

Friends of Thurston Library

Happy New Year to everyone!



2015

If you haven't visited the Library for a while, then why not make it your New Year's Resolution to go this year? Don't stop there either, because we are in a time of great change, and need more people to join the Friends and help with its re-design. Since the College 6th Form moved to Beyton in the summer, we have had the whole library for community use.

A working party is currently looking at how the increased space can be used to the advantage of all library users. This group consists of Friends of Thurston Library (including Library staff) as well as 2 students from Thurston Community College. Together we hope to improve the facilities for all ages, and especially reflect the growing use of IT. We love our books, but we also love the opportunities that the internet offers for communication, learning, research and entertainment. If you think you have good ideas and skills to offer, please get in touch – contact details below.

Because of all the changes, fund-raising is still a priority, so look out for details of our Easter event next month and much more to come!

Opening Hours Consultation

This consultation has now closed, so we hope to give you news of the new opening times very soon.

Minecraft Club

Minecraft fans will be pleased to know that we are hoping to set up a club at the library. If you are interested in joining we would really like to hear from you. Please get in touch with Cathy (details below) and register your interest.

For the uninitiated, Minecraft is a very popular online game.



Ancestry

There is a meeting at 3.30pm on Thursday 5 February in the library for up to an hour to discuss setting up an Ancestry group to research family history that would meet regularly using your own computer or laptop, or the library IT facilities. If you would like to come, it would be helpful to know in advance so we can cater for the number of people interested: please let Cathy, our librarian know. And come anyway even if you haven't been in touch! And do bring your laptop or tablet if you can. Jayne Cage, a member of the staff at Thurston Community College who is very involved in family history, will lead the group. We hope to have our first research meeting at 3.30pm on Wednesday 25th February for an hour.

Some good news!

Thurston library has been mentioned in a government report praising the introduction of e-reader lending. We are very proud of this innovation, and it seems a good time to say thank you to the staff at Thurston Library and Suffolk Libraries for all their support.

You might also like to know that Suffolk Libraries have been nationally recognized as one of the most successful county services. They have been highly praised for their pioneering and innovative ways in keeping local libraries open. As Friends, we know very well how hard the staff work, and we are grateful for their support and excellent advice.

Thurst Satellite Library

Many of you enjoy choosing and returning books whilst having a cuppa at Thurst. You may have noticed that Yvonne has had to resort to pencil and paper records, as the library link computer wasn't available. However, we are pleased to say that we now have a new computer which will be up and running in the very near future.

The books at Thurst are refreshed every month, so you should always have new titles to choose from.

Suffolk Libraries e-book Service

Visit Suffolklibraries.co.uk/e-library/ to download regular and audio books. You will need your library card and PIN number to download the Suffolk Libraries Overdrive service for e-books. Many devices can be used, so why not take a little time to explore this. You can then visit a virtual library on any day of the week and at any time! Email reminders come to you automatically for renewing the book in 3 weeks' time. If you know someone who would benefit from this service but need some help, please ask at the library.

E-readers

The E-readers are now being loaned out and for some people they are much lighter and easier to use than a book, especially ones with large print. If you are interested but not sure about using one, please call in the library and speak to one of the librarians, who will be very pleased to advise you. There is no charge to borrow an E-reader.

Join the Friends of Thurston Library

Become a Friend of Thurston Library. There are leaflets in the library all about the Friends. We would love you to join. Become a member of the Friends group by either for £1 annual subscription: full details on the leaflet.

You would also be very welcome at the regular monthly meetings of the Friends of Thurston Library. For details of the next meeting, please ask at the Library. We welcome new ideas to make sure our Library is a vibrant and relevant service to the community. So if you have good ideas, please come and share them.

Surrounding Villages

We are keen to strengthen links with other villages. If you don't live in Thurston, but use the library, please consider becoming a Friend. Our meetings are fun and friendly with no more than 1 per month.

Visit the Suffolk Library website to find out more about the service at: www.suffolklibraries.co.uk. You can follow them on Facebook, Twitter or sign up for a newsletter.

Contact Cathy McDonald, our librarian, on 01359 235048, Richard Fawcett on 01359 231363 or Anne O'Connell on 01359 231680