

## A "Whale of a time" at Ledbury Community Day

More than fifty groups and organisations joined Ledbury Community Day last Saturday (7<sup>th</sup> June) to tell you what they do, how they can help you and how you can help them.

An additional feature this year was the visit of an 18 metre long inflated "whale" to the Recreation Ground. Inside the "creature" children (and their parents) enjoyed stories and experiences on the theme of looking after nature and the planet – a part of Ledbury Big Green Week. The Whale was joined at the "Rec" by Ledbury Community Hub, Bosbury Scouts, Ledbury Army Cadets, Herefordshire Wildlife WildPlay and Masefield Matters with lots of things for young people to do.

All went well until after 3pm when a heavy storm brought things to a wet conclusion with the Whale water-logged by the rain.

Away from the Whale, all kinds of interests were covered in the town including sports, horticulture, history, nature, local food, the arts and music making.

Other groups addressed healthy living, helping local charities, self-education, wellbeing and supporting refugees. Community Action Ledbury showed off their flexible transport and local bus travel was represented by the Daffodil Line.

Future public events in the town this summer were publicised by Ledbury Carnival, Ledbury Fringe, Ledbury Poetry, Ledbury Horticultural Society and Ledbury Food Group.

Local MP Ellie Chowns and Ledbury's ward councillors Harvey, Simmons and Peberdy all visited the event, chatting with those taking part. Participants themselves enjoyed the opportunity the event gives for networking together.

Paul Kinnaird, chair of the organising committee said, "Once again the groups and organisations serving Ledbury have put on a splendid display despite the weather for which we thank them. We were pleased to see more families enjoying the event this year attracted by the Whale. We thank those who visited the event, and our sponsors Eastnor Lodge Charity and Ledbury Town Council."

Photos from the day will be available at <u>www.ledburycommunityday.org.uk</u> where details including contact details of all who took part can also be found.

## Photos by Griff Holliday, David Hewitt and Sophie Jarvis 10 June 2024

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