

NARBOROUGH & LITTLETHORPE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Friends and Volunteers Newsletter - Issue 51



IN THIS ISSUE

Library Updates
We're Turning 10!
LCC Celebrations
Summer Reading Challenge
Upcoming Events

Dear Friends and Volunteers,

Library Updates

It seems that the weather is always encouraging us to read. A heatwave? Go inside, find shade, keep cool and read. It's raining and cold? Get a warm drink, a blanket and read. Not

that I'm complaining, there are so many books I want to read in our library. I have plenty of options to immerse myself in a story and forget about our English weather.

10 Years of Narborough and Littlethorpe Community Library!

This year marks a very exciting milestone for the library: it has been 10 years since we became a community-managed library run entirely by a dedicated team of volunteers. Over the years, so many volunteers have kept the library running as it does today. Their dedication speaks to the vital role our library plays in the village. In turn, volunteering offers great social connections and a boost in confidence.

Alongside our book borrowing hours, we have several popular regular groups: Wiggly Readers, the Board Game Group, Digital Drop-In, and Busy Hands and Minds. These groups have become invaluable to our community.

To celebrate our anniversary, we are collecting your favorite memories of the library to display at our upcoming celebrations. What do you remember most? Was it the atmosphere, the building, or the welcoming faces? Did you discover your new favorite book here? Please write down your memories and drop them off at the library, or email them to nandlclibrary@gmail.com (feel free to include your name if you'd like!).

Volunteers

In Memoriam, Jeremy Collingridge OBE

We send our love and condolences to Andrea, who lost her husband, Jeremy.

Jeremy spent his life helping people, organisations and our community, with commitment and enthusiasm. He was Treasurer at the library, after which he continued to step in whenever the library needed him.



As a police volunteer, Jeremy dedicated 16 years to promoting home security, preventing crime and supporting victims of burglary. During this time he helped transform the way police volunteers were trained and used. In 2017, Jeremy was awarded an OBE for his contribution to a number of national organisations and to his services to volunteering in Leicestershire

More recently, he was a spearhead for the Connecting Narborough group, who are working to get the best out of Narborough. He produced the Narborough Walking Trail and heritage information, which is available in the library.

He will be much missed.

Volunteers Tea

In July our volunteers were invited to an afternoon tea at the library. These are lovely events for us to socialise and for us to show our appreciation for the volunteers' hard work. We brought a plate to share, and all CML's were given a £30 supermarket voucher from LCC for the National Volunteers 'Big Lunch' initiative. We had a good natter, good food, and celebrated Andrea's Birthday. Thank you to Sue R and Kath for organising the afternoon.



Could You Join Our Trustees?

The library is overseen by a small group of trustees, we're looking for new additions to our team. The role includes attending meetings (typically six a year), help with decision making, support fundraising and be an ambassador for the library.

You don't need any experience, qualifications or expertise, as you will get a full induction and support. By joining the team you will be supporting the library and the community. If you'd like more information, please email us.

Events

Summer Fayre

By Sue E

The library's annual summer fayre was held in mid-June and formed part of the village's Connecting Narborough event.

There were several stalls including a bran tub, a craft stall, a stall selling raffle tickets, a tombola, a bottle stall and a stall with work produced by the Busy Hands Group. In addition there were two children's activities. Many raffle tickets had also been sold before the day of the fayre. Local businesses and organisations have been very generous in donating a



wide variety of prizes and we should express our gratitude to them.

Altogether we raised over one thousand pounds for the library.

There were other equally important aspects to the day: we saw quite a few new visitors to the library; many children and their parents/carers took part in the activities and people who, having bought something from one of the stalls, stayed to chat and to find out more about the library and our regular activity groups.

We were also lucky with the weather as it was bright and sunny and at the same time we missed the heat wave.



Book and Plant Sales

As always, our book and plant sales this year were a success. Not only did we have people coming to the village for our sale, but others who saw our gazebo and wandered over. Perhaps, we gained a few more people who will visit our sales, or the library in the future. Thank you to everyone who organised and ran the sales, donated plants and books or came along and bought something.



Here are some of the beautiful plants we have had at previous sales and are now settled in a new garden.

LCC Celebration Event

By Maggie

This year Leicestershire County Council (LCC) wished to thank and celebrate the work done by volunteers at Community Managed Libraries (CMLs) after 10 years! CMLs were invited to send representatives to an afternoon event held at Kirby Muxloe library, including tea and lots of cakes!



Mandy Sohanpal and Anne King were there, still supporting us after all this time, Debbie Howard sent her apologies and Catherine Overton also attended. It was an opportunity to meet other volunteers and also put faces to names of some of the Wigston Hub team (Lesley and Debbie).

