

# ROTHERHAM TOGETHER

## January Programme



# Sparks of Joy

## Secret Location

This January and February

With the uncertainty about COVID-19, the colder weather and darker nights you could be forgiven for feeling blue, but fear not, Rotherham Together has you covered.

We will be popping up in high streets, cul-de-sacs, at the school gates, outside care homes, at the supermarket and maybe even up your street bringing little sparks of joy to your day. Look out for circus troops, brass bands, bhangra dancers, school choirs and more popping up in a street near you! Let us know over on the @RMBCEvents Facebook where you'd like us to visit next.

Funded by: Rotherham Council

**ROTHERHAM TOGETHER:** A celebration of community, creativity and recovery.

**Rotherham**  
Metropolitan  
Borough Council





# You Can

## Something New

### All through the month of January

Have you always wanted to start something but didn't know how; play an instrument, draw a picture or join an amateur dramatics society?

Join our various teams on their social media pages for how to guides, videos and information on where You Can start something new.

Funded by: Rotherham Council

**Rotherham**  
Metropolitan  
Borough Council



## January Challenge

Fancy something a little bit different this January? Why not join in with The January Challenge 2021 from our friends at 64 Million Artists. Each day in January there will be a fun, free and accessible creative activity. 64 Million Artists believes that everybody is creative, and that being creative is good for you and good for the world around you - and we have to agree!

This year 64 Million Artists are working with some amazing collaborators - award winning writer, international poet, performer, playwright, artist and broadcaster Lemn Sissay, multi award-winning journalist and author Yomi Adegoke and writer, artist and part-time superhero Jess Thom aka Touretteshero. To sign up, go to <https://64millionartists.com/our-work/the-january-challenge/>

*'Creativity is not the monopoly of artists, it's in all of us, it always was...it is in the mothers who have to negotiate their child's wellbeing on a daily basis, it's in the taxi driver who looks at the stars in the night sky and believes them to be miraculous. It's in all of us!'*  
- Lemn Sissay

Event Partners: 64 million artists

**THE  
JANUARY  
CHALLENGE  
2021**  
64 Million *artists!*



# Escape into a page

## It's more than books

Rotherham Libraries offer access to e-books (including graphic novels), e-audio books, e-newspapers and e-magazines all for free!

With easy access to our collections of almost 6,000 adult and children's titles, 2,000 talking books, 75 magazine titles and a wide range of national and international newspapers you just need to be a library member.

Fill out the form then download the apps, choose and enjoy! Sign up is easy, go to: [www.rotherham.ent.sirsidynix.net.uk/custom/web/joining/index.html](http://www.rotherham.ent.sirsidynix.net.uk/custom/web/joining/index.html)

For more details, visit:  
[www.rotherham.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/libraries)

Funded by: Rotherham Council







# Home Library Service

**Are you an avid reader?**

**Unable to get to your local library? Well, Rotherham Libraries can help!**

Rotherham Libraries deliver books and talking book CDs to all areas of the borough to anyone who is unable to access a library due to health, caring or disability issues and has no one who can go to the library on their behalf.

Library staff will find out what kind of books you like, will then pick books or talking book CDs from library stock, and deliver them free of charge, straight to your door.

Deliveries are on a monthly basis and you are able to borrow up to 20 items at a time, so don't worry if you haven't finished them all after 4 weeks, as you can have the same items for 8 weeks.

Rotherham Libraries have stocks of fiction, non-fiction, large print books and talking book CDs and you can request stock held by any library in the borough.

For more information about this free Home Library Service or to sign up, please call 01709 823886 or email - [homelibraryservices@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:homelibraryservices@rotherham.gov.uk)

**Rotherham**  
Metropolitan  
Borough Council



Funded by: Rotherham Council



# Shared Reading

**Shared Reading is a unique experience that helps thousands of people to connect, feel good and live well.**

Rotherham Libraries are also part of something called Shared Reading with the organisation [thereader.org.uk](http://thereader.org.uk) which offers people the chance to be part of an online reading group where excerpts from books and poems are read and then discussed.

