galleryoldham

April – October 2017

Free admission

Image: Festival Oldham May 2017

Welcome to Gallery Oldham

Our extensive programme includes exhibitions, events, courses and talks, as well as popular family activities and school workshops.

If you are visiting us by tram the nearest Metrolink stop at Oldham Central is just two minutes walk from the gallery. Please see the map on the back page or visit: www.metrolink.co.uk for details.

In the Galleries

Gallery Oldham has three main exhibition spaces on the second floor. Oldham Stories is a permanent gallery space devoted to displaying our collections, while the Community Gallery features work by local artists and groups.

Around the building

Several major pieces from our collection are on permanent display. These include John Collier's monumental painting of The Death of Cleopatra, Peter Philips' important Pop Art work Gravy for the Navy and a vintage Bradbury motorbike.

The Oldham Panorama is a unique large-scale photograph of the town in 1876. Explore the drawers beneath the picture to uncover objects from our collections.

On the first floor landings you'll find objects from our Social History and Natural History collections. You can also see our Art of the Potter exhibition featuring items from our important collection of Studio Pottery.

Pick up a Gallery Trail leaflet from the foyer highlighting objects of interest.

Gallery gardens

The gardens around the gallery encourage a wide variety of wildlife. We have planted nectar-rich flowers to encourage insects and have installed bird feeders. Our nearby green roof supports an active bee hive which you can find on our balcony. Take time to have a look on your next visit.

Cover image: Pot from Edgelands series by Emilie Taylor (see p9 for exhibition)

Last chance to see

The Big Big Camera

Until 22 April

The extraordinary ‘Big Big Camera’ has long been in the collections of Gallery Oldham. Over the last two years artist and photographer Ian Beesley has been working to repurpose this industrial relic. This exhibition of new photographs charts his journey to reuse the camera and take it out on the road.

Join our mailing list

Contact us at galleryoldham@oldham.gov.uk if you would like to join our emailing list. We also have special email lists for Family Friendly, Ceramics and Adult Creative Courses.

Room hire

Our versatile education suite and galleries are available to hire for meetings and functions. Call 0161 770 2073 or email: galleryoldham@oldham.gov.uk for more details.

Special event in the foyer

The New Union Flag

Friday 14 July

An installation for one day only in the gallery foyer. This project by artist Gil Mualem-Doron reimagines the Union Jack and acknowledges the communities that have contributed to the UK’s cultural legacy. Recreated with fabric from all over the world the Union Jack is transformed into a celebratory new item.

Looking to the future

These are exciting times for Gallery Oldham as work gets underway on a new Heritage and Arts Centre for Oldham.

Oldham’s original Library, Museum and Art Gallery opened in 1883 and plans to transform this building into a new Heritage and Arts Centre have been made possible thanks to funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and local philanthropist Sir Norman Stoller.

Work begins this year to restore many of the original features of the building and to provide exciting modern facilities for the future. We will be providing regular updates on the gallery website to keep you informed with how the work is progressing.

Transformation Party

Saturday 22 April, 11am–4pm

We are holding a special event to mark the latest phase of building work. This will include hard hat tours of the old building and a range of fun and creative activities inviting you to share memories of the old building and your hopes for the future. Check our website for details of how to book a tour.

Image: Statue of ‘Lady Wrigley’ above the original library

Oldham Stories: Encounters with our Collections

A Permanent Gallery

Our permanent exhibition is packed full of fascinating stories and objects from our collections of Natural History, Art and Social History. If you think you know everything about Oldham then think again! In March 2017 we gave this exhibition a major refresh to introduce a new selection of paintings and objects.

From a recreation of an Edwardian chemist's shop to some splendid specimens of taxidermy, every object has a fascinating tale to tell. The display looks at local figures such as suffragette Annie Kenney, the composer William Walton and the pioneering natural history collector James Nield. The new selection also includes a number of paintings by popular artist Helen Bradley.

Oldham Stories features lots of family activities. Inspired by our posters and banners, you can even make a badge as a souvenir of your visit.

