ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

for

Gnosall Library, Environment and Nurture Hub

Charity Registration 1175263

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I am pleased to present the 2024-2025 Annual Report.

We were established in 2016 as a constituted group, our main aim has been to provide a community Library service for the village of Gnosall, Staffordshire. We started operating as a library on 20th February 2019 and the official opening was 4th April 2019.

Opening Times from January 2023 as follows: -

Monday	04:00pm - 06:30pm
Tuesday	10:00am - 12:30pm
Wednesday	03:00pm - 05:30pm
Thursday	02:00pm – 04:00pm
Friday	02:00pm – 04:00pm
Saturday	10:00am - 12:30pm

Vision

GLEAN Hub's goal is still to create a vibrant community library and information service that is valued and well-used by the people of Gnosall.

GLEAN Hub achieved this by:

- Operating at times which are convenient for potential users. (We opened when many other library and institutions didn't).
- Being situated at a central and accessible village location (the Grosvenor Centre site).
- Providing an efficient lending or reference service - for books, other printed materials/information.
- Developing a range of activities to engage all age-groups and promote a love of reading, literature, culture and the valuing of information.
- Supporting library users in the use of information technology and reference materials.
- Creating a welcoming environment where people can meet and enjoy the company of friends and local residents.
- Providing an appropriate and suitable environment for silent study or related work.
- Working positively with other groups.
- Encouraging a sense of community and inclusion.
- Promoting innovation and talent in Creative Writing.
- Helping the elderly/physically impaired to enjoy the library by providing home delivery.

Mission

GLEAN Hub aims to work within the framework of a wider Gnosall CIO, to include other related community projects as well as the Community Library.

Contracts

We have tri-party contracts in place. A contract between Staffordshire County Council (SCC) and Gnosall Parish Council (GPC) for SCC to lease the library building. A contract between SCC and GLEAN Hub where GLEAN Hub sublet the building from SCC. A

contract between GPC and GLEAN Hub for the use of other facilities such as the adjoining building for our events, maintenance etc. These contracts were renewed 21st February 2024, when the current agreements expire.

Community Library Service

The service we provide is the same as a public library. All Library stock is provided by SCC (Staffordshire County Council) public library service and we use its library computer management systems to operate. The community library does not however, have any paid staff, only unpaid volunteers operating on a monthly roster system. Each session is manned by a minimum of two library volunteers. There is a web-based Library system, implemented in May 2022 which issues reminders to volunteers on rota and has been very successful.

Comments from SCC

Gnosall might be one of the smallest CMLs, but they have a committed Trustee Group managing the library and a strong group of volunteers. A new volunteer has taken on the coordination of the rota this year, and 4 volunteers are part of a stock team, who work hard to manage the stock in a small space.

The Trustees and volunteers are always looking at ways of developing the library service. This year they have increased their hugely popular Baby Bounce and Rhyme sessions from fortnightly to weekly and have introduced a new Board Games Cafe. The library also offers Family History Sessions, a Reading Café and a Writers' Circle, providing social and creative activities for local people.

To promote the library to the community, they produce articles for local magazines and take part in community events, such as the local carnival.

This has contributed to an 8% increase in visits to the library and a 7% increase in issues, compared to the previous year.

Websites

We continue with our existing website www.gleanhub.org representing the charity, as before, and still promote the library via another website www.gnosall-library.org.uk which better explains its purpose to the public. We have a link back to the www.gleanhub.org site within the homepage.

Policy & Standards

All policies can be found on our website www.gleanhub.org which include: -

1. SCC's Policies
    a. Acceptable Use Policy
    b. Information Security Policy
2. GLEAN Hub's policies.
    a. Financial Controls Policy
    b. Health & Safety Policy
    c. Event Groups Policy
    d. Fire Evacuation Procedure
    e. Vulnerable Adults Policy
    f. Invacuation Procedure
    g. Paper Shredder Safety Policy

At all times we endeavour to provide the highest level of service to both our customers and attending volunteers.

Record of Achievement

This year our customer base has increased steadily. We have also been successful in retaining our volunteers with a wealth of experience.

