



Annual Report 2018-2019



An image created using the words used to described FOLIO Sutton Coldfield in the results of our public consultation Sumer 2019.



Welcome to the 2018-2019 Annual Report for FOLIO Sutton Coldfield. It has been a really exciting and busy year for us as we continue to work to support the public library service in Sutton Coldfield so that it thrives at the heart of our community.

Between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019 we held 141 events with 3611 people participating directly in those events.

Alongside regular events such as our Family History Help Desk, Elderberries (a reminiscence group for older people) and Lego Club highlights included:

- **Digital Storytellers** - an augmented reality film and drama club, funded by an Awards for All grant from the National Lottery, which resulted in an exciting whodunnit around Sutton Coldfield Library
- **Alice and the Library Tree** - a newly commissioned children's opera about the wonder and magic of libraries, funded by a Project Grant from the Arts Council
- A programme of **workshops with local infant schools** linking to the school curriculum
- **Reaching for the Moon!** - a programme of hands-on science and engineering workshops linked to the 50th anniversary of the first landing on the moon, funded by an EEGS grant from the Institute of Mechanical Engineers and Institution of Engineering and Technology
- **Sutton Coldfield BookFest** - a one day children's book festival with multiple authors and illustrators, supported by Bournville Book Festival and Sutton Coldfield BID

In addition to our varied programme of events, one of our volunteers, Cormac Wade, was named as Young Person of the year at the Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council Community Awards. FOLIO was also delighted to be honoured with a plaque at Sutton Coldfield Railway Station, after being named Cross City Heroes by West Midlands Railway and West Midlands Rail Executive, following public nominations for the accolade.

Every year we carry out a public consultation with both current library users and people who don't use the library service in order that our planning is led by what local people actually want. I'll leave feedback from the consultation as the best summary of what we've achieved this year:

"Folio have revolutionised my family's use of the library and we feel more connected to Sutton Coldfield as a result"

"A powerhouse of grassroots inspiration in the community"

"An enduring team with pro active ideas that bring the community together."

Here's to moving forward and continuing to support our libraries and community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Zoe Toft'.

Zoe Toft, Chair - FOLIO Sutton Coldfield

Digital Storytellers June - December 2018

Digital Storytellers was our flagship activity during the Summer and Autumn of 2018. A series of free digital drama workshops used augmented reality to create a whodunnit mystery to follow through the library.

Participants (children aged 10-14) devised the plot, acted, filmed and then created the digital trail which involved scanning images around the library to bring up the next chapter in the mystery, before asking people to guess who had committed the crime around which the story was based.



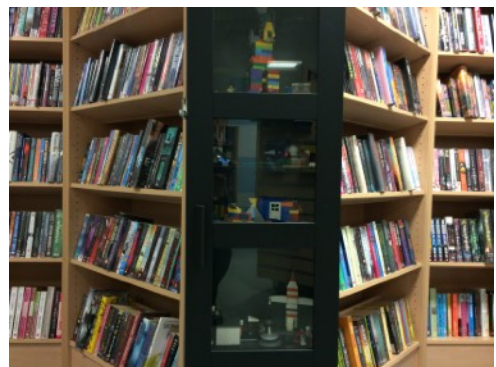
The full story can be viewed on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZ3g60j-LMPa2uyOlefzD3msHcYRhdtSn>

Lego club

In September 2018 we launched a Lego Club thanks to a grant from the M6 Toll Road Social Committee. This enabled us to purchase a good starter set of lego, plus storage boxes and a display cabinet.



Lego Club meets monthly and is always fully booked, often with a waiting list. We are very fortunate in having an enthusiastic and creative volunteer who sets club challenges each month.



School visits

Throughout the year FOLIO facilitated a number of infant school visits to learn about Sutton Coldfield Library and take part in activities which linked the schools' curriculum to library resources.



Sutton Coldfield Book Fest March 2019



On Saturday 2 March 2019 the first ever Sutton Coldfield Book Fest was held in Sutton Coldfield Library.

This was a collaboration between the Busy Parents Network (<http://busyparentsnetwork.com/>) and FOLIO Sutton Coldfield.

There were 7 events with a total of 4 different authors/illustrators; Korky Paul, Steve Smallman, AF Harrold and BB Taylor.