Image: Great Grey Shrike from the Natural History Collections

MESH 3D Printed Sculpture

Until 3 June

MESH is the UK's first national exhibition of three dimensional, printed Fine Art sculpture. It features six of the leading British artists who work with pioneering techniques in 3D print.

The exhibition includes acclaimed existing works and newly commissioned sculptures using the latest 3D print technology, including full colour and multi material 3D print processes. MESH showcases work by artists Keith Brown, Annie Cattrell, Bruce Gernand, James Hutchinson, Jon Isherwood and Sumit Sarkar.

Image: Shiva Nataraja by Sumit Sarkar

Trendspotting: 80 Years of gifts from the Contemporary Art Society

29 April – 1 July

Gallery Oldham has been a member of the Contemporary Art Society (CAS) since the 1930s. CAS is a charity which makes regular donations of contemporary art to public museums in the UK. We have received gifts at regular intervals over the last 80 years.

This series of donations provides us with a fascinating snapshot of the changing tastes of those in the art world. Some of the gifts in the 1950s and 1960s were challenging for audiences at the time, but have now become part of established art history.

The exhibition leads us to wonder how our most recent acquisitions will be viewed in another 80 years' time.

Image: Untitled (detail) by John Hoyland

Edgelands: Emilie Taylor

10 June – 9 September

Gallery Oldham is thrilled to have commissioned this exhibition of brand new ceramic work by acclaimed artist Emilie Taylor. Emilie has a long-standing interest in representing the lives of people who exist in the gaps of society, which she describes as the Edgelands.

Emilie's latest body of work is inspired by the Greek myth of Persephone and Demeter, but in a contemporary setting. Demeter the goddess of fertility and harvest is grief stricken to find that her daughter Persephone has been taken to the Underworld. Persephone is doomed to spend half of the year in the Underworld and half on the earth. Demeter's grief means that nothing can grow on the earth during the time that Persephone is in the Underworld, meaning that the year is divided into winter and summer.

The exhibition launches in Oldham and will then tour to three other venues in England. All the work in the exhibition will be for sale.

Image: Raising Cain (detail) by Emilie Taylor

A Curious Turn: Moving Mechanical Sculpture

8 July – 2 September

This touring exhibition from the Crafts Council celebrates the extraordinary world of automata. The selection features work by leading makers of the last 40 years that range from the humorous to the macabre and from the playful to the satirical.

Automata are moving mechanical sculptures brought magically to life by sequences of cogs, cams, and levers. Visitors will be able to turn, push and crank to see many of the pieces in action, while newly commissioned films will show other pieces in motion.

Works on show take a look at key automata makers such as Rowland Emett, famous for creating the elaborate inventions of Caractacus Potts in the film Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (1968). A newly commissioned piece by John Grayson is a satirical look at the corruptibility of politics, taking inspiration from a 17th century political scandal and connecting it to current affairs.

