

Infosheet

Literacy Volunteers 1996-2018



Over two decades of service to children

January 2018

What the children like about Literacy Volunteers!

I love learning with her - Korben

I enjoy reading different types of books and playing Swap - Roxanne

I enjoyed discussing what I read and talked about any facts - Taylor

She really helps me to feel better at reading - Breige

Her helping me to use expression and reading my book because we both like it and want to find out what happened - Summer

Reading, because it gets my imagination running very much - Grace



A Very Warm Welcome Back to All Our Volunteers, Schools and Colleagues

Dear Schools and Volunteers

Welcome back to 2018, what a year we would like it to be!

It has been great getting out and speaking with our fabulous volunteers about our current position and possible plans. I am so impressed with the way that many of you have come forward to help us out.

You are a very talented bunch of people with lots of energy and ideas and we now have:

- a team of people who are happy to help at events and promotions;
- at least three potential new Trustees;
- and a few people interested in supporting our fundraising efforts.

In fact, if more of you would like to help with this aspect of what we do please let us know and we can get together and make 2018 a year to celebrate.

This year we hope to build our partnerships with Nottingham City Libraries, Small Steps Big Changes and The Book Trust and we welcome potential new partnerships with The City of Literature Team, Bromley Library and Nottingham's Literacy Hub.

We also want to expand our offer to schools and find creative ways to support you to raise literacy and aspiration in our young people.

So bring on 2018 we can't wait!

Dawn Claypole
Chief Executive

Hello everyone

I do hope that you have all had a happy Christmas and were able to spend time with family and friends, although I know some of them are scattered around the world.

Here I am again writing a requested piece for the Infosheet. This is my 4th year as chair of trustees and I have enjoyed every minute of it.....really!

It has certainly been a learning curve for me with so many changes during that time that are necessary to our continuing success as a charity.

There have been some complicated issues to take on

board but I am sure our combined skills will help us to make the right decisions about our future.

My thanks as ever go to Dawn, my fellow trustees, Karen and the staff team for all their time and enthusiasm.

Here's to 2018 and wishing all you amazing and dedicated Volunteers a happy and inspirational year ahead with the so important time that you spend with the children, we value every one of you.

Gaynor Preston, Chair of Trustees



The Queen's Award for
Voluntary Service 2006

School Info

Subscription Charge News for our wonderful schools

You will be pleased to know that despite it costing us upwards of £516 per year per volunteer to recruit, train and support individuals in school with training, development and resources, the trustees have decided to keep subscriptions at £350 for the funding year April 2018-March 2019. Whilst this raises a hefty challenge for

us in terms of fundraising to meet the difference, we completely realise the position many of you are in terms of budgets. We know that many of you love your Volunteers and that they can and do make an impact on the reading levels of the children they work with and we will work hard to support you.

Volunteer Info

Annual General Meeting October 2017

What a fantastic turn out (36 in attendance and 26 apologies) for our annual celebration and get together at The New Art Exchange in Nottingham. We had some challenging issues to discuss, not least how to survive as a charity when our County grant ceases in March 2018. However, many of you came forward with ideas and ways to help us fundraise and our thanks go to Patricia Harman and Elaine Dobson for their help in putting us in contact with people who have made or would like to make donations to us.

If you know of anyone who might like to donate please let the office or your Area Co-ordinator know.

Successful array of showcases for the Charity

Thank you Santander! What a Summer Showcase of our love of books and reading!

With thanks to Santander we kicked off our summer recruitment project, targeting two of Nottingham City's fabulous festival dates - Nottingham Play Day and The Green Festival, not only did we recruit 15 new Volunteers but we also managed to showcase our services and let everyone know how much we love books and reading here in Nottingham. We can't wait to show the clips we made of children and families talking about why reading is important to them. They will be on our website soon.

Our thanks also go to "Encore Performing Arts" for dedicating their production of Agatha Christie's "And Then There Were None". In collections after each performance they collected a total of £314.99 pounds for us and if you didn't catch the Play, check out their website as they have even more on offer. The quality is outstanding, as is the venue. Their website is www.encoreperformingarts.co.uk.

David Bostock at Cockburn Lucas Financial Services for their great donation of £250.

Brian O'Neil for his generous donation of £500.

Sally Blanchard at The Elms Parent School Association for their fabulous donation of £1000.



Small Steps Big Changes for their innovation grant which has enabled us to work with The Book Trust and Nottingham City Libraries on some really great "Story Telling Stay and Play Sessions". If you have under fives in your lives check these sessions out. The next ones start on January 12th at The Riverside Library in Bulwell and continue for 6 weeks of total fun learning to love books!

