

Autumn 2025

Leicestershire
County Council



Volunteering



CULTURE
LEICESTERSHIRE

News



THANK YOU!



With the festive season just around the corner, we wanted to say a big thank you for all your generosity and hard work this year! With your support, we have managed to deliver so many wonderful projects, and we really couldn't have done it without you. We hope you have a lovely festive season, and we can't wait to see you again in 2026!

Updates

Spotting a few changes?

Hello! I'm Eliza, one of Culture Leicestershire's Volunteering Co-ordinators. I am new to the organisation, so I can't wait to meet you all and support you with your volunteering! From now on, I will also be putting together this seasonal volunteering newsletter, so things might look a bit different. But I'm not the only thing that's new - Culture Leicestershire also has a shiny new logo!



Remembering the past at Bosworth Battlefield

Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre hosted a successful Heritage open day in September, which included an archaeological finds object handling session, put on by the brilliant and knowledgeable gallery volunteers.

Volunteers also crafted a beautiful poppy cascade for remembrance day, which included a whopping 3235 poppies and took over 1294 hours to create!



Loughborough Library 'Eye Spy' mural now installed!

Inspired by the ideas of over 1000 local children, artist Jessi Illustrates created this nature inspired mural (featuring some local landmarks and treasures!), with the help of library staff and wonderful volunteers. What a team effort! To read more about this project, click [here](#).



Volunteer Sharing Day - Watch this space!

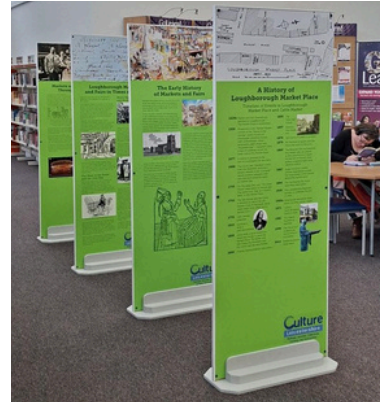
Our next Volunteer Sharing Day is coming soon! It will take place in the new year, offering volunteers across Leicestershire County Council's cultural sector an opportunity to come together, celebrate achievements, and share experiences. More details to follow! You can read about our 2025 Sharing Day [here](#).



Highlights

Loughborough Library Local Studies Volunteers - New exhibition!

In recognition of the annual Loughborough fair, Loughborough Library Local Studies volunteers redisplayed their fantastic Market 800 exhibition at Loughborough Library, which they created in 2021. They also have an exciting new exhibition, 'Herbert Schofield and Loughborough College', which is on display until the 30th of January 2026. Make sure you don't miss out!



Heritage and Science working hand in hand!

Autumn has been buzzing with activity at the 1620s House and Garden! Garden volunteers picked a bounty of orchard fruit now on sale, and the house opened its doors for Leicestershire's half-term. From spellbinding White Witch Workshops to mysterious Candlelit Witch Mark Tours and a fiery Gunpowder Plot Day, the season was packed with magic, history, and gorgeous window displays!



The 1620s House and Garden also welcomed Dr Jinit Masania and students from the University of Derby's Biomedical Science department for a fascinating research project. They collected rare and unusual plant samples to explore whether plants have healing powers. Garden volunteers can't wait to be hosted at the university labs to discover how the samples are processed.

Culture to You - Creepy Curiosities

Culture to You put on a creepy event at Wigston Library this October for Independent Visitor Volunteers and the children and young people in care they support. Great fun was had through spooky pebble painting and exploring a selection of taxidermy and curious objects.



Learning together with Leicestershire Adult Learners

Leicestershire Adult Learners had a lovely tour of [Harborough Museum](#) and [Market Harborough Library](#) in November, and shared their feedback to help us shape and improve these spaces as part of the [Harborough 2025 Questionnaire](#). To find out more about this questionnaire, please go to [page 6](#) of the newsletter.



Villiers Revealed - Award Winners!

We're delighted to share that '[Villiers Revealed](#)' won the Next Level award at this year's Museum Development Midlands, [Power of Place Conference](#)! We had a brilliant time sharing learning from this project and getting inspired by the other fantastic work happening across the Midlands.