Image: Eggs and Beans by Andy Hazell

habitat

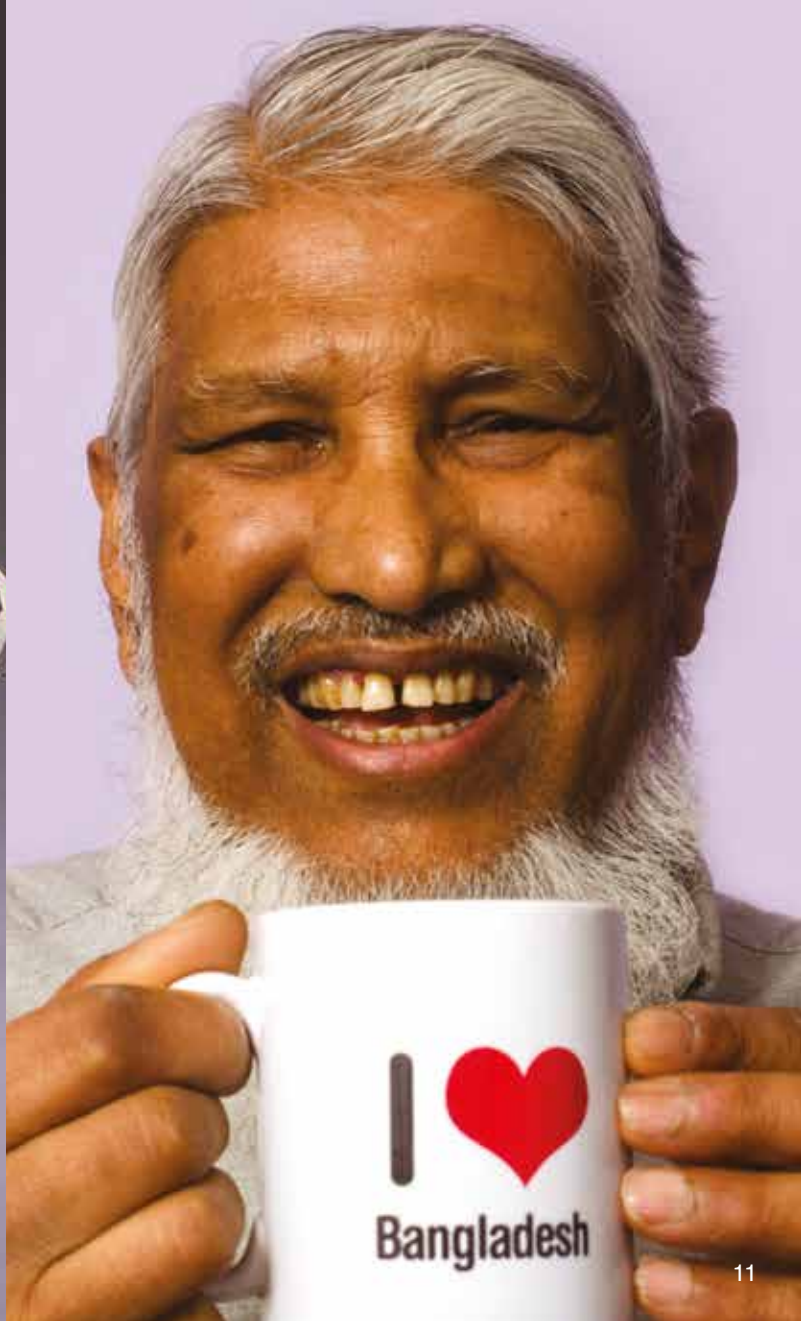
River of Tea: From Bengal to Britain Photographs by Tim Smith

16 September – January 2018

Indian tea enjoys a special place in British culture and the industry has played a key role in British-Indian history. Behind Britain's cup of choice is a fascinating story that is rarely told.

Over 90% of British-Bangladeshis are of Sylheti origin and this exhibition reveals the fascinating story of how the British love of tea led to Sylhetis first coming to Britain.

Tim Smith is a photographer, writer and digital artist based in Bradford. For over 35 years he has worked with a range of diaspora communities to explore issues of migration and identity. For this new exhibition he has worked with Bangladeshis in Oldham and other British towns to explore the story of tea.



The Oldham Open 2017

23 September – 18 November

The Oldham Open is back! This show is held every two years to showcase work by artists living or working in the borough of Oldham.

From drawing, painting and photography to ceramics, jewellery and sculpture, the exhibition features a wide range of artists with a huge array of styles.

Work is for sale, so it's the ideal opportunity to pick up some early Christmas presents for the art lovers in your life.

We are holding an informal drop-in session on Wednesday 23 August, 10am–12noon for guidance on submitting work.

There is a £5 non-refundable charge for each entry. Visit our website, call 0161 770 4653 or email galleryoldham@oldham.gov.uk for more details on how to enter.

Community Gallery

The Community Gallery features work by groups or individuals who live or work in Oldham, or whose subject matter relates to Oldham. If you have an exhibition proposal contact Joy Thorpe on 0161 770 4663 or email joy.thorpe@oldham.gov.uk

Object Project

1 April – 20 May
Inspired by a number of Gallery Oldham's collections, Level 3 Fine Art students from Oldham College have developed the Object Project. Marvel at their creative responses and discover the talents of local young artists.

