

**GIVE A  
BOOK**



# Impact Report 2018

[www.giveabook.org.uk](http://www.giveabook.org.uk)  
Registered charity number 1149664

Because Reading Matters

# 2018 in numbers

11,000+	dictionaries for Reading Ahead completers
900	books for Breakfast Book clubs set up this year
3,000+	books for detainees in custody suites for Books in the Nick
1,200	books for First Nighters in prisons
800	books to accompany Storybook Dads' recordings across 8 prisons
600	books for 6 Mother & Baby Units
200	books for Roehampton Reads school reading festival
100+	books to Wimbledon Bookfest
1,000	books for Book Clubs in Schools
500	books for First Story Young Writers' Festival

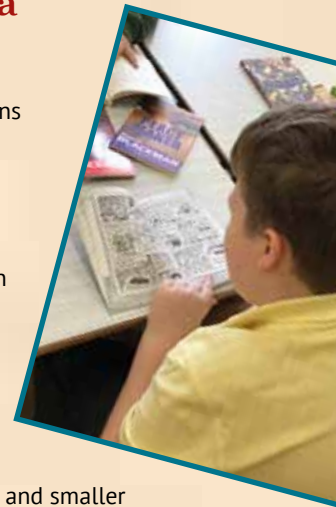
**Give a Book is a small charity with the sole aim of giving books where they will be of particular benefit. Our core belief is that to pass on a good read-to give someone a book-is a transaction of worth.**

This year we are working with more partners and other organisations than ever before.

As well as Prison Reading Groups, school Breakfast Book Clubs, Reading Ahead and Book Clubs in Schools, we have many new projects - with Storybook Dads, prison family reading initiatives, books for all Mother & Baby Units and have supported Roehampton Reads, a new children's reading festival in a Wandsworth school.

Following our popular Books in the Nick project we have developed Books for First Nighters in 10 prisons where books given on the first night in prison offer some comfort to new arrivals.

We again supported the First Story Young Writers' Festival this year at Cambridge University. We also love to support individual schools and smaller projects with book gifts and initiatives to promote reading for pleasure.



**Our main areas of work continue to be in schools with high levels of deprivation and in prisons throughout the UK. Why?**

**"On average, children from low income families are nearly 12 months behind their better-off peers in vocabulary by the time they start school.."**

*Save the Children, Power of Reading report 2015*

**"Children who don't own a book of their own are nearly four times more likely to read below the average expected for their age."** *National Literacy Trust*

**"Charities have a key role to play in delivering a criminal justice system that is driven by rehabilitation."** *NPC Beyond Bars Report 2017*

**"Research has found that prisoners who report improved family ties are significantly less likely to reoffend."**

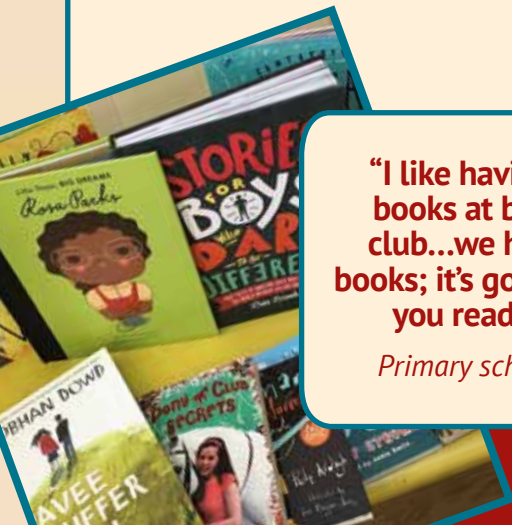
*Farmer Review August 2017*



# Breakfast Book Clubs – School Reading project

Since 2013, we have been setting up Breakfast Book Clubs in primary schools where children are hungry in all sorts of ways. We give 100 new books, notebooks and pencils to schools in disadvantaged areas where the children often don't have ready access to books in the home. The children enjoy new books, helping them to engage more with reading and literacy in a fun environment. Since we started, we have set up over 30 clubs and have more in the pipeline.

There is a continuing need as there are growing numbers of pupils in areas where books and reading are not part of their regular home life: the clubs fill a gap encouraging more reading for pleasure. This year we have been working with Madderson London who have sponsored Breakfast Book Clubs in various parts of the UK from London to Blackpool! We are currently in the process of setting up the next two clubs.



**“I like having more books at breakfast club...we have new books; it's good, it helps you read more.”**

*Primary school pupil*



**“Reading at Breakfast Club is particularly popular with children from the many families who don't own any books.”**

*School librarian*

**“These breakfast club books have offered a chance for us to highlight reading and signpost people to this opportunity.”**

*Teacher*

# Making it Up – Prison Family Reading project

This year we launched a new family reading initiative at HMP Wormwood Scrubs.

Family contact for prisoners is key in aiding rehabilitation. We designed Making it Up to help increase the fathers' confidence in reading with their children.

Leading up to a special family visit day, fathers took part in workshops where they learnt about the importance of reading with their children and created their own storybooks. On the day, families who came into the prison exchanged stories and listened as author and illustrator Chris Riddell spoke about his love of reading and drawing. All the children received signed copies of one of his books.

Feedback from the families and prison staff was very encouraging and following on from the pilot, the prison have agreed to part fund Making it Up for the next year.



**“For one day you've taken prison away from my family”**



**“I feel such days really are a catalyst for them to improve and prepare more positively for their release”**

**“Shows I need to sit down and read more to my kids”**

# Prison Reading Groups

Prison Reading Groups (PRG) has two areas of work within Give a Book: we set up, fund and support informal reading groups in prisons across the UK; and we contribute to family reading initiatives inside. Wherever possible, both projects involve volunteers.

**“One day where one can have an intellectual discussion and no-one gets worked up when disagreeing ... one of the few places where we feel our opinion is valued.”** *Reading Group participant*

**“Great idea, enables good bonding with the children.”**  
*Family Day participant*

## Reading Groups in 2018



## Family Days in 2018



## How you can help

**“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has”**  
*Margaret Mead*



## Thank you...

Since Give a Book started we have mainly worked in 2 areas-with disadvantaged children and in prisons. This year the two strands have come together and we have developed more projects around children and families with a member in prison. We have worked more closely with our Prison Consultant David Kendall, notably around Mother and Baby Units and on new Family Reading Projects.

Collaborations have increased and so have supporters and partners. I'd like to make special mention of Madderson London, who support many of our breakfast book clubs and of Carol Hughes who has been deeply and variously generous. Edward and Araminta Whitley have given time, space and more. We have enjoyed great support from publishers and as always from our partner from the start, Daunts Bookshop.

Huge thanks go to our exemplary Patron, Lady Antonia Fraser, now a Companion of Honour, to the excellent GAB Advisory Board, our fabulous Trustees and their active chairperson Sarah Moorehead, to the superb GAB team headed by Director of Projects Adeela Khan and to all our generous supporters without whom, nothing.

**Victoria Gray, Executive Director**





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