

WHAT'S ON WIGAN & LEIGH

SEP – DEC 2023



MUSEUM OF WIGAN LIFE

THE TURNPIKE GALLERY

ARCHIVES: WIGAN & LEIGH

WIGAN LIBRARIES

Wigan Council

WELCOME

Welcome to Wigan Council's Culture Service What's On Guide for September to December 2023. With amazing events and activities for all ages taking place at the Museum of Wigan Life, the Turnpike Gallery, Archives: Wigan & Leigh and across the borough's Libraries, there's plenty to get involved with. We're also looking forward to celebrating 50 years of Wigan Casino with anniversary events, and getting ready for Christmas with the borough's spectacular Light Night festival.

To help you navigate our events, look out for these icons:



FAMILY FUN



EXHIBITIONS



TALKS, TOURS & PERFORMANCE

We're sure you'll find something to enjoy – we'll see you there!

Wigan Casino Anniversary

4

We're celebrating 50 years since Wigan Casino first opened its doors with a series of fantastic events taking place across Wigan town centre.

Museum of Wigan Life

6

Make Some Noise in our exhibition, join us for a fascinating talk, or explore your family history at our Library Street site.

The Turnpike Gallery

12

Let our interactive exhibition of illuminated sculptures light up your autumn.

Light Night

16

Wrap up warm to discover light installations, join in our lantern parade and kickstart that festive feeling.

Archives: Wigan & Leigh

18

Get up close and personal with our local history and join in with a range of activities and workshops for all ages in the stunning Leigh Town Hall.

Libraries

24

With fifteen libraries across the borough and events ranging from author talks to craft workshops, there's plenty to entertain you in your local town.

Artist Profile: Suzanne Cotton

30

Learn more about our cover artist, Suzanne.

Get Involved

32

Find out about how to use your passion to get involved with culture in the borough.

Culture, Heritage & Special Events

34

Our events at a glance.

What do you think of our What's On Guide?
Let us know how you feel, and how we can improve:



CONTENTS

WIGAN CASINO 50TH ANNIVERSARY



To mark the 50th anniversary of the opening of Wigan Casino we have an exciting programme of FREE events and activities. They will explore what this iconic club meant to people at the time, and the continued impact it has on local culture today.

Visit visitwigan.com to find out more.



Soul Music and Social Change by Stuart Cosgrove

Museum of Wigan Life
28 Oct
3 – 4.30pm
Free, booking essential

Join author Stuart Cosgrove for a unique event that will examine the struggles Black American soul artists faced and put into context the influence they had on Wigan Casino, Northern Soul, and the wider music scene in this country.



50 Years On The Soul Stays Strong

Wigan Town Centre
21 Sep – 21 Oct
10am – 4pm, Thurs – Sat
Free

An exhibition which explores the influences of Wigan Casino on contemporary culture with contributions from artists Dean Chalkley, William Titley and students from Wigan and Leigh College.



Last Night at Wigan Casino by Francesco Mellina

Standishgate, Wigan
21 Sep – 21 Oct
Free outdoor exhibition

Francesco Mellina spent Wigan Casino's final night taking photographs for NME. Discover an outdoor exhibition of his work which pays homage to this unique club.

Northern Soul by Jim Cartwright

Trencherfield Mill
21 Oct
8 – 9pm
Free, booking essential
For tickets, contact Museum of Wigan Life (p.6)

A performance of a new play, which pays tribute to the legendary music and dance venue; Wigan Casino performed by students from Rose Bruford.



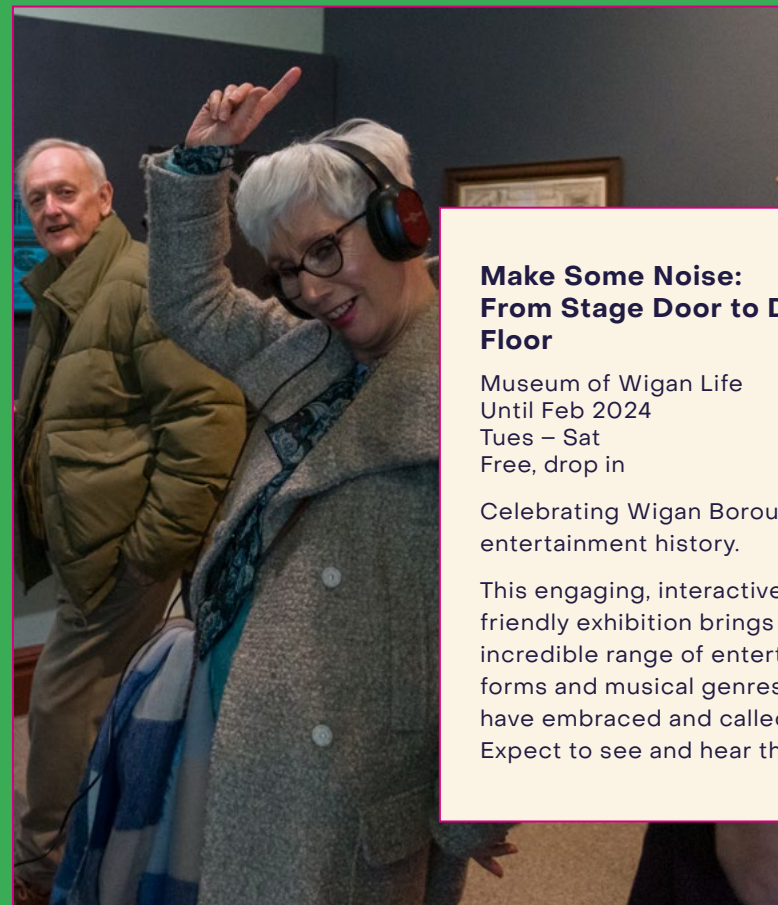
MUSEUM OF WIGAN LIFE

Image credit: Museum of Wigan Life exterior © Wigan Council



museum
of WiganLife

Image credit: Make Some Noise exhibition © Museum of Wigan Life



Make Some Noise: From Stage Door to Dance Floor



Museum of Wigan Life
Until Feb 2024
Tues – Sat
Free, drop in

Celebrating Wigan Borough's
entertainment history.

