



May 2018

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR LIBRARIES



Hello

Welcome to the May 2018 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 to serve our residents and visitors, and meet the needs of the people and the communities of Manchester.

Councillor Luthfur Rahman
Executive Member for
Schools, Culture and Leisure

Culture in our libraries

Libraries across the country have 'Universal Offers' so residents know that certain services are available in their local library service. The 'Culture Universal Offer' has recently been launched. This is to promote arts and culture in libraries

- To attract new library members
- To help people who don't normally engage with culture to develop a love and appreciation of it
- To help make libraries vibrant places at the heart of communities

Manchester's libraries are full of arts and culture events and activities from regular activities to one-off high profile events. They are used as venues to help nurture local talent and for community groups to flourish through to award winning commissioned arts and culture events. They are used as exhibition spaces showing art from local school children to internationally renowned artists.

Contained within this issue of my Manchester Libraries Bulletin is some of the highlights of cultural and art activities in our libraries over just the last couple of months. Our libraries really are vibrant places where arts and culture flourish. The possibilities are endless at Manchester Libraries!

Culture and the arts are vital to our city. To help recognise individuals and groups who create such a buzz across the city, I have launched the Manchester Culture Awards, that will take place in November. Nominations for all the categories must be received by 22 July 2018.



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Central Library

LIBRARY **Live.**

Events at Central Library

Library Live is Central Library's cultural events programme, where unexpected, sociable and stimulating things happen. With big open doors, lots of free events and many spaces to explore, Library Live is for everyone

Hit the North

From incisive studio portraiture to grand rural vistas, Hit the North celebrates northern photography across five decades.

The exhibition is curated by Manchester-based Hobo Photo, which promotes photography with high-quality roving exhibitions. You can see Hit the North in the Exhibition Hall in Central Library from 19 April to 30 June.



The Danger Tree – An Augmented Reality Experience

Scarlett Raven and Marc Marot are amongst the world's first augmented reality fine artists. The Danger Tree, exhibited at Central Library was brought to life by award-winning film set designer Kave Quinn, evoked the devastation of WWI.

The narratives behind each painting told the stories of those lost and lamented, but never forgotten. Using a smartphone or iPad, visitors revealed the journey behind each artwork with animation, music and poetry, read by actors including Sean Bean and Vicky McClure, superimposed on the art.



Inside View: Original and Creative Work by Learners at HMP Manchester

An exhibition of creative work in the First Floor Exhibition cases

was produced by learners attending NOVUS Education classes at HMP Manchester.

The joint collaboration between Manchester Central Library and NOVUS Education, showcases the excellent standard of creative work produced using a limited range of resources.



Suffrage in Manchester

In celebration of the centenary of the Representation of the People Act, an exhibition in the Lower Ground Floor of Central Library has been created by Heritage schools to showcase the work of local primary and secondary school students as they explored key people and historic sites linked to the Suffrage movement in Manchester. The exhibition runs from 3 April to the 30 June.





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Frog and Bucket Comedy Night

Central Library hosted a Frog and Bucket live comedy night. Ten new comedy acts competed to last five minutes on stage without being booed off by the audience. The funny few who lasted the full 5 minutes "Beat the Frog". At the end of the show all the acts who successfully "beat the frog" are invited back on stage for a clap off to award the night's winner!



Creative Hackathon

Community groups in Levenshulme and Moss Side enjoyed taking part in the Manchester Creative Hackathon. Manchester Libraries invited residents to

contribute images, videos and words about their Manchester.

Submissions made up the building blocks for the Creative Hackathon that took place at Central Library. To promote the Hackathon library staff took to the streets armed with ipads and smart-phones, meeting groups and individuals at community venues, markets and shopping centres.

Two older people's groups took part, The Happy Mondays (Levenshulme Inspire) and the Power-Rangers (Moss Side Powerhouse Library). The Power-Rangers allowed our young digital volunteer to film them whilst discussing Windrush, Marathons and photography!

Young people created collages about their favourite Manchester places. Other groups included were Longsight's Circus House and an Asylum Seeker and Refugee allotment project, Growing Together.



Didsbury Lego club

This May, Didsbury Library launched a World Cup Sticker Swap Shop and a brand new Lego Club.

Children and grown-ups had a great time and produced some amazing Lego models. The concentration on the children's faces was proof that the children were really enjoying creating their unique pieces.



Didsbury in Bloom

Outside the library, on the same morning, Didsbury in Bloom set up stalls to speak to the community about Bee In The City with various promotional activities. Didsbury Library supported them with activities



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and crafts from the Archives+ team. A wonderful morning was had by all inside and outside the library, it was buzzing!

Bee in the City

The children at Didsbury's Story Time enjoyed a craft session with artist Fiona Smith where they designed Didsbury Library's Bee in the City.



Gorton goes digital

As part of our exciting digital offer to schools as a Wolfson Library, Gorton Library staff have been visiting schools teaching children how to create ebooks.

Linking in with their school theme, A Victorian Childhood children used photos, text, video and audio to make an interactive ebook.



The session was huge fun for all and the library was a busy hive of activity. The school really saw the value in the ebooks session and have taken away the app details to buy in and use as one of their school resources for creative approach to literacy.

Newton Heath Library



On Saturday 19 May, the library was full of excited children when we held a Royal Wedding craft session for families. We also launched our World Cup Football Card Swap Shop which is continuing throughout the world cup into July.



Beswick Library

Our Manchester in action! Library staff along with staff from Manchester Adult Education Service and the East Manchester Academy held Bee-decorating sessions with students and their families. The library was buzzing with great ideas. Children learnt how to paint the bee with a Jackson Pollock-style splatter technique!





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