



The Hull Libraries team would love you to visit

The Big Malarkey Festival in East Park
on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st June.

What is The Big Malarkey Festival?

The Big Malarkey Festival is Hull Libraries Family Festival. It is in East Park, Hull, HU8 8JU.

The festival is all about storytelling, art, dance, music and theatre and it is suitable for families with children aged 0 - 16.

At the festival there is a Big Top tent, and lots of smaller tents.

Each tent has free activities for families inside.



How can I get to the festival?



You can catch bus 4, 8, 11, 56, 57 from the City Centre.



You can drive and use the car park. Use Gate B for Disabled parking.



You can walk or cycle.



There is one entrance into to the festival.

You will know that you are in the right place because you'll see the colourful banners on the fencing.

What can I do at the festival?



Draw with artists in the Doodle Room Tent



Dress Up in the Dressing Up tent.



Enjoy activities for younger children in Little Larkey's.



Watch a show in the Live and Kicking Tent.



Do coding and make things in the Makerspace tent.



Do craft to take home in the Make It Take It tent.



Enjoy sensory activities in the Wonderland tent.



Explore accessible music in the Experi-tent.



Meet an author and get a book signed.



You can dance.



Watch an outdoor show.



Do Bushcraft activities with Rewilding Youth



See a show in the Big Top.



You can pick up a festival brochure from a library or another community space, or you can view the full festival programme online www.thebigmalarkeyfestival.com

Do I need to book a ticket?

You can buy tickets from any Hull Library or from Eventbrite.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/the-big-malarkey-festival-2026-4845406>

For safety, every child must be accompanied by an adult, and adults without a child will not be allowed to enter the festival.

Children can bring more than one adult with them if they have tickets.

To find out about the accessible music workshops email Michael on info@drakemusic.org, where you can discuss access and book a ticket for these workshops'



At the entrance tent you will be given a festival wristband to wear – you can wear it on your wrist or on your clothing or bag strap.



If you don't want to be in photographs, we will ask you to tell us and wear or clearly display a purple lanyard.

If an official photographer tries to take a photo of you, show them that you have a purple lanyard.

What should I wear?



You should wear comfortable shoes and clothing.

If the weather is wet, you could wear wellies and a waterproof coat. Many events are inside tents.

If the weather is sunny you might choose to wear a sunhat or suncream and sunglasses.

What should I bring?



You should bring anything that you know you will need, e.g. an inhaler, or medicines.

You can bring a picnic, fidget toys or extra clothes.



There will be food stalls and a bookshop on site so you may choose to bring some money.

All activities at the festival are free with your ticket.

Is there anything I shouldn't bring?



Please don't bring anything that could hurt another person.

Alcohol, drugs, weapons, drones and multi-tools are not allowed on site.

Vaping or smoking is not allowed on site.

Who will help me?



The Big Malarkey Festival team will be at every tent and easy to find in their bright tops with the Big Malarkey Logo.

There will also be HEY Volunteers helping at the festival. They will be wearing Turquoise clothes.

You can ask for help at any tent.

You can also ask for help at the Entrance tent, First Aid tent and Lost Children tent.

Is there anything to eat and drink?



You can bring snacks, drinks, water bottles and picnics to the festival.

Free drinking water is provided at the first aid tent.

There will be food available to buy from stalls including Crepes, Greek food, sandwiches, salads, ice creams and hot and cold drinks.

What if I feel overwhelmed?



There is a quiet tent called Querty Yurt where you can go to relax and be calm.

You can sit and look at books in the Library Tent.

There are ear defenders and sensory toys to borrow whilst you are at the festival, you can ask for these at the Entrance Tent.

What if I get ill?



At the First Aid Tent we have medics, first aiders and trained welfare staff to help you.

Are there toilets?



There are Portaloo style toilets and accessible toilets. Mobiloo will be on site on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Toilets are near the Big Top and near the picnic area. There is also an accessible toilet at the East Park Pavilion. There is also a Changing Places toilet at Woodford Leisure Centre which is nearby. There are baby changing facilities in the accessible toilet units on site and at East Park Pavilion. You can change your baby at the Lost Children tent on site. There will be free sanitary items available at the First Aid Tent - close to the free drinking water fountains.

How will I find my way around?

We will give you a map of the festival site as you enter.

Tents will have a sign displayed outside to help you (similar to the one below for Experi-tent).



What is happening where?

Big Top = Author talks, shows and bubble show.



Makerspace = Digital art and making



Make it, take it = Make crafts to take home with you



Live & Kicking = Smaller theatre shows and author talks.



Little Larkeys = Activities for under 5's and their grown-ups.



Let's Write! = Creative writing workshops and authors



Parisi Village = Bushcraft with Rewilding Youth



Wonderland = A sensory walk-through adventure, created by Concrete Youth Theatre



BookLove = The Multicultural Travelling Book Carnival and artists



Library Tent = Everything you need to know about Hull Libraries



The Experi-tent = Accessible Music and Technology



Chess = A place to play chess, board games and relax



Dressing Up = A place to dress up



Picnic Area = A place with tables and chairs to sit and eat picnics and food bought on site.



Querty Yurt = A chill out space to relax

The Rabbit Hole bookshop = For browsing and book signings

First Aid = Medical help

Do any events support Access?



Many author talks and theatre shows at the festival are more accessible and / or include BSL.

Accessible events and BSL supported events are identified with symbols in the top corners of the printed brochure.

BSL Interpreters will wear Lanyards which say BSL Interpreter.

- **Saturday 20th June**
- Liz Million - Illustrator (BSL)
- Blue Badge Bunch – Interactive Gameshow (BSL)
- Michelle Robinson – Author (BSL)
- Sharna Jackson - Author (BSL)
- Joseph Elliott – Author (BSL)
- Malarkey Choir – Music (Makaton)
- Wonderland - Sensory Story Experience
- Drake Music - Accessible Music Workshops
- L’hotel is a silent movie inspired performance

- **Sunday 21st June**
- Steve Webb – Author (BSL)
- Blue Badge Bunch / Slugageddon (BSL)
- Mariesa Dulak – Author (BSL)
- Chris White – Poet (BSL)
- Memorabubble - Bubble Show (BSL)
- Wonderland - Sensory Story Experience
- Drake Music - Accessible Music Workshops
- L’hotel is a silent movie inspired performance

How can I find out more?



To find out more about the Drake Music Accessible Music Workshops contact Michael on info@drakemusic.org, where you can discuss access and book a ticket for these workshops

To find out more about the festival and you can

- Visit www.thebigmalarkeyfestival.com
- E-mail Claire at libraryevents@hcandl.co.uk
- Call Hull Central Library on 01482 210 000.