

Contents

Year of Culture 2021

Booking Information

Your Safety

Half-Term Eco-Craft Workshops

Explore Halton

Nature Talks

Out And About In Halton: Story Walks

Bees, Bees, Bees!

Love Our Planet: Art Workshops

Discover Pollinators with Norton Priory

Family Entertainment with Booster Cushion Theatre

Recycled Art

Save Our Planet Workshops and Mini Protest

Feed the Birds!

Hunt for Bugs with Catalyst Science Discovery Centre

Get It Loud In Libraries

Let's Go Green: At A Glance





Year of Culture 2021

We're whizzing through Halton's year of culture! So far, we've decorated Halton with our colourful origami cranes in January, February saw us going science crazy with our online science making, we've explored the magical world of books with our poetry competition in April, and we got all creative in May with our Let's Make workshops and activities.

Now the sun is shining and we would like to introduce to you our Let's Go Green festival! Join Halton Libraries for a celebration of the outdoors and our planet using art, stories, talks and performance! Experience the outdoors and learn about going green. Throughout this festival there will be lots of fun and informative events and workshops for you to get involved in.





We have artist-led workshops creating mythological beast headdresses and exploring the environmental impact on our planet and its animals; the younger generation will have the opportunity to learn about climate change, the history of protest art and then to create their very own peaceful protest placard in our Save Our Planet workshops; Booster Cushion Theatre will be taking us on an ecological adventure across continents and Old Town Bloomers and B4Biodiversity will be exploring the great outdoors with us. Norton Priory's bee keeper will host a special workshop and Catalyst Science Discovery Centre will explore biodiversity. We also have a series of outdoor story walks, a talk from a nature author and a gardener's question time, not to mention 'green' inspired craft workshops and an online '10 Days of Green' challenge and lots more!



Booking Information

All tickets can be booked via the library website www.halton.gov.uk/libraries

For more information about any of our events and activities please contact your local library:

Halton Lea Library 0151 511 7744 Widnes Library 0151 907 8383 Runcorn Library 0151 511 7666 Ditton Library 0151 424 2459

Like us on Facebook

Follow us on Twitter @haltonlibraries

Thank you for supporting our events – all ticket sales go towards funding future events in our libraries.

Your Safety

Your safety in library buildings is our priority and we have planned all our events and activities with this in mind. We work towards the most up to date national safety guidance.

We will endeavour to ensure that all events go ahead. However, in the event of any cancellations we will try to rearrange events for a later date or offer refunds to paid tickets where a later date is not possible.

All library staff are fully updated on safety procedures and will be on hand at all events to offer help and guidance.

Thank you for helping us to keep our libraries safe.

COVID-19 Halton Borough Council Response www.halton.gov.uk







#StrongKindSafe

Half-Term Eco-Craft Workshops

Clay Jewellery Making

Halton Lea Library

Tuesday 1st June - 10.30-11.30am

Free, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library. One ticket is for one child and one accompanying adult only.

Suitable for all ages

Make your very own piece of jewellery by imprinting beautiful flowers and greenery into clay and then add colour with paint for the perfect finishing in this fabulous natural craft session.

Plastic Bag Weaving

Widnes Library

Wednesday 2nd June - 10.30-11.30am

Free, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library. One ticket is for one child and one accompanying adult only.

Suitable for all ages

What better way to reuse those plastic shopping bags than creating a fantastic coaster that can be reused for years to come!





Seed Bombs!

Halton Lea Library

Thursday 3rd June - 10.30-11.30am

Free, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library. One ticket is for one child and one accompanying adult only.

Suitable for all ages

In this eco-art workshop you will be making a seed bomb out of compostable paper. Once made, you can 'throw and grow'! As the rain falls, the paper composts away, the seeds germinate and grow wherever the bomb is thrown. Why not have a go at guerrilla gardening by throwing your bomb when you're out and about to create pretty flowers in your community.

