

FRIENDS OF IPSWICH COUNTY LIBRARY

England & Wales · Charity number 1165946

Details

Other names FICL

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2016-03-09

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address County Library
Northgate Street
Ipswich
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Website www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/visit/locations-and-times/ipswich-county-library

Activities

Objects: 1. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN IPSWICH, SUFFOLK AND THE SURROUNDING AREA, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY THE PROVISION OF A LENDING LIBRARY.2. TO FURTHER OR BENEFIT THE RESIDENTS OF IPSWICH, SUFFOLK AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RACE OR OF POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS OR OTHER OPINIONS BY ASSOCIATING TOGETHER THE SAID RESIDENTS AND THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN A COMMON EFFORT TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND TO PROVIDE FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE RESIDENTS.

Activities: To provide support and to enhance the service offered by Ipswich County Library by fundraising and volunteering at events and activities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Suffolk

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£1,787	£1,171	-	-
2024-03-31	£889	£1,017	-	-
2023-03-31	£1,207	£1,339	-	-
2022-03-31	£614	£378	-	-
2021-03-31	£8,503	£9,903	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alice Hung Wai		2024-09-05
KATE JILLIAN BYFORD		2013-04-16
Martin Malcolm Stiff		2024-09-05
RALPH GIRLING		2013-04-16

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Friends of Ipswich County Library

Annual General Meeting

11 November 2025

5:00 – 6:00pm

Minutes

- **Notes from the AGM 2024:**

- These were accepted as a true report.

- **Election of trustees:**

- Chair – the decision has been postponed until the next ordinary meeting.
- Vice Chair – Martin agreed to continue.
- Treasurer – Kate agreed to continue.
- Secretary – Rebecca agreed to continue.

As there was no competition for these posts, there was no voting necessary.

- **Financial report:**

- Kate presented the accounts for 2024-25 which were accepted.
- Kate asked if she could change the filing period with the Charity Commission as the accounts are completely out of synch with the timing of the AGM – this was agreed.

- **Review of the year:**

- In September 2024, we celebrated the centenary of the library with various events, with some funding provided by us.
- There were various events over the Christmas period for children and Blank Page project activities.
- We held a quiz night which was well attended – and provided some income for us.

- There were some author events, including Sally Vickers, Mike Gale and Jasper Fforde.
- Some successful events were organised for Black History Month in October 2025.
- The Blank Page project has proved to be very successful with good attendance from young people.
- The sales of Kate's book are now coming to us – and at the very reasonable price of £3.00.
- On 1st June 2025, the library service was taken back into Suffolk County Council.
- **AOB**
 - We hope to welcome a new member, as she attended the AGM.

Friends of Ipswich County Library ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2024-25

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31 March 2025

updated 02/12/24

	2023/24	2024/25
INCOME		
Sale of goods	£174.60	£200.20
One-off events for adults		£351.00
One-off events for children	£515.00	
Regular events/activities		
Donations	£145.06	£778.60
Miscellaneous	£54.70	£456.92
	<u>£889.36</u>	<u>£1,786.72</u>

EXPENDITURE

Purchase of goods	£59.02	13.84
One-off events for adults		£91.15
One-off events for children	£361.05	
Regular events/activities		
Catering and equipment	£41.97	£884.75
Miscellaneous	£554.53	£181.60
	<u>£1,016.57</u>	<u>£1,171.34</u>
Surplus (deficit) for the year	<u><u>-£127.21</u></u>	<u><u>£615.38</u></u>

BALANCE SHEET

at 31 March 2024

at 31 March 2025

ASSETS

Cash at Bank	£2,696.90	Cash at Bank	£3,448.29
Cash in Hand	£144.51	Cash in Hand	£8.50
Debtors	£0.00	Debtors	
	<u>£2,841.41</u>		<u>£3,456.79</u>

LESS LIABILITIES

Creditors	£0.00		£0.00
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NET ASSETS

	<u><u>£2,841.41</u></u>		<u><u>£3,456.79</u></u>
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FRIENDS OF IPSWICH COUNTY LIBRARY

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Friends of Ipswich County Library Annual Report

Author: Bradley Allsop, Friends of Ipswich County Library Chair and Trustee

Charity's name

Friends of Ipswich County Library ('FICL').

Registration number

Charity number: 1165946

Registered address

Ipswich County Library, Northgate Street, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 3DE, England.

Structure and trustees

Membership of FICL is open to anyone holding a Suffolk Libraries card and is interested in furthering its purposes, and who, by applying for membership, has indicated his, her or their agreement to become a member and acceptance of the duty of members set out in our constitution.

Trustees are elected from these members at our Annual General Meeting, this year held in August.

