

Tang Hall Explore Library Learning Centre Pen Portrait

The Building

The present Tang Hall Library was built in 1958. The land and building is owned by CYC. A 2013 condition survey found that building maintenance costs over 20 years would be £165,500.

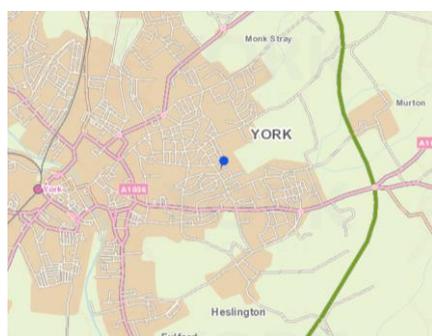
Parking is available, but this is shared with the health centre and gets very crowded. The nearest bus stop is a short walk away. There is ramped access to the library, an accessible toilet and a lift. Tang Hall library is open 41 hours per week including one evening until 7.30pm.

Tang Hall Library is located in a largely residential area, away from the shops but alongside a health centre.



The library will move to newly refurbished premises in the old Burnholme Community College in June 2018.

Community Assets



Tang Hall Explore Library Learning Centre is on two floors with a meeting room and IT suite. It has scope to engage the community in a large range of ways. It addresses social isolation by offering myriad events from mindfulness to NHS drop-ins. Regular children's activities such as the summer reading challenge and chatterbooks reading group contribute towards children's literacy, and Explore have a programme of workshops addressing adult digital literacy too, alongside free PCs and wifi.

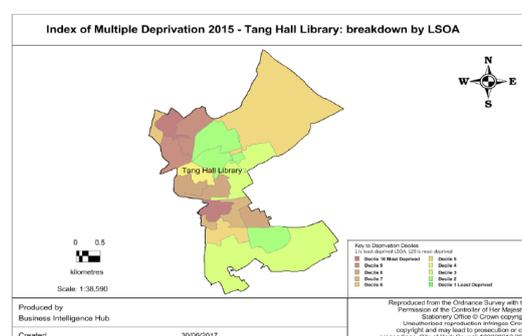
Tang Hall have a successful volunteering programme, enabling people to get work experience and strengthening community resilience. An attempt to establish a Friends Group, however, met with little success.

York Learning have withdrawn from running regular courses at Tang Hall library, preferring the more modern facilities at Acomb and York, but run occasional classes, and other partners use the venue including a Men's Shed. Tang Hall also fulfils an active citizenship remit with consultations and public meetings, and local community groups use the library for displays and demonstrations. Library staff work closely with schools in the area.

Also in the area, Tang Hall Community Centre, just a few minutes walks away from the library, hosts events from digital engagement to dance, often run by 'Tang Hall Big Local', which is a lottery funded project aiming to engage residents in decision-making and create a local plan. Explore continue to support local people with IT skills at frequent events with cooperation from Tang Hall Big Local. Slightly further afield, Heworth Without Community Centre is run by the parish council and offers a programme of Still Life, Ballroom Dancing, Toddler Groups etc. St Nicholas Fields environmental centre offers events and volunteering on a specifically ecological theme. There are plans for a new community centre at Burnholme, and the library plans to move to this location and be a lead partner in this project. There are a large range of churches of various denominations in the area, and York Mosque. The closest church offering the largest range of community outreach is St Aelreds, which has a dedicated Community Centre running groups such as Keep Fit, Local History and the Alzheimers Society.

Population profile

Tang Hall Library serves three wards: Heworth, Heworth Without and Hull Road. Between them, these wards cover areas with a range of characteristics, from the relatively affluent to those with significant levels of need. Overall, this combined area scores poorly on a range of measures associated with deprivation such as fuel poverty, childhood



