

Press release: for immediate release – 20.06.2018 – from Ringmer Village Library

Ringmer Library: back at the heart of the village!

Ringmer's new community-run library was delighted to open its doors for the very first time on Saturday 16th June.

Liz Owen said "It has been wonderful to open our new library and we look forward to establishing it at the heart of our village. So many members of the community really value having a local library; it brings people together, across the generations and from the surrounding villages. It is amazing how much support we have received, with really generous offers of help, of books and of money."

Of course, getting the library open again so soon – just six short weeks after it was closed by East Sussex County Council as part of controversial cuts to library services across the county – has only been possible thanks to the efforts of many determined volunteers and a great deal of support from local organisations. The library group would like particularly to thank the Village Hall Committee, under whose auspices the library is operating, Ringmer Parish Council, and Ringmer Baptist Church, who will pay the rent and share the space outside library opening times. The group would also like to thank Much Ado books in Alfriston for an extremely generous donation of brand-new books.

Ringmer Village Library has extended its opening hours and will now open on Tuesday and Thursday from 2-5pm and on Wednesday and Saturday from 10-12 noon. The library will still offer free public computer access and wi-fi, as well as free computer buddying sessions on Wednesdays by appointment. The popular rhymetime and storytime sessions on Thursday afternoons will also continue.

The opening followed the library's first very successful book swap, held at Ringmer Village Hall on Saturday 12th May. The next book swap will be held on Saturday 30th June at the village hall from 10-12 – all very welcome! The library group would also be delighted to receive any donations of books, talking books or DVDS. These can be dropped in at the library during opening hours, or popped in the drop box, next to the library door.

Information on the new library is available from SaveRingmerLibrary@mail.com or the group's Facebook page 'Ringmer Village Library'.

Photo caption: The first customer with a volunteer at the newly independent Ringmer Village Library.

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