



October 2017

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR LIBRARIES



Hello

Welcome to the October 2017 edition of my Manchester Libraries Bulletin.

This bulletin will provide you with some highlights of what's been going on in the libraries around the city. So much has been happening in October for residents and visitors, to meet the needs of the people and the communities of Manchester.

Councillor Lutfur Rahman
Executive Member for
Schools, Culture and Leisure

Libraries Takeover Week & National Libraries Week

During the week beginning October 16, Libraries took over Manchester City's Council social media. Hundreds of messages, photos and videos showed the range of fantastic services offered from our libraries. We received so many positive messages from our residents that show how much they value the services. Please take a look at the Council's Twitter and Facebook to see for yourself.



The week before was National Libraries Week. Again our libraries highlighted everything that they do for all ages.

Manchester has always loved its public libraries. The country's first public library was opened in Manchester in 1852.

The City's libraries are valued more than ever, with the 22 libraries receiving 3 million visits last year, an increase of 4%, and Manchester Central Library, one of the country's most visited, receiving 1.5 million. In addition, there were nearly 7 million visits to our 24x7 online services.



Manchester Libraries Bulletin

October 2017



Longsight Library & Learning Centre held its second Fun Palace much to the joy of the local residents, contributors and staff. This year we were treated to Dance workshops from Company Chameleon and Greenfields Dance Company. We had amazing 3D printing and artists galore sharing their skills with an incredibly artistic community. Alongside our now regular activity contributors, we had the joy of being treated to the delightful traditional Russian Crafts of Russian artist/librarian Olga. Not forgetting the beautiful voices of Manchester's SHE Choir treating us to their renditions of popular songs such as "Royals" & "Rather Be". The fantastic thing about Fun Palaces is they're not only a delight and joy for those attending but for those who choose to contribute, as summed up by Esther. "It was great to sing in a new neighbourhood, Longsight Library was such a hub of activity and the families and visitors there were having a lovely creative time, it was a joy to sing to them"

The wonderful older peoples Tai Chi group from Wai Yin graced us with an amazing showcase of their mesmerizing moves and then invited participation, resulting in comments such as "I feel so relaxed now" There was approximately 20 activities and a whole host of people and organisations sharing their passions from Arabic calligraphy and coffee, to knitting and Mhendi. All in all, another fantastic day with fantastic people in a fantastic library!!

"I had a fabulous time. I had nothing to do at home and I decided to come here it was amazing." Zulaika 13yrs



Arcadia Library & Leisure Centre hosted Levenshulme Language Day. The day was a Levenshulme wide event brought together by Manchester University's Multi-lingual Manchester. It was a fantastic celebration of all things language including a bi-lingual café for parents whose children are being brought up in multi-language households.



Beautiful traditional dance was performed by young women from the Greater Manchester Bangladeshi Association's Bengali school. Levenshulme High School girls performed poetry in mother tongues. There was a variety of language themed crafts as well as activities such as Green Screen, Storytelling and language taster sessions. The event was a resounding success and our University partners were really pleased with the diversity of families and their engagement with the wealth of activities and attendance of local Cllrs and MP Afzal Khan.





October 2017

Fun Palaces at Forum Library and Fallowfield community Library.

Skills, hobbies, interests and passions were shared, embraced and enjoyed by over 1154 people.

Many activities took place, including kite making, block screen printing, porcelain painting, hand print mural, Bangladesh traditional costume design, slime making and exploding volcanoes to name a few.



It was another amazing opportunity to engage with the people in our communities. People enjoyed, learnt and most importantly, had fun.



Didsbury Library Author visit



Caroline England at Didsbury Library - Thursday 12 October

Local author **Caroline England** recently launched her debut novel *Beneath the Skin*, so for National Libraries week Caroline was invited along to Didsbury Library to talk to us on how she got into writing, as well as reading extracts from her book

An interested audience had plenty of questions to ask Caroline particularly on how to get your book published. This lunchtime talk was brought to its conclusion with a much appreciated buffet.

