

**MARCH  
2024**



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## **THIS MONTH AT THE LIBRARY**

Another packed newsletter for March! We'd love to hear what you think of our newsletter and what else you'd like to read about. Look out for a survey coming to your inbox soon and please do take a few minutes (honestly a few minutes!) to submit it. Your feedback will be immensely useful.

The Ealing Book Festival 2024 will be held from 11th to 14th April. Tickets for events can be booked here:

<https://ealingbookfestival.com>

Some more Ealing news - Ealing Council has made its bid to be crowned London Borough of Culture 2025.

[https://www.aroundealing.com/leisure/london-borough-of-culture-bid/?utm\\_campaign=Around%20Ealing%20Extra%2015%20February%202024&utm\\_source=emailCampaign&utm\\_content=&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.aroundealing.com/leisure/london-borough-of-culture-bid/?utm_campaign=Around%20Ealing%20Extra%2015%20February%202024&utm_source=emailCampaign&utm_content=&utm_medium=email)

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### **OPENING TIMES:**

**Tuesday: 10:00 - 19:00**

**Wednesday: 11:00 - 17:00**

**Thursday: 10:00 - 19:00**

**Saturday: 10:00 - 16:00**

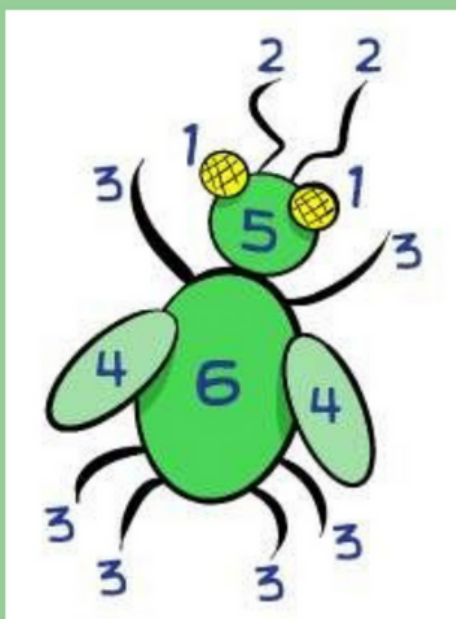
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# UPCOMING EVENT



## BEETLE DRIVE!

**2:30PM. MONDAY 4TH MARCH**



**We host a free Monday Social at the library every month.**

**This month we're holding a Beetle Drive**

**Come with friends or come on your own and make some new ones!**

**PRIZES!**

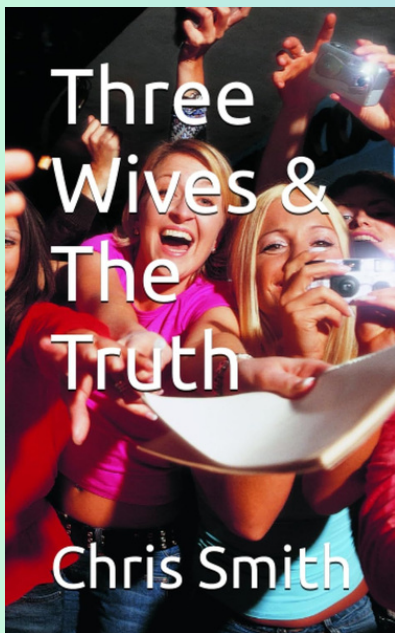
**We'll explain the rules if you've never played and refreshments will be provided**

**NORTHFIELDS COMMUNITY LIBRARY  
255A NORTHFIELD AVENUE, W5 4UA**

# **UPCOMING EVENT**

**CHRIS SMITH, COUNTRY MUSIC AUTHOR  
AND PRESENTER, WILL TALK ABOUT HIS  
BOOK AND THE MUSIC**

**7:30pm Tuesday 12th March**



**Three Wives & The Truth  
is a sideways look at the  
career of a fictional  
country singer from  
Texas**

**Chris lives in Ealing, presents country music radio shows on Ashdown Radio and Susy Radio in South East England, posts a regular show on Mixcloud and writes articles and album reviews for Country Music People magazine. He is a fan of Ameripolitan music and attends their annual Awards weekends in America regularly.**

**Retirement and Covid provided the opportunity to write fiction – a long held ambition. Three Wives & The Truth is self-published through Amazon. Chris is now working on his next book, a collection of short stories.**

