

TUCKER FREE LIBRARY

The Tucker Free Library, a gift from George Tucker, first opened its doors in September of 1904. For 120 years, the Tucker Free Library has been a cornerstone of Henniker, proving the potential for libraries to foster vibrant and informed communities. Public libraries stand as beacons of learning, accessible to all who thirst for knowledge, irrespective of their means or beliefs. Public libraries, numbering 410,000 worldwide, offer free access to a wealth of resources and guidance. This access fosters community and contributes to tolerance and inclusivity. The people of Henniker have long recognized the transformative power of public libraries, committed to preserving this treasure for generations to come. Our doors open freely to everyone who wishes to cross our threshold.

The library recently hosted a Sunday program on Artificial Intelligence (AI) showcasing the vast potential for machines to assist in solving humanity's greatest quandaries, while holding the potential for nefarious actors to manipulate these machines. Humanity's challenge lies in discerning falsehoods and standing for truth in this new world. We must learn to coexist with AI, combat deep fakes on social media, as well as avoid the abyss of phishers and hackers. Gathering as a community, we reveal ourselves to others, shining a light on the darkness of deception. The Tucker Free Library serves as that meeting place for our community, partnering with Henniker civic organizations and local resident experts to share thoughts and to learn new things from others. We are building a community, a community of caring.

What a year it was! The library experienced frenetic activity thanks to the support of the Friends of Tucker Free. The library realized a 303% increase in the number of programs offered, with attendance increasing by 281%. The Henniker community showed up for a wide range of programs, from a Sunday afternoon panel discussion on pollinators to a Saturday morning resolution series in January. Participants learned how to needle felt and enjoyed painting together. The library hosted 45 book group meetings. Strangers learned to play Mahjong, becoming a cohesive group in the process. Kids learned about thermodynamics, how to sew, how to make friendship bracelets, and how to quilt from a local expert. A magician kicked off the summer, mesmerizing an estimated 250 people in attendance at

the Community Park. Families enjoyed five story trails mounted around town from April to November. Library staff also facilitated 80 programs for tots, pre-school and home-schooling families along with hosting seven Henniker Community School classes totaling 142 kindergarten and first grade visitors. Twenty-eight programs were designed for multi-generational attendance with 200 participants of all ages sitting side-by-side. Two of these events had several families with three generations joining in the fun! Over 450 COVID tests were handed out at the library during the fall of 2023. 4,800 pages were printed, scanned, or faxed using equipment in our business center. The circulation of physical materials exceeded 2022 by 4,100 check-outs. As in the past, our patrons prefer physical items 71% to 29% for eContent. The total calculated value that Henniker residents realized by using the library in 2023 was \$602,308.00 (meaning for every tax dollar, residents received \$2.50 worth of value!)

The eighth Tucker Free Library "Moose Plate" project was completed in November. Like the front of the building, the back of the building has now been cleaned and repointed. This project was funded through the Conservation License Plate Program, utilizing a portion of vehicle registration fees. The New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources oversees this highly competitive grant program, distributing funds annually. Since the first stained-glass preservation project in 2014, the library staff has acquired \$67,000 for building conservation efforts, including the restoration of lamp posts on the front porch, glazing the windows of the upper facade of the porch, and the brickwork most recently completed. Next year, the library hopes to complete the east and west sides of the building, with the final component of this multi-year project being wrapping up in 2025 with flashing, chimney, and joint work.

As the library looks to the future, the staff has set goals for 2024. We plan to engage our community with innovative programming, expand partnerships with others, and utilize the facility to its maximum while continuing to preserve its historical charm. The Tucker Free Library stands as a testament to the power of community and the enduring legacy of philanthropy, a treasure to be cherished for generations to come.

PATRON USE STATISTICS

CATEGORY	PATRONS	CIRCULATION
New Patrons	224	
Adult Residents	885	16,015
Juvenile Residents	329	5,446
Interlibrary Loan Partners	231	1,170
NEC Students/Residents	7	23
NEC Staff	2	5
Tucker Free Staff	7	957
SAU 24 Full Time Staff/Non-Resident	1	-
Provisional	4	9
Non-Resident \$50 Fee Paid	5	43
Interlibrary loan requests made by our patrons	-	986
Home Delivery	-	-
Book Club	3	39
TOTAL	1,474	24,693
2023 Library Appropriation	\$	242,210.00
Money Saved by Henniker Residents Using TFL	\$	602,308.00



