

2015 Annual Report



18 – 114 2nd St. S

Box 760

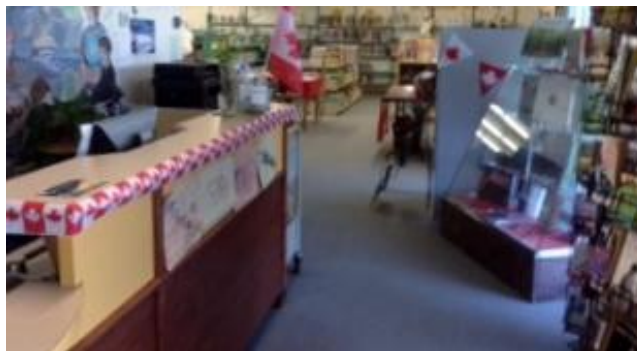
Souris, MB R0K 2C0

(204)483-2757

frontdesk@sourislibrary.mb.ca

www.sourislibrary.mb.ca

The mission of the Glenwood & Souris Regional Library is to provide materials and services to help community residents of all ages meet their educational, cultural, and recreational needs. The library seeks to encourage reading and the use of current technology for life-long learning and enrichment of a citizen's quality of life.



LIBRARY BOARD

Municipality of Sours-Glenwood:
Mark Gillis (Council Rep.) **Chairperson**
Gayle O'Greysik **Vice- Chair**
Mae Hart
Belinda West
Gloria Turner **Secretary**

Chairperson's Report

Another year has passed for the Glenwood and Souris Regional Library. It was successful year with patron visits and circulation remaining rather constant year over year. In an effort to provide new valued services to the community, the library embarked on a new program this year. The program, which is Story Time for Preschool Children, was held every Thursday. The program was popular and gave children an opportunity to connect with the library at a young age, while enhancing literacy.

The library staff continues to look for ways to enhance services through obtaining financial resources through grants and donations. This year they were successful in securing a \$500 grant from the Souris-Glenwood Foundation. This money was used to purchase large print books. I would like to encourage all citizens to consider worthwhile organizations such as the library and the Souris-Glenwood Foundation when deciding on where they would like to place their charitable donations in the future. While on the subject of grants and donations, I can also report that in 2015 the library was successful in obtaining 6 computers for public use through the "Computers for Schools" program. The library has become an important resource for people to access the internet free of cost and these computers go a long way to achieving this goal.

The library could not operate without the efforts of our staff and volunteers. For the 2015 year they were Connie Bradshaw, Lynda Luptak, Debra French, Cassie Quadrelli, Elise Kurtenback and Alexis MacLean. Thank you to all of them for the work that they do. I would also like to recognize the municipality of Souris - Glenwood and the Province of Manitoba for their financial contribution without which, the library would not exist. Board members in 2015 were Gayle O'Greysik, Mae Hart, Belinda West, and Gloria Turner. I would also like to thank them for their contribution in making our library a valued community resource.

2016 will present challenges, but also opportunities and I am confident that staff, volunteers, board members and community at large will seize those opportunities to make our library even better.

Mark Gillis

Librarian's Report

Being the Head Librarian of a small public library is not at all what I expected when I signed up for this position 6 years ago. Firstly, I never imagined the whole scope of skills that I would acquire - skills that are forever changing and increasing. Secondly, although I have always enjoyed using the public library myself, I never imagined the importance of such a place to the community. For the library to remain such a viable entity, I know we must forever evolve to meet the shifting needs and demands of the citizens. This is the biggest challenge that I face in future years, and I hope that I am up to this essential task.

I like to surround myself with people who love the library; thus, most of our staff is chosen from present volunteers or frequent users of the library. Lynda Luptak retired this July and Debra Wright (French) has stepped in to help cover some of her hours. We also have some terrific volunteers who appear when we need some extra hands. Cassie Quadrelli came on board in October to pilot our long-awaited weekly Story Time. She is doing a wonderful job and I am so thrilled with the attendance and reception her program is receiving.

