# Hidden stories of Christmas Steps set to transform Bristol's iconic street



An engaging event titled “Hidden Stories of Christmas Steps” is set to transform one of Bristol's most iconic streets into a stage for history and performance. The event, organised by the Bristol-based Invisible Circus, will take place next Saturday, March 8, from 1.30pm to 6pm, where The Christmas Steps, connecting the St Michael’s Hill area to Lewins Mead in the city centre, will come alive with characters from the past.

The Invisible Circus has curated an eclectic mix of historical figures who have either lived in or passed through the area, promising a unique experience for attendees. A spokesperson for the organisation noted, “From sailors and soldiers to circus legends and scandalous criminals, the location has seen it all.” Visitors will be able to interact with a host of characters, including "Dr Death" at the Chapel of the Three Kings, the renowned high rope walker and abolitionist Carlos Trower outside his residence at number 7, and Mrs Shufflewick, a celebrated comedian and drag artist, outside Chance and Counters, among others.

In addition to these immersive performances, guests can enjoy live acoustic music from Kai Carter’s duo, featuring banjo and fiddle, which will complement the historical storytelling and enhance the overall atmosphere of the event. The organisers have emphasised the family-friendly nature of the day, making it appealing to a broad audience.

This event marks a return of the “Hidden Stories of Christmas Steps,” which was first introduced last year. Project Manager Becky Boucherat expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming event, urging participants to "dive into history with open eyes and a curious heart." She credited Dr Paul Green for unearthing incredible true stories that have provided rich inspiration for the performances. Boucherat stated, “Hidden Stories of Christmas Steps promises a wild ride through Bristol’s past, where fact meets fiction, and history blends with art."

Doug Francisco, the creative director of Invisible Circus, remarked on the organisation’s mission to unveil the lesser-known narratives and hidden histories of the area. Francisco stated, “We’ve been bringing the unseen histories and untold stories to life for decades, and now we’re unlocking one of Bristol’s best-kept secrets – Christmas Steps.” He acknowledged the historical significance of the location, emphasising its mixture of mystery and beauty, and expressed excitement about revealing both dark and delightful aspects of its history to the public.

The event aims to foster connections between local businesses, residents, and the rich tapestry of Bristol's past, as the Invisible Circus continues to engage the community through creative storytelling and performance.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\_Invisible\_Circus\_(circus\_troupe)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Invisible_Circus_%28circus_troupe%29) - This URL provides background information on The Invisible Circus, a Bristol-based theatre and circus troupe known for transforming spaces into artistic venues, which supports the claim about the organisation's involvement in creative performances.
2. <https://www.unit15bristol.com/invisible-circus> - This URL explains The Invisible Circus's role in creating community engagement through art and performance, aligning with their mission to bring unseen histories to life.
3. <https://invisiblecircus.co.uk> - This URL highlights The Invisible Circus's approach to transforming disused spaces into artistic performances, which aligns with their creative strategy for events like 'Hidden Stories of Christmas Steps'.
4. <https://www.noahwire.com> - This URL is the source of the article itself, providing the initial information about the 'Hidden Stories of Christmas Steps' event organised by The Invisible Circus.
5. <https://visitbristol.co.uk/things-to-do/christmas-steps> - This URL could provide additional context about Christmas Steps as a historical location in Bristol, supporting the event's focus on local history.
6. <https://www.bristolmuseums.org.uk/stories/hidden-stories-of-bristol> - This URL could offer insights into Bristol's hidden stories and historical figures, which might be relevant to the characters featured in The Invisible Circus's event.
7. <https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/whats-on/shoppers-bristols-famous-christmas-steps-9985207> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
8. <https://news.google.com/rss/articles/CBMikAFBVV95cUxOSy1iZDdib0N2TUJUWUlJcXNobDVnVnUzc3JRdFQ2T2lNRllYYTBSNWxqT0U3M2lKRXdnXzlTWEdWdlJYbGVkYUpzamJDQ3hRUG1pM0hubGFRSUNINlo1VUlVSFR6ZnZ2Q184YXo3MWx6c0NnMkZjajkwUWd6aVFCYjhSS0pnaWhfUExHM0Y5NzHSAZYBQVVfeXFMTnJFa29MRFFNUDB3cTJZbmUzaVlkQ3hwTnp6T05UQU9VZ0wxV0lLcHdScnV5RHc0NERHbno1T2czeVVuYnZzdlVtMXkzOXZHUmw4TlNIYkRFYy1nZWNrNHNaVXVSOTZNZGlmWjAyYTNzSnpBMkxjTUxIdmNuT1JNcHFuYy0zbm5hYlJDUUZ1V1BzZDdaRUtR?oc=5&hl=en-US&gl=US&ceid=US:en> - Please view link - unable to able to access data