

NEWS

Colehill Community Library

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Chairman's Chat

"All the world's a stage. And all the men and women merely players;" wrote Shakespeare (As You Like It).

So, may I present your new chairman-to-be, Susan Cowsill, with an impeccable pedigree and known too to be a friend of Border terriers.

Alas our good friends, Joan Henderson and Ruth Royse have made their exits and will be missed. Another good friend, Tracey Paine leaves us (and the Parish Council) for new challenges and we wish her every success.

We've improved security with better lighting and CCTV following November's incident. Let's hope these measures, plus removal of some of the shrubs, deters any further hooliganism.

Going forward, with the community's support. *John Gooch.*

Dorset Council

Look out for leaflets offering basic information on the new Dorset Council which are available in the Library.

Dementia Awareness

The Library has previously hosted a most interesting and informative talk on understanding some of the issues around dementia.

If you would be interested in attending a similar event (approx 1 hour) please leave your contact details with the library so that we may arrange another.

Autism support from your Library

It is possible to follow a picture journey for what to expect when visiting Colehill Community Library (and other Dorset Libraries).

Go to www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/libraries-history-culture/libraries/libraries-for-health/autism-support-from-your-library.aspx or Google "Autism support from your Library"

Noticeboard

Apologies for the recent out of date information on our much perused noticeboard outside our main entrance. This has been due to problems caused by vandalism, and has now been repaired.

Easter Closing

In common with the rest of the Library Service in Dorset, Colehill Community Library will be closed from Good Friday, 19th April to Easter Monday, 22nd April, inclusive.

Special Interest Groups – all welcome

In the Library. Please check the noticeboard or the website for changes to the schedule.

Second Tuesday – Colehill Reading Group 1 – 2pm.

First Thursday – Family History 10am – noon.

Third Thursday – "Just Write" Writing Group 10am – noon.

Last Thursday – Knit and Natter 10am.

Last Friday – Colouring for Adults 10am–noon.

Colehill Reading Group

Have you ever wanted to share your thoughts about a book that you have just read, or got stuck on one author and don't know what to read next? We are a small friendly group and welcome you to join us. The books that we will read during this year are suggested by the members of this reading group and include a range of fiction, non-fiction, and biography.

Having lost 2 of our group recently, we would very much welcome some younger new members! We hope that a taster of our chosen book for January 'Spilling the Beans' will tempt you to think about joining us: *(continued overleaf)*



Wednesday, 3rd April 2019

A coach visit to Bristol Docks to tour Brunel's SS Great Britain

There is so much to see at Brunel's SS Great Britain in Bristol. Be sure to head beneath the glass sea, walk the SS Great Britain's history in the Dockyard Museum and step onto the ship itself. Alive with sights, sounds and even smells, prepare to set sail on the most extraordinary time machine. The guided tour gives the opportunity to hear about the stories and people behind this remarkable ship.

Tickets £35

**Includes coach travel and driver's gratuity
Leaves Colehill at 08.30 and leaves Bristol at 15.30**

Tickets available in Colehill Community Library
For more information contact 01202 840620

Fund-raising for Colehill Community Library (charity no. 1151552)

Spilling the Beans by Clarissa Dickson Wright :

The woman known as “Kakatoa” to film crews roared into public consciousness in the sidecar of Jennifer Patterson’s motorbike and together they became an instant hit for the Two Fat Ladies. It wasn’t so much the recipes that attracted an international audience of 70 million as the anecdotes that she and Jennifer swapped. Clarissa has many rich seams to mine: being the youngest woman ever called to the Bar, the extravaganza of her 12-year inheritance-squandering binge, her second career as a blotto cook and then, in 1987, a stint in rehab, after which she substituted manic hard work for gin.

But behind all the extrovert rakishness lay a more touching story, that of an abused child bent on revenge. She was six when she first saw her father, surgeon to the royals Arthur Dickson Wright, hit her mother, an Australian heiress, whom Clarissa adored. Aged 12, she challenged her father to protect her mother and became his victim, too. He would burst into her bedroom and throw her against the wall in drunken rages. Early on, Clarissa resolved to become a lawyer, so she could call her father to account. But, when she was 27, her mother died, leaving her money and a feeling that life had no purpose.

