

Torpoint Library and Community Hub



We welcomed 7,544 people through the door!



Christmas Volunteer Thank You!

We have over 30 volunteers at the Torpoint Library and Community Hub. All have a variety of roles, and we couldn't manage without them. As a Thank you, the Town Mayor, Cllr Julie Martin and the Town Clerk, Milly Southworth, presented Pride in Place certificates to each volunteer. Cllr Lizeta Fellows presented each volunteer with a certificate for attending her Neurodiversity training session at the library, followed by a lovely Christmas Buffet.

Thank you to all our Amazing Volunteer's!

Christmas Rhyme Time with Mr Painter from Torpoint Nursery and Infant School.

We had an amazing run up to Christmas and the last Rhyme Time included a Story Time read by Kate and Mr Painter bringing his keyboard and everyone singing carols!

Father Christmas visited and gave all the children a gift, helped by his elf, Paul!



Outreach in the community, with singing for Friendship and Memory.

Working with Cornwall Housing Staff, Volunteers and our Deputy Mayor Cllr Chris Goodman, we held an event at Albion Court for residents. Residents enjoyed a Christmas sing song, supporting health and well-being. The next event at Albion Court in February will be a Cream Tea afternoon!

Free Pilates to help Health and Well-being.

We have a full house for our free Pilates session which is delivered by a professional physiotherapist. Everyone is really enjoying gentle armchair exercises.



Free Soup Friday

Free soup Friday is going very well, with over 30 bowls of soup being served each time! The vegetables that are used come from the Gleaning Project, making sure that no food is wasted. We now have a small team of volunteers who have been trained how to make soup and they all have the food hygiene certificate!

Torpoint Library and Community Hub update – December – January 2026 report for the Development and Localism Committee.

Library and Community Hub 12-month Work Plan.

Because the library and community hub is such a vibrant busy place, and staff work on different days, it's important to have a structure/work plan, that the team have been part of developing. The plan includes team projects and our commitments we have to meet as part of the community hub grant. Library events/initiatives are also included and key dates

Community Hub Grant, Projects under the themes of – Grow Well, Live Well, Age Well, Die Well.

Menopause drop-in sessions – This group is running well. Following February's session, the facilitator and the library manager will review any outcomes, along with discussing, how many more sessions will run.

Jeremiah's Journey – The library manager has met with 2 members of Jeremiah's Journey and discussed how to raise awareness of the charity for residents in Torpoint and what the charity offers. Some drop-in sessions at the library, to raise awareness of their work and support local children/young people who are living with bereavement, have been planned. Along with the possibility of a creative session run by them in the February half term. Jeremiah's Journey is looking forward to working with the Torpoint Library and the local community.

Cooking sessions – A collaboration with Torpoint Library and Community Hub, CHAT, Healthy Cornwall and the Social Prescriber; 4 cooking sessions will run on Wednesday's through February. These sessions will be led by Healthy Cornwall, supported by members of the collaboration, running from St James Hall. A free slow cooker will be offered to anyone who completes all 4 sessions, funded by Volunteer Cornwall.

Cooking on a budget will run at the library though March, targeting key customers who said they want to learn to cook, but through anxiety, will not join the cooking at St James. A member of staff and the library manager will run these sessions and again, anyone that completes 4 sessions will receive a slow cooker, funded by the community hub grant.

From the 'Ground to the Plate' cooking sessions will run alongside our growing sessions, demonstrating how to cook the vegetables that we will grow at the library.

Growing Project – Will run at the library and will involve working with the Community Payback supervisor, who has said they can dig up some land to the side of the library where the existing raise beds are. The area will then have a border made from sleepers that the supervisor has said the team could build. An offer of a 'seed planting' workshop, will take place in February

at the library and when they have grown, they will be planted around March/April. Volunteers and people wanting to learn how to grow vegetables will be invited to join this project.

For D&L to discuss – This project will require spending around £250, for the purchase of sleepers, slabs and soil. This could come from our hub grant or the recent grant from Sheviocck Parish Council.

Working with young people – This is still on the work plan, to develop an offer for them. The team continue to work with Friends of Thanckes Park and will attend an event in February. Also, a young person's focus group in March, as well as a survey that will be handed out to all young people that come into the library, will help shape an offer for young people by April.

Outreach work at Albion Court- A Christmas singing session was hugely successful with the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Goodman, volunteers and one member of staff attending. On the 5th of February, a Cream Tea has been arranged for residents, with the opportunity to sing a few songs, organised by the library. Also raising awareness of what the library and community hub offer.

Health assessments for anyone who lives on a boat- These have been organised for the 2nd of February. We have around 12 people who live on boats, who access the library and community hub regularly. Others we see less often, but during certain times of the year. For example, one family access the library during the Summer Reading Challenge as their daughter is a regular reader. Others pop in to use the public computers.

Library updates

To help increase library membership, the library service at CC has introduced a Library Loyalty Card. Many of our volunteers have recently joined the library, just to have a loyalty card. However, the plan will be to demonstrate to new members, what library services can be accessed online and on site. The card is hole punched each time a person comes into the library to access any service, even a cuppa. Once 5 visits have been recorded, people are entered into a free prize draw. This is going very well. Hopefully in next months stats, we will see an increase in new membership.

Welcome to the library! Four Welcome Days will be organised, to encourage people to come into the library for the first time, or for people who come in but don't use any library services. There will be the offer of signing up to the library, having demos on the public computers, meeting volunteers and gaining an awareness of what we offer at the library and community hub.

The Summer Reading Challenge - This is now organised by CC Library Service, as it's cheaper than using the Reading Agency. Allowing the team to plan much earlier ready for the summer holidays.

St Piran's Day – Thursday 5th March

The plans for St Piran's Day as follows:

- Cream Teas will be available
- Daffodils will be delivered from Antony Farms, which people can take for a donation, and we will put around the library.
- The Archives will be dressing up and organising activities for pupils from Carbeile Junior School, who will visit the library about 10am.
- West Country Bakery will donate saffron cakes.