This engaging, interactive, family-
friendly exhibition brings to life the
incredible range of entertainment
forms and musical genres our towns
have embraced and called their own.
Expect to see and hear the very best!

Museum of Wigan Life

In the heart of Wigan town centre, the Museum of Wigan Life and Wigan Local Studies resource library offer a fantastic opportunity for learning and discovery. Explore our temporary exhibitions as well as exciting displays about the Romans, Egyptians, and Wigan's early trade and industry. You can also delve into your own family history and the local area in our beautiful local studies library. Our friendly staff are always on hand to help!

Entry to the museum and local studies is FREE

Please note, the Museum is closed to the public on Mondays, but open for our Manchester Soul Time group, see p10.

Address

41 Library St, Wigan
WN1 1NU

Opening Hours

Tuesday to Friday, 10am – 4pm
Saturday, 10am – 2pm

Contact

01942 828128
wiganmuseum@wigan.gov.uk
wigan.gov.uk/museum

Facilities & Accessibility

Accessible toilet
Ramped access
Lift
Assistance dogs welcome
Hearing loop available
Accessible parking nearby
Baby changing facilities

@museumofwiganlife @museumofwiganlife @wiganmuseum

Make Some Noise Music Exhibition Tours



Museum of Wigan Life
6 Sep & 1 Nov
12 – 12.45pm
Free, booking essential

Fancy something exciting to do during your lunch break? Then look no further! Our curators will guide you through our new music and entertainment exhibition. From cinemas and local legends to brass bands and northern soul.



Wigan Diggers Festival Fringe Events

Museum of Wigan Life
9 Sep
11am – 2pm
Free, drop in

Join us at the museum during Diggers Festival for some fun fringe events including crafts, face painting, and a screening of the Gerrard Winstanley film.



The Duke of Bridgewater's Underground Canals

Museum of Wigan Life
23 Nov
12 – 1pm
£2.50 pp, booking essential

Learn about the Third Duke of Bridgewater and his system of underground canals, which came to be regarded as one of the wonders of the engineering world.



Inside Pharaoh's Wardrobe with Professor Joann Fletcher

Museum of Wigan Life
14 Oct
3 – 4pm
£5 pp including refreshments,
booking essential

Following the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun, the tomb's antechamber was cleared. Among the wonderful things it contained were chests housing royal clothing and adornments, some of which were identified by Professor Joann Fletcher, who here discusses the finds.



Image credit: Blink Films



Uncle Joe's: Making Life Sweeter for Over 125 Years

Museum of Wigan Life
Until Feb 2024
Tues – Sat
Free, drop in

Explore how the Wigan-based company has kept us 'all aglow' for 125 years. The display showcases never before seen objects and may even reveal a secret, or two about how to craft the perfect mint ball.



Appley Bridge Meteorite Talk by Russell Parry

Museum of Wigan Life
14 Oct
12 – 1pm
£2.50 pp, booking essential

The story of the fall and discovery of the Appley Bridge meteorite in 1914 is explored through newspaper reports and archival documents. From its explosion and its confusion with enemy Zeppelins to its confiscation and eventual release.



Image credit: Interior of Wigan Reference Library, Archives Wigan & Leigh

Heritage Open Day Tours

Museum of Wigan Life
16 Sep
11am & 1pm
Free, drop in

Join our curators on a tour of the Museum, learning about its beginnings as Wigan's first public library and the interesting characters who built and visited it. You will also be guided through our exhibitions and shown some of our incredible, varied collections.





Wigan Little Theatre Presents: A Selection from Jack and Jill

Museum of Wigan Life
25 Nov
12 – 1pm
Free, drop in

Join us for a select performance from Jack and Jill, this year's Wigan Little Theatre pantomime.

Image credit:
Panto Dames,
Wigan Little Theatre

Soul Time – Music and Chat Group

Museum of Wigan Life
4 Sep, then every other Mon
1 – 3pm
Free, drop in

Join Manchester Camerata for Soul Time – a music and chat group for people living well with dementia and their families. Come to the museum for a relaxed and informal session set to music.



Museum of Wigan Life Lunchtime Building and Permanent Exhibition Tours

Museum of Wigan Life
4 Oct
12 – 12.45pm
Free, booking essential

Join us for our bi-monthly building and permanent display tours. Our curators will guide you through Romans, Ancient Egyptians, and early trades. Learn about our amazing building, its past use, and explore our fantastic local studies library.



Museum Minis

Museum of Wigan Life
Every Wed
10.30 – 11.45am
£1.50 per child incl. drinks for child and carer, booking essential

Calling all parents and carers with little ones! Join us at the museum for a fun and relaxed session full of engaging storytelling, songs, and craft activities. Suitable for age 0 – 5 years.



Halloween Craft Activities

Museum of Wigan Life
26 Oct
12 – 3pm
Free, drop in

Join us for some creepy Halloween craft activities, face painting, and a fiendishly fun family trail with ghoulish treats to be won. We'd love to see your fancy dress costumes too!

Victorian Christmas Craft Activities

Museum of Wigan Life
16 Dec
12 – 2pm
Free, drop in

Ho ho ho! Let's go Christmas Crackers! Step back in time and make your own Victorian style Christmas cards, crackers, and tree decorations.

