

Friends of St Annes Library



NEWS

JULY 2010

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Images of old St Annes find a home

A COLLECTION of five prints of old St Annes has been presented to the library by the Friends of St Annes Library.

Andrew Walmsley, Community History Manager for Fylde libraries, discovered the photographs in the library's archives. They include images of sand excavation on the dunes, the lifeboat and lifeboat personnel, St Annes bowling club, the lighthouse, and the open air swimming pool.

The Friends had them enlarged, printed and mounted. Historian Peter Shakeshaft wrote captions to provide historical context. Andrew Walmsley, Community History Manager for Fylde libraries, received the prints on behalf of the library from Friends' Chairman Anne Fielding, at the last quarterly meeting in April.

The prints are now on display in the library where all visitors can view and enjoy them.



RIGHT: Anne Fielding hands one of the prints to Andrew Walmsley

Library News

Living Books

RESIDENTS from the area with a story to tell took part in St Annes library's first Living Books project in February this year.

These included Steven McLaughlin, a library user who recently returned from military service in Iraq, and Fylde Borough and Lancashire County Councilor Fabian Craig-Wilson. Five other volunteers took part.



The project was sponsored by Lancashire County Council's library service and its aim was to encourage people to improve their understanding of others from different cultures and lifestyles, and with various experiences, by providing an opportunity to 'borrow' a person rather than a book. Borrowers sat with their chosen 'book', listened to their stories, and asked questions. Conversations lasted about 20 minutes.

The event was hailed a success by the librarians who said feedback was overwhelmingly positive. It is likely the project will be repeated.

Precious objects

EVERYONE has an object that means something special to them; an object that has a story to tell.

The Friends are planning to collect the stories of St Annes residents and their most precious objects. To capture the stories we may use a variety of media including photographs and words, video and audio recordings. As the stories come together they will form an archive that captures the collective story of the St Annes community, and this will be made available for everyone to see and enjoy. Andrew Walmsley will be working with us on this project.

It's still taking shape, so if you'd like to be involved please ring 720191.

Gardening talk

GARDENER and author Tim Smith entertained a group of about 40 people in April with an illustrated talk about different plants and shrubs that can be grown to complement each other. He showed a number of stunning photographs of individual flowers, woodland, and gardens. As well as writing about gardening, Tim also pens poetry on the same topic and examples were on sale after his talk.

In brief

THE Library has been taking full advantage of the space created by recent alterations to its interior by offering a range of events for all age groups.

Sheila Woodburn, the branch manager, said: "We are trying to reach out to those members of the public who are unaware of the full spectrum of events now offered by the library service generally and by St Annes Library in particular.

Some of the events organised during the first half of 2010 included:

- A singles night called 'Book a Date' held on 11 February, the idea being to bring together people who love books. Conceived and organised by librarians Clare Grogan and Sandra Wilson, the evening consisted of networking, a 'famous lovers' quiz, and a picture quiz.
- A talk by teen/crossover author Jason Wallace. He visited the library in February to talk about his debut novel *Out of Shadows* and answer questions.
- Two coffee mornings: one to recruit volunteers and one to thank volunteers who take the runs to the Home Library users.
- Two drop-in sessions, one organised by the YMCA in January where health and fitness checks were run, and one about self-harm awareness.
- Several visits to the library by primary schools. Students looked at the community history room with community history manager Andrew Walmsley and experienced a simulated Victorian school lesson.
- Librarians Clover and Ruth welcomed 23 Rainbows from one of the St Annes packs as part of 'Thinking Day' activities. The children met Bibby Bear and had a chat about the library.
- A 'Tiger's Tea Party' during Clare's weekly story time session, coincided with World Book Day.

The 'Knit and Natter' group also goes from strength to strength. The 13 members are knitting dolls for African orphans from the *Dolls of Joy* booklet, as well as working on their own personal projects.



Joining the Friends of St Annes Library

Subscription is £5 per person per annum

It's easy to join! Just provide the information requested below and return the completed form to the library. Cheques may be made payable to 'Friends of St Annes Library'.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____

Phone _____

How I would like to be involved

Coming Up...

Tea in the Garden

OUR third annual garden party will include the presentation of a blue plaque by the Lytham St Annes Civic Society to the library in recognition of the library's architectural importance and connection to Andrew Carnegie.

There will be a tombola, a raffle, refreshments, and live music provided by two groups, Fiddle Faddle and the Palatine Fiddlers. So come out and support us on Saturday 17 July, 2–4 pm in the library garden!

Reading is a blast

THIS summer's Reading Challenge is called 'Space Hop', and there will be a series of space-themed events throughout the summer to keep your little ones inspired! Stop by the library to collect your free tickets.

- **Big Blast Off**
Monday 26 July 2:00-3:00pm
Alien fun, crafts and stories
- **Space Hoppers**
Thursday 12 August 2:00-3:30pm
Outdoor fun and games
- **To Infinity and Beyond**
Monday 23 August 2:00pm onwards
Fancy dress and party fun
- **Storytime**
Every Wednesday 2:00pm

Noches de Salsa

An outdoor salsa event, including lessons for beginners. Saturday 21 August, 2:00–4:00pm.

Annual General Meeting

MAKE a date in your diary: This year's AGM will be held on Tuesday, 5 October at 7.30 pm at the library. Please join us – everyone is welcome!

Contacts

For more information about the Friends of St Annes Library, please contact one of our officers:

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