North Tyneside Libraries and Community Centres

Event Listings



Our libraries and community centres have a packed programme of events and activities!

If you would like any further information about anything in this guide, or would like to book for an event, please contact any North Tyneside Library or email library.events@northtyneside.gov.uk

APRIL

Ashley Dyer: 'Crime Scene, Call Forensics!' Tuesday 3 April, 6.30pm North Shields Customer First Centre

How do real forensic experts deal with a crime scene and how do crime writers get their facts right? Author Margaret Murphy and forensic expert Helen Pepper, who together form 'Ashley Dyer', examine the evidence and will be talking about their novel, 'Splinter in the Blood'. There will be the opportunity to buy signed books. Tickets: £3. Booking essential.

Ready for Trouble Saturday 14 April, 11am Whitley Bay Customer First Centre

Author Tommy Boyd talks about his new release 'Ready for Trouble'. Rory O'Keif is robbed of his inheritance, his property and his home. Falsely accused of murder, and on the run from the police and the provisional IRA, pushing a man too far will make him turn. Free event. Booking essential.

Read Regional Sarah Dunnakey Monday 16 April, 2.30pm Wideopen Library

Sarah landed her dream job as a question researcher on Mastermind and now writes and verifies the questions for a plethora of TV shows. 'The Companion' is Sarah's first novel. Free event. Booking essential.

Mari Hannah & Mo Dowdy, in conversation with Dr Jacky Collins

Tuesday 17 April, 6.30pm Wallsend Customer First Centre

Join us for an evening with best-selling crime author Mari and ex-murder detective Mo for a look at the fictional and factual sides of crime. Mari will also be talking about her latest book, 'The Lost'. There will be the opportunity to buy signed books. Tickets: £3. Booking essential.

Blackburn, Cusack and Creen: A celebration of words and poetry

Thursday 19 April, 6.30pm
Whitley Bay Customer First Centre

Join us for an entertaining evening of poetry and literacy, with unique quizzes and preposterous prizes, plus an opportunity to buy signed books. Tickets: £3. Booking essential.

Steve Chambers Radio Talk Tuesday 24 April, 6.30pm Cullercoats Library

Steve has written extensively for BBC Radio and will share the secret of adapting iconic works of fiction into classic radio drama in this talk. Tickets: £3. Booking essential.

Story Tyne 2018

Introducing... Rob Scragg, Trevor Wood and Sarah Wray, in conversation with Vic Watson

Thursday 26 April, 6.30pm
Wallsend Customer First Centre
Story Tyne judge Vic will introduce Rob,
Trevor and Sarah – who are all at
different stages of writing.

Rob Scragg had a random mix of jobs before taking the plunge into crime writing. His debut novel published in April, 'What Falls Between the Cracks', is the first in a new series featuring Detectives Jake Porter and Nick Styles.

Trevor Wood left the Royal Navy in 1992 and retrained as a journalist. He has co-written eleven plays with Ed Waugh, including 'Dirty Dusting' and 'Maggie's End'.

Sarah Wray lives and works in Newcastle as a freelance technology writer. Her debut novel 'Reported Missing' was published in July 2017, followed by 'Her Best Friend' in November. She is working on her third book.

Books for sale and authors will be available for signing. Tickets: £3. Booking essential.



National Gardening Week

Monday 30 April, 1pm

Wallsend Customer First Centre

Meet our very own Grow & Eat Project Manager and find out how easy it can be to start gardening. This will include an interactive demonstration with a free plant to take home; there will be the opportunity to purchase additional plants from just 50p. Free event. Booking essential.

MAY

Everything you wanted to know about seaweed

Tuesday 1 May, 2.30pm Wideopen Library

Join Dr Gavin Hardy to find out everything about seaweed! Free event. Booking essential.

Read Regional A.A. Dhand Tuesday 1 May, 7.30pm Cullercoats Library

Amit Dhand was raised in Bradford and spent his youth observing the city from behind the counter of a small convenience store. After qualifying as a pharmacist, he travelled extensively before returning to Bradford to start his own business and begin writing. His novel, 'Streets of Darkness', was published to great acclaim in 2017 and the follow-up, 'Girl Zero', has been selected for this year's Read Regional. Free event. Booking essential.



Local History Month 2018



Local History Day Saturday 12 May, 10am – 4pm North Shields Customer First Centre

Discover local history resources and join in taster sessions on www.ancestry.com. Local speakers will be in attendance too. Stalls showcasing local and family history research, community groups and activities are also available. Free event, talks must be booked in advance.

