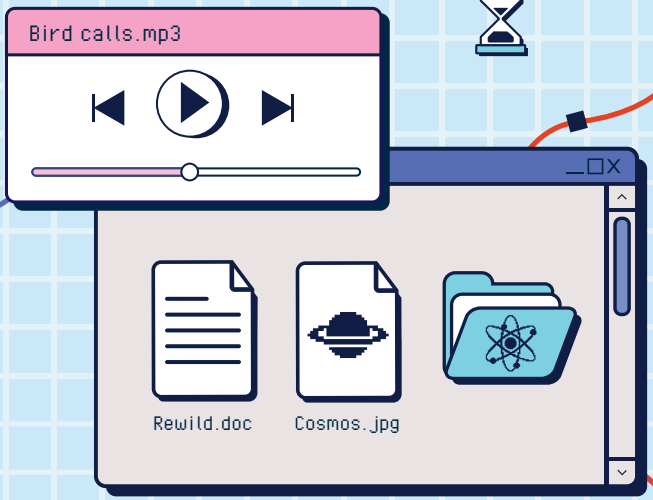
Norwich Science Festival

13–20 FEBRUARY 2027



Reconnect

norwichsciencefestival.co.uk

Norwich Science Festival is part of a family of Festivals produced by The Forum.

The Forum

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It's a team effort! Special thanks to all staff at The Forum for their support at Norwich Science Festival.

Principal Partner

University of East Anglia Norwich

The Forum is a registered charity. Charity No. 1074619.

Norwich Science Festival 2027

Saturday 13– Saturday 20 February

Produced by The Forum, a registered charity, and our Principal Partner, the University of East Anglia, Norwich Science Festival offers visitors of all ages the opportunity to explore, celebrate and enjoy science in all its forms. Since 2016, we've welcomed tens of thousands of visitors every year to science events and experiences across Norwich and Norfolk.

Headline Sponsor

RWE

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All information correct at time of printing. Please note that the events listed in this brochure may be subject to change.

New message

From: **Hannah Linsdell, Festival Producer**

Subject:

Welcome to NSF27!

Message:

I'm delighted to welcome you to Norwich Science Festival 2027, packed with talks, workshops, performances and experiences for curious minds of all ages. From space travel, bird song and dancing robots, to stargazing, gut-health and the science of cheese-making. As we celebrate our eleventh year, we're excited to see the city come together once again to explore the ideas, discoveries and local research making a global impact.

There are so many different ways to experience Norwich Science Festival. Over eight days, you might discover something completely new, rediscover a forgotten passion, get stuck into an activity with your family, or simply find yourself looking at the world a little differently.

Our 2027 theme, **Reconnect**, invites you to slow down, look closer, and rediscover the connections that shape our lives. Whether you're joining us for the first time or returning for another brilliant year, we invite you to reconnect with ideas, with each other, and with the world around us.

We can't wait to see you there!

Hannah

Hannah Linsdell



Credit: Beth Moseley

send

Meet our Patrons



Credit: Luke Witcomb

Mark Thompson

Mark Thompson is known for his enthusiasm for making science accessible, through numerous TV, radio, podcast and theatre appearances, and his books. He has lectured at the Royal Astronomical Society and The Royal Institution. Mark is now in training for an 84-mile non-stop walk to raise money for Dementia UK and Priscilla Bacon Lodge.

See Mark in
Spectacular Science
Fri 19 Feb (page 43)



Maddie Moate

Maddie Moate is a BAFTA-winning presenter and YouTuber, passionate about curiosity and inspiring children with the wonders of the world. Maddie's hugely popular YouTube channel, with over 300,000 subscribers, is full of fun, family-focused science videos that have taken her on curious adventures around the world. Maddie regularly appears on CBeebies and also hosts and performs her own theatre shows and live events.

See Maddie in
The Curiosity Games
Sun 14 Feb (page 23)



Jon Chase

Jon Chase is an award-winning science communicator, author and rapper, based in Cardiff. He's spent more than 15 years delivering science shows and events across the UK and Europe, as well as presenting on television and YouTube. Jon is best known for his science raps, which he has produced for organisations including NASA and the BBC.

See Jon on
The Atom Stage
Sat 13 Feb (page 11)



Credit: Yellow Belly

Jess French

Dr Jess French is a zoologist, vet, presenter and popular children's author. She has written more than 45 books, including The Book of Brilliant Bugs, Earth's Incredible Oceans and The Animal Body Book, amongst many others. Caring for animals and the natural world is at the heart of everything Jess does, inspiring audiences to fall in love with nature.

See Jess in
An Anthology of Micro Life
Sat 13 Feb (page 19)



Credit: Katey Pugh

Ben Garrod

Prof Ben Garrod is an evolutionary biologist at the University of East Anglia, where he is also Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor (Civic). He is an award-winning TV and radio broadcaster and has written over 20 books for young science enthusiasts. He has appeared alongside Sir David Attenborough in several of his documentaries, and works closely with numerous charities.

See Ben in
Why We Love Dogs
Mon 15 Feb (page 29)

Our theme for 2027 is... Reconnect

Whether we're going analogue or rewilding our gardens, we all seem to be seeking a reconnection with something. Which is why our theme for NSF27 is **Reconnect** - a call to explore what it means to be human in today's fast-paced, tech-driven, busy world. We'll investigate the connections that shape our lives - from our brains and bodies to the natural world, technology and the universe beyond.

How to book

All Norwich Science Festival events are listed online at **norwichsciencefestival.co.uk**

You may be directed to Ticketsolve, our box office platform, to book your tickets, or to our venue partners' websites to book (such as Norwich Theatre, Epic Studios and the National Centre for Writing). To make the most of your Festival experience we recommend booking early to secure your spot! Nearly all events – including free ones – have limited capacity and must be pre-booked.

Cancellations and Refunds

Norwich Science Festival tickets are non-refundable, except in the event of a cancellation.

If you can no longer attend a free event that you have booked for, please let us know by emailing **science@theforumnorwich.co.uk** This allows us to release your ticket to other visitors and helps as many people as possible access and enjoy the Festival.

Age Recommendations

We have highlighted events that are specifically for family and SEND audiences. The majority of our talks are designed for adults and children over the age of 12, unless otherwise stated. See individual event listings on our website for detailed age recommendations where relevant.



Credit: Beth Moseley

Donations

Norwich Science Festival is not-for-profit, and produced by The Forum, a registered charity. Please consider adding a donation when booking your ticket online – even a small amount can help us to recover our transaction fees and support the Festival's programme of free and low-cost events.

Enquiries

For booking enquiries visit **norwichsciencefestival.co.uk** or email **science@theforumnorwich.co.uk**

Book your tickets

norwichsciencefestival.co.uk

Access

We want to ensure your visit to the Festival is as enjoyable as possible. You can contact us to discuss your visit and access requirements by emailing **science@theforumnorwich.co.uk**

Venue Facilities

More information about Festival venues can be found on pages 58-61, or online at **norwichsciencefestival.co.uk/venues**

Essential Companions

Visitors who require an essential carer or companion to support them at events can book a free Essential Companion ticket, alongside one paid ticket. No proof of eligibility is required.

For events booked directly with Festival venue partners, the venue's usual policy applies.

SEND Friendly and Captioned Events

Look out for the below symbols across pages 10-49 for events that are designed for SEND audiences and live or auto captioned events.

SEND CAP



Credit: Beth Moseley

Quiet Hour

Every day of the Festival, we operate a Quiet Hour in The Explorium from 9.30am-10.30am. Tickets for the Quiet Hour must be pre-booked in advance, with some limited availability on the day. For more information, see pages 12-13.

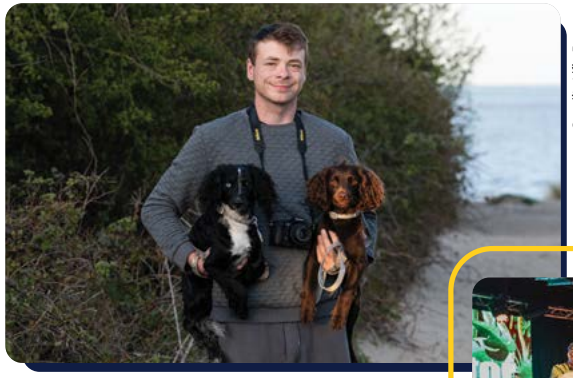
Sunflower Snug

We understand that Norwich Science Festival can be busy and overwhelming for some of our visitors. The Sunflower Snug is our accessible, quieter space during The Forum's Festivals. Open to visitors of all ages, the Snug is ideal for transitioning into activities, taking a calm break, or spending your visit in a more relaxed setting. See page 16 for details.

Sunflower Snug at The Forum

For more information about access at the Festival, visit **norwichsciencefestival.co.uk/access**

Not sure where to start?



Credit: Alfie Bowen



Credit: Beth Moseley

Norwich Science Festival takes place in 23 venues across the city – with over 300 events to get stuck into! From the serious to the silly, there's something in our jam-packed science line-up for everyone to enjoy. To help you navigate the programme, we've selected a few highlights at NSF27 you won't want to miss.

Half-term fun

Big shows? Kids workshops? Free experiences? We've got it all. TOAST Poetry bring us a science-themed poetry show (page 44), Dr Jess French opens her Teddy Bear Vet Clinic (page 38) and Sir Isaac Newton Sixth Form is transformed into The Lab - the home of our interactive science workshops (pages 14-15). Don't skip a visit to The Explorium, either!

Festival Highlight

Dino Duel
Tue 16 Feb (page 31)



Credit: Helen Sharman



Credit: Luke Witcomb

A night out at NSF

Gather your pals for a night out with a science spin! Simon Watt and Jonny Berliner deliver a TV-style quiz night but with extra silliness (page 21), artist Verity Burton hosts a botanical-inspired drawing workshop (page 25) and Helen Sharman, Britain's first astronaut, and Robin Ince consider the future of human spaceflight in a unique evening at Norwich Theatre Royal (page 21).

Festival Highlight

Rewild Your Microbiome with Rachel de Thample
Fri 19 Feb (page 45)

Get stuck into science

There's fun and games, yes, but plenty of opportunities to learn and be inspired too. Have your say on the ethics and opportunities of AI usage in healthcare settings (page 21), dive deep into issues of de-extinction with Dr Tori Herridge (page 20), or explore the impact of neurodiversity on money matters with financial coach Clare Seal (page 33). Look out for the brilliant series of free talks and workshops from the University of East Anglia too.

