



Libraries Connected Annual Seminar 2025 Resilience in an Age of Uncertainty

10 – 11 June, Chesford Grange Hotel

#LCSeminar2025



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Seminar Programme

Day 1 - Tuesday 10 June	
09.00 – 10.00	Registration, networking, and refreshments
10.00 – 10.20	Welcome from Ed Jewell, Libraries Connected President & Chief Librarian, Jersey
10.20 – 11.00	High Street Task Force, Institute of Place Management and libraries - Ian Harvey, Head of Institute of Place Management, based at The Manchester Metropolitan University. Chaired by Ed Jewell, Libraries Connected President & Chief Librarian, Jersey
11.00 – 11.05	Sponsor's Flash Film - Open Fifth
11.05 – 12.15	Workshops (see page 5)
12.15 – 13.25	Lunch break
13.25 – 13.30	Sponsor's Flash Film - OverDrive
13.30 – 14.10	Building Resilient Volunteer Programmes - Amanda Naylor, Chief Executive Officer, Volunteering Matters Chaired by Ayub Khan, Past President & Head of Libraries, Heritage & Culture and Registration Service, Warwickshire
14.10 – 14.15	Sponsor's Flash Film - Bolinda
14.15 – 14.55	Reading Rights: Libraries supporting the Children's Laureate's mission to ensure every child has access to books' - Frank Cottrell-Boyce, Author, Screenwriter, and Waterstones Children's Laureate 2024-2026 Chaired by Sarah Mears, Programmes Director, Libraries Connected
14.55 – 15.00	Sponsor's Flash Film - Lorensbergs
15.00 – 15.20	Tea and coffee break
15.20 – 16.30	Workshops (see page 5)
16.30 – 17.30	Sponsors' reception
19.00	Seminar Dinner
21:00	Awards Ceremony hosted by Nicola Beckford

Day 2 - Wednesday 11 June

09.00 - 09.30	Registration
09:30 - 09.45	Welcome & Libraries Connected update Isobel Hunter, CEO, Libraries Connected
09.45 - 10.25	Resilience, sustainability, and the future of public libraries - Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Executive Director, Mid-Hudson Library System Chaired by Isobel Hunter, CEO, Libraries Connected
10:25 - 10.30	Sponsor's Flash Film - Axiell
10.30 - 11.10	<p>Ignite Talks - Workforce: Recruitment, Development and Retention</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> An Integrated Workforce: How Oldham Libraries became Oldham HLA Community Hubs and why this has made us more resilient, Jacqueline Widdowson, Business Development Manager, Oldham Libraries Recruiting library assistants - making the process simpler and more community focused, Jane McKelvey, Citywide Services Manager, Manchester Libraries Resilience and staffing: sharing from experiences, Simon Smith, Reading Libraries and Museum Manager, Reading Libraries Developing the Workforce within Essex Libraries, Kathy Thake, Library Service Area Manager Inclusive Recruitment, Marie Bray, Assistant Area Manager, Kirklees Libraries <p>Chaired by Peter Gaw, Chief Executive Officer, Inspire: Culture, Learning, Libraries</p>
11.10 - 11.15	Sponsor's Flash Film - Insight Media
11.15 - 11.35	Tea and coffee break
11.35 - 11.40	Sponsor's Flash Film - Solus
11.40 - 12.50	<p>Panel session - Community Cohesion: Engagement, Empathy, Disconnection</p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kelly Fowler, CEO, Belong Network, Jon Knight, Chief Executive, The Together Coalition David Barclay, Managing Partner at the Good Faith Partnership & Campaign Director, Warm Welcome <p>Chaired by Isobel Hunter, CEO, Libraries Connected</p>

