

South Gloucestershire Libraries: spring report April – June 2018



Reading & literacy

Continuing work with children of all ages, we gift Bookstart Baby packs and Treasure Packs in partnership with Health Visitors and pre-schools; and support the hugely successful Concorde Book Award in conjunction with secondary schools. The free digital magazines service available throughout the LibrariesWest consortium of library authorities has been extended to over 70 titles for library members to download and read every month.

Festival of Learning

#lovetolearn

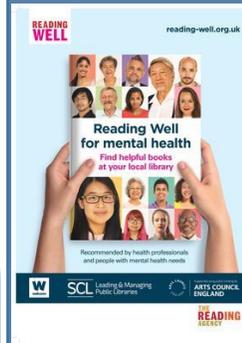
Academics from UWE, Bristol shared their latest research findings in free talks on cyber security, the history of surnames and social media support for small business. The talk “*sparked a revival in my interest in family history and a sense of place*”.

Culture & creativity

Two quiz nights were held to mark World Book Night and libraries hosted author events as part of the Cotswold Edge Literary Festival. Young Poet Laureates enjoyed a poetry slam.

Health & wellbeing

Tea, Talk & Stories groups make a difference by connecting people through shared reading. Supported by the Reader organisation, South Gloucestershire currently has 5 groups meeting weekly in libraries, led by trained volunteers.



New national Mental Health booklist launched. In a recent survey, 90% of those who have borrowed a book from the list said it had been helpful.



Information service

Staff answered 23,500+ enquiries; includes finding local history information, renewing European travel card and helping use the South Gloucestershire website to register vehicle for recycling centres and housing.



Over 3,800 people have upgraded their library membership to access libraries 7 days a week outside staffed hours. In a survey, comments received included how convenient it is and a great idea for working people. 74% are very likely to recommend Open Access to a friend.



Digital Skills

A trusted network of accessible locations with PCs and printing. 7,000+ users of our free



BBC micro:bits, tiny programmable computers designed to make learning and teaching easy and fun, are widely used in schools. We now have them to borrow free of charge.



A young member of Bradley Stoke Library coding club was nominated for a Young Game developer award from BAFTA.