Festival Highlight

Animal Dissection Live
Sat 20 Feb (page 46)

What is the universe made of?

Festival Programme

Explore the Norwich Science Festival 2027 programme in the following pages.

Don't forget to book your tickets in advance – and look out for the following icons throughout the brochure.

- Festival Highlight
- Reconnect
- FAMILY Family event
- SEND SEND-friendly event
- CAP Live or Auto Captioned

Festival loading...

Norwich Science Festival

The Atom Stage FAMILY

13–20 February 2027

Don't miss:

Family shows • Science demos • Live experiments
Science raps • Animal puppetry • Food chemistry

JON CHASE

DR DUNCAN GASKIN

MAD SCIENCE
presented by Anglian Water

DR NIKHIL MISTRY

DR JOSH SMALLEY

THE ZOOKEEPERS
presented by Scarlet Oak Theatre

Shows daily at 10.15am, 12pm, 2pm and 3.45pm

Free | Drop in | Outside The Forum

Sponsored by

AVIVA breakwater IT

The Explorium

Sat 13–Sat 20 Feb
10.30am–4pm

FAMILY

No trip to Norwich Science Festival is complete without a visit to The Explorium! For eight days, we transform our impressive Atrium here at The Forum into a vibrant, busy and exciting place for visitors of all ages to enjoy free, hands-on science activities.

Explore the world-changing research that happens right here in Norwich with our partners, the University of East Anglia and Norwich Research Park.

There'll be new activities and changing exhibitors to discover each day, so be sure to come back throughout the week!

Free
Drop-in
The Forum

Sponsored by

love every drop
anglianwater





Festival Bookshop

We're proud to partner with The Book Hive, a local independent bookshop in Norwich, to deliver our popular Festival Bookshop. Open every day of the Festival, enjoy browsing a hand-picked selection of science books for kids and adults alike!

Book Hive







Make Space

Make, invent, and experiment! The new Make Space in The Explorium is a place to get creative with science and let your imagination take the lead.

Sponsored by

NORWICH UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS

Quiet Hour

Open from **9.30am until 10.30am** for pre-booked visitors only, this earlier opening offers a controlled, lower-capacity experience for those who may benefit from a calmer start to the day. Book your free tickets online in advance.

Free
Booking essential
The Forum

Photography by Beth Moseley

The Lab at Sir Isaac Newton



Credit: Luke Witcomb

FAMILY

Tue 16–Sat 20 Feb
9:30am, 11am, 12.30pm, 2pm and 3.30pm (45mins)

We're back at Sir Isaac Newton Sixth Form in 2027, transforming the space into The Lab – home to our hands-on workshops for kids aged 5-8. Choose from three fantastic interactive workshops, or for younger children aged 2-4, book onto our play-filled WonderTots sessions!

Tickets from £3
Booking essential
Sir Isaac Newton Sixth Form

Choose your workshop

Farm Detectives: The Potato Plot!

Farmer Patrick is struggling with his crop – and he needs your help! Using DNA samples and lab testing techniques, you'll investigate the root cause of this muddy mystery as part of an expert forensic team.

Supported by

CLAN TRUST
For the benefit of farmkind

THE MORLEY AGRICULTURAL FOUNDATION

Light up the City!

Spark City has been plunged into darkness, and we need your help to bring power back to people's homes! Make your own electric circuit with lights and motors, launch a flying saucer, and learn about renewable energy and electrical safety.

Sponsored by

westcotec

Making Rainbows

Travel through the tunnel of light and step into a world of colour! Explore the science behind a rainbow - from the conditions needed for one to form, to the colours we can see the refraction of light through prisms. You'll then create your own rainbow in this colourful and creative session.

WonderTots

Explore the wonder of science with your little scientists in these dedicated sessions for children aged 2-4. There'll be playful activities for adults and children to get stuck into together, and even a dressing up station for budding astronauts, engineers and vets!

Throughout the Festival



Credit: Yvette Monahan, and The Gaia Foundation with Belfast Exposed

The Clean Blue of Linen

Sat 13–Sat 20 Feb

10.30am–4pm

EXHIBITION Discover the work of photographer Yvette Monahan and poet Abby Oliveira in this beautiful display from We Feed The UK, exploring the revival of nature-friendly flax farming in County Tyrone, Northern Ireland. Find out how Helen Keys and Charlie Mallon's efforts on Mallon Farm are not only rejuvenating the soil, waterways and wildlife, but also regenerating a crucial textile heritage.

Free
Drop-in
The Forum

Sponsored by

cim



Credit: Beth Moseley

Sunflower Snug

Sat 13–Sat 20 Feb

9.30am–4pm

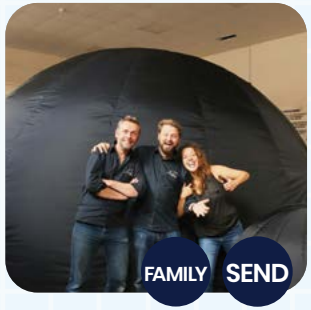
QUIET SPACE Pop into the Sunflower Snug, our accessible and quieter space during the Festival. Staffed by our friendly team, it's an ideal spot for transitioning between activities, taking a calm break, or spending your visit in a more relaxed setting.

Free
Drop-in
Lower Gallery, The Forum

Sunflower Snug
at The Forum

Supported by

ANGUISH'S EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



Explorer Dome

Sat 13–Wed 17 Feb

9.30am, 10.30am, 12pm, 1pm, 3pm and 4pm (1 hour)

SHOW Step into new worlds with Explorer Dome! This inflatable planetarium brings science to life with immersive projections and interactive shows. Discover galaxies, stars and stories from our solar system in The Wonder of Space or explore human biology and the fascinating worlds inside our bodies in Disgusting Digestion. Dedicated SEND shows every day.

Tickets £8
Booking essential
School Refectory, Norwich School



Visualising a Flood

Mon 15 Feb and Tue 16 Feb

10.30am–4pm

EXPERIENCE Explore Norwich University of the Arts' immersive visualisation system, where data from drones, satellites and advanced flood models bring water's journey to life on screen. Discover what happens after heavy rainfall, and how technology is helping scientists to better understand our environment.

Free
Drop-in
The Gallery, The Forum

NORWICH UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS



Tiny Planet

Mon 15 Feb,
1pm and 4pm
Tue 16 Feb,
11am and 2pm

SHOW Intergalactic space baker Alma crash-lands on an unusual planet and discovers that the smallest things can hold the biggest stories. Featuring breathtaking puppetry, live folk songs and big 90s synth, this unique theatre show is fun for the whole family.

Tickets £14
Booking essential
Norwich Theatre Stage Two

Programmed by

Norwich Theatre Stage Two



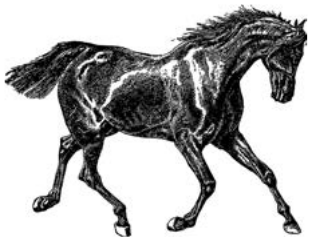
Credit: Keiron Tovell

Animal Top Trumps

10am–11am

SHOW It's time for another round of Animal Top Trumps! Festival Patrons and science frenemies Prof Ben Garrod and Dr Jess French will go head-to-head in this epic battle of the best in the animal kingdom. Who will win? You decide!

Tickets £10
Booking essential
The Blake Studio, Norwich School



UEA Live: Black Beauty and Found Fossils

10.30am–2.30pm

WORKSHOP Explore the work of Norfolk authors Anna Sewell and Anne Wright with UEA Live. Anna is known for her novel Black Beauty, whilst her aunt, Anne, wrote books for Victorian children on natural history and fossils! Drop-in to explore posters, texts and illustrations, and make your own thaumatrope!

Free
Drop-in
The Gallery, The Forum

University of East Anglia Norwich · UEA LIVE



Credit: Beth Moseley

Liquid Galaxies and Mini Infinites

11am–12pm and 1pm–2pm

WORKSHOP Art and chemistry combine in these hands-on creative workshops from Norwich Making Space. Explore the magic of marbling to create colourful, swirling patterns resembling planets and galaxies, or create miniature art installations and optical illusions inspired by Yayoi Kusama's Infinity Rooms!

Tickets £10
Booking essential
Octagon Room, St Peter Mancroft

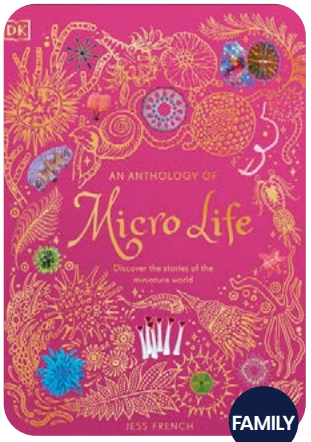


Milk to Mozzarella: The Science of Cheese-Making

11.30am–12.30pm

TALK We all know that cheese is made from milk – but how? And more intriguingly, what is the science behind the process? Dr Duncan Gaskin has the answers in this lively demonstration of cheese making.

Tickets £4
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



An Anthology of Micro Life with Jess French

12pm–1pm

TALK Everywhere you look, microscopic drama is unfolding. Predatory worms zoom across ponds while wind-propelled seeds whoosh through the skies! Join Dr Jess French as she holds up a lens to this unbelievable, minuscule world, revealing a hidden universe of survival, competition and ingenuity.

Tickets £6
Booking essential
The Blake Studio, Norwich School



Stay or Go? A Story of Bird Migration

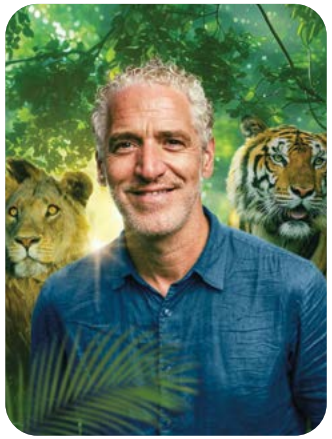
2pm–3pm

TALK Join Anna Thompson from the University of East Anglia on a journey across the skies as she explores the incredible feats of bird migration – from the challenges they encounter along the way to how our changing world is reshaping bird behaviour.

