

## CreatorSpace Out of the Box: Hertfordshire

'Why did I have to wait until I am 83 to witness this?' Adult on VR

In Hertfordshire, CreatorSpaces are areas in the library to be creative. We have three spaces in Hertfordshire: Watford, Hemel Hempstead and St Albans. These spaces are equipped to enable members of the public to be creative with technology in a safe and supportive environment. Available are 3D printers, digital cutters, Macs loaded with creative software, digital sewing and embroidery machines and more.

We wanted to spread the fun, creativity and the access to new technologies to the rest of Hertfordshire, to allow communities around other libraries could also benefit. So we decided to take CreatorSpace Out of the Box!

With a small team of enthusiastic and knowledgeable staff, we organised fun events, taking some of the technology with us to showcase in other libraries. We held our first event in July 2018 and have since organised more than 20 more CreatorSpace Out of the Box events, enabling most libraries to promote and demonstrate new technologies.

The events can be drop-ins, to try various equipment such as VR headsets, coding robots, playing banana piano or creating stop motion videos. We also have developed a series of one-hour workshops to allow further exploration of coding. All events are family friendly, fun, very popular and support digital inclusion.

Feedback received includes:

- 'Great way of introducing children to how technology can support creativity' Parent
- 'I thought it was fun because you got to design your own music' Child on workshop
- 'It was very engaging and fun for children and adults alike' - Parent