Spinning the Thread

27 May – 8 July
In 1865 three students came from Japan to Oldham to learn about industrialised textile production. The following year engineers from Platt Brothers travelled from Oldham to Japan to help set up the first textile factory in that country. This exhibition showcases Crompton Primary School's project using local history to make links with another country.

A Victorian Society – 150 Years of Oldham Photographic Society

15 July – 9 September
Explore the history of one of the oldest photographic societies in the UK. See historic images, artefacts and stories of Oldham from the society's Victorian members, along with photographs by current members.

Gallery talks

Our monthly talks are free, informal and last around 40 minutes with time for discussion afterwards. There is no need to book.

If you are bringing a group of more than five please contact the gallery on 0161 770 4742 beforehand.

Wednesday 19 April, 2pm
Explore the newly refreshed Oldham Stories display.

Wednesday 17 May, 2pm
Join our Art Curator for a tour of the Trendspotting exhibition.

Wednesday 28 June, 2pm
Artist Emilie Taylor discusses her work in Edgelands.

Wednesday 19 July, 2pm
Find out more about automata in A Curious Turn.

Wednesday 23 August, 2pm
Discover the Natural History on display in Oldham Stories.

Wednesday 20 September, 2pm
Tim Smith talks about his River of Tea photography project.

Wednesday 18 October, 2pm
Take a guided stroll around the Oldham Open.

Identification Service

Our specialist curators provide a free identification and advice service but we are unable to give valuations. Please make an appointment in advance.

Art and Craft

0161 770 4632 rebecca.hill@oldham.gov.uk

Natural History

0161 770 4863 patricia.francis@oldham.gov.uk

Social and Local History

0161 770 4662 sean.baggaley@oldham.gov.uk

Adult Arts and Crafts

Textile Workshops

Tuesdays 6, 13 and 20 June, 6–8.30pm
Explore the possibilities of textiles using the Trendspotting: 80 Years of Gifts from the Contemporary Arts Society exhibition as your inspiration. Join artist Vincent James who will help you to design and make your own tabletop soft sculpture. Participants are welcome to bring their own fabric or sewing machine if preferred.
Cost: £30 for all three sessions including materials and light refreshments. Advance booking required.

Mono Printing

Saturday 9 September, 10.30am–4pm
Suitable for beginners or the more experienced and inspired by the Emilie Taylor exhibition.
Cost: £20 including all materials and light refreshments. Advance booking required.

Print Again

Saturday 23 September, 10.30am–4pm
A workshop session for those who have printed before. Take advantage of our printing facilities and materials and press to print from your own plates.
Cost: £20 including all materials and light refreshments. Advance booking required.

For course bookings call: **0161 770 4742**, book online at **eventbrite.co.uk** or email: galleryoldham@oldham.gov.uk for details.

Groups

Gallery Oldham provides a range of hands-on activities here and off site at a venue convenient to you. Arts, crafts and heritage workshops are available based on our collections for a range of community and voluntary groups for all ages and abilities.
For more details call 0161 770 4742 or email: glenys.walsh@oldham.gov.uk

Making Memories

Creative reminiscence for older people

Gallery Oldham is one of the first museum and galleries in the country to become Dementia Friendly. All of our staff are trained Dementia Friends and we welcome visits from older people and carers.

Gander and Gab

Pick up a copy of our gallery trail and discover a range of interesting and inspiring objects. The trail will give you pointers and suggestions to start conversations and recall memories.

Curator Talks and Handling Sessions

These informal group sessions give both carers and the cared for the chance to handle some of our wonderful collections. Light refreshments are provided and sessions last around an hour and a half.

Reminiscence Boxes

Our fantastic Past Times Reminiscence Boxes are available for groups or individuals to hire. Items have been selected to stir memories for those who may find it difficult to recall the past. Themes include A Right Royal Do, Beside the Seaside and Down the Pub!

We also offer a bespoke reminiscence service for organisations. Our experienced team can consult with your older people, staff and relatives to find a common theme of interest. We will then source suitable objects and devise creative, stimulating activities relating to the objects and the theme.

To find out more about all our services for older people email joy.thorpe@oldham.gov.uk or call Joy Thorpe on 0161 770 4663.