Free
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

University of East Anglia Norwich

Saturday 13 February



Lions and Tigers and Bears

2pm–4pm

SHOW Award-winning wildlife filmmaker and photographer Gordon Buchanan brings his spectacular live show to Norwich, sharing incredible stories from a lifetime with some of the world's most extraordinary animals – from grizzlies and tigers to pandas and jaguars.

Tickets £34
Booking essential
Norwich Theatre Royal

Programmed by

Norwich Theatre Royal



Where's My Mammoth? With Dr Tori Herridge

3pm–4pm

TALK De-extinction proponents have promised to bring back the mammoth for decades - but the due date keeps on slipping. Is it all a pipe dream, or a legitimate tool in the fight against biodiversity and climate crises? Palaeontologist and presenter Dr Tori Herridge will sort fact from fiction and ask: even if we could bring back the mammoth, should we?

Tickets £14
Booking essential
The Blake Studio, Norwich School



Credit: Yellow Belly

STEMM Careers: Working With Animals

4pm–5pm

TALK Do you dream of one day working with animals? Join Festival Patron, zoologist and author Dr Jess French for amazing insights into the diverse roles available in veterinary practice – and beyond! Jess will share stories of the reality of working as a vet, and the various paths you can take to get there.

Free
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

Sponsored by

NORWICH HIGH SCHOOL For Girls aged 3-18

GDST



Credit: Luke Witcomb

The Doctor's Assistant

4pm–5.15pm

TALK When an AI health scan makes a mistake, who is to blame? Step into the fast-approaching future of data-driven healthcare in this interactive scenario game chaired by Simon Watt. You and an expert panel will explore the opportunities and ethical dilemmas of artificial intelligence in medicine. Bring your smartphone to vote!

Tickets £6
Booking essential
The Gallery, The Forum



Credit: Helen Sharman

Helen Sharman: Space for the Future

7.30pm–9pm

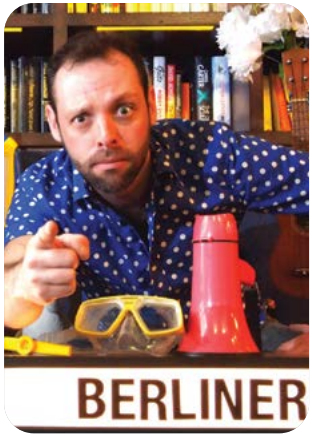
TALK Britain's first astronaut, Helen Sharman, is joined by award-winning comedian and author Robin Ince, as she reflects on her pioneering 1991 mission and shares her insights into the future of space exploration.

Tickets £23
Booking essential
Norwich Theatre Royal

Co-programmed with

Norwich Theatre Royal

The Cosmic Shambles Network



UniverSilly Challenged

7.30pm–9.30pm

SHOW Forget everything you think you know about pub quizzes. Science troubadour Jonny Berliner and Ugly Animal wrangler Simon Watt invite you to a riotous night of nerdy nonsense, curious questions and chaotic comedy! There are niche prizes to be won and full marks for foolishness. Paxman would hate it. You'll love it!

Tickets £12
Booking essential
The Gallery, The Forum

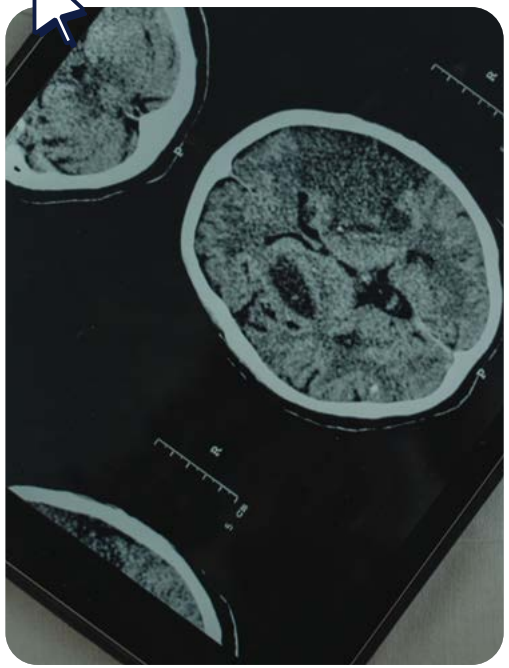


Hack Your Brain

10am-11am

SHOW Get ready for a whirlwind tour of the brain and nervous system! Packed with demos, this family show brings nerve cells to life as we explore how they communicate - and how to hack those signals to control someone's movements. Discover what this reveals about how we learn, change and make the most of our brains.

Tickets £6
Booking essential
The Blake Studio, Norwich School



Reconnecting Brain Health

11am-12.30pm

TALK How do factors such as genetics, lifestyle and environment influence brain health? Join researchers, community leaders and people with lived experience to explore brain health – from dementia risk factors to innovative community projects. There'll be opportunities to ask questions and practical tips for brain health.

Free
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

University of East Anglia Norwich



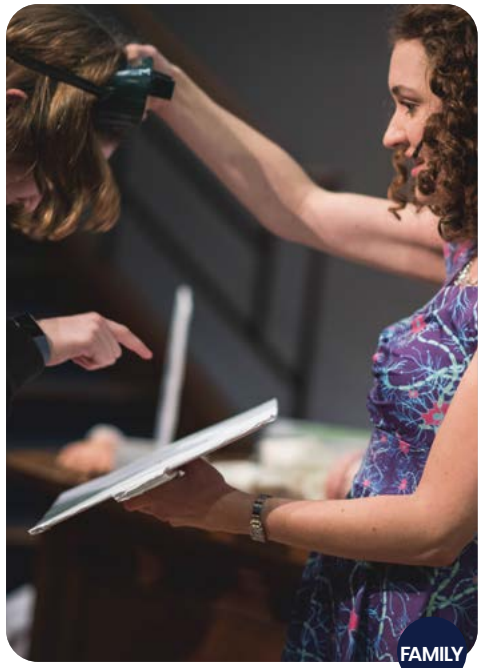
The Curiosity Games with Maddie Moate

11am-11.45am and 2pm-2.45pm

SHOW Ready, set... Get curious! BAFTA-winning children's TV presenter and YouTube star Maddie Moate is bringing her very own game show to the stage, and you're invited to play! The Curiosity Games is a brilliant mix of quizzes, challenges and unexpected surprises, all with a curious science twist. Are you ready to play?

Tickets £16
Booking essential
Norwich Theatre Playhouse

Co-programmed with
Norwich Theatre Playhouse

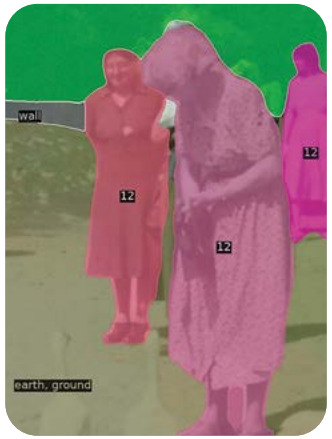


Memory Games

12pm-1pm

SHOW Discover how the brain changes when we learn new things in this interactive family show from Braintastic! Science. You'll put your memory to the test with fun games, quizzes and brain-boosting challenges as we explore the neuroscience behind what helps us remember.

Tickets £6
Booking essential
The Blake Studio, Norwich School



AI and the Film Archive

2pm–3pm

TALK Can machine learning support our knowledge of film archive holdings? Join members of the University of East Anglia's AI and the Film Archive research team for an exploration of the opportunities, limitations and ethical issues of using artificial technology within the UK film archives.

Free
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

University of East Anglia Norwich
Film50



The Big Maths Gameshow

2pm–3pm

SHOW Ready for some maths silliness? Join maths communicator Kyle D Evans for a family-friendly gameshow packed with interactive fun. This isn't a maths test - knowing pi to 100 decimal places won't help you here! Whether you're a mathsphile or mathsphobe, expect mind-blowing maths, surprising facts and the chance to make it to the final and scoop the grand prize!

Tickets £6
Booking essential
The Blake Studio, Norwich School



Comedy and Neurodivergence

4pm–5pm

TALK Hate small talk but thrive on a stage? You might just be a neurodivergent comedian. Improv comedian, public speaker and autistic consultant Nellie Allsop explores whether a neurodivergent perspective could be the key to comedic glory. Expect anecdotes from their Edinburgh Fringe debut, improv insights and a deep dive into brains that don't quite fit society's norms.

Tickets £4
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



Credit: Halena Hucker

Botanical Drawing with Verity Burton

6.30pm–8pm

WORKSHOP Join local botanical artist Verity Burton for a relaxed drink-and-draw evening at Yalm. Grab your drink of choice and settle in amongst the flowers for a gentle and playful session, exploring seasonal blooms through a range of mixed media. No experience required and all art materials supplied.

Tickets £16
Booking essential
Yalm Foodhall



Science Gossip with Robin Ince

7.30pm–8.30pm

SHOW Hardwicke's Science Gossip was a popular monthly magazine in print between 1865 and 1893 – a journal for science enthusiasts to get all their news. Fellow enthusiast and award-winning comedian Robin Ince got his hands on some copies and is spilling the tea! Join him for a hilarious show full of bizarre science tales featuring mermaids, moss and even alligator fish.

Tickets £14
Booking essential
Norwich Theatre Playhouse

Co-programmed with

Norwich Theatre Playhouse
The Cosmic Shambles Network

Book at norwichsciencefestival.co.uk

Monday 15 February



Maths Magic

10am-11am

SHOW Maths communicator and entertainer Kyle D Evans explores the fascinating crossover between maths and magic in this playful show for children and their families. Take away some tricks to impress your friends as we explore the history of mathematical magic and show you how to do them too - even if you're as clumsy as Kyle!

Tickets £6
Booking essential
The Blake Studio, Norwich School



Bath Bomb Making

10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm and 1.30pm (30 mins)

WORKSHOP Get hands-on with the original bath bomb inventors, Lush! Discover how bath bombs are made as you mix, mould and create your very own fizzy bath bomb to take home. This sensory workshop is designed for children with SEND, with plenty of opportunity to get creative and have fun.

