is one of the world's few full-time explorers and adventurers, taking on daring expeditions such as high-altitude climbs, paddle boarding to glaciers and delving deep into dense jungles.

In this exciting event, Justin will discuss his bestselling guide for would-be adventurers, The Ultimate Explorer Guide for Kids, to give you all the tools you need to become an adventurer too – even in your own back gardens!

He'll also share his own hair-raising experiences, such as how he survived a bite from a venomous spider and the most disgusting thing he's ever eaten on a polar expedition.

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

How to Become the Ultimate Explorer

Peter Sanders: 10 Books That Changed My Life

World-renowned photographer Peter Sanders has travelled the globe, documented some of its most sacred places and met with Muslim scholars, Hindu swamis and Sufi saints.

Starting out as a rock and roll photographer in London in the 1960s, Peter photographed legends such as Jimi Hendrix, Bob Dylan and the Rolling Stones. However, after travelling through India and Morocco, he converted to Islam and found his true calling: to share with the world images of the people and places enlightened by knowledge of the divine.

In this exclusive event, Peter will share the 10 books that have influenced his extraordinary life and career, from Jalaluddin Rumi to Florence Schovel Shinn, these are the stories that have influenced him throughout his lifelong spiritual journey.

Peter Sanders

Justin Miles

@ExplorerJust

Yasir Mirza

@YasMirza

PETER SANDERS

Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College
11:45am (60mins) £6

Opinion Writing Workshop

JUSTIN MILES

Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College
11:45am (60mins) £3 Children's Event Ages 7+

Opinion Writing Workshop

YASIR MIRZA

Seminar Room 1, David Hockney Building, Bradford College
11:45am (120mins) £6 YA Event Ages 13+

Opinion Writing Workshop

SHEMS FRIEDLANDER

Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College
12pm (60mins) £6

Sufism at the Heart of Rumi

The poetry of Rumi transcends nationality and religion. Over 700 years after his death, Rumi’s work is appreciated across the globe, influencing contemporary writing, poetry and the music of stars such as Madonna.

However, many people don’t realise that Mevlana Jalaluddin Rumi, one of Islam’s most influential poets, was also a 13th-century Islamic scholar, theologian and Sufi mystic. Sufism is Islamic mysticism, an essential dimension of Islam. The Mevlevi order founded by his followers exists today and they are known as Whirling Dervishes due to their famous practice of whirling as a form of dhikr (remembrance of God).

This is an unmissable event for anyone interested in poetry or mysticism. Join Shems Friedlander as he discusses the essential Sufi core of Rumi’s philosophy and poetry.

Box Office: 01274 238 374
www.bradfordlitfest.co.uk
From Wordsworth wandering lonely as a cloud, to Kerouac heading out *On The Road*, literature has always had a fundamental connection to the great outdoors. Today, themes of mindfulness, regeneration and self-discovery in writing have arguably never been more important, offering a vital antidote to the pressure and proximity of contemporary urban life.

This unique event, chaired by Iain Bloomfield, brings together acclaimed authors, Vybarr Cregan-Reid and Katherine Norbury, to explore their personal relationships with the epic grandeur and restorative tranquility of nature. They will discuss how a return to wilder places saw them embark upon journeys of empowerment, healing and discovery that inspired them to put their life-changing experiences down in words.

**The Untold Story of Elizabeth I and Islam**

In 1570, Elizabeth I was excommunicated by the Pope when it became clear that she would not be converted to the Catholic faith. This action sparked the beginning of an extraordinary relationship between Britain and the Islamic powers who were at war with Catholic Spain; an alignment that would not be seen again until the modern age.

Join Jenni Murray, Women’s Hour presenter and Elizabeth I enthusiast, and Renaissance expert, Jerry Brotton and event chair Colin Philpott, for an illuminating look at the forgotten story of Britain’s relationship with the Muslim world.

From humble English merchants given luxurious new lives in Turkish palaces, to the inspiration behind Shakespeare’s *Othello*, our acclaimed speakers give this overlooked chapter of history the attention it deserves, considering the influence each culture had on the other.
Two centuries after the births of the Brontës, their astonishing work continues to inspire people in all sorts of ways. For some people, it’s the characters that stay with them, strong and unflinching as they navigate societies that seem alien and yet are still strikingly familiar. However, it could equally be the Brontë women themselves, or the rugged, haunting and unforgiving beauty of the moorland landscapes.

Our panel, chaired by Michael Stewart, and made up of playwright and journalist, Samantha Ellis, and award-winning authors Louise Doughty and Robert Edric, have all found themselves inspired by the lives and stories of the Brontë family. Join them as they discuss the ways in which the Brontës have affected them in both their personal and creative lives.

**LOUISE DOUGHTY, ROBERT EDRIC, SAMANTHA ELLIS**
French Ballroom, Midland Hotel
12:45pm (75mins) £6

**Ben Okri**
Alhambra Studio
1pm (60mins) £6

**RICHARD O’NEILL**
Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College
1pm (60mins) £3 Family Event

**LUKE GOAMAN-DODSON, ANTHONY PEAKE, ALAN ROBERTS**
Noricroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford
1pm (75mins) £6

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We are delighted to welcome Man Booker Prize-winning author, Ben Okri, for an unforgettable discussion, exploring the inspirations and philosophies of one of the world’s most celebrated contemporary writers.

Okri’s work has been greatly influenced by his belief in the magic of everyday life and his ruminations on the nature of reality. Born in Nigeria but brought up in London, Okri grew up in a tradition where there were more dimensions to reality than those that his five senses could show him.

This enchanting event is a rare opportunity to see Ben Okri in conversation as he shares the topics closest to his heart, which have inspired his novels and poetry throughout his career. Okri will explore the influence that philosophy, oral African traditions and unbridled curiosity have had on his work.

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Believe it or not, there once was a time before mobile phones, the Internet and flat-screen TVs. A time when tweeting was something that birds did and when a loaf of bread cost 4p.

Join award-winning storyteller and proud grandad, Richard O’Neill, as he takes a journey into the past to reveal what life was like in simpler times and to share some of the more surprising things that grandparents used to get up to.

Richard’s revelations will entertain children every bit as much as their grandparents, on this unmissable walk down memory lane.

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

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**LUKE GOAMAN-DODSON, ANTHONY PEAKE, ALAN ROBERTS**
Noricroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford
1pm (75mins) £6

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It is 80 years since JB Priestley wrote *Time and the Conways*. Or is it?

Join writer, Anthony Peake, and academic, Luke Goaman-Dodson, (also Priestley’s great-grandson), in a fascinating discussion that may change the way you perceive time forever…

Born and raised in Bradford, JB Priestley grew up to become one of the UK’s best known playwrights. His fascination with the nature of time influenced.

This captivating exploration of Priestley’s work, chaired by Lee Hanson, will delve into his plays and examine the questions that preoccupied him. Is time linear? Or is it a construct of the mind?
Poetry, Politics, Partition: Ajj Aakhaan Waris Shah Nu

The partition of the Indian subcontinent 70 years ago did not only alter the geography of the region, it was a rip in the cultural fabric of a nation that divided people and cut their identity in two.

In Amrita Pritam’s famous poem, Ajj Aakhaan Waris Shah Nu, she laments the loss of her nation, her heritage and her Punjab. Growing up in an undivided Punjab, Pritam was one of the millions of people who found themselves displaced post-partition, moving with her family from Pakistan to India. Her beautiful poem is a lament that evokes the tragedy of partition in all its forms.

This eye-opening discussion will explore the shared history and heritage of the Punjab people and examine how the partition has affected what was once a common cultural and literary tradition.

Performance Poetry Jam

Poetry is just a load of stuffy old men whining about how much they love daffodils and their dead wives, right? Wrong! Poetry doesn’t have to be boring. Poetry doesn’t have to rhyme. It doesn’t have to be a haiku, or a sonnet, or have stanzas. It doesn’t have to be Keats or Wordsworth or Tennyson. Poetry can be whatever you want it to be. It can be spoken word, rap, dub, or hip-hop. Poetry isn’t stuck in fields of daffodils from the past. It’s here, it’s now and it’s live.

Come to our poetry jam and hear the UK’s pre-eminent spoken word artists including Joshua Idehen, Indigo Williams, Dean Atta, Zia Ahmed and Zeina Hashem Beck, as they deliver performances that push the boundaries of poetry’s possibilities and exemplify the diversity of self-expression in the 21st century.

You’ll never think about poetry in the same way again.

Women in Rumi’s Spiritual Circle

What was the role of women in the doctrines of the greatest Sufi mystics?

Dr. Zahra Taheri, an expert in Persian literature, explores the extensive use of feminine metaphors and symbols within the writings of the best-known of Sufism’s poets and philosophers, the great Jalaluddin Rumi.

Zahra reveals that Rumi’s teachings were influenced by the crucial importance of women within his daily life and spiritual circle. She shares her knowledge of the women who acted as companions and disciples to Rumi, the value he attributed to their wisdom, and how the guidance they offered was reflected in his connection to the mystical divine.

Join us as we set Rumi’s beautiful works within the context of the spiritual vitality of the feminine, uncovering the hidden history of women in Sufism and shedding new light on the works of this great philosopher.

Gary Younge: Another Day in the Death of America

Join award-winning journalist, author and broadcaster, Gary Younge, as he recollects his moving and poignant journey across the US, documenting the long history and tragic consequences of firearms in a country where, on average, seven young people are shot and killed every 24 hours.

Younge picked Saturday November 23rd, 2013, entirely at random. It was just a normal day, but a day on which 10 children aged between nine and 19 happened to be shot dead in the USA. Although none of their stories made the national news, Younge gathered them together in his latest book, Another Day in the Death of America: A Chronicle of Ten Short Lives.