Please call **01942 828128**, email wiganmuseum@wigan.gov.uk or go to Wigan.gov.uk/MuseumArchivesEvents to book events at the Museum of Wigan Life.

THE TURNPIKE GALLERY



The Turnpike Gallery

The Turnpike Gallery is an arts and exhibition space based in Leigh, offering cultural activity for all ages.

We are based in the cultural heart of Leigh town centre, neighbouring Leigh Town Hall on the Civic Square. You can find the gallery on the top floor of the Turnpike Centre, above Leigh Library. The Turnpike offers an exciting visual arts programme in collaboration with our communities. It offers a platform for youth voices and nurtures new connections in the town of Leigh, the Wigan borough and beyond.

Entry to the gallery is FREE.

Address

1st Floor Leigh Library,
Civic Square, Leigh, WN7 1EB

Opening Hours

Tuesday to Friday, 10am – 4pm
Saturday, 10am – 2pm

Contact

01942 404469
theturnpikegallery@wigan.gov.uk
theturnpikegallery.org.uk

Facilities & Accessibility

Accessible toilet
Ramped access
Lift
Baby changing facilities
Assistance dogs welcome
Accessible parking nearby

@theturnpikegallery @theturnpikegallery @theturnpikegall

Image credit: Half Term Family Workshops © The Turnpike Gallery



Half Term Family Workshops

The Turnpike Gallery
24, 25, 26 Oct
11am – 1pm
Free, drop in

The Turnpike Gallery is hosting free family friendly workshops in half term inspired by the Light Up exhibition! Meet an artist and explore new ways to be creative with light and colour.

Turnpike Tots

The Turnpike Gallery Studio
Weekly on Thurs, term time only
10.30 – 11.30am
Free, booking essential

Turnpike Tots is our creative play session for little artists aged 0–5 years and their grownups!

Visit trybooking.co.uk/BOMV to book.



Image credit: Turnpike Tots © The Turnpike Gallery

LIGHT UP

Light Up

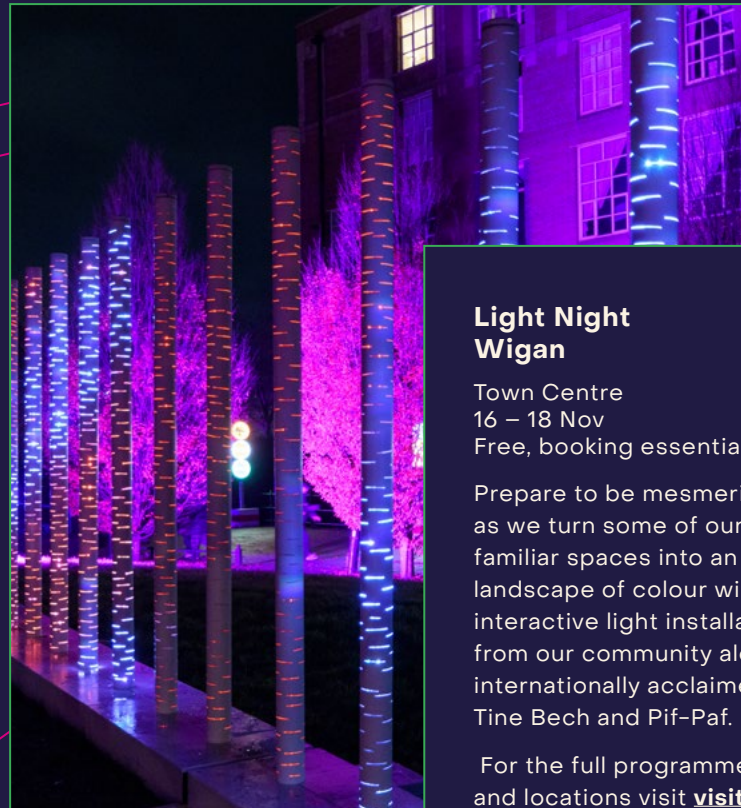
The Turnpike Gallery
7 Oct – 16 Dec
Tues – Sat
Free, drop in

The Turnpike Gallery is delighted to present a mesmerising display of light art featuring the work of Jim Bond, Josh Space and Travelling Light Circus. You are invited to interact with illuminated sculptures and light up the gallery with some newly commissioned 'people-powered' art.



LIGHT NIGHT WIGAN & LEIGH

Light Night Wigan & Leigh returns this winter to illuminate the borough's rich heritage and Greenheart with a celebration of glowing art installations and community performances.



**LIGHT
NIGHT**
WIGAN + LEIGH

Light Night Wigan

Town Centre
16 – 18 Nov
Free, booking essential

Prepare to be mesmerized as we turn some of our most familiar spaces into an enchanted landscape of colour with interactive light installations from our community alongside internationally acclaimed artists Tine Bech and Pif-Paf.

For the full programme of artists and locations visit [visitwigan.com](https://www.visitwigan.com)



Image credit: Lantern Parade © Wigan Council



Lantern Parade & Light Switch On

Leigh Town Centre
18 Nov, Free

A community light parade inspired by nature's elements showcasing the diversity and talent of our local people. The event takes place alongside the Leigh Christmas Light Switch On programme of music, dance, funfair and makers markets.

Want to take part? Email thefirewithin@wigan.gov.uk

Wigan Icons

Deadline: Midday 29 Sep

We are looking for children aged 5-11 to design an illuminated artwork for Light Night Wigan based on someone from Wigan that YOU think is an Icon.