Spinning Earths

Widnes Library

Friday 4th June - 10.30-11.30am

Free, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library. One ticket is for one child and one accompanying adult only.

Suitable for all ages

Make a super spinning 3D earth mobile to hang up in your home. This eco-craft session is perfect for younger children.



Explore Halton

10 Days of Green Challenge

All libraries and online @haltonlibraries Twitter and Facebook



Tuesday 1st June - Saturday 10th June

We have been visiting some of the lovely green spaces across Halton. Every day for 10 days we will post a picture of one of these spaces. Can you guess where all 10 locations are? We would love to see any pictures of you visiting the area!

Pop into any Halton Library to pick up an answer sheet. Alternatively you can send an email to HLELIB@halton.gov.uk with your answers. If you complete the challenge you will be entered into a prize draw to win a bag of sustainable goodies!

Nature Talks

Nature Author Roy Dennis

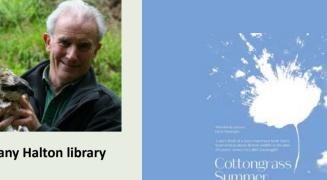
Online event

Wednesday 2nd June - 6.30-7.30pm

Free, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library Suitable for adults

Join us for an evening talk with Roy Dennis, one of the UK's most prominent field naturalists. Listen to him talk about his passion for conservation. There will also be opportunity for the online audience to submit their questions during this fascinating talk.

Roy is originally from Hampshire and for many years was based in northern Scotland. His approach to wildlife and conservation stems from decades of experience working in the field, from climbing trees so that he could ring osprey chicks to handling lynx kittens in Norway — and wanting to smuggle them back to Scotland. His Wildlife Foundation of 25 years' standing is internationally recognised for its work in conservation and wildlife protection. He is a well-known broadcaster on TV and radio as well as a prolific writer and speaker on conservation issues, and after witnessing decades of species decline, as well as some prominent reintroductions, he is on a mission to help inspire young people to promote greater biodiversity and long-term care for our planet.



Roy's latest book is Cottongrass Summer, published by Saraband.

"Absolutely joyous" – Chris Packham

"I can't think of a more important book that's been written about British wildlife in the past 20 years." – James Fair, BBC Countryfile

The event will take place as a live digital event. After you register, you will receive an email closer to the date with the link to the event.



Gardeners' Question Time

Runcorn Library
Wednesday 23rd June – 2-3pm
Free, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library.

What are the best plants for garden pots? How often should I water my plants? How do I get rid of weeds? Do you have a gardening question? Well, this is the session for you! We have local gardening experts to give you all the answers to your green-fingered questions. Come and have a chat or just simply listen to useful gardening tips and advice.

Our panel members will be Angela Hayler and Millie Allen from The Wonky Garden, a community volunteering garden initiative to 'sow, grow and go', and Angela Ball from Widnes Horticultural Society.

Climate Change Talk

Halton Lea Library
Thursday 1st July – 2-3pm
Free, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library.

Alison Brough is the Social Value Manager for Wilmott Dixon Construction Ltd, the company who are overseeing the construction of a new phase of buildings at Sci-tech Daresbury. Alison will be talking about the grand challenges in the construction business regarding climate change and the effects of large scale construction on local environments. This event will also include a Q&A session with Alison.

Out And About In Halton: Story Walks

There's lots of beautiful outdoor spaces in Runcorn and Widnes. Little ones can explore them with us whilst enjoying a story. Come on an outdoor adventure with us!

Story Walk at Wonky Garden

Wonky Garden, Ditton Community Centre Wednesday 30th June - 10.30-11.30am

Free, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library. One ticket is for one child and one accompanying adult only.

Suitable for ages 0-4

Explore the garden and all its amazing flowers and listen to the story of Octopants by Suzy Senior.

Story Walk at All Saints Church Garden

All Saints Church, Runcorn

Thursday 1st July - 10.30-11.30am

Free, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library. One ticket is for one child and one accompanying adult only.