I have to mention our dedicated Library Board members who are always ready to listen to any issues or ideas that I may present, and I thank them for their encouragement and trust of my day-to-day running of the library.

Thank you to the Municipality of Souris-Glenwood and the Province of Manitoba for the grants that allow the library to remain in our community and to our local Donor's Choice, Souris-Glenwood Foundation, and other private supporters for their ongoing commitment to the library. We cannot miss thanking the friendly staff at Public Library Services who provide us with first-rate support, allowing us to evolve with today's changing library platforms.

Connie Bradshaw



Highlights:

- **Grant Donation**

The library was able to purchase a Victor Reader Stream player with funds received from **Souris Glenwood Foundation**. Visually impaired patrons can borrow this device to listen to **Daisy** digital talking books.



- **Puzzles**



Puzzles have become very popular items at the library.

- **Book Club**



The book club meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month (except July and August).

- **Local Art**



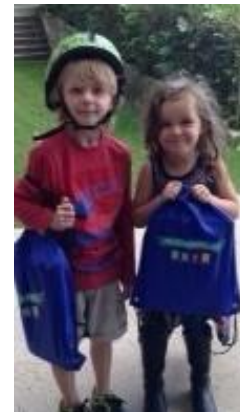
Every month we receive a new display of art courtesy of the Souris Art Club.

- **Wedding Shower at the library**

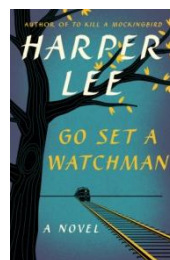


Library patrons and friends honoured staff member Debra Wright (French) with a wedding shower.

- Summer Days at the Library



- Book Display



Launch of Harper Lee's long-awaited book, *Go Set a Watchman*

Display done by Alexis MacLean

- **Arts West 36th Travelling Gallery at the library in August**

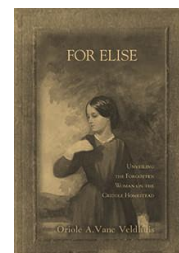


The Traveling Gallery visits 19 communities in Southwestern Manitoba over the year.

- **Meet the Author**



Glenwood & Souris Regional Library hosted **Oriole A. Vane Veldhuis**, author of ***For Elise : Unveiling the Forgotten Woman on the Criddle Homestead*** on Wednesday, October 28, 2015





Library Corner

By Alexis MacLean

I have three newly published books for you to consider this week: *A God In Ruins* by Kate Atkinson, *The Night Stages* by Jane Urquhart and *The Bone Tree* by Greg Iles.

Although good, *A God In Ruins*, Kate Atkinson's follow-up to *Life After Life*, is not of the quality, let alone originality, of its predecessor. Marketed as a companion piece to *Life*, it isn't really. While the main character is supposed to be the brother of *Life*'s protagonist, the connection is tenuous at best, and nothing of the first story spills over to, let alone influences, this new piece at all. While this need not be a bad thing, *A God In Ruins* is sadly disjointed even when considered as a 'stand alone tale'. It is presented as a series of discrete tales, set in different years and focusing on different characters. This is unfortunate, as many of these 'mini' tales are interesting and well done, but the overall effect tends to be jarring. The 'catch' at the story's end was predictable - not as being what it was, but one knew there would be a 'catch' - and doesn't

really compensate for way the story was presented. Still, it was a good enough book - just frustrating in that it could have been far, far better had it been presented in a more coherent fashion.

The Night Stages, Jane Urquhart, is another somewhat disjointed book. At its most basic, it is a story of two brothers. What little we learn of the elder brother, Niall, comes from the reflections of Tam, his mistress. Through her reflections we learn of Niall's younger brother Kieran, and by far the bulk of the story is Kieran's. Severely troubled as a youth, Kieran is more or less adopted by a local countrywoman - the only person able to control him. Retaining only the most tenuous of contacts with his father and brother, Kieran's life nonetheless unwittingly overlaps with Niall's at two points: one involving a girl and the other a sport. Had the book been restricted to that story, it would have been good. Unfortunately, interspersed among the chapters dealing with Kieran and Niall, the author presents the completely separate and, to me at least, utterly pointless sub-story of Canadian painter Kenneth Lochhead and his mural in the Gander Airport. Ostensibly included

because Tam is waylaid in Gander and the mural prompts memories of Niall and Kieran, these chapters are unnecessary. It just seems as if somewhere along the way the author learned a fair bit about Lochhead and was determined to use it somewhere. The book remains fairly good but you could skip all the chapters about Lochhead and have a more enjoyable read.