MATERIAL USE STATISTICS

NUMBER OF...	CIRCULATION
Materials checked out at Library	24,693
Materials downloaded by patrons	10,299
Materials checked out by Interlibrary Loan Partners	1,170
Interlibrary loan requests made by our patrons	986
	34,992

COLLECTION STATISTICS

MATERIAL AREA	ADDED	DISCARDED
Adult Materials	723	7
Early Readers	308	27
Middle Readers	179	338
Teen Readers	58	179
STEAM Kits	0	1
Periodicals	66	114
Audio Materials	0	281
Video Materials	45	722
	1,379	1669

eCONTENT - Libby App

	YEAR	MEMBERSHIP FEE	CIRCULATION	COST/CIRC
 nh newhampshire <small>Downloadable Books Consortium</small> <small>Brought to you by your NH public library</small>  	2017	\$ 1,337.00	5,853	\$ 0.22
	2018	\$ 1,676.00	6,390	\$ 0.26
	2019	\$ 1,751.00	6114	\$ 0.28
	2020	\$ 1,890.00	6665	\$ 0.28
	2021	\$ 1,956.00	6782	\$ 0.19
	2022	\$ 1,922.00	8215	\$ 0.23
	2023	\$ 2,167.00	10,299*	\$ 0.21

*Use: eAudio (5,808), eBook (2,937), eMagazine (1,554)

DONATIONS RECEIVED

MARTHA NEMICCOLO

For the Mary F. Kjellman Fund

ALICIA & DAVID MACLEAY

For the Mary F. Kjellman Fund

RODNEY & CAROLYN PATENAUE

For the Robert N. Fitch Fund

WILLIAM & DARBY MCGRAW

General Fund

ELISE DEMICHAEL

General Fund

LINEC

General Fund

ALL OUR FRIENDS

Many people have helped us fulfill our mission at TFL this year. They have done so by becoming members of the Friends of Tucker Free Library. A donation of \$20/person allows you to call yourself a "Friend of TFL" but 81% of our Friends give more than the \$20, making them sustaining members

EVERYONE WHO DROPPED THEIR SPARE CHANGE IN THE BOXES AT CIRC DESKS.

\$79.50— General Fund

JON ROUTON & JIM AIRGOOD

Helping to keep the building in tip-top shape

TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

FRIENDS OF TUCKER FREE

Without whose generosity, Henniker would be void of the special things you do to support excellent library service.

MUCH GRATITUDE TO the mystery garden fairy, Henniker Beautification Alliance, and Henniker Parks Department for keeping our exterior looking good!

THANKS ... to everyone who has offered programs, led book discussions, taught us games, and helped with the community puzzle. Henniker residents have sought to reconnect with friends and neighbors, the library serving as the safe place to do so!

THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED BY...

Lynn M. Piotrowicz, M.A., M.L.S.
Library Director

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE TUCKER FREE LIBRARY ...

Frances Tain, Chair
E. Joseph Petrick, Treasurer
Anne Crotti, Friends' Liaison
John Capuco
Debra Kreutzer

TUCKER FREE LIBRARY - TREASURER'S REPORT 2023

REVENUE		2023 INCOME
Personnel Appropriation Funds	\$	224,925.55
Cash Income & Trust Funds	\$	32,861.19
Operational Income	\$	18,812.70
Other Direct Income	\$	19,153.05
2023 Unexpended/Reserve Funds	\$	6,661.06
TOTAL REVENUE		\$ 302,413.55

EXPENDITURES		2023 EXPENDITURES
Personnel Expenses	\$	224,925.55
Patron Service Expenses	\$	26,490.78
Facility Management Expenses	\$	43,393.44
Technology Management Expenses	\$	202.00
Other Direct Costs	\$	1,361.90
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$ 296,373.67

RESERVED FUNDS		
Total Trust Funds Reserved	\$	4,212.25
Vivian Allen Fund	\$	448.81
Beres Fund	\$	2,000.00
TOTAL UNEXPENDED/RESERVE FUNDS		\$ 6,661.06