Anyone can join in a Shared Reading weekly session to see what it's all about, so if you are interested, please do visit The Reader website for more information - [www.thereader.org.uk/what-we-do/shared-reading](http://www.thereader.org.uk/what-we-do/shared-reading)

Rotherham Libraries are also currently looking for volunteers from the Rotherham community to start Shared Reading groups. Training will be delivered by the organisation The Reader in the first instance, and then afterwards any support would be given by Rotherham Libraries.

If you are interested in volunteering to start a Shared Reading group and would like further information, please call 01709 823886 or email - [judith.france@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:judith.france@rotherham.gov.uk)

**Rotherham**  
Metropolitan  
Borough Council



Funded by: Rotherham Council



# Artworks Together

## International Disability Arts Competition

Calling all artists

Submissions Open:  
1st Jan - 12th Feb 2021

Artworks Together is an inaugural arts competition and exhibition. This exhibition will take place annually between March and May and will showcase and celebrate the work of artists with learning disabilities across the globe.

This year's exhibition will be taking place virtually to ensure the accessibility of the exhibition to all given the current restrictions of the Coronavirus Pandemic. The exhibition will culminate in a month-long showcase in June, where the virtual exhibition will be projected for viewers to experience it at the prestigious Wentworth Woodhouse, a Grade I listed stately home in South Yorkshire, UK. During this month we will be hosting a series of talks, 'meet the artist' sessions and creative workshops within the building.

By applying you could be selected to exhibit in the exhibitions or win a selection of prizes. The competition will be judged by a panel of internationally recognised artists and curators.

If you are interested in finding out more about entering the exhibition, please visit our website. [www.artworkstogether.co.uk/submit](http://www.artworkstogether.co.uk/submit)  
If you have any questions please email [gALLERY@artworks-sy.co.uk](mailto:gALLERY@artworks-sy.co.uk)



Event Partner: Artworks





# Inspired

## Grimm & Co

The events of last year have not stopped Grimm & Co from championing the writer in every child. They have continued to deliver workshops to children and young people and have offered a wide variety of programmes online. Switching over to a digital platform can bring with it a number of challenges, but Grimm & Co has produced over thirty free workshops since lockdown and these can still be accessed via the website: ([www.grimmandco.co.uk/activities](http://www.grimmandco.co.uk/activities)).

The focus of these activities explore the use of the imagination as a tool of escapism and also the power of writing for wellbeing. The charity strives to support children and young people to develop their voice and ensure they are heard.

In the middle of December, Grimm & Co was awarded a £500k Capital Kickstart grant as part of the government's Cultural Recovery Fund. This means that they are now in a position to push forward and complete phase 1 of the transformation of Talbot Lane Methodist Church. Although they are waiting for further funding news that would secure phase 2 (this would see the whole of the construction work secured), it means that no matter what, Grimm & Co will be able to reopen to the general public in some capacity by the end of 2021.

It is in this new building where they plan to expand their reach, working with more children and young people in Rotherham and throughout the region.

For more info: [www.grimmandco.co.uk](http://www.grimmandco.co.uk)

Event Partner: Grimm & Co





# Your Stories

## Help us to help others

We would love to know how You have managed through the past year.

Is there something that you have done or been a part of that others could join in or replicate?

Have you been inspired by a journey or been that inspiration to others?

Rotherham  
Metropolitan  
Borough Council



Please get in touch, email  
[events@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:events@rotherham.gov.uk)

Funded by: Rotherham Council





# Inspired

## Campaign for Creatives

At the beginning of 2020, Rotherham Creative Network was launched by Artful Make It Happen, to help showcase and develop the creative sector in Rotherham and beyond. To act as a resource for meeting other creatives, skill sharing, collaboration, discussing work, sharing events, or asking for help and advice.

**Artful**  
Make it happen!



In response to Covid-19, Rotherham Creative Network focused on their digital offer across their social media platforms, in line with the 'new normal', and carrying on where they left off in the 'real world' with their 'Campaign for Creatives'. This campaign aims to support and empower Rotherham's creatives in 2021 and beyond, giving them the platform, they deserve and has led to a network community with shared values and principles, by the people for the people.

If you work with a creative discipline or have a creative hobby and are interested in participating in the 'Campaign for Creatives', you can email - [hello@artfulonline.org](mailto:hello@artfulonline.org) for more information.

