

familylife

summer 2014

Summer activities
for toddlers to teens
in Oldham

**Enjoy Oldham
flower festival**

**Explore Oldham with
great summer events**

Little Mermaid @
Oldham Coliseum theatre

Oldham Remembers:
WW1 commemoration



Welcome to Family Life

Summer is finally here and this year we're helping to make sure it's one the whole family will enjoy.

Family Life is Oldham Council's magazine for families. It keeps you up to date with news and advice that may affect you and your family.

Summer is a great time to get out and about but you might be wondering how to keep the kids busy over the school holidays. The good news is that there's loads going on in Oldham to keep everyone entertained including lots of free local events and discounted sports club sessions. Plus we've got tips on how to keep the kids busy at home if the weather is not so good.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition of Family Life, however we are always looking to make it better so if you have any ideas or comments please get in touch with us marketing@oldham.gov.uk

Have a great summer and keep an eye out for the next issue, which will be delivered to schools and council buildings in October.

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Go!Oldham

www.gooldham.com
@GoOldham

This summer there are loads of activities for young people to get involved with, so there is no need to be stuck for something to do. Go! Oldham website is your essential guide for fun stuff to do across the borough at www.gooldham.com

Oldham Community Leisure, Gallery Oldham and Positive Steps are just a few of the organisations coming together to provide all sorts of activities to keep young people busy during the summer holidays.

Follow us @gooldham or www.facebook.com/gooldham



There's so much stuff happening in Oldham over the summer. Here are a few highlights.

Summer Reading Challenge

Explore Oldham

Oldham remembers

Oldham remembers

Enjoy the great outdoors

Mahdlo Oldham

OLC Active

Oldham Blooms for Flower Festival



On Saturday 19 July Oldham Town Centre will be awash with colour for the annual Flower Festival.

Come along and enjoy the flowers, acts and entertainment. You can also get some gardening advice from our Environmental Services team and find out about Bloom and Grow, Oldham's entry to North West in Bloom and how you can get involved.

Our team will be demonstrating flower arrangements and you will have the chance to win these arrangements at the end of each demonstration.

Local businesses are also getting in on the act by giving away more than 2,000 free flowers to customers. Come along and enjoy the festivities.

There will also be lots of child friendly entertainment including:

The Strolling Gardeners



Bob the Butterfly and Jerry the Gerbera



Watch out... Bob and Jerry have escaped the greenhouse and are ready to explore their new surroundings.

These colourful, playful characters mix and mingle as they flutter and flit on stilts.

Ollie and Millie

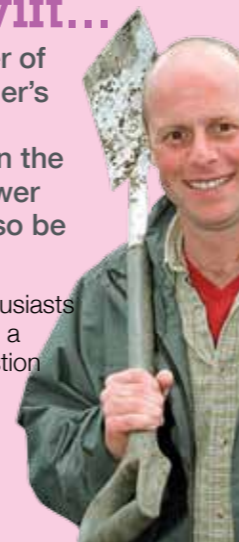
Meet the town centre owl mascots with their new summer 'flowery' outfits!

There will be fun planting activities to give kids the chance to get their hands dirty and take their seedlings home to watch them grow.

Joe Swift...

the presenter of BBC Gardener's World, and co-anchor on the Chelsea Flower Show will also be giving talks.

Gardening enthusiasts can take part in a gardeners question time with Joe and Oldham Parks Team at the end of each talk.



Twin brothers Bob and Tom both love gardening... but how did one brother grow so tall? Find out with these fun characters.

The Bee Cart



Bombus and Borage have left the Hive with their Bee Cart. Join them for an exciting interactive mobile world of all things bee.



Kids come out to play

From 19 July there will be a range of play opportunities for younger children on the High Street in Oldham Town Centre.

The large fixed-timber unit will offer climbing frames, swings, a slide with platforms and a walkway.

A smaller low-level platform will have a climbing slope and sliding ramp. There will also be a 'spring rocker' animal.

Kids will have a great time climbing, swinging and sliding to their hearts content so make sure you check it out - and maybe grab a coffee.





Explore Oldham

GREAT EVENTS IN ALL AREAS
ACROSS THE BOROUGH...



Chadderton

22 July to 19 August (every Tuesday) 1-4pm

Active Families Session

The Radclyffe Athletics Centre, Chadderton, Oldham OL9 0LS

Available to all families who want to get fit or simply have fun. Come along to the activity days to try different sports such as tennis, badminton and rounders.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. £1 per child.

For more information call 0161 770 1636

25 July to 29 August (every Friday) 1-3pm

Family Events

Chadderton Hall Park, Chadderton Hall Road, OL9 0QB

Bring the family to Chadderton Hall Park every Friday to take part in exciting activities and outdoor crafts.

There are a selection of different events and activities taking place including arts, crafts and games.

The events are open to any age but children under eight years old must be supervised by an adult.

E: info@fullcirclenwcic.co.uk
www.fullcirclenwcic.co.uk

Failsworth and Hollinwood

Saturday 16 August 12-4pm
Moston Brook Fun Day

Moston Brook, Park Avenue, Failsworth M35 0DY



Visit the great Moston Brook Fun Day for lots of free family activities for everyone to enjoy. There will be a range of exciting events and activities including falconry displays, a climbing wall a bouncy castle, music, sports sessions, refreshments, nature workshops, face painting and much more.

The event is suitable for all the family.

For more information contact ann.bates@oldham.gov.uk
T: 07801 204 804



Oldham

23 July 1-4pm
The Wild Animal Centre

Werneth Children's Centre, 78 Windsor Road, Werneth, Oldham OL8 1RP

The Wild Animal Centre will be visiting Werneth Children's Centre on 23 July.

They will be bringing a variety of different exciting animals including rabbits, guinea pigs, chickens, chicks, ducks, ducklings, a snake, a lizard and even a skunk.

Crafts and other activities will also be included. The event is for children up to the age of five and costs 50p per child.