- All events, bar one, were charged for, with prices ranging between £3.50 and £5.00. This was the first time FOLIO had charged for events and over 90% of tickets were sold.

- There were over 800 visitors to the library that day (as compared to 300-400 on a typical day).

- 17 people volunteered for FOLIO on the day and 10 more people volunteered time during the preparation for the festival

Hello and welcome to **Sutton Coldfield BookFest**, a brand **NEW** festival for children who love stories!

FOLIO Sutton Coldfield have teamed up with the award-winning Busy Parents Network, who run the highly acclaimed Bournville BookFest, to put together a fantastic day of storytelling events for children aged 3-12 years and their families. Sutton Coldfield BookFest will take place in the wonderful revamped Sutton Coldfield Library.

The BookFest marks nearly a year since we threw the Library doors back open and we cannot think of a better way to celebrate our first very busy year than bringing together children in Sutton with top authors and illustrators who bring stories alive!

With our best wishes,

FOLIO Sutton Coldfield and Busy Parents Network

Original illustrations on the programme cover are by BookFest patron Nick Sharratt

CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

WHO LIKES BREAKING ALL THE RULES?

10.00am-10.45am

Cock-a-doodle-Pool! Bad Bunny and Itchy Scratchy, Scratchy Pants!
Author and illustrator Steve Smallman

Cute eyes... Little round cheeks... A super fluffy tail... He may look sweet and innocent, but don't be fooled - Bad Bunny is mischief with a capital 'M'! And on a day of particularly naughty naughtiness, he may be about to meet his match.

Local author of more than 40 children's books Steve Smallman knows exactly how to engage a toddler's attention! Meet Bad Bunny, some Vikings in need of new pants, and the farm animals of his latest book *Cock-a-doodle-Pool!* - a rhyming riot of toots, plops and poops, sure to appeal to any pre-schooler!
2-5 years. £4.00.

BAD BUNNY!

Steve Smallman • Micky Blanco



11.30am-12.30pm

Winnie the Witch
with illustrator Korky Paul

Zany Winnie the Witch and her beloved cat Wilbur have kept young audiences spellbound with their magical misadventures. Meet brilliant illustrator Korky Paul, whose pictures capture Winnie's eccentricity and warm heart - and see him sketch her live at Sutton Coldfield BookFest. With signing afterwards.
4-9 years. £5.00.

2.00pm-3.00pm

Big Drawing Challenge
Korky Paul & Steve Smallman

Ready...steady...draw! Challenge these two fantastic - and very different illustrators - to draw whatever you choose...and see what they come up with! Giggles guaranteed in this live Big Drawing Challenge, exclusively for Sutton Coldfield BookFest.
4-12 years. £5.00.



Kindly sponsored by



COMMUNITY ROOM

1.00pm-1.45pm

Animal Storytelling with BB Taylor

Come along to our very special storytime with local author BB Taylor and her menagerie of animals - some of whom feature in the stories!
2-8 years. £3.50 per person.



Book tickets: www.bournvillebookfest.com

Sutton Book Fest 2019 | Page 3

Feedback from event attendees

CHILDREN'S LIBRARY



10.30am-11.30am A.F. Harrold Poetry Workshop

Turn your ideas into poetry! Throw some words around and get those creative juices flowing. In this fun workshop with poetry slam champion A.F. Harrold, we guarantee that this renowned poet will have children and their parents in absolute stitches. No prior poetry-writing experience needed. 7-12 years. £3.50.



1.00pm-1.45pm Things you Find in a Poet's Beard Poetry Performance A.F. Harrold

He's known for his magnificent beard, laugh-aloud poems about midnight feasts, dreams and wallabies. Poetry slam champion A.F. Harrold wrote the CLIP Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Medal-longlisted The Imaginary with Emily Gravett. Expect catchy beats and lots of fun. 6-12 years. £3.50.

Free all-day colouring activity Drawing Dragons

BookFest illustrator Steve Smallman has drawn a huge dragon for us – and we want you to help colour it in. Available all day during Sutton Coldfield BookFest. Stay tuned to our Facebook page to see what it looks like at the end – will you be able to spot your contribution?