12.50 – 13.00	Black British Ballet Project Showcase introduced by Kelly Saini Badwal, Head of Cultural Services, Sutton Libraries
13.00 – 14.10	Lunch break
14.10 – 14:30	ASCEL Youth Engagement Network: Building Resilient Networks for Brighter Futures - Lucy Banks, Programme Manager, ASCEL Chaired by Ed Jewell, Libraries Connected President & Chief Librarian, Jersey
14:30 – 15:10	Challenges in Local Government and Priorities for the Future Isobel Hunter in conversation with Cllr Liz Green, Chair of the LGA Culture, Tourism and Sport board
15.10 – 15.30	Closing remarks from Ed Jewell, Libraries Connected President

Added Extras

New Head of Service Drop in – Tues 10 June, 09:30 – 09.45 Kenilworth Suite

If you are new to the role of Head of Service and would like to meet colleagues in a similar position then drop in for a chat ahead of the start of the seminar.

Black British Ballet Exhibition and VR experience – 10 & 11 June, Kenilworth Foyer

A chance to see and learn more about the physical and virtual exhibition from the National Lottery Heritage Funded, Into the Light: Pioneers of Black British Ballet which is touring libraries across the UK until November 2025 thanks to a partnership between Oxygen Arts and Libraries Connected. The exhibition brings together archive photography, film, newspaper articles and posters alongside new video and audio interviews to trace the history of Black British ballet from the 1940s to the present day.

A moment for me! 10 June, Hamlet meeting room

Grab a 15 minute slot with Sheela Hobden for a 'sound check'! Sheela is an Executive Coach who roots her work with individuals and teams, in BEING WELL. She is facilitating the MOT4U workshop in the breakout sessions. She supports people to find their own answers, so come expecting to get curious with her. During your breaks, you can opt for a 1-1. Spaces limited, [book now via this link](#) to avoid disappointment!

Morning Run 11 June, 07:30, meeting in the hotel reception

Join colleagues for a morning run, distance is negotiable, but we normally pootle around at a gentle pace for a couple of miles.

Workshop sessions

The following breakout sessions will be taking place on Tuesday 10 June at 11.05 and repeated at 15.20.

Black British Ballet and Libraries

Led by Kelly Saini Badwal, Head of Cultural Services, London Borough of Sutton, Viktoria Nourpeissova, Culture & Library Development Officer, Vision Redbridge Culture & Leisure, Marsha Lowe and Sandie Lowe, Directors, Oxygen Arts CIC.

Join Redbridge Libraries and Oxygen Arts to hear more about the Heritage Lottery funded, Into the Light exhibition on the history of Black British Ballet. The project is a unique partnership between Oxygen Arts and Libraries Connected and this is your chance to hear more about this funding model, the wider project, working with Heritage Lottery Fund and what we've learnt from the 18 library services that have taken part so far.

Climate Risk and Resilience: Helping your library and your community prepare for what's to come

Led by Catherine Ross, Head of Sustainability, British Library and Laura Frost, Associate Director in Climate Change and Sustainability, Arup

This interactive workshop will help you identify the broad range of risks your library service faces from a changing climate, across your buildings, collections, staff, finance, community, and more. You will then begin to think about the actions which will help you build resilience.

MOT4U - A new way to TRAVEL through tough times

Led by Sheela Hobden, Coach, Bluegreen Coaching

Come along to learn about the MOT4U model and its versatility in use for individuals, leaders and coaches as a multi-layered strategy tool. Experience a brief guided design of your individual vehicle for well-being. Reflect, discuss and evaluate which parts need attention and consider how you or your organisation could use it.

Libraries as Community Storytellers

Led by Jen Lees, Wolverhampton Libraries, and Jo McQuade & Sarah Cosgrove, Doncaster Libraries

Libraries play a vital role in preserving and sharing local stories. This workshop explores practical strategies for collecting diverse narratives, fostering community pride and developing impactful projects.

Emergency Planning & Recovery

Led by Martin Roberts, Stockport Libraries, and Denise Jones, Liverpool Libraries

Libraries are facing a growing challenge from behaviour from residents. This workshop will review a case study of riot at Spellow Library in August 2024, discuss challenges and identify best practice in resolving, including when libraries are unstaffed.

