



## **LIBRARY TRUSTEE UPDATE**

**PAGE 2**

## **LIBRARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES HELP US TO OFFER MORE TO OUR RESIDENTS**

**PAGE 3**

## **LIBRARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

**PAGE 4**

## **BEFRIEND EALING IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

**PAGE 5**

## **READ EASY - HELPING ADULTS LEARN TO READ**

**PAGE 6**

# LIBRARY NEWS

## NORTHFIELDS COMMUNITY LIBRARY CURRENT OPENING TIMES

**Saturdays: 10:00am - 4:00pm**

**Tuesdays: 10:00am - 7:00pm**

**Wednesdays: 1:00pm to 4:00pm**

**Thursdays: 10:00am - 1:00pm**

## UPDATE FROM THE LIBRARY TRUSTEES

The Trustees had an "away day" (at the Library!) last week to work on a development plan for the coming year and beyond. Matters discussed were:

- Extension of opening hours and revision of some existing opening times.
- Team Leader and Volunteer recruitment and development.
- Developing our core remit to encourage literacy and the joy of reading.
- Developing a range of activities to reach different sections of the community.
- Budget planning and monitoring.
- Fundraising and income generation.
- Partnerships - with Ealing Council, with the other Community Libraries, with local schools and organisations.

These were headline plans before our library actually opened, but the pandemic severely curtailed our ability to develop much beyond our current offer. We are now very much hoping to move on with these plans.

We have decided to start running activities and inviting groups into the library once the Easter holidays are over and hope to start fundraising in earnest later in the year.

THERE ARE VARIOUS OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO HELP, WHETHER YOU'RE A CURRENT VOLUNTEER, A TRAINEE VOLUNTEER, WHETHER YOU'RE WAITING TO TRAIN OR YOU'RE A LIBRARY SUPPORTER. See the next page for more information!

## **CAN YOU HELP US TO GROW OUR LIBRARY OFFER?**

**We'd love you to help with any of the following!**

### **RHYME TIME SESSIONS**

We've had many requests from parents and carers of babies and toddlers to offer Rhyme Time sessions and we would like to start these after Easter. Ideally these would run as 30 minute sessions on Tuesday and Thursday mornings each week, but we could consider other times. We have lots of action rhyme / nursery rhyme books in the library and need volunteers to lead these sessions. (Important to say, you don't have to have a brilliant singing voice! )

### **STORYTIME SESSIONS**

Another activity for younger children and these sessions could take place during the day for the youngest children or after school to cater for a slightly older group.

### **SUMMER READING CHALLENGE**

This annual event takes place during the school summer holidays with the aim of keeping children reading during their long break. We'll need help during May and June to organise displays and set up activities and help during the school summer holidays to run the Challenge in the library. Full training will be given to volunteers.

### **HELP WITH SOCIAL MEDIA**

If you're active on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook and especially if you have social media marketing skills we'd love to hear from you as we need a stronger communications strategy for the library.

### **HELP WITH HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT**

If you have experience in managing Health and Safety in the workplace, or are interested to learn, we'd love you to help the Trustee who currently looks after this.

### **SUPPORT FOR RESIDENTS WHO LACK BASIC IT SKILLS**

Many of our older residents have trouble getting online and using their mobile phones. So much day to day business is done digitally and these residents are struggling more and more. If you could offer some time during library opening hours to meet with residents and give them some basic IT support that would be much appreciated.

**CONTACT** [getintouchncl@outlook.com](mailto:getintouchncl@outlook.com) if you're able to help with any of the above and include the days when you would be available. **THANK YOU!**

# LIBRARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

## NORTHFIELDS COMMUNITY LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

**NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY 8TH MARCH, 2022**

The Book Club meets once a month on Tuesday evenings. The Club has been growing steadily since we launched and now has twelve regular members. We read a mixture of fiction and non-fiction titles, chosen by different members for the group each month.

At our next meeting we'll be discussing "Such A Fun Age" by Kiley Reid and "Black and British" by David Olusoga. (Members can read either or both of them.)

New members are always welcome. If you would like to join us please email [getintouchncl@outlook.com](mailto:getintouchncl@outlook.com) with the heading Book Club.

## FUTURE EVENTS IN THE LIBRARY

As reported on page 3, we hope to start holding regular Storytime and Rhyme Time sessions after the Easter holidays.

Further activities and volunteering opportunities will be advertised shortly.

# BEFRIEND EALING - SEEKING VOLUNTEERS



## A MESSAGE FROM BEfriend:

"BEfriend is a befriending charity working across the London Borough of Ealing. We recruit volunteers and train them then link each with a lonely and isolated person for companionship and they visit once a week for up to two hours.

Full support is given by the Befriending Coordinators. We also provide on-going training and a reference for volunteers who have been with us for six months or longer. We find volunteers a client who lives near to them where possible. Please contact us at [volunteer@befriend.london](mailto:volunteer@befriend.london) for more information.

If you can help us in this way at all it would be much appreciated."

(We have also placed leaflets about this organisation in the library)

# READ EASY

## HELPING ADULTS LEARN TO READ



More than 13,600 adults in Ealing seriously struggle with their reading. In practical terms, this means they struggle to do their food shopping, use cash points, read bus timetables or understand health warnings.

Read Easy Ealing is a friendly local charity, dedicated to changing lives by providing FREE, one- to-one reading coaching for local people.

- Do you love to read? Help others to read by supporting Read Easy Ealing.
- Do you know someone in Ealing who struggles with reading? If so, please encourage them to learn with Read Easy Ealing.
- Are you interested in volunteering? They're on the lookout for new Coaches.

If you would like to volunteer as a coach you can register on the online form at <https://readeasy.org.uk/groups/ealing/>

## THAT'S ALL FOR NOW . . .

Thanks as always for your support and have a good week.

With best wishes,

Tanya, Paul, Alison P, Alison S, Monica and Angela  
The Northfields Community Library Trustees.



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