Younge will discuss what gun culture could mean for children born into and growing up amidst the tensions of today’s America, with the calls of Black Lives Matter echoing in their ears and the incendiary Obama/Trump presidential transition unfolding.
Inspiration for writing a poem can strike at the most unexpected times in the most unusual of places - or even in the most ordinary!

Join acclaimed poet, Paul Lyalls, as he fuses storytelling and poetry for an exciting and humorous interactive event in which he recounts the times *A Funny Thing Happened*. You may even be inspired to create your own poem too!

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

Growing up in Yorkshire in the early 19th century, the expectations placed upon the Brontë sisters differed wildly from those carried by their brother, Branwell. The strong emotions and passions expressed by the characters in the Brontës’ novels were, at the time, thought to be the preserve of men, and Charlotte, Emily and Anne famously wrote under male pseudonyms.

How can the experiences of the Brontës inform the debate over gender expectations in society today?

Join firebrand feminist, Germaine Greer, and award-winning journalist, Boyd Tonkin, as they explore how the siblings confounded the expectations of their time and examine whether or not progress has been made in the years since they created their famous works.

**Gender Expectations in the Lives of the Brontës**

**The Magic of Romance**

The timeless love, lust and loss of romance novels has kept readers enamoured for centuries. Romance is now the most popular literary genre in the world, providing the inspiration for countless enduring love stories on page, stage and screen.

Join us for a magical event as our panel of romance novelists discuss why the love story is just as important today as it was in the 1800s.

Emily Kerr’s humorous modernisation of the classic romance sees life and love in a stately home hampered by dwindling bank balances and unexpected film crews, Sonya Lalli’s novel is a playful look at the trials and tribulations of traditional courtship and modern dating in multicultural London, whilst Milly Johnson has written more than a dozen bestselling romantic novels.

Join Emily, Sonya and Milly, and event chair Jodie Matthews, as they explore and discuss the enduring nature of romance.

**The Magic of Romance**

**A Funny Thing Happened**

**Gender Expectations in the Lives of the Brontës**

**Paul Lyalls**

Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College

2:15pm (60mins) £3 Children’s Event Ages 5+

**Germaine Greer, Boyd Tonkin**

French Ballroom, Midland Hotel

2:15pm (60mins) £6
The World of F1

The high-octane drama of Formula 1 captures the imaginations of millions of viewers all over the world. Full of twists and turns both on and off the track, the glamour and theatrics of the F1 season draws hordes of spectators to live Grand Prix races every year.

This event offers Formula 1 fans a chance to gain an inside perspective from former racing driver and Top Gear presenter, Tiff Needell, and to hear from writer, Toby Vintcent, who translates the fast and furious world of F1 to the pages of fiction thrillers.

Together, Tiff and Toby will seek to explain the sport’s immense popularity and success and shed light on what makes the sport an ideal backdrop for gripping works of fiction.

The Legacy of Lawrence of Arabia

Lawrence of Arabia is known as a near-legendary British officer who brought unity to the Arab forces in their fight against the Ottoman Empire. But who was Thomas Edward Lawrence and how much did this archaeologist, diplomat and writer really achieve?

His legend and his writings tell us that his wartime activities were broad and varied, but what impact did his exploits in the Middle East have on the current politics of the region?

At this fascinating event for all history buffs, historian and archaeologist, Neil Faulkner, delves into the history, culture and politics of the Middle East during the World War One, putting Lawrence’s story firmly into perspective and shedding fresh light on the man behind the myths.

A History of Britain in 21 Women

Bradford Literature Festival is excited to welcome Woman’s Hour presenter and Radio 4 favourite, the wonderfully witty, Jenni Murray, in conversation with Remona Aly.

Her latest book, A History of Britain in 21 Women, tears down the patriarchal curtain of history and shines new light on some of the remarkable and trailblazing women whose intellect, passion and sheer determination have helped to make Britain what it is today.

From warrior queen Boadicea and playwright-turned-spy, Aphra Behn, to 1960’s fashion icon, Mary Quant, this event will celebrate the pioneering achievements of Britain’s feistiest females, from centuries gone by to the modern day.

Join us as we travel through time, pick up a few forgotten facts and indulge in the company of these brilliant and truly inspirational women. Sit back, relax and allow yourself to be transported. After all, Jenni’s voice has been described as “the most beautiful voice on the radio, ever.”
Waris Shah’s Heer

Waris Shah’s Heer Ranjha is one of the definitive works of the Sufiana tradition. An epic love poem set in 18th-century undivided Punjab, its profound yet enchanting verses are a treasure-trove of Punjabi phrases, idioms and sayings.

At the centre of the Heer is a message of romantic love as an expression of the mystical love of the human soul towards God. Is it this universal theme of profound love that has continued to inspire and enchant audiences from across the cultural divide?

Our panel, made up of Punjabi poet, Mahmood Awan, Sikh faith advisor, Pritpal Singh and playwright and poet, Aavaes Muhammed, will bring both expertise and personal reflections to a poignant discussion of the origins of this iconic poem. Where did this story come from? What is it really about? And why is it that Waris Shah’s Heer stands above all others as the most popular and best-loved poem of the sufi tradition?

The Ethics of Artificial Intelligence

Ever since the days of Plato, the rational brain has been thought of as what defines a human being and this simple idea has influenced ethicists for centuries. However, with the development of robotic engineering, this theory is once again open for discussion.

With artificial intelligence now encroaching on the human idea of rationality, a whole host of complex ethical dilemmas arise. Is it possible that, one day, robots will have human feelings? And if so, should they be granted human rights?

Our expert panelists, computer scientists, Joanna Bryson and Hassan Ugail, will engage in a thought-provoking debate, considering where we draw the line between human and artificial intelligence and how we can negotiate the controversial field of science and ethics.

Tales of Magic

Get ready to summon shape-shifters, do battle with banshees, conjure up witches and wizards and defeat deadly dragons and minotaurs!

As a bestselling children’s author, Saviour Pirotta knows a thing or two about great stories and his adaptations of myths and legends have captivated young readers around the world, bringing historic tales to new audiences.

In this enchanting storytelling session for children and adults, Saviour will tell tales of magic and transport you to far off lands from the fables of yore.

Prepare to be put under a spell.

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket for this event.

Psychological Thrillers

From elaborate, slow-burning, suspenseful plotlines to paranoid protagonists and shocking violence, psychological thrillers have the ability to keep readers on the edge of their seats. This incredibly versatile genre continues to go from strength to strength, dominating the bestseller lists and creeping onto our television screens.

For this spine-tingling event, we have gathered together the authors of some of Britain’s best new psychological thrillers to help shed light on our fascination with novels that get inside our heads and keep us guessing right to the end.

Join event chair Kevin Duffy, author, screenwriter and filmmaker, Adam Hamdy, and award-winning novelists, Louise Doughty and Steve Mosby, for a gripping foray into the world of psychological thrillers. These mesmerising writers will discuss their latest novels and share how they have mastered the secrets of their craft.
“Love towards All, Malice towards None” – Khawaja Gharib Nawaz

In an age where reasoned thought is drowned out by noise, the words of the 11th century Sufi Saint Hazrat Khawaja Moinuddin Hasan Chishty, are more apt than ever before.

Khawaja Gharib Nawaz is revered by Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs alike and his shrine draws pilgrims from around the world. The principles of the Chishty order in India are based on his teachings that the highest form of devotion is generosity towards others and respect for religious differences.

Join Syed Salman Chishty, the 26th generation hereditary custodian of the 11th century shrine to hear about this message of love and tolerance that has resonated through the ages across all faiths.

Latent Eroticism in the Novels of the Brontës

Growing up in a cold, cramped house, surrounded by unforgiving landscapes and faced with an ageing father, worrisome brother and uncertain prospects, it is astonishing to think that Charlotte, Emily and Anne Brontë succeeded in writing some of the most celebrated and passionate literature of the 19th century.

In this revealing event, we will examine whether these three young women, comparatively sheltered and inexperienced, used their writing as an outlet for their own repressed emotion.

Chairied by Arifa Akbar, join our panel of literary historians and erotica experts, Claire O’Callaghan, Rowan Pelling and Louisa Yates, as they step into the secret lives of the Brontës and explore the brooding desire that lies at the heart of their own passion for the sisters and their writing.

The Science of Immortality

Since the beginning of human history, people have sought immortality. What was once reserved for the realms of religion and gods quickly spread out into the world of science and beyond, consuming the minds of philosophers, poets, writers, scientists and the public alike.

For this event, we are excited to welcome physicist, Akram Khan, and author, Anthony Peake, for a fascinating debate on one of the most contentious subjects of modern science.


Join us for an event that will reach for the heart of what it means to be human and try, using the latest scientific research, to answer the ultimate question: can we really live forever?
ANTHONY ANAXAGOROU, ZEINA HASHEM BECK, NICK TOCZEK
City Hall Chamber
5pm (75mins) £6

“Poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the world,” wrote Percy Bysshe Shelley in his 1821 essay *A Defence of Poetry*. Poetry and politics are both deeply concerned with verbal persuasion and the art of rhetoric, but poetry can also be a potent form of dissent. It has been said that poets by themselves can do little to save humanity, but that without them there would be little worth saving. At this event, we explore the power of political poetry in the era of global terrorism, social media and fake news.

Our panel, chaired by Boyd Tonkin, includes three award-winning poets, Anthony Anaxagorou, Zeina Hashem Beck and Nick Toczek, who each bring a wealth of experience on the front lines of poetry, protest and politics to this enlightening discussion of just how the written word can shape the world.

GERMAINE GREER
Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford
4pm (60mins) £6

Women for Life on Earth: The Inevitability of Ecofeminism

We are excited to welcome pioneering academic, author and feminist icon, Germaine Greer, for this unmissable event.

When Welsh women turned up at the RAF base at Greenham Common in 1981, they were carrying a banner that read ‘Women for Life on Earth’. Theirs was direct action, born of gut reaction, virtually innocent of theoretical framework. Feminists can be found wherever the planet and our fellow earthlings are in trouble. They shepherd stranded cetaceans back into deeper water, stand in front of lorries carrying live animals to slaughter and they march and lobby against the threat of fracking.

