Hanwell Community Library

Library News

May 2025

Library updates

Fundraising Bake sale - Saturday May 17th

On May 17 we're hosting a bake sale stacked with lots of yummy treats from cakes and loafs, and muffins flapjacks for you all. All money made during the bake sale will go straight back into maintaining the library and our activities/resources. We hope you'll join us and pick up a Saturday treat!

This year we celebrate 120 years since the opening of Hanwell Library. So far, our history has been vibrant and rich with stories, families, visits, and growth and we want to keep this going. We're thankful to be part of so many of your daily lives and weekly habits, whether you're a recent joiner, or have been with us for years we thank you!

As a volunteer run library we rely on the generosity of our community so that we can keep providing for our community. Your donations, whether financial, your time, or your use of the space is what keeps us open and able to provide you with the resources and activities that you seek.

Become a volunteer at Hanwell Community Library

Are you looking for new ways to be part of the community? Would you like to help individuals and families in different ways? Join us as a volunteer!

We are always looking for new volunteers and would love to have you. If you work full-time but are still interested in volunteering, why not join us for our 5-7pm Thursday shift?

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Opening hours

Tuesday
10am-1pm then 2pm-5pm

Wednesday
10am-1pm then 2pm-5pm

Thursday
2pm-7pm

Friday
10am-1pm then 2pm-5pm

Saturday
10am-4pm

Library updates

Short-Story Competition

2025 will be the 120th year anniversary of the library first opening to the public! In order to kick off our celebrations we are inviting you to submit your own 120 word (+/- 10) story.

Whether this is poetry, prose, a script, or comic - we cannot wait to read it! **Deadline:** 12 May 2025 **Ages:** All ages welcome, adults and children will be judged separately. **Prize:** Winners work will be included in our 120th anniversary celebratory magazine. **Submit:** Hand it to the front desk or email submissions to hcl@ hanwellcommunitylibrary.org.uk

How can you support Hanwell Community Library in 2025?

As a volunteer run library HCL thrives because of the dedication of our community. Our activities, and resources, are benefitted by this generosity and we thank you for being part of our story so far.

Why do we ask for donations:
As a community run library all financial donations made to Hanwell Community Library go back into our activities, resources and ensuring the library continues to open and exist as our community needs it.

All donations help us to continue providing activities and to continue as a space for our community to use in the variety of ways you need from reading and quiet study to an events space, learning new skills and attending activities.

How to make a donation to support the library:

Scan the QR Code (right), click on the link below, or visit our front desk for direct card payment

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=M3E32KDRJWWUU

We understand that not everybody is in the position to provide financial support, if you would like to explore other ways to support the library you can: Become a library volunteer, Host an activity, Use the space to work, read, relax etc,

Tell us what you want from your local library.

Please reach out! Thank you for your support.

HCL

Events

So far this year we have been joined by so many wonderful individuals and groups, providing them with the space to host their meetings, talks, training, social groups and filming!

Do you have an event, workshop, training session, filming etc but are struggling to find a place to host this?

We have a community room and Main Hall available for hiring.

Our space is flexible and affordable.

Please reach out via email HCL@hanwellcommunitylibrary.org.uk for more information.

Are you a local author?

Are you a local author looking to share your work and insight into your journey? Throughout our 120 celebration, we want to highlight your work.

Hanwell is filled with talent, whether you are self-published or not, we want to platform your work.

Please email HCL@hanwellcommunitylibrary.org.uk for more details.

Library updates

Seasonal Open Mic Night - next date: 9th July

Hosted by our wonderful resident poet Steve, the spring open mic saw poems ranging from Shakespeare, dragons, and horticultural themes!

During the evening the group will share poetry with one another, ranging from poems they have written themselves to poems from others already written! If you'd rather listen to poetry being read, that's fine too!

All ages are welcome, but please ensure under 16s are accompanied by a trusted guardian.

The next theme is: Summer, Sunshine, Holidays! (however, all good poetry is welcomed regardless of theme.)

Please email nottoopoetry@gmail.com to sign up!

A poem to inspire you

"South Coast Summer"

I am a soft sandal
You are pebble beaches

I am a lace parasol
You are high gales

I am a yellow sundress
You are a shock of hail stones

I am scented sunscreen
You are cumulus clouds

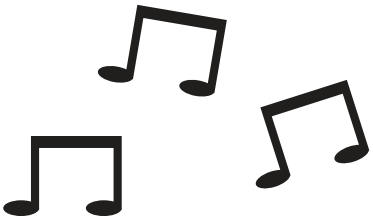
I am Mr Whippy
You are a chase of seagulls

You are relentless
But I will prevail.

Local Musician Gathering - Shhh Hanwell

Every month we are welcoming local musicians into the space for a wonderful evening filled with acoustic music performances. Whether you are a musician yourself or simply a fan of music, come along each month for an evening of various genres and a lot of passion.

