



**THE FRIENDS OF KENNINGTON LIBRARY ANNUAL TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31st MARCH 2025**

**Registered Charity number 1179939**

The 2023/2024 AGM was held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at St Swithun's Church Hall. Eleven members attended in person and proxy votes were submitted by three others.

**Charitable Purposes and Public Benefit**

The advancement of education for the public benefit by supporting the operation and maintenance of a public library in Kennington, Oxford, for the benefit of local residents. It is widely accepted that reading has a major contribution to general education. The Friends of Kennington Library (FOKL) exists to support the provision of library services in Kennington.

**Charitable Activities**

FOKL organises events throughout the year for all age groups; some are held regularly each month (e.g. Story Time and Rhyme Time for the younger age groups and author talks for the more mature reader). It also organises larger events periodically to attract the widest audience. These events cover a range of topics ranging from presentation of children's stories with audience participation to group discussion.

The Friends supported the ongoing relationship between the library and St Swithun's Primary School; the school appointed two library ambassadors who made a video about how great the library is for children, which can be viewed on the FOKL web site (<https://friendsofkenningtonlibrary.org.uk/>) by searching for "let us show you around".

**Structure and Organisation**

FOKL's operations are managed by its eight trustees who are listed below and who meet regularly throughout the year to review progress towards meeting its financial targets, its partnership arrangements with Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) and any related policies, as well as organising

fundraising activities and its regular events which are open to all. In accordance with our constitution two Trustees who have served longest stand down in rotation at the next Annual General Meeting of Members, although they may stand for immediate re-election if they so wish.

The 2025 AGM will be held in person at 7:30pm at St Swithun's Village Centre on Thursday 11th September at which three Trustees appointed in January 2025 will stand down and offer themselves for re-election; and three trustees will retire. Members will receive documentation in mid August including a proxy voting form and the Trustees very much hope that members will take advantage of this should they be unable to attend the AGM in person.

As in previous years, the rota of those working alongside the library staff has been covered by regular volunteers. During the period organisation of the volunteer group has transferred from Jenny Forder to new Trustee Kate Wright. The enthusiastic group of volunteers has been joined by several more during the year and some have retired or are having a rest from volunteering. The Trustees are very grateful to all those who give so willingly of their time and talents in support of the library. We currently have around 11 active volunteers, who between them help to cover five one hour and a half sessions in the library each week. These volunteers are augmented by Duke of Edinburgh volunteers. The Trustees always welcome new volunteers.

Following review by the trustees, the Partnership Working Agreement has been signed by both parties. Outreach, which for many years was funded separately by FOKL, is now funded by the OCC Library Service.

### **Regulatory Changes**

The 2024 AGM resolutions amending the constitution to increase the number of trustees, etc. were submitted to the Charity Commission (CC) on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 and duly received regulatory approval and were entered on the CC register on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

After some fifteen years' serving as a Trustee and Officer Helen Hurrell's resignation effective on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 was entered on the CC register on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2025.

The Recruitment and Appointment of three new Trustees, Kay Horner, Kathy Marsden and Kate Wright was duly entered on the CC Register on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

### **Activities**

The very popular coffee talks were held throughout the period. We have continued to use the large Main Hall at the Village Centre which has allowed a larger audience. The ever-popular FOKL Best Reads of the year event was held in December 2024. During the period these Wednesday morning events were augmented by evening talks following requests by members for evening events for those who are unable to attend during the working week. These events were very successful and FOKL plans to continue them in future.

Four fundraising events were held during the period, a Murder Mystery Evening, a talk on animation by Joanna Harrison, the popular Quiz Night, kindly sponsored by Tonks Brothers and a new fundraising event, the Authors and Artists Fair where local authors and artists displayed their work.

Children's events at the library, such as Rhyme Time, Stories and Sing-Along and Craft activities have continued throughout the year. Kennington Library has taken part in the 2024 Children's Summer

Read Challenge on the theme of “Marvellous Makers”, culminating in an End of Summer Read Party at the Village Centre at which the children were presented with their certificates. Outreach activities for nursery and school children have continued throughout the year.

A recent initiative, the Board Games Club, has provided an opportunity for local people to gather at Kennington Library to practice competitive skills. This was hosted by FOKL, but responsibility for later events was taken over by OCC.

FOKL has supported a Tea Books reading group at Kennington Library, organised by Age UK, by paying for monthly hire of a room at the Village Centre.

The Warm Welcome Wednesdays initiative, in conjunction with OCC, has continued through the winter months with Kennington Library opening as a ‘warm space’ on Wednesday mornings, with the provision of hot drinks, etc.

### **Financial Report**

The accounts have been prepared on a strict cash basis as in previous years and reviewed by our Independent Examiner, a copy of whose report to the Trustees is in the Treasurer’s file available for inspection. In the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 the charity generated a modest excess of income over expenditure (~£1.350) thereby increasing its financial reserves.

There has been no material change in income from Members’ subscriptions in the year under review which underpin the sustainability of the charity’s operations. We are most grateful for members’ continuing support as well as that of our sponsors, donors, Kennington Parish Council and Friends in these challenging times. Income from Fundraising events, at modest cost to participants, contributed some £1,500.

### **Notes to the accounts**

1. The Charity has not given any guarantees and there are accordingly no potential outstanding liabilities in this regard as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.
2. The Charity has no outstanding debts secured by an express charge on any of its assets as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

### **FOKL Trustees**

John Argyle (Chair), Claire Gilbert (Interim Secretary), Hugh Fleming (Treasurer), Jenny Forder, Sylvia Vetta, Kay Honner, Kate Wright and Kathy Marsden





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Friends of Kennington Library

1179939

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

1st April 2024

To

31st March 2025

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Membership Subscriptions	1,721	-	-	1,721	1,572
Fundraising Events	1,566	-	-	1,566	1,095
Donations, Grants & Sponsorship	3,051	-	-	3,051	1,256
Gift Aid Recovered	554	-	-	554	472
Bank Interest	197	-	-	197	186
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>7,089</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,089</b>	<b>4,581</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>7,089</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,089</b>	<b>4,581</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Salary Contributions	4,790	-	-	4,790	4,524
Hire of Hall and Fundraising Events	625	-	-	625	744
Miscellaneous Expenses	170	-	-	170	87
Bank Charges	57	-	-	57	10
Supplies and Entertainment	285	-	-	285	194
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>5,927</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,927</b>	<b>5,559</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>5,927</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,927</b>	<b>5,559</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>1,162</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,162</b>	<b>978</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>19,163</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>19,163</b>	<b>20,141</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>20,325</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,325</b>	<b>19,163</b>

### Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>				
	Current Account	178	-	-
	Deposit Account	20,117	-	-
	Petty Cash	30	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>20,325</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				

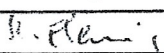
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on  
behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	H. FLEMING	16.06.2025