

WHAT'S ON

WIGAN & LEIGH

MAY - AUGUST 2025



Photo courtesy of Louise Monique



Wigan 
Council

WELCOME

Hello and welcome to Wigan Council's What's on Guide for Summer 2025!

We're ready for some summer fun and luckily, we have a schedule packed full of events that everyone can enjoy. Amongst other highlights, we're excited to listen to folk music at Wigan Museum, explore exhibitions at The Turnpike Gallery, talk history at Archives: Wigan & Leigh, meet authors (and eat chips) at our borough's libraries, and get close to vintage cars at Haigh Hall. We also have an amazing programme of summer holiday events: from puppets to slime!

We're excited to see the return of Flashes Festival of Nature, and the Wigan & Leigh Proms.

There's so much to enjoy, explore and take part in we're sure we'll see you soon!

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



Family Fun



Exhibitions



Talks, Tours and Workshops



CONTENTS

Festivals & Fun

04

Wigan Museum

06

The Turnpike Gallery

12

Archives: Wigan & Leigh

16

Libraries

22

Haigh Woodland Park

28

Get Involved

32

Listings

34

How to Find us

39



FESTIVALS & FUN

VE Day: 80th Anniversary



Mesnes Park, Wigan

Sat 10 May

Free, drop in

A celebration to mark 80 years since VE Day. With themed activities and entertainment from the Combined Bands of the Duke of Lancaster Regiment, Lancashire Artillery and others.



Photo courtesy of Nick Fairhurst

The Herds



Pennington Flash, Leigh

Sat 5 Jul

Free, drop in

Head to the Flash and encounter life-sized animal puppets as they take off on a monumental migration across West Africa and Europe. In partnership with Manchester International Festival and the international team behind Little Amal created by The Walk Productions and led by Artistic Director Amir Nizar Zuabi.



Flashes Festival of Nature



Pennington Flash, Leigh

Sun 6 Jul

Free, drop in

Come and explore the Flash, one of the borough's fantastic National Nature Reserves, and learn about its inhabitants with a range of fun and family-friendly activities.

Wigan Pride: 10 Year Anniversary



Wigan Town Centre

Sat 16 Aug

Free, drop in

For Wigan Pride's 10th anniversary, you can expect a colourful march to start the day, followed by entertainment, artists, special guests and music. With family activities, quiet zone and more!

Wigan & Leigh Proms



Mesnes Park, Wigan

30 Aug

Pennington Hall Park, Leigh

6 Sep

Booking essential

Join us once again for two evenings of fun and fanfare, as we celebrate the end of the summer season. Bring your family, friends and a picnic and enjoy your favourite songs from the Tyldesley Brass Band, followed by a Smart Pryro fireworks display.



Wigan Museum



In the heart of Wigan town centre, the Wigan Museum and Wigan Local Studies resource library offer a fantastic opportunity for learning and discovery.

Explore our temporary exhibitions as well as newly revamped Ancient Worlds displays. 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

(The Museum is closed to the public on Mondays, but open for our Soul Time group)

Facilities & Accessibility

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



Address

41 Library Street, Wigan,
WN1 1NU

Opening Hours

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

Contact

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

What's in Store? Showcasing the Extraordinary to the Everyday



Wigan Museum
Tue – Fri 10am–4pm
Sat 10am–2pm
Free, drop-in

Our interactive exhibition has been revamped for 2025 and has been packed with even more fascinating objects. Explore the racks to find treasures before telling us what Wigan means to you.



Photo courtesy of Nick Fairhurst

Together in Time: Young People in Wigan



Wigan Museum
Tue – Fri 10am–4pm
Sat 10am–2pm
Free, drop in

Exploring what it means to be young in 2025 Wigan, our Young Curators have chosen objects which have meaning to them. In partnership with Wigan Youth Zone.



Photo courtesy of Livia Lazar

What's in Store? Exhibition Tour



Wigan Museum
Wed 7 May, Wed 2 Jul
12 – 12.45pm
Free, booking essential

Looking for something to do on your lunchbreak? Join our curators for our fascinating What's in Store exhibition tours and discover the history of some of the objects on display.