Early Years

There's always something for little ones to enjoy at Gallery Oldham with our award-nominated early years programme.

First Theatre – New for 2017

Join us for some fantastic first theatre experiences for parents and little ones.

Midnight and Anna

Saturday 15 April, 10am and 11.30am
A new show with storytelling, music, puppetry and sensory play to engage both parents and children. At night, when the stars are out, Midnight the cat explores the town. Tiptoeing along the rooftops, he uncovers the dreams of all the people as they lie sleeping. Show lasts 30 minutes plus playtime. **£5 per adult and little one (£3.50 per additional child).**

BambinO:

An Opera for Babies - Shows in early July
BambinO is a pioneering piece of music theatre aimed at an audience that doesn't often get a look in at the opera – babies. Commissioned and produced by Manchester International Festival, Scottish Opera and Improbable, and presented as part of MIF17.
Visit www.mif.co.uk for dates. **£5 per adult and little one.**

GO Explorers

Have fun and explore the world through creative and messy play in our weekly sensory sessions for children aged 2-4 and their families. Everyone is welcome, so come along and have-a-go!
Fridays (term-time only) 10.30–11.30am
£3.50 per child per session – advance booking is essential. Book online at Eventbrite or call: 0161 770 4741 for details.

GO Baby

Let your baby take the lead and explore the gallery through their eyes. Our popular GO Baby programme for 0–2 year olds uses sounds, textures and sensory play to bring our spaces to life.
Every Thursday (term-time only) 10.30am–12.30pm
Free – just drop in, no need to book.

Children and Families

Gallery Oldham is full of fun activities and events for families and children of all ages.

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all family sessions. If you are bringing a group of 10 or more please book in advance on 0161 770 4742.

Holiday fun at Gallery Oldham

Free family activities take place in and around all school holidays. Sessions are linked to our exhibitions so please take a look around the galleries before you come along.

Half-term: Mon 29 and Tue 30 May and Wed 1 June
Summer: Mon 24 and Tue 25 July
Mon 31 July and Tue 1 August
Mon 7 and Tue 8 August
Mon 14 and Tue 15 August

Free – no need to book, just drop-in from 1–4pm.

Super Saturdays

Be inspired by our exhibitions! We've artist-led craft activities, painting, drawing and creative fun for all the family on the first Saturday of the month.

Sat 1 April, Sat 6 May, Sat 3 June, Sat 1 July, Sat 5 August, Sat 2 September and Sat 7 October

Free – no need to book, just drop in from 1–3pm
Activities are most suitable for children aged 4–10 years.

The Small Cinema

Every month The Small Cinema hosts a classic family film here at the Gallery Oldham. Film-related arts and crafts take place before each movie from 12noon–2pm. Tickets cost £3.50 and include a goodie bag for kids. Advance booking is recommended – book online or see gallery staff for tickets. Visit **www.thesmallcinema.com** for bookings and full future film listings.

Sat 20 May, 2pm: Kubo and the Two Strings (PG)
BAFTA award-winning animation set in Japan.

Sat 17 June, 2pm: My Life as a Courgette (PG)
A daring Oscar-nominated stop-motion animation.

Sat 15 July, 2pm: Bee Movie (U)
Part of our Bee Day event for Oldham Flower Festival.

Sat 19 August, 2pm: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (U)
Classic caper linking to our A Curious Turn exhibition.

Special Events

Transformation Party

Saturday 22 April, 11am–4pm
We're having a party to mark the start of building work on our new Heritage and Arts Centre. Take part in a range of fun and creative activities and tell us what you'd like to see in the new building.
Free drop in activities. Check our website to book onto a tour.

Museums at Night

Thursday 18 May, 5–8pm
Join us for a special late night of fun for all the family. Explore our exhibitions and discover a range of illuminating creative activities.
Free – no need to book, just drop-in.

Festival Oldham

Saturday 27 May, 11am–4pm
Get ready for a feast of art and entertainment at this year's Festival Oldham. This year we're marking the 20th anniversary of the town hosting its own outdoor street theatre festival with live performances, music, food and family arts workshops.
Free – call 0161 770 3070 for more details.