If the planet is to survive and human beings continue to inhabit it, this female energy must be unleashed.

This is a fantastic opportunity to see a world-renowned scholar, author and activist – don’t miss the chance to be part of the audience when Germaine Greer comes to Bradford.

NADEEM ABBAS
Alhambra Studio
4:30pm (90mins) £6

Heer Waris Shah: Nadeem Abbas

Waris Shah’s *Heer* is an epic love poem fused with mystical notes. A treasure trove of Punjabi phrases, idioms and sayings, it transcends faith and boundaries, remaining popular across modern-day Punjab in both India and Pakistan and in diaspora communities around the world.

The legend of *Heer Ranjha* is believed to be rooted in a real-life love story that played out on the banks of the river Chenab in 15th-century Punjab. It is the epic poem, or qissa, of this love story, completed in 1766 by the Sufi poet, Waris Shah, that has captured the imagination of the Punjabis across the centuries.

More than any other Sufiana Kalam, this is the poem that has eluded the traps of time to become entrenched in contemporary culture.

This event will feature a short introduction by Virinder Kalra, followed by an opportunity to hear the poem in its entirety, performed by Nadeem Abbas, a musician steeped in the Sufi tradition.

TRUDY BARBER, KATHLEEN RICHARDSON
Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College
5pm (75mins) £6

Humans, Sex Bots & Virtual Romance

Are sex and intimacy intrinsically related? In Japan, a low birth rate is raising serious concerns over whether virtual partners are replacing relationships between humans altogether and, in Barcelona, a sex doll brothel has recently opened.

The ability to separate emotional and physical pleasure in virtual relationships is an ethical minefield. On one hand, sex robots could potentially reduce crime, but on the other, they could lead to the further objectification of human beings or skewed attitudes towards consent.

Our panel of specialists, digital culture expert, Trudy Barber, and Ethics of Robotics expert, Kathleen Richardson, will examine the possibility that virtual and human relationships could exist side-by-side in modern society, or whether the rise of the sex bot will change the face of human sexual relationships forever.
Balfour & After: The Making of the Arab-Israeli Conflict

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, in which the British government announced its official support for the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestinian territory and the 70th anniversary of the Six-Day War.

It is also when Arab forces met in Khartoum and decided not to negotiate with, engage with or even recognise the state of Israel.

Join Karen Abi-Ezzi, expert in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from the Department of Peace Studies at the University of Bradford, as she provides an essential background, from the Balfour Treaty to the Arab-Israeli conflict as we know it today.

Heaven and Earth and the Ten Thousand Things

In this unique and insightful event, acclaimed photographer, Peter Sanders, shares the stories behind his latest exhibition, *Moments in the Lives of Muslims in China*.

China saw some of the earliest Muslim converts, with similarities between Chinese Confucianism and the theology of Islam, meaning that the religion found an early foothold within Chinese culture. Today, Islam has become richly fused with Chinese cultural identity and is known as “the religion of the pure and true”.

Sanders’ stunning exhibition shows a side to Islam that many people do not realise is there, from Chinese dragons inside mosques to an imam famous for his laughter. In an era of rising Islamophobia, Sanders’ work highlights the true heart of Islamic culture, what Sanders himself calls “a distinctive, matchless beauty that has long been overlooked”.

Israel Palestine - Is There A Solution?

In the chaos of the post-war period, a new crisis was formed, one that was to shape the 20th century in ways that could never be predicted, and to which a solution has yet to be found.

The proposed partition of Palestine in 1947 into separate Jewish and Arab states was supposed to solve this problem; a two state solution, that envisaged Israel and Palestine coexisting peacefully next to each other. However, what followed was decades of war and bloody conflict, proving that this vision may never be a reality.

Join Teodora Todorova as she explores the possibility of peace in a region long beset by seemingly intractable tensions.

From Fanny Hill to Fifty Shades

The phenomenal success of *Fifty Shades of Grey* appears to have fuelled a new generation of erotic literature, but this is a genre with a long and lusty history.

Our expert panel will explore centuries of literary erotica, from the murky world of the Georgian black-market, to the pleasure palaces of the modern day, where online purchases and e-books offer the comfort of anonymity.

Join event chair, Arifa Akbar, and writers Rowan Pelling, Wray Delaney and Clarissa Smith, for what is sure to be a titillating look at the current health and history of the erotic genre.
An Evening with an Immigrant

Inua Ellams

An absolute must-see, this event is an intensely personal reflection on the experiences of an immigrant trying to make a life for himself in the UK. Born to a Muslim father and a Christian mother in what is now considered to be Boko Haram territory, Inua Ellams left Nigeria for England at just 12 years old, moved to Ireland and eventually settled in London to start work as a writer and designer.

Littered with poems, stories and anecdotes, An Evening with an Immigrant sees Inua, now an award-winning poet and playwright, regaling us with the fantastical yet poignant story of how he escaped fundamentalist Islam, performed at the National Theatre and drank wine with the Queen of England – without having a country to belong to or a place to call home.

Inua’s poems are emotive and deeply original, told with a hip-hop inflection to the beat of music pulsing softly underneath.

Inua Ellams
@InuaEllams

Tappay and Bolian: South Asian Wedding Folk Songs

Weeks before a typical South Asian wedding, female friends of the bride and groom gather to sing tappay, mahiyay and traditional wedding songs.

Tappay are used by many women – married into families far from their own, bound by social constraints and unable to articulate their feelings - as an outlet for their true emotions. Join us for a unique re-enactment of a dholki, or musical wedding event. South Asian tappay will be performed in their traditional setting as our hosts translate their meaning.

This event is held in collaboration with WomenZone, a Bradford based community centre, who have gathered together tappay and bolian from women of South Asian heritage in Bradford, recording them in a new book In the Sky are Seven Stars, Aasmani Saat Tarray, to preserve this historic tradition for future generations.

Inua Ellams
@InuaEllams

Erotic Bedtime Stories

Maya Blake, Wray Delane, Monique Roffey

Join us as we explore the enduring appeal of erotic literature, asking what it is about these stories that makes us want to curl up in bed and lose ourselves in their pages.

The comforting escape of the erotic novel has captured audiences throughout the ages. Bedtime stories for adults, they allow us a moment of pure indulgence at the end of a long day.

Our expert panel, made up of writers of erotic fiction, will take us through their own passions for the genre, exploring what it is that first drew them to tales of steamy romance and what it is that keeps readers coming back for more.

Helping us navigate these tales of love and lust are event chair, Rowan Pelling and writers Monique Roffey, Wray Delaney and Maya Blake.

Inua Ellams
@InuaEllams

Maya Blake
@mayablake

Wray Delaney
@thesallygardner

Monique Roffey
The festival finale takes us into the magical world of Harry Potter, starting with a hilarious interactive performance “Through The Mirror Pool” at 10:00am, followed by a free screening of the second film in the series, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets.

**Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets**

**FILM SCREENING**

- 2002 | PG | 174 mins
- **11.15am FREE**
- City Park

In the second film in the series, Harry Potter and his friends, Ron and Hermione, are back at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry (but only just), facing challenging new spells and frightening new enemies.

**Harry Through the Mirror Pool**

- 10am - 10:45am, 2pm - 2:45pm, 3:30pm - 4:15pm **FREE**
- City Park

Our magical wizard host has found a bottle of Harry Potter’s memories and decides to throw them into the mirror pool. Just like diving into a Pensieve, he looks back at Harry’s school years and, with the help of his band of friends, recreates some of the most memorable moments from his past.

**The Academy of Wizards and Witches**

- 10:45am - 11:15am, 2:45pm - 3:15pm, 4:15pm - 4:45pm **FREE**
- City Park

After the show, join us for this 30-minute interactive workshop where our magical mentors will guide you through your wizarding education. Wear your hats and robes if you have them, as this fun performance will end with a graduation ceremony!

Join us for free events throughout the day. No booking required, just drop in!
**Realism in Crime Fiction & Tour of the Bradford Police Museum**

With more than 30 years’ shared experience in the police force, husband and wife duo, Bob and Carol Bridgestock, have used their knowledge to help write their bestselling D.I. Jack Dylan series and worked as expert consultants on dramas such as BBC’s *Happy Valley* and ITV’s *Scott and Bailey*.

In conversation with Bradford Police Museum’s Martin Baines, Bob and Carol will discuss real-life crime and how it shapes the crime genre. Makeup artist, Pamela Clare, will be demonstrating the astonishing special effects makeup that brings these crimes to life on screen; some lucky audience members may even go home with a black eye or a gunshot wound!

This event will begin with a tour of the historic Bradford Police Museum, including the original Victorian cells whose occupants were headed for the noose. This tour will give you a thrilling glimpse into the place they spent their final days.

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**Letters of Little Germany: Philatelic Treasures**

150 years ago, Bradford was the wool capital of the world.

When booming business brought an influx of German merchants looking to capitalise on Bradford’s success, it was said that while Leeds had its suburbs in Headingley and Armley, Bradford’s suburbs were located further afield – in Berlin and Hamburg.

Join heritage expert, Nigel Grizzard, for an illustrated talk inspired by recent philatelic discoveries of postal history that throw new light on Bradford’s past and its links with Germany and the continent.

These philatelic treasures – all sent either to or from Bradford, involving German merchants – are a fascinating record of the 19th-century trade links between Bradford and Europe.
Western psychology and psychiatry are commonly assumed to have universal validity, applying to everyone regardless of their cultural background or traditions. This assumption has long been challenged from the fringes of these disciplines, and from the psychologies that have developed outside of the mainstream Western traditions. These alternative understandings of the mind take into account culturally-relative factors affecting psychological perspectives.