Photo courtesy of Livia Lazar

Folk Evening with Tom Kitching



Wigan Museum

Thu 8 May

7-9pm

£15 (inc Eventbrite booking fee),
booking essential

Includes two drinks

Author and musician Tom Kitching presents his new book and album, 'Where There's Brass', with a special storytelling and music concert show.



Embroidery Workshop



Wigan Museum

Sat 10 May

11am-1.30pm

£15 (inc Eventbrite booking fee),
booking essential

Join us for a hands-on session to explore embroidery. You will be guided to create something beautiful and receive a kit to take home. Suitable for beginners and advanced stitchers. All materials included.

Museum Minis



Wigan Museum

Every Wed from Wed 12 May
(term-time only)

10.30-11.45am

£1.50 (inc Eventbrite booking
fee), booking essential

Join us at the museum for a fun and relaxed session full of engaging songs, stories, and crafts. Cost includes drink for minis and grownups. Suitable for age 0-5 years.



Photo courtesy of Livia Lazar

Regular Talks Programme



Wigan Museum

Check Eventbrite

£3.50 (inc Eventbrite booking fee), booking essential

Discover more about the borough through our regular talks programme. Tales of the Industrial Revolution, religious non-conformity, and mining are all under the spotlight. Check Eventbrite for more details.



Mega-saurus Dinosaur Day



Wigan Museum

Sat 31 May

11am-1pm

Free, drop in

Raaaaaaar! Tommy the T-Rex is back! Have your photograph taken with the world's friendliest dinosaur, have your face painted, get crafty with themed activities, and solve the pterodactyl trail. We'd love to see your fancy dress!



Permanent Exhibition and Building Tour



Wigan Museum

Wed 4 Jun, Wed 6 Aug

12-12.45pm

Free, booking essential

Fancy something exciting to do during your lunch break? Join our curators for our permanent exhibition and building tour.



Photo courtesy of Livia Lazar

World War Day



Wigan Museum

Sat 7 Jun

10.30am - 1.30pm

Free, drop in

This family friendly event will give you the chance to get hands-on with original World War artillery and uniform. Experience what it was like to serve in the medical corps and handle an amazing display of military models. Finally, learn how to research your military ancestors with our family history experts.

Tony Collins - Roy Francis Book Launch



Wigan Museum

Wed 11 Jun

7-8.30pm

Free, booking essential

Join author Tony Collins for a look back at the career of Roy Francis - the rugby league trailblazer and first Black British professional coach in any sport. The event will include a never-before-seen interview from Roy, and a Q&A with his family and stars of Rugby League.

A Musical Evening with Jennifer Reid



Wigan Museum

Wed 9 Jul

7-8pm

£15 (inc Eventbrite booking fee), booking essential - Includes two drinks

The working classes made music as a provocation, and this is a tradition Jennifer continues through her performances.



Superhero Day



Wigan Museum

Sat 2 Aug

11am-1pm

Free, drop in

Calling all superheroes! Wear your best costume and join us for spiderweb villain shooting, face painting, superhero trail, crafts, and more!

Let's Make a Comic



Wigan Museum

Fri 1 Aug

10am-3.30pm

£15 (inc Eventbrite booking fee),
booking essential

Are you a budding comic artist? Then this session with comic book artist David Kennedy is for you! Dave is a professional illustrator who works as a comic artist for Storm King Comics and the mighty John Carpenter. All materials are provided. Age 14 plus.

Puppet Workshop with Goofus Theatre



Wigan Museum

Sat 9 Aug

11am and 12.30pm

£5 (inc. Eventbrite booking fee),
booking essential

Join Goofus Theatre for a fun, interactive introduction to puppetry workshop. Explore puppetry skills, using your imagination to create your own stories! Then make a life size puppet to take home!

