

Torpoint Library and Community Hub update for September 2025, for the Development and Localism Committee.

Engaging with Young People – Do other libraries stay open later for youth activities?

A number of libraries replied to a request for information, the question being, do they open later, to accommodate young people for after school activities or homework clubs. The question went out on the library general Microsoft Teams chat.

Response summary.

- All libraries that replied, said they do not open later to accommodate young people and activities.
- A number of libraries do what Torpoint do, and that is to run specific activities for teens in the school holidays.
- Several libraries said they have requests from, Scouts, Guides, Beavers and Squirrels to use the library facility and these activities are run after closing time, by the organisers of the groups.
- One library said it engaged with a secondary school to run an art competition, and the young people had to come into the library to view the entries.

Suggested way forward.

- In order to make sure at Torpoint we run activities that are needed by young people, a recommendation to move forward, is to hold a couple of young people focus groups in the library, working with Action For Children and a group of young people that are already library members, to see what young people might come into the library for.
- This will help us shape an offer to young people in the new year.

Summer Reading Challenge

The summer reading challenge has finished with 104 children completing the challenge and certificates will be presented in school assemblies in the coming weeks.

Healthy Cornwall

Marcia from Healthy Cornwall has attended the library three times during September. Two Health Assessment sessions were delivered, of which twelve people had one to one sessions with Marcia. The second was a Know Your Numbers event, which focused on knowing your blood pressure and raising awareness around having a healthy heart. Around eight people attended this drop in.

Staff Training

This month has seen a variety of team training, linked to peoples interests and the needs of the library and community hub projects. Two members of staff have attended a Health and Wellbeing conference in Wadebridge, and one member of staff has attended the CABs, Basic Advice First Aid course. Two members of staff are completing three online sessions for the Ten Footsteps Training, so they can facilitate the Pain Café.

These courses fit into our Grow well, Live Well, Age Well and Die Well, areas of work, that the Hub Grant is funding. Two members of staff will be attending the Library Training in Bodmin in October.

Basic Advice First Aid at the Library

Our volunteer has been now delivering Basic First Aid Advice, at the library now for around seven months. These sessions are run on a Thursday morning, and now appointments have to be made as it's a busy morning with lots of people needing support. The volunteer completes a basic case study for the library manager, so the needs of people that come into the library can be reviewed.

Cost of Living Event

A cost-of-living event is being organised for the 17th of October, this will bring a number of partners together to give support and advice to people as winter approaches.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

A date has been set for a Macmillan Coffee Morning which is the 17th of October. 17th of October will be a busy day!!

October Half Term

October half term activities will include a silent disco, the Torpoint Players will be running two sessions, bringing the story of Jack and the Beanstalk to life! Along with some Halloween crafting activities.