Liaising with GPs - Building effective and meaningful partnerships

Led by Sarah Mears, Programmes Director, Libraries Connected, Gemma Jolly, Head of Health & Wellbeing, The Reading Agency & Zoinul Abidin Head of Universal Services, London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

With a national focus on prevention, and moving care into communities, this workshop will explore practical strategies for making meaningful links with GPs to build your Health and Wellbeing Offer. It will include case studies from library services who have formulated innovative GP partnerships; hints and tips on building GP partnerships from The Reading Agency and time to develop a partnership proposal for GPs that you can take back to your own services.

Speaker biographies



Lucy Banks is Programme Manager for ASCEL, where she leads their Youth Engagement Network. This network, built co-creatively with children, young people and libraries, aims to centre young voices at the heart of national policy - and decision-making.

Previously, Lucy supported reading development among children, young people and adults at Libraries Unlimited (Devon and Torbay). She's an advocate for inclusive, youth-centred practice and co-creation, with fun and inspiration placed firmly at the heart of everything she develops and

delivers.



David Barclay is Managing Partner at the Good Faith Partnership. He also leads on projects related to social inclusion and integration, including the award-winning Warm Welcome Campaign which he established in response to the energy crisis in 2022. He has previously served as Adviser on Migrant Inclusion for the Mayor of Bristol Marvin Rees, and sits on the Board of the Refugee, Asylum and Migration Policy (RAMP) Project. David was an Acumen Fellow in 2021-22 and is part of the 2024-25 A Million Realities Leadership Programme.



Frank Cottrell-Boyce is a multi award-winning children's book author and screenwriter. *Millions*, his debut children's novel, won the prestigious CILIP Carnegie Medal.

His other books include *Cosmic*, *Framed*, *The Astounding Broccoli Boy*, *Sputnik's Guide to Life on Earth*, *Runaway Robot*, *Noah's Gold* and *The Wonder Brothers*. He has enjoyed a long-time collaboration with award-winning illustrator Steven Lenton. His books have been shortlisted for a multitude of prizes, including the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize, the

Whitbread Children's Fiction Award, The Roald Dahl Funny Prize and the Blue Peter Book Award.

Frank is also a highly successful screenwriter. He has written for the hit TV series *Dr Who* and his script for Michael Morpurgo's *Kensuke's Kingdom* won a British Animation Award. Along with Danny Boyle, he devised the Opening Ceremony for the London 2012 Olympics. Frank has been the judge for the 500 Words competition and the BBC's One Show As You Write It competition.

Frank is a lifelong champion of children's books. In 2023 he launched a successful podcast with Nadia Shireen, *The Island of Brilliant!*, celebrating writing and illustration for children of all ages.

He lives in Merseyside with his family.



Marie Bray is Assistant Area Manager at Kirklees Library Service, and has almost 20 years of experience working in libraries. She started her career with Kirklees Libraries, as a frontline member of staff and is now part of the senior management team.

In her role as Assistant Area Manager, she is the service lead for IT, Safeguarding and Home Library Service. She has worked on a number of complex projects including public IT provision, procurement and contracts.



Kelly Fowler is the Chief Executive of the Belong Network, and she draws on over 25 years' experience in roles leading the development of cohesion policy and overseeing the research and delivery of programmes that challenge hate, counter extremism and promote dialogue. Kelly has worked nationally and internationally from grassroots to government level and her experience includes her role as Director of Programmes at the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation (formerly the Peace Foundation), co-chair of the European Commission's RAN network and Policy Advisor to the Mayor of Greater Manchester.



Liz Green has been a councillor for Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames since 2002. She has been Leader of the Council and Leader of the Opposition and held numerous portfolios and positions over the period. She is chair of the Culture, Tourism and Sport board at the LGA, working cross party to promote local government and share best practice. She is also a peer mentor and trains councillors and officers across the country in leadership.