The three winning entries will be chosen by a panel that includes Hacker T Dog and manufactured into artworks for Light Night Wigan 2023. Light up your hero and find out more at [visitwigan.com](https://www.visitwigan.com)

Volunteers needed: Bright Sparks apply here!

Want to volunteer at Light Night Wigan 2023? Please email thefirewithin@wigan.gov.uk for more information.

'A beautiful day learning, creating and building friendships and connections, and all in the name of an awesome cause. I would recommend everyone to volunteer.' Lydia, Volunteer at Light Night Wigan 2022



Frost Fest 2023

Leigh Light Switch on
18 Nov

Wigan Light Switch On
26 Nov
Free

Look out for our programme of free Christmas events to give you that joyful glow. From our flagship light switch ons in Wigan and Leigh to local seasonal markets across the borough follow Visit Wigan on social media to fill your festive diary.

Image credit: Frost Fest © Wigan Council

ARCHIVES: WIGAN & LEIGH

Image credit: Leigh Town Hall exterior © Archives: Wigan & Leigh



Archives: Wigan & Leigh

Discover your local history and get involved in a range of activities and workshops for all ages at Archives: Wigan & Leigh, found inside the newly-renovated Grade II listed Leigh Town Hall.

The archives and local studies service collects, preserves, catalogues, and makes public thousands of records from schools, churches, hospitals, businesses, families, estates and people. Explore the new exhibition space and state-of-the-art facilities, including a dedicated search room, conservation studio and strong rooms which store and preserve records dating back 800 years.

Entry to the archives and exhibition is FREE.

Address

Leigh Town Hall, Civic Square, Leigh, WN7 1DY

Opening Hours

Tuesday to Friday, 10am – 4pm
Saturday, 10am – 2pm
Closed from 1 – 1.30pm every weekday

Contact

01942 404430
archives@wigan.gov.uk
archives.wigan.gov.uk

Facilities & Accessibility

Accessible toilet
Ramped access
Lift
Accessible parking nearby
Assistance dogs welcome
Autism-friendly guide to the archives

@archiveswiganleigh @archiveswileigh @archivewigleigh

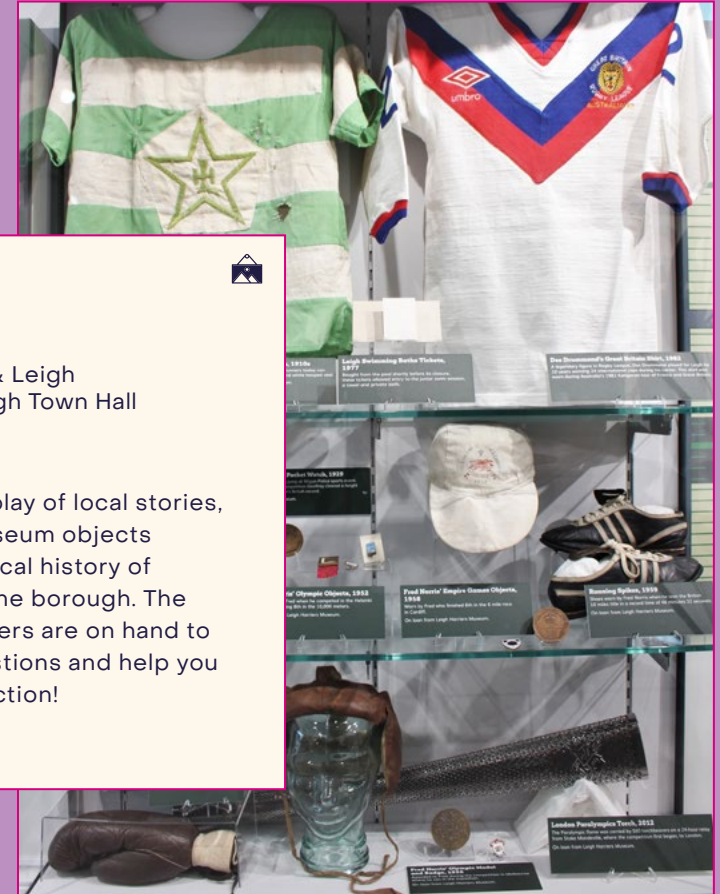


Permanent Exhibition

Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Ground Floor, Leigh Town Hall
Tues – Sat
Free, drop in

This amazing display of local stories, archives, and museum objects showcases the local history of the East side of the borough. The team and volunteers are on hand to answer your questions and help you explore the collection!

Image credits:
Archives: Wigan & Leigh,
Leigh Town Hall © Archives:
Wigan and Leigh



Town Hall Tours

Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Last Wed of the month
11am start
Free, book online

Discover the history of Leigh Town Hall and explore the Archives' collections on this free guided tour.



Our Town: Orrell

Greenslate Farm
15 Sep
10.30am – 3pm
Free, drop in

The archives are back on the road, this time in Orrell, bringing some of the local collections into the community.

Image credit:
Orrell Road, Orrell,
Archives: Wigan & Leigh

Crafts in the Archives

Archives: Wigan & Leigh
24 Oct – 28 Oct
10am – 1pm & 1.30 – 4pm
Free, drop in

Get ready for Halloween and learn more about local folklore. Pop into Leigh Town Hall and try your hand at some of our fun family craft activities through the October half term.

Workshop: Enjoying The View

Archives: Wigan & Leigh
21 Sep
11am – 1pm
Free, booking advised,
email archives@wigan.gov.uk

A mindful, creative, and fun journey around the historical and present-day beautiful views our local area offers. Specially created for people affected by dementia. This session will take place at Archives: Wigan and Leigh.

Leigh Between the Wars

Archives: Wigan & Leigh
13 Sep
2 – 3pm
Free, book online

What was life like in James Hilton's Leigh? Join Michael Caine as he takes us through Leigh as it was between the wars.