For more information contact annette.struttman@childrenssociety.org.uk or call 0161 770 5283

To find out the latest and greatest events in your area follow:

- Facebook/[loveoldham](https://www.facebook.com/loveoldham)
- Facebook/[loveroytonshawandcrompton](https://www.facebook.com/loveroytonshawandcrompton)
- Facebook/[lovewestoldham](https://www.facebook.com/lovewestoldham)
- Facebook/[loveeastoldham](https://www.facebook.com/loveeastoldham)
- Facebook/[lovesaddleworthandlees](https://www.facebook.com/lovesaddleworthandlees)
- Facebook/[lovefailsworthandhollinwood](https://www.facebook.com/lovefailsworthandhollinwood)
- Facebook/[lovechadderton](https://www.facebook.com/lovechadderton)

You can also follow us on Twitter @[oldhamcouncil](https://twitter.com/oldhamcouncil) for the latest news and events.



Royton

Sunday 3 August 12-3pm
So Way North

Royton Park, Bleasdale Street, Royton, OL2 6RL

Visit Royton Park for the So Way North outdoor event. From bouncy castles to live bands and donkey rides there is something for everyone.

The police and fire service will also be attending to give demonstrations about their services.

For more information contact E: lynda.winrow@oldham.gov.uk
T: 0161 770 8648

Shaw and Crompton

Wednesday 20 August 2-3pm
Drama in the library

Oldham Coliseum's drama workshop is visiting Shaw and Crompton Library to bring kids favourite books alive. Open to 5-11 year olds, no need to book.



Saddleworth and Lees

8-10 August
Yanks are back in Saddleworth



The 'Yanks' are back and are to set up camp in the grounds of Saddleworth School in Uppermill.

The event started 13 years ago to celebrate the local filming of the Hollywood movie 'Yanks', starring Richard Gere. Many locations in Uppermill and Dobcross were used in the film.

Historical re-enactors and vintage military vehicles will create an atmosphere of wartime Britain. You can see and enjoy the military vehicle encampment, militaria and vintage stalls, vintage fun fair, 1940's tea-room and café. Churchill and Monty will also be meeting the troops.

Musical entertainment will be on the field all weekend, provided by Homefront Entertainments.

British and American Classic cars will be visiting the village throughout the weekend - there will be a WW2 36.7 litre Griffon engine display - so bring your earplugs!

Adults £5.00, Children up to 16 years £3.00, Veterans **free** and card carrying members of re-enactor groups **free**.
www.ww2events.co.uk

Saturday 23 and 24 August 10am-5pm

Saddleworth Rushcart Festival

This traditional festival runs over two days and features plenty of Morris dancing and other festivities to enjoy. Watch around 25 Morris Dance teams from around the UK each performing a dance display around the villages of Saddleworth.

www.saddleworthmorrismen.co.uk



Make the most of summer with metrolink

If you're looking to get out and about this summer, you needn't look further than Metrolink - the quick and easy way to make the most of Oldham.

Trams now stop right in the town centre, with locations at Westwood, Oldham King Street, Oldham Central and Oldham Mumps - allowing you and your family to jump on aboard and enjoy the events at Oldham Gallery, Oldham Coliseum or Oldham Library.

With so much to see and do in the town centre and across the region, the Metrolink Travelcard is a great way for you and the kids to take an affordable day out and enjoy what's on offer this summer.

Day Travelcards start from only £5.00 for adults and only £2.00 for kids so you can make the most of the countless restaurants, markets, galleries, exhibitions and shops without the hassle of parking or traffic jams...

so go on - try the tram!

For more info and prices visit www.metrolink.co.uk/travelcards

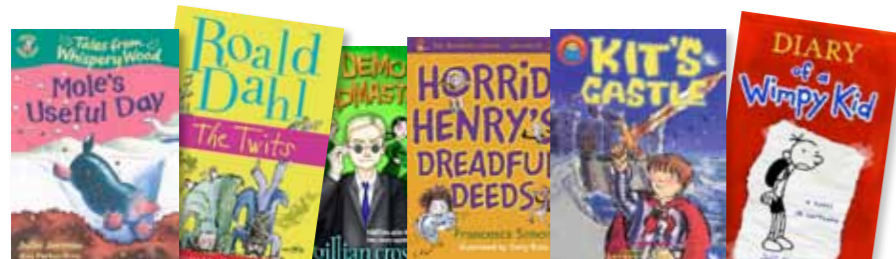
Free parking in Town Centre

You can park for free for up to three hours on all council owned town centre car parks every Saturday and Sunday.

Please remember to take a ticket from the pay and display machine for the length of time you are intending to stay.

Oldham Libraries

www.oldham.gov.uk/libraries



Don't forget...
it's Roald Dahl day on
14 September 2014

Summer Reading Challenge

www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

The Summer Reading Challenge takes place every year during the summer holidays.

You can sign up at your local library, then read six library books of your choice, collecting stickers and other rewards along the way and it's all free.

Suggested picks...

- **The Twits**
Roald Dahl
- **Mole's Useful Day**
Julia Jarman
- **Diary of a Wimpy Kid**
Jeff Kinne
- **Kit's Castle**
Chris Powling
- **Horrid Henry and the Haunted House**
Francesca Simon
- **The Demon Head Master and The Prime Minister's Brain**
Gillian Cross

You can find all these books at your local library. www.oldham.gov.uk/libraries

Bringing books to life

Oldham Coliseum's award winning Young Rep Company are back, taking a story book page and bringing it alive on stage. Free for 5-11 year olds. No need to book.

Oldham Library

Monday 18 August, 2-3pm

Fitton Hill Library

Tuesday 19 August, 2-3pm

Crompton Library

Wednesday 20 August, 2-3pm

Chadderton Library

Thursday 21 August, 2-3pm

Bedtime Stories

Come along in your pyjamas and settle down for bedtime stories. These sessions are an ideal way to develop a relaxing bedtime reading routine.

There's no need to book, just remember to bring along your teddy or favourite cuddly toy!

A light supper for the children will be served after this free event.

Crompton Library

14 July and 11 August, 6-6.45pm

Oldham Library

(with storyteller Rogan Mills)

21 July and 18 August, 6-7pm

Did you know?

All our libraries offer Power Hours after school where trained staff are available to offer homework help and support for primary school pupils. Children and young people can get help with their homework and have free access to printing, books and the online resources at all our libraries.



Not a library member yet?

It couldn't be easier to join. You can sign up for free at any age and can start borrowing books and using computers right away.