Ian Harvey, was appointed Head of the Institute of Place Management at Manchester Metropolitan University in October 2024. He is also the co-founder and Vice-President of the national charity Civic Voice, and the founder of social enterprise, Love Wavertree CIC. He serves as a judge for both the International Diana Award and the Visa Let's Celebrate Towns award. Ian is an active member of the prestigious Historic Places Panel for Historic England and was appointed a Place Fellow by the University of Birmingham in early 2025.



Isobel Hunter is the first Chief Executive of Libraries Connected. She established and grew the organisation from a small team of six to one that now has a dedicated programmes and regional team, with a high profile in national media and with government. She believes that libraries are central to people's lives and communities across the country and is committed to working with members to help develop and advocate for the public library sector.



Ed Jewell is President of Libraries Connected and Chief Librarian for Jersey Libraries. He has led Jersey's library service since 2014 and has worked in libraries across the Channel Islands for 25 years. In 2020, Ed was given the Jersey Bailiff's Award for services to the community during the pandemic. Ed is the first Libraries Connected President from outside England. As President, Ed advocates for libraries as essential public services within wider policy and funding frameworks, contributing to national goals including literacy, lifelong learning, community wellbeing and digital

transformation.

A passionate believer in intellectual freedom, Ed emphasises the importance of libraries as open, inclusive spaces that reflect and serve their whole communities.



Jon Knight is the Chief Executive of /together, a charity that works with some of the largest organisations across the country to help build kinder and more closely connected communities. Working with everyone from Meta to the Church of England, via the FA and PWC, /together run mass participation campaigns like the Big Help Out and Thank You Day. Jon has previously worked in leadership roles at the Royal National Lifeboat Institution and St John Ambulance, and as a Board Member for South Tyneside Homes.



Jane McKelvey is Citywide Services Manager for Manchester Libraries, responsible for 15 neighbourhood libraries and 6 community partnership libraries. Originally from an economic and urban policy background, Jane has been in this role for 9 years and currently has around 130 brilliant library staff working across the city. Jane is passionate about the role that libraries can play at the heart of Manchester's communities, and the social regeneration that we can achieve in our amazing spaces



Amanda Naylor OBE, CEO at Volunteering Matters, has 27 years' experience in the third sector, international development and statutory social care and criminal justice sector. Her work has focused on supporting and safeguarding child victims, disabled children, looked after children, young people subject to safeguarding procedures and young people in youth justice system. At Volunteering Matters she leads an organization that has over 150 projects across England, Scotland and Wales delivering impactful change in communities through place-based volunteering programmes.

Formerly Amanda was CEO at Manchester Youth Zone based in Harpurhey. A vibrant youth and community provision with world class facilities, working with over 1,000 children and young people aged 8 -25 years and families per week in North Manchester. Prior to this Amanda headed up the national DFE funded COVID-19 response Barnardo's service 'See, Hear Respond' coordinating across over 84 VCSE partner organisations to get immediate support to over 100,000 children who were identified as most in need, and prior to this held the UK child sexual abuse and exploitation portfolio at Barnardo's who delivered almost 100 CSA services.

Amanda is a Co-Chair at Vision for Volunteering. A collaborative initiative looking at developing a volunteering landscape that meets the needs of volunteers, organisations and communities.

She is also the Co-Chair at Respond (an organisation specialising in psychotherapy for children and adults with learning disabilities who have experienced trauma and abuse), has sat on the Centre for Expertise (CSA), NPCC child sexual exploitation by gangs, and National Contextual Safeguarding advisory boards and NOTA Advisory Board, and NWG policy forum. She also sits on the England National Advisory Board at Action for Children.



Simon Smith has worked in public libraries for 25 years, in Reading, Harrow and Slough, in a variety of different roles. He currently works for Reading Borough Council who are moving Reading Central Library to a Civic Centre location in 2026.



Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MLS, LEED AP, is the Co-Founder and Board President of the [Sustainable Libraries Initiative](#), a worldwide project to empower library leaders to advance environmentally sound, socially equitable, and economically feasible practices to intentionally address climate change and co-create thriving communities. Rebekkah is the principal author of the award-winning Sustainable Library Certification Program, the [Resolution for the Adoption of Sustainability as a Core Value of Librarianship](#), and the recently released [National Climate Action Strategy for Libraries and its companion implementation guide](#). Rebekkah is *Library Journal's* Sustainability columnist and has authored three books on the topic of sustainability: *Sustainable Thinking: Ensuring Your*

Library's Future in an Uncertain World; Resilience (ALA Library Future Series); and *Libraries & Sustainability: Programs and Practices for Community Impact*. Rebekkah's "day job" is leading the Mid-Hudson Library System, a cooperative public library system working with 66 member libraries in New York State.



Kathy Thake has a diverse background in social housing, contact centres, and, for the past five years, the world of libraries. Currently, she serves as an Area Manager for Essex Libraries, overseeing 20 libraries, including a city library, several mid-sized and small village libraries, and a prison library. With a passion for getting the best from people and enjoys coaching, Kathy is dedicated to her role and strives to make a positive impact. Outside of work, she enjoys spending time with her husband, two teenage children, and her gorgeous Red Fox Labrador, Honey.

Kathy is dyslexic and thrives on challenging herself. She is currently undertaking an apprenticeship in operations management, continuously pushing her boundaries and growing both personally and professionally.

Kathy is committed to making a difference in her community and is always looking for new ways to improve and innovate.



Jacqueline Widdowson has worked in the public libraries sector for 16 years and has experience of both London and North West library services. She was a senior executive of the CILIP Public and Mobile Libraries Group for 11 years, variously occupying vice-chair, chair and co-chair roles. As well as being a qualified and chartered librarian, Jacqueline holds a level 5 diploma in Leadership and Management and is a qualified data technician.

Sponsors

Many thanks to all the companies that have sponsored this year's seminar. Please take the time to visit their stands in The Grange.



Innovation in Automatic Identification: AdvaNova is a renowned supplier of innovative RFID, Self-Service, and Access Control to libraries in the UK and Ireland.

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Axiell provides software and services for Libraries, Archives and Museums. Our solutions help our community of customers to manage their collections, encourage reading, preserve cultural heritage, improve learning and increase engagement with the public.

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our customers to ensure we understand their changing needs and can adapt as a partner for now and the future.



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A ground-breaking digital content solution, BorrowBox instantly brings the world's best titles to libraries' digital shelves. We are the market leading provider of eContent to libraries across the Commonwealth, and the national library solution in Ireland and Wales. Our mission is to inspire people to live their best lives through the power of storytelling. Anywhere, everywhere; we never stop.



BookingsPlus is an online room booking platform used by Library Services and Councils to effectively hire out their community spaces. The two principal levers we pull are increasing bookings and income, whilst streamlining processes and reducing time and cost. BookingsPlus is trusted by the likes of Libraries Unlimited, Newcastle City Council, Kent County Council, Worcestershire County Council, Hillingdon Council and Bolton Council.

If income generation and digital transformation are key objectives for your Service, we would love to meet you.



Clarivate is a leading global information services provider. We connect people and organizations to intelligence they can trust to transform their perspective, their work and our world. Our subscription and technology-based solutions are coupled with deep domain expertise and cover the areas of Academia & Government, Life Sciences & Healthcare and Intellectual Property. Over 45,000 customers in 190+ countries trust our subscription and technology-based solutions.

For Public Libraries, the Polaris LMS is a fully web-based solution, and is designed to cut down the time staff spend on daily administrative tasks so they can spend more time out from behind the desk with customers; the Vega LX is a suite of discovery and engagement solutions that will enable your library to connect with your communities like never before.

For more information, please visit www.clarivate.com



D-Tech International Ltd is one of the UK's leading suppliers of innovative technology products and services for public space locations in the UK and overseas.

Having initially established a market-leading reputation in the library sector, D-Tech has since experienced an increase in cross-sector demand for its EM, RF, RFIQ and RFID technologies for tracking, managing, protecting and forecasting demand. Alongside the library market, D-Tech now operates in a wide variety of sectors, including every level of education from schools to universities, healthcare facilities, business premises, retail outlets, museums, galleries and other public spaces.