In this event, Rasjid Skinner presents his insights into the philosophy and methodology of psychology from an Islamic perspective. He explains its principles and therapeutic aims, based mainly on Al-Ghazali’s models of the Self; and the implications this has for understanding mental illness and its diagnosis and treatment.

“Never have I dealt with anything more difficult than my own soul which sometimes helps and sometimes opposes me.” Imam al-Ghazali

Imam al-Ghazali condensed his magnum opus, the Ihya Ulum al-Din (The Revival of the Religious Sciences) toward the end of his life into a simple step by step, tried and proven guide for spiritual development.

Shaykh Saad Al Attas spent many years in in-depth study of the Ihya in Damascus. Join him for a discussion of the comprehensive distillation of the forty books that comprise the Ihya, into forty simple principles. The result is an essential guide on how to improve one’s relationship with both God and humanity, and also serves as a perfect introduction to Imam al-Ghazali’s other great works.

From Ancient Greece to the present day, male sporting idols have been held up as figureheads of manliness, but our ideas of what constitutes the ‘ideal man’ have slowly shifted over time. Despite this, unsettling stories of homophobia and sexism abound in the sporting world. It remains a stark fact that the only professional footballer in the UK to come out as gay, Justin Fashanu, tragically took his own life in 1998.

Chaired by Iain Bloomfield, this event brings together sociologist and cultural critic, Ellis Cashmore and two novelists whose work addresses the complexity of men’s lives, David Park and Ross Raisin. Our expert panel will discuss the concept of masculinity in sport and to ask the crucial question: how can we make it better for future generations of sporting stars?
Poetry Workshop
Do you write poetry? Would you like to hone your craft under the guidance of one of the UK’s leading spoken word poets?

An award-winning poet, fiction writer, essayist, publisher and poetry educator, Anthony began crafting his distinctive verses at the age of 14 and his work has since been translated into multiple languages and studied in universities, schools and colleges across Europe and the USA.

The first young poet to win the London Mayor’s Poetry Slam in 2002, Anthony’s fearless, outspoken style has earned him the 2016 BBC Young Writer Award and taken him on tour around the world.

In this intensive poetry workshop, he will share his creative process and help you to expand your expressive capabilities and explore new approaches to the written word.

Rumi’s Circle Whirling Workshop
Sufi whirling (or turning) is a form of moving meditation rich with spiritual symbolism. The dervishes’ turning bodies echo the motion of the planets, emptying themselves to receive and channel divine grace.

Through their meditation, dervishes aim to reach the source of all truth and perfection and lose their egos under the gaze of God.

Back by popular demand, join Rumi’s Circle to explore the roots of this sacred tradition. This practical workshop is accessible to all, including beginners, offering a chance to witness a demonstration by dervishes from the Mevlevi Order and to learn the basics of the whirling technique. Bring thick socks!

Magic Spell Books Workshop
In this crafty workshop, learn to create a personalised book cover for your very own book of spells or “Grimoire”, using a variety of arts and crafts techniques, including texturing with paper and tissue overlay.

You might be inspired to use a selection of magical images, symbols and text that appeal to your magical inner-self, tapping into the invisible spirit worlds and adding magic and sparkle with glitter and other 2D and 3D elements.

Inside, you can even create customised pages by writing personalised spells and incantations and using universal symbols such as the sun, moon and stars.

Come and connect to your inner witch or wizard!

Yoga
The ancient practice of yoga works on improving well-being through integration of mind, body and breath. However, there are also many potential health benefits including reduced stress, improved mobility and increased flexibility and strength.

Experienced instructor Kirsten Agar Ward will host two separate classes, the morning session will be a beginners introduction whilst the afternoon session is suitable for anyone with one year or more yoga experience.

Please wear comfortable and unrestricted clothing and remember not to eat before the sessions! Participants may wish to bring a blanket or thick towel for their comfort.
Dala’il al-Khayrat: Waymarks of Benefits

Composed in the fifteenth century by the Moroccan Sufi Scholar, Muhammad Sulaiman al-Jazuli ash Shadhili, the Dala’il al-Khayrat (Waymarks of Benefits) was the first major book in Islamic history to compile litanies of peace and blessings upon the Prophet Muhammad. Among some religious orders, most notably the Shadhili-Jazuli order, its recitation is still a daily practice.

Join us for a special event with Shaykh Muhammad Idris Watts, Shaykh Abdalhaqq Bewley and renowned Sufi singers, the Keighley Munshids.

Shaykh Idris will give an introduction to a new English translation and summary of the Dala’il al-Khayrat, ‘Heavenly Guide to the Beacon of Pure Light’. This will be followed by a performance of the litanies by Shaykh Idris, Shaykh Bewley and their students.

The Fairy Detective Agency

Emily Vole isn’t an ordinary child. With a set of strange keys, an old shop and a cat called Fidget, she is the new owner of the Fairy Detective Agency and it’s time to get to business! When fairy-snatching enemies are on the loose, giant purple bunnies run riot, or giants go missing, Wings & Co are on the case.

Author, Sally Gardner, will bring the mystery and magic to life in this unique event, as she talks about her much-loved and bestselling series.

Please note that all attendees, big or small, will require a ticket to this event.

Relax! Meditation and Mindfulness for Beginners

Rooted in ancient spiritual practices, the benefits of meditation and mindfulness are now well established. As the mind becomes free of chatter, the body enters a deep state of rest, stress and anxiety reduce, concentration improves, and awareness deepens.

If you are maddened or muddled by meditation or mindfulness, or just curious, this workshop is for you! Join holistic healer Shabnam Qasim to learn simple techniques to quieten the mind, enjoy deeper relaxation and begin the journey to inner stillness.

This class is for beginners. You do not need any special equipment, nor do you need to be able to sit on the floor (you will either sit on a chair or stand). Wear comfortable clothes and avoid a heavy meal within the previous hour.

Little Germany Heritage Tour

Join local historian, Nigel Grizzard, for a walking tour of Little Germany and hear about the area’s fascinating Jewish heritage.

Initially attracted by Bradford’s lucrative wool trade, the merchants, many of whom were German, understood the need for impressive business premises to give themselves a competitive edge. Mimicking the architecture of their home country, they spared no expense in building imposing warehouses, showrooms and offices using the finest quality Yorkshire stone, to store the goods they exported from Bradford.

With the Jewish merchants long departed, Little Germany still boasts the largest group of listed buildings in the country and is now reimagined as Bradford’s cultural quarter.

Sensible, weather-appropriate clothing and footwear is advised.
Tibb and Mental Health

‘Tibb’ means medicine in Arabic, and dates from the early Islamic period (750-1000 CE). Tibb is a living tradition of health which also incorporates elements from China, India, Egypt and classical Greece. This event introduces the audience to Tibb as a holistic paradigm of health for both body and soul, explaining the history and philosophy of Islamic Medicine, as well as its psychological and physiological concepts relating to mental health.

Join Hakim Salim, a Tibb practitioner with 40 years experience in this field, as he discusses concepts from his book *An Introduction To Islamic Medicine*, the first of its kind available in the English language, including a theory of causes, diagnostic methods, and methods of preventative healthcare.

Christina Lamb In Conversation

Christina Lamb OBE is a bestselling author and one of Britain’s leading correspondents. Five-times winner of Foreign Correspondent of the Year, she has also won the Prix Bayeux, Europe’s most prestigious award for war correspondents.

Her latest book, *Farewell Kabul: From Afghanistan to a More Dangerous World*, tells the story of the longest war fought by Britain since the Hundred Years War. This brave and authoritative book examines how success became defeat in a war that has left Afghanistan poor, still in the hands of the Taliban and nuclear-armed, making it one of the most dangerous countries on earth.

Christina will share stories from her travels around the world, providing a rare opportunity to hear the thoughts and opinions of someone who has been to the front line and back again, who has fallen in love with fierce and passionate countries ravaged by war and has witnessed both the best and the worst that humanity has to offer.

Refugee Tales

Refugee Tales is a collection of beautifully written stories, inspired by the experiences of those held in immigration detention and the work of Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group over the last 20 years.

In this country, over 30,000 migrants are held in detention centres every year. Unique within Western Europe, the UK has no maximum time limit on immigration detention, so detention is indefinite and people can be detained for months or even years.

Writers and contributors, Inua Ellams, Ian Duhig, Avril Loveless and Avaes Mohammad join us to discuss the poignant stories told within this year’s anthology. Written as modern-day counterparts to the pilgrim’s stories in Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales, this groundbreaking book offers a rare and intimate insight into the lives of people otherwise forgotten.

Realism in Crime Fiction & Tour of the Bradford Police Museum

With more than 30 years’ shared experience in the police force, husband and wife duo, Bob and Carol Bridgestock, have used their knowledge to help write their bestselling D.I. Jack Dylan series and worked as expert consultants on dramas such as BBC’s *Happy Valley* and ITV’s *Scott and Bailey*.

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The event will be followed by a tour of the historic Bradford Police Museum, including the original Victorian cells whose occupants were headed for the noose. This tour will give you a thrilling glimpse into the place they spent their final days.
Opinion Writing Workshop

Social media and the fast-evolving news cycle have transformed journalism, bringing unprecedented opportunities for writers to contribute opinion and help keep people informed and entertained.

But if you want to take part, where do you start? Simple: right here.

This workshop from multi-award-winning Guardian journalist, Yasir Mirza, will give you the tools to become part of the commentariat.

You’ll gain insights into the lifecycle of news, the phenomena of digital and citizen journalism and the vital differences between news, opinion and feature stories. Yasir will also offer tips on how to write opinion pieces and colourful features, how to hone your pitch and how to approach major publications.

Diwan-e-Hafez

Hafez, was a 14th-century Iranian poet who wrote mystical poetry inspired by the divine. His collected works are regarded as the pinnacle of Persian literature and are found in the homes of most people in the Persian speaking world.

