

**Porlock Community Library Report
for Porlock Parish Council Meeting
15th January 2025**

Late Night Shopping was a success for the library as we hosted the face painter, who was kept very busy and contributed £26 to library funds through donations from happy parents! Book sales and other donations amount to a total of £76

The Cribbage Club started last week (8th) and was well supported, making use of the Community Room as there were so many keen players.

The Creative Writing group has now finished, our thanks to Sara Hudston for running the group over the last four months. On the 23rd of this month we are hoping to start a "Writing for Pleasure" group, hosted by a lady with experience of participating in other writing groups, with an element of relaxation and fun! The first session will be getting to know each other over a cup of coffee and a chat to find out what participants want to achieve in a friendly environment.

The library has now been part of the Somerset Library Service Annual Winter Coat exchange for the last month. The scheme operates on the following basis: donate a coat and take a coat, or just donate a coat or just take one. The number of donations has been amazing - thank you - and people making use of this free facility and taking coats has been encouraging too. We accept all sizes - children's, adults (men's and women's).

The Food Cupboard parcels, which are available for collection from the library, are being taken on a fairly regular basis. It's good to see that the library has now been recognised as a source of this valuable help and is able to assist people (anonymously, if preferred) when things get a little tight. The Food Cupboard can also signpost those who may be finding it difficult to other agencies for more help.

One such agency is Citizens Advice West Somerset. They and the Parish Council are in the process of installing a touch screen monitor in the library, for users to connect directly to the Advice Centre's webpages.

Mary Perkins
Library Officer
09/01/2025