1. Billinge Library, Main Street, WN5 7HA
2. Central Library, Victoria Square, WA10 1DY
3. Chester Lane Library, Four Acre Lane, WA9 4DE
4. Eccleston Library, Broadway, WA10 5PJ
5. Garswood Library, School Lane, WN4 0TT
6. Haydock Library, Church Road, WA11 0LY
7. Moss Bank Library, Bowness Avenue, WA11 7EQ
8. Newton-le-Willows Library, Crow Lane East, WA12 9TU
9. Parr Library, Fleet Lane, WA9 1SY
10. Peter Street Library, Peter Street, WA10 2EQ
11. Rainford Library, Church Road, WA11 8HA
12. Rainhill Library, View Road, L35 0LE
13. Thatto Heath Library, Thatto Heath Road, WA10 3QX

CULTURAL HUBS

Arts in Libraries Programme #1

@sthelensarts
CULTURAL HUBS IS...

an Arts Council England funded programme of work, which allows us to animate all 13 libraries in St.Helens with performances, plays, gigs, workshops, courses, events, exhibitions and well... great stuff!

This programme features the key elements of the programme up until the end of July. We are really excited about what's happening and hope that you are too.

There will be a second programme in September, featuring even more exciting quality arts programming, but to keep fully up to date with the programme, sign up to our monthly ezine via [www.sthelens.gov.uk/arts](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk/arts) or follow us on Twitter @sthelensarts.

Cardboard Citizens in association with Time Won't Wait

GLASSHOUSE

Thursday 24th April, St.Helens Central Library, 7.00pm

Glasshouse is about family and how hard it can be to keep loving. Three interwoven stories take us into the lives of members of a single family. Fragile as any of us, tested by the times in modern Britain, they struggle to stay together, fail to survive apart. Sown through with Kate Tempest’s haunting poetry, the play draws us into a dark and gritty city illuminated by moments of unexpected tenderness.

“So Cardboard Citizens is a theatre company that must surely rank as being amongst the most genuinely life-changing in the UK” What’s On Stage

SOLD OUT - Call to check for any returns 01744 677087

WORD OF MOUTH

Wednesday 7th May & 2nd July, St.Helens Central Library, 5.30pm

Join us for a new intimate open mic night open to anyone who wants to try out some poetry or prose, tell a story or try a bit of a comedy routine. This session is open to anyone regardless of previous experience.

To book to attend either as an audience member or to perform, please email artsservice@sthelens.gov.uk or call 01744 677087.

SAINTLAND

Wednesday 21st May, St.Helens Central Library, 7.30pm

Following on from the success of their first performance, 'Break Free', Other Ways Of Telling return to the Library with their unique blend of poetry, humour, music and performance. 'Saintland' tells the story of fairy tale characters after the fairy tale is over, when it turns out that Neverland is not what it's cracked up to be and holds up a magic mirror to the world we’re living in. Saintland - where Neverland meets Poundland.

Tickets are FREE - please email artsservice@sthelens.gov.uk or call 01744 677087 to book your place.
ST.HELENS DETECTIVE CLUB

Mondays 19th May, 2nd, 16th & 30th June & 14th July, St.Helens Central Library, 4.45pm - 6.45pm

Explore the Golden Age of Detective Fiction as part of the St.Helens Detective Club and gain skills in logical deduction, observation and creative writing. Working with artist Hwa Young Jung, the club will meet fortnightly over 5 workshops to get an understanding of the stories, writers, format and characteristics that make a good ‘whodunnit’. Help us to create a mystery in the library for the public to solve!

www.detectiveclubpresents.com

To find out more or to book a place, email artsservice@sthelens.gov.uk

TALES & TRAILS

Filmmaker Tim Brunsden has been working with library users in St.Helens to collect their stories and create a film about the way we use library spaces. The film incorporates a number of unusual film making tools and techniques as well as ‘the element of surprise’ to create a story through accidental discovery.

Tim will be running open sessions for people to contribute toward the making of the film. Bring your stories of libraries and an open mind!

To find out more or to book a place, email tim@re-dock.org

LIBRARIES IN MOTION

Artist Sam Meech will be running animation workshops for small groups on the following dates:

Wednesday 30th July, Chester Lane Library, 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Friday 1st August, St.Helens Central Library, 10.00am - 1.00pm
Friday 1st August, Peter Street Library, 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Saturday 2nd August, Newton-le-Willows Library, 10.00am - 12.30pm
Saturday 9th August, Parr Library, 10.00am - 12.30pm
Monday 11th August, Rainhill Library, 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Saturday 16th August, Thatto Heath Library, 10.00am - 1.00pm

Help to bring your local library to life on film! Work with Sam to create an epic stop-motion animation in and around the libraries of St.Helens. The animation will be made from the library itself - the people, books, spaces, furniture, architecture - and the spaces in between.

Artist in Residence South (AIR:SOUTH) sees Re-Dock, a collective of artists working with people and technology, who will be working across St.Helens ‘southern’ libraries: St.Helens Central, Rainhill, Chester Lane, Thatto Heath, Peter Street, Parr and Newton-le-Willows.
Ballet in Small Spaces

Saturday 17th May, St. Helens Central Library,
2.00pm Family focused shortened performance
5.00pm Full early evening performance

Jonathan Rees and Susie Crow of Ballet in Small Spaces have been delving into the music and dance of the 18th century, inspired by the salon pieces of composer and viola da gamba virtuoso Carl Friedrich. Their unique performance informs a contemporary interpretation, reflecting on both history and memory.