What's next for Villiers? We are continuing to work with the University of Nottingham and student volunteers, who are now 3D printing objects displayed in the [digital exhibition](#). [Creative Learning Services](#) and [Culture to You](#) welcomed these students in November to share insights on object handling and offer exciting behind the scenes views of the collection.



Nature walk with Coalville Library Volunteers

[Coalville Library](#) Planter volunteers joined us in October for a gorgeous walk from Coalville Library to 1620s House and Garden. The weather was on our side, we ate delicious cake, and received a brilliant garden tour by volunteer Sue.

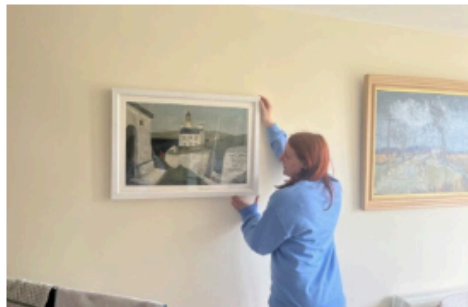


We absolutely love capturing volunteering highlights and sharing them with everyone! Don't forget to share your own highlights with your Volunteer Manager for a chance to feature in our upcoming newsletters.

Opportunities

Get involved

Explore, cultivate, and showcase your skills and talents by volunteering. [Click here to have a look at our opportunities!](#)



Culture to You Volunteer - At Home

Ongoing

Culture to You is a new offer aimed at providing 'at home' access to collections of art, museums handling objects and cultural activities to people unable to get to our sites.



Bosworth Battlefield Gallery Volunteer

Ongoing

Could you be the one to help us bring alive the stories of our award winning heritage site? Love to share facts and transport people to the past? This might be the role for you.....



Publicity Volunteer at The 1620s House & Garden (Publicity Volunteer at The 1620's House and Garden)

Ongoing

Would you like to keep active whilst helping to raise awareness for The 1620's House and Garden? Then please sign up as one of our publicity volunteers....

[Click here to see the full list of volunteering opportunities](#)

Invited News

We want to hear from you!

Are you familiar with Volunteer Action Leicestershire (VAL), Co-operative and Social Enterprise Development Agency (CASE) or Rural Community Council (RCC)? Leicestershire County Council contracts with these organisations are currently due to end in March 2027. To help review and decide future plans, LCC would appreciate your feedback via this survey about the organisations. This survey is open until Friday, the 16th of January 2026. For any questions about the survey, please email: shiregrants@leics.gov.uk

Your Museum and Library needs you!

If you live in the Harbrough area, we would love to hear your feedback on our current services – whether you're a regular visitor, haven't been in a while, or have never visited at all. Your thoughts will help us shape and improve our offer and better serve our community. As a thank you, you will also be entered into a prize draw to win one of four £25 High Street vouchers, just leave your email at the end of the survey! To find out more, including full terms and conditions, click [here](#).



Leicestershire Shared Reading - Award Nominees!

Exciting news! Leicestershire Shared Reading have been nominated for Blaby District Council's 'Community Group of the Year 2025'. The winner will be decided by a public vote, so if you would like to celebrate their amazing work, then please make sure you give them a vote! To vote and find out more, please visit the [Blaby District Council website](#).



Thank you for your continuous support and positivity. Reach out to your Volunteer Manager for any queries or ideas. For further questions, email: culture@leics.gov.uk

www.cultureleicestershire.co.uk/volunteering

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Your opportunity

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Harbrough
Museum

YOUR **LiBR@RY**

Museum
Collections

MELTON
CARNEGIE
MUSEUM

BOSWORTH
BATTLEFIELD HERITAGE CENTRE
AND COUNTRY PARK

1620s
House
& Garden
Donington le Heath

charnwood
museum

Creative
Learning
Services

Culture
to You

LEICESTERSHIRE
HOME
LIBRARY
SERVICE

To stop receiving communications from Culture Leicestershire volunteering, email culture@leics.gov.uk. As a Volunteer you will still receive communications about this involvement, but we won't be able to send you anything else.

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