

1ST BRADFORD HERITAGE FESTIVAL

11-13 JULY 2025



A FESTIVAL FOR THE CURIOUS
EXPLORE, LEARN AND CELEBRATE

BRADFORD HERITAGE CONNECTION

BOOKBINDING

West Yorkshire Archive Service
Mechanics Institute

Friday 11 July, 10am-3.30pm

FREE, DROP IN

Visit the West Yorkshire Archive Service stall and give bookbinding a whirl. Using an easy sewing technique, you'll learn to make books of any size you like – perfect for little gifts!



EXHIBITION

St Georges Hall

Friday 11 July, 10am-4pm

Saturday 12 July, 10am-4pm

FREE, DROP IN

This exhibition highlights the heritage of St George's Concert Hall. Join us in the ground floor café to view posters, photographs, and documents from the founding of the Hall in 1853 and early performances at the venue. Also on display are some Mitchell and Kenyon films of Bradford in the Victorian and Edwardian eras, and framed posters of past comedy gigs. An information sheet about the history and heritage of St George's Hall will be provided, along with details about the next available heritage tour of the whole site.



CRAFTING THE CATHEDRAL

Bradford Cathedral

Friday 11 July, 11am-2pm

FREE event for all crafters

Saturday 12 July, 11am-2pm

FREE event for everyone,

including families DROP IN EXCEPT TOURS WHICH MUST BE PREBOOKED

As part of our 'Weaving Stories' / Weaving Stories project, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, we are holding two days of free events, aimed at crafting groups, crafters, general members of the public, and families. There will be exhibitions, craft demonstrations, and opportunities to try your hand at some crafts, including our specially-installed loom.



MAPPING BRADFORD'S HISTORY

Mechanics Institute

Friday 11 July, 12pm talk or stall until 10.30am-3.30pm

FREE DROP IN

Join us for a talk from Martin Wills (Historic Towns Trust) about the 'Mapping Bradford's History' / Mapping Bradford's History project. The project produced a historical map of Bradford, showing its history and development, and surfaced some fascinating stories about Bradford's past.



A MOVING IMAGE LEGACY FOR BRADFORD

Mechanics Institute

Friday 11 July, 1.30pm film and talk or stall 10.30am-3.30pm

FREE DROP IN

Join us for a special presentation about the importance of film archives in preserving and celebrating the history of Bradford's films industry for generations to come. Why not come and discover how you can be a part of the story? If you can't attend the talk, but are keen to know more, then don't worry! You can find our stall at any time during the day in the Mechanics Institute, so do drop by to chat about how to get involved.



yfa YORKSHIRE
FILM ARCHIVE

**SCREEN
TIME**
A MOVING IMAGE LEGACY FOR BRADFORD



LOCAL AUTHOR STORYTELLING MEET AND GREET, AND CRAFT EVENT

Shipley Library

Saturday 12 July, 10-11am

FREE, DROP IN

Join local author and illustrator, Emily Parkin, to talk about her book, *Titus Salt*. Afterwards, enjoy a llama-themed craft activity.

GUIDED TOUR OF WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Start at Saltaire, United Reform Church
*Saturday 12 July, 10am, 11am, 12pm,
and 1pm*

Book via [Eventbrite](#) or [It's On in Bradford](#)

Led by knowledgeable local historians, each tour will explore the interior of URC, the Salt family mausoleum, and much more.



SNAPSHOTS OF ILKLEY: YOUTHFUL VISIONS & HISTORIC REFLECTIONS

Ilkley Manor House

*Friday 11 July, 2-4pm. Saturday 12
and Sunday 13 July, 11am-4pm*

FREE DROP IN

In the downstairs of the House is a photography exhibition showcasing the winning images from the Young Photographers Competition, a key part of Ilkley's first photography festival, photoILKLEY. This festival celebrates photography, community, storytelling, reflection, and inclusion. Upstairs is a heritage exhibition about "The Great Flood", which struck Ilkley on Thursday 12 July, 1900. The exhibition uses reports and photographs from the time to help show exactly what happened and the subsequent aftermath.



YORKSHIRE PUDDING AND PICKLED CABBAGE

South Square Centre

Friday 11 July, 10.30am-3pm

Saturday 12 July, 10.30pm-3pm

Sunday 13 July, 10.30pm-3pm

FREE DROP IN

South Square is delighted to be hosting an exhibition by Alicja Mrozowska, of her work to date, and explores identity, memory, and cultural hybridity through bold portraiture and playful abstraction.