The Bone Tree, by Greg Iles, is one of those books of which I can only say that if you like this sort of thing, you'll like the book. The second installment in what apparently is to be a trilogy, *The Bone Tree* takes up where *Natchez Burning* left off. A much-too-long book at 800 pages, it is filled with murder, conspiracy, corruption, racism, the KKK, the JFK assassination, and just about everything else you can possibly imagine. Frankly, it just didn't work for me - the characters and situations were too unbelievable - so this one I'll just have to leave to your discretion. If you liked *Natchez Burning*, you'll probably like *The Bone Tree*. Otherwise, or if you haven't yet read *Natchez Burning*, I'd suggest you give this one a pass.

Hours: Closed Sunday

Library Corner

by **Connie Bradshaw**

Holiday Hours: OPEN December 23 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; CLOSED December 24, 25, 26, 27, 28; OPEN December 29 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.; OPEN December 30 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; CLOSED December 31, January 1, 2, 3, 4.

Library will open again on January 5 with NEW HOURS!

Sunday & Monday - Closed

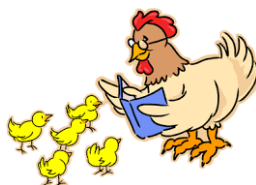
Tuesday - 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

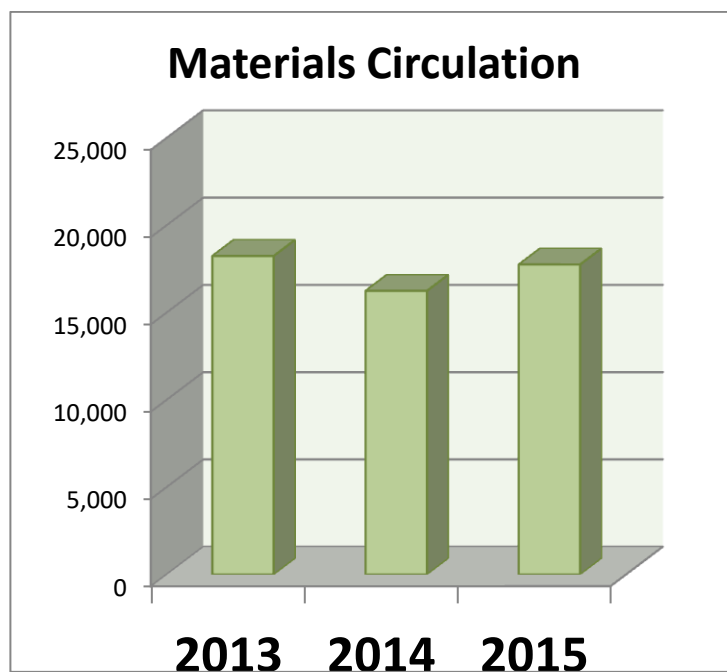
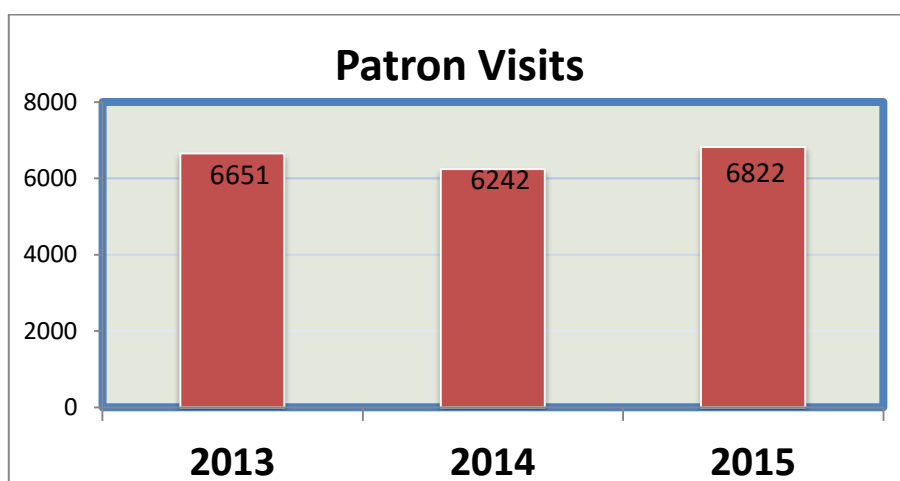
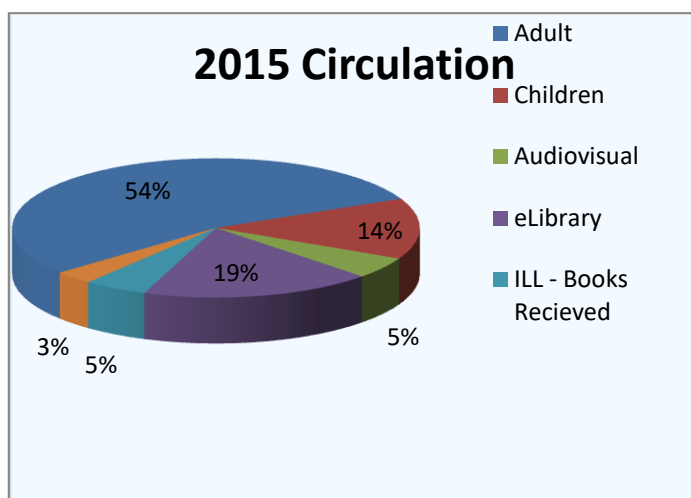
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday - 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Attention preschoolers and parents! We now have Story Time at the library every Thursday at 1:00 p.m. Such programs help plant seeds for lifelong learning, stimulate the imagination, and broaden the mind.