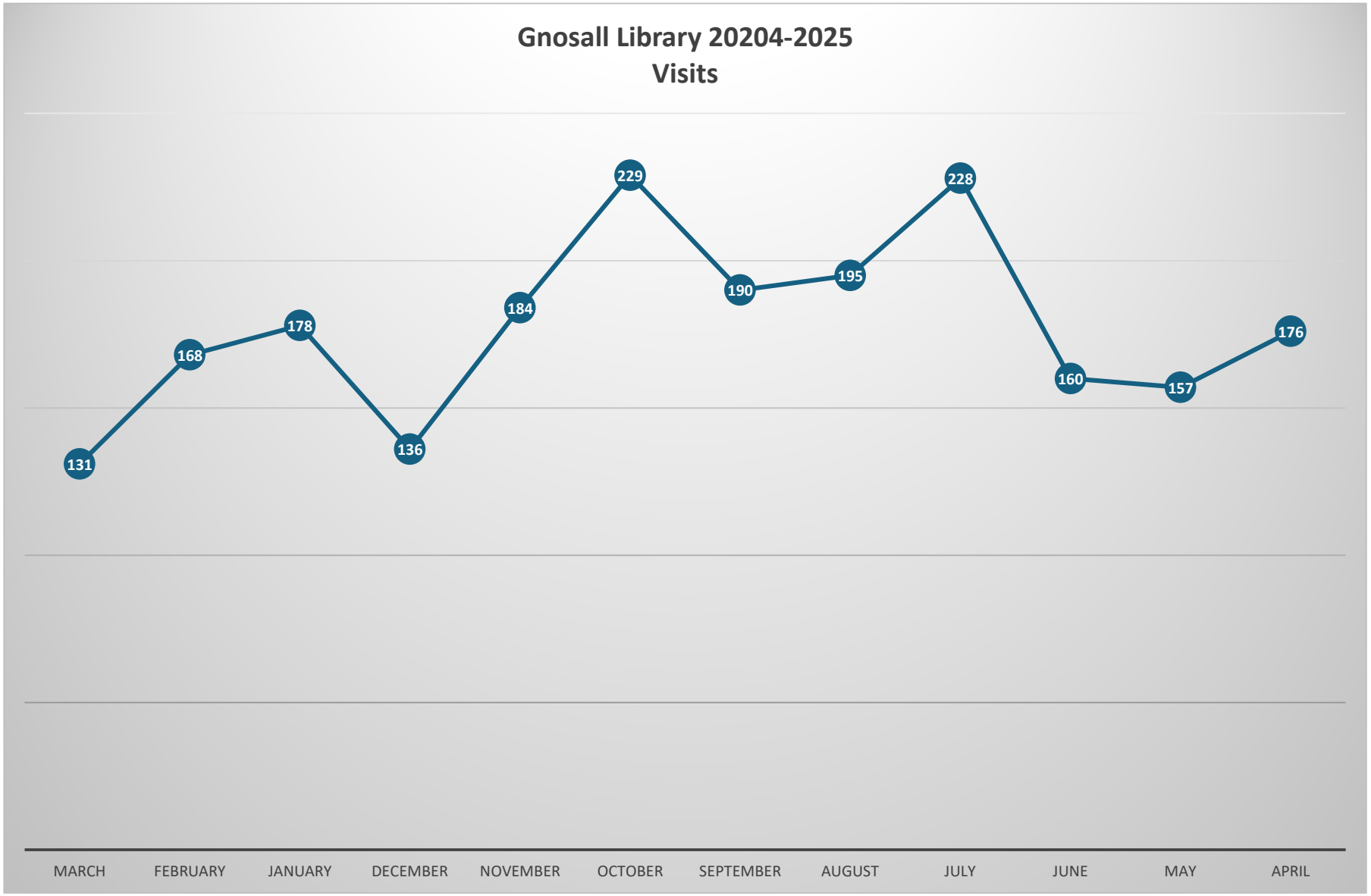
Financial Record

We still have sufficient funding for at least 24 months' operation but there is no sign of any major funding opportunities open to us for the foreseeable future although we continue to attract small amounts of funding from local groups.

Full Accounts attached.

Trustees

(As at 01/04/2025)
Robert Alker (Chairman)
Cllr Patricia Alker (Health & Safety)
Alec Willis (Finance)
Janet Carr
Robert Hidderley (Secretary/Vice Chair)
Gaye Courtney


Gnosall Library 20204-2025
Visits
131
168
178
136
184
229
190
195
228
160
157
176
MARCH
FEBRUARY
JANUARY
DECEMBER
NOVEMBER
OCTOBER
SEPTEMBER
AUGUST
JULY
JUNE
MAY
APRIL