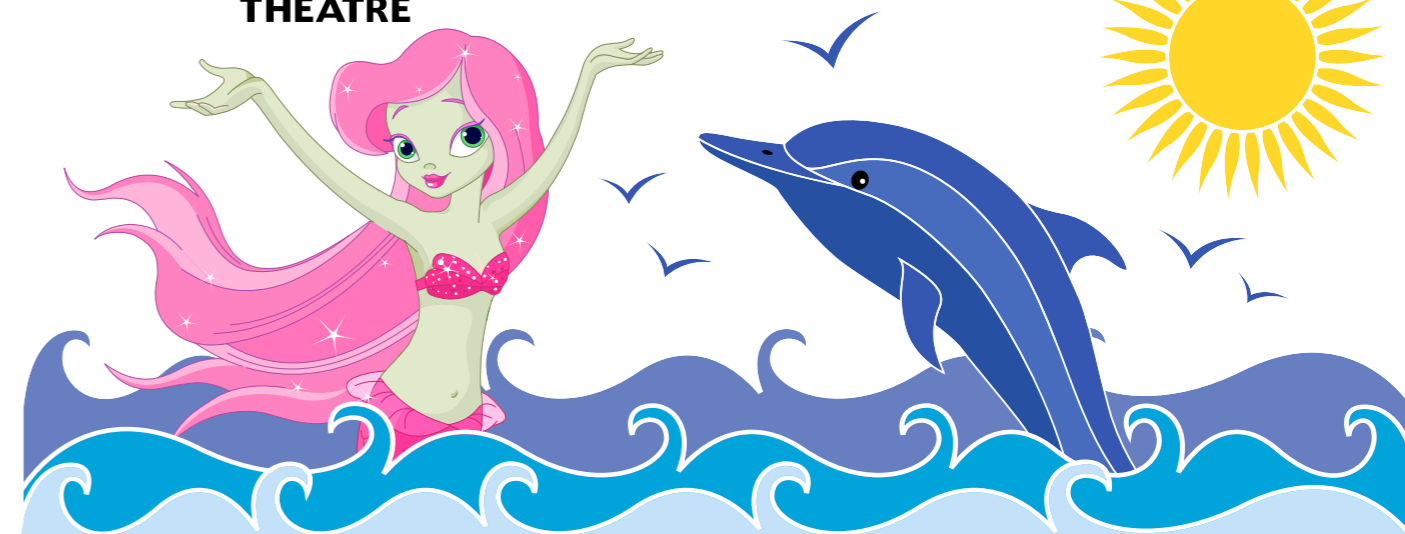
All you need to do is pop into your local branch, or visit the library website to download an application form.



OLDHAM Coliseum THEATRE

www.oldhamcoliseum.com

@Oldhamcoliseum



The Little Mermaid

23-26 July 2014 7.30pm

This summer Oldham Coliseum presents Hans Christian Andersen's The Little Mermaid along with two fantastic themed events.

Journey under the sea into the deep abyss to find true magic and adventure. After saving a prince from drowning, the little mermaid falls so deeply in love that she wishes to become human. Ready for love she makes a deal with the evil sea witch to turn her 'normal' in a desperate

act to be with her beloved prince.

The Little Mermaid is set 100 years ago at the beginning of the Great War. The play is a compelling, beautiful story of sacrifice for love.

Just like the underwater world the little mermaid inhabits, this is a tale of light and dark, and a story of hope and sacrifice that will engage the hearts and minds of young and old.

Adults £9 and concessions £6.

For more information and ticket sales
T: 0161 624 2829

Did you know?

Oldham's Coliseum Theatre has been a signature landmark in Oldham for 128 years making it one of the oldest theatres in Britain still operating today. The theatre is widely considered as the true home of traditional pantomime and has a new production each year attracting more than 35,000 people.

Swept Away

24-26 July 2014

Every 10 minutes between 4-5pm

Get swept away in a wave of curiosity and dive into the depths of the underwater world!

This is a theatrical experience for children under 7 years old, in partnership with Oldham Theatre Workshop's The Little Mermaid.

£2 per child, adult goes free. There should be one adult to maximum of 2 children (6 slots per day).

Please book T: 0161 770 3240

Sails and Tales Picnic

Friday 25 July 2014 5-7 pm

Drop into the Naked Bean Café at Gallery Oldham for the Sails and Tales Picnic. Each person will be given a bucket load of food and drink and creativity in spades.

You can learn the Sea Shanty, search the ocean floor for lost treasures and even design and make your own mermaid tail or sea king crown.

£5 for young people and £1 for adults.
Please book T: 0161 770 3240

Playmakers

28 July-1 August 10am-4pm

A week-long course for 8-11 year olds to improve performance skills and help build confidence.

This is a great chance for children to have fun, make new friends and work towards an Explore Art Award.

Price £45 for full week activity.

To book please contact:
led@coliseum.org.uk or
T: 0161 785 7007

Gallery Oldham

Gallery Oldham is open Monday to Saturday 10am-5pm
www.galleryoldham.org.uk
 @Gallery Oldham



You may already be familiar with the PlayStation and the Xbox, however this exhibition will open your eyes to the digital revolution of the 1980s.



Revolution in the Bedroom, War in the Playground is the first of its kind to explore the early years of video gaming which started with the influx of affordable computers.

The exhibition focuses on the early bedroom programming years, and early home gaming consoles like the Commodore 64, BBC Micro and the Amstrad. You will have the chance to see some of these vintage consoles, and you will even be able to play some classic games. **Don't miss it.**

Super Saturday

Saturday 2 August 12-4pm

Linked in with the above exhibition is a free session full of craft activities, painting, drawing and creative fun for all the family. No need to book.

Holiday fun at Gallery Oldham

Monday 21, 28 July, 4, 11 August 1-4pm
 Wednesday 23, 30 July, 6, 13 August 1-4pm

Fun family activities taking place during the school holidays.

All sessions are linked to exhibitions at the gallery so please take a look around before you come along.

Face painting and craft activities at each session. Most suitable for ages 4-10 years. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Free.



The Small Cinema

The Small Cinema shows a family film every month on a pop-up screen in Oldham's Library Performance Space. There are fun film-related arts activities to take part in before each movie begins (12-2pm) and you can win a copy of the film to take home.

Tickets cost £3 and include a goodie bag with a drink and popcorn for all the kids.

Tron: 19 July 2pm
 A ground-breaking sci-fi film from the early video games era.