TRUST FUND ACCOUNTING

TRUSTEES OF TOWN TRUST FUNDS MANAGED	EXPENDITURE CATEGORY	RECEIVED 2023	BALANCE 12/31/2022	EXPENDED THRU 11/07/2023	DONATIONS TO 2023	DEPOSIT TO TRUST FUND	BALANCE 12/31/2023
L.A. Cogswell*	LIBRARY OPERATIONS	\$ 1,909.51	\$ -	\$ 1,909.51	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Dr. Francis O. Holmes*	MEMORIAL BOOKS	\$ 148.66	\$ 54.29	\$ 103.08	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 99.87
D.W. & E. Cogswell	LIBRARY OPERATIONS	\$ 1,237.34	\$ -	\$ 1,237.34	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
A.D. Hunttoon*	LIBRARY OPERATIONS	\$ 84.67	\$ -	\$ 84.67	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Marjorie B. Bennett*	MEMORIAL BOOKS	\$ 822.45	\$ 378.38	\$ 281.12	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 919.71
Scott J. Berry*	MEMORIAL BOOKS	\$ 146.97	\$ 641.56	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 788.53
Mary F. Kjellman*	MEMORIAL BOOKS	\$ 236.62	\$ 490.42	\$ 90.96	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 636.08
James W. Doon*	MEMORIAL BOOKS	\$ 68.47	\$ 532.25	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600.72
Preston Fund	LIBRARY OPERATIONS	\$ 861.34	\$ -	\$ 861.34	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Alice V. Colby*	LIBRARY OPERATIONS	\$ 25.47	\$ -	\$ 25.47	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
George W. Tucker	LIBRARY OPERATIONS	\$ 8,095.42	\$ -	\$ 8,095.42	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Robert N. Fitch*	MEMORIAL TECHNOLOGY	\$ 577.56	\$ 480.40	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,057.96
Walter K. Robinson	MEMORIAL BOOKS	\$ 142.56	\$ 58.24	\$ 91.42	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 109.38
		\$ 14,357.04	\$ 2,635.54	\$ 12,780.33	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 4,212.25

*Trusts that list Trustees of Tucker Free Library with fiduciary capacity

LIBRARY TRUSTEE MANAGED FUNDS	EXPENDITURE CATEGORY	BALANCE 12/31/18	BALANCE 12/31/19	BALANCE 12/31/2020	BALANCE 12/31/2021	BALANCE 12/31/2022	BALANCE 12/31/2023
TD Bank							
Willis Cogswell	LIBRARY OPERATIONS	\$ 341,727.77	\$ 387,192.97	\$ 407,824.58	\$ 432,088.02	\$ 339,950.70	\$ 354,071.47
Bar Harbor (1)	LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT						
SUBFUND							
	Starting Balance	% of Fund					
Cammett, Helen (2)	\$ 5,001.13	3.15	\$ 7,217.58	\$ 8,399.62	\$ 8,969.98	\$ 9,997.81	\$ 8,555.54
Childs, Anna (3)	\$ 7,247.14	4.41	\$ 10,104.61	\$ 11,759.47	\$ 12,557.97	\$ 13,996.94	\$ 11,977.75
Soderstrom, Ann (4)	\$ 189,147.45	88.28	\$ 202,275.59	\$ 235,402.82	\$ 251,387.27	\$ 280,192.63	\$ 239,772.36
TD Bank Refund (5)	\$ 7,111.97	4.16	\$ 9,531.79	\$ 11,092.84	\$ 11,846.07	\$ 13,203.46	\$ 11,298.74
Total of Funds	\$ 208,507.69	100%	\$ 229,129.58	\$ 266,654.76	\$ 284,761.29	\$ 317,390.84	\$ 271,604.39
							\$ 303,961.12

ANNOTATIONS ATTACHED AS COMMENTS TO FUNDS IN THE BAR HARBOR TRUST ACCOUNT.

1-The Charter Trust Account was designated as a "Board Restricted Endowment" on 09/08/2021 by a vote of 5-0. It is now known as Bar Harbor as the change in management has occurred.

2-The money from the Helen Cammett fund was received as Tucker Free Library was listed as a beneficiary of her insurance policy

3-The Anna Childs fund has as it's intent statement: "I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Tucker Free Library of Henniker, New Hampshire, the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to establish an Endowment Fund to be known as the Anna L. Childs Memorial Fund, the income only to be used for the benefit of the Francis Lane Childs Historical Room, but if not needed for this purpose, then for the general purposes of the Library." Will of Francis L. Childs, June 4, 1974.

4-Unconditional "I give my entire Estate, including any property over which I may have a power of appointment, as follows:...One-half (1/2) of my estate to Tucker Free Library, Henniker, New Hampshire." Last Will and Testament of Ann Soderstrom dated June 25, 2008.

5-Library Director received a letter and a check from TDWealth Management:

The letter states that the status of our trust failed to meet new regulations so it has been changed to a private foundation. Since it is now considered a private foundation they owed us money to compensate for the incorrect status (it changed from 4% to 5%) so they sent us \$6210 09/09/2011. They later sent an additional check in the amount of \$901.97 for underpayment.