Musicians can expect to share their work throughout the evening, amongst likeminded individuals, in a private and safe space. Musicians can bring along small amps.



The next Shhh session is on: **Tuesday 27th May, 6.30pm onwards.**

You can follow them on Instagram for more updates: @shhh_hanwell

Would you like to write a book review, short-story, poem, or library/book-related article?

We have a new blog (on Substack!) and we would love to spotlight more of our local writers. Whether this is fiction, non-fiction or a review we would love to welcome you to get in touch.

As a library, we know books and literature are deeply connected to most of what we do, one of the most interesting things about this is the various ways people connect literature with other forms and experiences, challenging our expectations.

We would like to invite you to write something for our blog and for our newsletter.

If this is of interest, please email hcl@hanwellcommunitylibrary.org.uk

Could you be our scrabble volunteer?

Are you interested in becoming our Friday morning Scrabble volunteer?

We're looking for a wonderful scrabble fan to be present on a Friday morning and join those who visit for a game of scrabble. Many people would love to play but have come alone; if you're keen on sharing the game of scrabble with others please do let us know!

Library activities and groups

Do you have an activity or group you'd like to host at the library? This could be a drop-in creative session in the main library space, a scheduled session every month or a one-off . . .

All ideas are welcome, reach out via hcl@hanwellcommunitylibrary.org.uk with your details and idea and we can see if what's possible.

#HCLBooksEtc

#HCLBooksEtc is a diverse and informal book club led by Sara-Jade Virtue. **#HCLBooksEtc** that usually meet in the Library on the **first Wednesday** of every month at **6pm**. **Next date: May 7th**

Theme: Music

There are no set books, instead, members are encouraged bring along a book they have read and enjoyed based on a set theme to discuss with the group.

If you would like to join, or would like more details, please email HCL@hanwellcommunitylibrary.org

Hanwell Community Library Youth Club

Hanwell Community Library Youth Club is currently paused whilst we recruit new members - do you know any young people who would like to help facilitate with the help of library staff?.

Email HCL@hanwellcommunitylibrary.org to sign up.

Local History Exhibition

- First and Third Saturday of the month

Would you like to learn more about the history of your local area?

Visitors are welcomed to come and explore the history of Hanwell through word, maps and pictures led by local resident David Blackwell.

David will be based in the community room on the **first Saturday of every month, 10-3** with a focus on the rest of the Borough on the **Third Saturday of the month.**

No need to book, free entry.

Kids craft morning

FREE over 5s craft morning! 10:30-12:00.

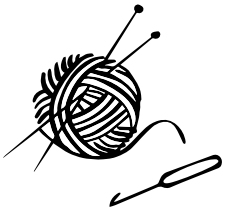
Email HCL@hanwellcommunitylibrary.org.uk to sign up or find out more details. Alternatively, ask at the front desk.

Please provide your child's name and the name & mobile number of the guardian accompanying them

Next date to be confirmed.

Hanwell Community Library 'Knit and natter'

- Every Tuesday



Pop along to our informal knitting group for adults at Hanwell Community Library **every Tuesday 11-12**.

Bring along whatever you are working on and use the space to knit, chat and make new friends. Note: attendees, please bring your own materials.

Hanwell Community Library IT Support Hub

- Every other Tuesday

First and third Tuesday every month, from 10am to 12 noon.

No need to book, help provided on a first come first serve basis. Help for simple queries regarding:

- Texts
- Emails
- Using phones/tablets
- Using the internet
- Microsoft Office
- And more!

Please note: We cannot help with repairing hardware or complex IT issues.

Library activities and groups

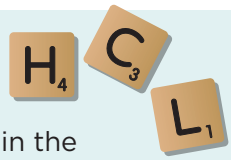
Rainbow Poetry Group

– Second Tuesday of the Month

For everyone who enjoys poetry on a wide range of subjects, the Rainbow Poetry Group invites you to its informal meetings in the Library on the **second Tuesday each month at 2.30pm**.

Members of the group bring, read and discuss published poems, with a specific theme each time. For further details please contact **Don Kennedy** on **020 8567 4397** / e-mail: donkennedy@f2s.com

Scrabble Club



Hanwell Community Library Scrabble Club will be taking place **every Friday morning** in the Library at **11 am**. Boards will be provided and there is no need to book, just turn up to play!

All ages welcome!

Ealing Friendship Centre

'Pep' up your social life? Join Ealing Friendship Centre.

Meet in the Library on the **third Thursday of every month, 2pm-4pm**.

We have a varied programme.

For more information, phone **Chris** on **020 8579 9868.**

Storytime

Storytime is a fun-filled free activity for young children. Joined by our wonderful storytellers, children can enjoy stories and a series of nursery rhymes for them to sing along with.

