

# The Birmingham & Midland Institute for Academics

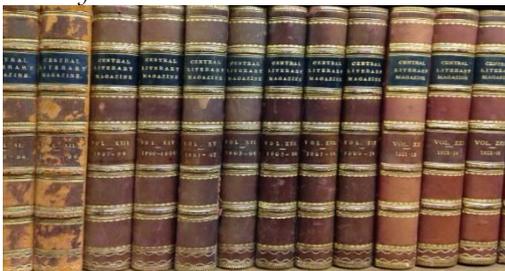
The BMI has been supporting cultural and educational activities in Birmingham for over 150 years, and it still has much to offer to academics and researchers. The Institute, according to its original statute, exists for the 'Diffusion and Advancement of Science, Literature and Art amongst all Classes of Persons resident in Birmingham and Midland Counties'. This remains the case, and we would love to see more scholarly use of the collections.

📖 The original Birmingham Library was founded in 1779, and its contents – with many more recent additions – are now held in the Library at the BMI. This provides an invaluable research tool, particularly in the following areas:

- 📖 English Literature
- 📖 History (both British and International)
- 📖 History of science
- 📖 Music
- 📖 Fine Art

📖 The Library is staffed by knowledgeable and helpful volunteers who are able to help you to find appropriate resources. You can contact them at [library@bmi.org.uk](mailto:library@bmi.org.uk).

📖 The Library offers a quiet working space away from distractions. If you fancy a change from that, there is the lovely Members' Room, where you can drink tea from the Café and read or write in peace. The Members' Room is also furnished with a selection of the days' papers, as well as a range of journals such as the *Literary Review* and *New Scientist*.



If you are interested in finding out more about the BMI, you can visit their website (<https://bmi.org.uk/>), or contact them to ask for a tour or more information ([events@bmi.org.uk](mailto:events@bmi.org.uk)). If you'd like to discuss ideas or events relating to the BMI more broadly, you can contact one of their Trustees, Dr Serena Trowbridge, at [serena.trowbridge@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:serena.trowbridge@bcu.ac.uk).



📖 The BMI has a rich history, including not only its books but also its past presidents and members (including Charles Dickens, T. H. Huxley, Charles Kingsley, Sir Arthur Sullivan, Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, and more recently Fay Weldon and Julian Lloyd-Webber, with the current President being Simon Callow).

📖 It is an ideal venue for visiting with students; tailored tours of the building can be arranged, and appropriate books for a teaching session can be laid out.

📖 The BMI is located in a Grade II\* listed building in central Birmingham, only a few minutes' walk from New Street and Snow Hill stations.

📖 There are a number of rooms and large spaces that are ideal for seminars and conferences, including two large auditoria which seat up to 250 people.

📖 The BMI offers a wide range of cultural activities, including weekly lectures on diverse subjects by experts in the field. You can attend them, or offer to give one to share your research with a wider audience!

The BMI is a membership organisation. Membership offers you use of the members' room, a discount in the coffee shop, reduced or free access to events, and, of course, use of the Library. Full-price membership is £23.50-£40. A membership form can be found here: <https://bmi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/membership-form-2018-data.pdf>

