

Torpoint Library and Community Hub update - Octobers report for the Development and Localism Committee.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

The Macmillan Coffee Morning was a great success raising a staggering £300! A huge range of lovely homemade cakes were donated by the hubs regular cake makers, and prizes for the tombola donated by Councillors, volunteers and the Town Council. Thank you to everyone who was involved including our amazing volunteers and staff!

St Lukes Hospice

St Lukes Hospice held a drop in at the library and community hub in October. Offering support and advice on a range of topics, from having a Will, caring for a terminal ill family or friend, coping with terminal illness, accessing counselling and much more. The drop in had a constant stream of people just stopping and having a chat.

Staff and volunteer Sensory Training with Beat4Autism

25 volunteers along with staff, took part in a Sensory Workshop, delivered by Beat4autism. The session raised awareness around how people who are neurodivergent can be super sensitive to sound, light and smells. Focusing on sound and light at the library, again, helping everyone understand how this can impact others. The session was very interactive, and everyone made a stress ball, out of the end of a pair of tights, rice and a balloon! The feedback from everyone about this session was that they thoroughly enjoyed it and learnt a lot.

Café price increase

The new café price increase has been advertised to customers for over a week, and the till will be reconfigured to accommodate the price rises by end of Monday 3rd November. Along with this, we have reviewed our Bookers shopping list.

Recent case studies from the Torpoint Library and Community Hub

1 – Young homeless person from the town, was given around 12 hours of support over 7 days, to access Cornwall Councils homeless team, along with taking photos of their sleeping location and using Street link to pin their location. Food and drinks were also offered and basic hot food. Multiple attempts were made to get them seen by the rough sleeper team, who would only meet them at their sleeping location, to verify they were homeless. However, the workers could either not find the location or visited during the day. A rough sleeper does not stay at their sleeping location all day, and the location also changes. This person had no phone either. Working in collaboration with CHAT and the Social Prescriber we were able to support with an offer of a phone along with bringing in St Petrocs, who offered to meet this person at the library.

Outcome – The rough sleeper sadly went off our radar, and the police were involved, to verify after concerns, that they were safe, which the police confirmed that they were.

2- A regular Ukrainian lady who had taught herself English, however had sadly realised she can never return to Ukraine as her home no longer existed, told staff she needed to learn how to read English. An offer of a Friday morning English lesson by

a member of staff who was a teacher, has been accepted. The first lesson took place last week and the Ukrainian lady, was so very pleased when she left the library!

A simple conversation

A simple conversation is sometimes what makes a difference to someone. At the library and community hub, the roles of the team are varied from; delivering the library service, supporting people with IT, printing and photocopying, supporting people who need a bus pass, supporting and training volunteers, running the varied groups and so much more.

However, the biggest part of the role, is making time, to talk to someone who needs a conversation. The team do not underestimate the importance of having a conversation and everyone is good at recognising when someone needs that kind of support. A conversation can range from people dealing with family crisis, feeling extremely depressed, struggling with exhaustion from caring for a partner and struggling to manage a teenager. Threat of homelessness, feeling lonely, loss of job and living with poor health. A conversation can be a basic but important intervention. Along with working in collaboration with our other front line service partners.

Pain Café

The pain café will start properly this month, on the 30th of October at 4-6pm. The new social prescriber has pushed for texts to go to patients from the St Germans doctors and the Rame Practice. The library and hub manager along with another member of staff have completed the Ten Footsteps training, delivered by Livewell. The first session will focus on, introductions, what a pain café offers, and to identify what are the areas of people's life that is impacted by living with pain. This will help the future planning of sessions.

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Torpoint Library and Community Hub

We welcomed 4,872 people through the door this month!

Sensory and Neurodiversity session ran by Lizeta from Beat4autism, Torpoint.

Staff and 25 of our volunteers came together this month to attend a very interactive session ran by Lizeta from Beat4autism. Everyone made stress balls, along with gaining more of an understanding of how the library can become overstimulating, and identifying ways to support families and adults. Everyone really enjoyed the session and felt they had gained a lot of knowledge. Thank you Lizeta!



Macmillan Coffee Morning raised a staggering £300!

This month saw our Library and Community Hub support Macmillan by holding a coffee morning. Thank you to all of our cake volunteers, friends and local councillors, and everyone who donated prizes for the tombola and delicious cakes to sell.

Thank you everyone, you're amazing!

Spooky Half Term Fun!

We had a lot happening for half term this month, including:
Spooky pebble painting, a Family litter pick with our very own Torpoint Environmental Action Group, and Silent Halloween Disco Yoga with Sarah!



Singing for Friendship and Memory Country Theme! Our volunteers who support this group, organise a different music theme each week and one of the themes was Country and Western, everyone had an amazing time!



Our Garden Champion, sharing knowledge over the coming months on how to grow your own vegetables, starting with Potatoes!

Malcolm ran a 'how to grow your own potato session' and this will be accompanied by a series of short 'how to guides' that we will be sharing with our customers and the wider community. This will run nicely alongside, our, 'from ground to plate project' starting next year. Along with a great spring growing project. All our projects are co-designed with our volunteers and wider community, along with all projects being peer supported.