D-Tech will be showcasing its revolutionary range of SMART lockers, offering a secure, multifunctional storage solution for device lending / charging, media vending, or self-service capabilities.



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We have extensive experience in the public sector and support customers to provide IT and self-service solutions. We are continuously monitoring customer and market demands and working to deliver new and improved solutions, offering customers a wider range of library services and operational efficiencies.

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Lorensbergs works closely with libraries to improve access to services and resources. Our market-leading solution, Netloan PC booking provides a comprehensive session management system for greater control and accessibility to library PCs, together with self-service print payment and release. Netloan Wi-Fi print gives library users the opportunity to print from their smartphones, tablets and laptops in the library and from home.

The Netloan portfolio gives you the technology and data to manage resources with ease. With our integrated solutions, library policies and administration can be managed holistically. Administrative tasks are achieved with centralised web-based access, allowing library staff greater freedom to ensure their libraries operate smoothly and efficiently.

Netloan integration on self-service payment kiosks achieves a number of further benefits. It provides library users with the ability to make PC bookings and self-service print or PC payments at the same point as carrying out book-related transactions on Bibliotheca kiosks. This relieves pressure on staff and can even support longer opening hours. It also helps save on valuable floorspace in the library.

www.lorensbergs.co.uk



Lyngsoe Systems has been a world leader in the field of cutting-edge electronic logistics control for over 40 years and is leading within the radio frequencies identification (RFID) technology. We are devoted to helping libraries transform by supporting them to save time on material handling with smart library solutions. We are experts and trusted by libraries in providing automated material handling solutions, self-service equipment, and intelligent material management systems. Our solutions are standards compliant as well as practical, affordable, and innovative. We have our own network of engineers and solution experts. With a proven record of accomplishment with 20,000 installations in over 60 countries, the Lyngsoe Systems Library Solutions team demonstrate extensive experience in customer process, solution design, software development, integration, service, and maintenance. Our ambition is to always offer a market-leading range of products fulfilling our guiding star: "Working for Smarter Libraries".

To find out more, visit www.lyngsoesystems.com



Open Fifth has a vision to make technology easy for libraries. We focus on enabling library users through high-quality, open source software solutions. Our way of working is characterised by listening, finding solutions, reliable delivery and above all open communication. Our highly skilled team has a friendly and approachable style in delivering our quality implementation and support services.

We proudly work with customers across all UK library sectors, including public, academic, health, governmental, museum, law and special libraries. The reason so many customers continue to choose us is that we solve problems, we don't sell software. When libraries join us

as a customer, they are gaining the expertise of our developers, trainers, data migration experts, and experienced account managers to support them throughout the journey. As an ISO27001 accredited company, you can also rely on the quality and integrity of the support we're providing.

More information on Open Fifth: www.openfifth.co.uk



OverDrive is a mission-based company that stands with libraries. Named a Certified B Corp in 2017, OverDrive empowers libraries by expanding access for all through industry advocacy, partner collaboration and digital innovation. More than 22,000 public libraries worldwide rely on OverDrive for the industry's largest catalogue of ebooks, audiobooks, magazines and streaming entertainment. The Libby reading app for libraries is one of Popular Mechanics' Best Apps of the Decade. In 2021, OverDrive acquired Kanopy, the popular streaming video service with over 30,000 titles including documentaries, blockbuster films, TV series, kids content and more.



Peters are the contracted supplier for over one hundred public library authorities, providing both adult and children's books, as well as serving thousands of schools across the UK.

Our mission is to be the leading provider of books and related services for libraries in the UK, offering the widest choice and unbiased expert advice. We are dedicated to supporting libraries in engaging readers, promoting stock, and encouraging a love for books. At the heart of this is a focus on reader development, providing the right book, for the right reader, at the right time.