Suitable for ages 0-4

This beautiful garden is the venue for our second story walk and we'll be reading My Pet Star by Corrinne Averiss.





Story Walk at Norton Priory

Norton Priory, Runcorn Tuesday 13th July - 10.30-11.30am Free, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library. One ticket is for one child and one accompanying adult only. Suitable for ages 0-4

Our third story walk takes us on an adventure in one of Halton's most iconic sites. And don't forget the story!

Story Walk at St Pauls' Church Garden

St Paul's Church, Widnes Thursday 15th July - 10.30-11.30am

Free, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library. One ticket is for one child and one accompanying adult only.

Suitable for ages 0-4

Have you got the stamina to join us for our 4th story walk? It's in the charming garden at St Paul's.

Chester Zoo in the library



Safari Explorers

Widnes Library
Thursday 3rd June – 10.30-11.15am
Free. Please book online via the library
website or at any Halton library.
Recommended age: under 5 years

This exciting session will take your young people on a 'journey' across the African grasslands to discover how it feels, smells and what it sounds like. Along the way we will encounter clues to what we would find living in this fascinating place.

Using a variety of real artefacts, musical instruments, smells and sounds, Chester Zoo rangers will take little ones on a memorable journey across the African grasslands. Children will use all their senses to explore and discover this unusual, noisy, smelly and exciting habitat in the library.

Talking Rubbish

Halton Lea Library Thursday 3rd June – 1-1.45pm

Free. Please book online via the library website or at any

Halton library.

Recommended age: 6 years+

Every year the UK produces 31 million tonnes of household rubbish. This workshop focuses on the effects this rubbish is having on our environment and endangered animals, and looks at what we can all do to reduce our impact on the planet, using rainforest and UK shoreline case studies.

That's a lot of rubbish! But how does this impact our planet and what can we do to reduce this impact? Using a series of interactive activities, the experts from Chester Zoo will explore how rubbish is produced and what impact that rubbish has on our planet. Did you know that a disposable nappy can remain in the ground for up to 450 years? We will be having a look at what actions can be taken to reduce the impact humans are having on the planet and look at what YOU can do to help!



Bees, Bees, Bees!



We have teamed up with the absolutely brilliant Old Town Bloomers and the innovative B4Biodiversity to bring you three very special family sessions all about the buzziest of insects – bees!

Don't Step on a Bee Day

Widnes Library
Saturday 10th July - 10.30-12pm
Tickets £3, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library
Suitable for ages 8+

This session will celebrate the national Don't Step on a Bee Day, an awareness day that is observed on July 10 of every year. Don't Step on a Bee Day focuses on the importance of saving bees and their contribution to the environment. It is a day to value the bees and to appreciate the nation's beekeepers and their work. In this session, we will look at the different species of bees, including honey bees, and then Andrea from B4Biodiversity will unveil an observational hive which will allow you to see the busy bees within their own environment without disrupting or irritating them. We will also delve into how bees see colour and participants will then draw patterns visible to bees onto large scale flowers.

Honey Day

Ditton Library

Tuesday 20th July - 4-5.30pm

Tickets £3, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library Suitable for ages 8+

What is honey? Why do bees need it? How do bees make honey? Old Town Bloomers and B4Biodiversity will be answering all these questions and more! Participants will have a honey tasting session followed by a lip balm making session using honey. You will also get to design a lip balm label for your very own hand-made lip balm. Buzzin!

Mind Your Own Beeswax Day

Halton Lea Library Tuesday 27th July – 10.30-12pm

Tickets £3, please book online via the library website or at any Halton library Suitable for ages 8+

We will introduce you to bees and beeswax in this fun session. Old Town Bloomers and B4Biodiversity will explain how and why bees make wax. They will look into why beeswax is important and why it is better for the environment when used in products like candles and cosmetics. Participants will then get to make a hand-rolled beeswax candle and their very own beeswax hand balm.

Old Town Bloomers are a community gardening group, based in Runcorn.