Storytime takes place in the Library at **11am every Wednesday.** All are welcome, with no booking required.

HCL Tuesday Morning Reading Group

The Tuesday Morning Reading Group meets on the first Tuesday of each Month to talk about a book that we have all read. We read mainly fiction but also enjoy the occasional non-fiction book.

Books are sometimes from stock which Ealing Libraries hold for reading groups and sometimes books chosen from recommendations within the group.

We welcome new members, the only criteria is to enjoy reading and discussing books. If you are interested come along to one of our meetings.

Meetings are held at **10.30am** on the **first Tuesday of each month** at Hanwell Community Library and they are always open to new joiners.

Neurodivergent Club

Last Saturday of every month, 1-4pm

A social club exclusively for neurodivergent and disabled folk to connect in a safe, welcoming environment.

Email Saph at ndclub.official@gmail.com for more information including the Discord server information.

Hanwell Library Book Doctor

- first Saturday of the month

In a Reading Rut? Come and meet the Hanwell Community Library Book Doctor.

Drop in to Hanwell Community Library from **10am** on the **first Saturday of every month** and let local Book Doctor Sara-Jade Virtue, creator of the **#HCLBooksEtc** community group, prescribe your next page-turner.

Library activities and groups

Hanwell Community Library one to one homework support for under 13s - term time only

Do you need some help with your homework or want to find a book for your school topics?

Hanwell Community Library Homework Club takes place in the Library **every Tuesday afternoon between 3.30-5pm**.

No need to book, just drop in.

Shared Reading

- Every Wednesday 2.15-3.45

Drop in to Hanwell Library and enjoy a new weekly activity of shared reading.

Grab a cuppa, listen to a story/poem read aloud by trained volunteers. Join in or just sit back and listen. No pressure to read. No Homework. Stories and poems bring people together to talk, to laugh, to share or just sit back, relax and listen. Join us on Wednesday afternoons.

Further updates

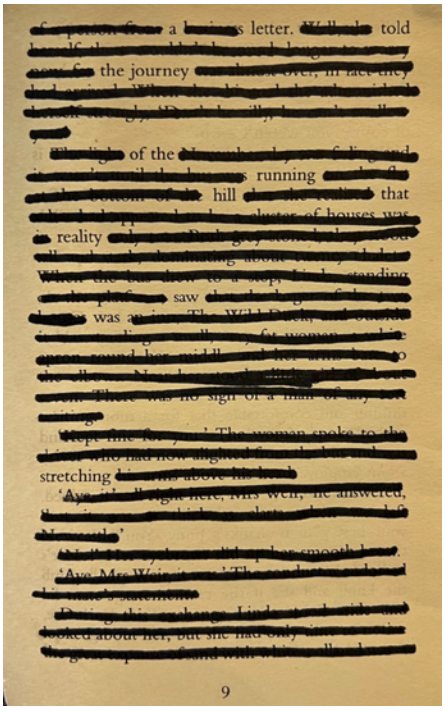
Blackout poetry wall

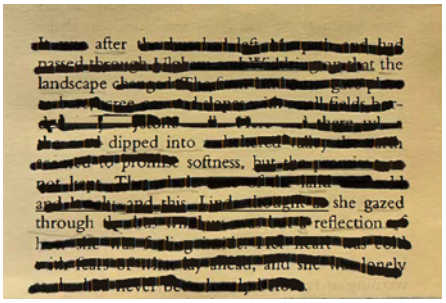
You might have seen, or even become part of, our blackout poetry wall that's set up in the library hall!

Using pages that have fluttered out of old books, and books that we sadly cannot do anything else with, we've invited you to use the words on the pages to create some new poetry. Here are just a few that you've made!

Do you have books that are damaged and maybe even a little worse for wear? Try out

blackout poems yourself at home or in the library.





Extended Thursday Openings

On Thursday evenings our extended opening times continue until 7pm - you have 2 extra hours to study, work, relax, read or collect/ return your books.

Council resources

Customer Service Points at Libraries

If you are at risk of becoming homeless, please call 020 8825 6444 or email your name and phone number to EmergencyHousing@ealing.gov.uk. If you email by 4.30pm you will receive a call back on the same day. Emails received after 4.30pm will receive a call back the next working day. This table outlines the quickest and easiest way to access council services:

Service	How to access
Council Tax enquiries	My Account www.ealing.gov.uk/myaccount Telephone: 020 8825 7050
Housing Benefit enquiries	My Account www.ealing.gov.uk/myaccount Telephone: 020 8825 7000
Benefit documents for scanning	Send clear photos of documents to: hbscanning@ealing.gov.uk Drop envelope in letterbox outside Customer Service Centre (to right of main glass doors)
Housing Options (applying for housing)	LOCATA: www.locata.org.uk/ealing Telephone: 020 8825 8800/7274
Housing Solutions (housing advice)	Telephone: 020 8825 8888
Housing repairs	My Account www.ealing.gov.uk/myaccount Telephone: 020 8825 5682
Parking enquiries	My Account www.ealing.gov.uk/myaccount Email: parkingservices@ealing.gov.uk Telephone: 020 8825 7050
Environmenal enquiries	My Account www.ealing.gov.uk/myaccount www.ealing.gov.uk/rubbishandrecycling Telephone: 020 8825 6000
Schools Admissions	Primary School telephone: 020 8825 5511* Secondary School telephone: 020 8825 5522* *telephone lines only open 9am-12noon, Mon-Fri
Social Services/safeguarding	Telephone: 020 8825 8000
Council switchboard (Out of hours service - emergencies only)	www.ealing.gov.uk Telephone: 020 8825 5000

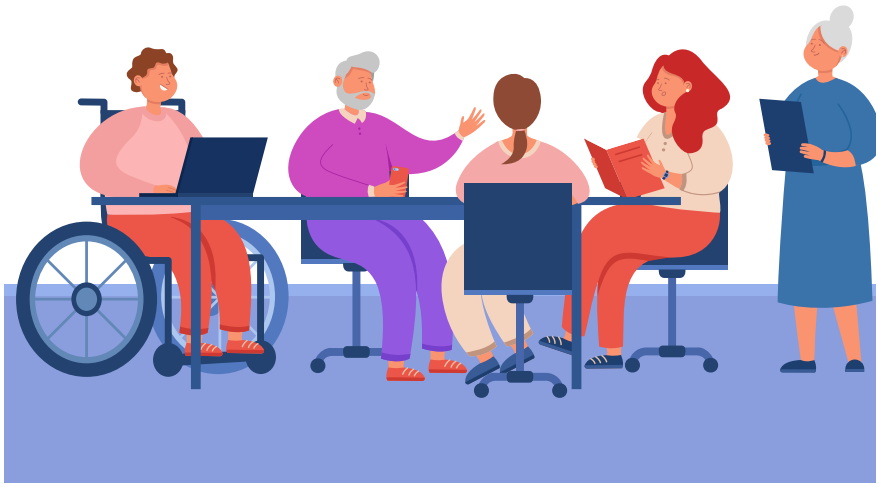
If you do not have access to the internet, there is free Wi-Fi and access to computers available at all of the borough's libraries including the Community Managed Libraries. If you need additional support, please visit the Customer Service Point closest to your home, Monday – Friday 10:00am – 5:00pm.

Acton Library, Everyone Active, Acton Centre, W3 6NE
Southall Library, The Dominion Centre, UB2 4BQ
Northolt Library, Church Road, UB5 5AS
Ealing Central Library, Ealing Broadway Shopping centre, W5 5JY

Please be aware that advisors at the Customer Service Points cannot support customers at risk of becoming homeless. Please call 020 8825 6444.

News

Are you looking for a community room or large main hall to use?



Many of our wonderful activities take place in our community room on the Ground Floor!

We are always looking for new communities, individuals & groups to support.

Whether this is a one-time use of the room, or a more ongoing use for weeks/months, we'd love to hear from you.

If you're looking for a space to host your group, event/ activity, meeting or other get together reach out at admin@hanwellcommunitylibrary.org.uk with your details for more information.

We look forward to hearing from you and having you in our space. **HCL**

Help with form filling

Ealing Law Centre's Triage and Outreach service are available at Hanwell Community Library to help members of the public with completing applications for Personal Independence Payment and UC50 forms.

If you need assistance with this, please visit us during the Law Centre opening hours:

Monday	9:30-17:30
Tuesday	9:30-17:30
Wednesday	9:30-17:30
Thursday	9:30-17:30
Friday	9:30-17:30

Ealing Law Centre

Would you like to volunteer?

Here at Hanwell Community Library, we are always looking to welcome new volunteers!

Whether you would like to help run the Library on a day to day basis or there is a specific event or club you would like to run, there is a place for everyone!

Public facing volunteer roles include activities such as:

- Registering new users
- Issuing books
- Returning books
- Renewing books
- Shelving and sorting library stock
- Helping answer customer questions

If this sounds like something you would enjoy, please fill in the form on the 'Get Involved' section of our website:

hanwellcommunitylibrary.org.uk/volunteer/

Or ask at the Library front desk for a physical copy of the form.

Thank you and welcome!

The Library would not be able to run without the help of all of our fantastic volunteers who regularly give up their own time to ensure that the library is an inviting and inclusive place for all users. Thank you everyone!

Hanwell Community Library
Cherington Road | Hanwell W7 3HL
E: HCL@hanwellcommunitylibrary.org.uk
W: **www.hanwellcommunitylibrary.org.uk**