



## **THE FRIENDS OF COLYTON LIBRARY**

### **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2018.**

#### **Introduction**

The Friends of Colyton Library was established in 2007 and each year presents new challenges. This report will summarise the key issues and activities of 2018.

It is with great sadness that we report the sudden death of Roger Hutton, Treasurer and Volunteer Co-ordinator in May 2018. The committee record their appreciation of his nine years of excellent service to FoCL.

#### **Membership.**

In 2018 there has been another increase in membership to 82 members.

The annual fee remains at £5.00 per person for those over 16 years.

The children's activities and events continue to be supported financially by FoCL and since 01.04.2018, the maintenance and running costs for the building

#### **Financial Report**

This is available and will be presented for discussion at the AGM.

#### **Events**

- A very successful quiz was held which was both fun and profitable.
- The annual outing was to Heartland Abbey and was enjoyed by all.
- Several events for children was held during the year and the summer reading challenge resulted in an increased completion rate of 64.86%.
- New adult events were Craft Club, Live music and app workshops
- Seasonal craft activities for the children and special events for National Science week and Chinese New Year.
- The Library was transformed in December for "Jolly Lolly Christmas" with special guest Father Christmas

Suggestions for events are always welcomed.

Transport can be arranged.

#### **Regular Activities in the Library**

- Book clubs – 2
- Book track – children's reading
- Play reading group
- Monthly coffee morning
- Shakespeare Group
- Knit and Natter and small crafts.

#### **The Library service and usage.**

The Library service has continued to enjoy a good working partnership with FoCL. Colyton is very well served by the team from Libraries Unlimited - Diane Parker-Dennison and Ida Nolemo as the regular staff - led by Pene Davis, Supervisor for Colyton and Seaton and latterly by Richard O'Mahoney.

FoCL have supported them in their excellent work, especially with the children.

Twitter and Facebook are now active for Colyton Library.

## **The Volunteer Team**

Volunteers continued to be ably led by Roger Hutton and latterly by Sylvia Benton. This large team have worked well together all year with great willingness, reliability and flexibility.

There are 3 main teams – Library Extra, Children and Saturday supporters.

The result of their work is that

- The Library Extra service means that the library is open an extra 2 ½ hours a week for borrowing books, computer use and photocopying.
- Children are able to take part in Book Track (a reading scheme) and other events organised by the Children's team and the staff.
- Saturday helpers assist the librarian when the library is very busy
- The team is much enhanced by our 2 young volunteers

A much appreciated refresher session for the team was led by Richard O'Mahoney.

New volunteers are always welcome as inevitably some people retire each year.

## **Transfer of Library building to Colyton Parish Council and FoCL**

All aspects of the transfer were completed on 01.04.2018

This transfer was undertaken in order to reduce the cost of the library service for LU and it gives more security to the Colyton community.

It enables FoCL to have opportunities to gain access to other funds and any money raised locally is guaranteed to be used for Colyton Library.

It does not affect the daily running of the service by Libraries Unlimited.

## **Communication.**

The Library is well supported by the local press and there has been regular coverage.

The Parish magazine is used as a way of communicating and had a library page every month.

FoCL has its own website, thanks to Adrian West who created it and maintains it.

[www.friendsofcolytonlibrary.co.uk](http://www.friendsofcolytonlibrary.co.uk)

## **Fundraising activities 2018**

The major effort in 2018 was to secure funds for the installation of photo voltaic cells on the library roof to generate income and reduce the electricity bill.

The target of £5,000.00 was successfully reached by 01.08.2018 and the panels were installed.

Many thanks are recorded to the following donors:-

1. Colyton Chamber of Feoffees
2. Martin Shaw, local DCC councillor, from his locality budget
3. EDDC from their Community Building Fund
4. All the people and organisations of Colyton and Colyford who gave so generously and who worked so hard to achieve this.

Now the transfer of the building is complete, FoCL will be responsible for the building running costs, estimated to be £4,000.00 pa, of which Libraries Unlimited pay £2,000.00. The annual amount required to cover this is £2,000.00 pa.

Part of this will be raised from the annual membership subscriptions and profit from events and the remainder through other fund-raising activities.

## **Plans for 2019.**

- Having an active programme of events.
- Continuing to raise the profile of the Library and to broaden its use.
- Increase the size and diversity of the membership, especially by encouraging a wider age mix.
- Improve communication with members
- Participate in Summer Reading Challenge -2019 theme is Space Chase
- Annual quiz.

- Annual outing.
- Author event.
- Youth Art Project – to involve more young people and to improve the wi-fi bench area.
- Organisation of a week of competitions for all ages to raise the profile of the library and the celebrate the 1st anniversary of the transfer of the building.
- Setting up a code club in the library.
- Build on the live music events and the Grown Up Craft Club.
- 2020- author event – Ann Widdecombe , return visit - 21.5.20
- Continue to contribute to and learn from the meetings of the Devon Libraries Friends Groups.

### **The 2018 – 2019 Committee.**

The members have been: Jane Dauncey – Chair, Sue Wilson Treasurer and membership secretary, Jan Uden – minutes secretary, Roger Moore, Sylvia Benton - Events organiser and Volunteer co-ordinator, Mark Mann- building boss, Jenny Brinkler, Juliana Slobodian. Co-opted member Richard O'Mahoney– Library Supervisor.

There is one vacancy , volunteers welcome.

### **Summary.**

2018-19 has been a busy year for the committee, successfully achieving the final transfer of the building to FoCL and CPC, installation of the solar panels and planning for much activity in 2019.

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