Join us for the launch of The Collected Ghazals of Hafez in English and Farsi translated by Jamil Morris, a practising poet in the Sufi tradition. This rare book is not a scholarly tome, or a modern expression of half-truths, instead it is as true to the original texts as it is possible to be.

Join Jamil and Dr. Zahra Taheri, Lecturer in Persian Language and literature at the Australian National University, for a rare discussion of the life and work of Hafez, as well as a recitation of his poetry in Farsi and English.

Jamil Morris, Zahra Taheri

Dye House Gallery, Bradford College
1.30pm (60mins) £6

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Yasir Mirza
@YasMirza

Jamil Morris
Zahra Taheri

Yasir Mirza
Seminar Room 1, David Hockney Building, Bradford College
12:15m (120mins) £6 Suitable for Ages 18+

Box Office: 01274 238 374
www.bradfordlitfest.co.uk
The Triwizard Tournament

Do you know your Armando Dippet from your Dlys Derwent? Your boomslang skin from your bicorn horn? Now is the time to prove that you really are the biggest Potterhead around at our Ultimate Harry Potter Quiz!

This wickedly difficult wizarding challenge will feature three rounds of tantalisingly tricky questions in our own take on the infamous Triwizard Tournament.

The winning team will take home the Triwizard trophy, claim the title of Triwizard champions and earn the right to come back next year and compete for free to defend their title.

Eternal glory awaits those who triumph; nobody wants to be a squib!

The Creative Matrix of the Body

We live in a world where there is much focus on our cognitive faculties, yet many of us have lost touch with ‘the Felt Sense’, which is our body’s own wisdom that lies at the very core of much of our experience.

The Islamic tradition often speaks of the body having its own consciousness, separate from the brain, and this is expressed most profoundly in the integration of the body with the mind and soul in the ritual of prayer.

In this talk, Idris Watts will speak about Ibn Arabi’s concept of ‘The Creative Matrix of the Body’ based on a paper written by Samir Mahmoud. He will explore we can reconnect with our bodies in order to find a fuller expression of ourselves in our daily lives and in communion with God.

Winter Harvest: From Bob Dylan to Jalaluddin Rumi

We are overjoyed to welcome Shems Friedlander to this year’s Bradford Literature Festival, here to discuss his latest book, Winter Harvest, the long-awaited sequel to When You Hear Hoofbeats Think of a Zebra, now considered a Sufi classic.

Friedlander has spent over 40 years in a Sufi order and now, in the winter of his life, has chosen to share the stories of his travel and experiences. He is a painter, photographer, designer, filmmaker and educator and has frequently been selected as one of the ‘500 Most Influential Muslims in the World’ in the field of Art and Culture. This is a unique opportunity to gain a rare insight into the passions and influences of an extraordinary man.

In conversation with Journalist, Boyd Tonkin, Friedlander will discuss his life and works, from his love of Bob Dylan to Sufism and the poetry of Rumi.

Who Are You Sadiq Khan, Mayor Of London?

This insightful documentary, follows the mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, during his first six months in office, providing a rare glimpse into the life of one of Britain’s foremost politicians and one of the western world’s most influential Muslims.

Elected Mayor of London in May 2016, succeeding Conservative Party Mayor Boris Johnson, Khan is London’s first ethnic minority mayor and the first Muslim to become the mayor of a major Western capital.

Sadiq Khan is a product of the city and has been able to climb the social ladder. He wishes to “give to the next generations the same opportunities that he himself has received”.

In conversation with Journalist, Boyd Tonkin, Friedlander will discuss his life and works, from his love of Bob Dylan to Sufism and the poetry of Rumi.

Shems Friedlander

SUNDAY
09 JULY

SHEMS FRIEDLANDER
Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College
1:30pm (60mins) £6

Student Central Cinema, University of Bradford
1.45pm (60mins) £6 Film Screening

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Elected Mayor of London in May 2016, succeeding Conservative Party Mayor Boris Johnson, Khan is London’s first ethnic minority mayor and the first Muslim to become the mayor of a major Western capital.

Sadiq Khan is a product of the city and has been able to climb the social ladder. He wishes to “give to the next generations the same opportunities that he himself has received”.

In conversation with Journalist, Boyd Tonkin, Friedlander will discuss his life and works, from his love of Bob Dylan to Sufism and the poetry of Rumi.

Shems Friedlander

SUNDAY
09 JULY

IDRIS WATTS
Small Hall, University of Bradford
2:15pm (60mins) £6

Small Hall, University of Bradford
2:15pm (60mins) £6

The Creative Matrix of the Body

We live in a world where there is much focus on our cognitive faculties, yet many of us have lost touch with ‘the Felt Sense’, which is our body’s own wisdom that lies at the very core of much of our experience.

The Islamic tradition often speaks of the body having its own consciousness, separate from the brain, and this is expressed most profoundly in the integration of the body with the mind and soul in the ritual of prayer.

In this talk, Idris Watts will speak about Ibn Arabi’s concept of ‘The Creative Matrix of the Body’ based on a paper written by Samir Mahmoud. He will explore we can reconnect with our bodies in order to find a fuller expression of ourselves in our daily lives and in communion with God.

IDRIS WATTS
Small Hall, University of Bradford
2:15pm (60mins) £6
“You are not a drop in the ocean, you are the entire ocean in a drop.” - Rumi

The still point at the centre of the mystical tradition concerns itself only with the purest experience of life, love and God. Centred around this point at the core of being, the greatest mystic poets have experienced a depth of feeling that has led them to write some of the most haunting, beautiful and profound verse ever written. The mystical tradition, stretching from Rumi and Hafez to Rilke and Blake, continues to inspire contemporary poets and artists in a multitude of languages, crossing borders and building bridges between people.

Join Ben Okri, Zeina Hashem Beck, Ron Geaves, Dh Maitreyabandhu and Jamil Morris for an enchanting event of contemporary poetry connected to this mystical tradition. The event will culminate with a devotional performance of whirling dervishes, whose motions are a form of dhikr (remembrance of God).

Jewish Heritage Tour

With chilling secrets, untrustworthy narrators and suspenseful plotlines, YA thrillers explore the disquieting realities of teenage life.

From the obsession with achieving physical perfection and celebrity culture to the terrifying implications of living life through social media, our panel of authors have skilfully tapped into the darker undertones of teenage life to create spine-tingling page-turners that will keep you on the edge of your seat.

Join our panel of acclaimed YA authors, Melvin Burgess, Cathy MacPhail and Liz Flanagan, for a gripping venture into the darkest corners of YA thrillers. Chaired by Daniel Hahn, this event promises to disturb, uncover and explore the frightening realities of teenage life.

Modern Day Mystics
Facts in the Era of Fake News

This groundbreaking event gathers together three of Britain’s most experienced and highly acclaimed political and social commentators for a close look at life in the era of fake news.

Reporting on some of the biggest national and global affairs of the last 30 years, journalists, Christina Lamb OBE and Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, have witnessed the seemingly unassailable rise of fake news and seen first-hand the frightening ramifications for human rights policies and governmental attitudes around the world.

Join our expert panel as they share insights and personal experiences of this new era of news and ask what the role of journalism has become and how vital it is that we preserve its integrity.

Implications of Trump

Donald Trump has been elected by the people of America. Previously strong alliances are crumbling, tensions are rising and the balance of power seems to be shifting. Is this a revolution? And how will the world look in four years’ time, when Trump’s first term comes to an end?

Trump’s election success and impassioned support base will have ramifications that reach much further than America’s borders.

Join Paul Rogers, Donna Lee and Sarah Perrigo, all experts in international politics and relations, as they question the effect that Trump’s nationalist agenda might have on the wider world and what he really means when he promises to “make America great again”.

Blessed are Strangers

Blessed Are Strangers is a new documentary film that tells the very British story of a ragtag bunch of white hippies, a committed group of black activists and their journey to Islam via psychedelics and a quest for social change.

In London in the late 1960s, a group of hippies who are switched on to sufi teachings take a trip to Morocco and are introduced to Islam. Later, in 1980s Brixton, a group of West Indians find themselves drawn to the teachings of Islam whilst searching for a new spiritual, cultural and political direction.

This film reveals the fascinating story of how these two very different groups of people came together through their shared faith to form one of Britain’s oldest and most diverse communities of Muslim converts.

Finding a Way Home

It is no great secret that reading and writing are very effective forms of therapy; they can act as an escape from the pressures of everyday life, or a friendly and non-judgmental ear for your troubles.

Literature can help people express and relate to emotions that they could not otherwise have put into words; it can be a platform for speaking about the unspeakable.

Our three panelists all know what it is like to go through the long process of recovering from and coming to terms with mental health difficulties. Join Poppy Jaman, CEO of Mental Health First Aid England, poet Dean Atta and novelist Lyn G Farrell, for a warm, open and insightful discussion, chaired by Yasir Mirza, about looking after your mind and the role that literature can play in this difficult process.
Today’s Society as a Reflection of Dante’s Inferno

In an era of sweeping political change, constant warfare, international refugee crises and catastrophic climate change, this famous phrase - written above the gates of Hell in Dante’s epic poem, Inferno - takes on a whole new resonance.

As well as being one of the greatest poems ever written, Inferno is an acute study of human psychology and its Nine Circles of Hell have fed the public imagination within both art and religion.

Join our expert panel, chaired by Akram Khan and featuring poet, Anthony Anaxagorou, Dante expert, Claire Hones and author, Simon Kurt Unsworth, as they explore the resonance of this extraordinary epic poem within 21st century contemporary society.

After the event, Anthony Anaxagorou will debut a new poem, specially commissioned for the festival - the perfect end to what is sure to be an unforgettable event.

Potterality: The Moral Code of Harry Potter

The Harry Potter books have entertained a generation the world over, but the books are replete with themes of morality and ethics that often go unmentioned in the midst of Pottermania.