Tickets £4
Booking essential
Octagon Room, St Peter Mancroft

Supported by

ANGUISH'S EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



Imagining the Future: Speculative Fiction Writing

10.30am-11.30am

WORKSHOP What might our future world look like? In this creative writing workshop for young people, led by UEA's Julianne Pachico, explore ideas of connection and change through speculative fiction. Through discussion, readings and writing exercises, ask "what if?" and create your own piece of speculative fiction.

Free
Booking essential
Heritage Room, Millennium Library

UEA University of East Anglia Norwich



Little Minds in Action

11am-12pm

WORKSHOP How can play support skills such as attention, self-regulation, decision making and communication in early years children? Find out more and take part in activities with academics from the University of East Anglia's School of Education, Social Work and Sociology, as they share insights into their research on young minds.

Free
Drop-in
Ground floor, Millennium Library

UEA University of East Anglia Norwich

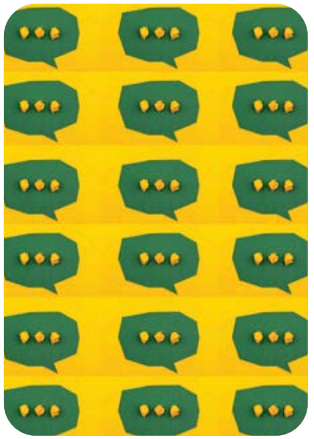


Indestructible Energy

11.30am-12.30pm

TALK Energy is everywhere, but what exactly is it? Dr Jamie Gallagher takes a deep dive into the indestructibility of energy, using experiments and live demos to explore how it changes from one form to another. From powering phones and lights to fuelling our bodies, discover the surprising ways energy is at work around us.

Tickets £6
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



UEA Citizens Academy: Have Your Say

1pm-2pm

WORKSHOP Join the University of East Anglia's Citizen Academy for an interactive session exploring public involvement in health research. Meet researchers, share your ideas and discover how patients, carers and the public can help shape future research.

Free
Drop-in
Heritage Room, Millennium Library

UEA University of East Anglia Norwich



The No-Brainer Brain Explainer

1pm–1.25pm and 3pm–3.25pm

SHOW Join Crab Museum's Bertie Terrilliams and Brian the brain puppet as they go on a discovery of animal intelligence. Find out what makes creatures clever, meet some of nature's gnarliest noggins, and discover why silliness might be one of the smartest skills ever produced by evolution!

Tickets £4
Booking essential
The Blake Studio, Norwich School

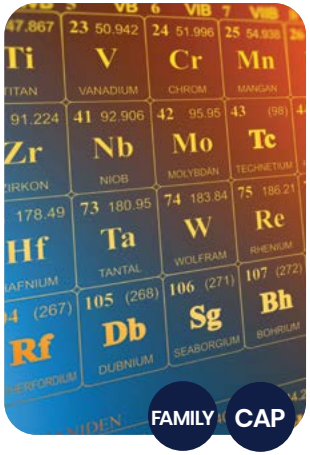


Nanoinvasion

2pm–3pm

TALK All around us a hidden world is taking over, where nothing is quite as it seems - the world of nanotechnology! Join materials scientist Dr Jamie Gallagher as we shrink down and get to grips with the tiny tech that is transforming our phones, food, health and future.

Tickets £6
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



Periodic Success

4pm–5pm

TALK The periodic table has been an emblem of science for over 100 years, but behind the iconic classroom poster live little-known tales of romance, murder and greed! Dr Jamie Gallagher uncovers some of the most surprising stories, discoveries and uses behind the chemical elements.

Tickets £6
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



Mark Thompson's Space: The Ultimate Adventure

6pm–7pm

TALK Acclaimed science broadcaster and author Mark Thompson presents an awe-inspiring evening of astronomy! Featuring big ideas, beautiful visuals and Mark's trademark storytelling, this event will explore our place in the universe, from the Solar System to the very edge of the cosmos.

Tickets £10
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



Why We Love Dogs

7.30pm–8.30pm

TALK Join dog-lover, broadcaster and evolutionary biologist Prof Ben Garrod and a panel of canine-loving guests as they fetch fascinating insights into our relationship with dogs. Expect stories, psychology, expert perspectives and plenty of opportunities to celebrate the animals that make our lives infinitely better.

Tickets £10
Booking essential
Norwich Arts Centre

Tuesday 16 February



Music Meets Sound

10.30am, 11.45am and 1.30pm (45 mins)

WORKSHOP Get creative with sound in this interactive music-making workshop from Norfolk & Suffolk Music Hub. Explore djembes, boomwhackers and a range of accessible instruments, develop listening and communication skills, and work together to create a group musical performance. Designed to be inclusive and sensory-friendly, this SEND session encourages creativity, collaboration and fun through music.

Tickets £4
Booking essential
Octagon Room, St Peter Mancroft

Supported by

ANGUISH'S EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



Discovering The Universe We Cannot See

10.30am-11.30am

TALK The universe is filled with events that emit light our eyes cannot see. From black holes to gamma-ray bursts, astrophysicist and author Dr Alfredo Carpineti takes us on a demystifying journey through space, revealing the extraordinary sights hidden beyond the limits of human vision.

Tickets £4
Booking essential
The Blake Studio, Norwich School



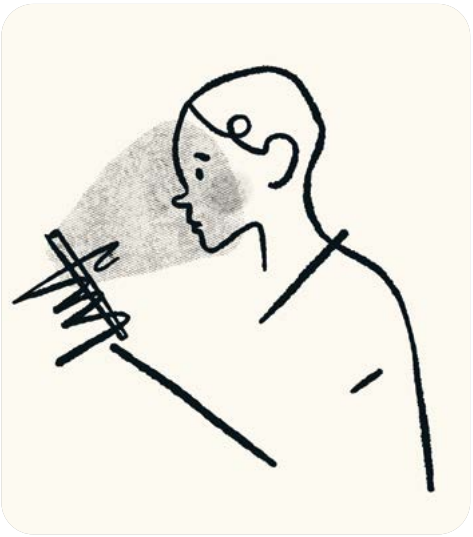
Credit: Beth Moseley

Dino Duel

11am-12pm and 2pm-3pm

SHOW It's back! Dinomania Ranger Chris and Prof Ben Garrod return for the ultimate dinosaur showdown – packed with fun, facts and fierce prehistoric rivals! Featuring life-sized walking dinosaurs, state-of-the-art animatronics and jaw-dropping fossils, this family show brings these epic creatures back to life for one day only.

Tickets £12.50
Booking essential
Epic Studios



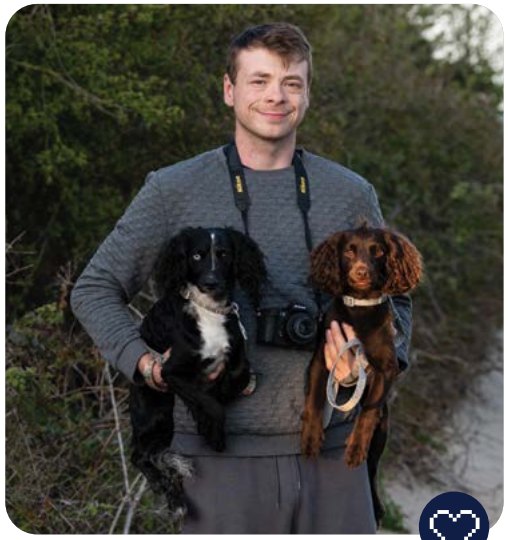
AI and the Age of Information Disorder

11.30am-12.30pm

TALK We know we can't always trust what we see online. From deepfakes to chatbots that sound human – AI is blurring the line between what is real and what is fake. Dr Lorna Richardson from the University of East Anglia will arm you with practical tools to spot fakes, question sources and navigate an AI saturated world with confidence.

Free
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

UEA University of East Anglia Norwich



Seeing the Natural World Differently

2pm–3pm

TALK Wildlife photographer Alfie Bowen takes us on an uplifting and deeply personal journey into the natural world – exploring how photography can change the way we see nature, and ourselves. Featuring stories from behind the camera, Alfie offers insights into conservation, animal behaviour and his own experiences of autism.

Tickets £8
Booking essential
The Blake Studio, Norwich School

Co-programmed with

Norfolk Wildlife Trust



Second Brain: The Nervous System in Your Gut

2pm–3pm

TALK Dr Amisha Modasia from the Quadram Institute will reveal the hidden nervous system in your gut – your second 'brain'. In this fascinating talk, she'll explore how food and nutrition directly shapes our mood and our health, giving you the real science behind the headlines.

Free
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

University of East Anglia Norwich

Quadram Institute Science • Health • Food • Innovation



Credit: Norfolk Museums Service

Norfolk Cares: Healthcare from 1800s to Today

4pm–5pm

TALK The history of care in Norfolk is explored through the lens of two historical sites: the Mitford and Launditch Union Workhouse and St Andrew's Hospital, a mental health facility in operation 1814-1998. Curator Rachel Kidd and County Archivist Gary Tuson are joined by Sarah Chaney from the Royal College of Nursing for this insightful discussion.

Tickets £4
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



The ADHD Tax

6.30pm–7.30pm

TALK Impulse spending, forgotten subscriptions or missed deadlines – the hidden financial cost of which is often referred to as 'the ADHD Tax'. Following her own ADHD diagnosis, financial coach and bestselling author Clare Seal has become a leading voice on neuro-inclusive finance, helping people build confidence with money. Expect honest experiences and practical tips in this shame-free talk.

Tickets £10
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



It's the End of the World (But Not as we Know it)

7pm–8pm

TALK Authors Chris Farnell and Stefan Mohamed explore the strange and compelling realm of apocalyptic fiction, taking us on a tour of some of the most unexpected end-of-the-world scenarios in fiction, science and history.

Tickets £10
Booking essential
National Centre for Writing

Programmed by

National Centre for Writing

Wednesday 17 February



Credit: Katherine Mager

Relative: TOAST Family Workshop

10.30am–12.30pm

WORKSHOP Join TOAST's Daisy Henwood for a family writing workshop with a science twist! Together, you'll pool your favourite science facts, comb through STEMM-inspired writing prompts and use our best words to craft the ultimate family poem. Bring the grown-ups to play, chat and create as a family.

Tickets £8
Booking essential
National Centre for Writing

Co-programmed with

National Centre for Writing



Credit: Luke Witcomb

Mini Architects

11am–2pm

WORKSHOP Join Matter of Place Architects for a free play session for little ones! Using foam bricks made of sustainable materials that offer different sensory experiences, your budding architects will use their imagination to build, collaborate and play.

