



NEWS

Colehill Community Library

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Issue 75

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Chairman's comments

Spring is here, and after spending £10,000 bringing the library building up to standard last year, we have started on the grounds and surrounds.

Following Bill Seddon's attack on the brambles and bracken, the gardening team has laid out topsoil to landscape the open areas near the new path from Middlehill Road. More work is planned, with some more small scale planting.

Volunteers have painted the toilet room and will be tackling the staff room shortly.

Let us not forget the vital contribution made by the "gleamers" who do such a great job in keeping our library spick and span. It would be great to hear from anyone who might be willing to spare half an hour once a week or fortnight to give them a hand with some light cleaning.

We are expecting the wi-fi soon and the bicycle rack is in progress. Do stop and read the notices on the new notice board. There are fund-raising events all through the year with the emphasis on "fun".

I hear the special interest groups are flourishing, and wish them every success.

Here comes the sun (we hope)!

John Gooch, Chairman

Library thoughts

As mentioned in the previous newsletter the merging of the fundraising activities of FoCoL under the umbrella of the CCL Management Committee would be clearly beneficial. This was unanimously approved at the recent FoCoL AGM on 4th April and so all FoCoL assets and funds, which have grown significantly over the last year thanks to the very active fundraisers, are to be transferred to CCL Ltd where they will be accounted for as part of the combined fundraising effort.

Although this means that the form of FoCoL will change it does not mean the end of the need for friends of the library; in fact that need is still as strong as ever. It is envisaged that friends are members of the community who, whilst unable to volunteer, wish to register their support for the library by making a regular annual subscription or donation; under the new arrangement, as a registered charity, this gives the added advantage of eligibility for Gift Aid. *

The AGM was made more convivial by the inclusion of wine and nibbles provided by Val and Bill Seddon and concluded with



a surprise presentation to me by Peter of a handsome mounted nautical barometer and clock unit. Thank you one and all, and particularly to the Committee for their support throughout the challenging years and to all of you members for your support, which unquestionably ensured that we still have a library, and so I trust will continue under the new arrangement.

It is gratifying to see that the library has been a sustained success since coming into the hands of the community last year; run 'by the community for the community' has been outstandingly demonstrated. The wonderful improvements to the entrance area also show confidence for the future, and the growing number of Special Interest Groups shows the benefits of organic growth. So, it is not just about books. As a researcher from the Department of Health Sciences at Leicester University reported recently; many users keep talking about what they get out of the building itself. For many of them the library is a therapeutic place.

We do have a library to be proud of long may it continue. *Best wishes, Derek Henderson.*

* New dual joining/renewal form is available in the Library foyer and on the website. *Ed.*

Thank you!

Our thanks to Waitrose "Community Matters" scheme and all their Wimborne customers who thought us a worthy cause during March and raised a magnificent £430.

Calling All DIY Enthusiasts

A dear little field mouse was spotted feeding outside the back door of the library and it made us think how nice it would be to encourage more wildlife in the grounds.

We would like some nesting boxes for birds and wondered if there is anyone out there who is handy with a saw and hammer and could make us one or two. We have a leaflet describing how to make them and we even have a plank of wood left leaning against a tree! If you can help, please ring 882590 (Barbara) or call in at the library.



Wasn't me - I wasn't there!

We'd like a bird feeder too!! If anyone has one they no longer use, we'd love to hang it outside the library.

Latest information on Activities & Events is always available on our website: www.colehill.gov.uk/about-colehill

Agatha Christie books

A set of 40 volumes is available in exchange for a donation to the Library - contact the Ed. in the first instance.

Nelson DeMille - John Corey series

I have 'Plum Island', the first of the six books about Agent John Corey, which is not available from the Library service - contact me if you'd like to borrow it. *Ed.*

Popular Author: David Baldacci

The best-selling thriller writer David Baldacci tells stories about the American Secret Service and the Washington DC corridors of power. Many of his plots and characters are based on his real-life contacts with undercover agents.

He began writing stories as a child, when his mother gave him a notebook in which to record them. He wrote for more than two decades, penning short stories and later screenplays without much success. While practicing law, he turned to novel writing, taking three years to write *Absolute Power*, published in 1996. It was an immediate international best seller and to date, Baldacci has published 27 best-selling novels for adults as well as four novels for younger readers.

Baldacci and his wife, Michelle, are the co-founders of the **Wish You Well Foundation**, which works to combat illiteracy in the United States. It aims to support family literacy by fostering and promoting the development and expansion of new and existing literacy and educational programs.

As they say, *"Imagine your daily life, the information you process, the decisions you make based on that process and the actions you take based upon your decisions. Now imagine doing all these things while either being unable to read or reading at a below-average level. Well, you've successfully imagined the daily lives of nearly 100 million people, half the population of the United States. A country that was founded on the principles of free speech, free press, and the freedom of religion -- all rights tied inexorably to words -- is fast becoming an illiterate nation. The ability to read is the foundation for everyday life. Indeed, virtually none of the major issues we face as a nation today can be successfully overcome until we eradicate illiteracy. That's why we created the Wish You Well Foundation."*

Needless to say he is a strong supporter of libraries. What should be of concern to us is that he and his wife could just as well be referring to the UK where illiteracy and ability to express yourself clearly is a growing problem.

Survey

Thank you to all of you who have filled in our feedback survey. The forms are available in the library so if you haven't completed one yet perhaps you would like to on your next visit. We are the community's Library so your thoughts and ideas are all welcome.

The volunteers would like to say a particular thank you for the anonymous letter left in the Library during Lent.

Events

22nd May - Knit and Natter 10am

23rd May- Art Group 10.30 -12.30

29th May - Family History 10am

12th June - "Just Write" Writing Group 10.00 - 12.00

19th June - Knit and Natter 10am

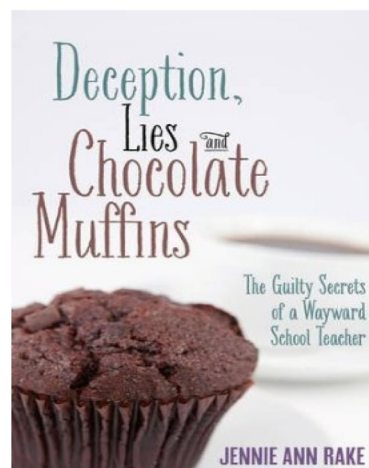
12th July - Coffee Morning / Book Sale

Colehill Community Library Special Interest Groups

Invite you to...

Meet the Writer

Thursday May 15th
from 10.15 - 12.00



Jennie Ann Rake, local author, will be talking about her book "Deception, Lies and Chocolate Muffins" and answering questions about her life and writing.



With tea, coffee and home-made chocolate muffins!

Every one welcome, add your name to the list at the desk and join us



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

Spudlarks

Jacket potatoes + fillings + dessert
and musical entertainment



£8

Friday, 16th May at 7 p.m.

St Michael's Church Hall

Licensed bar

Tickets available in Colehill Community Library
For more information contact 01202 882590

Copy date for next issue: 27th June