## New book club launching at Fort Kinnaird

Fort Kinnaird is teaming up with Musselburgh Library and has set up a free book club hoping to bring the community together over the joy of reading.

The club will be hosted at the centre by the Musselburgh Library Team, with readers encouraged to bring along the book they're currently reading or a favourite novel to discuss and take inspiration from others.

Launching in Caffè Nero on Thursday 25 April, from 10am – 11am, the book club will then continue to meet on the last Thursday of every month. Booking is not required, and a free hot drink will be available for all attendees at the first session.

The centre's book swap is also being revived. More than 300 books were exchanged by the community last year, and this year, in addition to the 'Little Library' of children's books in the play area to exchange for free, there will also be a dedicated area for novels for all ages to swap in Caffè Nero. Both book swaps will be available from Thursday 25 April onwards.

Liam Smith, centre director at Fort Kinnaird, said: "From our long-term partnership with the National Literacy Trust, we know how important access to books and reading is for children, not only for literacy development but also mental wellbeing — which is why we launched our book swap initiative last year.

"But we know reading is equally valuable to adults and it's brilliant to be able to take our support even further with the launch of the book club, bringing the local community together to socialise and chat over a good book, or several!

"A special thank you goes to Musselburgh Library and Caffè Nero for providing their expertise and a venue."

Wilma Porteous, community librarian at Musselburgh Library, said: "We are so passionate about the benefits of reading, both for wellbeing and education, and were delighted when Fort Kinnaird approached us to work on this book club together.

"Whether you're into thrilling crime novels or prefer a literary classic, the book club is the perfect excuse to while away an hour with fellow readers."

https://www.fortkinnaird.com/news/free-book-club



The book group hopes to get the community reading books

together