B4Biodiversity are a collective of individuals that promote the importance of biodiversity in the urban area.







Love Our Planet: Art Workshops

Love Our Planet Workshops (Adults)

Halton Lea Library Tuesday 29th June, 11-1pm Tuesday 6th July, 11-1pm Tuesday 13th July, 11-1pm

£3 for a place on all three workshops. Please book online via the library website or at any Halton library

Love Our Planet Workshops (Children)

Halton Lea Library Saturday 10th July, 11-1pm Saturday 24th July, 11-1pm Saturday 31st July 11-1pm

£3 for a place on all three workshops. Please book online via the library website or at any Halton library.

Recommended age: 9+





Artist Rebecca Atherton works all over the North West and co-runs ArtFull, a participatory and community arts group. She is a regular 'artist in residence' in community venues and an associate at Curious Minds. She is currently undertaking her MA at UCLAN, looking at mythology and the mythological representation of Women, Rebecca's primary art forms are painting and producing headdresses for her female characters whilst addressing issues such as the environment within the story telling part of her work.

We have commissioned artist Rebecca Atherton to explore climate change in a unique and innovative way through a series of creative workshops for both adults and children.

Rebecca specialises in creating and constructing theatrical headdresses that represent mythological goddesses and animals.

In her workshops, Rebecca will delve into the effects of climate change and look at its impact on the animal kingdom. Workshop participants, over a series of three workshops, will design and create visually striking headdresses, depicting and celebrating great mythological animal god spirits. Each headdress will be accompanied with an environmental pledge and will provoke discussion amongst wearers and viewers. Headdresses will then be displayed throughout Halton to inspire and generate discussion around this highly relevant and immediate environmental topic.

These workshops are perfect for anyone interested in climate change, art, animals and our natural world. It is a series of three workshops, with participants attending all three in order to deeply explore this topic and produce valuable creative pieces.



Discover Pollinators with Norton Priory

Bee Workshop with Norton Priory

Widnes Library
Friday 16th July – 10.30-11.30am
Tickets £3. Please book online via the library website or at any Halton library.
Recommended age: adults

Join the experts at Norton Priory to delve into the world of beekeeping. Learn about honey bees and other pollinators in the insect world and then have a go at beeswax candle rolling. Beeswax is a natural wax produced by honey bees. Beeswax candles are known to neutralise pollutants, helping to eliminate dust, odors, and mold in the air.

Family Entertainment with Booster Cushion Theatre

Old MacDonald and the Three Pigs Plus...

Widnes Library

Saturday 24th July - 10.30-11.30am

£2.50 per ticket. Please book online via the library website or at

any Halton library.

Recommended age: under 5 years

Book In Danger

Halton Lea Library

Saturday 24th July - 3-4pm

£2.50 per ticket. Please book online via the library website or at

any Halton library.

Recommended age: 5-9 years



Old MacDonald and the Three Pigs Plus...

Booster Cushion Theatre is bringing its performance of 'Old McDonald and the Three Pigs Plus...' to Widnes library! This funny show weaves the well-known story of the Three Pigs with the easy to learn rhyme Old McDonald Had a Farm. Featuring a huge book with life-size pop ups and bright colourful pages and silly animal props, this show is perfect for our Let's Go Green festival as it explores healthy eating, fruits and vegetables, harvest food from fields and animals living on the farm.

The Three Pigs are fed up with singing "Eee aye eee aye oh!" every day and bravely decide to move away from Old McDonald's farm. Join the kind farmer and all of their animal friends in helping the little pigs build homes of their own, but beware, the big bad wolf is on the prowl. Can you help save the day and stop the wolf blowing all the pigs hard work away? A colourful and fun interactive show, full of props, pop ups and audience participation! The children help identify farm produce, sing and take part as the animals on the farm

Book In Danger

The diary of an oak tree will be brought to life by its bookmark in this captivating performance. Using a giant diary containing stunning illustrations, the audience will trace the journey of the oak tree on a huge map. We will follow Oakie the oak tree on his journey as he visits his relatives in the rainforest. But beware! The chopper is also hot on the trail.

