



Rainbows gain their Book Lover badge



Last week 16 Rainbows visited Thurmaston Library to enable them to gain their Book Lover badge. Although the library is not normally open on a Friday evening the lovely volunteers were only too pleased to welcome the 4- to 7-year-olds into Thurmaston library on Silverdale Road.

To gain their Book Lover badge they needed to make a bookmark, design a book cover, and dress up for world book day.



Mel, one of our lead volunteers read several stories Wonky Donkey being one of them, sang songs and helped the enthusiastic Rainbows to enter the library Easter competition. The session ended with the Rainbows closing song.



Can you spare two hours a week for you community?

During Covid the community pulled together helping neighbours, donating goods and services. Thankfully, the kind of help needed then is not needed now but there are still opportunities to volunteers your time.

One of the more well-known benefits of volunteering is the impact on the community. Volunteering allows you to connect to your community and make it a better place. Even helping out with the smallest tasks can make a real difference to the lives of people.

Making friends

Sometimes life changes leave us a little isolated. Maybe you've recently moved to Thurmaston. Perhaps you've lost a

partner, or you might just have lost touch with people as their circumstances change. Volunteering reconnects you with your community and helps create new friendships that keep loneliness at bay.

Giving something back

Maybe you've benefited from volunteering services at some time in your life or perhaps you just feel like you've been fortunate, and you'd like to share that with others. Volunteering gives you that opportunity to 'pay it forward' or to give something back.

Change in opening hours following consultation

Since reopening after Covid the library hasn't opened on a Saturday as advertised. The main reason was the difficulty of asking volunteers to commit to two hours every Saturday. Also, several nurseries have requested that the library opens more often in the morning to allow them to visit and have a story time. Following consultation, the Trustees have made the decision to allow for a permanent change from Saturday to Wednesday mornings.

One area identified for spring flowers

I have identified areas in Thurmaston that could be planted up to give spring colour without any danger of them being trampled or chopped off at grass cutting time.



The first to be planted was a piece of land on the corner with the bypass and Melton Road. Martin Crouch one of our groundsmen chopped out sods of earth whilst I

popped in the 90 spring bulbs and

replaced the soil. We planted them later in the year than advised but I am pleased to see they made it!



Why village pubs are vital

What do you think of when you think of a village? My first response would be a cosy pub with beams, an ancient church, cottages, and a village green.

The village of South Croxton could, at one time, tick all those boxes but the cosy pub has now cruelly been taken off the table.

The traditional pub is at the very heart of community life: living within walking distance of one always comes high on the wish list of house hunters in village and rural areas. According to one recent survey, home buyers even put the proximity of a pub above schools and public transport.

When the future plans for the Golden Fleece were made public knowledge, the locals petitioned the parish council to apply for an Asset Community Value (ACV). This was granted but on appeal it was rejected. The reason given was a) internal conversions/alterations have left nothing of the original pub b) the community would probably need to find upwards of £250k to acquire part of the old pub. This was thought by the council officer dealing with the appeal as unrealistic.

At the time as writing this article a Save Our Pub group has been set up to explore possible ways forward. Watch this space.

Official launch of Family Hub

The previously named Sure Start Centre in the grounds of Eastfield School was officially relaunched after being awarded Family Hubs transformation money from the Department for Education.



The aptly named Family Hub will be a one stop shop where families and young people can get support or signposted all at the same time. There will be a mixture of physical and virtual spaces where people can access a range of guidance and help to give children the best start in life.

Your news and events

Got a tale to tell?

An event to shout about?

Someone's special birthday?

An anniversary to celebrate?

Let us know about your local groups, news and events

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If you have any concerns

Facebook 'brendacllrseaton' or 'brendaseaton', telephone/text 07790 083595
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