



# NEWS

## Colehill Community Library

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Published every two months. Editor: Graham Mallett, ccl.editor1@gmail.com

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### Some comings and goings....

The Community Library has been up and running for five years – a great achievement by all our volunteers, not only the ones you see day to day in the library, but others who work behind the scenes.

We hope that you will all be able to come to our 5th Birthday Party on Saturday, 27th January (see below). In addition to coffee and cakes there will be a huge book sale, jam and chutney stall, cake stall and crafts. You will also be able to check out and book tickets for the events organised for 2018 by our social team and there will be information about the first few of the coach trips.

In December we had a glorious outing to the Dickensian Christmas at Portsmouth Docks. A great day out with free admission to all the museums and historic ships, including the new Mary Rose exhibition. We were 33 in number; the coach held 49. How could we fill those empty seats?

Help us to ensure that friends and neighbours too don't miss out on our great social programme. Help spread the word. All are welcome.

*John Gooch, Chairman.*

### Huge thanks to our local businesses

Huge thanks for the generous contributions to the Library from our local businesses, Co-op and One Stop, and to everyone who has made it possible for us to reach the start of our sixth year.

### Special Interest Groups – all welcome

*In the Library, 10am - noon unless stated. Please check the noticeboard or the website for changes to the schedule.*

First Tuesday (except January's will be on **9th** not 2nd) – Colehill Reading Group 1 – 2pm (*inc. Colehill Bookworms*)

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.

### Raffle prizes wanted!

Can you help with prizes for the Birthday Party raffle? Please leave items in the library or contact Barbara Gooch on 01202 882590. *Thank you in anticipation!*

To celebrate  
Colehill Community Library's  
**5th Birthday**

Coffee & Cake  
Crafts & Book Sale



**Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> January**

10 a.m. till 11.30 in the Memorial Hall

**Come along and bring your friends**

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

**Fish & Chip Supper, plus**  
**the fabulous vintage vocal harmony duo**  
**'Scarlet Swing'**



**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February @ 7.30pm**  
in Colehill Memorial Hall

**Tickets £12**

**Plus Quiz and Raffle**

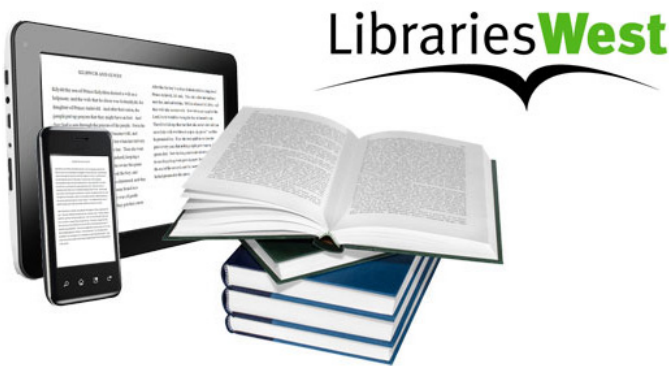
**Bring your own drinks and glasses**

Tickets on sale in the Library, must be pre-booked  
or contact Val, 01202 884079

## Toddler Time – Stories and Rhymes

In the library, weekly from **Tuesday 9th January 2018** (except school holidays and half terms), 10 to 10.30 am – FREE sessions for parents and children 0 to 5 years.

## About LibrariesWest



LibrariesWest is a partnership of seven public library services in the south west of England. The services work together to share costs and offer enhanced services to customers across Dorset, Poole, Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset, Somerset and South Gloucestershire, resulting in a 'coast to coast' service. LibrariesWest serves a resident population of more than 2.1 million people across an area of nearly 2,300 sq miles.

Customers can use their membership card in any one of the 145 public libraries across the consortium to borrow, return, renew and reserve items, and use the computers to access the internet and office programmes. Customers can also access a joint catalogue of around 2.5 million items, which all customers can borrow from, including books, DVDs, spoken word, music CDs, printed music, maps and language materials. Your membership card can also be used to access a range of e resources.

## News from BUZZ about us (Bournemouth University news website)

### Dorset Libraries in Limbo Following Council Cuts

Public libraries throughout the United Kingdom are undergoing major changes due to cuts in council funding and the libraries in and around Bournemouth are no different.

The latest figures from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) found that nationwide library funding had dropped by £25m in 2015/16.

On top of this, in July 2017, Bournemouth Borough Council proposed "realignments" to the contracts of library staff, whereby the budget for wages would drop, in an attempt to save as much as £566,000 by 2019/20.

This decision came four months after Bournemouth Borough Council and Poole Borough Council both agreed to unilaterally manage library services from April 2017 onwards.

However, it is not just libraries in large towns like Bournemouth that have struggled following these staffing cuts, with libraries in smaller villages such as Colehill

becoming reliant on volunteers and parish funding to stay afloat after having to adopt the 'community library' structure at the beginning of 2013.

Despite finances being tight, Colehill Community Library has excelled in helping its local community, hosting everything from IT groups for senior citizens to reading groups for young children – including being involved with Bournemouth Borough's record-breaking Summer Reading Challenge.

Library manager, Linda Roberts, chooses to remain pragmatic about the financial situation and said that: "With the current situation local government finds itself in, Dorset Libraries seem to have worked well with the community to deliver the best service possible in the circumstances."

*by Joshua Larcombe, a first-year BAMMJ student.*

## Nature Notes – A closer look

Most gardeners may rush for the garlic and cover their ears when I say this, but winter is the time to take a few minutes to appreciate the humble moss. To the right of the parking area some of the older pine trees have soft, green cushions at their base. Visible is a mix of species of moss comfortably at home in the grass and snuggling up the trunk bases. The commonest is Springy Turf-moss, yellowy-green mounds of untidy strings with their spiky leaves sticking out so enthusiastically that many tiny tips curve back on themselves in the excitement of being cool and damp.

In contrast, Cypress-leaved Plait-moss, another common moss partly climbing up a trunk nearby, weaves a mat so green and shiny and smooth that it forms a soft mattress for any passing elf needing a snooze. A third species I spotted, Common Haircap, is one I've been looking out for this winter. This moss is particularly good at forming dark green star patterns that look too neat and perfectly repetitive to be a living plant growing in such haphazard conditions.



Common Haircap moss, *Polytrichum commune*

Damp weather helps them show off to their full potential, small and unassuming though these understories of the plant kingdom may be.

*Christine.*

**COPY DATE for next issue: 24th February**