Our current trustees are:

- Bradley Allsop - Chair
- Ralph Girling - Vice Chair
- Rebecca Page - Secretary
- Kate Byford - Treasurer
- Martin Stiff
- Charmain Osborne - Ex Officio Trustee
- Alice Wai

Organisational objectives

Our organisational objectives, as outlined in our constitution are:

“To advance the education of the general public in Ipswich, Suffolk and the surrounding area, in particular but not exclusively by the provision of a lending library;

To further or benefit the residents of Ipswich, Suffolk and the neighbourhood, without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents”

Activity over the past year

The past year has been a positive one for the Friends of Ipswich County Library: we have seen our number of active members grow and have celebrated the 100 year anniversary of the opening of Ipswich County Library.

We have held bimonthly meetings throughout 2024 where Friends Group members have been able to meet and discuss ideas for supporting Ipswich County Library, fundraising and event ideas and receive news and updates about the library services and wider Suffolk Libraries.

Members of the Friends group also volunteered at Ipswich County Library events, supporting their delivery and paying for refreshments, especially for author events held in the library during evenings throughout the year.

In May 2024, we held a quiz night in Ipswich County Library which was well attended and raised £260.00 for the charity.

We also held our AGM in August 2024 which was quorate and saw key roles in the charity filled.

There was quite a considerable sum made through donations – there are collecting tins on the counters and the money is split between Suffolk Libraries and the Friends group. We have continued to sell pens, poly pockets and envelopes – these provide a steady income throughout the year. We have also received considerable sums every month from the Sporting Memories group who have, very kindly, agreed to donate monies from a weekly competition.

We supported the Suffolk Libraries 'Make a Difference with a Daisy' campaign by purchasing a daisy. We also bought a garden storage chest for the library roof garden and some Interlino train packs for the All Hands on Tech sessions run on Saturday afternoons in the Children's Library.

Looking ahead to the upcoming year, we have several events in active development, including an information session on the Friends group combined with a talk on the importance of local libraries (aimed at increasing our membership further), a board games and/or Dungeons and Dragons competition, and another quiz (quizzes having proved popular events). It has been a pleasure to be involved with the charity this year and I greatly look forward to our activities in the coming year.

Friends of Ipswich County Library ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2023-24

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	2022/23	2023/24
INCOME		
Sale of goods	£310.50	£174.60
One-off events for adults	£632.00	
One-off events for children		£515.00
Regular events/activities		
Donations	£264.27	£145.06
Miscellaneous		£54.70
	<u>£1,206.77</u>	<u>£889.36</u>

EXPENDITURE

Purchase of goods	£579.56	£59.02
One-off events for adults	£559.05	
One-off events for children	£32.41	£361.05
Regular events/activities	£0.00	
Catering and equipment	£167.85	£41.97
Miscellaneous	£0.00	£554.53
	<u>£1,338.87</u>	<u>£1,016.57</u>
Surplus (deficit) for the year	<u>-£132.10</u>	<u>-£127.21</u>

BALANCE SHEET

	at 31 March 2023		at 31 March 2024
ASSETS			
Cash at Bank	£2,945.82	Cash at Bank	£2,696.90
Cash in Hand	£22.80	Cash in Hand	£144.51
Debtors	£0.00	Debtors	£0.00
	<u>£2,968.62</u>		<u>£2,841.41</u>
LESS LIABILITIES			
Creditors	£0.00		£0.00
NET ASSETS	<u>£2,968.62</u>		<u>£2,841.41</u>

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Chair's Report for 2022/23



We have been trying new ways of raising funds, and so tried raffling 100 squares to win an Easter Egg – this did not prove popular. A quiz in May was more successful and raised some income as well as being a very good and competitive evening.

There was quite a considerable sum made through donations – there are collecting tins on the counters and the money is split between Suffolk Libraries and the Friends group.

We have continued to sell pens, poly pockets and envelopes – these provide a steady income throughout the year.

We have also supported activities taking place in the library such as celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and children's crafts: kitchen crafts proved to be very popular.

pp Kate Byford

Treasurer (in absence of Chair for this period).