Summer Holiday Fun and Themed Crafts



Wigan Museum

Sat 19 Jul - Sat 30 Aug

Tue-Fri 10am - 4pm

Sat 10am - 2pm

Themed crafts every Wed

10:30am - 12:30pm

Free, drop in

School's Out! Come and explore with our family friendly What's in Store exhibition. Get hands-on, create a masterpiece to hang in our visitor art gallery, solve our trails, and more! Then every Wednesday, join us for family friendly crafty fun, with a different theme every week!



To book, follow our QR code, call 01942 828128 or visit
<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/MuseumArchivesEvents>



The Turnpike Gallery



Photo courtesy of Livia Lazar

Facilities & Accessibility

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



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

The gallery is based in the heart of Leigh town centre, neighbouring Leigh Town Hall on the Civic Square. You can find us on the top floor of the Turnpike Centre, above Leigh Library. The Turnpike Gallery offers an exciting visual arts programme, collaboration with our communities, platforming youth voices and nurturing 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

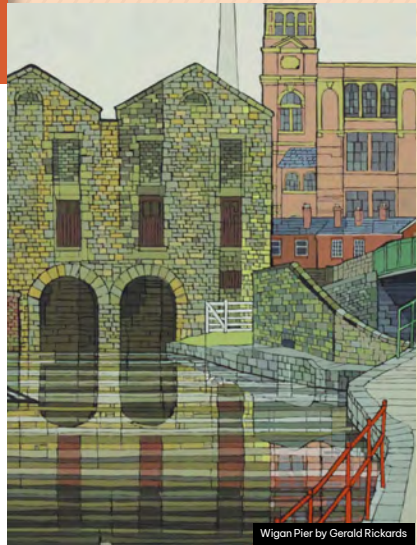
We are looking for new volunteers! Get in touch to find out more.

The Drumcroon Collection: Selected works on paper from the 1960s – 1990s



The Turnpike Gallery
From Sat 10 May
Tue – Fri 10am – 4pm
Sat 10am – 2pm
Free

Presenting the new Schools Loan Scheme and a major exhibition of over 50 artworks including drawings, lithographs, etchings, screenprints and linocuts by artists such as Victor Pasmore, Patrick Heron, Barbara Rae, Amanda Faulkner, John Hoyland, Cecile Elstein, Eduardo Paolozzi, Michael Rothenstein, Valerie Thornton, Norman Ackroyd and many more. The exhibition revives the innovative spirit of Wigan's beloved Drumcroon Education Art Centre (1980 to 2011) which gained national acclaim for its work in visual arts education.



Wigan Pier by Gerald Rickards

Turnpike Print Tour



Various locations across
the borough
Free

Be inspired by original artworks from the Turnpike print collection and take part in a beginner printmaking class! Coming soon to a community venue near you. Check the Turnpike Gallery website and social media for full details of the tour.



Saturday Family Workshops



The Turnpike Gallery

14 Jun, 12 Jul, 9 Aug

10.30am – 12.30pm

Free, drop in

Start the weekend with an inspiring creative workshop at The Turnpike Gallery. Suitable for families with children aged 5+.



Spring on the Square



Civic Square, Leigh

Sat 17 May

11–2pm

Free, drop in

Join The Turnpike Gallery and Archives: Wigan & Leigh for a free family fun day in the heart of Leigh! Enjoy creative crafts and activities for all the family, tasty refreshments and a spring themed trail to explore.



Photo courtesy of Livia Lazar

Sketchbook Social



The Turnpike Gallery

4 Jun, 2 Jul, 6 Aug

1–3pm

Free, drop in

Join us for a relaxed and social sketching session at The Turnpike Gallery. Enjoy a brew, mingle with other sketchers, and soak up inspiration from the Drumcroom print exhibition.



May Half Term at The Turnpike



The Turnpike Gallery
27 – 29 May
10.30am – 12.30pm
Free, booking essential

Fun and relaxing activities inspired by our contemporary exhibitions programme. Suitable for families with children aged 5+.