How to have a brilliant day at BookFest

Book Tickets We keep ticket prices low so as many children as possible can come to our events – and so it doesn't cost a fortune to try something new! Children must be accompanied at all times. Bales & amis are free.
Refreshments BookFest can be hungry work! The brilliant Little Green Bookworm Café at the library sells snacks and drinks: www.littlegreenbookwormcafe.org.uk
Getting There Sutton Coldfield Library is just 5 minutes' walk from the train station and buses stop right outside. The nearest car park is the Victoria Road multi-storey and the lift/stairs lead directly to the library. The Gracechurch Centre multi-storey car park in Brassington Avenue leads into the Gracechurch Shopping Centre opposite the library. There are open car parks off Queens Street leading to the main shopping area and in Sutton Road off Brassington Avenue which is between the station and the Gracechurch Centre.
BookFest Pop-up Bookshop Every book bought at the festival helps pay to bring authors to Birmingham. Where possible, all authors will be available to sign books after events.
Photography Photos are taken for marketing purposes. If you don't want your child to be photographed, please let our photographer or any of our volunteers know.
Programme and tickets: www.bournvillebookfest.com



"Fantastic festival! An inspiration for children and adults alike!"

"Thank you... please come back to Sutton again!"

"Myself and my son have had an amazing day. Such a well run event and all the staff were friendly and helpful. Just brilliant, thank you"

"Today was enjoyed by all no matter what the age"

"Loved the fact that people were dressed up and very approachable"

"We had a wonderful time thank you - and my eldest boy hasn't stopped drawing since, he was inspired by it!"

"We enjoyed AF Harrold so much. My 10-year old reluctant poetry reader is now hooked! Thank you Sutton Coldfield Book Festival"

"My boys were so reluctant last night when they heard we were going to the library. But it was so much fun. Thoroughly enjoyed it, looking forward to next year. I recommend it to anyone with children, whether they like to read or not, this will inspire them."



AF HARROLD'S POETRY WORKSHOP



BB TAYLOR'S EVENT



COLOURING IN STEVE SMALLMAN'S GIANT DRAGON



KORKY PAUL'S EVENT



COLOURING WITH STEVE SMALLMAN



AUDIENCE MEMBERS

BookFest was a major success for FOLIO. Excellent ticket sales ensured a high footfall to the library and the day ran very smoothly, thanks to good preparation and an excellent team of volunteers on the day.



AUDIENCE MEMBERS



AUDIENCE MEMBERS



BOOK SIGNING WITH KORKY PAUL



AF HARROLD PERFORMANCE

Reaching for the Moon!



In May 2019 we launched a series of 21 hands-on workshops for children, Reaching for the Moon!, exploring 50 key engineering technologies, concepts and/or inventions that developed as a result of research that made the Moon landing in 1969 a success. These workshops were made possible thanks to an EEGS Grant from the Institute of Mechanical Engineers and Institution of Engineering and Technology.

These workshops were designed not only to encourage young people to see engineering as a possible future career, sparking and feeding their interest in space exploration but also to enable the young people to experience their local public library as a great place to meet, play and learn.



As Neil Armstrong wrote, "How we use the knowledge we gain determines our progress on earth, in space or on the moon. Your library is a storehouse for mind and spirit. Use it well."

Each hands-on session has combined the use of arts, crafts and/or drama along with science to learn new skills as well as the knowledge of the history of developments. Hands-on activities have been supported by linking to library resources on the relevant topics, highlighting book stock (fiction, as well as non-fiction) and online resources.



These workshops are ongoing (they run till December 2019), and formal evaluation will take place at the end of the project but it is clear that attendees enjoy the workshops. The workshops have provided great publicity for FOLIO and Sutton Coldfield Library, attracting people from across Birmingham to attend.



Alice and the Library Tree, June 2019



Culture and Creativity is one of the Universal Offers which are identified as key areas for a 21st Century Library service¹. This is a recognition that libraries are a place where users can experience vibrant and diverse cultural events, reaching communities who do not normally take part in the arts and it was a key plank behind our ambitious project to commission a brand new children's opera about the magic and wonder of Libraries, *Alice and the Library Tree*.

Thanks to a Project Grant from Arts Council England we were able to work with specialist children's opera company B'Opera, to create a dramatic, funny and wonderful opera about saving a library from closure.

