

Report from Wroughton Community Library Trustees
for Wroughton's Annual Parish Meeting 24 May 2022

**“Public libraries are trusted spaces, free to enter and open to all.
In them, people can explore and share reading, information, knowledge and culture.”**
(The Arts Council, England)

In some ways, a lot has happened during the past couple of years, despite having lockdown restrictions for most of it. We have said a huge thankyou & goodbye to Holly Woodward for her work during the past 4 years. Holly & Brian Boston both led Wroughton Community Library safely through the pandemic and out the other side, and we would like to record our thanks to them both for their hard work and dedication. We are sorry to lose Holly as a Trustee - she is proving hard shoes to fill - but we keep in touch, and we are pleased Brian is staying on.

We have recently connected with Swindon Stories, the Swindon Hub of the National Literacy Trust. They provide us with free practical help and support. This has ranged from providing training – 4 of our trustees are now Literacy Champions - to providing free books and folders for our recent Book Hides, practical ideas to promote the library on our fb page, as well as new projects.

Swindon Stories also provide a monthly newsletter & a guide for promoting various festivals & celebrations on social media. This month's is 'Take 10 to Read', a campaign to encourage people to take 10 minutes a day to read and improve their wellbeing. Keep an eye on Wroughton Library fb page as your Library Trustees are going to try doing a mini-series of short videos to support this campaign. If you want to add a video of your own to support the campaign, please email it to our Librarians – email address at the end of this report.

But our library is soooooo much more than books and reading.....

With covid restrictions now dropped, the Librarians have been able to re-start the Children's Craft Club, Story Time/ Rhyme Time, and a new lego club. We have a wide range of resources including audiobooks, **large print**, picture books, teen fiction, graphic novels, dyslexia friendly children's books, reference books, junior fiction, early readers and children's non-fiction! And don't forget we also have local information, local history books, and free to use computers.....printing, photocopying & laminating (for a small charge to cover costs). And once you join the library you can access free e-books online.

The Library Trustees recently ran 3 Book Hides with support from Swindon Stories who kindly provided children's books and folders free of charge. These were mostly books for younger children, which we 'hid' (in fairly plain sight) around North Wroughton Play Area, Willowbrook Gardens and Thorney Park Play Area. We've had some very positive feedback and we hope to run some more in the future.

Our Librarians have been to visit Little Lambs and talk to them about the services provided by the Library, and as a result they are now putting on an additional Story Time/ Rhyme Time on the Wednesday each month when Little Lambs isn't on. And the Brownies have been to visit and will be opening the new Jubilee Storywalk.....

Talking of which, there will be a new Jubilee StoryWalk starting 30th May in Willowbrook Gardens with a story by our very own Library Trustee Hannah Dosanjh, about the day the Queen came to visit Wroughton – come & have a read and see if you can recognise all the places the Queen visited.

At the time of writing, the Trustees are organising 'An evening with a local author'. This will be a ticketed event for a small charge, with the profits put towards replacing some of our worn-out furniture. We've never run this type of event before, but assuming it's a success (keep your eye on the Library fb page) we hope to run more in the future with local authors and local artists. We want to support our local community and encourage people to write, paint, meet each other and discuss books, art, music....

We'll also be running a Story Corner on the Weir Field at the Jubilee Picnic, so please come and say hi, and have a sit on our throne (kindly loaned by our friends from Wadams).

And we'll be taking part in Swindon Libraries' Summer Reading Challenge..... more information to come soon via our Library fb page.

Wroughton Community Library also supports a Book Club – and if you're interested in starting or joining a new book club, please contact our Librarians (Sally & Paula) on, or pop into chat to one of them when the library is open (opening times on the following page).

We have to do a big shout out to thank Wroughton Parish Council for funding Wroughton Community Library. Your library wouldn't exist without them. And finally, I want to thank our staff, Sally & Paula, and also my fellow library trustees, for their hard work and enthusiasm in running the library.

The Arts Council England put it very succinctly when they state: Libraries offer a safe space, providing access to digital & online learning, helping to combat loneliness and having a positive impact on people's lives. We'd love to see you in our library – please come & say hi.

Wroughton Community Library email: Wroughtonlibrary@outlook.com

Opening Times:

Sunday: Closed
Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 10am-4pm
Wednesday: 11am-4pm
Thursday: 2.30pm-5.30pm
Friday: 9.30am-2.30pm
Saturday: 10am-1pm

Your Wroughton Community Library Trustees:

Cllr Cathy Martyn (SBC) Chair
Brian Boston: (Independent) Vice-Chair
Claire Cuthbert (Independent) Treasurer
Amanda Woodward (Independent) Admin
Cllr Debbie Hooper (WPC)
Cllr Hannah Dosanjh (WPC)
Cllr Lisa Campisano (WPC)
Tessa Tubb (Independent)

Children's Craft Club: Drop in every other Thursday 3pm-5pm, for primary school aged children. See Wroughton Library fb page for more details/ speak to our Librarians (Sally & Paula). £1 per child to cover cost of materials

Rhyme Time: Drop in every Tuesday at 11am, suitable for pre-school children with their parents/ carers - free of charge.

Lego Club: Drop in every Saturday 10.30am-12.30pm, suitable for children with their parents/ carers – free of charge.

Knit & Natter: The Library Staff have been asked if the Library can host a weekly Knit & Natter Group and we're just waiting for the details.....watch out for updates on the Wroughton Community Library fb page or pop in to see Sally & Paula in the library.

Cathy

Councillor Cathy Martyn

Chair Wroughton Community Library Trust

24th May 2022