

GIVE A BOOK

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Registered charity no 1149664
112-114 Holland Park Avenue, London W11 4UA

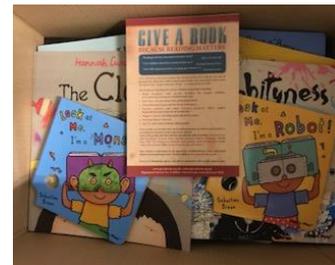
Progress Report for the Book Society

April 2018

Thank you for the generous contribution of £2000 that was donated to Give a Book. This donation has been used to help fund three of our new projects this year:

Mother & Baby Units

There are five active mother and baby units in prisons in the UK, for female prisoners with very young babies. We think it is important for these women to have access to books they can read to their babies at this critical stage of their lives, in challenging circumstances.



We are currently supplying books to all five of these mother and baby units, at HMP Bronzefield, Styal, New Hall, Askham Grange, and Peterborough. David Kendall, our prison consultant, has written an excellent **blog** about mother and baby units, and how the project is going so far.

<http://giveabook.org.uk/project/mother-baby-units/>

Storybook Dads

This is a collaboration with the prison organisation Storybook Dads. Dads (or Mums) in prison record a bedtime story for their child which the prison then sends them on



CD, so the children have the comfort of the parent's voice while they're 'away'. As a pilot project in 5 prisons, Give a Book is providing the books to go with the recordings. With your donation we have been able to order in multiple copies of the most popular titles.

Here are some of the comments/feedback we received so far:

The books are absolutely lovely and we are so excited and grateful to have been sent them from your "Give a Book"

Charity.

Since receiving them our Residents are purposely choosing one of the titles you have sent us so that their young family member is able to receive a copy of the book being

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read to them as well as their Storybook CD/DVD. They think it is a great idea and it has also helped us in terms of recording uptake.

We understand the value of promoting and maintaining family ties when it comes to reducing reoffending and how doing so can make a positive impact upon our Residents lives while both in prison and upon release. Your gift to us can only help us in achieving this."

Heathmere school reading festival- Roehampton Reads

With the help of the donation from the Book Society, we are going to provide a book and book bag to all the children attending Roehampton Reads – a festival of books, words and stories - an exciting new festival to be held at Heathmere Primary School, in the heart of the Alton Estate in Roehampton, London on Saturday 23rd June. Heathmere is one of the partner schools that we have been able to help with the donation from the Book Society.

A few words from the Deputy Head: *"Some of the children who walk through our door have difficult lives and, like many other schools like ours, we have to work hard to get our children learning and, more to the point, get them to love learning.*

Not all of our children have books in their lives.

Research tells us that 1 in 8 disadvantaged children do not own a single book. That doesn't surprise me and, truth be told, underestimates what we see at school.

Imagine then, a child walking through our gates at the age of four. Already, and by any measure you care to look at, many are behind where they need to be. They don't always

have the words, the ideas and the imagination that reading brings. They don't know the wonders that reveal themselves when you pick up a book and turn the page...I can show you how Give A Book have made a difference. I have the figures about how our children now love reading in a way they didn't a few years ago...But the real impact is in the difference it makes to what's inside – how reading nurtures empathy and an understanding of other people; their lives, their hopes, and their dreams. And that is harder to measure."



Cost of the projects funded by the Book Society

100 books and bags for the Heathmere Reading Festival £525

250 Storybook Dads books for 5 prisons £862

150 Picture books for 5 Mother & Baby Units £613

Overview of Organisation

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Give a Book is a UK based charity that started in 2011 with the sole aim of giving books where they will be of particular benefit. Our core belief is that to pass on a good read -- to give someone a book-- is a transaction of worth.

Current projects and recipients include; Books in the Nick, Books for First Nighters, Breakfast Book Clubs, First Story, Prison Reading Groups, Reading Ahead, Book Clubs in Schools, as well as various school and literacy projects.

Additional Comments

A huge thank you to the Book Society whose generous funding has enabled us to expand our work to help promote literacy and reading. Without your support, we would have been unable to do as much as we have achieved this year.

Thank you!



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