Loosely based on characters from Alice in Wonderland, *Alice and the Library Tree* tells the story of Alice who loves her tree library. When a storm damages it, the Queen of Hearts orders the White Rabbit to close it down. Alice is devastated and wishes her Fairy Godmother would wave a magic wand and solve the problem. She is not impressed when Fairy Godmother suggests Alice should fix things herself. When Alice doubts her own abilities, a magical Storybird reminds her that she has everything she needs to put things right.

An inspiring tale with a strong female lead, about how we can all take action, no matter how bad things may seem, *Alice and the Library Tree* deals with personal themes of resilience, empowerment, problem-solving, and being stronger together. Adults and older children were able to recognise political themes of library cuts and closures, and the treasured worlds and life lessons we can find inside books. Smaller children loved the interaction, costumes, and the introduction to opera, from the Queen of Night's famous aria, through Beethoven, Handel, Rossini and Mozart to the Ride of the Valkyries.



¹ <https://www.librariesconnected.org.uk/news/four-new-universal-library-offers>



[Photos courtesy of Thomas Kavanagh]

With the support of Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council we were able to invite four local schools in addition to two public performances in Sutton Coldfield library. The opera was also upscaled and performed outdoors to an audience of over 3500 in Sutton Coldfield Concerts in the Park, bringing the magic of libraries to an even wider audience.



[Images courtesy of Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council, photos by Andrew Fox]

Reviews and feedback on *Alice and the Library Tree* were very positive:

“This really is a fantastic show giving an incredibly charming performance whilst highlighting the wonder of libraries and the huge curiosity that they can bring. It is a perfect introduction both to opera and theatre for children aged 0 – 7 years of age (and their parents, of course), all performed in the unique setting of the local library, to further add to the message of the performance “use your local libraries”.”

- Small House Big Trips

“Alice and the Library Tree was a gloriously uplifting and empowering story of how Alice and friends worked together to save their library from closure featuring beautiful opera music by Mozart and Rossini, with the lyrics cleverly adapted to tell the story.

We loved how interactive and engaging it was, with the children going on a mini journey around the library as part of the show, as well as lots of opportunities to be involved and frequent costume changes by the storytellers.

It was also fantastic to see and hear really high quality operatic singing which was made totally accessible for the children. Babies to 8 year olds together sat entranced and listened beautifully. We can highly recommend this show.”

-Busy Parents Network

“If you haven't already got a ticket for this rather fantastic show, get your skates on and beg, borrow or barter for one!”

- Rhythm Circle

A selection of other events throughout the year



Yoga Bears

Story and Rhyme Massage

A fun class for Babies and Adults

Every Thursday for 5 weeks
from **10 January 2019**
Sutton Coldfield Library
10-10.30am

Suggested donation: £2
(to be donated to charity)
No booking required

What is Story Massage?
Story massage involves the use of simple movement (through clothes) associated with words to build up a story or rhyme/song. Story massage can be shared as a child to child or parent to child activity.

Benefits of story massage:
- Opportunities for children / babies to access calming time
- Fun and interactive way of story telling
- Increases social skills, imagination and creativity
- Relaxation of mind and body

For more details please contact Helen Wyszynski (Helen works for the NHS in the Speech and Language Therapy Service and is also a qualified Holistic Therapist)
07814 435 614 or helenwys@aol.com



'Fair Blighted Flower' – The Murder of Mary Ashford

Early on 21 May 1817 the body of farm servant Mary Ashford was found in a pit of water near Evington. She had spent the previous evening dancing at a party at a local inn. How did the pursuit of justice for Mary come to obstruct the nation and why did gentlemen, in particular, argue so fiercely about the reasons for her death?

Racem Clifford looks at this notorious and unusual case and explains why the words on Mary's grave in Sutton Coldfield churchyard were so controversial.

2 February 2019

FREE but donations welcome to cover cost of refreshments

1pm at Holy Trinity Church

Join FOLIO Sutton Coldfield and the Heritage Team from Holy Trinity Church for this joint local history talk about a fascinating episode in Sutton Coldfield's history, which changed English law forever.

1pm: Holy Trinity Church for refreshments, an introduction and a visit to Mary Ashford's grave
2pm: Sutton Coldfield Library for an illustrated talk, Q&A and book sales




Elderberries

Are you aged 50 years or older?