Summer of Print



The Turnpike Gallery
19 Jul – 30 Aug
Tue – Fri 10am – 4pm
Sat 10am – 2pm
Free, drop in

Drop in to the gallery and have a go at making your own print artwork! Free self-led activities for all the family to enjoy, gallery staff will be on hand to assist.

For more information and to book; follow our QR code, visit
www.theturnpikegallery.org.uk or call 01942 404469



Archives: Wigan & Leigh



Facilities & Accessibility

- Accessible toilet
- Ramped access
- Lift
- Accessible parking nearby
- Assistance dogs welcome

AWL
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 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 and families. Explore the exhibition and get free assistance with your family history search through Leigh and District Family History Society. Book on a tour to gain access to state-of-the-art strongrooms which store 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,
closed from 1–1.30pm
Saturday, 10am–2pm

Contact

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



@archiveswiganleigh



@archiveswingleigh

Archives: Wigan & Leigh Permanent Exhibition



Archives: Wigan & Leigh

Tue - Sat

10am-4pm Tue - Fri

closed from 1-1.30pm

10am-2pm 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. Our team and volunteers are on hand to answer your questions and help you explore the collection!



Family History Helpdesk



Archives: Wigan & Leigh

Tue - Thu

Free, booking essential

To book an appointment email
archives@wigan.gov.uk

Curious about your family history, but don't know where to start? Book in with Leigh & District Family History Society for a FREE face-to-face consultation to get you started.

Windows into History



Market Street, Leigh
Helen Mather & Anna FC Smith
until 30 May and Wigan & Leigh
Pensioners Link from June
Free

Come and learn more about The Bridgers Community Group, Wigan and Leigh Pensioners Link, and local artists Helen Mather and Anna FC Smith and the different work each group does in our local community.

Leigh Town Hall Tours



Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Last Wed of the month
11am
Free, booking essential

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



Relaxed Mornings



Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Last Sat of the month
10am- 12pm
Free, drop-in

This time is specially dedicated to visitors with special needs. It will be a SEND-friendly environment with limited visitor numbers and staff will be available to help with anything you need. Enhance your experience by borrowing one of our sensory suitcases!



Let's Talk History



Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Various dates
£2 (inc. Eventbrite booking fee), booking essential

Archives: Wigan & Leigh in partnership with Leigh Family History Society are running monthly history talks. To find out more check Archives: Wigan & Leigh website.



Our Town



St Peter's Church, Hindley

Sat 10 May

11am-2pm

Free, drop in

Join us at St Peter's Church Hindley and discover the rich history of Hindley at our heritage service pop-up stall.



Photo courtesy of Archives: Wigan & Leigh

May Half Term at the Archives



Archives: Wigan & Leigh

Fri 30 May

10.30am-12.30pm

Free, drop-in

Join us at the Archives for a morning of creative crafts! Take advantage of our free, self-led activities that the entire family can enjoy together.



Walking Tour of St Wilfrid's Churchyard - Coal Miners to Cotton Kings



Sat 3 May 9.30am- 10.30pm

Sat 21 Jun 1-2pm

£2 booking essential, email us at archives@wigan.gov.uk to reserve your place.

Join local historian Jim Meehan on a guided tour of the St Wilfrid's Churchyard to discover more about the fascinating lives of former residents of the area.



Photo courtesy of Archives: Wigan & Leigh

Creative Making at the Archives



Sat 7 Jun

10.30am-2pm

£7 (inc. Eventbrite booking fee),
booking essential

Explore the magic world of Powertex fabric sculpting in this introductory workshop by artist Jackie Rogerson. All materials are provided. Age 10 plus.