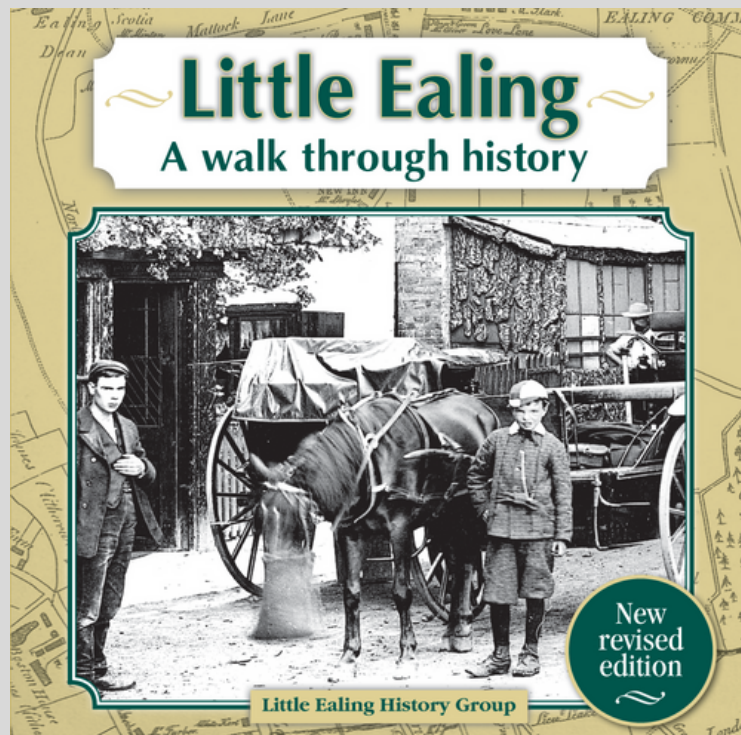
**TICKETS £5:00 - ON SALE IN THE LIBRARY.**

**COPIES OF CHRIS'S BOOK WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT**

# UPCOMING EVENT

## LITTLE EALING HISTORY GROUP BOOK LAUNCH

7:30pm THURSDAY 14TH MARCH



The revised and extended edition of the best-selling local history book 'Little Ealing, a Walk Through History' is now available. It has even more fascinating facts and photographs, telling the story of this area from sleepy hamlet to the London suburb we know today.

You are invited to join the authors to hear about the research which led to the book and some of the most interesting and surprising discoveries. Copies of the book will be available if you would like to find out more.

**FREE TO ENTER**

# UPCOMING EVENT

NEED HELP WITH CLOTHES REPAIR?  
LEARN HOW TO STITCH AND MEND

## Ealing Repair Cafe



**TUESDAY 19TH MARCH 5:00-6:45PM**  
**NORTHFIELDS COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

Ealing Repair Cafe offers advice on how to mend by sewing, embroidery, visible mending, patching, boro and sashiko stitching. At sessions we help by providing sewing equipment, threads and fabric for patches.

**DON'T THROW AWAY YOUR DAMAGED CLOTHES -  
BRING THEM TO THE EALING REPAIR CAFE AND GIVE THEM  
A NEW LEASE OF LIFE!**

## MESSAGE FROM THE EALING REPAIR CAFÉ

A big thank you to those who came along and mended, shared their mends. To those who donated money, time and space last year. Also to those who liked a post or commented and subscribed to our newsletter. It all helps to prevent textiles being thrown away and dumped around the world.

We hope to see many of you in 2024 and to inspire to you to repair your clothes.

If you want to start mending your own clothes, take a look at our free guides on our website for tips and instructions on popular methods such as darning, patching and stitching.

Find out more here:




<https://ealingrepaircafe.org/guides-and-tips/>



### Ealing Repair Cafe

## Achievements

2023

-  267 items saved
-  49 events attended
-  378 people spoken to
-  15 locations

# FUNDRAISING NEWS



Are you training for the Ealing Half Marathon? Or do you know someone who is? Would you run to raise funds for Northfields Community Library? We can support and encourage you as you train, collect sponsors for you, and cheer you on on the day. We'll even give you a specially printed T-shirt. We'd be really grateful if runners could raise funds for our library. If you are interested, or you know someone who could run for us, please contact **[getintouch@northfieldscommunitylibrary.org.uk](mailto:getintouch@northfieldscommunitylibrary.org.uk)** with your name and email address and we'll get back to you.