Literacy Volunteers Sponsored Walk September 24th 2017



Wow...Go Literacy Volunteers!

What a great turnout for a fabulous walk guided by the wonderful Bill Bottomly around Linby and Newstead. Bill's Literary Trail is dedicated to us as a

charity and we were proud to walk in the footsteps of some of Nottingham's great literary stars. We will certainly make this an annual event and so next year we will be looking to double the number of walkers and treble the £1000 we managed to raise.....let's aim high! Our plan is to run one high quality fundraising event per term. We will really need it next year, so contact me if you can help? Or how about VNM fundraising?

Our thanks go to Andrew Streeter and Swandec Accounting, Jane Streeter and The Bookshop in Lowdham, Martin and Mercy Aylott, Helen Barnett, Deborah Millar, Rob McIntyre; Sue Fenton, Smita Patel, Chris Large, Susan Grant, Catherine Foley and Julia Gunn.

Feedback - You Said We Listened

Thank you for taking the time to complete the annual feedback forms, your Area Co-ordinator has been responding to any issues or suggestions. There were three main topics raised and we dealt with these in the following ways:

Volunteers told us they wanted improved feedback from school. What we have done:

- In the September Info sheet, we asked schools to arrange an update meeting with their Volunteer at the end of each term.
- ACs are showing School Feedback forms to Volunteers on their visits, where we have received them.
- ACs also explain at Introduction Meetings the importance of feedback for volunteers.

Volunteers requested resources. What we have done:

- ACs are circulating resources as requested.

Volunteers commented that themed network meetings work well. What we have done:

- We now have themed meetings and when possible we will invite speakers along.

We appreciate any suggestions for new ideas and people who can come along to share information with us. If you have any ideas please let your AC know.

Dates for your diary

Generally, the term dates are as below but there will be variations so please check with your school and it's a good idea to arrange your start dates before the end of each term.

SPRING 2018

City Schools

Term begins 8th January 2018, Term ends 29th March 2018

Half Term 19th to 23rd February 2018 inclusive

County Schools

Term begins 8th January 2018, Term ends 29th March 2018

Half Term 19th to 23rd February 2018 inclusive

Derbyshire Schools

Term begins 2nd January 2018 to 23rd March 2018

Half Term 19th to 23rd February 2018 inclusive

SUMMER 2018

City Schools

Term begins 16th April 2018, Term ends 26th July, 2018

Half Term 28th May to 1st June, 2018 inclusive

County Schools

Term begins 16th April 2018, Term ends 25th July, 2018

Half Term 28th May to 1st June, 2018 inclusive

Derbyshire Schools

Term begins 9th April 2018, Term ends 20th July 2018

Half Term 28th May to 1st June 2018 inclusive

VOLUNTEER NETWORK MEETINGS 2018 - You are all invited to attend any of the meetings you can get to - they don't have to be in your area or with your Area Co-ordinator!

No.	Date	Time	Venue & AC	Address
1	Fri 2nd Feb	10.30am - 12.00pm	Selston Parish Hall Sue Marriot	Mansfield Road, Selston NG16 6EE Theme: Childrens Books
2	Tues 13th Feb	10.30am - 12.00pm	Hyson Green Emma Trowbridge	Hyson Green Community Centre, 37a Gregory Boulevard, Hyson Green, NG7 6BE Theme: Childrens Books
3	Mon 26th March	10.30am - 12.00pm	Arnold Library Emma Collis	161 Front St, Arnold, NG5 7EE Theme: Childrens Books
4	TBC Sue will be contacting Vols to book the best day for attendance	10.30am - 12.00pm	Carr Hill Primary Sue Marriot	Tiln Lane, Retford, DN22 6SW Theme: Childrens Books

Please let us know if you are coming to the above events so we can sort out refreshments and handouts. Phone Karen on 0115 8765474 or email at karen@literacyvolunteers.org.uk or let your Area Co-ordinator know.

Contact us: Literacy Volunteers, Woodthorpe Grange, Woodthorpe Drive, Nottingham NG5 4HA

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Chief Executive: Dawn Claypole Tel: 0115 876 5993, Administrator: Karen Ballinger Tel: 0115 876 5474, Area Co-ordinator (City/North Notts): Sue Marriott, Area Co-ordinator (City E/South Notts/Newark and Gedling): Emma Collis, Area Co-ordinator (City W/West Notts/Derbyshire): Emma Trowbridge