

The World of
Brian Wildsmith

20 Apr — 4 Jan 2025



Exhibition Events Guide

Free Entry, Donations Welcome

[#BrianWildsmith](#)

Barnsley Museums pays homage to this extraordinary, Barnsley born illustrator with a two site exhibition of rarely seen artworks and objects

Coming Home

The Life of Brian Wildsmith

»» Experience Barnsley

Paws, Claws, Tales & Claws

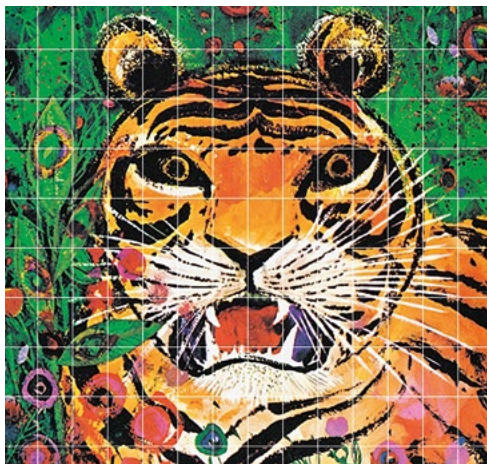
The Art of Brian Wildsmith
& The Next Generation

»» Cooper Gallery

Would you like to create a gigantic tiger mural?

Sat 20 Apr, 11am–3pm
Cooper Gallery
Free, just drop in

Paul Morton, local illustrator, and author of the **Bug Belly** stories will be on hand at the Cooper Gallery. Pencils and crayons at the ready, colour your own mosaic tile, to become part of a huge jigsaw which will be on display throughout the exhibition. Suitable for all ages.



Amazing Animal Alphabet

Wed 29 May, 10am–12pm & 1–3pm
Cooper Gallery
Free, just drop in

Join us to create an alphabet of animals in this fun, hands on session.

Suitable for all ages.



All Books Bright and Beautiful

Fri 31 May, 10am–12pm & 1–3pm
Experience Barnsley
£5 per child, book via Art Tickets

Work as a team to create a cool concertina book and learn techniques such as ribbon binding, pop-outs, cut-aways to add to vibrant illustrations.

Suitable for children aged 5–11 and their adult.



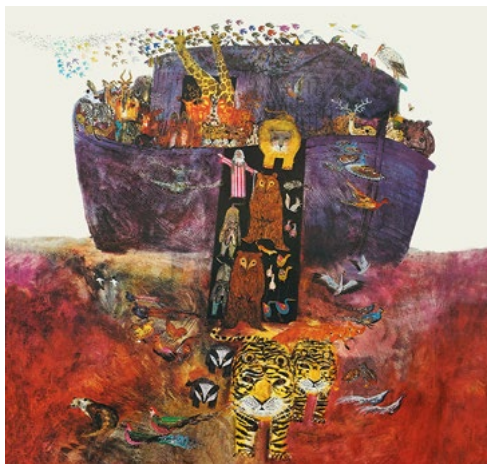
Animal Magic

Sat 8 Jun, 4pm & 6pm
Wakefield Cathedral

Yorkshire Philharmonic Choir combined with children's choirs from Wakefield schools perform two wonderful choral works about animals.

£10 for adults, free to children and students, book your tickets online at: yorkshirephilharmonicchoir.co.uk

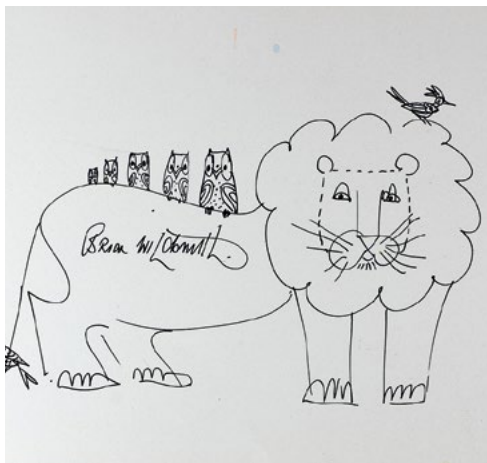
Suitable for all ages.



