

Glemsford Library
Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday 12th April 2016

Since the last Annual Parish Meeting I am pleased to report the following:

April 2015 – April 2016

- Friends Group healthy and a good core of trustees.
- Finances healthy with thanks to the Quiz, Phoenix Card Sales, donations made at the library and prudent spending!
- FoGL purchases for the library – Tassimo hot drinks machine; craft table; WiFi; contribution to library signs
- New Clubs – Job/CV, Chill & Chat,
- Hospitality for annual Village Spring Clean (and also for this weekend 16th April) and present at village events.
- Facebook Page started September
- Successful application to World Book Night April 2015 for free books – distributed among youth club
- Key events during the year:
 - Summer Reading Challenge
 - Fund raising Quiz + Fish & Chip Supper - September
 - Star Wars October
 - Sea Story – Creative Arts East - November
 - Harry Potter – February
 - Glemsford Reception Pupils School visit March
 - MApril (ongoing)

It is now five years since we responded to the consultation on the future of the library service in Suffolk and in our Expression of Interest our overarching aim was to reach out to the village of Glemsford and district and to become a multi-faceted hub of the area.

Key to this aim being achieved is the enhancement of the village hall. Included was a move to streamline the opening hours which, after wide consultation, came about last September.

Sue Baker started as Library Manager in June prior to which the library had been staffed from other libraries, mainly Clare, whilst recruiting. They all did a wonderful job. Mrs Janette Compton – Rooks joined in October.

Refurbishments now starting and new look library due to open 21st April + new signs – cake and tea for everyone as it is the Queen's birthday as well!

In conclusion I wish to thank all friends and trustees, especially Anne Edwards, Anne Mallalieu and Adrian Southgate (who stepped down last Autumn), as well as Sue Baker, Jack Norman, Janette Compton-Rooks and all Suffolk Library staff, Glemsford Parish Council, Cllr Richard Kemp and finally everyone who visits the library and thereby helping to keep the library service going. Like so many services, libraries are not immune from council cuts and even though Suffolk Libraries are leading the way and have been given the Gold Standard by leaders in government and wider literary circles we still have to do our bit too!

Everyone's support and enthusiasm throughout the year makes such a difference and so valued.

Well worth and visit and free to join!

Harriet North
Friends of Glemsford Library, April 2016