

Wroughton Library Report for Full Council September 2024

Summer Reading Challenge

Following the success of the Summer Reading Challenge and the extra Craft Clubs, we are continuing to offer a weekly craft club, alternating between a more hands on week teaching children skills such as knot tying and needle threading, and one which is a fun paper craft.

It has been interesting to see a rise in parents asking for advice about how to teach their children and grandchildren to read. The excellent work that Sally and Paula have done means that I can point them to appropriately levelled reading books which increase in difficulty as the children develop in confidence. In the meantime, WoLF has purchased clip on shelf signage for the children's section, paid for by money raised from the carnival, (thank you Lisa). This will help everyone locate books alphabetically by author (as per the adults section) and also put them back in the right place! A local Rainbow and Brownie unit will visit the library to complete their "Book Lover" badge, for which they need to locate books by surname and we plan to run "book detective" activities with children from the Junior school during the library's 50th birthday in November, so these signs are essential.

Citizen's Advice Financial First Aiders continue to attend the 3rd Friday of every month. Following a request from the Deputy Clerk to SBC, this month we also hosted Elaine from Swindon Borough Council's Housing department, as a trial to offer help and advice to council tenants within their local community. This means residents don't have to travel into Swindon or spend time on the phone, but can much more easily access the support when needed. The session went well with 3 members of the public using the service and another who arrived late and was advised when to come back. This will be a regular feature on the first Friday of every month.

Feeding Swindon Partnership

The Deputy Clerk arranged with Swindon Food Collective for Hannah and the zero hours librarians to issue food bank vouchers to those residents who need them. We continue to keep some in the office and some in the library.

Training

Glenda from SBC Library Service came into the ECC to give basic training on Spydus (Swindon Library's IT system) to the existing office staff as well as all new library staff, whilst Paula staffed the library. Our new zero hours library staff (Ruby Dosanjh, Lesley Hartnell and Ngarie Smith) have also all worked at least one day in the library and were suitably exhausted! I am satisfied that they will make a positive difference to our library service. Lesley and Ruby have already run the library on a busy Saturday morning and it went very well.

Take Ten to Read on World Mental Health Day

Take Ten to Read will be happening again on 10th October (World Mental Health Day) at 10am. Please support this by spending 10 minutes reading and share the posts I put on the Wroughton Library fb **page** (not group) promoting this initiative. Please also encourage others to do the same. We may be coming to you for your recommendations and comments to help promote this simple yet powerful way to help everyone beat stress and improve their mental wellbeing, as well as improving their literacy and opportunities in life generally.

Wroughton Library fb page (not Group)

Wroughton Library fb page is up and running; can everyone please follow the Wroughton library PAGE (it has our logo inside a circle, not a square). Please also 'like' and 'share' some of the posts so that the fb algorithm learns to push browsers towards the page. Also, please share any posts you think might be of interest to other local fb groups. Thankyou.

Wroughton Library turns 50 this year!

On November 28th Wroughton Library will be 50 years young! We plan to celebrate by inviting a group of children from Wroughton Junior School into the library for fun activities and cake, and I may be making a visit to the juniors to talk about where we are and what we offer. Meanwhile Wroughton History Group has offered to find old school photos for a new display in the library, and we will want to know what you reading fifty years ago. I would really love a photo of you all fifty years ago (if possible!) and a title of a book you would have read.

Menopause Q and A Event Monday 14th October

Dr White from Wroughton Health Centre has kindly offered to share her expertise for World Menopause Awareness. Comms go out shortly. Library card holders will be charged £3.50 for a ticket and non-members £4.50 We expect it to be well attended.

If you're in the ECC when the library is open, please come in and say hello. It would be great to start putting faces to names. I'd love if you were all members of your community library, so please let me know if you'd like me to help you become a member or reactivate a membership.

Hannah Dosanjh

Library Supervisor