

**GIVE A
BOOK**

Annual Review 2016



Registered Charity 1149664
www.giveabook.org.uk

“What a simple but life changing idea!”

Give a Book is a 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.



Give a Book is 5 years old!

When it started, I privately gave us 5 years to find out if we had legs. Five years on, we work in places where there's a real need to help spread a love of reading - in prisons and with disadvantaged children. Over these 5 years we have acquired skills and gained from our collaboration with established partners such as The Reading Agency, Prison Reading Groups, First Story & Magic Breakfast and look forward to new collaborations - with the police,



Dolly Parton's Dollywood Foundation and smaller one woman bands such as Street Reads. We've also learnt immeasurably from the people we serve, whether it's the child who comes to school with only one or two words, or the 39 year old man who has just learnt to read in prison.

We have active and dedicated trustees, a fine advisory board, and a great working team under our wonderful Director of Projects, Adeela Khan. Recently we welcomed Sophia Morris-Jones and will be sad to say goodbye to the incomparable Anthony Wilks who's given us our brilliant web presence from the start. We are all united in our passion for sharing the pleasure of reading.

Victoria Gray, Founder & Trustee



“The books were an enormous success at so many different levels.”

School Literacy Leader

“I don't think I've ever seen a book stall so joyously mobbed.”

First Story teacher

- **20,000+** dictionaries to prisoners
- **1500+** book bags given out at Family Days
- **5000+** books given to school book clubs
- **6000+** books given to First Story students
- **19** Magic Breakfast Book Clubs set up



- Books given to over **40** Prison Reading Groups across **35** prisons
- **2000+** books sent to custody suites
- **1000+** books to Maggie's Centres
- **500 +** books given to school projects around the UK

2011-2016: the numbers



- Books & furnishings provided to set up **1** library in a London school
- **1** city, **13** locations, **38** trained volunteers... and more than **800** children's books given away at Anytime Storytime event in Liverpool
- **1** Poetry book donated as a competition prize in a school for excluded children

“The children, parents, staff and governors were thrilled by Give a Book's generosity.”

Primary school Headteacher

Projects & Partners

"I think this is such a good scheme, our child loves books and it is something she can take home from seeing her dad."

Family prison visit



The Reader, Footsteps Academy, Ellie's Friends, Doorstep Library, Wormwood Scrubs Book Rooms, Book Clubs in Schools, First Story, Avondale, Heathmere Leading to Reading, Safe Ground Family Days, Prison Reading Groups, The Reading Agency, Magic Breakfast, FRED, Books in the Nick, Maggie's Centres, Mental Health Unit Book Club, Hop Skip & Jump, St Anne's Primary, Addison Primary, Bluebird Care, Chatterbooks with Mums & Babies, Clement James Centre, Flip.



Eric Abraham, Barrington Stoke, Bloomsbury Publishing, Jasper Britton, Simon Callow,

Daunt Books, Dollywood Foundation, English PEN, LAW Agency, Everyman's Library, Faber and Faber, English Touring Theatre, Forward, Sonia Friedman Productions, Granta, Harper Collins, Walker Books, Pan Macmillan, Hodder & Stoughton, Little Free Library UK,

Carol Hughes, Rachel Kelly, Sally Kindberg, Little, Brown, Penguin Random House, Dan Mogford, Orion Books, Oneworld Publications, Persephone Books, Quick Reads, Cathy Rentzenbrink, Sage Publications, John Sandoe, Slightly Foxed, Space Station, Tidy Books, Vintage.



"To have a dictionary here in prison is to have a treasure."

Reading Ahead participant



"This is a fantastic idea, the range of books available made the Family Day more interesting and my kids loved the book bag."

Parent

Events in 2016

Give a Book provided books for the following events:

- Ashburnham School Library
- First Story Festival, Oxford
- Anytime Storytime Event, Liverpool
- Doorstep Library - Reading in the Park
- Safe Ground Family Days
- PRG Family Days
- Magic Breakfast Book Club events
- Duncombe Primary whole school reading event with Clown
- Asylum Seekers Drop-in
- Heathmere Leading to Reading
- Books for Storybook Dads



"I have witnessed the blossoming of many of our members in their well-being and optimism – this is due to Give a Book!"

Maggie's Centre reading group member

"I enjoyed the group so much I'm going to learn to read for the next one."

Member of reading group in men's prison



Give a Book

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Trustees

Victoria Gray, Eleni Meleagrou, Sarah Moorehead, Caroline Waldegrave

Patron

Lady Antonia Fraser DBE