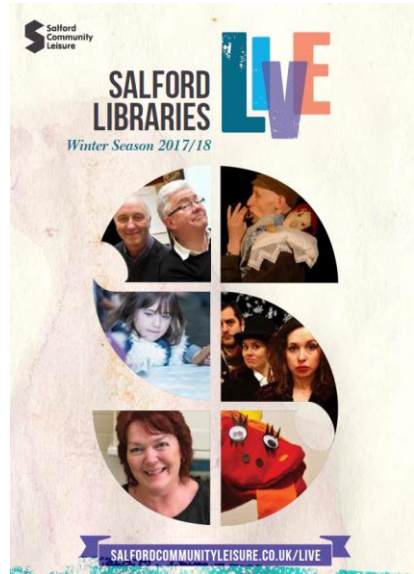




**Welcome to the 3rd quarterly report for 2017/18 for Salford Community Leisure's Arts Development Team**

**Salford Libraries Live:**

The launch of Salford Libraries Live took place at Salford Museum and Art Gallery during National Libraries Week. Around 70 people attended the launch, opened by Councillor Anne Marie Humphreys and joined by Scottish Makar and Chancellor of the University of Salford Jackie Kay, who read postcards from Salford Library visitors from the 'Dear Library' project.



The first season at Eccles Library was fully booked, engaging over 150 people as participants and audiences. The winter season features fairy tales and festive murder with mysteries to solve, puppetry to marvel at and a chance to have a go. During December there was puppet making with Kate Eggleston-Wirtz. Highly Suspect Theatre, one of the country's leading mystery event companies, returned to Salford with 'A Christmas Killing'. Lempen Puppet Theatre delighted families on an unusual journey through a medley of well-known Brothers Grimm tales, with their performance of 'The Amazing Thing'. In January, Jane McNulty will lead a sold out crime writing workshop. Salford resident, Jane, has written for East Enders, Doctors and Heartbeat and taught creative writing and scriptwriting at the University of Salford and other North West universities.

For information on the Spring season, March – May 2018, please visit [www.salfordcommunityleisure.co.uk/live](http://www.salfordcommunityleisure.co.uk/live).

**Little Hulton Arts Participation Programme:**

In November the Museum of Science and Industry ran a print making session engaging over 27 people of all ages in the Children's Library.

The 'Gruffalo at Christmas' family arts event was well attended in December, with 30 children plus 35 family members in attendance.

A small youth arts project began in November working with Big Local to provide engagement through visual arts workshops for 15-20 young people at Little Hulton Library. Through this project, these children, aged 8-11 years old, have regular high artistic experiences including making and performing with shadow puppets, music, story making and telling, production and stage management and parade costume in collaboration with Alexis and Ben from Walk The Plank. Austin Mitchell is the lead artist, supported by Barry, Brian and writer, Louise Wallwein. 19 children also went to see 'Around the World in 80 Days' at The Lowry Theatre just before the festive break, giving them further inspiration.

Outcomes for the children include increased confidence, sharing ideas and experiences, acting as positive role models for other children and showing what they can do in a positive light. The project will feature in the Big Local AGM in the new year, including a bite-sized film, showing activities. It aims to engage with young people in Little Hulton to create an idea for a future outdoor event or project in the area, possibly during the Easter holidays. There may also be some way that these young people can put their own stamp on the new Big Local shop.

This programme is made possible, thanks to funding from Greater Manchester Strategic Arts Funding and the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities and Little Hulton Big Local.

### **Sing 'til you're grinning:**

As part of Manchester Science Festival, the Arts Development Officer piloted a new partnership project to highlight the health benefits of singing. 'Sing 'Til You're Grinning' was a free event at Eccles Library in October which engaged over 40 interested participants and health professionals. In the twelve weeks leading up to the festival, members of the choir undertook a health and wellbeing assessment by the Active Lifestyles team. The project was studied by scientists from the University of Salford to show how singing together can improve their health and wellbeing.



The choir received some great publicity including an article in the Manchester Evening News. Five singers, together with MAPAS choir leader Joe Chesterman-March, Active Lifestyles Officer Jo Bennett, Dr. Gary Kerr and Arts Development Officer Andrea Bushell visited BBC studios at MediacityUK, Salford Quays in November. They took part in a live broadcast interview to promote

choir and perform live on BBC Radio Manchester's Breakfast Show.

Thanks to funding from Greater Manchester Strategic Arts Funding and the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities, 34 sessions have been delivered, engaging 8-12 participants per week. Anyone can join the choir, any time, including those who want to have a go at singing for the first time. Benefits include meeting new friends, improving confidence and positive effects on health and wellbeing. It costs £2 per session and takes place every Wednesday, term time, 2:45pm - 4:15pm (singing from 3-4pm) at Eccles Library Lounge, subject to funding from Greater Manchester Strategic Arts Funding. Call 0161 909 6528 or email [eccles.library@scll.co.uk](mailto:eccles.library@scll.co.uk) for more information.



**For more information please see:**

<http://www.salfordcommunityleisure.co.uk>

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