## PLANT SALE - SAVE THE DATE!!

Northfields Community Library Annual Plant Sale will be held on Saturday May 18th 2024, and will be bigger and better than ever. Look out for more information in future newsletters about how to donate plants for us to sell, how your children can get involved, and the goodies for the garden you can buy on the day.



Northfields Community Library is now registered with @easyuk, so over 7,000 brands will now donate to us for FREE every time you use @easyuk to shop with them.

You can find our easyfundraising page at

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/northfields-community-library>

Let's

# Speak English

Together!

Come and improve your English Language skills!

Location: **Northfields Community Library**  
Address: Northfield Avenue  
Ealing  
W5 4UA  
Days: **Every Thursday**  
Times: **From 10.30am to 12.30pm**  
Start Date: **22nd February 2024**



## FREE ESOL Classes to help you:

- ✓ Practice Conversational English
- ✓ Find out about local facilities and services
- ✓ Learn UK History and adjust to the culture
- ✓ Meet local people and make friends

Have Fun Learning English!  
Open to Everyone! Join Anytime!  
**No Eligibility Requirements.**

• Learn English • Meet new people • Make friends • Be more confident

For further details call **ACDA** on **020 3290 1128** or **0770 964 2243**  
or sign up at **Northfields Community Library**



Community-Based  
Learning  
Programmes



ACDA Skills Training  
ADULT & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY

# DIGITAL SKILLS TRAINING SESSIONS

The Digital Skills training sessions have been a great success and will continue in 2024. Sign up at the library or call the number on the poster.



## Online Basics

### Free Digital Skills Training Sessions

#### Northfields Community Library

Northfield Avenue  
Ealing  
W5 4UA

Every **Tuesday**  
From **12.30pm to 2.30pm**

Start Date: 17th October 2023

#### Learn how to:

- Browse the Internet Safely
- Create, Send and Receive Emails
- Do online Shopping and Banking
- Use Social Media
- Access online Library & Council Services
- Complete online Applications & Forms
- Search for Courses & Jobs online
- Find accurate Health information online
- *Plus More!*

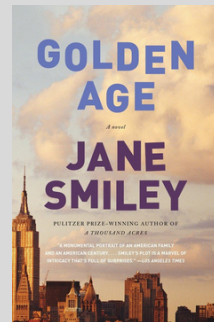
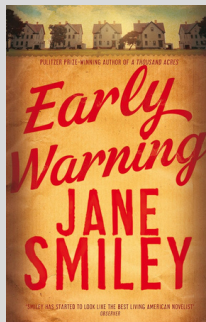
For further information contact ACDA Skills Training on **020 3290 1128** or **0770 964 2243**. You can also email us at [info@acda.org.uk](mailto:info@acda.org.uk)





# BOOK REVIEW

Recommended by Mary Crawford, Volunteer



## The Last Hundred Years By Jane Smiley

I discovered this trilogy quite by chance in Northfields Community Library and found it almost addictive. There are three volumes and unfortunately I started with volume 2 then 3, and finally 1 but you really should read them in the right order. The first one is called "Some Luck", the second "Early Warning", and the last one, with some irony, "Golden Age".

The books relate the lives of the Langdon family, descendants of Irish and German immigrants to America, where they farm in rural Iowa. The first volume starts in 1920 and ends in 1953 and the remaining two divide the rest of the 100 years roughly in half, ending in 2020. Each volume contains a family tree which I found essential because the novels deal with most of the members of the family, some in far more detail than others.

You will either have lived through or know about many of the historical events that Smiley describes and I found that very interesting, but she is also excellent when she writes about children, even babies. Her adult characters evoke all emotions from compassion to disgust but they are all very real. Her description of the harshness of rural Iowa between the wars gave me rather a different view of America, but Smiley takes us further afield. From the east to the west coasts.

Thoroughly recommended!

# LAST MONTH IN THE LIBRARY



We were delighted to welcome Rory Cellan-Jones to the library to talk about his book "Ruskin Park: Sylvia, Me and the BBC", his podcast Movers and Shakers and his Substack newsletter, about living with Parkinson's Disease. He also updated us about the progress of his famous rescue dog #sophiefromromania !

It was standing room only for the recent visit from Questors Theatre Playback Group. They performed "A Night At The Cinema" with reminiscences from people who worked at Ealing Studios in the early days. Informative and very entertaining!