Friends of Ipswich County Library ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2022-23

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31 March 2023

	2021/22	2022/23
INCOME		
Sale of goods	£48.00	£310.50
One-off events for adults	£329.00	£632.00
One-off events for children		
Regular events/activities		
Donations	£174.37	£264.27
Miscellaneous	£63.00	
	<u>£614.37</u>	<u>£1,206.77</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Purchase of goods	£20.97	£579.56
One-off events for adults	£156.04	£559.05
One-off events for children		£32.41
Regular events/activities		£0.00
Catering and equipment	£127.56	£167.85
Miscellaneous	£73.00	£0.00
	<u>£200.56</u>	<u>£1,338.87</u>
Surplus (deficit) for the year	<u><u>£413.81</u></u>	<u><u>-£132.10</u></u>

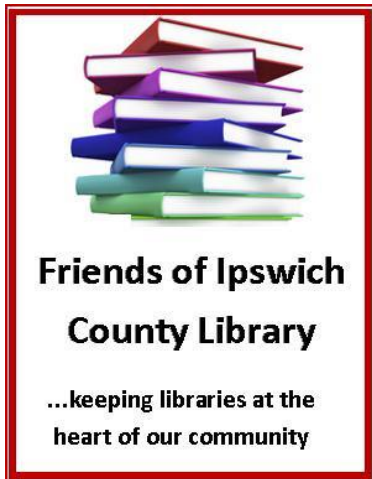
BALANCE SHEET

	at 31 March 2022	at 31 March 2023
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank	£3,100.72	£2,945.82
Cash in Hand	£0.00	£22.80
Debtors	£0.00	£0.00
	<u>£3,100.72</u>	<u>£2,968.62</u>
LESS LIABILITIES		
Creditors	£0.00	£0.00
NET ASSETS	<u><u>£3,100.72</u></u>	<u><u>£2,968.62</u></u>

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Chair's Report for 2021/22

Although the library started to re-introduce events and activities in November 2021, our first event was a quiz in February 2022. This was very well attended and it was good to be able to raise some income again!

The library did continue to sell pens, envelopes and poly pockets on behalf of the Friends as soon as the library started to open normally.

We are still trying to recruit new members/trustees for the Friends group, but so far without success.

Maureen Garratt Simpson

Friends of Ipswich County Library ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2021-22

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31 March 2022

	2020/21	2021/22
INCOME		
Sale of goods	£17.00	£48.00
One-off events for adults		£329.00
One-off events for children		
Regular events/activities		
Subscriptions		£174.37
Miscellaneous	£245.62	£63.00
	<u>£225.62</u>	<u>£614.37</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Purchase of goods		£20.97
One-off events for adults		£156.04
One-off events for children		
Regular events/activities		
Catering and equipment	£392.98	£127.56
Miscellaneous	£61.62	£73.00
	<u>£454.60</u>	<u>£377.57</u>
Surplus (deficit) for the year	<u><u>-£228.98</u></u>	<u><u>£236.80</u></u>

BALANCE SHEET

	at 31 March 2021	at 31 March 2022
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank	£2,863.90	£3,100.72
Cash in Hand	£0.00	£0.00
Debtors	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>
	<u>£2,863.90</u>	<u>£3,100.72</u>
LESS LIABILITIES		
Creditors	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>
NET ASSETS	<u><u>£2,863.90</u></u>	<u><u>£3,100.72</u></u>

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Chair's Report for 2020

As 2020 started with an increasing Coronavirus infection rate, we had to cancel the first quiz of the year, then went into lockdown and the library did not start to offer normal events and activities until well into 2021.

During this period, we had several resignations from the Trustees for a number of reasons, such as moving away from the area.

We have been trying to interest the library customers into joining the Friends group and becoming a trustee, with a postcard campaign funded by Suffolk Libraries.

We hope to resume activities in 2022.

Maureen Garratt Simpson

Friends of Ipswich County Library ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2020-21

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

	2019/20	2020/21
INCOME		
Sale of goods	£142.40	£17.00
One-off events for adults	£5,541.29	
One-off events for children	£66.00	
Regular events/activities	£1,388.96	
Subscriptions	£165.54	
Miscellaneous	£1,198.45	£245.62
	<u>£8,502.64</u>	<u>£225.62</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Purchase of goods	£293.87	
One-off events for adults	£3,048.30	
One-off events for children	£169.73	
Regular events/activities	£0.00	
Catering and equipment	£2,168.21	£392.98
Miscellaneous	£4,222.86	£61.62
	<u>£9,902.97</u>	<u>£454.60</u>
Surplus (deficit) for the year	<u><u>-£1,400.33</u></u>	<u><u>-£228.98</u></u>

BALANCE SHEET

	at 31 March 2020	at 31 March 2021
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank	£3,092.88	£2,863.90
Cash in Hand	£140.67	£0.00
Debtors	£0.00	£0.00
	<u>£3,233.55</u>	<u>£2,863.90</u>
LESS LIABILITIES		
Creditors	£0.00	£0.00
	<u>£3,233.55</u>	<u>£2,863.90</u>
NET ASSETS		
	<u><u>£3,233.55</u></u>	<u><u>£2,863.90</u></u>