Free
Drop-in
The Gallery, The Forum

Matter Of Place Architects



Groove Baby: Groove Under the Sea!

11am–12pm and 1.30pm–2.30pm

SHOW Dive into a musical underwater adventure with Groove Baby! Featuring original funk, jazz and boogaloo, mesmerising animation and interactive theatre, this family performance will transport you to new, watery worlds. A perfect way to enjoy contemporary music in a kid-friendly setting!

Tickets £12
Booking essential
Norwich Theatre Stage Two

Norwich Theatre Stage Two



Kitchen Chemistry

11.30am–12.30pm

SHOW Chemistry is all around us – from the ingredients we use in cooking to the products we use every day. Using equipment from the home to deliver memorable live demos, UEA's Dr Stephen Ashworth will showcase the extraordinary chemistry we can find in ordinary household materials.

Free
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

University of East Anglia Norwich



Rocket and Roll

2pm–3pm

TALK It's not exactly rocket science... except when it is! Norfolk-based space engineer Ben Jarvis has spent 37 years designing, building and launching rockets, from tiny models to commercial spaceports. Find out how rockets work, why they sometimes spectacularly don't, and what Ben has learned from a lifetime of rocket exploits, with photos, videos, illustrations and tales from his career.

Tickets £4
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



Emergency Medicine: Every Second Counts

4pm–5pm

TALK What happens in the critical minutes before a patient reaches hospital? From responding to the most serious 1% of 999 calls to making critical decisions at the scene, find out how East Anglian Air Ambulance crews deliver A&E-level care and treatment at roadsides, fields and front doors when every second counts.

Tickets £4
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

East Anglian Air Ambulance



Credit: Beth Moseley

STEMM Careers: Unlocking Museum Collections

6pm-7pm

TALK Natural history collections hold surprising stories about the past - and clues to the future. From extinct species to changing habitats, Dr Leanne Melbourne explores what these records can reveal about our world. Drawing on her own career, she'll share the different ways museum professionals use collections and some of the fascinating stories they can uncover.

Free
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

Sponsored by

NORWICH HIGH SCHOOL For Girls aged 3-18
GDST



Stargazing on the Marshes

6pm-7.30pm

WORKSHOP Head out after dark with the Norfolk Wildlife Trust team to Sweet Briar Marshes for a family-friendly introduction to the night sky! Learn how to spot the North Star and use constellations to navigate, while picking out planets, double stars and star clusters along the way. Bring binoculars if you have them!

Tickets £3 NWT Members / £4 Non-members
Booking essential
Sweet Briar Marshes

Co-programmed with

Norfolk Wildlife Trust



Four Sided Triangle (1953) Film Screening

6pm-8pm

FILM "He outdid Frankenstein!" A tangled love rivalry leads two scientists to create a replica woman, in science-fiction film Four Sided Triangle (1953). Exploring cloning, scientific overreach and obsession, the screening will be followed by a fascinating panel discussion led by the University of East Anglia's Prof Melanie Williams.

Tickets £6.99 Members / £9.99 Non-members
Booking essential
Cinema City

UEA University of East Anglia Norwich
Film58



Strictly Robotic: Teaching Machines to Dance

7.30pm-9pm

TALK Fab-u-lous! They're doing backflips. They're doing the twist. But how exactly do robots learn to move like this? Professor Kirk Woolford explores the technology behind these movements, from reinforcement learning and motion capture to AI and deep learning. Expect lively debate, surprising questions, and, of course, robots!

Tickets £4
Booking essential
Norwich University of the Arts, Duke Street Riverside

Co-programmed with

NORWICH UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS

Book at norwichsciencefestival.co.uk

Thursday 18 February



Skin-troduction Workshop

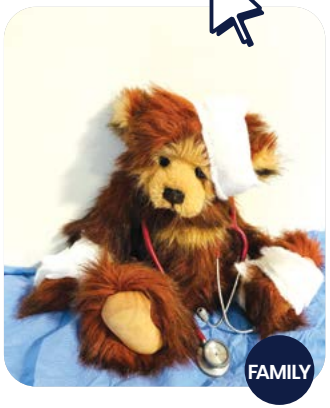
10.30am–11.30am

WORKSHOP Why does your skin behave the way it does? And what does your microbiome have to do with it? Join the Lush team for a gentle introduction to the science of your skin. Discover some surprising facts and try out fresh, skin-friendly products in this relaxed session exclusively for SEND audiences aged 9+.

Tickets £4
Booking essential
Octagon Room, St Peter Mancroft

Supported by

ANGUISH'S EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



Teddy Bear Vet Clinic

10.45am, 12pm, 1.45pm and 3pm (45 mins)

WORKSHOP Bring your favourite stuffed toy to the Teddy Bear Vet Clinic for a complete check-up with real-life vet, Dr Jess French! You'll learn the basics of animal health, learn what it is like to work as a vet, and get to try out the kinds of tasks that vets do – from putting on bandages to taking x-rays.

Tickets £10
Booking essential
The Gallery, The Forum

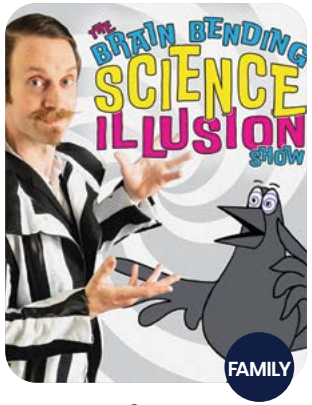


Big Cats: Secrets of the Wild

11.30am–12.30pm

TALK Wildlife filmmaker Anna Dimitriadis has spent thousands of hours filming big cats in the wild. In this interactive family talk, Anna takes you behind the scenes of her job with real-life footage and photos! You'll explore the importance of these amazing animals, and why they need our protection, and learn about why they behave the way they do.

Tickets £10
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



The Brain Bending Science Illusion Show

11.30am–12.30pm and 2pm–3pm

TALK Join The Magical Mr West and his corvid companion Crowbert on a journey into the brain bending world of science illusions! Prepare to be astounded by cognitive conundrums and mind melting mysteries. Can you believe your eyes? Can you trust your own brain? There's only one way to find out.

Tickets from £10
Booking essential
Norwich Theatre Playhouse

Programmed by

Norwich Theatre Playhouse



Credit: Sam Harland

The Secret Science of Plants

2pm–3pm

TALK Plants are extraordinary living laboratories – providing colours, aromas, flavours, nutrients and remarkable compounds. Join chemist and 2023 Great British Bake-Off finalist, Dr Josh Smalley, as he uncovers the hidden science of our garden and kitchen plants, with spectacular demonstrations, edible experiments and a recipe or two to take home!

Tickets £6
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



Tea with a Twist

2pm–3.30pm

WORKSHOP Put your taste buds to the test! Join Dr Duncan Gaskin and the team from MIND's REST Café for a family-friendly afternoon tea with a science twist. Explore the fascinating ways our senses influence how we experience food and what we choose to eat, all while enjoying a selection of themed sweet and savoury treats.

Tickets £22
Booking essential
MIND REST Café

mind Norfolk and Wavene
REST Café

Norfolk & Norwich Science Association

Thursday 18 February



Transforming Life After Stroke

4pm-5pm

TALK Dr Stephanie Rossit, Prof Niall Broomfield and Dr Joshua Blake explore how three pioneering clinical trials led by the University of the East Anglia are tackling the hidden consequences of stroke and testing new approaches to recovery. Hear how this vital research is transforming stroke care and rehabilitation.

Free
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

University of East Anglia Norwich



Norwich in Retrofit

6pm-7pm

TALK How do we make the homes built 70 years ago fit for the future? Join Toby and Daniel from Matter of Place Architects CIC, for a fascinating exploration of decarbonisation and retrofitting amongst the city's social housing stock – from data-driven approaches to electrification, sustainability and a different way of considering buildings.

Tickets £6
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

Matter Of Place Architects



A Wild Life: Anna Dimitriadis in Conversation with Ben Garrod

6.30pm-7.30pm

TALK Join BAFTA-nominated filmmaker, conservationist and presenter Anna Dimitriadis in conversation with biologist Prof Ben Garrod. Known for her work on BBC's Tiger Island, Anna will chart her journey into wildlife filmmaking - from diving in Antarctica to tracking big cats in Africa. A perfect event for those who share Ben and Anna's deep passion for the natural world!

Tickets £14
Booking essential
Blackfriars, The Halls

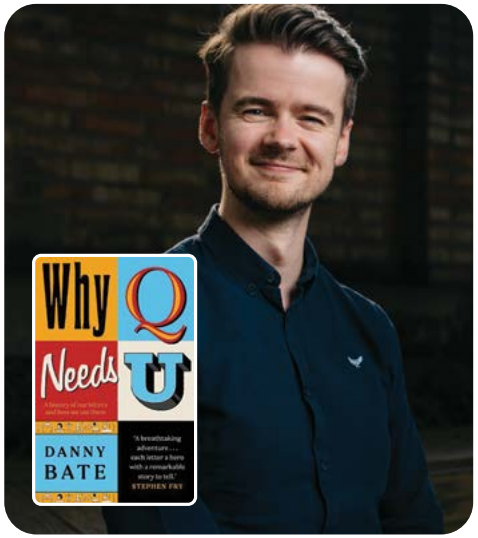


How to Be a Pigeon Ally

7pm-8pm

WORKSHOP Pigeon advocate Summer Loh (Little Winged Friends) and artist Alice Lee (Parallel Point) explore how we can shift perspectives on our city's pigeons. Hear pigeon facts, learn about care for Norwich's flocks, and discover how creative activism can engage communities. You'll help shape a strategy for pigeon allyship while making your own pull-string pigeon puppet!

Tickets £5
Booking essential
The Gallery, The Forum



A History of Letters and How We Use Them

7pm-8pm

TALK Join Dr Danny Bate, linguist and bestselling author of Why Q Needs U, on a journey into the fascinating history and science of writing things down. Sharing fun facts and revealing the alphabet's hidden mechanisms, he explains where we get our letters from and why the English language uses them so strangely.