Black Victorians in Leigh and Wigan

Archives: Wigan & Leigh
14 Oct
2 – 3pm
Free, book online

Brian Joyce discusses some of the often over-looked stories of black Victorians in Leigh and Wigan.



Arrivals

Archives: Wigan & Leigh
7 – 11 Nov
Free, drop in

Wigan and Leigh welcomed hundreds of refugees during WWI. Learn about their stories through this pop-up exhibition (with Arabic, Farsi, and Kurdish translation).

Family Friendly Town Hall Tour

Archives: Wigan & Leigh
25 Oct
2 – 2.30pm
Free, book online

Do you have what it takes to become an Archivist? Come on a hands-on tour to find out!

Image credits (l-r): Black Victorians, Arrivals, Archives: Wigan & Leigh



Playful Saturdays

Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Every Sat
10am – 1pm
Free, drop in

Bring your little explorers to Leigh Town Hall and discover secrets of the archives! Build your own wacky invention inspired by the inventors of Leigh, or maybe have a go at adding colour to archive photographs.

Sensory Saturdays

Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Last Sat of the month
10am – 1pm
Free, drop in

Enjoy the archives exhibition in a relaxed setting and you can borrow a themed sensory backpack to explore with.

To book events at Archives: Wigan & Leigh and Leigh Town Hall, go to Wigan.gov.uk/MuseumArchivesEvents or call **01942 404 430**.

Festive Family Fun Day

Archives: Wigan & Leigh
16 Dec
10am – 4pm
Free, booking essential
email archives@wigan.gov.uk

Get ready for Christmas with a festive bonanza in the Archives. There will be crafts, presents and plenty of festive cheer.



Heritage Open Day Tours

Archives: Wigan & Leigh
9 Sep & 13 Sep
Various times
Free, booking essential

Learn more about the history of Leigh Town Hall and its architect, J. C. Prestwich, in these free guided tours, which are part of the national Heritage Open Days.

Workshop: Enjoying The View

Pennington Flash
5 Oct
11am – 1pm
Free, booking advised,
email archives@wigan.gov.uk

A mindful, creative, and fun journey around the historical and present-day beautiful views our local area offers. Specially created for people affected by dementia. This session will take place at Pennington Flash.

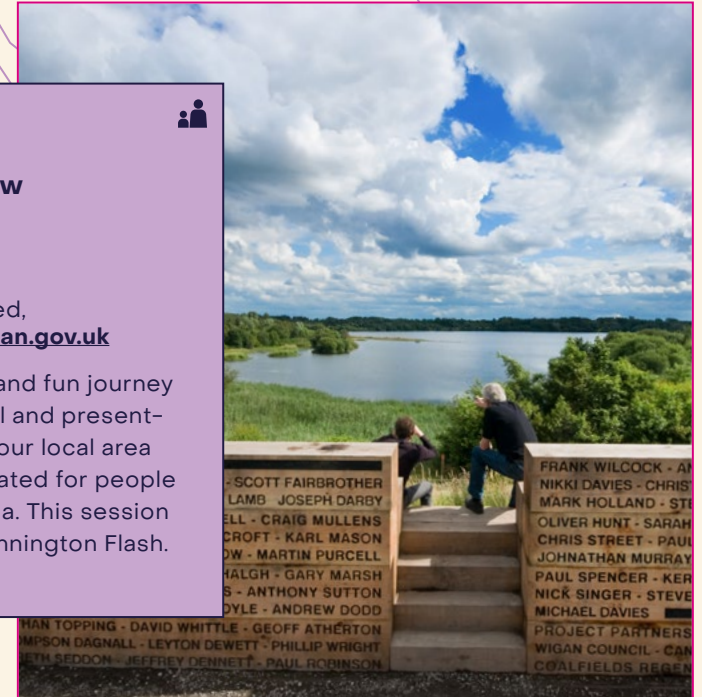
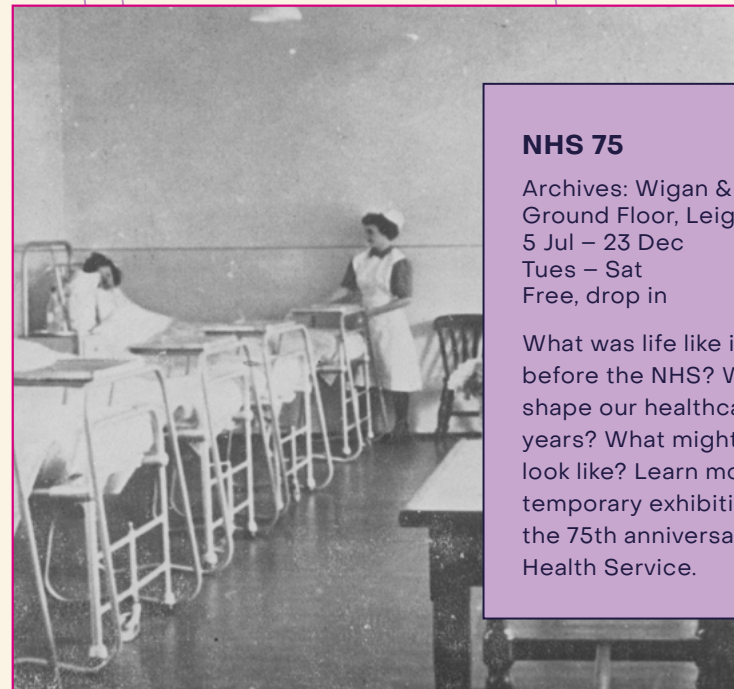


Image credit: Pennington Flash © Wigan Council



NHS 75

Archives: Wigan & Leigh,
Ground Floor, Leigh Town Hall
5 Jul – 23 Dec
Tues – Sat
Free, drop in

What was life like in the borough before the NHS? Who has helped shape our healthcare in the last 75 years? What might a healthy future look like? Learn more in our new temporary exhibition to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the National Health Service.

