



Library Newsletter October 2020

Increased Saturday opening hours from 3rd October

In response to popular demand, we are delighted to announce that Saturday opening will be restored to four hours (10 am - 2 pm) each Saturday from 3rd October at both Blackburn Library and Darwen Library. Other temporary opening hours remain in place for now, but we are very optimistic that we can bring you news of the reopening of some further libraries very soon. If this is the case, we will announce changes here, and on our library [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

Blackburn Library and Darwen Library are open for browsing with restrictions in place to comply with Covid-19 safety rules. Computer use and local history visits (see below) should be booked in advance to avoid disappointment on the day. Opening hours are as follows (NB, these are subject to change at short notice):

Blackburn Library

Mon 10 am - 4 pm

Tue 10 am - 4 pm

Wed 10 am - 4 pm

Thu 10 am - 4 pm

Fri 10 am - 4 pm

Sat 10 am - 2 pm

Darwen Library

Mon 10 am - 1 pm

Tue CLOSED

Wed 1 - 4 pm

Thu 1 - 4 pm

Fri 10 am - 1 pm

Sat 10 am - 2 pm

New guidance on the use of face masks



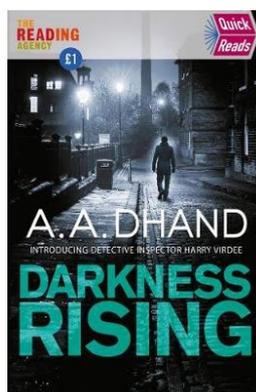
Please note that, due to changes in national and local guidance, from Monday 5th October we will require **everyone** who visits our libraries either to wear a **face mask** or another suitable covering, or to provide **proof of their exemption** from this requirement. We will no longer be allowed to admit anyone who doesn't have a face covering and cannot prove their exemption from the requirement to cover their faces. Suitable coverings must cover your **mouth and nose**, and remain in place at all times while on library premises.

LibrariesWeek

5-10 OCTOBER 2020

We have a number of exciting online activities and competitions that you can get involved with during Libraries Week, and there's good news about another library service too...

Lots to get involved with online



Our partners at The Reading Agency and World Book Night have generously donated copies of A.A. Dhand's book '**Darkness Rising**', which are waiting to be won. There will be a digital book themed **treasure trail for children**, and we'll be launching a competition linked to the upcoming publication of author Christina Gabbitas' new book '**Believe in the Magic of Blackburn Town Centre**' (a special commission from the Blackburn Business Improvement District to generate

interest in Blackburn Museum, Blackburn Library and other heritage sites around the town centre.)



Full details of these will be available next week via our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages. Details of the competition linked to Christina Gabbitas' book will also be available via the believeinmagicbtc.com website.

Virtual Book Hunt

This libraries week we're inviting you to join us for a week long virtual book hunt!

 @BlackburnwithDarwenLibraries

 @BwDLibraries



LibrariesWeek
5-10 OCTOBER 2020



Access to Community History resources restored

From Monday 5th October, the service's extensive local history collections will be available once again. Please note that, due to ongoing Coronavirus restrictions, physical access will be **by appointment only** to begin with as we need to observe social distancing guidelines. Remote requests for information may also be submitted. Please contact library@blackburn.gov.uk in either case.

Information about ephemera collection added to Cotton Town



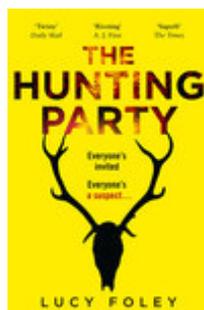
Some of the items in the ephemera collection at Blackburn Library

Sadly, due to the current Covid-19 situation Blackburn Central Library did not participate in any public facing Heritage Open Day activities this year. Instead, it was decided to publish information on the Library's digital history website, www.cottontown.org about a somewhat "hidden" resource held in the Community History Library.

The Ephemera Collection is a wonderful source of local and social history. There is more information about the nature of Ephemera and a short presentation to highlight some examples of items in Blackburn Library's Collection along with a full contents list. Please go to Cotton Town to find out more: <http://www.cottontown.org/Resources/Pages/Ephemera.aspx>

Whilst browsing through Cotton Town why not check out a couple of recently published articles by the Community History Volunteers. Stephen Smith has undertaken some research into the early life of **Henry Ainsworth** and has reached some interesting conclusions which may not please everyone! That being said, Stephen's newly published article on the **Thwaites Arcade** should bring back a few memories. David Whalley's "**When Blackburn Rovers Went to War**" provides a glimpse into the world of deep sea trawlers! All of these recently published articles can be found on the "New Articles" Page: <http://www.cottontown.org/Resources/Pages/New-Articles.aspx>

Book review: The Hunting Party by Lucy Foley



A psychological thriller set in the Scottish Highlands.

A group of 7 old college friends spends a short break in a remote hunting lodge at New Year. As the snow gets deeper the claustrophobic atmosphere brings out old grudges and secrets. When one of the party is found dead suspicion falls by turn on each one. Each appears to have a possible motive for wanting to silence the victim. Being trapped in by the heavy snowfalls means they all have time to ponder their past relationships with each other.

A gripping read which will keep you guessing to the very end.

Review by: Anastasia

Women's Prize for Fiction

British author Maggie O'Farrell won the 2020 Women's Prize for Fiction and was crowned the Prize's 25th winner with her eighth novel [Hamnet](#) (Tinder Press).

Set in 1596 and inspired by the life and death of Shakespeare's only son, *Hamnet* was chosen from a shortlist that included [Dominicana](#) by Angie Cruz, [Girl, Woman, Other](#) by Bernardine Evaristo, [A Thousand Ships](#) by Natalie Haynes, [The Mirror and the Light](#) by Hilary Mantel and [Weather](#) by Jenny Offill.

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