



# NEWS

## Colehill Community Library

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### Chairman's comments

We've held the AGM, our first as a charity, and you may like to know what difference charitable status makes. Reduced council tax, exemption from corporation and income tax, and almost essential when applying for grants. Grants to date came from The Digby Trust, EDDC, Synergy, Colehill WI, and Waitrose. The bicycle stands came from Dorset County Council, to whom we are grateful.

In 2013/14 grants were £4,800 in addition to the £10,500 from Colehill Parish Council. These Grants help us keep our library open, and improve the facilities, but the volunteers are the heart of the library. They represent £35,000 to £40,000 pa of the true cost of the library were it still in Council hands. As well as the visible staff there are the gleamers, gardeners and fund-raisers. They have done a fantastic job in revitalising our library, run-down in expectation of closure, and we are very grateful for their contribution and enthusiasm.

Financially we are reasonably well-off but aware that increased energy costs, library reorganisation, and projects for further improvements will need the fund-raisers' ongoing help (see the events list overleaf).

Another innovation which may help us to "expand our market" is the recent addition of free wi-fi.

In many ways this is now our "coming of age". It's been an experience getting here but now we're established we must look forwards to what we want the library to become and its role in our community.

Well done everyone.

*John Gooch, Chairman*

### Colehill's Future

Due to impending changes in boundaries, Colehill Library may be threatened.

It will help show our strength if more of our supporters become "shareholders" (as well as 'Members'!) in the Library.

Any resident of Colehill is eligible to become a shareholder and it is free. Forms at the library on request, or on the Supporters page on the website.

### Do something 'Special' this autumn

Try one of the *special interest groups* in the library.

**Family History Group** - for support in tracing your family tree and making the most of the Library's free WiFi and free access to Ancestry. Meetings are on the first Thursday of the month 10.00 - 12.00

**Local History Group** meets on the second Thursday of the month, with a Special Open Event on September 11th. Meet local historian and author, Jan Seal, and hear about her research for her Wimborne-based historical novels. Everyone welcome.

**Just Write** - a friendly and encouraging group where you can "have a go" at writing, stimulate your creativity, and boost your confidence. Do you fancy writing stories? your life history? a blog? Next meeting Sept 18th, 10.00 - 12.00 and then every third Thursday of the month.

**Knit and Natter** - a place to make friends and craft items, and share skills and patterns as well as news. Meets on the last Thursday of each month 10.00 - 12.00. Next meeting September 25th.

**Art** - A small supportive group meeting on the fourth Friday of each month, 10.30 - 12.30. Next meeting is on September 26th.

*Contact the library for more details or just come along...*

## Friday Night is Music Night



*A light hearted evening of local musicians singing & playing folk & 60's music. Bring own nibbles & drinks & glasses*

**£5**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October**

**7 for 7.30 p.m.**

Tickets available in Colehill Community Library  
For more information contact 01202 882808

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

## Fund-Raising Events

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Brighton Coach Trip	17th Sept	Sold Out
Friday Night is Music Night	Fri 24th Oct	See ad.
Fashion Show (licensed)	Fri 14th Nov	£7 (Glass of wine, tea, coffee or soft drink included)

Information and tickets available from Colehill Library or from members of the Colehill Library Fund Raising Team.

These have been popular events so get your tickets now!

## Support the Library!

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Colehill Community Library would welcome your support, as subscriptions, coupled with the events organised by the fundraisers, give the library extra funds to continue to make improvements.

Please note that as CCL is a registered charity we can claim Gift Aid, so it will be appreciated if you can complete the declaration. Membership forms are in the leaflet rack in the lobby and on the supporters page on the website.

*Members - if you have friends who perhaps use the library regularly but aren't supporters, ask them if they would consider joining!*

## Wildlife Corner

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A surprising visitor last month! There was a roe deer waiting at the back door when Petra arrived. Recently the Grounds Team disturbed two frogs (or was it a frog and a toad?) in the undergrowth. We are slowly clearing the grounds of



invasive thugs like bramble and bracken, but maintaining an environment that has favourable habitats for wildlife. Let us know if you spot anything surprising.



We have mentioned before that we would like to put up bird boxes and a feeding table and are hoping for donations!

## Survey Feedback

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At the beginning of the year we issued an open ended feedback survey inviting your comments, generally on the library service you are now receiving, our opening hours and the particular services that you use.

Thirty-five responses have been received to date and the answers indicate that overall you are happy with the status quo. However there were three requests for us to extend the opening hours to include another morning. We are seriously considering this but need to ensure that it is sustainable. Each shift requires three volunteers and as we operate a fortnightly rota at least six more people would be required. Anyone who might consider doing this should contact Linda, our volunteer co-ordinator, at [ccl.colehill@gmail.com](mailto:ccl.colehill@gmail.com) or just pop in for a chat.

**COPY DATE for next issue: 28th October**

## Toddlers Rhymetime

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The Toddlers Rhymetime sessions resume on Tuesday 2nd September from 11.00 -11.30 and will be held until further notice on the first and third Tuesday of every month. We look forward to seeing you.

## Summer Reading Challenge

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Well Colehill's young readers have done it again! At the time of writing over 200 have signed up at our library and over 80 have completed the challenge to read six books during the summer. We have all enjoyed the buzz created by so many enthusiastic young readers thronging the Library (not to mention their responsible adults). We enjoyed some associated crafts and quizzes and created our very own dragon. Congratulations to all.

Watch out for information about the **100 Book Challenge** – coming soon!!

## Sting in the Tale

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Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August dawned bright as we eagerly awaited a live story telling event at Colehill as part of the highly successful festival of storytelling annually presented by East Dorset and The Sting in the Tale. We were not disappointed. Children and adults alike visualised ravens swooping around them as professional storyteller, Graham Rogers, delighted us with his mythical tales from the Native American culture and all supported by wonderful props and music. Thanks to Colehill Parish Council for sponsoring this event.

## I.T. at C.C.L.

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WiFi is now alive and well at the Library, but if you are struggling to use new technology the answer is at hand. Thanks to our very able IT volunteer we are able to offer **half hour one to one sessions** to help you discover how to use your own machines to good effect.

Book your appointments at the Library. At present they are available each Tuesday morning at 9.30, 10.00 and 10.30. These sessions are free but obviously donations are always welcome. These sessions are not for the repair of computers but we can pass on contact details if this is required.

The long awaited upgrade to our public access computers should be in place in early October.

## DVD and CD Loan Service - reminder

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Rentals are charged on a daily basis from the day they are borrowed. DVDs and CDs may be requested for collection at Colehill but are no longer available on our shelves.

## And finally.... Bubble Wrap!

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We would be grateful for donations of bubble wrap. Many good quality books are donated to our library. Sadly not all of them are suitable for adding to our stock but, with the donors' permission, we sell these on our book stalls and on Amazon Market Place (please also see a list on our website under 'Activities'). Purchases need to be wrapped carefully before posting - hence the request for bubble wrap!