As well as the obvious struggle of good versus evil, J.K. Rowling makes clear allusions to racism, xenophobia and autocratic political powers throughout the series. We all know her as a masterful storyteller, but what are the messages that she wanted to convey through the books and how has she affected the worldview of her readers?

We are delighted to welcome Dr Martin H Richardson of Durham University, who has published on Harry Potter and education, for an eye-opening talk that promises to unpack Potter and examine just how the Potterverse reflects the world around us.

Dancing the Divine

Join Jilani Cordelia, a musician and certified leader (and a mentor) of the Dances of Universal Peace, for a blissful journey through the Aramaic Lord’s Prayer Cycle.

This group dance uses heart-centred body prayer and simple devotional singing to tune in to the Infinite Source of All Life and encourages participants to live fully and intentionally in this awareness.

The dance presents a spiritual journey into the timeless wisdom of Jesus using words in his own Aramaic language and can allow one to experience the Lord’s Prayer in an entirely new way.

Jilani has shared the Aramaic Prayer in many different contexts in the UK and abroad and her relaxed and patient teaching style means that anyone can easily learn the words, chants and movements of the dance.
Our hugely popular evening of sacred poetry returns to the spectacular setting of Bradford Cathedral. This will be a joyous celebration of beautiful, transcendental poetry and music from across the religious spectrum, featuring a range of devotional styles, from kirtan recitation to a show-stopping gospel choir performance.

The Rt Revd Dr Toby Howarth, Bishop of Bradford, will host the evening. He will be joined by soloist, Claire White-McKay, Bhajan singer, Ranjana Ghatak, Buddhist poet, Dh Maitreyabandhu and Keertan Rehal, who will recite a beautiful selection of Shabad Kirtan from the Sikh tradition.

The evening will be brought to a close with a glorious gospel choir medley.

One of the festival’s most mesmerising annual events, this year’s Sufiana Kalam will be performed by the hypnotic Nadeem Abbas, who brings his soulful and uplifting voice to a transcendent evening of Sufi music, celebrating the historic traditions of iconic poets from Baba Farid to Bulleh Shah.

Oral transmission of the glorious Sufi poems have been a part of South Asian culture for centuries and the form has had a great influence on the idiom and proverbs of Punjabi language.

In the magnificent setting of the Alhambra Theatre, Bradford Literature Festival brings this music to you in its original form, with the chiming melodies and flowing rhythms perfectly complemented by Nadeem Abbas’ powerful voice.
**WEDNESDAY 28 JUNE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19:00 - 20:00</td>
<td>The Technology Disruption Has Happened. What Will Your World Look Like?</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:30 - 20:00</td>
<td>Mastering Eloquence</td>
<td>Watersstones, The Wool Exchange</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:30 - 22:00</td>
<td>An Evening of Comedy</td>
<td>Alhambra Studio</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:30 - 20:45</td>
<td>Playing with Language</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<tr>
<td>20:00 - 22:00</td>
<td>Haunted: Ghost Stories at Bolling Hall</td>
<td>Bolling Hall Museum</td>
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**FRIDAY 30 JUNE**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:15 - 13:00</td>
<td>Lunch Bite - Blue Skies Over Brexit</td>
<td>Festival Hub, City Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 17:00</td>
<td>The Science of Star Wars</td>
<td>National Science and Media Museum</td>
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<td>13:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>Yorkshire Adabees Forum Mushaira</td>
<td>Aagrah Restaurant, Midpoint Suite</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>Mastering Eloquence</td>
<td>Watersstones, The Wool Exchange</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 15:00</td>
<td>Wonder Heroes Show</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 15:00</td>
<td>Partition: Vision Versus Reality</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:00 - 15:00</td>
<td>Book Bidding Wars</td>
<td>The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall</td>
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<td>13:00 - 15:00</td>
<td>Gothic Yorkshire</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 15:00</td>
<td>The Role of Mythology in Contemporary Culture</td>
<td>Norcroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 15:30</td>
<td>How to be Happy</td>
<td>Alhambra Studio</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>Interactive Poetry with Polarbear</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>The Good Immigrant</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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**SATURDAY 1 JULY**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00 - 11:45</td>
<td>The Technology Disruption Has Happened. What Will Your World Look Like?</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 - 12:45</td>
<td>The Politics of India Publishing</td>
<td>The Ernest Saville Room, City Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 - 13:00</td>
<td>Big Hero &amp; Film Screening</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 - 13:15</td>
<td>Fatastically Great Women Who Changed the World</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 - 12:45</td>
<td>The Reality Behind Dystopian Futures</td>
<td>Norcroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>12:00 - 14:00</td>
<td>Bravewell Brontë Storyboard Revealed</td>
<td>Meat Outside. The City Gant, North Parade</td>
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<td>12:30 - 13:30</td>
<td>Whatever Next! Storytelling with Sue Dyde</td>
<td>City Library</td>
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<td>12:30 - 13:30</td>
<td>Star Wars: From Samurai to Jedi</td>
<td>Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>12:30 - 13:45</td>
<td>Cricket: Empire's Greatest Export?</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<td>12:45 - 13:45</td>
<td>Comics from Crisis</td>
<td>Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>12:45 - 14:00</td>
<td>The Things I Would Tell You: British Muslim Women Write</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:00 - 14:00</td>
<td>The Fabulous Four Fish Fingers</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:00 - 15:15</td>
<td>The View from Kashmir</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:00 - 14:45</td>
<td>King Arthur of the North</td>
<td>City Hall Chamber</td>
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<td>13:00 - 14:45</td>
<td>Andrea Dunbar the Writer</td>
<td>Student Central Cinema, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>13:00 - 15:00</td>
<td>Queens of Syria</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:15 - 14:00</td>
<td>Wonder Heroes Show</td>
<td>Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>13:30 - 14:45</td>
<td>Writing and Thriving in the Digital Age</td>
<td>Norcroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>13:30 - 14:45</td>
<td>Arabic Nights: The Original Science Fiction</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<td>14:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>Wonder Hero Academy Workshop</td>
<td>Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>14:00 - 15:00</td>
<td>Goodnight Everyone</td>
<td>City Library</td>
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<td>14:15 - 15:15</td>
<td>The T20 Revolution</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<td>14:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>Spy Dog</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>14:30 - 15:30</td>
<td>Camelot Through the Ages</td>
<td>City Hall Chamber</td>
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<td>15:00 - 15:45</td>
<td>Wonder Heroes Show</td>
<td>Student Central Cinema, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>15:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>All About Me</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>15:00 - 16:15</td>
<td>How to Create a Storybook and Get Published</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<td>15:00 - 16:15</td>
<td>Alif Layla: Dinn, Genies &amp; Arabian Nights</td>
<td>Norcroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>15:15 - 16:15</td>
<td>What’s in My Head</td>
<td>Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>15:30 - 16:30</td>
<td>Slugby Saves the World</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>15:30 - 16:30</td>
<td>Nostalgia</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:30 - 16:45</td>
<td>The Good Immigrant</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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## At a Glance

**SATURDAY 1 JULY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15:45</td>
<td>Wonder Horse Academy Workshop</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>The Planet Remade: How Geo-Engineering Could Change the World</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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<td>16:00</td>
<td>Colliding Worlds: Where Art Meets Science</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<td>16:00</td>
<td>Is Monogamy Dead?</td>
<td>French Ballroom, Midland Hotel</td>
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<td>16:30</td>
<td>Game of Thrones Quiz</td>
<td>Sunbridge Wells</td>
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<td>16:30</td>
<td>The Cottingley Fairies: 100 Years On</td>
<td>Norcroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>17:00</td>
<td>Can there be a Post Gender Utopia?</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>17:15</td>
<td>The Lady of Shalott: Tennyson’s Camelot</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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<td>17:30</td>
<td>Writing Empire</td>
<td>Advance Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<td>18:00</td>
<td>An Audience with Jeannette Winterson</td>
<td>Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>The Crow's Plucked Your Snows</td>
<td>Theatre in the Mill</td>
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<td>19:30</td>
<td>Lyrical Mehfil</td>
<td>Alhambra Studio</td>
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**SUNDAY 2 JULY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:45</td>
<td>Why We’re Losing the War on Terror</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45</td>
<td>Creating Stories</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Incarations: The History of India in 50 Lives</td>
<td>City Hall Chamber</td>
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<td>12:00</td>
<td>Game of Thrones: Myths &amp; History</td>
<td>Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>12:15</td>
<td>Reading Behind Bars</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<td>12:15</td>
<td>The Bare Lit Anthology</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:00</td>
<td>Holy Terrors</td>
<td>Student Central Cinema, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>13:00</td>
<td>A Dragon’s Tale: Performance</td>
<td>David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:00</td>
<td>Storytelling with Pictures</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:15</td>
<td>Lost Princes of Empire</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:15</td>
<td>The World Today</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:15</td>
<td>Mythen Obsessions</td>
<td>Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>13:15</td>
<td>The Grimm Mash Up Show</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<td>13:15</td>
<td>Islamic Civilization in 30 Lives</td>
<td>City Hall Chamber</td>
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<td>13:30</td>
<td>Northern Noir, Bradford in Crime Fiction</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<td>13:30</td>
<td>Doctor Who: Legends of the Time Lords</td>
<td>Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>13:45</td>
<td>Austen Goes Ethnic</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>14:00</td>
<td>Goblins’ Got Talent Workshop</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<td>14:00</td>
<td>The Books They Don’t Want You to Read</td>
<td>Norcroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>14:00</td>
<td>Embodiment Comics Workshop</td>
<td>Re Centre, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>14:00</td>
<td>Journalling Workshop</td>
<td>Seminar Room 1, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>14:15</td>
<td>A Dragon’s Tale: Workshop</td>
<td>David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>14:15</td>
<td>My Dad’s Beard</td>
<td>David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>14:15</td>
<td>Loyal Enemies: Britain’s First Muslims</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<td>14:30</td>
<td>Fairy Tales Reimagined</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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<td>14:30</td>
<td>The Enemy Within: Sayeeda Warsi In Conversation</td>
<td>Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>14:30</td>
<td>Black and British: A Forgotten History</td>
<td>City Hall Chamber</td>
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<td>14:45</td>
<td>500th Anniversary Martin Luther &amp; the Reformation</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<td>14:45</td>
<td>The Black Prince</td>
<td>National Science and Media Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>The Grimm Mash Up Show</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<td>15:00</td>
<td>Neil Gaiman: Dream Dangerously</td>
<td>Student Central Cinema, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>15:00</td>
<td>Disarming Mr Darcy</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>15:00</td>
<td>Enter the Whoniverse</td>
<td>Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>15:30</td>
<td>Myths &amp; Legends From Around the World</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>15:30</td>
<td>Writing Revolution</td>
<td>Norcroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:45</td>
<td>Goblins’ Got Talent Workshop</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>Can There Be a British Islam?</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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**Festival at a Glance**