Brian's Big Weekend

Sat 3 Jul, 11am–3pm
Experience Barnsley Museum
& Cooper Gallery
Free, just drop in

Celebrate **Barnsley's Big Weekend** in style with lots of fun activities in the Gallery – all with a Brian Wildsmith theme! Visit the exhibitions, and help create our lions mane using 'Wildsmith's Wonderful World' fabrics, an exclusively designed range by Liberty Fabrics inspired by Brian's illustrations.



Bear Bops & Fox Trots

Thu 1 Aug, 10.30am & 1pm
Cooper Gallery
£3 per child, book via [Art Tickets](#)

One morning bear finds a cosy cave and goes for a snooze but before he knows it the cave turns out to be a hot air balloon basket and he is whisked away on a wondrous journey. Join bear as he dances his way from one escapade to another. This dance and movement workshop is suitable for children aged 3–7.



Animal Adventures in Wildsmith's World of Wonder

Wed 7 & Mon 12 Aug (relaxed
session), 10.30am & 1pm
Cooper Gallery
£3 per child, book via Art Tickets

Join our storyteller to embark on
an unforgettable adventure. This
interactive session combines story
and craft.

Suitable for children under 7.



Storytelling with Mama G

Thu 15 Aug, 11am & 1pm
Cooper Gallery
£3 per child, book via Art Tickets

Join **Mama G** in **Brian's Wild Wood**
to experience a magical, interactive
performance of Brian Wildsmith's new
book, and other stories.

Suitable for children 2-8 years.



How do I book event tickets through Art Tickets?

To book your place by via **Art Tickets**
please follow the QR code below or visit
barnsley-museums.arttickets.org.uk



Where can I find out more information about what's on at the museums?

For more detailed information about
our museums please follow the QR code
below or visit barnsley-museums.com



Paws, Claws, Tales & Roars

The Next Generation

»» Sadler Room, Cooper Gallery

20 April —
21 September

Barnsley Museums and Fusion, Barnsley's Cultural Education Partnership, are proud to present a display of winning artworks from the Art Competition for Schools 2024, celebrating the talents of children and young people (4–18 years) from across Barnsley.

The Sadler Room hosts community groups and events, where the gallery may be closed to the public. Check with the gallery if you are making a special visit.

[cooper-gallery.com](https://www.cooper-gallery.com)

Image credit: Lucy Taylor, Lacewood Primary School, Barnsley



Coming Home

The Life of Brian Wildsmith

»» Experience Barnsley

For the first time Brian's personal collection of over 40 colourful original illustrations, early works, drawings and paintings will be on display in the beautiful setting of the Cooper Gallery. The walls will be filled with colour and vivid characters. It's a perfect destination for art lovers of all ages and our younger visitors can enjoy our specially created forest activity area 'Brian's Wild Wood', upstairs in the Sadler Room.

Paws, Claws, Tales & Claws

The Art of Brian Wildsmith

»» Cooper Gallery

We tell the inspirational story of Brian's life and career, from his childhood growing up in the mining communities around Hoyland and Barnsley to his first break into publishing and travels to Hollywood. The exhibition contains memorabilia, photographs, drawings and original artwork from the Brian Wildsmith archive and private collection. His life is a fantastic tale in itself

The development of *The World of Brian Wildsmith* exhibition from the first idea to opening the doors has involved contributions from many people. It has also meant Barnsley Museums have been able to support artists, local businesses and partners in the arts and culture sector.

We are proud to be able to bring a collection like Brian's over from France into Barnsley, to be seen together for the very first time.

It is thanks to the work of Barnsley Museums & Heritage Trust and to the generosity of visitors to our museums and heritage sites that we are able to do this.

To help us create more great exhibitions and activities in the future you could....

- Donate £5, text **MOLE5** to 70085.
- Buy gifts in our shop or online, or hire our venue for a special day.
- Join us in an activity, workshop or become a volunteer.
- Sign up for our newsletter at **bmht.org** and follow us on social media.