Fran Willis Head of Service (Communities & Wellbeing) at LCC gave a welcome and thanks and provided us with lots of facts and figures proving how successful we have been. There were originally 36 CMLs, but now only 34. Apparently last year between us CMLs, we issued over 29,500 books and registered 6045 new joiners. Lets hope those new joiners are all still there and borrowing books!

Later, there was a talk by Stephen Booth, a very prolific, mainly crime, writer. A fascinating talk. He finished his first novel aged 12 and his first published book was 26 years ago, about 2 young Derbyshire detectives. Now adapted for TV as the Cooper & Fry series. He continues to write novels and is an enthusiastic supporter of Libraries, a Library Champion & part of the UK's "Love Libraries" campaign.

After his talk and questions it was time for Birthday cake!

Thanks LCC for your support!

Summer Reading Challenge

By Denise

Saturday 5th July saw the launch of the challenge and we signed up 10 very enthusiastic children and the following four weeks saw this number increase to 36. We are holding an event for the children on Monday 10 August at 3 - 4.30pm at the Library. The children will be able to listen to some live music and hopefully join in with the 'beat'. They will also be able to try some instruments and other music-related activities. We are also really looking forward to hearing about the books they have read, or are reading. See you all on the 10th August.

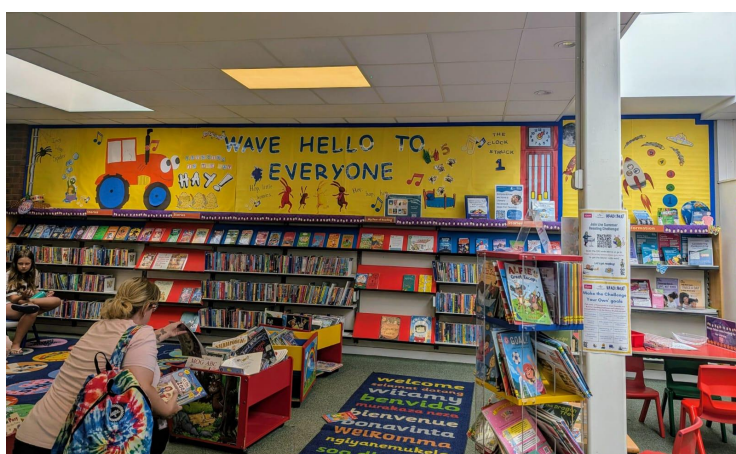
Our Busy Hands and Minds group are also joining in with their fantastic musical display.



Another Library To Explore!

By Maggie

As most of you know I am passionate about libraries and love to look into other libraries when I find myself on holiday. This time, a village library in Rustington, run by West Sussex County Council. What a lovely space they have! Their children's area was about the size of our whole library! With lots of useful display space. There was also a dedicated desk for the Summer Reading challenge manned by a volunteer, who was probably a sixth former or university student. He was very knowledgeable about the challenge and helping

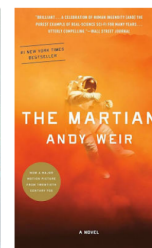
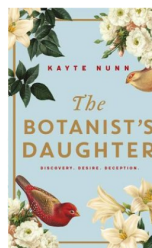
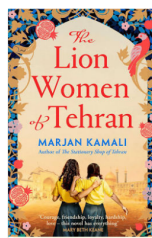


children with the colouring bookmarks for their display. The groups they have (Busy Hands and Minds, Digital Drop In, Wrigley Readers etc) are no different from ours, except they can be held during normal opening hours and NO shelf moving! Also delightful to see the glorious flower display outside, sponsored by Rustington Parish Council. I could get Library envy!!!

Books, Books, Books

Librarians' Latest Reads

- *Amy and Isabelle* by Elizabeth Strout
- *Dust Child* by Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai
- *Cursed Daughters* by Oyinkan Braithwaite
- *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skoot
- *Belgrave Road* by Manish Chauhan
- *Evenings and Weekends* by Oisín McKenna



"I have always imagined that Paradise will be a kind of a library"
— Jorge Luis Borges

Upcoming...

Our next quiz will be on October 30th! Please look out for fliers and our website and/or social media for information when the tickets will be on display.

Things move quickly in the library and we will soon be organising our Christmas Fair! The fair will be on December 5th, we hope you will join us.

Thinking ahead, we are grateful for any unwanted gifts, toiletries etc suitable for our tombola. All the money gained from tombollas go towards the ongoing costs of running the library.

Dates For Your Diary

12th September - Summer Reading Challenge Ends

30th October - Quiz

5th December - Christmas Fair

.....

Thank you to all of our volunteers and friends for your ongoing support,

Zara

On behalf of **Narborough and Littlethorpe Community Library**

Contact Details

Email: nandlclibrary@gmail.com

Library Telephone Number: 0116 305 3706

Library Address: Station Road, Narborough, LE19 2HR

Website: nandlclibrary.org

Facebook: search Narborough and Littlethorpe Community Library

Instagram: www.instagram.com/nlclibrary