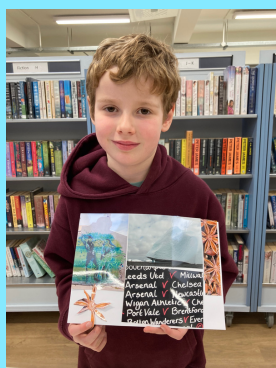
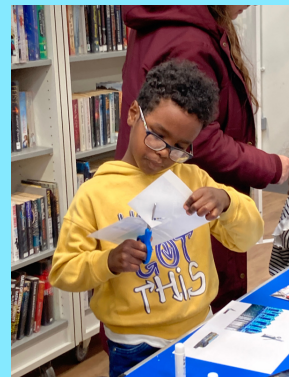
Master Chinese calligrapher Mr Sheung-Chak Yau gave us a demonstration and led a workshop to celebrate the Lunar New Year

An event still to come at the time of writing - the Belle Quartet, four local musicians, return to the library after giving us a wonderful seasonal concert in December. This time their concert charts the history of film music.



# LAST MONTH IN THE LIBRARY

## HALF TERM ACTIVITY - OUR TALENTED COLLAGE ARTISTS!



# INTERESTING INFORMATION FOR WRITERS PHOTOGRAPHERS AND YOUNG POETS!

## 1. Emerging Writers Programme

Applications for the 2024/25 programme are now open!

The London Library Emerging Writers Programme, now entering its sixth year, is a unique opportunity which offers writers, in all genres and disciplines, one year's free membership of The London Library and includes writing development masterclasses, networking opportunities, peer support, access to and guidance in using all the Library's resources and publication in the cohort anthology.

MORE INFORMATION HERE: <https://www.londonlibrary.co.uk/about-us/ll-emerging-writers>

## 2. Guardian Article. The experts: photographers on 20 easy, enjoyable ways to vastly improve your pictures

Alex Maddox, volunteer and photographer, has forwarded this fantastic article about how to take the best possible pictures, no matter what camera you use.

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2024/jan/26/the-experts-photographers-on-20-easy-enjoyable-ways-to-vastly-improve-your-pictures>

## 3. For your children - Ealing Book Festival Young People's Poetry Competition: Where Do I Live?

The deadline for the submission of poems is 14th March 2024

<https://ealingbookfestival.com/poetry-competition>

# What's Going On: Weekly

## Tuesday

- ▶ 10:30 – 11:00: Rhyme Time
- ▶ 12:30 – 14:30: Free Digital Skills Training
- ▶ 16:00 – 17:00: IT Support with volunteer Ben. No appointment needed

## Wednesday

- ▶ 11:15 – 12:15: Knit and Natter Group
- ▶ 14:00 – 15:30: Shared Reading Group, led by a trained Reader Leader.

## Thursday

- ▶ 11:15: Coffee Morning: Join us for a cuppa and a chat
  - ▶ 10:30 – 12:30: Free ESOL Classes
  - ▶ 15:30 – 16:00: Rhyme Time Singing With Gilbert
- 

# What's Going On: Monthly

## Ealing Repair Cafe

- ▶ **NEXT SESSION: 17:00 ON TUESDAY 19th MARCH**

Offering advice on how to mend by sewing, embroidery, visible mending, patching, boro and sashiko stitching. Sewing equipment, threads and fabric for patches provided.

## Northfields Community Library Book Club

- ▶ **NEXT MEETING: 19:30 ON TUESDAY 19th MARCH**

### **We meet at the Library**

This month we are reading “Actress” by Anne Enright. New members are always welcome. If you would like to join us email [getintouchncl@outlook.com](mailto:getintouchncl@outlook.com) and we will send details.

**There is no charge for these events, but donations to library funds will be appreciated**



...and more

## **That's all for now!**

**If you have any suggestions for content or for groups or activities we might organise, we'd love to hear them.**

**You can contact us by any of the methods below - or come in and see us in the library!**

**With best wishes,**

**Tanya, Paul, Alison P, Alison S, Angela,  
Maureen, Joy and Meena**

**Trustees.**



255A Northfield Ave, Ealing, London, W5 4UA



020 8579 2394



[www.northfieldscommunitylibrary.org.uk](http://www.northfieldscommunitylibrary.org.uk)



@northfieldslibrary



[getintouchncl@outlook.com](mailto:getintouchncl@outlook.com)



@northfieldscommunitylibrary