

Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at 1:18:43 PM Greenwich Mean Time

**Subject:** Latest news and events from Leisure, Libraries and Heritage services  
**Date:** Wednesday, 18 February 2026 at 09:44:03 Greenwich Mean Time  
**From:** Wiltshire Council  
**To:** clerk@rowdeparishcouncil.gov.uk

# Leisure and Libraries



18 February 2026

## Wiltshire Libraries Go All In for National Year of Reading

# If you're into it, read into it.

Discover more at [goallin.org.uk](http://goallin.org.uk)



**GO  
ALL  
IN.**

National  
Year of  
Reading  
2026

Wiltshire Libraries are taking part in the National Year of Reading 2026. The theme is 'Go All In', encouraging people to reconnect with reading by linking it to interests they already enjoy — from music, sport and film to food, creativity and family time.

Throughout 2026, libraries across Wiltshire will host a wide range of events and activities for all ages, including author talks, creative

sessions and community events, helping bring people together and encourage reading for pleasure.

Find out more about what's happening at your local library

## Lime Kiln fitness suite now open



The refurbished fitness suite at Lime Kiln Leisure Centre in Royal Wootton Bassett is now open.

The upgrade includes a fully decorated gym space, brand new fitness equipment, an expanded free-weights area, upgraded cardio equipment, and a new functional zone with turf and training rigs. The refurbishment also includes improved flooring, air conditioning and a refurbished consultation room for induction and reviews.

The centre is open 7am-10pm Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm Saturday and 8am-8pm Sunday.

This follows gym refurbishments completed in 2025 at Leighton Recreation Centre in Westbury, Marlborough Leisure Centre and Warminster Sports Centre.

[Find out more](#)

## Treasures from history



A new monthly series at the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre is giving residents the chance to explore original archive material and the stories behind it.

Treasures from History focuses on everyday life, crafts and traditions across Wiltshire, using documents from the archive collections to discover how people lived, worked and created in the past. Each session explores a different theme, from recipes and lace-making to folklore and local trades.

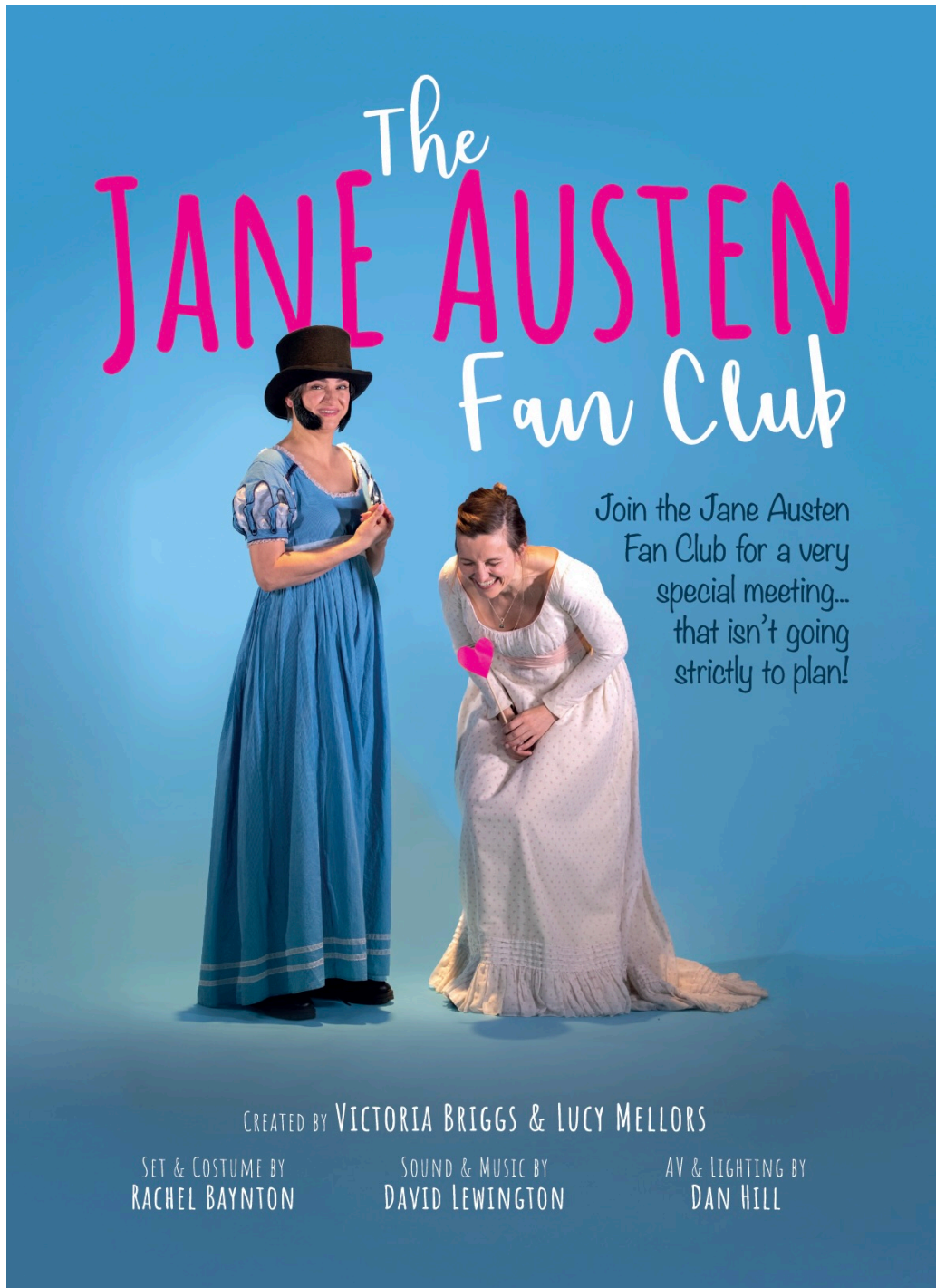
The next session, Recipes from the Archives, takes place on

Saturday 7 March, 11am-12pm at the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre.

Anyone interested can email [archives@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:archives@wiltshire.gov.uk) to find out more and book a place. A full programme of sessions runs throughout 2026.

[View the full programme](#)

## **Jane Austen Fan Club special event**



Devizes Library is hosting a special evening event inspired by the novels of Jane Austen, bringing together literature, performance and discussion.

The session explores themes of gender, relationships and money through Austen's work, asking how much has really changed for women over the last 250 years. Expect readings, discussion and a playful nod to Austen's enduring cultural legacy.

The event takes place on Thursday 26 February, 6pm-7.30pm at Devizes Library.

Tickets cost £8 and are available via TicketSource or from the library.

[Find out more](#)



## **Swim Challenge 2026**

Swim challenge 2026 is back, inviting swimmers to turn their regular pool time into a longer-term goal inspired by Wiltshire's historic landmarks.

Running across the year, the challenge lets people choose how far they want to go - from individual section to the full landmark route - and track their progress over time. It's designed to fit around existing swimming routines, whether you're starting small or building towards something bigger.

The challenge is open to members and non-members and can be completed at participating swimming pools across Wiltshire.

Find out more



## **Amy Jeffs in Conversation: Stories, Saints and Songs**

**Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre, Chippenham, SN15 3QN  
Wednesday 1 April, 7.30pm**

Join bestselling author Amy Jeffs for an evening exploring the mythology of Britain, from tales of Stonehenge and Bath to early modern folk ballads, witchcraft, the fey and medieval saints' legends.

To book your place, email [archives@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:archives@wiltshire.gov.uk). Tickets cost £10.

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