The world's oceans are crossed by plane and boat, and colourful characters are met in luxury hotels. Our guide to the diary, the larger than life Bookmark, will introduce us to some of the animals and trees to be found in the rainforest and explain how their habitat is being destroyed. This engaging show, for older children, explores the importance of preserving the rainforest and the dangers for all if we continue to deforest.





Save Our Planet Workshops and Mini Protest

Save Our Planet: Placard Art Workshop and Mini Protest (younger children) Halton Lea Library

Wednesday 28^{th} July - 10.30-12.30pm £3 per ticket. Please book online via the library website or at any Halton library.

Recommended age: 5-7 years

Save Our Planet: Placard Art Workshop and Mini Protest (older children)

Widnes Library

Thursday 29^{th} July - 10.30-12.30pm £3 per ticket. Please book online via the library website or at any Halton library.

Recommended age: 8+ years

In these unique workshops commissioned especially for our Let's Go Green festival, the younger generation will have the opportunity to learn about climate change, the history of protest art and then to create their very own peaceful protest placard. The sessions will be led by artist Colette Whittington. Colette will provoke discussion around climate change in an imaginative and engaging way and will introduce examples of protest art throughout history such as The Paris Collective, Emory Douglas and Keith Haring. Participants will then create their own climate change placard using photomontage, collage, drawing and printmaking with stencils and block printed letters and typography. At the end of the session we will then embark on our very own mini protest in and around our libraries to spread the message of action for climate change.

Colette Whittington has worked with Tate London and Liverpool and the People's History Museum and has a passion for social protest, protesting for change through art and the role printmaking has played in political history. Colette has produced a series of "How to Do" printmaking books for Tate Modern. 'PROJECT PRINT: A Beginners Introduction to Printmaking' was published in March 2020. Colette considers herself to be a green activist and she cares deeply about the planet we inhabit. She's currently involved in an active 'noisy' protest campaign locally to Save Rimrose Valley.





Feed the Birds!

Creating Bird Feeders with Camp Curiosity

Monday 4th August
Online, Halton Libraries' You Tube
Free
Recommended age: 5+

The wonderful Camp Curiosity will take you through how to build your very own bird feeder that will attract a glorious array of garden birds to your outdoor space.

Camp Curiosity celebrates nature and the outdoors. A place of wonder, laughter, family-time and rewilding. Check out their calendar of family friendly events, for Summer 2021.

Hunt for Bugs with Catalyst Science Discovery Centre

Indoor Bug Hunt with Catalyst Science Discovery Centre

Halton Lea Library Wednesday 4th August – 10.30-12.30pm Free, drop in.

Recommended age: all ages

Calling all young entomologists! Can you help us hunt for bugs in our library? The experts from Catalyst Science Discovery Centre will be bringing their extra special biodiversity mat for us to spy all different types of insects. There will also be a chance to look in depth at specimens and samples under a digital microscope in this fascinating session centred on biodiversity and the wonder of insects.



Get It Loud In Libraries

We have a great series of live gigs coming up at Widnes Library with the fabulous Get It Loud In Libraries.

Katy J Pearson

Sunday 6th June Widnes Library. Doors open 2.30pm. Ticket price £8, book online via getitloudinlibraries.com Suitable for all ages



Sunday 27th June
Widnes Library. Doors open 2.30pm.
Ticket price £8, book online via getitloudinlibraries.com
Suitable for all ages

Porridge Radio

Sunday 18th July Widnes Library. Doors open 2.30pm Ticket price £7, please book online via getitloudinlibraries.com Suitable for all ages









Join Your Library



Joining the library is free and you can join at any age. Call into any of our libraries or visit us online at www.halton.gov.uk/libraries



As a member here are some of the services available to you:



- Borrow up to 20 books for free for 3 weeks
- Computers and Wi-Fi
- Home Library Service
- IT support

