

Reading list to complement the exhibition:

This is Your Heritage, stories from the Indian community



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Adult Fiction



[Year of the runaways by Sunjeev Sahota](#)

The Year of the Runaways tells of the bold dreams and daily struggles of an unlikely family thrown together by circumstance. Thirteen young men live in a house in Sheffield, each in flight from India and in desperate search of a new life. Tarlochan, a former rickshaw driver, will say nothing about his past in Bihar; and Avtar has a secret that binds him to protect the chaotic Randeep.



[The Year of the Runaways | South Gloucestershire Libraries - BorrowBox](#)



[The Buddha of suburbia by Hanif Kureishi](#)

The hero of Hanif Kureishi's debut novel is dreamy teenager Karim, desperate to escape suburban South London and experience the forbidden fruits which the 1970s seem to offer. When the unlikely opportunity of a life in the theatre announces itself, Karim starts to win the sort of attention he has been craving - albeit with some rude and raucous results.



[The Buddha of Suburbia | South Gloucestershire Libraries - BorrowBox](#)



[White teeth by Zadie Smith](#)

One of the most talked about fictional debuts of ever, *White Teeth* is a funny, generous, big-hearted novel, adored by critics and readers alike. Dealing - among many other things - with friendship, love, war, three cultures and three families over three generations, one brown mouse, and the tricky way the past has of coming back and biting you on the ankle, it is a life-affirming, riotous must-read of a book.



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[White Teeth | South Gloucestershire Libraries - BorrowBox](#)



[Anita and me by Meera Syal](#)

It's 1972. Meena is nine years old and lives in the village of Tollington, 'the jewel of the Black Country'. She is the daughter of Indian parents who have come to England to give her a better life. As one of the few Punjabi inhabitants of her village, her daily struggle for independence is different from most. She wants fishfingers and chips, not chapati and dhal; she wants an English Christmas, not the usual interminable Punjabi festivities – but more than anything, she wants to roam the backyards of working-class Tollington with feisty Anita Rutter and her gang.



[Anita and Me | South Gloucestershire Libraries - BorrowBox](#)



[Kololo Hill by Neema Shah](#)

A devastating decree is issued: all Ugandan Asians must leave the country in ninety days. They must take only what they can carry, give up their money and never return. For Asha and Pran, married a matter of months, it means abandoning the family business that Pran has worked so hard to save. For his mother, Jaya, it means saying goodbye to the house that has been her home for decades. But violence is escalating in Kampala, and people are disappearing. Will they all make it to safety in Britain and will they be given refuge if they do?



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[Kololo Hill | South Gloucestershire Libraries - BorrowBox](#)



[Erotic stories for Punjabi widows by Balli Kaur Jaswal](#)

When Nikki takes a creative writing job at her local temple, with visions of emancipating the women of the community she left behind as a self-important teenager, she's shocked to discover a group of barely literate women who have no interest in her ideals. Yet to her surprise, the white dupatta of the widow hides more than just their modesty – these are women who have spent their lives in the shadows of fathers, brothers and husbands; being dutiful, raising children and going to temple, but whose inner lives are as rich and fruitful as their untold stories. But as they begin to open up to each other about womanhood, sexuality, and the dark secrets within the community, Nikki realises that the illicit nature of the class may place them all in danger.

East meets west and tradition clashes with modernity in a thought-provoking cross-cultural novel that might make you look again at the women in your life...



[Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows | South Gloucestershire Libraries - BorrowBox](#)



[Love, marriage by Monica Ali](#)

Yasmin Ghorami has a lot to be grateful for: a loving family, a fledgling career in medicine, and a charming, handsome fiancée, fellow doctor Joe Sangster. But as the wedding day draws closer and Yasmin's parents get to know Joe's firebrand feminist mother, both families must confront the unravelling of long-held secrets, lies and betrayals. As Yasmin dismantles her own assumptions about the people she holds most dear, she's also forced to ask herself what she really wants in a relationship and what a 'love marriage' actually means. *Love Marriage* is a story about who we are and how we love in today's Britain - with all the complications and contradictions of life, desire, marriage and family.

Adult Non-Fiction



[Brown baby: a memoir of race, family and home by Nikesh Shukla](#)

In *Brown Baby*, Nikesh Shukla, author of the bestselling *The Good Immigrant*, explores themes of sexism, feminism, parenting and our shifting ideas of home. This memoir, by turns heartwrenching, hilariously funny and intensely relatable, is dedicated to the author's two young daughters, and serves as an act of remembrance to the grandmother they never had a chance to meet. Through love, grief, food and fatherhood, Shukla shows how it's possible to believe in hope.



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[The boy with the topknot: a memoir of love, secrets and lies... by Sathnam Sanghera](#)

For Sathnam Sanghera, growing up in Wolverhampton in the eighties was a confusing business. On the one hand, these were the heady days of George Michael mix-tapes, Dallas on TV and, if he was lucky, the occasional Bounty Bar. On the other, there was his wardrobe of tartan smocks, his 30p-an-hour job at the local sewing factory and the ongoing challenge of how to tie the perfect top-knot. And then there was his family, whose strange and often difficult behaviour he took for granted until, at the age of twenty-four, Sathnam made a discovery that changed everything he ever thought he knew about them.



[The Boy with the Topknot | South Gloucestershire Libraries - BorrowBox](#)



[Right sort of girl by Anita Rani](#)

Anita Rani was a girl who didn't fit in anywhere. She was always destined to stand out: from playing Mary in her otherwise all-white nursery nativity to growing up in eighties Yorkshire with her Punjabi family. After spending her childhood in her parents' factory and teenage years figuring out how best to get rid of hair that seemed to be growing EVERYWHERE, Anita writes for anyone who has ever felt different or alone.



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[The Right Sort of Girl | South Gloucestershire Libraries - BorrowBox](#)



[Partition voices: untold British voices by Kavita Puri](#)

The division of the Indian subcontinent in 1947 into India and Pakistan saw millions uprooted and resulted in unspeakable violence. It happened far away, but it would shape modern Britain. Dotted across homes in Britain are people who were witnesses to one of the most tumultuous events of the twentieth century. But their memory of partition has been shrouded in silence. In her eye-opening and timely work, Kavita Puri uncovers remarkable testimonies from former subjects of the Raj who are now British citizens - including her own father.