SOLUS is the leading provider of Library Apps for public libraries worldwide, with a growing presence in academic libraries. Building on our success, SOLUS has broadened its product suite to include Events (Calendar), Rooms, Resources and PC Bookings and Library Web Discovery as well as the brand new G-Staff App. Our products are supported in over 50 different languages including right-2-left languages such as Hebrew, Arabic & Urdu and this ensures equal access to your services for all members of your community. Headquartered in Glasgow, UK, with offices in Australia and the US, SOLUS is integrated with over 25 LMS Systems, several of whom resell our products as white labelled solutions and many eContent vendors.

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- **RESULTS** - From concept to completion, we deliver exceptional results that exceed expectations and leave a lasting impression...

<https://thedesignconcept.co.uk/inspiration/>

Libraries Connected Awards

The Libraries Connected Awards celebrate the achievements of people working in public libraries, acknowledging excellence and showcasing good practice. Linked to the Universal Library Offers and Promises, the awards are judged by those leading these areas of work nationally.

The awards are a reminder of the importance of libraries and the people who work in them, celebrating the variety of support they deliver on a daily basis, whatever circumstances they find themselves in. The awards offer the opportunity to uncover new library champions, encouraging the leaders of the future and giving them the recognition they deserve. In addition, the awards showcase the breadth of work library staff coordinate and deliver, impacting across all areas of their communities.

Awards are made in six categories:

- Culture and Creativity
- Health and Wellbeing
- Information and Digital
- Reading
- Children Promise
- Visual and Print Impaired People's Promise

This year the awards have been sponsored by OverDrive and will be presented to the winners after the seminar dinner which begins at 7pm on Tuesday 10 June.

Find out more on the [Libraries Connected website](#).



Congratulations

to the *Libraries Connected*
Awards winners & nominees

.....

And huge thanks to the exceptionally creative,
innovative and impactful work delivered by library
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The library reading app

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Venue

The seminar will take place in the [Chesford Grange Hotel](#), Kenilworth, near Warwick.

The majority of the seminar will take place in the Kenilworth Suite and workshops will take place in nearby meeting rooms. Those staying overnight will have rooms at the onsite hotel.

The venue has plenty of outdoors space to enjoy and a gym and pool which is available to guests.

If you are arriving by train, we recommend you travel to Warwick Station (3 miles away), Leamington Spa (5 miles away), or Coventry (7 miles away) and get a taxi from there to Chesford Grange. There is a small station in Kenilworth (1.8 miles away), but it isn't on a mainline and doesn't have a taxi rank, although if you don't mind a short walk (0.3 miles at either end), there is a bus service (X17 and 11 Electric) from Clarendon Road, Kenilworth to Chesford Crossroads.

If you are travelling by car, the official postcode that gets you closest to the hotel is CV8 2LD and free parking is available. For full travel details visit [Hotel Directions | Chesford Grange Hotel Kenilworth Warwick](#).



About Libraries Connected

Libraries are at the heart of communities, reflecting and responding to local needs.

They get more visits each year than any other cultural service, with a reach that extends right across income brackets, ages and ethnicities. They play an important role in promoting well-being and community cohesion by producing a range of cultural activities with their local communities and providing many with access to vital online services.

Maintaining and building on the power of public libraries is the heart of our mission. Our Universal Library Offers are key to this and cover the key areas of service which our stakeholders see as essential to a 21st century library service: Culture and Creativity, Information and Digital, Health and Wellbeing, and Reading. Underpinning these offers are our Visual and Print Impaired People's Promise and our Children's Promise which aim to ensure that these offers remain accessible to all.

Libraries Connected is a charity and membership organisation, representing public library services in England, Wales, Northern Ireland, and the Crown Dependencies. We are also funded by Arts Council England as an Investment Principle Support Organisation for public libraries.

We:

- Represent the public library sector to communicate the value of libraries.
- Connect partners to local libraries by brokering national relationships with a wide range of organisations and individuals.
- Improve library services by developing and sharing best practice, providing training for library staff and facilitating a network of library leaders in the UK.
- Drive innovation and new thinking on the role of libraries in a modern society.

For more information visit www.librariesconnected.org.uk



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