

# Torpoint Library and Community Hub



**We welcomed 4,590 people through the door this month!**

## **Pride in Place Celebration Visit to Torpoint.**

Along with Simon Mould, Julie Zessimides, Torpoint Town Mayor, Councillor Julie Martin and Torpoint Town Clerk, Milly Southworth, Torpoint Town Council staff, Town Cllrs and the Chairperson for Sheviocck Parish Council, and our fantastic library volunteers! Celebrating Torpoint and the work of the library team with families from Afghanistan,



## **Oakwood students-work placements**

This month we have welcomed 2 work placement students from Oakwood, who are helping out in the café and with tidying the books in the children's area. They are really enjoying being in the library and we really love having them!



## **Outreach work – Singing for Friendship and Memory.**

This month our volunteers and staff took the singing for friendship and memory group to residents at Albion Court in Torpoint. Residents said they had a wonderful time, bringing back memories and uplifting their spirits. Our volunteers will visit once a month and take the singing to residents and they are now planning the Christmas session!

**New volunteers – June, Rob, Tanya, Kit, Moira and Sandra, have all completed and passed their Food Hygiene courses and will be volunteering in Dreckleys Café! Well Done everyone!**



## **Free Soup Friday is back!**

At the Torpoint Library and Community Hub we do our best to help keep people warm and fed, whilst using food that comes from the Gleaning Project and the CO-OP. This helps reduce food waste.

Denise who makes our delicious soup also made banana splits and taught Sue who volunteers on Friday, to make an upside-down banana cake!





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

**Pride in Place Celebration Visit to Torpoint by, Cllr Sarah Preece – Portfolio Holder for Tourism, Localism and Planning – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> Nov.**

Hosted by Torpoint Town Mayor Councillor Julie Martin, supported by the Town Clerk, staff and volunteers were delighted to host Cllr Sarah Preece, Portfolio Holder for Tourism, Localism and Planning, key Cornwall Council Officers, including Simon Mould and Julie Zessimedes, plus the Chairman of Sheviocck Parish Council.

The visit took place on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November and a planned visit to the Torpoint Library and Community Hub was first on the agenda. Library staff were given the opportunity to talk to senior council staff about the work that takes place at the library, whilst also welcoming some families from Afghanistan and library volunteers. The visit was to celebrate Torpoint and the work of the library team, after a case study was included into a Government Paper, referencing the work done with resettled families from Afghanistan, in the library.

**Sensory Session for parents and carers and a Sensory trail around the library.**

Following on from our Sensory Session for staff and volunteers, with Lizeta from Beat4autism, Lizeta will now offer a session for families and carers of children who are neurodivergent, along with creating a sensory path around the library. Library staff then will take forward creating more sensory story packs and promote them. This will take place in February next year.

**Staff Appraisals**

Staff appraisals are nearly complete. Within each person's appraisal are projects that match their interests and skills.

Developing our Sensory story packs – Dyslexia friendly library – Pain Café – Engaging Torpoint Nursery and Infant School, to name a few projects.

**Working with Torpoint Nursery and Infant School**

The community hub and library development manager and a member of staff attended a meeting with the Head Teacher of Torpoint Nursery and Infant School along with two teachers. The purpose of the meeting was to, in line with the school's curriculum, plan some visits to the library. The following will happen next year:

27<sup>th</sup> February, story time and arts and crafts with a theme of, Pirates. Children will arrive in fancy dress and library staff will also be dressed as pirates.

2<sup>nd</sup> March, story time and arts and crafts with the theme of Kings, Queens and Castles. This will be for year 1 children.

June, story time and arts and crafts with the theme of, Under the Sea for reception children.

Goody bags for parents will be given out informing them of what happens at the library and the benefits of children joining the library. As well as promoting our free children's activities in the school holiday. The purpose of this will be to increase more library membership and raise awareness to parents and carers of what support is available at the library.

### **Outreach work**

The Singing for Friendship and Memory Group volunteers and staff attended the first outreach session at Albion Court. Ten residents attended and have asked for the group to run regularly. The offer is that volunteers will attend Albion Court, sometimes with one member of staff, for one hour, once a month. Volunteers are now planning a Christmas Singing for Friendship and Memory session for the library and for Albion Court.

### **Christmas Fair**

The Christmas Fair at the Library and Community Hub is on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 10-2pm. The event is fully booked with 15 stall holders booked in.

### **Working collaboratively**

The community hub and library development manager attended a team meeting of staff delivering targeted youth work, Children and Family services, Together for Families Services from Cornwall Council, in Liskeard this month.

The purpose of attending was to raise the profile of what we offer families at the Library and Community Hub and to ask for support to help develop an offer for young people.

The team meeting was attended by around 30 staff and roles varied from working with families in the Torpoint area, and young people. At the meeting the community hub and library development manager asked for support with moving forward a young person's focus group, targeting young people that do not use the library at the moment. The service coordinator has offered to support this piece of work in the New Year.

The purpose of the focus group is part of our work plan to develop an offer to young people.