Bee Day

Saturday 15 July, 11am–4pm
Buzz down to the gallery for an afternoon of shows, talks and workshops celebrating the wonderful world of bees. Watch our own bees on the rooftop garden and taste some of their delicious honey.
Part of Oldham Flower Festival.
Free – no need to book, just drop-in.

Activities for Young People

Make, Do and Hack: Explore Arts Award

Wednesdays 19, 26 April and 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 May, 1.30–3pm

Cultivate your creativity with these special sessions for home educated young people. As part of these workshops you will complete your Explore Arts Award. This is the first opportunity for young people to gain an Entry Level 3 qualification in the arts. For more information please visit www.galleryoldham.org.uk

Cost: £25 per person for all sessions including materials and Arts Award moderation.

Non-refundable. Book online at www.eventbrite.co.uk or email evad.ould-okojie@oldham.gov.uk for details.

Fusion Summer Sessions

Thursdays 10, 17, 24 and 31 August, 1–3pm

Take part in our creative taster sessions for 11-16 year olds and find out what you can do at Gallery Oldham. Visit www.galleryoldham.co.uk for more details.

Cost: £2 per person, refundable booking fee. Book online at www.eventbrite.co.uk

For more details:

If you work with young people aged 11 to 18 and want to find out more about projects, workshops and sessions please get in touch.

We can work with group leaders and youth workers to develop and deliver stimulating and engaging arts, culture and heritage activities. Sessions can be delivered here at the gallery or off-site at a venue convenient to you.

For more details or an informal chat please contact evad.ould-okojie@oldham.gov.uk

Oldham Cultural Forum

The forum is a meeting place for creative people to gain advice and network with other professionals working in the creative industries.

Information sessions take place at the gallery on:
Monday 12 June, 6–8pm
Monday 11 September, 6–8pm

Oldham Council Arts Development also offers support to artists and community groups on an informal basis throughout the year. To book a place call 0161 770 3070 or email rachel.wood@oldham.gov.uk

Schools

We deliver a comprehensive educational programme for learners of all ages. Central to the gallery's work is an innovative and engaging cross-curricular programme that covers our art, craft, social history and natural history collections.

School visits to Gallery Oldham

We've a fabulous range of Art, Craft, Social and Natural History collections available on your doorstep. Why not book one of our artist-led sessions or bring your class on a free self-guided visit?

Artist-led sessions

Led by experienced artist educators these sessions are suitable for Reception through to KS3. Workshops include time in the galleries and a practical session in our spacious education suite. All materials and pre and post visit resources are included. Lunch spaces can be reserved.

Sessions are charged at £100 for a two-hour artist-led session for classes up to 35 pupils.
Booking is essential.

Self-guided visits

We also welcome free self-guided visits to the Gallery and can arrange resources to support your visit. Booking is essential.

Looking to the future

As we prepare for our move to the new Heritage and Arts Centre we want to talk to enthusiastic and dedicated primary and secondary teachers to help shape our future Learning Programme. If you are interested in being involved contact our Education Development Officer on the number below.

Find out more

Visit our website at www.galleryoldham.org.uk/learning and fill out an enquiry form. Or contact Kirsty Mairs, Education Development Officer on 0161 770 4643 or email: kirsty.mairs@oldham.gov.uk

Oldham Local Studies and Archives

Discover the fascinating history of the Oldham area and its people. Our collections include items that complement Gallery Oldham's work including artists' letters and local photographs.

Local History

Oldham Historical Research Group meets on the third Wednesday of each month, 7pm for anyone interested in local history. Upcoming talks include:

19 April: Mannocks, Prockters and Holdens – Oldham Cotton Spinners

26 July: Wheels in Oldham and Beyond – Oldham Buses

16 August: Passchendaele – The Third Battle of Ypres in 1917

18 October: The Women's Peace Crusade: 1917–1918

Family History

Expert family advice is available every Monday and Wednesday, 2–4pm. Regular talks take place on Fridays, 10.30am with sessions covering Census records, parish registers, wills, maps and more.

Displays and Special Events

Oldham Central Library: Dr Yates Folly
From 1 April

The development of the old library in Oldham, using photographs and other documents in a display that highlights its impact on the town's cultural life.