19:30 - 22:00 | Lyrical Mehfil
18:00 - 19:00 | Writing Empire
17:00 - 18:00 | Can There be a Post Gender Utopia?
16:30 - 17:45 | The Cottingley Fairies: 100 Years On
16:00 - 17:15 | Is Monogamy Dead?
16:30 - 18:30 | Game of Thrones Quiz
16:00 - 19:00 | Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College
17:00 - 18:00 | Dye House Gallery, Bradford College
17:15 - 18:15 | Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College
17:30 - 18:30 | Advance Technology Centre, Bradford College
18:00 - 19:00 | Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford
19:30 - 21:00 | Theatre in the Mill
19:30 - 22:00 | Alhambra Studio
### At a Glance 28 June – 09 July 2017

#### SUNDAY 2 JULY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16:00 - 17:00</td>
<td>Gervase Phinn In Conversation</td>
<td>Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
<td>83</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00 - 17:00</td>
<td>Inglorious Empire: What The British Did to India</td>
<td>City Hall Chamber</td>
<td>83</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00 - 17:15</td>
<td>LGBT 50</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00 - 17:15</td>
<td>Angela Carter: A Celebration of Her Life and Works</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30 - 17:30</td>
<td>Past Truth Satire in Comics &amp; Graphic Novels</td>
<td>Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30 - 17:45</td>
<td>The Djin Falls in Love</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>Lenni Ruusu’s Something Dark</td>
<td>Alhambra Studio</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:30 - 18:45</td>
<td>Critical Muslim: Islamic Boy Bands</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<td>17:30 - 18:30</td>
<td>Courteens and Concubines</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<td>17:30 - 19:45</td>
<td>Lipstick Under My Burka</td>
<td>National Science and Media Museum</td>
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<td>17:30 - 18:45</td>
<td>Why Do We Like to Be Scared?</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00 - 20:15</td>
<td>Vampyres</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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#### MONDAY 3 JULY

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<tr>
<td>12:15 - 13:00</td>
<td>Lunch Bites - Journalism</td>
<td>Festival Hub, City Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00 - 20:00</td>
<td>Political Memoirs: Harriet Harman &amp; Rachel Reeves</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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#### TUESDAY 4 JULY

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<tr>
<td>12:15 - 13:00</td>
<td>Lunch Bites - Meditation</td>
<td>Festival Hub, City Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00 - 20:00</td>
<td>Mount Sinai: A History of Travellers and Pilgrims</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00 - 20:00</td>
<td>Beathia Poets</td>
<td>Waterstones, The Wool Exchange</td>
<td>92</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:30 - 21:00</td>
<td>Potter’s Potions</td>
<td>Albi, Sunbridge Wells</td>
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#### WEDNESDAY 5 JULY

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<tr>
<td>12:15 - 13:00</td>
<td>Lunch Bites - Fantasy Fiction</td>
<td>Festival Hub, City Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00 - 20:00</td>
<td>Dreams of a Refugee: From the Middle East to Mount Everest</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:30 - 20:45</td>
<td>The Toll</td>
<td>Theatre in the Mill</td>
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<tr>
<td>20:00 - 21:30</td>
<td>Historical Tour: Undercliffe Victorian Cemetery by Twilight</td>
<td>Start from: Undercliffe Lane Entrance</td>
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#### THURSDAY 6 JULY

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>The Art of Seeing: Photography Workshop</td>
<td>Re Centre, University of Bradford</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15 - 13:00</td>
<td>Lunch Bites - Poetry</td>
<td>Festival Hub, City Park</td>
<td>96</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00 - 20:15</td>
<td>Hope Springs Eternal</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<td>19:00 - 20:15</td>
<td>Yorkshire Rows: 4 Mums in a Boat</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
<td>97</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:30 - 20:30</td>
<td>From Bags to Blenders: The Journey of a Yorkshire Businessman</td>
<td>Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:30 - 20:45</td>
<td>Breakup Monologues</td>
<td>Theatre in the Mill</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:30 - 21:00</td>
<td>Gone: A Girl, a Violin, a Life Unstrung</td>
<td>Bradford Cathedral</td>
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#### FRIDAY 7 JULY

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00 - 12:30</td>
<td>Mental Health First Aid - For Parents, Teachers and those who work with Young People</td>
<td>Re Centre, University of Bradford</td>
<td>101</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15 - 13:00</td>
<td>Lunch Bites - Dance of Universal Peace</td>
<td>Festival Hub, City Park</td>
<td>102</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>Mental Health First Aid - For Businesses and Employers</td>
<td>Re Centre, University of Bradford</td>
<td>102</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00 - 20:00</td>
<td>John Boyne In Conversation</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
<td>103</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00 - 20:00</td>
<td>The Trouble with Economics</td>
<td>Norcrorf Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford</td>
<td>104</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00 - 20:15</td>
<td>How Not to Write Bad Sex</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<td>19:00 - 21:30</td>
<td>Poets: The LGBT Literary Salon</td>
<td>Stein Bier Keller</td>
<td>105</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00 - 20:15</td>
<td>The Third Act</td>
<td>Watertones, The Wool Exchange</td>
<td>106</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:30 - 20:15</td>
<td>A Nearly Infallible History of the Reformation</td>
<td>Small Hall, University of Bradford</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:30 - 20:30</td>
<td>I-Gypsy: From Nomad to iPod</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
<td>107</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:30 - 21:30</td>
<td>Combustion</td>
<td>Alhambra Studio</td>
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#### SATURDAY 8 JULY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 - 10:45</td>
<td>The Fury Tales</td>
<td>City Park</td>
<td>108</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 - 11:00</td>
<td>The Bronitsaurus</td>
<td>French Ballroom, Midland Hotel</td>
<td>110</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 - 11:30</td>
<td>Poets Workshop</td>
<td>Seminar Room 1, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
<td>110</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 - 12:00</td>
<td>Nigerian Voices</td>
<td>Norcrorf Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford</td>
<td>112</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 - 11:30</td>
<td>Bears and Other Creatures</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 - 11:45</td>
<td>Jerusalem: The Anthem</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
<td>113</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 - 11:15</td>
<td>The Bear Choir Workshop</td>
<td>City Park</td>
<td>114</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 - 12:00</td>
<td>Khidmat-e-Khalq</td>
<td>Great Hall, University of Bradford</td>
<td>115</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 - 12:15</td>
<td>Secrets of Crime Writing</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>Beary Scary Masks and Claws Workshop</td>
<td>Bradford College, David Hockney Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>Bear Lanterns Workshop</td>
<td>Bradford College, David Hockney Building</td>
<td>109</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>Bear Rattle Workshop</td>
<td>Bradford College, David Hockney Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 - 12:30</td>
<td>Tiff Needell In Conversation</td>
<td>Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
<td>114</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 - 12:30</td>
<td>Yoga - Beginner</td>
<td>Norcrorf Centre Lounge, University of Bradford</td>
<td>115</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 - 12:30</td>
<td>The Missing Bronté</td>
<td>French Ballroom, Midland Hotel</td>
<td>115</td>
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<td>11:30 - 13:00</td>
<td>Paddington Film Screening</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 - 12:45</td>
<td>Peter Sanders: 10 Books That Changed My Life</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 - 12:45</td>
<td>How to Become the Ultimate Explorer</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
<td>116</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 - 13:45</td>
<td>Opinion Writing Workshop</td>
<td>Seminar Room 1, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 - 13:00</td>
<td>Sufism at the Heart of Rumi</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
<td>117</td>
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</table>

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Facebook.com/bradfordlitfest
## At a Glance

### SATURDAY 8 JULY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00 - 13:00</td>
<td>The Untold Story of Elizabeth I and Islam</td>
<td>Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>12:45 - 14:00</td>
<td>Inspired by the Brontës</td>
<td>French Ballroom, Midland Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 14:00</td>
<td>The Different Perceptions of Reality</td>
<td>Alhambra Studio</td>
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<td>13:00 - 14:15</td>
<td>Giranpanory</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:00 - 14:15</td>
<td>Time Theories of J.B. Priestley</td>
<td>Norcroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:15 - 14:00</td>
<td>The Furry Tales</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<td>13:15 - 14:15</td>
<td>Gary Young: Another Day in the Death of America</td>
<td>Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:15 - 14:30</td>
<td>Poetry, Politics, Partition: Aj Aakhaan Waris Shah Nu</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:15 - 14:30</td>
<td>Performance Poetry Jam</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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<td>14:00 - 14:30</td>
<td>The Bear Chair Workshop</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00 - 15:00</td>
<td>Women in Rumi’s Spiritual Circle</td>
<td>City Hall Banqueting Suite</td>
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<td>14:00 - 15:00</td>
<td>The Magic of Romance</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>14:15 - 15:15</td>
<td>A Funny Thing Happened</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>14:15 - 15:15</td>
<td>Gender Expectations in the Lives of the Brontës</td>
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<td>The World of F1</td>
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<td>A History of Britain in 21 Women</td>
<td>Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>14:30 - 15:30</td>
<td>The Legacy of Lawrence of Arabia</td>
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<td>Derek Walcott: In Memoriam</td>
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<td>Waris Shah’s Hear</td>
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<td>The Ethics of Artificial Intelligence</td>
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<td>Tales of Magic</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>Psycho-Thrillers</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>The Bear Chair Workshop</td>
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<td>Latent Eroticism in the Novels of the Brontës</td>
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<td>Chishty’s Message of Love</td>
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<td>16:00 - 17:00</td>
<td>The Science of Immortality</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<td>16:00 - 17:00</td>
<td>Women for Life on Earth: The Inevitability of Ecofeminism</td>
<td>Great Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>16:00 - 17:00</td>
<td>Yoga - Intermediate</td>
<td>Norcroft Centre Lounge, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>Meer Waris Shah: Nadeem Abbas</td>
<td>Alhambra Studio</td>
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<td>17:00 - 18:15</td>
<td>Political Poetry</td>
<td>City Hall Chamber</td>
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<td>17:00 - 18:15</td>
<td>Humans, Sex Bots &amp; Virtual Romance</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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<td>17:15 - 18:15</td>
<td>Bafouar &amp; After: The Making of the Arab-Israeli Conflict</td>
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### SATURDAY 9 JULY