Digital Holiday Club at the Archives



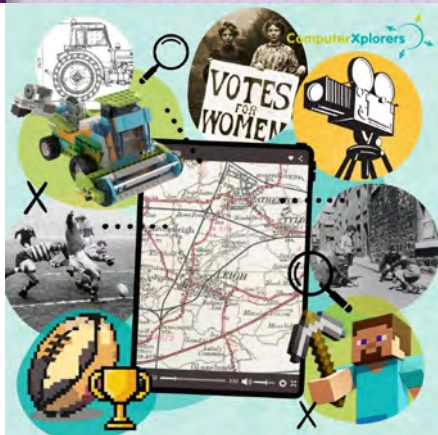
Every Thu from

29 Jul to 21 Aug

10.30am-1pm

Free, booking essential. Book
via: <https://computerexplorers.co.uk/bolton-wigan/book/>

Calling all children aged 7 - 11 years. Are you ready for an exciting adventure this school holiday? Join the Archives to explore local history through fun activities like game design, digital animation, robotics, and Minecraft. In collaboration with Computer Xplorers! Lunch included.



To book, follow our QR code, call 01942 404430 or visit
<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/MuseumArchivesEvents>



Wigan 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!

Facilities & Accessibility

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



Information

With branches based throughout the borough, for information on each branch, opening hours and to find your nearest library please visit wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Libraries



For more information and to join for free visit **e-books, audio books and e-magazines** (wigan.gov.uk)

Star Wars Clay Modelling Workshop with Paul Pickford



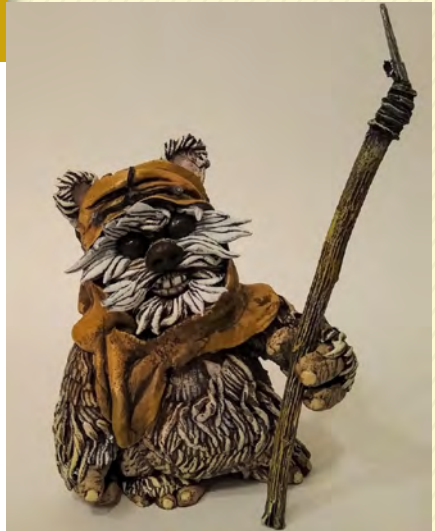
Leigh Library

Sat 3 May

10.30am-12pm

£4.50 (inc Eventbrite booking fee),
booking essential

From a galaxy far, far away celebrate Star Wars Day by making your own alien creature. You'll be supported by visual artist Paul Pickford who will guide you through the process of designing and sculpting a creature inspired by the Star Wars Universe. Age 7+. Children aged under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult.



Landscape Felting with Nomad Rangers



Hindley and Ashton Libraries

Wed 7 May and Wed 14 May

9.30-11am

Free, booking essential

Join Nomad Rangers for a relaxed introduction to needle felting and create your own landscape picture to take home. Age 18+



Photo courtesy of Nomad Rangers

'Seeing the Invisible' Fish and Chip Supper with Wendy from Daresbury Laboratory



Leigh Library

Thu 22 May

6-8pm

£7.21 (inc Eventbrite booking fee), booking essential

Launched in December 2021, the James Webb Space Telescope is the most powerful space telescope ever built. Join Daresbury Laboratory to learn more about this incredible telescope and how it's helping us see the universe in new ways whilst enjoying a fish and chip supper.



Photo courtesy of NASA

Nomad Rangers Summer Camp



Standish, Hindley and Golborne Libraries

Various dates across the Summer Holidays

Please check social media and Eventbrite

£6.13 (including Eventbrite fee), booking essential

Join Nomad Rangers at Standish, Hindley and Golborne libraries this summer for a fun filled afternoon of outdoor activities including soft archery, soft axe throwing, fire lighting with smores, bug hunting, paint pouring and more. Suitable for ages 6-12.

Book Fest Adult Author Book Fair



Leigh Library

Thu 5 Jun

6-8pm

Free, booking essential

Join us at Leigh Library where you will be able to chat to a range of adult fiction and non-fiction authors with the opportunity to purchase signed books and enjoy a drink at our licensed bar.





Story Garden



All Libraries

Please check social media

Free, drop in

The national Summer Reading Challenge is back! Pop into any of our libraries to collect a free starter pack and begin your fun journey towards a 'Story Garden' medal and certificate. Check our social media for details of special events to keep you busy through the summer holidays.