Image credit: Atherleigh Hospital, Archives: Wigan & Leigh

WIGAN LIBRARIES

Image credit: Ashton Library © Wigan Council



Libraries

In our libraries you will receive a warm welcome from experienced staff, as well as the use of books, audio books, public PCs, and free Wi-Fi. Free library membership is easy to set up and gives you access to all 15 of our libraries across the borough. With your membership card you can access free eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines via the BorrowBox app. There is a wide range of regular activities for all ages as well as special events throughout the year.

Pop in to discover a whole world of exploration, information, and creativity for FREE!

Information

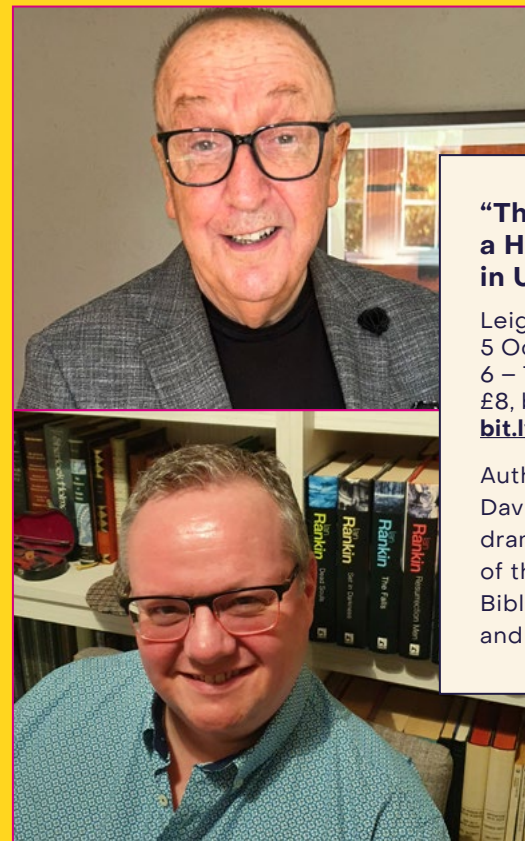
Branches based throughout the borough. For information on each branch, opening hours and to find your nearest library please visit: wigan.gov.uk/libraries

Facilities & Accessibility

All our libraries differ but all are DDA compliant. For information of facilities at particular branches please visit: wigan.gov.uk/libraries

@wiganlibraries @wigan_libraries @wiganlibraries

Image credit: Theydunnit © David Stuart Davies, Matthew Booth



“Theydunnit” a History of Crime Fiction in Under an Hour!

Leigh Library
5 Oct
6 – 7.30pm
£8, booking essential at
bit.ly/WiganLibrariesEvents

Authors, Matthew Booth, and David Stuart Davies will perform a dramatized romp through the history of the crime fiction genre from the Bible to the present day! Includes fish and chip supper.

Harry Potter Day

Ashton Library
12 Oct
6 – 7.30pm
£5, booking essential at
lisalundie22.wixsite.com/letspretend

Join Lisa Lundie from Let's Pretend as we take a physical theatre journey through the magical world of Diagon Alley! Age 7+



Image credit: Harry Potter Day © Wigan Libraries

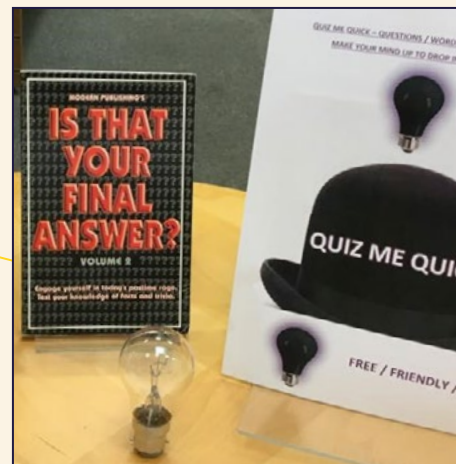


Image credit: Golborne and Lowton Art Group © Golborne and Lowton Art Group

Golborne and Lowton Art Group Gallery

Golborne Library
Mon-Wed, Sat 9am – 2pm
Thurs & Fri 12 – 5pm
Free, drop in

Work from members of the Golborne and Lowton Art Group is showcased inside the library.



Quiz Me Quick!

Hindley Library and Community Centre and Leigh Library

Please check our social media and web pages for dates and times by scanning our QR code

Free, drop in

Thinking caps on! Informal, light-hearted quiz sessions for adults, perfect for keeping your mind active.



Rhyme For Reason

Tyldesley Library
Every Thu
2.30 – 3.30pm
Free, drop in

A relaxed poetry writing group where you can rediscover the joy of words and find the rhythm that works for you!



Coffee Morning

Wigan Library
4th Thu of the month
10.30 – 11.30am
Free, drop in

Call in to enjoy a brew and a biscuit along with a good chat! Perfect for finding new friendships and improving your wellbeing.



Lego Club

Ashton, Leigh and Tyldesley libraries

Please check our social media and web pages for dates and times by scanning our QR code

We love Lego! Unleash your creativity and discover endless possibilities using the world's favourite construction toy.



Children's Craft Club

Golborne, Lamberhead Green, Marsh Green, Standish, and Wigan libraries

Check our social media and web pages for dates and times by scanning our QR code

Free, drop in

Enjoy quality family time making crafts designed by library staff! Explore colour, texture, and self-expression.