Come and reminisce with others over a free hot drink and a slice of cake

Second Wednesday every month 1.30 – 3pm
Sutton Coldfield Library

9 January | 13 February
13 March | 10 April




Family History Help Desk

brought to you in conjunction with Nuneaton & North Warwickshire Family History Society

**9 January | 13 February | 13 March
10 April | 8 May | 12 June**

Struggling with your Family History research?
Reached a brick wall you just can't break down?
Having a hard time deciphering old hand-writing?

Booking not essential, but strongly recommended:
bookwhen.com/foliosuttoncoldfield

Booking opens a month before each help desk. If you are unable to book online please call 07483 410155.

Queries about any aspect of Family History research welcomed, whether relating to Sutton Coldfield families or those from across the UK

NUNEATON & NORTH WARWICKSHIRE
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY




Give it a go!

Discover a new hobby!
Find a new activity to join!

Local clubs, societies and activity groups Fair
Sutton Coldfield Library
Saturday January 12 2019, 1.30-3.30pm

Clubs and groups for both adults and children!
Just drop-in, no booking required

Free DROP-IN taster lego club sessions for all the family at the same time as the Fair!



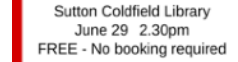
Meet local author Rachel McLean

At this FREE event Rachel will be reading an excerpt from her book *A House Divided*, a tense, timely and fast-moving political thriller, talking about how her experience working at the heart of Government inspired it, and signing copies.

Sutton Coldfield Library Thursday 7th February 1.30 PM




Sutton Coldfield Library
June 29 2.30pm
FREE - No booking required



How To Become A Self-Published Author Made Simple

During this 40 minute presentation, budding authors will have the chance to learn all about taking their book manuscript from a document on their computer, to a shelf ready, professionally finished book. Sarah, a self-published author and self-publishing services provider talks about the processes required to create, market and sell your book to your respective audience and how to go about it yourself, or hire the correct people for the job.



Sutton Coldfield Library
18 May • 1 June • 6 July
10-12 midday

Let's play

POKÉMON

Come and find out more about your local Sutton Coldfield Pokémon League!




Did you know you can now buy Pokémon cards from the Little Green Bookworm cafe? Why not bring your cards and join a game at the meeting of the local league?

Free - No Booking Required
Beginners & seasoned players of any age welcome




ASPECTS OF VICTORIAN BIRMINGHAM
with Hon. Assoc. Prof. Stephen Roberts
Sutton Coldfield Library | June 4-25 | 10.30-12.30

4 June	11 June	18 June	25 June
Architecture Leisure	Newspapers and Magazines Religion	Housing Manufacturing	George Dawson Joseph Chamberlain

Fat Fluffs FOLIO FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES IN OUR SUTTON COLDFIELD

EVERY BUNNY NEEDS A HOME

Join rabbit rescue charity Fat Fluffs at this FREE special rabbit awareness event where you can not only meet some rescue rabbits, but also learn all about everything you need to consider should you wish to keep rabbits at home

SUTTON COLDFIELD LIBRARY
Monday 15 April 11am-3pm




Learn about rabbit welfare
Free advice
Browse rabbit story books and information books
Talks at 11.30am and 2pm, but feel free to drop-in any time 11-3

Make a toy to keep the rescue rabbits happy

Fat Fluffs is a rabbit rescue and sanctuary based in Hampton in Arden. Its aim is to rescue and rehomed unwanted, neglected and abused rabbits and to educate the local community in good animal care. They take in all sorts of rabbits and as far as possible, find them loving forever homes. For those with more challenging personalities or continuing health problems they provide sanctuary for them and they stay as part of the family. The rescue has been going since 2008 and in that time it has rehomed more than 1000 rabbits. Earlier in the year its founder Chloe won an award with the FAW (International Fund for Animal Welfare) for services to small animals.

Toddler Construction Club
Sutton Coldfield Library

Every Friday, 10.30-11.15 for 5 weeks starting March 1 2019

Free play with brio, duplo and wooden blocks

FREE but donations welcome

Drop-in

(each session can accommodate a maximum of 30 participants including adults)
Dates in full: March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29

FOLIO FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES IN OUR SUTTON COLDFIELD

Any queries? Please email info@foliosuttoncoldfield.org.uk or call 07483 410155 (for those who aren't able to email)

Introduction to Creative Writing
Learn to write for pleasure and profit
Monday 21st January
1.30 - 4pm
Sutton Coldfield Library

This workshop, for adults only, will be run by Sally Jenkins, an author of two novels and many short stories and articles.