Slime Workshop



Golborne, Leigh, Hindley, Standish, Tyldesley, Aspull and Wigan Libraries

Various dates across the Summer Holidays
Please check social media and Eventbrite

£4.50 (inc Eventbrite booking fee), booking essential

A fun filled hour making super safe slime, the best bit is you get to take it home!

Get creative, with colour mixing, sparkles, gems and more
Open to all ages.

All children aged under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult. Accompanying adults do not need to buy a ticket.

Jan Crafty Pots



Leigh, Standish and Atherton Libraries

Please check social media and Eventbrite

£4.50 (inc Eventbrite booking fee), booking essential

To celebrate this year's 'Story Garden' themed Summer Reading Challenge join Jan Crafty Pots and paint and take home your own garden/nature inspired pot.

All children aged under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult. Accompanying adults do not need to buy a ticket.



Photo courtesy of Jancraftypots

Techmates Tea Parties

Various Libraries
Various Days / times
Free, drop in

TechMates Tea Parties are free drop-in sessions for anyone looking for support with basic digital skills. You can improve your digital skills and make new friends. There's no need to book - just turn up to say hello!



Quiz and Coffee Morning

Marsh Green Library
Every Tue (term time only)
10-11.30am
Free, drop in

Test your brain and have a brew at our free, drop in term time quiz and coffee morning for adults.



Sketch Club

Lamberhead Green Library
Every Wed
12.30-1.45pm
Free, drop in

Sketch club for adults during term time (children welcome in the school holidays). Come and flex your artistic muscle! Paper, pencils and mindful colouring sheets provided. Feel free to bring any art you are working on.



Genealogy Session



Standish Library
Every Thu
1.45-3.45pm
Free, drop in

Free drop-in session to help with your search to trace your family tree.



Jigsaw Club



Golborne Library
Every Fri
2-4pm
Free, drop in

Come along for a chat, a cuppa and join in with a jigsaw.



Super Saturday



Various Libraries
Every Sat
Check social media
Free, drop in

Enjoy family activities including crafts, games and play plus the opportunity to borrow a wide range of books to continue the fun at home. Check social media to see what is happening near you.



For more events in Wigan Libraries, and to book, follow our QR code or visit <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/LibrariesEvents>



Haigh Woodland Park



Facilities & Accessibility

On-site parking. All activities in Kitchen Courtyard classroom, shops and cafes are accessible for wheelchair users. Lift access to the first floor of the Stables building. 16 dedicated accessible parking spaces, 4 wheelchair-friendly picnic tables and 2 accessible toilets, including one with hoist/wet room.

Some pathways on the park are accessible for wheelchair users. Other pathways are uneven under foot or inclined. Contact us for access information related to guided walks.

Discover a world of adventure, enchanting woods, tasty eateries, golf of all kinds, family-friendly activities and events for all ages. Activities are based inside the Classroom, or in the great outdoors.



**Haigh
Woodland
Park**

Address

Haigh Woodland Park, School Lane, Wigan WN2 1PE

Visitor Centre Opening Times:

Autumn/Winter 8am-5pm

Contact

01942 828280

info@haighwoodlandpark.co.uk



Amphitheatre For a Tree Grand Opening



Haigh Woodland Park

Sun 18 May

From 11am

Free, Drop-in

The official opening of Haigh's newest outdoor space. There'll be entertainment and activities, along with the opportunity to help us create a commemorative artwork of the day.

Picnic Brass



Haigh Woodland Park

18 May, 15 Jun, 20 Jul, 17 Aug

From 1pm

Free, drop in

This summer favourite returns with performances by some of best Brass Bands in the local area. Bring a picnic, your blankets and enjoy great live music in this great outdoor setting.





Photo courtesy of Nick Fairhurst

Wellies & Words



Haigh Woodland Park

Sun 4 May

3-4:30pm

Free, drop in

A regular live literature open mic, with 5-minute slots available for your poetry, stories or monologues. May's special guest is Louise Fazackerley. With work rooted in word-witchery and the working class, Louise explores the synergy between poetry and movement in a way that makes the ugly beautiful and the mundane fantastical.