Lego Movie: 16 August 2pm
 A smash hit fun and imaginative all-Lego adventure.

Fantastic Mr Fox: 13 September 2pm
 A funny feast for the eyes using stop-motion animation to add a stylish twist to the classic tale.

Tickets are available from the Gallery Oldham and Oldham Library welcome desk.

T: 0161 770 4742 for more info and to book in advance.

www.thesmallcinema.com



Oldham Remembers



This year it is 100 years since the outbreak of the First World War.

From 2014 to 2018 communities, nations and individuals of all ages will come together to mark, commemorate and remember the lives of those who lived, fought and died in the WW1.

To honour our brave troops and as part of our commitment to commemorate WW1 there will be a website and campaign to bring people from across Oldham and beyond, together in remembrance.

How can you get involved?

The First World War was a turning point in world history and we encourage everyone to get involved in its

commemoration. From planning events to researching stories from the past, you can play a part as we work together to show that Oldham Remembers.

We need your help to make this project a success. If you're arranging any events, know about any other war themed events in your area or just want to get involved please contact us with your name, group (if applicable) and event details to:

E: oldhamremembers@oldham.gov.uk
 T: 0161 770 3297

Oldham District Town Hall, Level 2 Civic Centre, Oldham OL1 1UT

Did you know?

The very first school dinners were introduced in in the early 1900's.

School meals were very important during the war as they stopped children missing school to queue for food. On the menu in 1914:

- Bean soup and bread, followed by treacle pudding
- Mutton stew and suet pudding
- Fish and potato pie, followed by baked raisin pudding

Things have changed a bit since then. Take a look at page 18 to see what school meals are like 100 years later.

Want to know more?

There are lots of great resources available if you want to find out more about the First World War.

Oldham Remembers - For information about WW1 events, stories and resources in Oldham visit www.oldhamremembers.org.uk you can also sign up for our online newsletter.

BBC - The schools section on the BBC website has lots of great information for about WW1 and what it was like to be a child at that time. www.bbc.co.uk/schools

GM1914 - An online blog looking at the First World War in Greater Manchester with links to more than 3000 pictures. <http://gm1914.wordpress.com>



Lights out



Monday 4 August

Invitation for all households over the country to turn off their lights between 10-11pm.

www.oldhamremembers.org.uk

Your Oldham summer planner 2014

**Saturday 19 July –
Sunday 20 July**
Gary's Feathered Friends
11am–4pm



Gary's Feathered friends are back by popular demand.

Come along and meet the owls and birds of prey. This is a free event but for a small charge you can even have your photograph taken with the birds.

Daisy Nook Garden Centre, Stannybrook Road, Failsworth, Manchester M35 9WJ

T: 0161 681 4245

**Monday 21 July –
Friday 25 July**
Adventure Quest
10am–4pm

A week's worth of adventures to inspire confidence and self reliance for kids in years 6 and 7. Activities include camp craft, navigation, forest skills, hiking, canoeing, mountain biking, horse riding, rock climbing, worm holing, nature art and conservation.

Normal price £250 with subsidised rates available. Please get in touch to find out more. Booking essential.

Adventure Based Learning
1 Tanners Mill, Waterside Business Park, Greenfield, Oldham OL3 7NH

T: 01457 871617

**Monday 21 July –
Friday 1 August**
Summer Music Camp
1–4pm



A series of fun music activities for young people aged 11–18 including jamming sessions, recording sessions and instrument tuition. Free.

130 Union Street, Oldham OL1 1DU
T: 0161 628 8101
www.square1studios.org/projects

Saturday 26 July
Mahdlo Roller Disco

Also on 23 August, and 20 September.

Mixed session, ages 13–21
6.30–10pm

Girls only session, ages 8–21
1.30–4.30pm

Come and get your skates on with Mahdlo's monthly Roller Disco. Whether you are new to skating or a pro, you'll have a great time. 50p for Mahdlo members, £1 for pay as you go.

www.mahdloyz.org

Sunday 27 July
**Pots and Pans -
National Trust Event**
9.30am



Discover the beautiful countryside and rugged scenery with a walk along the plateau of Saddleworth Moor to the War Memorial above Uppermill.

Booking not needed. Please wear sturdy footwear and bring warm clothing, as well as food and drink.

Meet at Marsden railway station at 9.30am.

This is a 15 mile walk lasting approximately 7.5 hours, with some steep climbs and rough terrain along the way.

T: 01484 847016

Tuesday 29 July
Boredom buster
1–3pm



Saddleworth Museum provides themed creative activities for 4 to 11 year olds during the summer holidays. The crafts involve painting, sticking, cutting, stitching and much more. £3 admission per child. Please note that children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult. Booking in advance is essential for these events.

Tickets can only be purchased from the Museum Shop.

Saddleworth Museum, High Street, Uppermill OL3 6HS
www.saddleworthmuseum.co.uk

Tuesday 29 July
Pop up cinema
2.30pm

Screening of children's film Little Rascals. All ages, £2.50 per person.

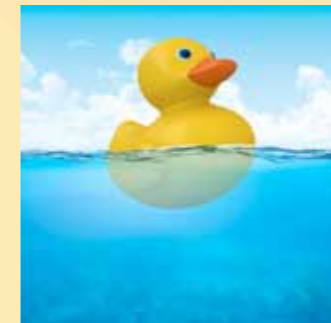
Greenacres Community Centre, Galland Street, Greenacres, Oldham OL4 3EU
www.greenacrescommunitycentre.co.uk

Thursday 31 July
Outdoor exploration
(Events also running on Thursday 7, 14, 21 August)
4.30–6.30pm

Open access outdoor activities including arts, crafts, fun and games. Everyone welcome. Children under 8 must be supervised by an appropriate adult.

Bare Trees Doorstep Green, Cedar Crescent, Chadderton
www.fullcirclenwcic.co.uk

Saturday 9 August
Dr Kershaw's Duck Race
12–3pm



Dr Kershaw's Hospice are running a sponsored event to raise money. Come along and sponsor a duck for only £1 each in this fantastic fundraising event being held in the beautiful Chadderton Hall Park. There are prizes to be won. Race starts from 2pm.

