

Wroughton Community Library Parish Report January 2025

WoLF has purchased a second, **very comfy, sofa**, costing £85 (a very good deal) whilst also supporting local charities. It has delighted our residents who comment how cosy the library is looking. The Library also looks much fresher now that Alice has made good and painted over the roof repairs caused by the long-term leak.

When the library was managed by the Trust, events and the display cabinet were run by the Trustees, so any income resulting from these activities went to the Trust/ WoLF library account. Now that the Library is being managed by WPC, the promotion and arranging of the events, the display cabinet, ticket selling, are all done by me & Paula in our staff capacity supported by Cathy in the office. Following a discussion with Emma & Cathy, and having checked with WoLF, we all agree that **the income generated from these should now go to WPC**. (This means that WoLF's role now is to continue to apply for grant funding as & when needed, continue to promote the library at community events and continue to help at fund raising events.)

Paula and I are often asked to help elderly customers with tech, including phones bought for them as well-meant gifts. Cathy invited The Home Instead Tech Café to the library and I've arranged for them to come and hold a **Tech Café on 12th & 26th February 2 -4pm**. They are a charity that gives advice and training to help people access everyday tech. They offer free sessions for anyone who'd like to understand their device better. Leaflets are available in the library - please share them and our comms with anyone you think might benefit.

Events-wise – I am delighted to announce that **Paralympian Tennis champion and motivational speaker Louise Hunt Skelley, is coming to Wroughton library to share her story and some of the challenges she has faced and overcome**. Tickets for this event are hot! If you haven't bought one already, hurry down and book your place for 12th February - doors open 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Tickets are only £5 available from Wroughton Library and it's so near to Valentine's night – what more can I say! The event also includes the opportunity to buy Louise's book "What's Wrong With You? Redefining What's Possible. Unapologetically Unstoppable." For more information about Louise, go to www.louisehunt.co.uk Please share our comms and attend this event if you can, as Louise is an absolute star - she gets nothing out of this event unless she sells any books – no pressure! It would be great if she was greeted Wroughton style; by a packed out room.

Swindon Borough Council Housing Officers continue to hold advice sessions in the library on the 1st Friday of every month. **Citizen's Advice** sessions continue on the 3rd Friday of every month. Our **Library Lego Club** and **Children's Craft Club** are well attended. Our **fb page engagement** is finally growing! (Hurray!) Visits from Tick Tock preschool for **Storytime & Songs**, and our **weekly rhymetime sessions** for any pre-school children and their parents/ carers both continue to be well attended. We look forward to a visit from **Swindon's Library Patron Steve Anthony** on the 23rd January, when he will be running an art activity which should be well supported by our two local schools, which regularly share our comms with parents; this has made an enormous difference to our **library outreach**.

Later this month I will be meeting Hickmans to discuss **improving the lighting** in the library, particularly our corner lights, to help library users see better to choose books and to enable people to read in the library during the darker months.

Finally, whilst the Friendship Café isn't a library service, I've been promoting the Friendship Group in the library. The Friendship Group is lucky as they will be able to take advantage of the inviting and comfortable space which the library trustees/ WoLF and library staff have worked so hard to make welcoming. This is something which so many people comment on when they come into the Library; it's part of what makes Wroughton Library so special.