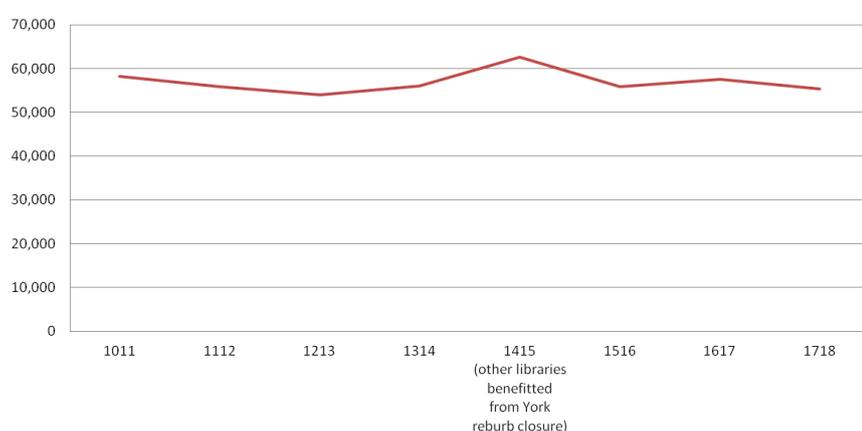
obesity and premature mortality all of which are worse in this area than in York as a whole. CYC's analysis also indicates that library users in this area are less likely to have home internet access than in most other parts of York. Age UK's risk of loneliness heat map, which looks at a combination of factors some of which co-incide with deprivation, identifies a high risk of loneliness in people aged 65+ in this part of York.

The population of this area is ethnically diverse compared to York as a whole, with 16% of residents ticking something other than 'White British' in the 2011 census. The biggest BME community is 'Asian or Asian British' at 7%. The age profile of the area is also quite different to York as a whole with 22.5% of residents being aged 20 -24. Both of these factors are likely to be related to the fact that the university falls within the area. There is less home ownership here than in York as a whole – in this area 23% residents are private renters and 18% are social tenants.

In spite of the relatively transient population, community cohesion is only slightly below average in this area, with 64% feeling that they “belong to their local area” and 81% being satisfied with “their local area as a place to live” in a CYC residents' survey.

Current Usage

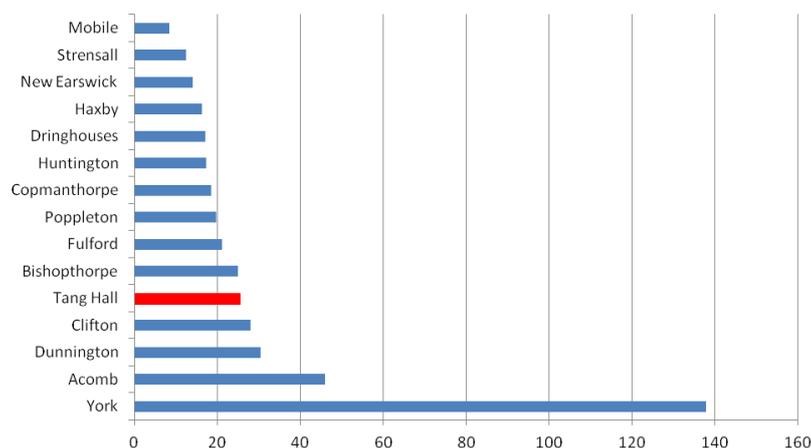
Physical Visits to Tang Hall Library over time



Visits including Reading Cafes 1718

1	York	426440
2	Acomb	109785
3	Rowntree Park	93253
4	Tang Hall	55352
5	Homestead Park	42693
6	Clifton	40212
7	Bishopthorpe	28397
8	Huntington	25734
9	Haxby	25337
10	Fulford	25322
11	New Earswick	24544
12	Copmanthorpe	23164
13	Poppleton	23137
14	Dringhouses	22924
15	Dunnington	20404
16	Mobile	14091
17	Strensall	13129
18	Sycamore House	255

Library visits per opening hour during half terms



(Used half term figures to exclude anomalies caused by classroom use of libraries at New Earswick and Fulford)

The user profile of Tang Hall Library departs from the population profile most significantly in terms of having more women (70% of users, 51% of population), more retired people (41% of users, 11% of population) and more people experiencing disability or ill health (24% of users, compared to 14% of the population whose day to day activities limited by ill health or disability in the census). However, all of these trends are fairly common in libraries, and Tang Hall's user profile is not far from Explore's profile as a whole. In spite of it being a student area, only 3% of library users are students, compared to 6% at York and 7% at Fulford.