Image credit: Children's Craft Clubs © Wigan Libraries



For more information, including opening times and how to book, scan this QR code or go to [Wigan.gov.uk/LibrariesEvents](https://www.wigan.gov.uk/LibrariesEvents)

CHRISTMAS BOOK FAIR

Christmas Book Fair

Wigan Library
25 Nov
10.30am – 1.30pm
Free entry,
books available to buy,
cash only

Our largest event of the year which celebrates the work of local authors and illustrators, with a chance for residents to meet over 30 authors and buy bespoke Christmas gifts for family and friends!



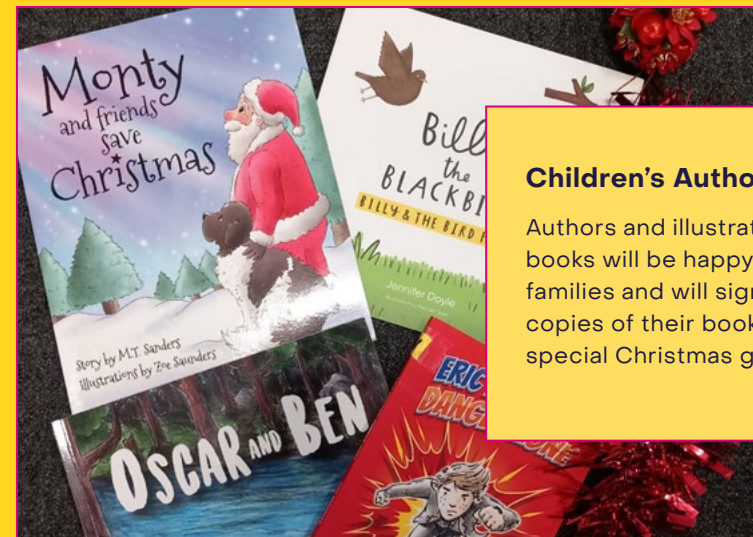
Adult Fiction Authors

A unique opportunity to chat in person to adult fiction authors – from general fiction, crime fiction to poetry genres – and to buy signed copies of their books.



Children's Authors

Authors and illustrators of children's books will be happy to chat to families and will sign and dedicate copies of their books as extra special Christmas gifts.



PLUS! Free refreshments, free face painting, carol singing and keep an eye out for visits from Father Christmas!

MEET THE COVER ARTIST

We are delighted to introduce the first local artist to be selected for our front cover commission series, Suzanne Cotton. Suzanne's piece 'We Are All Connected' was created using gouache, paper printing ink, and collage on paper. We asked Suzanne to tell us about her practice as an artist and what community means to her.

"I would describe myself as an artist and designer. I love to work on and with paper, using water-based paints and collage mainly.

We moved to Billinge when I was a teenager and I became more familiar with Wigan around this time, meeting my friends in the town centre. Wigan always felt like a nice place to be, and I loved going for walks in the countryside around where we lived.

It is only in the past 17 years, after coming back to live in Wigan as an adult and having my own family that I have really appreciated, and felt the importance of, the sense of community I have here. In the future, I'd love to see more and more creative connections around the borough as we increasingly see the value it can offer us.

My piece 'We Are All Connected' focuses on the connection between people in our communities; each area is represented in different colours and patterns which reflects the diverse offerings of the borough. I love maps because they help people to make sense of, and feel connected with, the world."

You can see more of Suzanne's work on her Instagram page [@suzannecottonstudio](#).



The front cover commission will run again for the upcoming January – April edition, keep an eye on our social media for updates or email theturnpikegallery@wigan.gov.uk for more information.

SUZANNE COTTON

GET INVOLVED



Volunteers needed: Bright Sparks apply here!

Want to volunteer at **Light Night Wigan 2023**? Please email thefirewithin@wigan.gov.uk for more information.

"A beautiful day learning, creating and building friendships and connections, and all in the name of an awesome cause. I would recommend everyone to volunteer."
– Lydia, Volunteer at Light Night Wigan 2022

Secondary School Careers Day

Archives: Wigan & Leigh,
Leigh Town Hall
Slots available on request

Have you ever wondered what life as an archivist is like? How to crack into a heritage career? Our team are always happy to speak to your class about their experiences in the sector, just email us at:

archives@wigan.gov.uk



Shop Windows Into History

Archives: Wigan & Leigh

The Leigh Town Hall shop window displays change regularly and feature a range of local history and work from local heritage groups and artists. If you or your community group want to get involved, email us at: archives@wigan.gov.uk

Young Curators

The Turnpike Gallery

Are you a young person aged 16–25 interested in events, exhibitions and creative projects? Join Young Curators to meet like-minded people and be part of programming at The Turnpike Gallery. For more information please email theturnpikegallery@wigan.gov.uk

Volunteering Opportunities

All venues

We are always looking for new people to join our volunteer teams and have a range of opportunities available. To find out more, email the venue you're interested in volunteering at or pop in for a chat!

Heritage Open Days

Across the borough
8 – 17 Sep

Find out which local venues and groups in the borough have special FREE events organised as part of England's largest festival of history and culture between 8th–17th September.

heritageopendays.org.uk

Past Forward Magazine

We're looking for new articles relating to the history of our borough for our next edition of Past Forward! Articles can be up to 1000 words and include images. Past Forward sells for £2.00 at cultural venues across the borough.