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<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>17:15 - 18:30</td>
<td>Heaven and Earth and the Ten Thousand Things</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>18:30 - 19:45</td>
<td>Israel Palestine - Is There a Solution?</td>
<td>Norcroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00 - 20:15</td>
<td>From Fanny Hill to Fifty Shades</td>
<td>Waterstones, The Wool Exchange</td>
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<td>19:30 - 21:15</td>
<td>An Evening with an Immigrant</td>
<td>Theatre in the Mill</td>
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<tr>
<td>20:00 - 22:00</td>
<td>Tappay &amp; Bolian: South Asian Wedding Folk Songs</td>
<td>Alhambra Studio</td>
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<tr>
<td>20:30 - 21:45</td>
<td>Erotic Bedtime Stories</td>
<td>Waterstones, The Wool Exchange</td>
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### SUNDAY 9 JULY

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<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 - 10:45</td>
<td>Harry Through the Mirror Pool</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<td>10:00 - 17:00</td>
<td>Bronte Heritage Tour</td>
<td>Sets off from: The National Science &amp; Media Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 - 13:00</td>
<td>Realism in Crime Fiction &amp; Tour of the Bradford Police Museum</td>
<td>Bradford Police Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 - 11:30</td>
<td>Letters of Little Germany: Philatelic Treasures</td>
<td>Digital Health Enterprise Zone, Digital Exchange</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 - 11:30</td>
<td>Magic &amp; Mythical Beasts</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>10:30 - 11:30</td>
<td>Simple Principles of the Ihya Ulum al-Din</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>10:30 - 11:30</td>
<td>An introduction to Islamic Psychology and Mental Health</td>
<td>Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 - 11:45</td>
<td>A Man’s Game</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<td>10:30 - 12:30</td>
<td>Poetry Workshop</td>
<td>Seminar Room 1, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>10:30 - 12:00</td>
<td>Rumi’s Circle Whirling Workshop</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>10:45 - 11:15</td>
<td>The Academy of Wizards and Witches</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<td>11:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>Pocket Book of Monsters Workshop</td>
<td>Bradford College, David Hockney Building</td>
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<td>11:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>Magical Owl Familiar Workshop</td>
<td>Bradford College, David Hockney Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>Beginner’s Wand-Making Workshop</td>
<td>Bradford College, David Hockney Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 - 13:00</td>
<td>Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets Film Screening</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<td>Yoga - Beginner</td>
<td>Seminar Room 2, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 - 13:00</td>
<td>Dafa’il al-Khayrat: Waymarks of Benefits</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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<td>11:45 - 12:45</td>
<td>The Fairy Detective Agency</td>
<td>Michele Sutton Lecture Theatre, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>11:45 - 12:45</td>
<td>Relaft Meditation and Mindfulness for Beginners</td>
<td>Re-Centre, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>11:45 - 12:45</td>
<td>Little Germany Heritage Tour</td>
<td>Sets off from: Digital Health Enterprise Zone, Digital Exchange</td>
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<td>11:45 - 13:00</td>
<td>Tibb and Mental Health</td>
<td>Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>12:00 - 13:00</td>
<td>Christina Lamb In Conversation</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<td>12:00 - 13:15</td>
<td>Refugee Tales</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>12:00 - 15:00</td>
<td>Realism in Crime Fiction &amp; Tour of the Bradford Police Museum</td>
<td>Bradford Police Museum</td>
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Facebook.com/bradfordlitfest
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:15 - 14:15</td>
<td>Opinion Writing Workshop</td>
<td>Seminar Room 1, David Hockney Building, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:30 - 14:30</td>
<td>Diwan-e-Hafez</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:30 - 14:30</td>
<td>Winter Harvest: From Bob Dylan to Jalaluddin Rumi</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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<td>13:45 - 14:45</td>
<td>Who Are You Sadiq Khan, Mayor Of London?</td>
<td>Student Central Cinema, University of Bradford</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>The Triwizard Tournament: The Ultimate Harry Potter Quiz</td>
<td>City Hall Chamber</td>
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<td>14:00 - 14:45</td>
<td>Harry Through the Mirror Pool</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<td>14:15 - 15:15</td>
<td>The Creative Matrix of the Body</td>
<td>Small Hall, Richmond Building, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>14:30 - 15:30</td>
<td>Disturbing Minds</td>
<td>Norcroft Centre Auditorium, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>14:30 - 16:00</td>
<td>Jewish Heritage Tour</td>
<td>Sets off from: Bradford Synagogue</td>
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<td>14:45 - 15:15</td>
<td>The Academy of Wizards and Witches</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<td>14:45 - 16:15</td>
<td>Modern Day Mystics</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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<td>14:45 - 16:00</td>
<td>Facts in the Era of Fake News</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00 - 16:15</td>
<td>Yoga - Intermediate</td>
<td>Norcroft Centre Lounge, University of Bradford</td>
<td>145</td>
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<td>15:00 - 17:00</td>
<td>Blessed are Strangers</td>
<td>Student Central Cinema, University of Bradford</td>
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<td>15:30 - 16:15</td>
<td>Harry Through the Mirror Pool</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:30 - 16:45</td>
<td>Finding a Way Home</td>
<td>Dye House Gallery, Bradford College</td>
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<td>16:15 - 17:30</td>
<td>Implications of Trump</td>
<td>Advanced Technology Centre, Bradford College</td>
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<td>16:15 - 16:45</td>
<td>The Academy of Wizards and Witches</td>
<td>City Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30 - 17:45</td>
<td>Today’s Society as a Reflection of Dante’s Inferno</td>
<td>Henry Mitchell Hall, Bradford College</td>
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<td>16:30 - 17:30</td>
<td>Potterality: The Moral Code of Harry Potter</td>
<td>City Hall Chamber</td>
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<td>16:30 - 17:30</td>
<td>Dancing the Divine</td>
<td>Norcroft Centre Lounge, University of Bradford</td>
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<tr>
<td>18:00 - 20:30</td>
<td>Sacred Poetry</td>
<td>Bradford Cathedral</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00 - 21:30</td>
<td>Sufiana Kalaam</td>
<td>Alhambra Theatre</td>
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### List of Venues and Map References

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City Library</th>
<th>National Science &amp; Media Museum</th>
<th>Undercliffe Cemetery</th>
<th>University of Bradford</th>
<th>Waterstones</th>
<th>See overleaf for festival venue map</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bradford Alhambra</td>
<td>Morley St, Bradford, BD7 1AJ</td>
<td>City Library, Centenary Square, Bradford, BD1 1SD</td>
<td>National Science &amp; Media Museum, Little Horton Lane, Bradford, BD1 1NQ</td>
<td>Undercliffe Cemetery, 127 Undercliffe Lane, Bradford, BD3 0QD</td>
<td>University of Bradford, Richmond Building, Bradford, BD7 1DP</td>
<td>Waterstones, Wool Exchange, Bradford, BD1 1BL</td>
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<td>Bradford Alhambra Studio</td>
<td>Adjacent to the Alhambra Theatre. Entrance on Great Horton Road.</td>
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<td>Stein Bierkeller</td>
<td>Randall Well Street, Bradford, BD7 1AQ</td>
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<td>Sunbridge Wells</td>
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<td>Theatre in the Mill</td>
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<td>The Midland Hotel</td>
<td>Forster Square, Bradford, BD1 4HU</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

See overleaf for festival venue map.
Useful Information

ACCESSIBILITY
All venues cater towards disabled access. If you have any enquiries about access or if you will need assistance on arrival at any of our events, please do not hesitate to contact us on info@bradfordlitfest.co.uk.

PARKING
Parking is available in NCP car parks and at The Broadway shopping centre. On street parking is available throughout the city centre in clearly marked and signposted parking bays.

FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY
Please be advised that visitors to Bradford Literature Festival may be filmed and/or photographed for future promotions of the festival, including through our social media channels and on our website. For more information please contact info@bradfordlitfest.co.uk.

CHILDRENS POLICY
Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult at all events. While Bradford Literature Festival maintains a child protection policy we cannot act in loco parentis, or take responsibility, for an unsupervised child.

EVENTS FOR CHILDREN
Please adhere to the age range specified for children’s and family events. Children under 16 must be accompanied at all times by a responsible person aged 18 or over. We keep our prices as low as possible to allow for this. Any such person may accompany a maximum of 6 children to an event.

THE LOST CHILD POINT
A lost child point will be located in the Waterstones Festival Hub between 10am – 5pm each day.

DISCLAIMER
Information in this publication is accurate at the time of going to press, but events and event performers may be subject to change without notice.

96% of our research rated as internationally excellent
(REF 2014)
We should all know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color.

Maya Angelou
– Poet and Civil Rights Activist