Participants (maximum 12) will need to bring a pen and paper.

Booking essential:
bookwhen.com/foliosuttoncoldfield
If you are unable to use a computer to make the booking please call 07483 410155 to book your place.

FOLIO FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES IN OUR SUTTON COLDFIELD

Sir Benjamin Stone: Victorian Photographer and Sutton Coldfield's First Mayor
A talk by local historian Stephen Roberts, Hon. Assoc. Prof., Australian National University

Sutton Coldfield Library
Free - No booking required - 2.30pm
Saturday 4 May

FOLIO FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES IN OUR SUTTON COLDFIELD

AHEAD OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2019...

ZERO WASTE LIFE Want to live a waste free life?

Perhaps you want to reduce your impact on the environment or simply be ahead of the curve the next time there's a bin strike - either way, come and be inspired by:

Environmental blogger and campaigner Charlotte Watkiss

Charlotte co runs the blog A Zero Waste Life (www.zerowastelife.co.uk) and the not-for-profit Zero Waste in the Community. She has sent no rubbish to landfill in over two years.






Find out how she's managed this in her talk packed with practical tips, followed by a Q&A.

Sutton Coldfield Library
June 1 2-3pm
Free - No Booking Required
All Welcome



Governance

During 2018-2019 FOLIO Sutton Coldfield welcomed one new trustee to its board as part of the charity's on-going commitment to growth and sustainability as an organisation. Monthly trustee meetings and a series of workshops on strategic development took place throughout the year. The Board of Trustees developed a number of new policies and procedures to ensure strong governance of the charity.

				
Zoe Toft - Chair	Jonny Mayner - Secretary	Jenny Wilkinson - Treasurer	Noran Flynn - Lead on volunteering and safeguarding	John Cooper -Lead on revenue generation

Volunteers

FOLIO Sutton Coldfield is an entirely volunteer run charity. With no staff, we rely on the generosity of volunteers to facilitate all aspects of FOLIO's work, both public facing, such as stewarding or running events, and behind the scenes such as creating publicity materials and writing funding bids.

During 2018-2019 we developed a network of school ambassadors who ensure local schools know about FOLIO's programme of events. We created a new 'Senior Volunteer' role for established volunteers to provide them with the training and confidence to steward events without the support of trustees. We expanded our database of volunteers eager to support at events and also extended our network of specialised volunteers willing to run sessions relating to their professional skills such as creative writing workshops, baby massage or photography. Increased volunteering opportunities and engagement will remain a key target as FOLIO moves forward.

Communications

In 2018-2019 FOLIO funded a new community noticeboard in Sutton Coldfield Library as part of their communications strategy. This also supports other third sector organisations around Sutton Coldfield, where there are relatively few opportunities for charities and community groups to share information.

2018-2019 saw FOLIO produce its first 'What's On' leaflet, which has proved to be a very successful way of promoting the library, particularly to those who do not follow FOLIO on social media, our primary means of communication.

Engagement on Facebook and Twitter has been excellent (indeed, it is a feature of the charity that many supporters explicitly comment on). FOLIO has 1078 followers on Facebook and 732 followers on Twitter. Social media has enabled the charity to have a strong local reach, widening our appeal to a bigger audience. Those who do not use social media are able to communicate with us (and vice versa) via our noticeboard, paper leaflets and FOLIO phone line.

What people think of FOLIO Sutton Coldfield

During June 2019 FOLIO held a public consultation to gather feedback about what events and activities the public would like FOLIO to facilitate and also to find out more about the public perception of FOLIO. The survey was available to complete both online and in paper form in Sutton Coldfield Library.

When asked to describe FOLIO we received the following comments:

“FOLIO Sutton Coldfield has had a tremendous impact on Sutton Coldfield, from saving the library to the community engagement at local events. They clearly know and understand what residents want to see, and how they can do it!”

“Tries really hard to put on a variety of events for the community to enjoy”

“Folio is a real community service for all different people and needs.”

“My children have taken part in Folio events and had a fantastic time, they love reading and creating a digital story in the library was an excellent way to help explore their imaginations and grow their confidence”

“FOLIO has saved and ensured a future for our library services. Providing new events for children and adults to extend their skills including and beyond reading, bringing children together in clubs. Communicating with the community to explore new ways of extending services that are meaningful and that will be used.”