You can also join the group Rotherham Creative Network on Facebook or follow them on Instagram @rotherham\_creative\_network

Image credit: Happy Alien Photography



# Inspired

## CYPF Consortium

The Children, Young People and Families Consortium which comprises around 30 local Voluntary and Community Sector organisations was recently successful in being awarded £99,806 from the Coronavirus Community Support Fund, distributed by The National Lottery Community Fund. This helped us to coordinate 9 of our member organisations and provide a joined-up consortium response to the impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerable people and communities in Rotherham. This helped us to coordinate 9 of our member organisations and provide a joined-up response to the impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerable people and communities in Rotherham which adopts our collaborative consortia approach.

The 6-month project which began in October 2020 is aimed at supporting those who wish to return to a sense of normality by increasing accessibility and meaningful engagement, whilst also supporting those who are isolated and require additional support to integrate by mobilising support to communities.

We are achieving this by offering a range of in person and virtual opportunities which have been extended by the fund and adapted in light of Covid-19 to meet the needs of our service users, delivering services such as; detached youth work, outdoor activities, online counselling, mental health and parenting support, activity and wellbeing packs, as well as, structured programmes around wellbeing, domestic abuse and employability.

To find out more: [www.cypfconsortium.org.uk](http://www.cypfconsortium.org.uk)

Funded by: National Lottery Community Fund



HM Government

In partnership with

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY  
COMMUNITY FUND



Children, Young People and Families' Consortium  
ROTHERHAM VOLUNTARY SECTOR





# Hope Fields

**The Rotherham Together programme will end in March 2020 with the opening of a memorial garden at Thrybergh Country Park.**

Hope Fields, will be a dedicated space for people to pay their respects to those who have passed, to remember the keyworkers, front line staff, volunteers and emergency services who worked through the Pandemic and create a space for wellbeing where people can recover from the trauma of Covid-19.

Consultation of Hope Fields will begin in January

Virtual drop-in sessions via Microsoft Teams, available -

- 13th January 2pm - 4pm
- 19th January 2pm - 4pm
- 27th January 2pm - 4pm
- 29th January 9am - 12pm

To book, please email - [events@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:events@rotherham.gov.uk)

Funded by: Rotherham Council





# CREATIVE COMMUNITIES

**Rotherham Creative Learning is committed to providing high quality family learning provision to the families and communities of Rotherham.**

The programme is varied and interactive and allows adults and children of all ages, to engage creatively in learning.

Family learning is such a wonderful opportunity for adults to work together with their child, to learn new skills and spend quality fun time together. It is even more important now than ever, to help keep families learning and active.

The creative activities cover a range of curriculum subjects, including, engineering, coding, arts/crafts, literacy, maths, history, geography and more. There is definitely something for everyone!

The website is packed with free downloadable activity sheets and links to many other websites for you to explore.

They also have a selection of online courses for adults. These are free and include free resources to complete the course too.

Please visit [www.rotherhamclc.org.uk](http://www.rotherhamclc.org.uk) for information on all the opportunities available.





# Having a Laugh

**Live stream lockdown comedy is back in town and on screen**

**From Sunday 24 January**

One of the first live stream projects of the 'lockdown era' returns to our screens this January as virtual comedy club, Your Place Comedy, transports more of the UK's best stand-ups from their living rooms to yours... and all for FREE! Organised by a collective of 12 small, independent venues from across Yorkshire and the Humber, the programme of shows - which enables some of our best loved theatres and arts centres to continue presenting great performances while their doors remain closed - is back for three more instalments, beginning on Sunday 24th January.

For the first show of the new series, three time Edinburgh Comedy Award nominee Josie Long is joined by star of Live At The Apollo and Have I Got News For You, Ahir Shah.

The event, will be free to watch on YouTube and Twitch, with an option for viewers to donate if they have enjoyed the broadcast. The money raised will be used to support both the performers and the 12 venues involved, all of whom face continued uncertainty as social distancing and Covid tier regulations impact significantly on their ability to deliver live performances

For full details on Your Place Comedy, and to find out how to watch the show, visit - [www.yourplacecomedy.co.uk](http://www.yourplacecomedy.co.uk).