

Barrington Public Library
2015 Town Report

The library circulated 87,028 of our own items this year plus 1026 items we borrowed from other libraries across the state for a grand total of 88,080 circulations. Please see the full statistical report included on another page for details on all aspects of library use in 2015.

In technology we added downloadable magazines to our electronic collection so patrons can borrow periodicals remotely and view them on tablets and other devices. A new public computer system called "Useful" was purchased and installed, making access quicker and easier for patrons, and costing far less in staff time to maintain. These terminals are also "green" and use much less power than normal PC units. The library added the ability for the library to track Wi-Fi usage statistics, showing us how many people access our connection via this method on smart phones and tablets they bring to the library. One of our old public PC's was re-used to give a staff member an office terminal for processing and cataloging. Volunteers finished a massive project; adding cover shots to all our items in our online catalog and staff and volunteers began an inventory of the library holdings which is about 60% complete. The library website was also revamped to be "mobile friendly" so it is easier to view and retrieve information on smart phones and other small devices.

In programs and collections, we added more programs geared towards the arts, nature, and history. Paint Nights, adult crafting, and stone wall building were all popular. We also began to focus on STEM skills for children, creating a LEGO club and doing outreach programs to the middle school such as LEGO robotics and coding. We launched the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program which rewards parents and children for reading throughout the year. We held community art exhibits, from elementary school students to adult quilters. We added two new areas: creation kits that are educational toys, games, and building sets that spur hands on learning, and, Xbox One games. These can be checked out by patrons and enjoyed at home.

One new staff member joins us; Michele Hawkins is now our afternoon circulation desk clerk. The Library Trustees have been working towards setting up a Library Foundation whose purpose will be to raise money towards a new library facility. They are seeking interested townspeople who wish to help in this capacity.

2016 plans include adding a new digital service called "Hoopla", where patrons will be able to download music, comics, movies, e-books, TV shows, and audio books. This 2 year trial will be funded through donations from the Friends of the Library in conjunction with other generous donors.

The library wishes to thank the many volunteers who worked on projects and helped at the desk, as well as the Friends of the Library group and TurboCam; the savings to the Town is work time equal to \$7741.19 (at \$7.25/HR) and services and materials paid for directly by these groups at \$2,985. Staff also procured grants of \$1557.50 from the NH Humanities Council, Kids, Books, and the Arts, Federal Savings Bank, and Wal-Mart to provide the community with programs.

Respectfully Submitted, Amy Inglis, Library Director