Let’s Talk Libraries – feedback from the engagement programme

In the autumn of 2018, Dorset County Council worked with research consultancy “Shared Intelligence” to progress a new library service offer. We want to shape a modern, relevant and affordable service that will deliver localised opportunities. Currently there are 98,000 registered library members in Dorset. Users are from all age groups and particularly popular with families and young people.

Shared Intelligence explored topics including the library service role in supporting skills and learning, wellbeing, and digital opportunities. They spoke to council staff, agency partners, voluntary and community groups. A large public survey asked for people’s opinions on a range of preferences including use of library space, digital resources and how we support children and adults.

Almost 3,500 people responded to the survey. Thank you to everyone who took part. Respondents were most likely to be weekly library users, but 22% were occasional users or non-users.

Your feedback revealed that libraries are seen as places to access advice and support; “the first place I came to when I moved to Dorset”. While many said they use libraries to borrow books, they are recognised as important places to take part in organised groups, activities or to use the internet. They are also seen as trusted and neutral community spaces and “in some cases, they are the last community space”.

While some feedback revealed a wish to stay the same, on several questions opinions were split on topics such as how resources are used and targeting community need.

The over-riding message is that people are looking for different things in libraries - indeed this is their strength. This has become evident through a wide diversity of views.

Over the coming months, the next steps will be to look at how this feedback will help us to shape the future of the library service in Dorset.

IT HELP

TUESDAY MORNINGS

Help with phones, tablets, laptops and PCs is on offer. 30 minute sessions with Jeff Webb may be booked for the following times: 10.00, 10.45, 11.30, 12.15

For hardware repair issues Jeff should be approached directly.

New – TUESDAY AFTERNOONS

A Tuesday afternoon session is now being trialled. Phil Burgess will be available on most Tuesdays 2.30 to ~3.30 pm

- * to assist with IT queries
- * help with accessing the Council and Library web sites
- * offer an introduction to “Learn My Way” Courses.

Half-hour appointments may be made for 2.30 or 3.00pm but it will also operate as a “drop in” session if no appointments have been booked.

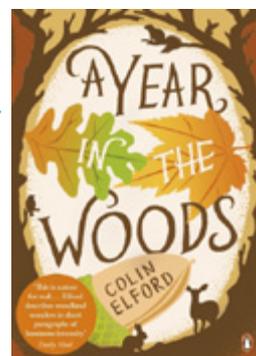
Please ask at the library desk to make an appointment. All sessions are FREE but library funds benefit from donations in respect of this excellent service.

Wimborne Minster – Portrait of a Town by Alan R Bennett

We are very pleased to announce that this excellent book about Wimborne and the surrounding area, including Colehill & its library, will be on sale soon at the library for £20, £5 of which will be donated to the library. *If anyone would like a special inscription it can be arranged with Alan.*

Book Review – ‘A Year in the Woods’ by Colin Elford

A warning.... If you are a late-night person, a night owl, this will be a stressful read. Written in 2010 by a Forestry Commission Wildlife Ranger whose patch is almost local, this book is a collection of short essays organised in calendar months.



The reader experiences some extraordinary true stories of the woods of north and east Dorset from January through to December from the comfort of an easy chair.

Much of Colin’s gentle, simply structured prose describes pre-dawn encounters with the wildlife of the woods. Amongst other things, his job includes keeping deer and squirrel populations low enough to support tree growth and it is this role that features a lot in these early starts. His beautiful, poetic description of the change in the landscape as the sun appears is a regular backdrop to the sometimes-harrowing tales of culling or of helping animals in distress. He has witnessed some completely bizarre animal encounters which add to the surprises offered by this book.

It is short at 197 pages. Too short for me. I didn’t want the book to end. If anyone knows Colin Elford please thank him for writing this. I shall walk in Vernditch Woods with a new eye. *Christine.*

COPY DATE for next issue: 26th April