Tickets £10
Booking essential
National Centre for Writing

Programmed by
National Centre for Writing



Immersed in Birdsong

10am, 11am, 12pm, 1.30pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm (30 mins)

WORKSHOP Discover the birds of Sweet Briar Marshes like never before! Listen to birdsong in 3D immersive sound, spot different species on a giant 360-degree screen and learn the calls of some of our winter visitors.

Free
Booking essential
Norwich University of the Arts Immersive Visualisation and Simulation Lab



Microscopic Adventures: Discovering Tiny Worlds

10.30am–11.30am and 12pm–1pm

WORKSHOP Discover a hidden world of tiny living things! Learn how to set up and use a light microscope, as you investigate plant cells and examine everyday objects in extraordinary detail. Designed especially for children with SEND, this welcoming workshop offers time to explore at your own pace.

Tickets £4
Booking essential
Octagon Room, St Peter Mancroft

Supported by



Community Litter Pick

10.30am–12pm

WALK Reconnect with nature, your local community and the places we share in this relaxed, family-friendly litter pick. Venture out in small, guided groups and follow short routes through the city centre, all within walking distance of The Forum. Which team will collect the most litter before everyone returns to The Forum? All equipment is provided and children must be accompanied by an adult.

Free
Booking essential
Meet at The Forum

Sponsored by



Credit: Luke Witcomb

Bite-Sized Science Talks

11am, 11.45am, 12.30pm, 2pm, 2.45pm and 3.30pm (30 mins)

TALK Curious minds, take a seat! Academics from the University of East Anglia and Norwich Research Park deliver a series of bite-sized science talks throughout the day – with topics ranging from coastal erosion to the fibre hype, and everything in-between! No booking required.

Free
Drop-in
The Gallery, The Forum



Credit: Nick Desnoyer

Flower Design: From Bees to Bioengineering

11.30am–12.30pm

TALK Discover how pollinators, plant breeders and scientists shape flower colour and form with Postdoctoral Scientist Nick Desnoyer. From the genetics behind their dazzling diversity, to creating colour-changing flowers at The Sainsbury Laboratory, together you'll imagine the future of flower bioengineering.

Free
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



Credit: Charlie Flint

Spectacular Science

12pm–1pm

SHOW You think science is boring? Think again! Featuring brand-new experiments for 2027, Mark Thompson's spectacular show will delight adults and children alike, exploring the strange and magical properties of matter with exploding elephants' toothpaste and vortex-generating dustbins.

Tickets £14
Booking essential
Norwich Theatre Playhouse

Co-programmed with

Friday 19 February



Credit: Mark Hoar

Market to Marshes

12.30pm–2pm

WALK Join Norfolk Wildlife Trust for a friendly, guided walk from Norwich city centre to Sweet Briar Marshes. Along the route, discover fascinating natural history and stories from our fine city, including how the Maddermarket got its name and why the River Wensum is one of the most protected rivers in the country.

Tickets £3 NWT Members / £4 Non-members
Booking essential
Meet at The Forum

Co-programmed with

Norfolk Wildlife Trust



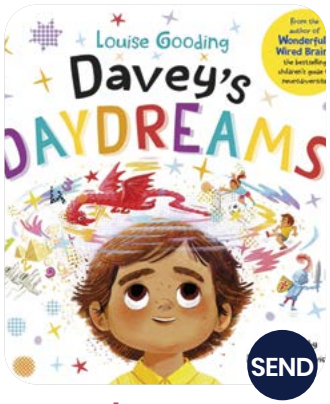
Credit: Luke Witcomb

TOASTies Science Poetry for Kids!

2pm–3.30pm

SHOW A silly, giggly, live poetry event designed for kids – this time with a science twist! Brought to you by TOAST, this interactive show will feature poems and games inspired by our favourite science stories and facts, sharing the magic of poetry with kids aged 5-11.

Pay what you can £2.50, £5, £10
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



Davey's Daydreams

2pm–3pm

WORKSHOP Meet author Louise Gooding and her latest character, Davey! Davey daydreams a lot – and while some people may think he isn't paying attention, his mind is just off on its own adventures. Join us for a relaxed story time and creative activity, in a SEND-friendly session where everyone can join in, explore and let their imagination wander.

Tickets £4
Booking essential
Octagon Room, St Peter Mancroft

Supported by

Anguish's Educational Foundation



How ADHD Hides in Plain Sight

5pm–6pm

TALK Hester Grainger, ADHD coach, advocate and co-founder of Perfectly Autistic, explores what ADHD can really look and feel like, and why so many adults - particularly women - have spent years feeling misunderstood. Drawing on her own diagnosis at 43, she'll explore dopamine, masking and the challenges of executive function.

Tickets £8
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



Credit: Donna Ford

Rewild Your Microbiome

6.30pm–8pm

WORKSHOP Award-winning author Rachel de Thample and fellow fermentor Aleksandra Britten, founder of Britten's Botanicals, delve into the science of the microbiome, exploring how fermentation can improve gut health. With tastings, hands-on making and plenty of practical advice, discover how to bring fermentation into your own kitchen - from krauts to kombucha!

Tickets £23
Booking essential
The Pantry, Jarrolds

Sponsored by

Howes Percival



Reconnect to the Airwaves

7.30pm–8.30pm

PERFORMANCE Step back into the golden age of radio drama! Experience a thrilling 1940s performance brought vividly to life with actors, music and ingenious foley sound effects. Brought together by staff, students and graduates of the University of East Anglia, you'll discover how radio technology forever transformed storytelling and imagination.

Free
Booking essential
The Gallery, The Forum

University of East Anglia Norwich



Credit: Rosie Mills-Smith

Animal Dissection Live

10am–11.30am and 12.30pm–2pm

TALK Join Prof Ben Garrod, Dr Jess French and their team for a fascinating journey inside an animal's body. In this live dissection, they'll reveal the incredible anatomy as they go, sharing fascinating facts it can tell us about our own bodies. Please note the animal died of natural causes and was donated for educational purposes.

Free
Booking essential
Lecture Theatre 1, University of East Anglia

University of East Anglia Norwich



Wriggle and Crawl

10am–10.45am

WORKSHOP Can you wiggle and crawl like a snake, snail or spider? This hands-on session for children aged 2-4 will capture their imaginations and get them moving as they meet some real-life creepy crawlies and explore their behaviours!

Tickets £8
Booking essential
Norwich Theatre Stage Two

Norwich Theatre Stage Two



Bears versus Gravity

10.30am–11.30am and 1.30pm–2.30pm

WORKSHOP Could a teddy bear defy gravity? Bring your favourite soft toy along for a STEMM adventure with science author Isabel Thomas, inspired by her newest picture book, Emily versus Gravity. Enjoy a blend of interactive storytelling and science, plus a little engineering as you build a bear-launching contraption to take home!

Tickets £8
Booking essential
National Centre for Writing

Co-programmed with
National Centre for Writing



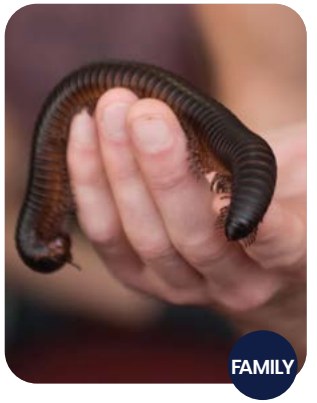
Unlocking Women's Health

11am–12.30pm

TALK Join a friendly panel of practitioners from the University of East Anglia's Women's Health Network for a lively, myth-busting chat about women's health. With representatives from science, midwifery, physiotherapy and menopause care, this is the perfect place to bring your questions and help shape the future of women's health in East Anglia.

Free
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

University of East Anglia Norwich



Evolution

11.15am–12pm

SHOW Discover how life evolved here on Earth in this fascinating family show from ZooLab. You'll meet tarantulas, cockroaches, snakes and more as you explore Darwin's evolutionary theories and the incredible variety of creatures living on our planet.

Tickets £10
Booking essential
Norwich Theatre Stage Two

Norwich Theatre Stage Two



Animal Explorers

12.30pm–1.15pm

WORKSHOP In this relaxing session for SEND audiences, you'll get the chance to meet some amazing animals, including millipedes, snails, snakes and more! With plenty of time for questions and interactions with these awesome creatures, this workshop may be suitable for families who benefit from smaller groups and a quieter setting.

Tickets £8
Booking essential
Norwich Theatre Stage Two

Norwich Theatre Stage Two

Book at norwichsciencefestival.co.uk



Sport on the Brain

2pm-3pm

TALK Sport undeniably has many health benefits, but what happens when it puts your brain at risk? Brain injury survivor James Piercy explores how we can enjoy sport while keeping the most complex part of the body safe. In this interactive talk, discover how technology is helping to prevent, detect and treat brain injury in sports, from football to Formula 1.

Tickets £4
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum



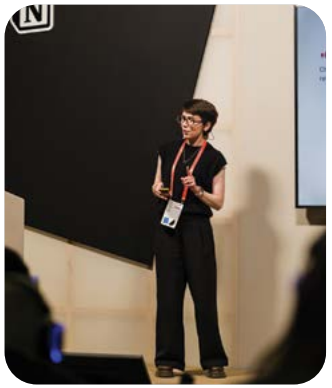
Climate Crusaders

2pm-3pm

SHOW Explore the impact of the climate on animal habitats in this inspiring show from ZooLab. Featuring live animal encounters, together you'll learn about how we can limit our own impact on the planet, and create a way of living that is in balance with the ecosystems that surround us.

Tickets £10
Booking essential
Norwich Theatre Stage Two

Norwich Theatre Stage Two



STEMM Careers: Going Solo in Science

4pm-5pm

TALK Ever wondered what it takes to go freelance? Trainer, public speaker and autistic consultant, Nellie Allsop, reflects on their own self-employment journey – from the highs and lows to the realities of being your own boss. Ask your burning questions and find out what it takes to do a job you love, on your own terms.

Free
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

Sponsored by

NORWICH HIGH SCHOOL For Girls aged 3-18
GDST



STEM Film Academy Showcase

6pm-7.30pm

SCREENING Explore science through the eyes of the next generation of filmmakers. Enjoy four screenings of short documentaries created by young people, with support from researchers and industry professionals at Eye Film, exploring the cutting-edge research being undertaken at Norwich Research Park. Followed by discussion and a Q&A.