UK and Pakistan at 70

In September we were delighted to host two special events at Central Library and Longsight Library to launch photography exhibitions celebrating '70 years of UK and Pakistan Relations: Shared History, Shared Future'. The exhibitions were curated by the British High Commission in

Islamabad in partnership with the Pakistani High Commission in the UK and its consulate-general in Manchester.



The British High Commission tasked photojournalist, Sara Farid, to travel across Pakistan, taking pictures as part of this campaign. The digital format of the exhibition at Central Library and the physical format of the same exhibition at Longsight Library contains her work, along with the winning photograph, runner up and others from the 70th Anniversary Photo Competition, which ran nationwide in Pakistan. On Thursday 14 September at Central Library guests gathered round the Virtual Archive to hear launch speeches from the Lord Mayor of Manchester, Cllr Eddy Newman, and the Rt Hon Alistair Burt MP, Minister of State for the DFID and Minister of State for the FCO. Both exhibitions run until 5th January 2018 on the Central Library Virtual Archive screen on the Ground Floor and on the new exhibition panels at Longsight Library.



Manchester Libraries Bulletin

October 2017

Abraham Moss Library



Local schoolchildren were treated to a very special event on 11 October. Comedian and author Harry Hill visited the Abraham Moss Library Theatre to talk about his new children's book "Matt Millz". Over 320 children and staff from Irk Valley, Temple and Abraham Moss Community Schools attended this hilarious event with some children walking in the pouring rain to see him.



Harry entertained us with songs, jokes and slapstick comedy. He shared what sparked his interest in writing jokes and funny books. He even found time to video a selfie with library staff Tracy and Fozia which promptly went viral on Twitter! (No we don't know who is best either!)

Fun Palaces at Abraham Moss Library and North City Library



Lots of amazing activities happened on Fun Palaces Saturday – Drop Everything and Sing, Make Silly Slime plus Pajaki Polish paper chandeliers. Journeys Festival International held a Welcome Banner workshop to create welcome messages for refugees and asylum seekers and Company Chameleon's invited young people to join Illuminate Dance workshops.



There was Mehndi decoration, a Bee Manchester Stop-Motion Animation session, fruit kebabs-making plus tasty popcorn necklaces. We enjoyed hours of Lego fun and a wonderful petcraft workshop with Sparkle the parrot and a lovely tortoise.



Heartfelt thanks go to all our wonderful Libraries staff and volunteers who certainly stepped up to the challenge of this community arts & sciences celebration!





October 2017

Central Library

Pitch To Win!

On 10 October the Business & IP Centre hosted a pitching workshop aimed at anyone needing help with presenting themselves or their ideas to potential investors or employers.

Delivered by business author and former BBC TV journalist **Steve Rawling**, the session covered the essential preparation for a successful business pitch, followed by how the right stories and attitude can win over an audience.

The feedback was very positive: "Fantastic! Engaging, relevant!" "Excellent. Great content & delivery, highly recommend" "Powerful and empowering!"

Roald Dahl day



Charlie didn't LEGO of his golden ticket during his stay at Central Library to celebrate both

READ Manchester and Roald Dahl Day. There are six favourite Roald Dahl child heroes appearing in different locations across the UK to mark Roald Dahl Day on 13 Sept.

Charlie is made of over 8000 LEGO bricks, and families visiting on the Sunday Funday were able to get a sneak peek at him.

Manchester Literature Festival

Once again, Central Library was one of the main venues for this year's festival with a wide range of sold out events.

Authors attending this year's events at Central Library included Will Self, Roddy Doyle, Harriet Harman, Jackie Hagan, Alan Hollinghurst, Hollie McNish, Asha Lu Mohammed, Arundhati Subramanian, Michael Symonds Roberts and Howard Jacobson.



The Literature Festival dates tied in well with National Libraries Week, so it was a great way to get new audiences into Central Library to discover and celebrate the wide range of community, business and cultural offers available.

A Library Card for Every Child



Finally, this month, I am delighted to announce an exciting new initiative. A library card, and welcome leaflet will be gifted to every child at their birth registration. This will increase the number of young children and families using libraries across the city, and help our children be ready for school.



Cllr Rahman with staff from Registrars and Libraries



Manchester Libraries Bulletin

October 2017