Children benefit from hearing a different adult read to them, observing other children get absorbed in a story, and from being exposed to various authors and writing styles. Join our wonderful programmer, Cassie Quadrelli, for 30 to 45 minutes of interactive fun with stories, songs and crafts. Cassie reads various books and helps children get excited about each story. If kids believe they will find fun and excitement in stories, they will not only want to read, but also see it as an exciting social activity. This program is drop-in with no registration required.

*WISHING YOU ALL THE BEST
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON FROM ALL
OF US AT GLENWOOD & SOURIS
REGIONAL LIBRARY!*





GLENWOOD & SOURIS REGIONAL LIBRARY
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
 For the year ended December 31, 2015

	2015 Budget (Note 10)	2015 Actual	2014 Actual
REVENUE			
Grants - Municipality of Souris-Glenwood	\$ 28,050	\$ 30,000	\$ 28,050
- Province of Manitoba	29,288	29,287	29,287
- Rural Library Cooperative Technology	20,146	9,864	
- Other	869	869	
Donor's Choice	1,924	1,593	1,924
Donations		891	584
Printing/copying	500	553	452
Interest	200	396	224
Membership fees	200	200	150
Fundraising	500	40	770
Miscellaneous	300		
	81,977	73,693	61,441
EXPENSES			
Books and subscriptions	11,300	11,093	9,575
Donation of braille embosser	20,146	9,864	
Insurance	1,630	1,564	1,620
Miscellaneous	300	286	136
Office	2,521	2,346	2,184
Postage	400	598	379
Professional development	600	144	583
Professional fees	1,350	1,350	1,350
Rent	9,000	9,000	9,000
Repairs and maintenance	900	1,414	460
Salaries and benefits	34,050	28,722	30,774
Supplies	1,200	1,599	804
Technology upgrade	800	533	757
Telephone	750	747	743
	84,947	69,260	58,365
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ (2,970)	4,433	3,076
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, BEGINNING OF YEAR		35,606	32,530
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, END OF YEAR		\$ 40,039	\$ 35,606