Local History Day

Saturday 26 May, 10am – 12.30pm Wallsend Customer First Centre

Join the Wallsend Memories and Photographs group, who will provide a vast range of information, old newspaper articles and photographs on the town. Free event.

History talks

These talks are all free, please book in advance. There will be the opportunity to buy signed books.

Killingworth Remembered, with Bob Mitchelson Tuesday 8 May, 2.30pm Killingworth Library

Strange and Macabre Tales, with Sandy Chadwin Thursday 10 May, 6.30pm Tynemouth Library

Joe Wilson and his Tyneside Songs, with Ed Waugh Saturday 12 May, 11am North Shields Customer First Centre

Lit & Phil Library talk, with lan McArdle Saturday 12 May, 1pm North Shields Customer First Centre

Ned Corvan's Life & Songs, with Dave Harker Saturday 12 May, 2.30pm North Shields Customer First Centre Victoria Tunnel talk, with Ian McArdle Monday 14 May 2.30pm Whitley Bay Customer First Centre

Food Glorious Food, with Andrew Clark Tuesday 15 May, 6pm North Shields Customer First Centre

The Wallsend Pit Disaster of 1835, with Ken Hutchinson Saturday 26 May, 10.30am Wallsend Customer First Centre

Murder She Wrote: Rachel Abbott, Mel McGrath and Kate Rhodes

Thursday 3 May, 6.30pm Whitley Bay Customer First Centre Join the best-selling, award-winning writers as they talk us through their detectives, criminals and dark crimes.

Rachel Abbott: The UK's top indie author who has sold nearly three million books. Famous for cleverly plotted psychological thrillers, her seventh book 'Come a Little Closer' is her most disturbing yet.

Mel McGrath: As MJ McGrath she writes the acclaimed Edie Kiglatuk series of Arctic mysteries. As Melanie McGrath she wrote the best-selling family memoir 'Silvertown'; and as Mel McGrath she is the author of the psychological thriller 'Give Me the Child'.

Kate Rhodes: An award-winning poet and author of the acclaimed Alice Quentin novels. 'Hell Bay' is the first book in a new series of thrillers featuring Ben Kito.

Books for sale, authors will be available for signing. Tickets: £3.
Booking essential.

deaf awareness: NE Friday 18 May, 1pm – 3pm North Shields Customer First Centre

To mark Deaf Awareness Week, the local charity will host presentations, drama, a basic sign language and fingerspelling taster session, lip-reading techniques and information stalls. Free event, all welcome.

History Wardrobe Pink – The True Story Thursday 31 May, 7pm

Wallsend Customer

First Centre
Salmon, rose, berry, peach and candy...
shades of pink look and sound delicious.
Discover how to make pink and who's
worn pink in history. A girl's colour?
Boy's colour? The truth will be revealed!

Tickets: £6.50. Booking essential.

JUNE

National Bookstart Week

4 - 11 June

Look out for exciting Bookstart

Bird Boogie activity sessions in our libraries.

Information and Advice Sessions

Tuesday 5 June, 2.15pm Wideopen Library

Get free and informal advice on lasting powers of attorney, home trusts, property protection trusts, wills, and funeral plans. Sue Edwards, a Legal Estate Planner and Dementia Friend, will be on hand with an informative talk. Free event. Booking essential.

Falklands Remembrance Day Service

Friday 8 June, 11am
White Swan Customer First Centre
Join the service to remember those
who served in the Falklands War.
Free event, all welcome.

Story Tyne 2018

Chris Ord, Danielle Ramsay and James Grosvenor, in conversation with Vic Watson Thursday 7 June, 6.30pm North Shields Customer First Centre Join Story Tyne judge Vic as she talks to three writers at different stages of their careers, followed by a question and answer session.

Danielle Ramsay: The best-selling author of five DI Jack Brady crime novels. Her latest work, 'The Last Cut', features DS Harri Jacobs – a female cop who finds herself tracking down a serial killer who is altering his victims to look like her.

Chris Ord: His journey began in 2015 with his debut 'Becoming', which has received widespread international acclaim. His second novel, 'The Storm', is also set in his native Northumberland.

James Grosvenor: After taking voluntary redundancy in 2002 he seized the opportunity to study for a history degree. He then began work on his first historical novel, which is now complete and waiting publication and the second in the series is already underway.

There will be the opportunity to buy signed books. Tickets: £3. Booking essential.

Empathy Day Tuesday 12 June

Libraries are perfectly placed to bring communities together and build real-life empathy through the power of reading. North Tyneside Libraries will be launching special children's collections – books for 4-11 year olds that challenge prejudice and create connections between us all. Ask at your library for details.

