

Crabtree Cottage, 6 Church Terrace, Bampton

31 October 2015

Dear LARCS

Thank you very much to all those who helped distribute leaflets and supported the Bampton Charter Fair stall at the Old School. The former has raised £295 thus far, and the latter, where we sold 'slates', £188.35. Everyone was generous of their time and funds and we are extremely grateful. At least of equal importance, however, was the tremendous encouragement and interest in the project and a boost in our membership numbers - now 540. If a Facebook user (I, most decidedly am not!) please could you post a comment/like on Bampton Library And Resource Centre Supporters page? These are measurable, too, and help our case.

We were delighted to announce the writing competition winners: Zara Beeden, Geoff Thomas and Maisie Parker who will be awarded their prizes at the LARCS' January Party (date tba).

More ideas about activities and events to take place in the new LARC are flowing in and confirm that we're heading in the right direction in making provision for teenagers, toddlers and the vulnerable a high priority. We're liaising with all the organizations which might be able to support these ventures, including Bampton Primary School, Devon Youth Services, Age UK Tiverton and Bampton Surgery. Not only did Devon's Fire Service rescue us on Fair Day by making safe the garage door above our heads, and climb a ladder to put up our banner, but we understand DFS has an advocacy service which could be included in our plans for pop-up advice shops. Local people have diverse specialist skills which they have offered for LARCS. Teaching computer use, sexual health for teenagers, and wine-making are just some of these.

Meanwhile, the management team is working hard on the second stage of our Power to Change application and preparation for the visit of its 2 Assessors. If we succeed in this bid, £150k will have been secured to cover the entire capital costs: building refurbishment, VAT @20%, professional fees etc and all the costs of fitting out the building plus a contingency @ 25%. Devon County Council Libraries Service has pledged up to £22k for its removal from the present site, new shelving and equipment. Challenging times ahead!

With all the very best of autumnal wishes and heartfelt thanks for your support

Janet

Janet Crabtree
Chairman