Oldham and the Battle of Passchendaele
From 31 July

A display reflecting Oldhamers experience of one of the major campaigns of the First World War.

Oldham Histories Festival and Heritage Open Days
4–23 September

From talks to walks there's plenty to discover at Oldham's annual festival of heritage. Look out for the free event brochure published in July.

Oldham Local Studies and Archives
84 Union Street, Oldham, OL1 1DN
0161 770 4654 archives@oldham.gov.uk

Opening Hours

Monday and Thursday	10am–7pm
Tuesday	10am–2pm
Wednesday and Friday	10am–5pm
Saturday	10am–4pm

Naked Bean at Gallery Oldham

Our café is the perfect place to meet friends or colleagues for a bite to eat or enjoy a fresh coffee.

Naked Bean offers breakfast, snacks and main meals alongside tempting homemade muffins. The seasonal menu makes full use of fresh produce from the patio garden. The cafe also teams up with local suppliers.

Opening Hours

Monday to Saturday: 8am–4pm

Please note that access from 8–10am is through the side entrance, off Southgate Street. Look out for great meal deals and take advantage of our loyalty card scheme. Stuart and the team look forward to welcoming you to Naked Bean at Gallery Oldham.

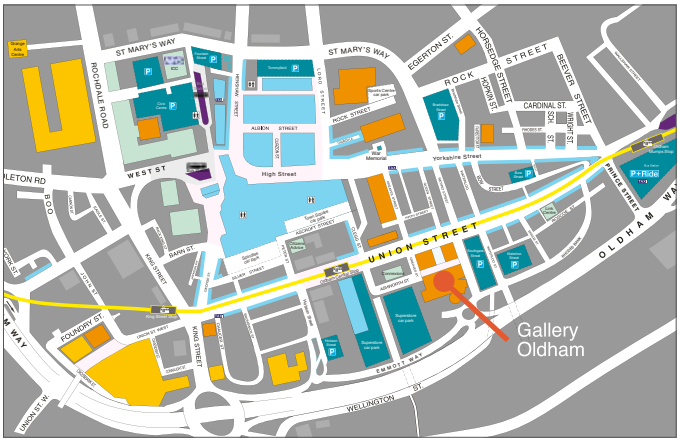
Gallery shop

Looking for a special gift or a treat for yourself? Visit our shop in the foyer for a range of crafts, cards, children's toys and Oldham souvenirs to suit all pockets.

We also stock a selection of textiles, ceramics and handcrafted jewellery created by local artists and craftspeople. The shop also sells current and past exhibition catalogues and books covering the gallery's collections. We welcome approaches from local artists and craftspeople interested in selling small items in our shop. Please call: 0161 770 2073 to discuss our terms and conditions.

Where are we?

Gallery Oldham, Cultural Quarter, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL. Gallery Oldham is part of the Library and Lifelong Learning building.



How do I get in touch?

T: 0161 770 4653
E: galleryoldham@oldham.gov.uk
www.galleryoldham.org.uk

Instagram

Opening times

Monday to Saturday: 10am–5pm
(last admission 4.45pm)
Closed on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

Transport

Gallery Oldham is situated on Greaves Street in Oldham town centre, next to Sainsbury's. Metrolink trams run from Manchester to Rochdale, through Oldham town centre. The nearest tram stop to the Gallery is Oldham Central on Union Street. Please check www.tfgm.com for travel updates or contact the gallery for advice.

The main bus station is a 10 minute walk away and there are regular buses from Greenfield Railway Station. The nearest car park is Southgate Street.

Gallery access

There are two disabled car parking spaces on Greaves Street, next to the gallery, and several spaces on the Southgate Street car park. Please contact the gallery for more details.

The building has large lifts, accessible toilets and baby changing facilities. There is a baby feeding room in the library.

For a large print copy of this brochure please contact:
T: 0161 770 4742
E: galleryoldham@oldham.gov.uk

GREATER MANCHESTER MUSEUMS GROUP

QUALITY ASSURED VISITOR ATTRACTION

Get Creative

Oldham Council