“Making a real difference to Sutton Coldfield through innovation and connecting communities.”

“Folio have revolutionised my family’s use of the library and we feel more connected to Sutton Coldfield as a result”

“A powerhouse of grassroots inspiration in the community”

“An enduring team with pro active ideas that bring the community together.”

“FOLIO has made Sutton Coldfield Library a vibrant place to be. It offers people experiences not available elsewhere in the locality.”

“Fantastic services, often for free giving opportunities to everyone in the community. Invaluable to Sutton”

“FOLIO has turned Sutton Library into the best library in the city. If only all libraries were as welcoming and inclusive, and as packed with events and activities.”

“FOLIO has breathed new life and energy into Sutton Coldfield . It has expanded our ideas of what a library can be and created a space and opportunities which bring people together.”

“Folio has created a warm and welcoming community within the library. As well as supporting and encouraging use of the library itself Folio has provided a fantastic space for all kinds of community groups, hobbyists and experts to share their knowledge and passion.”

“Fabulous fabulous fabulous! The only thing else to say is a big thank you to the volunteers. My son was a reluctant reader. The important word is was. Since attending events at the library he has taken an interest in reading just from being in the library. He has now set himself a summer reading challenge - A-Z of authors - 26 books in 6 weeks!”

“FOLIO SC is playing an essential role in uniting the community through the use of a physical space and creative events. An inspiration to us all in a time of ever increasing divisions and community fragmentation.”

Our Accounts for 2018-2019

Gross income: £37,125.55
Earned income: 2%
Donations/grants: 98%

Gross expenditure: £29,858.03
Unrestricted reserves: £3,812.70

Note: Unrestricted reserves include £2,700 confirmed as allocated for projects in 2019-2020

Restricted reserves: £6709.29
Accumulated surplus: £7,267.52

Thank you to our funders 2018-2019

Our activities in the year 2018-2019 were generously supported by grants from the following bodies:

Arts Council England for awarding us a Project Grant enabling us to commission and put on our children's opera, Alice And The Library Tree.



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) and The Institute of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) for an EEGS grant to fund our project, Reaching for the Moon!



Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council for a grant for our project "Moving FOLIO Forward"



**ROYAL SUTTON COLDFIELD
TOWN COUNCIL**

The Philip Bates Trust for funding our Big Draw event in October 2018



M6 Toll Social Committee for funding our Lego Club



National Lottery Awards for All for enabling our Digital Storytellers project

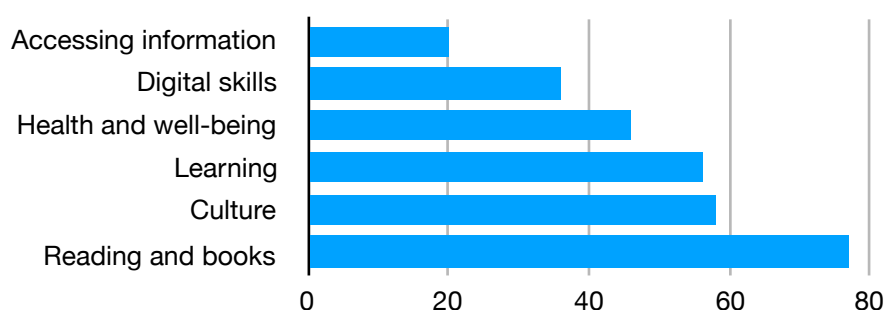


Plans for 2019-2020

Based on the results of our June 2019 public consultation and ongoing discussions with library staff our plans for 2019-2020 include:

- Expanding the Board of Trustees of FOLIO Sutton Coldfield to increase our capacity, improve our sustainability and enhance what we are able to offer
- Enhancing our book/reading related programme
- Offering more opportunities for people to participate in cultural activities
- Expanding our programme of educational talks and events

When asked what sort of FOLIO activities the community wished to see and participate in, the three most popular categories were (1) Reading and Books (2) Culture, and (3) Learning.



When offered the opportunity to elaborate on their preferred type of activity the single **most frequently mentioned suggestion/comment involved activities for children**. This was also borne out by the responses to a question eliciting more detail about the events/activities which survey users would try to attend in the library or which they think FOLIO should try to offer in the coming year:

