



## GLADSTONE'S LIBRARY

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# GUEST INFORMATION

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR STAY

# Welcome to GLADSTONE'S LIBRARY

Gladstone's Library is Britain's finest residential and only Prime Ministerial library; a unique place to stay with a tranquil atmosphere ideal for becoming inspired. It was founded by the great Victorian statesman, William Gladstone and, following his death in 1898, became the national memorial to his life and work as well as one of the few Grade I listed buildings in North Wales.

Among our regular guests and users are writers, academics, clergy and students, indeed anyone with an inquiring mind. Some use the Library to meet and converse, while others prefer to enjoy the serenity alone. As most come here to read, write or reflect, you will not find a television in your bedroom (though there is one located in the Wickham Room on the ground floor). What we do provide is a comfortable setting, perfect to work, relax and unwind.

However you choose to use the Library, we hope you have a very pleasant stay with us. We will do all we can to make you as comfortable as possible.



Peter Francis (Warden)



# Information FOR YOUR STAY

## RECEPTION

Reception is staffed from 8.45am – 5pm seven days a week.

If you require urgent assistance outside these hours, please contact the duty member of staff by ringing 388 from the telephone in your room or 07818 408843.

The main telephone number of Gladstone's Library is 01244 532350.

## CHECK IN / OUT

Rooms will be available for check-in from 2pm. We ask you to vacate your room and settle your account by 10am on the day of departure. Reception is open for check-out from 8.45am.

If you do not wish to leave immediately, bag storage is available.

## TELEPHONE

The telephone in your bedroom will enable you to make national and international calls – just dial 9 for an outside line. Charges will be added to your bill automatically.

To ring Reception, dial 0. For other rooms, dial 3 before the room number (e.g. 301 for room number 01 etc).

## RADIO

There is a Roberts radio in each bedroom. When using the radio, please respect the peace and tranquillity of Gladstone's Library and the wishes of your fellow guests and remember to turn it off at the wall when you have finished!

## BEDROOM PROVISIONS

In your bedroom, you will find a supply of Fairtrade tea (including herbal and fruit varieties) and coffee (including decaffeinated) which is re-stocked regularly. Hot drinks are also available in *Food for Thought* during the day and in the Gladstone Room after dinner.

You will also find Myddfai luxury toiletries, clean towels and a hairdryer. In the interests of preserving the environment, we will change your sheets every four days. If you require any additional clean sheets or top ups of any kind, please ask at Reception.

## SECURITY AND FIRE

The door code that you were given when you arrived will let you in the front and side doors. Please keep the code safe. Do not let anyone into the building but contact a member of staff who will be pleased to come and attend to the matter. Details of what to do in the event of a fire can be found in your bedroom.





#### WI-FI

Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the building. To connect, simply log on to LIBRARYNET – no password is required.

Due to the age of the Library, there are several routers around the building. Please log on to whichever has the strongest signal.

#### LAUNDRY

Laundry facilities are available on the first floor for residents from 9am – 5pm. The key can be obtained from Reception. The charge will be added to your bill.

#### READING ROOMS

The Reading Rooms are open for residents daily from 9am – 10pm. The Enquiry Desk is staffed from 9am – 5pm seven days a week. If you have not used the library before, please make yourself known to a member of staff at the Enquiry Desk and he/she will give you the necessary induction and information about the collection and how to use it. Please present your room key to sign in at the Enquiry Desk. Please note, library books may be taken away to the bedrooms however books from the Gladstone Foundation Collection must not be removed from the Reading Rooms.

#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Breakfast is served from 8am – 9am (Monday–Friday) and from 8.30am – 9.30am (Saturday and Sunday). Dinner is available from 6.45pm – 7.15pm and tea and coffee is available afterwards in the Gladstone Room.

*Food for Thought* is open daily from 10am until 4pm. Lunch is served from 12pm – 2pm.

#### HONESTY BAR

An Honesty Bar operates in the Gladstone Room daily from 4pm – midnight. Please note down whatever you drink along with your room number on the sheet provided. These charges will be added to your bill when you check out.

#### CHAPEL

There is a Eucharist every weekday morning at 8am. All are welcome. The Chapel provides a quiet space for contemplation and prayer at all times.

#### DVD LIBRARY

Our Film & Theology DVD collection is situated on the first floor landing. DVDs can be watched in your bedroom, on your laptop, or in the Robinson Room (ask at Reception for availability). Please return the DVD to the Enquiry Desk within staffed hours when finished.

#### TAXIS

We have contact details of a number of local taxi companies who cover long and short distances. It is advisable to book your taxi in advance – pop down to Reception and we will give you the details.

#### SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

We have a cool-touch kettle, Deafgard vibrating fire alarm system and Comfort Contego hearing loop available for visually and hearing-impaired guests. Please ask at Reception for these facilities.

## In your SPARE TIME

#### A GLIMPSE OF THE READING ROOMS

A short Glimpse of the Reading Rooms is available at 12noon, 2pm and 4pm seven days a week and lasts around 15 minutes. As a resident you have free access to the Reading Rooms, but a Glimpse acts as a nice introduction with a member of the library team giving an insight into the life of William Gladstone, his connection with Hawarden and the history of the Library itself.

#### EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

Gladstone's Library hosts a diverse and engaging programme of events, courses and festivals. *Gladfest* in September is our main literary festival and the biggest event in our calendar with the best contemporary writers joining us for an eclectic series of talks and workshops. Our micro-festival *Hearth* happens every February and November and is the best place to pick up top tips and industry insight from published authors. Residential courses and one-off events encouraging discussion and debate occur all year round. These include courses on language, theology, literature and current affairs as well as seasonal craft fairs and celebrations. Listings are located around the Library and on our website.

#### AFTERNOON TEA

Afternoon Tea is available from 3pm – 4pm, Monday – Friday and includes a delicious selection of freshly-made sandwiches and cakes. Choose from sweet or savoury, depending on your taste, or why not treat yourself to Prosecco Afternoon Tea by the window overlooking the grounds? Afternoon Tea must be pre-booked at Reception and any dietary restrictions specified.

#### WRITERS IN RESIDENCE

The Library also runs its own Writers in Residence and Political Writer in Residence programmes. Recent Writers in Residence have included Amy Liptrot, Natasha Pulley, Jessie Burton, Wendy Cope, Salley Vickers, Peter Moore, Melissa Harrison and Sarah Perry. Writers in Residence, in turn, reside at Gladstone's Library for one month, during which time they publish blogs, run a day-long masterclass and give an evening talk about their writing life. Their remaining time is their own to work on their current project.

If you think you could be one of our next Writers in Residence, please check our website for details or ask at Reception.

#### GETTING OUT AND ABOUT

We are situated in a great location for visiting Chester and exploring North Wales. Regular buses run from Holywell (number 11) and Mold (numbers 4 and x4) to Chester and hourly train services to Wrexham and Liverpool (via Bidston) run from Hawarden railway station.

If you enjoy the great outdoors, Bilberry Wood in Hawarden is perfect for a stroll. This is part of the Gladstone family estate – please ask at Reception for a permit.

For details of using the gym at Chester St David's in Ewloe, please ask at Reception.

**LEISURE FACILITIES:** Village Hotel (Ewloe), Deeside Leisure Centre (Queensferry)

**CINEMA & THEATRE:** Cineworld (Broughton), Vue (Cheshire Oaks), Odeon (Wrexham), Theatr Clwyd (Mold) or visit [storyhouse.com](http://storyhouse.com) for arts events in Chester.

# Supporting THE LIBRARY



## DONATE A BOOK

We add a suggested donation of £3 per person per night to your invoice which can be Gift-Aided by UK taxpayers. You can increase or decrease the donation to whatever amount suits you. The money is used to contribute towards the acquisition of new books and journals for the library. If, for any reason, you do not wish to make a donation, please inform Reception in advance or when settling your account and we will amend your bill accordingly.



## BECOME A FRIEND

Please take time to read the Friends leaflet you were given upon arrival and consider whether you could support our work by becoming a Friend. Donations from Friends are of vital importance to us because as a charity we receive no funding from the government, local authority or church towards our running costs. Friends of Gladstone's Library receive extended hours for use of the Reading Rooms, priority booking for popular events and festivals as well as special offers and Friends-only events and trips. By becoming a Friend, you will be helping us maintain and secure the future of this wonderful Grade I listed building.



## US FRIENDS OF GLADSTONE'S LIBRARY

Gladstone's Library has a sister organisation in the US which has 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. Please speak to our Development Manager, Annette Lewis, if you would like details of how to make a tax-efficient donation.

## Join us



To receive our newsletter which will keep you up to date with the latest news, offers and events at Gladstone's Library, why not sign up to the mailing list on our homepage or send your name and email address to [enquiries@gladlib.org](mailto:enquiries@gladlib.org).

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## Enjoyed your stay?

Treat a friend! Gift Vouchers are available from Reception in £5, £10, £20 and £50 denominations.



## Spread the word

We're on TripAdvisor so why not write a review of your stay to help others learn about Gladstone's Library.

[WWW.TRIPADVISOR.COM](http://WWW.TRIPADVISOR.COM)  **tripadvisor®**

## Get in touch

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Registered Charity Number: 701399

Company Registration Number: 02363642