Submit articles to
pastforward@wigan.gov.uk



CULTURAL, HERITAGE & SPECIAL EVENTS SEP – DEC 2023

Mon – Sat	● Golborne and Lowton Art Group Gallery <i>p26</i>	Golborne Library
Tues – Sat	● Make Some Noise – From Stage Door to Dance Floor <i>p7</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
Tues – Sat	● Uncle Joe's: Making Life Sweeter for Over 125 Years <i>p8</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
Tues – Sat	● Archives: Wigan & Leigh Permanent Exhibition <i>p19</i>	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Every other Mon	● Soul Time – Music and Chat Group <i>p10</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
Thurs, Term Time	● Turnpike Tots <i>p13</i>	The Turnpike Gallery
Every Wed	● Museum Minis <i>p11</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
Last Wed of the month	● Town Hall Tours <i>p19</i>	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Every Thu	● Rhyme for Reason <i>p27</i>	Tyldesley Library
4th Thu of the Month	● Coffee Morning <i>p27</i>	Wigan Library
Every Sat	● Lego Club <i>p27</i>	Ashton, Leigh and Tyldesley libraries
Every Sat	● Playful Saturdays <i>p22</i>	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Last Sat of the month	● Sensory Saturdays <i>p22</i>	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Tues – Sat	● NHS 75 <i>p23</i>	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
6 Sep & 1 Nov	● Make Some Noise Exhibition Tours <i>p7</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
9 Sep	● Wigan Diggers Festival Fringe Events <i>p8</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
9 Sep & 13 Sep	● Heritage Open Day Tours <i>p22</i>	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
13 Sep	● Leigh Between the Wars <i>p21</i>	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
15 Sep	● Our Town: Orrell <i>p20</i>	Greenslate Farm
16 Sep	● Heritage Open Day Tours <i>p9</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
21 Sep	● Enjoying the View <i>p20</i>	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
4 Oct	● Museum of Wigan Life Tour <i>p11</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
5 Oct	● Theydunnit <i>p25</i>	Leigh Library
5 Oct	● Enjoying the View <i>p23</i>	Pennington Flash

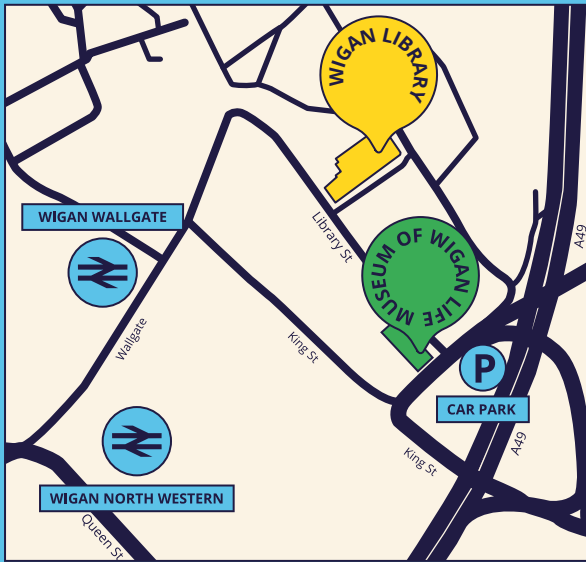
7 Oct – 16 Dec	● Light Up <i>p14</i>	The Turnpike Gallery
12 Oct	● Harry Potter Day <i>p25</i>	Ashton Library
14 Oct	● Appley Bridge Meteorite Talk by Russell Parry <i>p8</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
14 Oct	● Inside Pharaoh's Wardrobe with Professor Joann Fletcher <i>p9</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
14 Oct	● Black Victorians in Leigh and Wigan <i>p21</i>	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
24 – 26 Oct	● Half Term Family Workshops <i>p13</i>	The Turnpike Gallery
25 Oct	● Family Friendly Town Hall Tour <i>p21</i>	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
26 Oct	● Halloween Craft Activities <i>p11</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
28 Oct	● Soul Music and Social Change by Stuart Cosgrove <i>p5</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
16 Nov – 18 Nov	● Light Night Wigan & Leigh <i>p16</i>	Various venues
23 Nov	● The Duke of Bridgewater's Underground Coal Mining Canals with Alan Davies <i>p8</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
25 Nov	● Christmas Book Fair <i>p28</i>	Wigan Library
25 Nov	● Wigan Little Theatre Presents: Jack and Jill <i>p10</i>	Museum of Wigan Life
16 Dec	● Festive Family Fun Day <i>p22</i>	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
16 Dec	● Victorian Christmas Craft Activities <i>p11</i>	Museum of Wigan Life



Christmas Opening Hours

All venues may have different opening times during the Christmas period. Please contact each venue or follow them on social media for more information.

Image credit:
Light Night 2022,
Wigan Council



How to find the Museum of Wigan Life and Wigan Library:

If you're using public transport, we are just a 4 minute (0.2 miles) walk away from Wigan Wallgate rail station.

A 5 minute (0.3 miles) walk from Wigan North Western rail station.

A 7 minute (0.4 miles) walk from Wigan bus station.

or

If you're driving, Rodney Street car park is only a minute away.

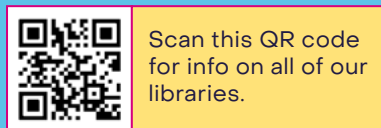
How to find the Turnpike Gallery, Archives: Wigan & Leigh and Leigh Library

Leigh Civic Square is home to both The Turnpike Gallery and the Archives.

It's just a 4 minute (0.2 miles) walk away from Leigh bus station.

or

If you're driving, the Town Hall Surface car park is only a minute away.



Scan this QR code for info on all of our libraries.



museum of WiganLife

AML ARCHIVES: WIGAN & LEIGH

Wigan Libraries

GMCA GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND LOTTERY FUNDED

Supported using public funding by **ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**



Wigan Council