Free
Booking essential
The Auditorium, The Forum

EYE FILM ACADEMY



Credit: Jessica McDermott

Solastalgia with Matt Winning

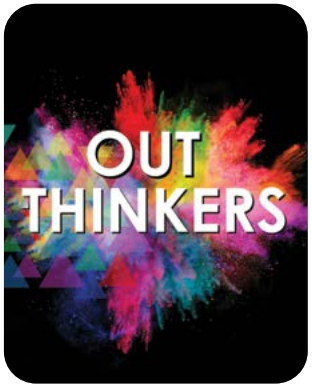
7pm-8pm

SHOW Comedian and author Dr Matt Winning merges storytelling and comedy in his show about fatherhood, finance, fossil fuels and facing the future. Funny and profound, the show features cutting-edge science and world-changing economic predictions.

Tickets £16
Booking essential
Norwich Theatre Stage Two

Programmed by

Norwich Theatre Stage Two



Out Thinkers

7pm-9.30pm

TALK Whether you're part of the LGBTQ+ community or an ally, join us to celebrate the diverse STEMM community in Norfolk with an evening of talks. Hosted by Dr Sam Rowe and Dr Alfredo Carpineti, with speakers from Norwich Research Park and beyond! Networking from 7pm, talks begin at 7.30pm.

Free
Booking essential
National Centre for Writing

Pride in STEM

Day Planners

Saturday 13 February

	The Auditorium, The Forum	The Gallery, The Forum	The Blake Studio, Norwich School	Octagon Room, St Peter Mancroft	Norwich Theatre Royal
10am			Animal Top Trumps		
11am	Milk to Mozzarella	UEA Live Black Beauty and Found Fossils		Liquid Galaxies	
12pm			An Anthology of Micro Life		
1pm				Mini Infinites	
2pm	A Story of Bird Migration				Gordon Buchanan: Lions and Tigers and Bears
3pm			Where's My Mammoth?		
4pm	STEMM Careers: Working with Animals	The Doctor's Assistant			
5pm					
7pm		UniverSilly Challenged			Helen Sharman: Space for the Future
8pm					
9pm					

Sunday 14 February

	The Auditorium, The Forum	The Blake Studio, Norwich School	Norwich Theatre Playhouse	Yalm Foodhall
10am		Hack Your Brain		
11am	Reconnecting Brain Health		The Curiosity Games	
12pm		Memory Games		
1pm				
2pm	AI and the Film Archive	The Big Maths Gameshow	The Curiosity Games	
3pm				
4pm	Comedy and Neurodivergence			
5pm				
6pm				Botanical Drawing with Verity Burton
7pm			Science Gossip with Robin Ince	
8pm				

Day Planners

Monday 15 February

	The Auditorium, The Forum	The Gallery, The Forum	The Blake Studio, Norwich School	Heritage Room, Library	Ground Floor, Library	Octagon Room, St Peter Mancroft	Norwich Theatre Stage Two (Studio 1)	Norwich Arts Centre
10am			Maths Magic					
		Visualising a Flood		Imagining the Future		Bath Bombs		
11am					Little Minds in Action			
	In-destructible Energy					Bath Bombs		
12pm								
						Bath Bombs		
1pm			No-Brainer Brain Explainer	UEA Citizens Academy			Tiny Planet	
						Bath Bombs		
2pm	Nano-invasion							
3pm			No-Brainer Brain Explainer					
4pm	Periodic Success						Tiny Planet	
5pm								
6pm	Mark Thompson's Space							
7pm								
								Why We Love Dogs
8pm								

Tuesday 16 February

	The Auditorium, The Forum	The Gallery, The Forum	The Blake Studio, Norwich School	Epic Studios	Octagon Room, St Peter Mancroft	Norwich Theatre Stage Two (Studio 1)	National Centre for Writing
10am							
		Visualising a Flood	The Universe We Cannot See		Music Meets Sound		
11am				Dino Duel		Tiny Planet	
	AI and the Age of Information Disorder				Music Meets Sound		
12pm							
1pm					Music Meets Sound		
2pm	Second Brain		Seeing the Natural World Differently	Dino Duel		Tiny Planet	
3pm							
4pm	Norfolk Cares						
5pm							
6pm							
	The ADHD Tax						
7pm							It's the End of the World
8pm							

Day Planners

Wednesday 17 February

	The Auditorium, The Forum	The Gallery, The Forum	Norwich Theatre Stage Two	Cinema City	National Centre for Writing	Norwich University of the Arts Duke Street Riverside	NWT Sweet Briar Marshes
10am							
11am	Kitchen Chemistry	Mini Architects	Groove Under the Sea		Relative: TOAST Family Workshop		
12pm							
1pm			Groove Under the Sea				
2pm	Rocket and Roll						
3pm							
4pm	Emergency Medicine						
5pm							
6pm	STEMM Careers: Museum Collections			Four Sided Triangle Film Screening			Stargazing on the Marshes
7pm						Strictly Robotic	
8pm							

Thursday 18 February

	The Auditorium, The Forum	The Gallery, The Forum	Octagon Room, St Peter Mancroft	Norwich Theatre Playhouse	MIND REST Cafe	Blackfriars, The Halls	National Centre for Writing
10am							
11am	Big Cats: Secrets of the Wild	Teddy Bear Vet Clinic	Skin-troduction Workshop	The Brain Bending Science Illusion Show			
12pm		Teddy Bear Vet Clinic					
1pm							
2pm	The Secret Science of Plants	Teddy Bear Vet Clinic		The Brain Bending Science Illusion Show	Tea with a Twist		
3pm		Teddy Bear Vet Clinic					
4pm	Transforming Life After Stroke						
5pm							
6pm	Norwich in Retrofit					A Wild Life	
7pm		How to Be a Pigeon Ally					A History of Letters and How We Use Them
8pm							

Day Planners

Friday 19 February

	The Auditorium, The Forum	The Gallery, The Forum	Immersive Lab, Havers Road	Norwich Theatre Playhouse	City Centre	NWT Sweet Briar Marshes	Octagon Room, St Peter Mancroft	The Pantry, Jarrolds
10am			Immersed in Birdsong					
11am	Flower Design	Bite-Sized Science Talks	Immersed in Birdsong		Community Litter Pick		Microscopic Adventures	
12pm			Immersed in Birdsong	Spectacular Science		Market to Marshes	Microscopic Adventures	
1pm			Immersed in Birdsong					
2pm	TOASTies Science Poetry	Bite-Sized Science Talks	Immersed in Birdsong				Davey's Daydreams	
3pm			Immersed in Birdsong					
4pm								
5pm	How ADHD Hides in Plain Sight							
6pm								Rewild Your Microbiome
7pm	Reconnect to the Airwaves							
8pm								

Saturday 20 February

	The Auditorium, The Forum	Lecture Theatre 1, UEA	Norwich Theatre Stage Two (Studio 2)	Norwich Theatre Stage Two (Studio 1)	National Centre for Writing
10am		Animal Dissection Live	Wriggle and Crawl		
11am	Unlocking Women's Health			Evolution	Bears versus Gravity!
12pm					
1pm		Animal Dissection Live	Animal Explorers		
2pm	Sport on the Brain			Climate Crusaders	Bears versus Gravity!
3pm					
4pm	STEMM Careers: Going Solo in Science				
5pm					
6pm	STEM Film Academy Showcase				
7pm				Solastalgia	Out Thinkers
8pm					
9pm					
10pm					

Festival Venues

For further information about Norwich Science Festival venues, visit **norwichsciencefestival.co.uk/venues**

The Forum and nearby

1 The Forum
Millennium Plain, NR2 1TF
- Accessible toilet
- Assistance dogs allowed
- Changing Places toilet
- Lift and level access
- Car parking

2 Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library
The Forum, Millennium Plain, NR2 1TF
- Accessible toilet
- Assistance dogs allowed
- Lift and level access

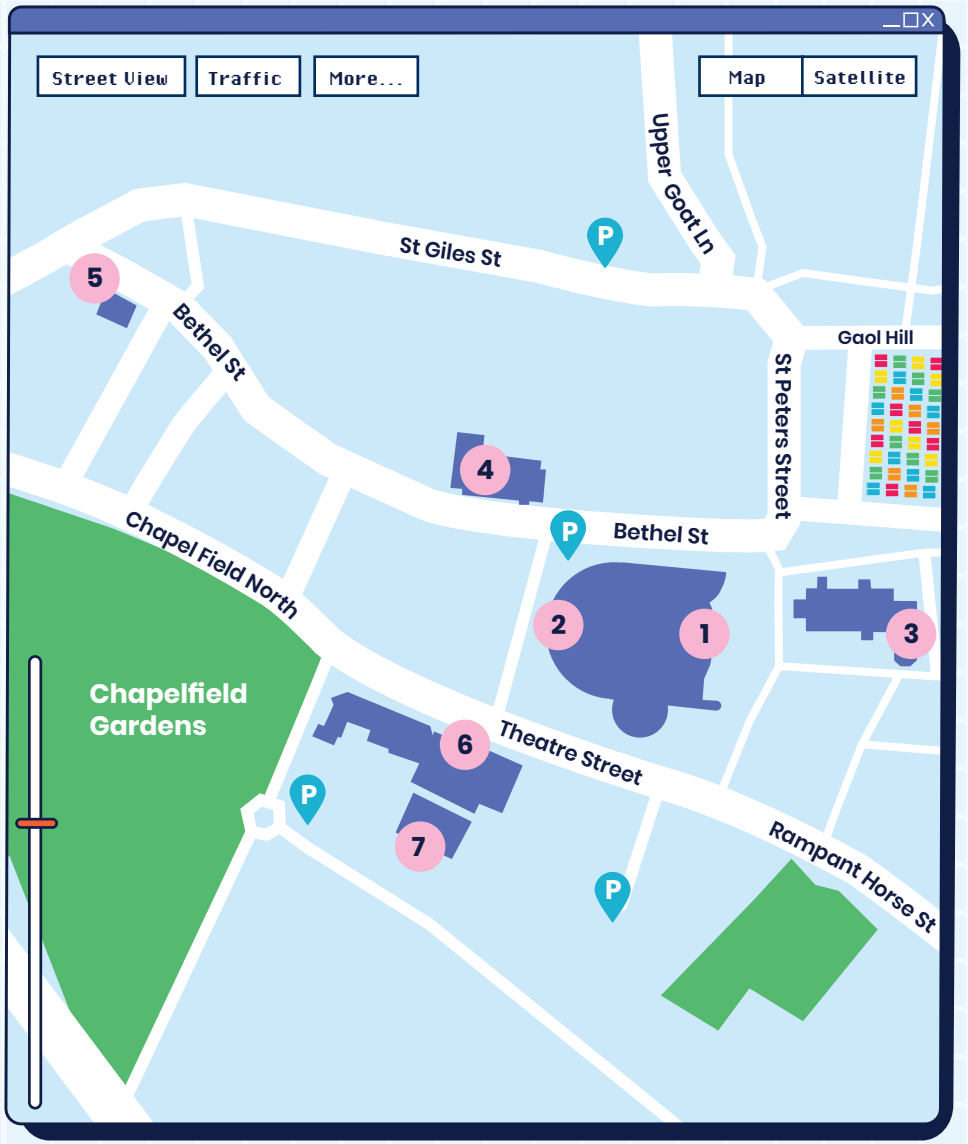
3 St Peter Mancroft Octagon Room
Hay Hill, NR2 1QQ
- Assistance dogs welcome
- Level access