Chadderton Hall Park, Off Chaderton Hall Road, Burnley Lane, Chadderton, Oldham OL9 0QB

Sunday 10 August
Vintage Fair
11am–4pm



Saddleworth's Creative Network is hosting a summer gift and craft fair with stalls including retro and vintage inspired jewellery, clothing, gifts, crafts, furniture and food. Free, no booking needed.

www.creativenetwork-saddleworth.co.uk

Friday 15 August
Pop up cinema
2.30pm

A screening of the Disney classic Frozen. All ages, £2.50 per person. Under 8s must be accompanied by an adult.

Greenacres Community Centre, Galland Street, Greenacres, Oldham OL4 3EU
www.greenacrescommunitycentre.co.uk

Baby and toddler corner

Stories and Rhymes (0–4 years)

At various times and days across libraries – please see www.oldham.gov.uk/library for full listings.

Come and share rhymes and songs at these fun activities for the under fives.

Sessions include stories and music to develop language and communication and promote a love of books in babies and young children.

These free sessions are held weekly and there is no need to book – just come along and have fun!

Bounce and Rhyme (0–18 months)

At various times and days across libraries – please see: www.oldham.gov.uk/library for full listings.

Get together with other parents and carers of babies up to 18 months at these free weekly sessions and enjoy songs, stories and rhymes, sensory play and musical instruments.

Rockabye Roadshow (0–6 months)

Oldham Library
Wednesday 9 July
Two sessions 10–11am and 1.30–2.30pm

Two hour-long sessions of soothing music for young babies up to 6 months performed by three live musicians. Multisensory lights and aromas create the right mood to help you and you baby relax. Booking is essential.

Please contact
T: 0161 770 8013



Want your event listed?

If you have an event you want listing get in touch with marketing@oldham.gov.uk.

Enjoy the great outdoors

www.oldham.gov.uk/parks



Oldham has some of the most beautiful parks in the country. Local parks are a great way to have a cheap day out with the kids. With 28 parks to choose from across the borough there's plenty to visit over the summer holidays.

Why not let us know what your family's favourite park is on our Facebook or Twitter - don't forget to tag #LoveOldham.

Six great days out:

1. Have a picnic at Crompton Moor Park
2. Feed the ducks at Foxdenton Park
3. Bug spotting at Alexandra Park: download a bug sheet at www.oldham.gov.uk
4. Drawing or painting nature at Dunwood Park
5. Treasure hunt at Chadderton Hall Park
6. Play on the fitness trail at Bullcote Park

Go Xplore

Xplorer is the family friendly navigation challenge. It is educational, fun and gives children a sense of adventure as they explore Oldham's parks to find the markers.

Using a simple map, the aim is to find a number of markers. At each marker children need to identify what is pictured and enjoy learning a fun fact to tell their friends.

It involves a healthy mix of physical activity and decision making. Younger children will enjoy the excitement of successfully finding the markers and older children will have fun competing against their friends or other family members.

No experience of map reading is necessary and parents are encouraged to join in the fun. Have fun together - Go Xplore!

19 July 11am-3pm,
Dunwood Park, Shaw, Oldham

23 July 10am-12pm
Uppermill Park, Oldham

26 July 1-3pm
Alexandra Park, Oldham

2 August 2-4pm
Daisy Nook, Oldham

2 August, 10-12pm
Tandle Hill Country Park, Oldham

10 August 1-3pm
Chadderton Hall Park, Oldham

www.visitoldham.com
T: 07891091512



Get Oldham Growing

Summer is a great time to get little ones planting seeds outside in the garden.

Sunflowers are fun for kids because they are easy and quick to grow. They also brighten up any space with their large yellow petals.

You will need gloves, a garden fork, sunflower seeds and a flowerpot.

Step one: Choose a sunny spot in the garden or a sunny windowsill. Make sure there's plenty of room for your sunflowers to grow.

Step two: Cover your new seeds with lots of soil so hungry birds don't eat them. Try planting one inch deep.

Step three: Add organic fertilizer to soil before planting to make your sunflowers grow bigger and stronger.

Step four: Fingers crossed for lots of sunshine. Make sure you water them at least three times a week, and watch your sunflowers grow.

Look out for free sunflower seed packets from Bloom and Grow at events throughout the summer

For tips and advice on growing flowers fruit or vegetables visit: www.GetOldhamGrowing.com



MAHDLO.OLDHAM



www.mahdloyz.org [twitter.com/@Mahdloyz](https://twitter.com/Mahdloyz)
[Facebook.com/mahdlo](https://www.facebook.com/mahdlo) T: 0161 624 0111

Mahdlo is a state of the art Youth Zone in the heart of Oldham for 8-21 year olds.

The centre is open seven days a week, 52 weeks a year and from just 50p (£1 as a visitor), you can access a range of facilities including a climbing wall, a cinema space, a fitness suite and much more.

Next Roller Disco Dates:

Saturday 23 August
Saturday 20 September
Saturday 18 October

Every Wednesday
Future Zone
6.30-8.30pm

Visit Mahdlo's Future Zone to meet with the team and receive support, advice and guidance on looking for work or training.

You can discover a range of exciting opportunities for your future - apprenticeships, advice on college and university options.

Mahdlo events:

Saturday 26 July

Mahdlo Roller Disco

Mixed session
ages 13-21, 6.30-10pm
Girls only session
ages 8-21, 1.30-4.30pm

Mahdlo's monthly Roller Disco gives you the chance to learn and roller skate to some brilliant songs supplied by guest DJs.

50p for Mahdlo members
£1 for pay as you go members

All the events will take place at Mahdlo, Egerton St, Oldham OL1 3SE

For more information email info@mahdloyz.org
T: 0161 624 0111

Kidz corner answers: Beak, neck, forehead feathers, wing, breast feathers, forehead feathers.

safe 4 summer.com

We want everyone to have fun with families and friends this summer. However, during the long and sunny holidays there are times when what seems like a bit of harmless fun could carry serious consequences.

Below are some top tips to stay safe:

Stay out of the reservoir - Rivers and reservoirs may look tempting to cool off on a hot day but with steep sides and hidden currents, even strong swimmers can quickly get into serious trouble. See: www.unitedutilities.com/reservoir-safety

Keep your stuff safe - When out and about this summer, using public transport or attending events, don't leave your bags unattended and keep your purses, wallets, phones and mp3 players out of sight.

Stuck on you - Sticking with your mates this summer will not only be fun but it's safer than travelling or wandering around on your own.

Fire - Did you know that in the UK, 79,000 fires are started on grass and heathland every year? This is an average of 216 every day. Fire can spread faster than you think and can destroy a tent in less than 60 seconds. Always be safe and keep water near whenever you light a fire.

Extinguish - If you smoke, always extinguish your cigarette and any other smoking materials properly. Never throw your cigarettes out of your car window - it could ruin whole fields of crops or moorland areas.

Wear a helmet - Always make sure you are wearing a helmet when out on your bike. Cyclists should always have proper headgear, even when riding off-road.

Kidz Corner

Think you got what it takes to beat the kidz corner? Try your luck with this challenge:

Spot the difference
Can you name the animal and spot the difference?

The two pictures below may look the same but one is different to the other.

There are six differences in the left picture, can you look hard enough and find them?

Circle your answers with a pen or pencil.



OCL Active

www.oclactive.co.uk @OCLActive



Oldham Community Leisure work in partnership with Oldham Council and offer a range of courses for all ages and abilities.



Learning to swim

Swimming is one of the safest and most popular forms of exercise. It's a life skill and it's vital that children are given the opportunity to learn to swim.

By learning to swim at an early age, your child is more likely to enjoy swimming in the future. So why not take dip in one of Oldham's five pools?

Intensive Learn to Swim Courses

21–25 July

Royton Sports Centre 9.30–11am

28 July–1 August

Oldham Sports Centre 9.30–10.30am

4–8 August

Royton Sports Centre 9.30–11am

11–15 August

Failsworth Sports Centre

9.00–10.30am

18–22 August

Chadderton Wellbeing Centre

11am–12noon

26–29 August

Saddleworth Pool 1–3pm

Swim for £1

Throughout the holidays at selected times across all sites. Available for children and adults.

Children under 8 years old must be with an adult at all times. Check your local pool's timetable to find out when you can swim for £1 at

www.oclactive.co.uk/timetables

Shape up

Get in shape this summer and take the opportunity to visit one of Oldham's many leisure centres. The classes range from swimming to gymnastics and there are plenty more activities featured on the website.

Striker 9 Junior Football

Monday at Failsworth Sports Centre
(5 years +) 5–6pm

Friday at Oldham Sports Centre
(8 years +) 5–6pm

Friday at Oldham Sports Centre
(5–7 years) 5–6pm

For more information contact
rachel.hosker@ocll.co.uk
dave.fletcher@ocll.co.uk
T: 0161 621 3270.

Gymnastics at The Radclyffe Athletics Centre (5+ years)

Friday beginners gymnastics
5–6 pm/6–7pm

Saturday improvers gymnastics
9–10am

Saturday beginners gymnastics
10–11am and 11am–12noon

For more information contact
info@ocll.co.uk T:0161 207 7000

Trampoline

Tuesdays at Oldham Sports Centre
(5–11 years) 4–5pm

Tuesdays at Oldham Sports Centre
(8–17 years) 5–6pm and 6–7pm)

Games for the pool

A fun environment is always important, and sometimes the best way for children to learn and progress with their new skills. Try visiting the pool together as a family, this will build your child's confidence and help them develop further.

These fun games will build a strong foundation for your child and help develop new skills:

Underwater humming

In pairs or small groups, all duck under the water. One person then hums their favourite song and the others guess what it is. Try offering a prize for the winner.

Fishy in the middle

A different version of the famous game piggy in the middle made for three players. The fishy in the middle has to try and catch a soft or inflatable ball as the others throw it overhead.

Taming Toddler Tantrums

Does your child have a meltdown before their swimming lesson every week?

Here are some tips to help your child enjoy their swimming.



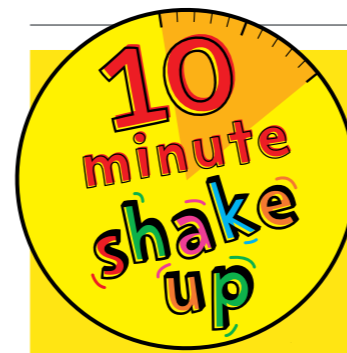
Take them swimming yourself:

Take some time out of your week to make your child more at ease with the water. They will be a lot more relaxed when it comes to swimming lessons.

Let it be their decision: Try not to force your child into the lesson. Instead, sit down with them to watch the lesson, they will often make their own decision to join in and enjoy it.

Build the whole swimming experience up into a treat: Have a treat lined up afterwards such as a hot chocolate or their favourite meal if they perform well.

If you want to try any of these hints and tips out, visit one of the many Oldham Community Leisure centres. You can book classes and attend a range of different sessions.



from **change 4 life**

with **Disney**

www.change4life.com

@change4life

It can be all too easy to let the kids spend a bit too much time on the sofa over the summer, and while it's great to relax after a long school year it's also important that they stay active during the holidays.

Kids aged five to 16 need to do at least 60 minutes of physical activity to set their heart beating faster than usual, every day. This burns off calories and prevents them storing up excess fat in the body. Activity is not just important for kids – it's also recommended that adults should make sure they're active for 150 minutes a week.

Change4Life with Disney is set to launch their 10 Minute Shake Up campaign with the aim of getting kids across the country to move for an extra 100 million minutes this summer. The campaign aims to help the 4 out of 5 children who currently do not achieve the recommended 60 minutes of exercise per day and the 40% who do less than 30 minutes per day, by helping to break it down into 10 minute bursts of fun.



Free packs include a stopwatch for timing 10 minutes of activity, a wall chart, reward stickers and 10 Minute Shake Up Disney character activity cards.

Those who sign up for 10 Minute Shake Up will receive a free pack containing inspiration, ideas and tools to help kids on their way to achieving their recommended 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous activity per day.

There will also be a load of great content online to keep kids inspired over the summer. Sign up now at www.change4life.com

Here's a taste of a couple Shake Up activities you could play at home with your kids:

Woody and Jessie's balloon rodeo

- Mark out a play area and ask the children to split into pairs.
- Grab a balloon and sit them down back to back at one end of the play area.
- Place a balloon in between the backs of each pair.
- On the word 'YEE-HAW!' ask them to shuffle across the floor towards the finish line, carefully keeping the balloon wedged between them and off the ground.
- If the balloon touches the ground or bursts, they have to start again.
- The fastest team to get to the finish line wins the rodeo!

Mickey's water race

- Get two containers.
- Fill one with water and then put them at opposite ends of the outdoor space.
- Using a small plastic cup, see how quickly the children can transfer all the water from one container to another.
- If they spill some water, ask them to do 20 star jumps on the spot as a forfeit.

Play outside this summer

All children should have the opportunity to play and explore outside.

Being outdoors gives children first-hand experience with weather, seasons and the natural world. Outdoor environments offer children the freedom to explore, use their senses and be physically active.

It can:

- Develop their imagination
- Improve their self-confidence
- Teach them about risk
- Help them to concentrate
- Help them to communicate with others

To get weekly updates on things to do in Oldham check: www.visitoldham.com www.facebook.com/loveoldham

On yer bike

Summer is a great time to go for a bike ride.

Learn to Ride

TFGM are delivering free learn to ride sessions in Chadderton Hall Park on the 24 August and 21 September 10–12noon and 1–3pm bookable here

www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/transport-for-greater-manchester-better-by-cycle-3612440303

Any future venues or dates will also be available to book via this link.

Led rides

Free led cycle sessions from Chadderton Hall park 10–12noon, 29 June, 13, 27 July, 10, 24, 31 August bookable here www.bikeright.co.uk/oldhamrides

Cycle maintenance sessions

Free sessions at Oldham Fire Station, Lees Road

26 July, 30 August, 27 September All courses and details are listed at <http://betterbycycle.eventbrite.co.uk>

Daycare in Oldham

Daycare centres are a great environment for children to take part in outdoor activities and make new friends.

Children at Spring Meadow's Daycare are really enjoying their new outdoor play area which includes a Bugs Life habitat where they have been looking for bugs and critters, a fun sandpit and an outdoor story time area. Beaver Daycare will also soon be getting an upgraded outdoor play area.

The centres offer indoor and outdoor sessions to suit your child's educational needs. They are delivered in a secure and safe environment by highly qualified staff who are also supported by a qualified teacher.

Oldham Council have three fantastic daycare centres:

- Beever Daycare and Spring Meadows Daycare
T: 0161 770 8809
- First Steps at Richmond Daycare
T: 0161 770 8435

For more information www.oldham.gov.uk/daycare



Looking for childcare this summer?

Are you worried about finding suitable childcare?

You can view Ofsted's reports for childcare providers in Oldham here: www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report

When looking for childcare you can ask the daycare manager to give you examples of how their practice meets the following:

- How do they keep children safe?
- How do they manage children's behaviour?
- What happens when a child is ill?
- How do they support individual children's needs, diet and toileting?
- How do they relay daily information?

The Family Information Service has details of over 200 registered childcare providers across the borough.

Go to www.oldham.gov.uk/fis or email familyinfo@oldham.gov.uk for advice and support.



Changes to education in Oldham

Oldham Council is launching an Education and Skills Commission to help raise standards in education across Oldham.

The Commission was launched in June and is chaired by former Education Secretary, Estelle Morris. The Commission will speak to a cross-section of the community including young people, parents, local people, headteachers, governors and representatives from the business and cultural sectors.

During the process Oldham Council and its partners will look at the progress that has been made with education and see how standards can be further improved.

To find out more about the Commission and to find out how you can get involved- visit the new website at

www.oldham.gov.uk/educationcommission

"I'm the happiest mum in the world"

The story of three year old Ethan and mum Joanne Johnson.

Joanne has come a long way since her first meeting with Oldham's Family Engagement Team back in 2011. She had just had her first child, Ethan, which was a life changing moment for her.

However she was also going through some difficult times, including managing her money and her health as well as feeling very isolated. She wanted to make a change for her and Ethan, but wasn't sure where to start.

A much needed confidence boost

Just after Ethan was born, Joanne started going to the baby weigh-in clinic followed by play and stay sessions at Spring Meadow's Children's Centre.

Through her visits to the children's centre she accessed a health trainer who gave her lots of advice and support. With the support and a bit of determination she lost a phenomenal amount of weight and feels much healthier. Through attending the regular play and stay sessions at the centre, she was given responsibilities to help boost her confidence. She started to feel less isolated, happier and more hopeful about the future.

"I got the kick up the bum that I needed to sort my life out"

Learning together

Joanne produced an amazing learning journal during her play and stay sessions with Ethan. Her desire to support her son's learning was inspirational. She took part in Early Years Foundation Stage training sessions and put into practice what she learnt from the training and did the same at home.

Through this Joanne was able to capture the first two years of Ethan's developmental progress in picture form, which she says will treasure forever.

Alongside Ethan's development, Joanne also started to pick up new skills herself, completing a number of courses through



Joanne and Ethan with (left) Lesley Hurst (Premier pre-school manager) and (right) Janet Taylor (Family Engagement Worker Spring Meadows Children's Centre)

the centre including Cook2Learn, First Aid, Maths and English. She also joined the Parents Forum where she promoted events to help raise the children's centre's profile.

Joanne is now a children's centre ambassador and directs families living in Greenacres to the centre. Through this work both Joanne and Ethan have made lots of friends in their local community, and have become great role models for other families.

A chance to shine

Once Ethan had turned two he was able to get a funded place on the Two Year Old Free Early Education and Childcare Scheme and started to attend Premier Pre School in Oldham. During this time Joanne took the chance to further her own education. She started studying with Oldham's Lifelong Learning Service as she wanted to pick up some new skills. She soon passed I.C.T Level 3, Entry Level 1 and 2 Maths as well as Level 3 English.

As Joanne's confidence started to grow she approached the team at Premier Pre-school and asked whether she would be able to become a parent volunteer. The answer was an outstanding yes, and Joanne soon

started to support the staff team with events and promotions. Over time she increased her volunteering hours. After five months Premier Pre School were so impressed with her commitment to her volunteering role they decided to take her on as an apprentice in November 2013. At present Joanne is in the middle of her Level 2 in Early Years and Childcare course at Oldham College, and is thriving.

"Thank you for the opportunity of a lifetime to become a childcare assistant"

Most importantly

Ethan is a happy bright child who has many friends and is developing well. Joanne is a bubbly, outgoing bright young woman who now has dreams to climb the childcare profession.

The loving relationship between Joanne and Ethan is clear to see by everyone who meets them.

"Thank you to everyone who supported me. I could not have done it without you"

To find out more about our childcare services go to www.oldham.gov.uk/find_childcare or email familyinfo@oldham.gov.uk

School meals top of class

Our school meals have been awarded a Gold Food for Life award, thanks to the high quality food being served across the borough. We are one of just three local authorities in the country to achieve the gold award and the first in the North West.

Every meal served in the 91 primary and special schools are freshly prepared daily on-site. The meals are healthy, ethically prepared using a range of organic, high animal welfare produce and free range ingredients.

What are the benefits of school meals?

- It's the healthiest option – a cooked meal is the easiest way for your child to get all their necessary nutrients. Only 1% of packed lunches meet the nutritional standards that currently apply to school food
- It helps concentration – a cooked meal helps your child to concentrate in the afternoons and can help improve their academic performance, as well as their overall health and wellbeing
- It's a great way to try new foods – menus are on a four-weekly cycle. Check a sample menu at www.oldham.gov.uk/schoolmealssample

Don't forget that from this September, all children in reception, year 1 and year 2 in state-funded schools in England will be eligible for free school meals.

By choosing a free school lunch it will help you save up to £400 per year per child. It also means that your school will receive funding from the government, which helps to fund valuable support like extra tuition, learning assistants or after school clubs

Your child will automatically be opted in to the free school meal. Please inform your school if you do not wish to receive this offer, to help them prepare for September.

For more about school meals and to check your entitlement for free school meals visit www.oldham.gov.uk/meals



Foster local, foster for Oldham

Oldham children need local foster families right now. If you have ever thought about becoming a foster carer, why not get in touch?

All types of people make great carers, so don't rule yourself out. You can apply to foster regardless of marital status, sexuality, race or religion, or whether you are in work or have a disability.

Carers need to be over 21, have a spare bedroom and enjoying caring for children.

We also welcome enquiries from people who are already experienced foster carers. Maybe you would like to foster on a long-term basis, or want regular short-term placements,

whatever the reason we would love to hear from you.

Becoming a foster carer is one of the most challenging and rewarding things you can do, and if you can care for them, we will look after you.

We provide a generous payment scheme, regular training and a tailored support package to help you meet the needs of the children in your care.

Becoming a foster carer is quicker and easier than you think, so what are you waiting for?

T: 0161 770 6600 or go to www.oldham.gov.uk/fostering to find out more.



Universal free school meals

In the Spring edition of Family Life we incorrectly stated that the universal free school

meal program would be for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. This was an error. The scheme will only be for reception, and years 1 and 2.

Do it online



Get council services online – it's quick, safe and flexible.

Our website www.oldham.gov.uk is the best place to find information and request council services easily.

You can order a new recycling bin, get help with benefits, pay council bills and renew a library book, 24 hours a day seven days a week.



We can help you get online

Free Wi-Fi or computers are available at all our local libraries.

We can also help support you or friends and family to get online through our courses at libraries and Lifelong Learning centres.

Contact your local library for information.

www.oldham.gov.uk/libraries
T: 0161 770 8000

Or find information on Lifelong Learning courses at

www.oldham.gov.uk/lifelong
T: 0161 770 5807

1. Report it...

Let us know about local issues quickly – flytipping, problems with streetlights or a pothole

2. Pay it...

Securely pay Council Tax, tickets and fines, benefit overpayments and business rates

3. Search for it...

Look for planning applications, a new e-book, your nearest childrens centres, home care provider and road works. Check your bin collection and school holiday dates

4. Join in...

Get involved with your local district or take part in a lifelong learning course

5. Discover...

Find out about local exhibitions and events and get updates through social media

Talk to us online

You can send a question to the council, get weather warnings and find out what's happening in Oldham.

Love Oldham

www.facebook.com/loveoldham

Oldham Council

www.twitter.com/oldhamcouncil

Oldham Alert

www.twitter.com/oldhamalert

We are also on

Instagram

www.instagram.com/oldhamcouncil

Tumblr

www.oldhamcouncil.tumblr.com

Youtube

www.youtube.com/loveoldham

Smart kids online

The internet and smart phones can be wonderful ways for children to learn, explore and connect with friends and family. With a few tips and tweaks you can make sure your kids are digitally safe and secure.

Conversation starter ideas:

1. Ask your children to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online

2. Ask them about how they stay safe online. What tips do they have for you? Should you post / chat about personal information such as email address, phone number or passwords?

3. Ask them if they know where to go for help, where to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block the services they use

4. Ask them about how reliable they think information is online? How would they go about checking the information – through other websites, books or checking with someone else?

5. Encourage them to help. Perhaps they can show you how to do something better online?

For more information on keeping kids safe online visit: www.childnet.com and check out www.safeinternet.org.uk for step by step guidance on how to secure all your technology.



Brandon and Dylan do their bit by recycling

We could save £5 million each year if we all recycled everything we could

What goes in what bin?

Find out at www.oldham.gov.uk/what_bin

#doyourbit

working for a co-operative borough

First

Great value travel for fun days out.

Use our great value tickets, convenient family travel and visit firstgroup.com/summerfun to discover unforgettable days out across the region.

Putting our customers' pockets First

FirstDay Group
£8.60
2 adults and up to 3 children

FirstWeek Child
£5⁺

*Promotional price from 20th July 2014 until 31st August 2014. After which it will revert to original price of FirstWeek Child £5.70.
FirstWeek Child tickets are for customers aged under 16. When purchasing this ticket you may be required to show an under 16 pass, such as an IGO card.
Application forms available from TIGM Travelshops or visit www.tigm.com. Terms & Conditions apply for these tickets, visit firstgroup.com/summerfun for details.

Are you looking after somebody else's child?

This could be private fostering

Private fostering happens when a child is looked after by someone other than a close relative for more than 28 days. This applies to any child up to the age of 16 or 18 if the young person has a disability.

You have a legal duty to let us know of any private fostering arrangement, so we can provide advice and guidance to support you and the child.

E: cat-duty@oldham.gov.uk
T: 0161 770 3790/ 3791

www.oldham.gov.uk/privatefostering



We would like to hear from you with any comments you may have about this edition of Family Life.

You can get in touch with us at marketing@oldham.gov.uk or write to **Oldham Council, Room 315, Civic Centre, Oldham OL1 1UT.**

All details correct at time of going to print.



Oldham
Council