Keeping My Soul: A Feast of Poetry, Story and Prose

Thursday 21 June, 6.30pm
North Shields Customer First Centre
Join members of the award-winning North
Tyneside Writers' Circle as they share work
inspired by their regular meetings. These
are open to writers of all ages and abilities.
There will be the opportunity to buy signed

Wallsend Festival

Saturday 30 June, 9.30am – 12.30pm Wallsend Customer First Centre A family fun day, featuring stalls, crafts, book sale and a face painter. Free event.

books. Free event. Booking essential.

Story Tyne 2018: Creative Writing Workshop with Vic Watson

Saturday 30 June, 11am - 12.30pm

Whitley Bay Customer First Centre
Sign up for free creative writing sessions
with award-winning author Vic Watson,
a former Story Tyne winner, freelance
proof-reader, blogger and creative writing
tutor. Free event. Booking essential.

JULY

Poisonous Plants Thursday 5 July 2.30pm Forest Hall Library

Dr Gavin Hardy will be talking about how plants were used extensively for medicine in Ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome. Free event. Booking essential.

An Inspirational Talk, by Suzanne Lambert Monday 9 July, 2.30pm Tynemouth Library

Suzanne was handed over as a baby in 1955 to the nuns at Nazareth House Orphanage and was given to Nancy, the nanny in the nursery, to look after her until she could be adopted. Nancy loved her and spent the next 16 years living in fear of her being taken from her. Their story is both tear-jerking and unforgettable. Free event. Booking essential.

Meet a Local Author: Alice J Black

Tuesday 10 July, 6.30pm Cullercoats Library

Alice's debut novel, 'The Doors', was released in 2014 and the second, 'A Shadowed Beginning' in 2017. Alice will be talking about her work and answering questions. There will be the opportunity to buy signed books. Free event.

Booking essential.

Summer Reading Challenge

The theme of this year's Summer Reading Challenge, produced by the Reading Agency and delivered by libraries, is Mischief Makers – celebrating the 80th anniversary of the much-loved comic 'Beano'.

Saturday

14 July

Sign up and follow clues to explore a map of Beanotown, meeting Dennis, Gnasher and friends along the way. As you read your way through six library books, you'll collect special stickers to help you find mysterious buried treasure! Mischief Makers celebrates adventure and friendship and is an exciting way to keep reading over the summer holidays. As a reward, you'll earn a Summer Reading Challenge medal and certificate.

Look out for lots of fun events and activities in the library over the holidays too!

Dyslexia North East

Tuesday 24 July, 10.30am – 2.30pm

Wallsend Customer First Centre

North Tyneside Libraries, in association with Dyslexia North East, present a fun and interactive day for everyone. Enjoy crafts, games and more, while learning all about Dyslexia and the support available. Free event, all welcome.

FREE

Summer Fayres

Thursday 26 July, 11am – 2pm John Willie Sams Centre, Dudley

Thursday 2 August, 11am – 2pm White Swan Customer First Centre, Killingworth

Oxford Centre, Longbenton

Date and time to be confirmed



AUGUST

Book Lovers Day

Thursday 9 August

Whether you read at home, share a book meeting with friends, or go to the library, revel in reading today!

SEPTEMBER

Wallsend History Tour and Talk

Friday 7 September, 1pm From Wallsend Customer First Centre

To celebrate Heritage Open weekends. renowned local author Ken Hutchinson will host a guided tour of the town. Ken is a tour guide for Newcastle City Guides. Tyne & Wear Museums, the National Trust and English Heritage. There will also be the opportunity to purchase signed copies of his books. Free event. Booking essential.

Scrummy Chocolate Tasting Evening

Tuesday 11 September, 6.30pm

Whitley Bay Customer First Centre

Join Davenports' own master chocolatier Jane Williams as she guides you through the world of chocolate. You will be able to taste a range of chocolates, learn what makes great chocolate and discover the art of chocolate making. There will be the opportunity to purchase some treats too. Tickets: £6, including chocolates and refreshments. Booking essential.

Sixties Home Dressmaking

Tuesday 25 September, 7pm White Swan Customer First Centre

Shock your parents by running up a fab little minidress on your Singer sewing machine for a Saturday night on the town! Join Meridith Towne as she delves into her 1960s sewing box and delights in a home dressmaking journey through the decade. Rediscover the wonders of bri-nylon, crimplene and simplicity patterns. Tickets: £6.50. Booking essential.

Please note - all events must be paid for in advance.

E-BULLETIN:

For regular updates on library events you can now subscribe to our newsletter. Send an email with 'sign-up' in the subject box and your name and contact details to library.events@northtyneside.gov.uk

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

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White Swan Customer First Centre

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