

# INTRODUCTION

Join Peterborough's creative and heritage organisations as we fill the city with colourful stories!

From dazzling performances and inspiring exhibitions to lively festivals and family-friendly events, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

STORYTELLING CITY shines a spotlight on events inspired by books, lyrics, poetry and storytelling. Supporting the National Literacy Trust's National Year of Reading, we're celebrating stories across our city.

Discover what's on and be part of the story.

Open this leaflet to explore storytelling events May to August 2026



# STORYTELLING CITY

Art, Culture & Heritage Events in Peterborough

May to August 2026

## Event locations



- |                              |                                     |                              |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Ormiston Bushfield Academy | 7 Werrington Library                | 12 ARU Peterborough          |
| 2 Orton Library              | 8 Woodston Library                  | 13 New Theatre               |
| 3 Ferry Meadows              | 9 Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery | 14 The Willow Cafe           |
| 4 The Cresset                | 10 Peterborough Central Library     | 15 Dogsthorpe Library        |
| 5 Bretton Library            | 11 Peterborough Cathedral           | 16 Stanground Library        |
| 6 Westraven Community Garden |                                     | 17 Flag Fen Archaeology Park |

## PCA

Peterborough Cultural Alliance is a partnership of cultural organisations working together to champion culture, creativity, and heritage and celebrate our City.

Visit us at [PeterboroughCulturalStrategy.org.uk](http://PeterboroughCulturalStrategy.org.uk)

Contact us at [pca@neneparktrust.org.uk](mailto:pca@neneparktrust.org.uk)

Follow us on [f](#) [i](#) [in](#) @PeterboroughCulturalAlliance

## PARTNERS

Anglia Ruskin University, The Cresset, Eastern Angles, Flag Fen, Jumped-Up Theatre, Gateway Film Festival, Landmark Theatres, Inspire Education Group, Metal, National Literacy Trust, Nene Park Trust, Norfolk & Norwich Festival, Peterborough Cathedral, Peterborough City Council, Peterborough Library Services, Peterborough Museum, Peterborough Music Hub, Peterborough Presents, University Centre Peterborough.

Looking for more to do? Visit [discoverpeterborough.co.uk](http://discoverpeterborough.co.uk)



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**



# STORYTELLING CITY

Art, Culture & Heritage Events in Peterborough 2026

Until 30 May

## Life at the Lido - A Celebration of 90 years!

Exhibition | all ages  
Tuesday to Saturday  
10am to 4pm  
**Peterborough Museum & Art  
Gallery**  
FREE  
PeterboroughMuseum.org.uk

Explore a free exhibition  
celebrating the swims,  
sunshine and stories behind  
Peterborough's much-loved  
landmark.



12 - 16 May

## The Beekeeper of Aleppo

Theatre | ages 14+  
2:30pm & 7:30pm  
**New Theatre**  
From £32 | Booking via  
NewTheatre-Peterborough.com

Based on the international  
bestseller, immerse yourself in  
a beautiful story of survival  
and connection.

16 - 17 May

## Peterborough Celebrates Festival

Festival | all ages  
Saturday 16 May 11am to 8pm  
Sunday 17 May 11am to 4pm  
**Ferry Meadows**  
FREE  
NenePark.org.uk

Enjoy a fun filled weekend celebrating the City's  
stories, music, poetry, performers and communities.

19 - 21 May

## Early Years Storytelling Festival

Storytelling | 0-5 years  
**West Raven Community  
Café** - Tuesday 19 May  
**Serpentine Green** -  
Wednesday 20 May  
**First Steps Family Hub** -  
Thursday 21 May  
9.30am to 10.30am,  
11am to 12pm,  
1pm to 2pm  
FREE | Booking required  
becky.marrs@literacytrust.org.uk

Rhubarb Theatre &  
National Literacy Trust  
Peterborough Hub  
present three magical  
storytelling events.

19 June

## It Comes in Waves

Theatre | ages 15+  
7.30pm  
**Peterborough Museum  
& Art Gallery**  
£15 | Booking via  
EasternAngles.co.uk

Eastern Angles present a story of love, life and  
grief told as a big-hearted community-spirited  
comedy drama. Written by James McDermott  
(EastEnders, Time & Tide).