The viol or viola da gamba is any one of a family of bowed, fretted and stringed musical instruments that first appeared in the mid to late 15th century and was most popular in the Renaissance and Baroque periods.

www.balletinsmallspaces.wordpress.com

2.00pm Afternoon family focused shortened performance and talk
Grab the opportunity to speak with the professional dancer and musician and enjoy seeing them perform up close. Listen and learn about the history and stories behind the instrument, music and the dancing.

5.00pm Early evening full performance
Share an intimate and delightful early evening of music and dance collaboration, with top performers conjuring forgotten pasts, into present life through unusual repertoire.

Tickets can be reserved for FREE by emailing artsservice@sthelens.gov.uk or by calling 01744 677087 (we will ask people to contribute what they can afford to pay on the day, 1p, £1, £10, no amount is too big or too small)
Get it Loud in Libraries

THUMPERS

Friday 30th May, St.Helens Central Library, 8.00pm

Thumpers are an alternative pop duo based in London and formed in late 2011. Their first single was "Dancing’s Done" which was released on limited edition rose-tinted vinyl and cassette tape through Transgressive Records. The track achieved B-list status on the BBC 6 Music playlist, as well as receiving strong support on BBC Radio 1, Xfm and Amazing Radio.

Tickets can be booked via www.seetickets.com or visit www.thumpers.co to check out their sound.

Thumpers

Friday 13th June, Newton-le-Willows Library, 3.45pm

"Wizard Presents has created an utterly magical stage adaptation of Michael Morpurgo’s enthralling children’s tale”.

- The Stage

Tomas hates books and school but, his world is turned upside when he is dragged to the library and meets the Unicorn Lady.

“Breathtakingly beautiful and utterly charming... a must see”

- Primary Times

Tickets can be reserved for FREE by calling 01744 677885

(we will ask people to contribute what they can afford to pay on the day, 1p, £1, £10, no amount is too big or too small)
Belinda Grantham Dance Company Presents

STORIES OF ST.HELENS

Monday 16th June, St.Helens Central Library, 2.00pm
Monday 16th June, Parr Library, 5.00pm
Wednesday 18th June, Newton-le-Willows Library, 2.00pm
Wednesday 18th June, Chester Lane Library, 5.00pm

Stories of St.Helens, is the culmination of a 4 month Arts Council funded residency. The Stories of St.Helens website allows you to share your memories of the town, which so far, include warm fish, foaming fountains, songs at the rugby and Saturday nights. The dancers use these stories and more to tell tales of childhood and old age.

www.storiesofsthelens.com

Tickets can be reserved for FREE by emailing artsservice@sthelens.gov.uk or by calling 01744 677087

(we will ask people to contribute what they can afford to pay on the day, 1p, £1, £10, no amount is too big or too small)

The Vacuum Cleaner

MENTAL

Thursday 26th & Friday 27th June, St.Helens Central Library, 7.30pm

Mental is an intimate, autobiographical one-man performance, spanning 13 years of the artist’s adult life. The story follows the turbulent experience of mental illness, suicide, social isolation, stigma, police and corporate surveillance and the dynamics of power present in such contexts.

Using the Data Protection Act, The Vacuum Cleaner has reclaimed all of the information that the State holds on him. Psychiatric records, police intelligence files and social services reports are woven together with personal stories and photographs that counter the ‘official’ version of events, creating a performance that is challenging and highly informative, at times tragically sad and at others profoundly funny.

Tickets can be reserved for FREE by emailing artsservice@sthelens.gov.uk or by calling 01744 677087

(we will ask people to contribute what they can afford to pay on the day, 1p, £1, £10, no amount is too big or too small)
Chaucer’s pilgrims made their way to a cathedral in Canterbury; our pilgrims trekked to a very different cathedral in Manchester: the Hacienda. The Hacienda inspired and excited the youth of the 1980s. Seemingly disparate people nationwide travelled to the Hacienda to experience the idealism and romanticism of a place where they could seek solace and escape from the socio-economic repression they faced: the very essence of a pilgrimage. Character descriptions, interactions and the tales they tell paint an ironic and critical portrait of English society and expose the hypocrisy of how characters present themselves and wish to be perceived in opposition to their true personas.

Join our journey, hear them tell tales, and observe a portrait of post-Thatcher Britain.

Tickets are FREE. Book online at www.tickets@LIACconcepts.co.uk or by calling 07834529246

(We will ask people to contribute what they can afford to pay on the day, 1p, £1, £10, no amount is too big or too small)
**FUTURE HIGHLIGHTS**

Cultural Hubs continues throughout the year...

**Artist in Residence**

**AIR:NORTH**

The Artist in Residence North (AIR:NORTH) project employs a professional artist working with the theme of the WW1 Centenary. The artist will be working across St.Helens' 'northern' library network: Rainford, Billinge, Moss Bank, Garswood, Haydock, Eccleston and St.Helens Central.

**Other Ways of Telling**

**WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY**

10th October

Celebrations and performance.

**Creative Future**

**TIGHT MODERN**

Tight Modern is a touring miniature replica of London's iconic Tate Modern art gallery and showcases 60 marginalised artists in what is believed to be the world's smallest temporary gallery. This year's Tight Modern tour includes Brighton Fringe, The Towner contemporary art museum, Eastbourne and libraries across St.Helens.

**Keith Saha & 20 Stories High Young Actors Company**

**HEADZ**

Chronicling the stories of young people's lives in the UK today. HEADZ will be bold, provocative and challenging theatre asking some difficult questions of its audiences.

**Tamar Williams**

**YOUNG STORYTELLER OF THE YEAR 2013**

Performance and workshops.

**Digital Commission**

**30 YEARS OF...**

A digital arts project exploring the histories, culture and experience of mining in St.Helens.

**The Comedy Trust**

**STAND UP TO STIGMA**

A comedy project challenging the perceptions of mental health and laughing at it! Leading to performances showing throughout all St.Helens Libraries.