Kinderfest



Haigh Woodland Park

24-25 May

10am - 1pm and 2.30-5.30pm

Adults £8.50

(+ Eventbrite booking fee)

Children £6

(+ Eventbrite booking fee)

Under 3s Free

A fun and fab weekend for all the family to enjoy. Each session includes music, stage shows, kids activities, walkabout entertainers and much more.

Haigh Spring Foraging



Haigh Woodland Park

Sat 10 May

10.30am - 12.30pm

£5 (+ Eventbrite fees), booking essential

Discover the wild and cultivated plant around Haigh Hall and the fascinating stories, mythology and folklore surrounding them. On our seasonal foraging walks we will get to grips with some of these plants, learning how to identify them, about their fascinating ecology, how they fit in the landscape and their edible and medicinal uses.

Volkswagen Vehicle Show



Haigh Woodland Park

Sun 15 Jun

11am - 3.30pm

Free, Drop-in

Local VW club Dubz Outlaws will be displaying a range of their own build vehicles including a mix of campervans and daily drives.



To book, follow our QR code, call 01942 828280 or visit <https://www.haighwoodlandpark.co.uk/events>.



Get Involved (all venues)

Reminiscence Workshops

Archives: Wigan & Leigh have a range of reminiscence workshops specifically designed to support people with dementia.

To book a session or find out more, you can contact the Archives team at archives@wigan.gov.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

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!





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 for our displays in 2025 email us at archives@wigan.gov.uk

Introduction to the Archives and Heritage Sector

Archives: Wigan & Leigh

Have you ever wondered what life as an archivist is like? Are you curious about how to pursue a career in the heritage sector?

Just email us at

archives@wigan.gov.uk,

and we will be glad to speak to your class about our experiences in the field.

Listings

At a Glance May – August 2025

Exhibitions

When	Event	Page	Where
Every Day	Windows into History	18	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Tue–Sat	What's In Store? Showcasing the Extraordinary to the Everyday	07	Wigan Museum
Tue–Sat	Together in Time: Young People in Wigan	07	Wigan Museum
Tue – Sat	Archives: Wigan & Leigh Permanent Exhibition	17	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Tue – Sat from 10 May	The Drumcroon Collection: Selected Works on Paper from the 1960s–1990s	13	The Turnpike Gallery



May

When	Event	Page	Where
3	Star Wars Clay Modelling Workshop	23	Leigh Library
3	Walking Tour of St Wilfrid's Churchyard – Coal Miners to Cotton Kings	20	St Wilfrid's Churchyard
4	Wellies & Words	30	Haigh Country Park
7	What's in Store? Exhibition Tour	07	Wigan Museum
7	Landscape Felting with Nomad Rangers	23	Hindley Library
8	Folk Evening with Tom Kitching	08	Wigan Museum
10	VE Day: 80th Anniversary	04	Mesnes Park
10	Embroidery Workshop	08	Wigan Museum
10	Our Town	20	St Peter's Church Hindley
10	Haigh Spring Foraging	31	Haigh Country Park
14	Landscape Felting with Nomad Rangers	23	Ashton Library
17	Spring on the Square	14	The Turnpike Gallery
18	Amphitheatre For A Tree Grand Opening	29	Haigh Woodland Park
18	Picnic Brass	29	Haigh Country Park
22	'Seeing the Invisible', fish and chip supper with Daresbury Laboratory	24	Leigh Library
24-25	Kinderfest	30	Haigh Woodland Park
27-29	May Half Term at The Turnpike	15	The Turnpike Gallery
28	Leigh Town Hall Tours	18	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
30	May Half Term at the Archives	20	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
31	Mega-saurus Dinosaur Day	09	Wigan Museum
31	Relaxed Mornings	19	Archives: Wigan & Leigh

