

Beryl Stamps Her Last Book

After 30 happy years in charge of the Wychwood Library, June 30th 2007 will be my last day as Manager. I have decided to retire. When I started in 1977, with Rosemary Baker as my mentor, the library consisted of one small room behind the two-bay display windows. In 1984 the larger room behind was added and until 2002 I managed single handed, with Barbara Wilson and Ruth Gillingham as my holiday relief.

A Wonderful Library

Starting in late 1997 there were County discussions on Library and Leisure restructuring and our branch faced possible closure! Fortunately the Wychwood readers formed 'Friends of Wychwood Library' and convinced the County that our library should not be closed. Thanks to this tremendous effort the branch was enlarged, refurbished and re-opened in 2001. We now have a wonderful community library serving all ages from infants to senior citizens. After 2002 the opening hours were increased and together with an increase in readers it was necessary to appoint more assistants. Sandra Steer and Liz Newport joined Ruth to help during afternoons and Saturday mornings and more recently Sarah Widdicombe has joined the team. Sarah Thacker also joins us on most Friday afternoons to help out. This team provides a continuing service



playgroups.

for the community. The library also provides opportunities for 'Work Experience' and training for 'Duke of Edinburgh Awards' and we have always enjoyed close relations with Wychwood School and the local

Thanks to Three Generations!

You will have noticed the library is always clean and tidy and this is thanks to three generations of the same family, starting with Gwendolin Wilkes, followed by daughter Jean Burgess and now granddaughter Amanda.

There have been many changes to Wychwood Library over the years with the introduction of computers and access to the Internet for readers and staff. We have also moved from the 'Brown issue', the manual issue of books, to a computerised system. All a challenge!

The Babies Have Had Babies!

I am very sad to leave Wychwood Library. Some of our readers were babies when I first arrived and now they are returning with their own children. It has been a privilege to have been part of your lives and I have very much enjoyed my 30 years service.

Thank you all for your support and contribution in making Wychwood Library one of the best in the County.

Beryl Brown