3 - 27 June

## The Longest Yarn II: Britain at War

Exhibition | all ages  
(selected times)  
**Peterborough Cathedral**  
Donation | Booking via  
Peterborough-Cathedral.org.uk

Discover Britain's wartime  
story within 80 intricately  
crafted "wool art" panels,  
featuring key moments  
from 1939 to VE Day in  
May 1945.

29 May

## Cut & Create, A Must Farm Make

Art & Craft | ages 5+  
10am to 4pm  
**Peterborough Museum &  
Art Gallery**  
FREE | Drop in  
PeterboroughMuseum.org.uk

Create a collaged story  
about our local Bronze  
Age settlement inspired by  
archaeologist and artist  
Rose Ferraby.

28 May

## Story Starters

Art & Craft | ages 5+  
10:30am to 2pm  
**Peterborough Central Library**  
FREE | Drop in  
PeterboroughLibraries.org.uk

Design your very own story  
book. With fun ideas and  
story-making props  
to get started.

20 June

## Celebrating Summer Solstice!

Event | all ages  
12.00pm - sunset  
(approx 9.30pm)  
**Flag Fen Archaeology  
Park**  
Adult £10, Child £4,  
Family £24 |  
Booking via  
FlagFen.org.uk

Celebrate the magic of  
the summer solstice with  
storytelling, heritage  
craft displays, children's  
crafts and nature walks.

4 - 11 July

9 to 5

Theatre | ages 12+  
2:30pm & 7:30pm  
**New Theatre**  
From £13 | Booking via  
Newtheatre-peterborough.com

With a score by Dolly Parton,  
this lively, empowering story is  
packed with sass, style, and a  
whole lot of Dolly sparkle.

18 - 19 July

## Roman Life & Legends

Living History | all ages  
10am to 4pm  
**Flag Fen Archaeology Park**  
Family £24  
FlagFen.org.uk

Journey into Roman Britain  
and discover the everyday  
stories and life of  
soldiers and civilians.

23 July - 19 August

## Read to the Beat at the Library

Art & Craft | ages 5+  
**Stanground Library** - Thursday 23 July 10:30am  
**Orton Library** - Friday 31 July 2:30pm  
**Werrington Library** - Tuesday 4 August 2:30pm  
**Bretton Library** - Friday 7 August 2pm  
**Woodston Library** - Tuesday 11 August 11am  
**Dogsthorpe Library** - Wednesday 19 August 2pm  
£1 | Bookable via  
reading@peterboroughlimited.co.uk

Join the library team for fun  
crafts and activities linked to the  
Summer Reading Challenge -  
Read to the Beat.

READ  
to the  
BEAT

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JULY

21 August

## Peterborough Youth Orchestra Summer Concert

Music | 7+  
7pm  
**Ormiston Bushfield  
Academy**  
£8 Suggested Donation |  
Bookable via  
musicclub@peterborough.gov.uk

A fun, family-friendly  
summer concert, featuring  
Peter and the Wolf - where  
each character is played by  
a different instrument.

15 August

## Community Day

Family Event | all ages  
10am - 2pm  
**ARU Peterborough**  
FREE  
Aru.ac.uk/events

Explore ARU's University  
campus and discover  
fascinating stories of  
science and technology  
featuring a giant robot, a  
miniature railway and a  
planetarium!

31 July

## Indian Dance Festival

Dance | ages 12+  
6pm  
**Cresset Theatre**  
from £10 | Booking via  
Cresset.co.uk

Experience an evening  
of Indian classical  
dance, with outstanding  
performers from across  
the UK, including Shrishti  
Dance Company's  
programme - Play Ball,  
a story of love, football  
and modern life.

28 July

## Children's Book Author Event - Ben Davis

Family Event | ages 5+  
10am - 2pm  
**Willow Café, Central Park**  
FREE | Booking via  
becky.marrs@literacytrust.org.uk

Get ready for giggles and  
galactic fun with author Ben  
Davis! Enjoy storytelling,  
fun craft activities, and a special  
gifted book to take home.

## Look out for:

### More stories are developing!

Peterborough Presents 'From  
Routes to Roots', will celebrate  
South Asian heritage and  
stories. Keep up to date via  
their website and socials.  
Peterboroughpresents.org

METAL presents 'Words in  
Public Spaces' a new public  
artwork from September 2026.  
The artwork will explore the  
power of words, rooted in the  
different stories, experiences,  
and languages.  
Metalculture.com