June

When	Event	Page	Where
4	Permanent Exhibition and Building Tour	09	Wigan Museum
4	Sketchbook Social	14	The Turnpike Gallery
5	Book Fest Adult Author Book Fair	24	Leigh Library
7	World War Day	10	Wigan Museum
7	Family Creative Making	21	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
11	Tony Collins – Roy Francis Book Launch	10	Wigan Museum
14	Saturday Family Workshops	14	The Turnpike Gallery
15	Volkswagen Vehicle Show	31	Haigh Woodland Park
15	Picnic Brass	29	Haigh Country Park
21	Walking Tour of St Wilfrid's Churchyard – Coal Miners to Cotton Kings	20	St Wilfrid's Churchyard
25	Leigh Town Hall Tours	18	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
28	Relaxed Mornings	19	Archives: Wigan & Leigh

July

When	Event	Page	Where
2	What's in Store? Exhibition Tour	07	Wigan Museum
2	Sketchbook Social	14	The Turnpike Gallery
5	The Herds	04	Pennington Flash
6	Flashes Festival of Nature	05	Pennington Flash
9	A Musical Evening with Jennifer Reid	10	Wigan Museum

July

When	Event	Page	Where
12	Saturday Family Workshops	14	The Turnpike Gallery
19 Jul – 30 Aug	Summer of Print	15	The Turnpike Gallery
20	Picnic Brass	29	Haigh Country Park
26	Relaxed Mornings	19	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
30	Leigh Town Hall Tours	18	Archives: Wigan & Leigh

August

When	Event	Page	Where
1	Let's Make a Comic	11	Wigan Museum
2	Superhero Day	10	Wigan Museum
6	Sketchbook Social	14	The Turnpike Gallery
6	Permanent Exhibition and Building Tour	09	Wigan Museum
9	Puppet Workshop with Goofus Theatre	11	Wigan Museum
9	Saturday Family Workshops	14	The Turnpike Gallery
16	Wigan Pride: 10 Year Anniversary	05	Wigan Town Centre
17	Picnic Brass	29	Haigh Country Park
27	Leigh Town Hall Tours	18	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
30	Relaxed Mornings	19	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
30	Wigan & Leigh Proms	05	Mesnes Park

Recurring events

When	Event	Page	Where
Every Thu 31-21 Aug	Digital Holiday Club	21	Archives: Wigan & Leigh
Every Tue term-time only	Quiz and Coffee Morning	26	Marsh Green Library
Every Wed	Sketch Club	26	Lamberhead Green Library
Every Wed term-time only	Museum Minis	08	Wigan Museum
Every Wed 23 Jul - 27 Aug	Summer Themed Crafts	11	Wigan Museum
Every Thu	Genealogy Session	27	Standish Library
Every Fri	Jigsaw Club	27	Golborne Library
Every Sat	Super Saturday	27	Various Libraries
Every Tue-Thu	Family History Helpdesk	17	Archives Wigan & Leigh



How to find us

Museum of Wigan Life and Wigan Library:

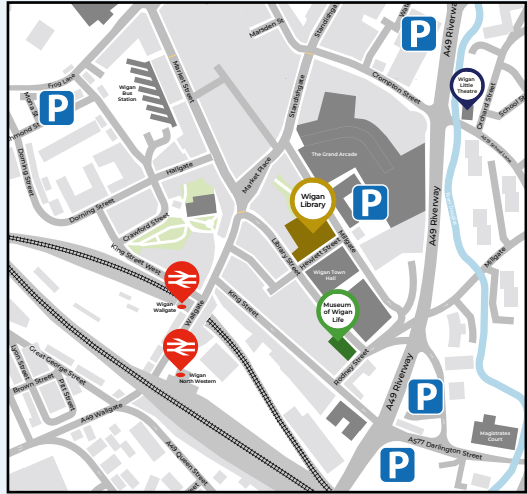
If you're using public transport, we are just a 4 minute (0.2 miles) walk away from Wigan Wallgate rail station.

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.



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.

WHAT'S ON

WIGAN & LEIGH



Wigan
Council



WIGAN
MUSEUM



AML
ARCHIVES:
WIGAN & LEIGH



Wigan
Libraries



Made possible with

**Heritage
Fund**



Supported using public funding by

**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**