Halton Lea Library 0151 511 7744

Widnes Library 0151 907 8383

Runcorn Library 0151 511 7666

Ditton Library 0151 424 2459

- Ebooks and eaudio
- Digital newspapers and magazine
- No charges on overdue books
- Click and Collect









Let's Go Green: At A Glance

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Date	Venue	Event
Tuesday 1 st – Saturday 10 th June	Online and all libraries	10 Days of Green Challenge
Tuesday 1st June, 10.30-11.30am	Halton Lea Library	Eco-art workshop: clay jewellery
Wednesday 2 nd June, 10.30-11.30am	Widnes Library	Eco-art workshop: plastic bag weaving
Wednesday 2 nd June, 6.30-7.30pm	Online	Talk with Nature Author Roy Dennis
Thursday 3 rd June, 10.30-11.30am	Halton Lea Library	Eco-art workshop: seed bombs
Friday 4 th June, 10.30 – 11.30am	Widnes Library	Eco-art workshop, spinning earths
Sunday 6 th June, 2.30pm	Widnes Library	Get It Loud In Libraries: Katy J Pearson
Wednesday 23 rd June, 2-3pm	Runcorn Library	Gardeners' Question Time
Sunday 27 th June, 2.30pm	Widnes Library	Get It Loud In Libraries: The Lounge Society
Tuesday 29 th June, 11-1pm	Halton Lea Library	Love Our Planet Workshop 1 (adults)
Wednesday 30 th June, 10.30-11.30am	Wonky Garden, Ditton Community Centre	Story walk
Thursday 1 st July, 10.30-11.30am	All Saints Church Garden, Runcorn	Story walk
Thursday 1 st July, 2-3pm	Halton Lea Library	Climate change talk
Tuesday 6 th July, 11-1pm	Halton Lea Library	Love Our Planet Workshop 2 (adults)
Saturday 10 th July, 11-1pm	Halton Lea Library	Love Our Planet Workshop 1 (children)



	Saturday 10 th July, 10.30-12pm	Widnes Library	Don't Step on a Bee Day
	Tuesday 13 th July, 10.30-11.30am	Norton Priory, Runcorn	Story walk
	Tuesday 13 th July, 11-1pm	Halton Lea Library	Love Our Planet Workshop 3 (adults)
عم	Thursday 15 th July, 10.30-11.30am	St Paul's Church Garden, Widnes	Story walk
	Friday 16 th July, 10.30-11.30am	Widnes Library	Norton Priory bee workshop
	Sunday 18 th July, 2.30pm	Widnes Library	Get It Loud In Libraries: Porridge Radio
′	Tuesday 20 th July, 4-5.30pm	Ditton Library	Honey Day
¢	Saturday 24 th July, 10.30-11.30am	Widnes Library	Booster Cushion Theatre: Old McDonald and the Three Pigs Plus
	Saturday 24 th July, 11-1pm	Halton Lea Library	Love Our Planet Workshop 2 (children)
	Saturday 24 th July, 3-4pm	Halton Lea Library	Booster Cushion Theatre: Tree in Danger
	Tuesday 27 th July, 10.30-12pm	Halton Lea Library	Mind Your Own Beeswax Day
	Tuesday 27 th July, 10.30-11.30am	Widnes Library	Recycled art: book sculpture (workshop 1)
'n	Tuesday 27 th July, 12-1pm	Widnes Library	Recycled art: book sculpture (workshop 2)
) 	Wednesday 28 th July, 10.30-12.30pm	Halton Lea Library	Save Our Planet: placard art (younger children)
ر ما	Thursday 29 th July, 10.30-12.30pm	Widnes Library	Save Our Planet: placard art (older children)
X	Saturday 31st July, 11-1pm	Halton Lea Library	Love Our Planet Workshop 3 (children)
	Wednesday 4 th August, 10.30-12.30pm	Halton Lea Library	Indoor bug hunt

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