BRADFORD ON THE BEAT: VINTAGE VEHICLE DAY

Bradford Police Museum

Saturday 12 July, 10am-3pm

**FREE outdoor exhibition;
ticketed guided tours**

Join The Bradford Police Museum on Saturday 12 July for 'Bradford on the Beat: Vintage Vehicle Day' / Bradford on the Beat: Vintage Vehicle Day, celebrating the first Bradford outdoor exhibition of historic police vehicles, alongside ticketed guided tours of the Museum, including the Victorian courtroom and cells. Tour tickets can be booked in advance or on the day. ticketsource.co.uk/bradford-police-museum



SOUND AND VISION: FAMILY DAY

National Science and Media Museum

Saturday 12 July, 10am-4pm

FREE DROP IN

A day of family focused activities to celebrate the opening of the new Sound and Vision galleries at the National Science and Media Museum. scienceandmediamuseum.org.uk



THORNTON ANTIQUARIANS EXHIBITION

Thornton Community Centre

Saturday 12 July, 10am-3.30pm

FREE, donations welcome.

DROP IN

Explore Thornton's rich history at the Antiquarians' annual exhibition.

THE WITCH TRIAL OF MARY SYKES

Bolling Hall Museum

*Saturday 12 July, 11am-12pm,
12.30-1.30pm, and 2-3pm*

BOOKING REQUIRED, age 7+

**Book tickets via It's On in Bradford or
BradfordMuseums.org.uk**

Meet Mary Sykes and Justice of the Peace William Tempest: as we take a trip back in time to 1649, when England was in the midst of a religious upheaval. The trial takes place in the historic Bolling Hall, a stone manor house in Bradford. Listen to the witnesses and our Witch Expert, and decide whether Mary is guilty or not guilty. You'll also get the chance to make a lucky charm using crystals and herbs.

**Book by calling bolling Hall on
01274 431826, Wed to Sun,
11am-3pm Wed to Sun 11am-3pm**



THE BUTTERFIELD WOMEN OF CLIFFE CASTLE

Mechanics Institute

Friday 11 July, 10.30-11.30am

FREE Pre Book using QR code

We hear a lot about the Butterfield men who lived in Cliffe Castle - but what about the Butterfield women? Join us for this talk to learn about the interesting lives of the women of the Butterfield Family, and their influence on more than just the family society at large.



HAWORTH HERITAGE WALK

Brontë Parsonage Museum

Saturday 12 July, 2pm

FREE Pre Book here

www.bronte.org.uk/events/haworth-heritage-trail-guided-walk

Join us for the Haworth Heritage Trail, a three mile walk that begins at the Brontë Parsonage Museum and journeys through two centuries of Haworth history.



A BINGLEY BYRON WALK

Starting at The Ling Bob, Wilsden

Saturday 12 July, 12.15pm

Book via Eventbrite, It's On in Bradford or email backblaise@gmail.com

Come along to a walk that celebrates the life and poems of John Nicholson. Led by local poet and stand-up historian Glyn Watkins, this walk will take you from The Ling Bob, Wilsden, to the Malt Shovel in Harden. It will start and finish with Nicholson poems about the wonder of beer, and stop at incorporate other stops like Wilsden Cemetery and Goit Stock Falls that influenced Nicholson's works.



WILLIE RILEY – HIS LIFE AND ARCHIVE

**J.B. Priestley Library,
University of Bradford
Sunday 13 July, 2pm-3.30pm
FREE DROP IN**

Discover the story and archive of Bradfordian, Willie Riley (1866-1961). Once a Bradford businessman, very popular Yorkshire author, and local preacher, his heart-warming tales of country and town life are currently being rediscovered by the University of Bradford, and are sure to brighten your day.



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HERITAGE CRAFT WORKSHOP – TRADITIONAL ARABIC CALLIGRAPHY

**Heritage Craft Room,
Bradford Industrial Museum
Sunday 13 July, 11am-12.30pm**

BOOKING REQUIRED, age 11+
Ul-Haq for a fascinating talk into the project and a hands on Nastaliq Arabic Calligraphy workshop. 11+ only.
Must be pre booked at bit.ly/4I7Q0Sd



RAILWAY HISTORY & HERITAGE

**Learning Coach,
Ingrow West station platform
Sunday 13 July, 1-4pm
FREE DROP IN**

Sit in our restored third-class carriage compartment, take your picture with some vintage luggage, view our vintage railway uniforms, handle railway objects from the past, and top it all off by trying out some vintage toys and games.



1ST BRADFORD HERITAGE FESTIVAL



**CELEBRATE OUR SHARED HERITAGE
TALKS, WALKS, AND WORKSHOPS
ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES**



Bradford Heritage Festival is produced by Bradford Heritage Connection in partnership with Bradford Heritage Hub.

bradfordheritageconnection.co.uk

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