

## **Covid update January 2021**

Sadly, the library has once again had to shut its doors in the latest lockdown. However, we remain hopeful that normal service can be resumed before too long. Please see below a letter from the Friends' Committee providing a summary of activity in 2020. Whilst we can't take applications from volunteers right now, we would still like to retain as many members as possible and invite you to apply for your 2021 membership. Your £5 annual membership fee goes a long way to helping the Library continue with its excellent work supporting the local community.

### **Letter from Friends of Colyton Library Committee:**

To say that 2020 has been an unusual year is an understatement and the affect has been felt by us all personally and also by our community. The Library in Colyton has suffered full closure, then partial closure with spells of the "Choose and Collect" service and now in Covid Tier Two the full access again to the library shelves and computers.

The Tuesday morning session run by the Friends Group has, at the moment, not been reinstated but all other normal opening hours are covered by library staff.

The FOCL bank balance stands at a healthy level maintained to cover those uncertain events and unexpected costs relating to the building. Our outgoings so far this financial year - covering electricity, cleaning and general maintenance - are in excess of £3,350. We receive an annual payment of £2,000 from Libraries Unlimited South West to cover some of our expenses and the Friends have the responsibility of covering all other outstanding costs. During the initial pandemic lockdown we chose to continue paying the cleaner her full salary and have also donated £50, on two occasions, to support the LU Summer Reading Challenge and for books for young readers at Christmas.

Our income this year has been drastically reduced :

Friends Membership – largely collected at the March AGM -cancelled this year – resulting in 50 unpaid memberships @ £5 each.

Coffee Mornings – no income since the spring lockdown

Events cancelled- talks, outing and winter Quiz

Solar panels – thankfully the sun did shine and we will see income generated here

Easy Fundraising – supported by a few members. Online shopping generating a small but valued donation to our funds – try it here

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/colytonlibrary/>

By being a member of the Friends of Colyton Library, you are showing your support and appreciation for the Library Service functioning within our community. As there is still uncertainty that the next AGM will happen in March 2021, we would ask you to please consider making a donation to FOCL or simply renew or join the membership (cost £5) to get 2021 off to a good start.

Donations in cash or by cheque to the Library – Addressed to FOCL Treasurer (Sue Wilson) along with your details

Donations by BACS to Friends of Colyton Library – Sort Code 30-90-37, Acc No 01561529 referencing your surname.

Contact the Treasurer/Membership Sec Sue Wilson if you wish to make a Standing Order or complete a Gift Aid form [Sue.wilson44@outlook.com](mailto:Sue.wilson44@outlook.com) of 01297 444606.

**(Website - <https://www.friendsofcolytonlibrary.co.uk/>)**