4 Sir Isaac Newton Sixth Form
30 Bethel St, NR2 1NR
- Accessible toilet
- Assistance dogs allowed
- Lift and level access

5 MIND REST Café
Churchman House, 71 Bethel St, NR2 1NR
- Accessible toilet
- Assistance dogs allowed
- Level access

6 Norwich Theatre Royal
Theatre St, NR2 1RL
- Accessible toilet
- Assistance dogs allowed
- Induction loop
- Lift and level access

7 Norwich Theatre Stage Two
Chantry Rd, NR2 1RL (access via Theatre St)
- Accessible toilet
- Assistance dogs allowed
- Induction loop
- Level access



Festival Venues

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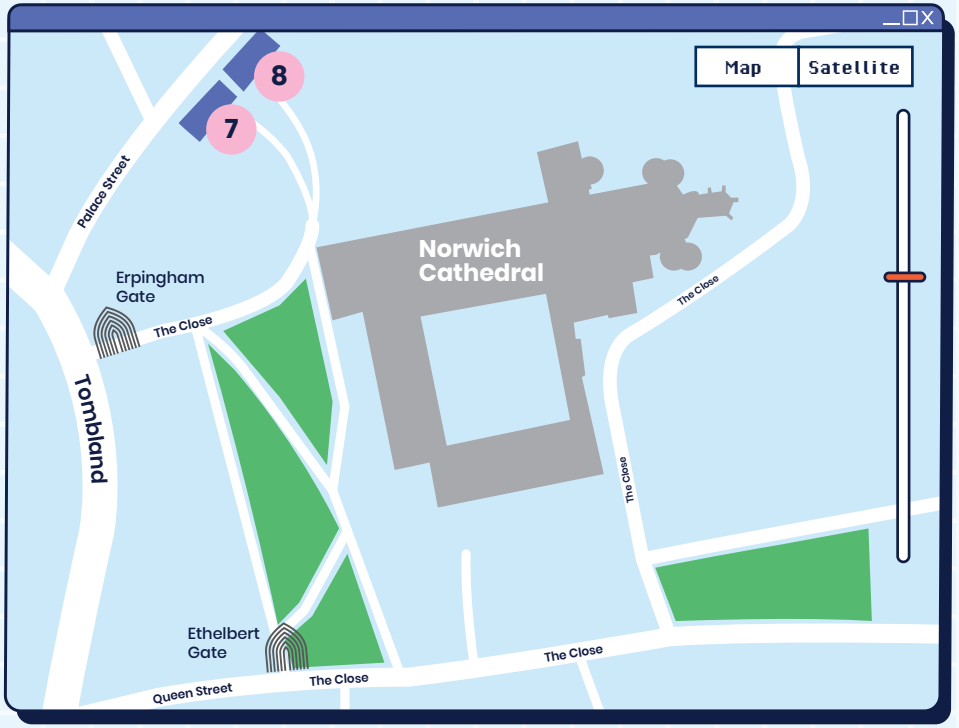
Cathedral Close

7 The Blake Studio
Norwich School
The Close, NR1 4DD
- Accessible toilet
- Assistance dogs allowed
- Induction loop
- Level access

8 School Refectory
Norwich School
The Close, NR1 4DD
- Accessible toilet
- Level access



Across the city

Epic Studios
112-114 Magdalen St, NR3 1JD
- Accessible toilet
- Assistance dogs allowed
- Induction loop
- Level access

The Halls
St Andrew's Plain, NR3 1AU
- Accessible toilet
- Lift and level access

Lecture Theatre 1, University of East Anglia
Norwich Research Park, NR4 7TJ
- Accessible toilet
- Assistance dogs allowed
- Induction loop
- Lift and level access

National Centre for Writing
115-123 King St, NR1 1QE
- Accessible toilet
- Assistance dogs allowed
- Induction loop
- Lift and level access

Norwich Arts Centre
51 Saint Benedicts St, NR2 4PG
- Accessible toilet
- Assistance dogs allowed
- Induction loop
- Level access

Norwich Theatre Playhouse
42-58 Georges St, NR3 1AB
- Accessible toilet
- Assistance dogs allowed
- Induction loop
- Lift and level access

Norwich University of the Arts Immersive Visualisation and Simulation Lab
Havers Rd, NR3 2DU
- Accessible toilet
- Assistance dogs allowed
- Induction loop
- Parking

NWT Sweet Briar Marshes
Hellesdon Rd, NR6 5EE
- Accessible trails
- Parking at nearby Sloughbottom Park

The Pantry, Jarrolds
1-11 London Street, NR2 1JF
- Accessible toilet
- Lift and level access

Production Theatre, Norwich University of the Arts
Duke St Riverside Building, NR3 3FF
- Accessible toilet
- Induction loop
- Lift and level access

About The Forum



Credit: Luke Witcomb

The Forum is home to Norwich Science Festival, Norwich Games Festival, Norfolk Deaf Festival and Norwich Book Festival – a family of events produced by The Forum, which is a registered charity. We also coordinate Heritage Open Days in Norfolk, as part of a national celebration of history and culture.

Every year, we receive more than 1.9 million visits to our iconic building – to meet, discover, learn, play and be inspired through culture, science, heritage, literature and community.

In 2026-27, The Forum will celebrate a milestone anniversary year with a programme of special events, marking 25 years since opening to the public in 2001.

The Forum

Save the dates

Norwich Games Festival
31 May-6 June 2027

Norfolk Deaf Festival
2-3 July 2027

Norfolk Heritage Open Days
10-19 September 2027

Norwich Book Festival
23-29 October 2027



Credit: Beth Moseley

Learning in Schools

The Forum's Norwich Science Festival team delivers a yearly Learning Programme for primary schools in Norfolk. In 2026, we reached 8,400 children in 38 primary and Special Educational Needs (SEND) schools across the county with a free touring show.

In 2026-27, our Learning Programme is supported by

JARROLD
The John Jarrold Trust

ALAN BOSWELL GROUP
CHARITABLE TRUST

and The Paul Bassham Charitable Trust



Credit: Beth Moseley

Science On Your Doorstep

Our community project, Science on Your Doorstep, is designed to bring the wonder of science to families, children and young people in key target areas of Norwich. The project's flagship event is **Bugs and Beasts** – a free, family event held in a different public park each year, centred around nature, biodiversity, conservation and sustainability.



Credit: Luke Witcomb

Support The Forum

We are an independent charity and receive no regular public funding. By making a small donation, you can help us to protect the building and present our programme of free and low-cost Festival events.

Parking at The Forum

Income from our car park is reinvested into our events and the building - so by parking with us you are supporting the work we do!

The Forum Trust Charity Number 1074619

Thank you to our 2027 Sponsors and Supporters

Produced by

The Forum

"After last year's 10th anniversary and winning the Festival of the Year at the Suffolk & Norfolk Tourism Awards 2026, Norwich Science Festival is back with more energy than ever! Come and share the excitement, joy and wonder!"

Chris Gribble, Chief Executive

Principal Partner

UEA University of East Anglia Norwich

"The Norwich Science Festival provides a fantastic opportunity for UEA to showcase a wide range of scientific research to local communities. It brings new ideas and discoveries to the heart of the city, showcasing real impact, answering challenging questions and inspiring the scientists of the future. We're delighted to continue to support this important celebration of science."

Vice-Chancellor Professor David Maguire

With thanks to the University of East Anglia's Public Events and Engagement Team: Tanner Barnes, Rachel Innes, Emily Bond and Sophie Jones.

Headline Sponsor

RWE

"RWE are thrilled to be the headline sponsor of Norwich Science Festival 2027, a great event for inspiring the next generation of scientists and innovators as we strive to live sustainably and protect our planet."

Edward Robb, Stakeholder Manager

Sponsors

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Norwich University of the Arts
UEA University of East Anglia Norwich

Festival Partners

Norwich Theatre
National Centre for Writing
Earlham Institute
John Innes Centre
Quadram Institute Science • Health • Food • Innovation
norwich research park
YALM
epicstudios
Book Hive
Norfolk Wildlife Trust
SPAN St Peter Mancroft Norwich
mind Norfolk and Waveney REST Café
East Anglian Air Ambulance
Norwich Arts Centre
TOAST
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Norfolk & Norwich Science Association
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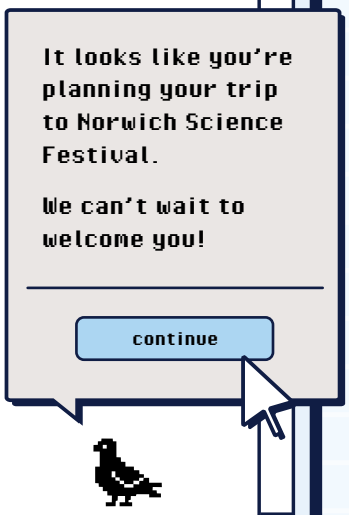
Events I don't want to miss...

Feel free to make this space your own!



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The Forum

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Festival loading...

Norwich Science Festival 2027

Events

Tickets

Book online

Venues

Access

Click to book your tickets

norwichsciencefestival.co.uk

Start