

BOOK BITES

Bats in the library

The old Goodnow Hall, Charlemont, in the US state of Massachusetts, houses the local public library. The building has a tower that is frequented by a group of bats. Visitors are encouraged to keep the doors closed so there are no unwanted visitors.

Book swapping

The Stagecoach bus company in Gloucester, UK, has introduced a trial scheme of book swapping for their passengers. Passengers can leave books on the buses for other passengers to pick up and take home to read – what a great way to share books around. It seems this bus company is very proactive at extracurricular activities, because at one point they also provided free Zumba workouts at the city bus station.

Bed bugs in the library!

A recent news report on NBC announced the closure of the Palatine Public Library in Illinois due to a possible bed-bug infestation. Yes, that's right, bed bugs!

'Library staff said they found two dead bed bugs in the main library Wednesday evening. Both bugs were discovered on an isolated table in the library's main room. All events and programs for the day were cancelled while a complete inspection of the 90,000-square-foot building was conducted. Apparently bed bugs are an increasingly serious issue in the US; Americans spent \$446 million on bed-bug eradication in 2013.

Three great quotes

Libraries and librarians are as much treasured today as they have been over centuries past. Here are just a few quotes to help inspire you to do what you do best.

'The most important asset of any library goes home at night – the library staff.'

Timothy Healy

'A university is just a group of buildings gathered around a library.'

Shelby Foote

'Google can bring you back 100,000 answers; a librarian can bring you back the right one.'

Neil Gaiman

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