

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

Half Term Activities

Half term was very busy as always, which is great!

Story Time – Children had four stories read to them by Gwen, one of which was called, I have a Pig up my nose! Apparently, the story ended well!

Rhyme Time – Families and toddlers are really enjoying these Wednesday sessions delivered by Laura, and the half term session was no exception.

Jeremiah's Journey – The library is happy to be working with this charity, who are based in Plymouth and support families, children and young people who are anticipating bereavement or who have been bereaved. Sessions are delivered by staff and volunteers and at the library session, a story was shared called, The Colour Monster, talking about feelings in a safe and child friendly way. Jeremiah's Journey are excited to be working in Torpoint and will deliver some awareness sessions from the library. Along with running a volunteer recruitment drive for local people to join the project.

Make it Better (CIC), supporting communities to live well through art. These sessions were well received by adults in the morning and children, age ten plus in the afternoon. Joanne who ran the sessions said that the library felt like home, when she had free soup for lunch on a table full of chatty volunteers!

Awenek – Family art was a busy session delivered on the Tuesday of half term. Rosie from Awenek is folding the project at the end of March. The Tuesday sessions at the library for adults is a very full and a growing group of around 15 people. This group will continue, with a new name and our volunteer artist, Sandy has offered to run the group.

St Piran's Day

The team are really excited for St Piran's Day and on offer will be, A taste of Cornwall on a plate! Which will be half a pasty, a slice of saffron cake, and a scone and cream. This will be served from the café. Bill and Angela from the Archives will be dressed up as St Piran and a maid and they will walk around talking to people about all sorts of things history and Cornish! Carbeile Junior School will visit the library on the Friday after St Piran's Day, as St Piran's Day clashes with World Book Day. Bill and Angela will deliver a delightful session for the children in their historical dress!

Social Media – Facebook Posts

Facebook is one of the ways the library communicates what happens at the library and community hub. Along with putting articles in the Torpoint wide newsletter.

Some interesting stats on our Facebook posts. Our insights tell us, our Free Soup Friday, post had 5 likes. Which isn't a lot, however, it had 630 views! The post promoting the crafting group, had 8 likes. Which isn't a lot, but it had 1,409 views! Videos made by staff, directed by Laura, the latest one received 66 likes and 2,360 views!!

Café – increasing profits.

Increasing café profits means more homemade cake. Along with reducing spend at Bookers. Introducing new easy lunches to the menu. Jacket potatoes have been introduced on Thursday's. The volunteers on a Thursday currently are happy to cook them, offering cheese and beans. Sometimes the potatoes are free from the Gleaning Project. Sometimes they are purchased, and there is still a good profit on them. When Free Soup Friday's stop, we will introduce toasted sandwiches. Cheese or cheese and tomato. Another volunteer has come forward from Cllr Rachel Evans, who is happy to supply the café with cakes one day a week. Gwen bakes cakes on a Monday and this does increase café profits. This will mean we have four bakers, three of which are volunteers! All bakers will have or have a food hygiene certificate.

Pain Café

The Pain Café is going really well and so far, sessions have covered: Pain and the Brain, Reducing medication with advice and support from the local pharmacist. Talk from the Social Prescriber – Tara. The last session was about alternative ways to relax and invited, was a therapist in sound therapy, a physiotherapist and an opportunity to wear headphones and have guided medication. Some people were a bit hesitant at first, but by the end of it they were elated and so it was well worth organising. The next session will look at, acceptance and sleep routines. The pain café is facilitated by the library manager and Lynne.

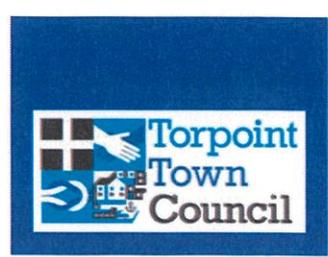
Armchair Pilates

Armchair Pilates has come to an end. The sessions ran for six weeks and around 14 people have taken part. This has been one of the most successful sessions as it's become very popular. One participant said:

"Pilates is an amazing exercise to be offered at our local library; it is a gift to the community. The physical value of which is enormous. Torpoint library is a resource the local community is lucky to have, welcoming and helpful."

Following on from Pilates are two sessions of Staying Steady, which helps reduce falls.

Torpoint Library and Community Hub



We welcomed 4,294 people through the door!

Half Term Activities

We had a busy half term, topping nearly 300 people and children in the library some days!



From the Ground to the Plate Project - Children and adults all took part in potting seeds from courgettes, carrots, peas and of course Sunflowers! This is part of our growing project which will involve creating more gardening space so people can learn how easy it is to grow your own vegetables and fruit, like blueberries! Watch this space!

Working with- Make it better (CIC), who delivered two Photography collage sessions. One for adults and one for children. This project is all about supporting communities to live well through art. Joanne who delivered the sessions paid our Library and Community Hub a great compliment by saying it feels like Home.



Jeremiah's Journey

We are very happy to be working with this charity from Plymouth, who support families, children, and young people who are anticipating bereavement or who have been bereaved.

They ran a session and read a story called 'The Colour Monster' to encourage talking about feelings in a safe and child-friendly way.



Volunteering is such a valuable role, we are so lucky at the Torpoint Library and Community Hub.

We have around 35 volunteers. Their roles range from a Digital Champions, supporting people to use their phones, library computers or tablets. We have volunteers that come in to help our Ukraine community practice their English, do shifts in the community café and help with our library books. Along with volunteers that help us run our Singing for Friendship and Memory group, and our crafting group. Our volunteers have made new friends, for some are less lonely, say the Library and Community Hub is their safe place and happy place. Our volunteers are nothing short of Amazing, Thank you to each and every one of you!

Cornwall Youth Council Elections!

We had a voting station throughout half term for the Cornwall youth Council Elections. Staff encourage young people between 11-18 years old, to vote on a Statement, which started with - As your Youth Councillor I will.....

