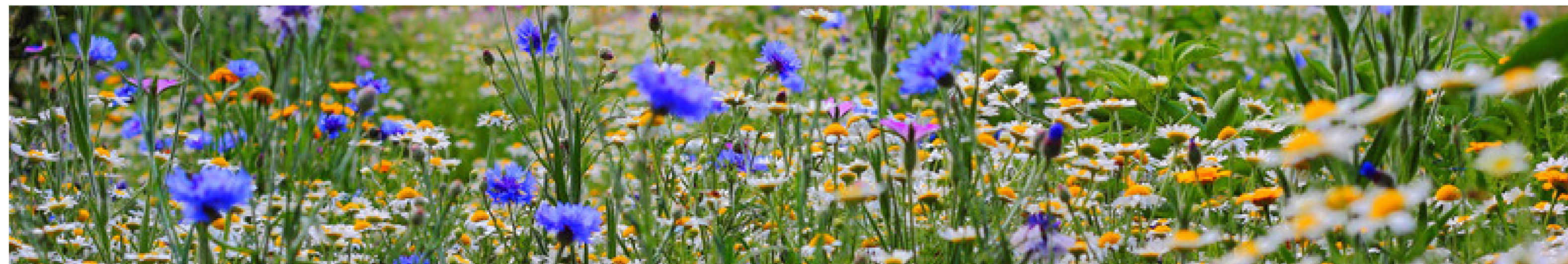


# LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER SUMMER EDITION



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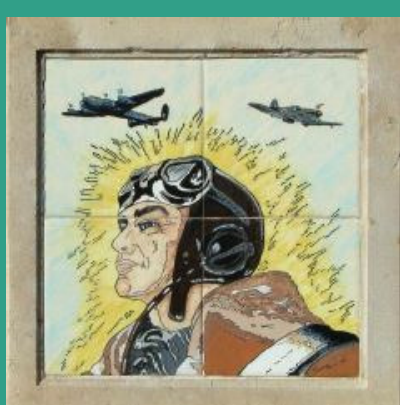
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## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR D VESMA

As a natural hugger, I was delighted when the Government announced that we will be permitted to use our common-sense about hugging our loved ones.

It was when reflecting on this new freedom that I considered those for whom the past year's lack of physical contact was not actually that unusual, and who do not receive the affirmation of warm embraces from family and friends on a regular basis. As we finally appear to be making progress against this dreadful illness, please do give a thought, a wave and, if appropriate, a hug to someone that really needs it. Random good wishes between strangers have actually been something of a highlight of recent weeks for me. Watching the impromptu and spontaneous conversations being held at tables beneath the Market House. People joking, comparing sandwiches, and petting each other's dogs is starting to feel normal again. I'm really chuffed that we have been able to provide this facility for tourists and locals alike and am grateful to our staff who set them up each day.

It is also great to welcome back so many pubs, cafes, restaurants, and retailers to the town; I trust Ledbury to stay sensible and to remain situationally aware as the rules are relaxed. If we all continue to respect the personal space of others in shops and the street, then I am hopeful that the worst is past us. I must also acknowledge the hard work of those continuing to deliver vaccinations at astonishing pace to our citizens. Working so hard, with such serious potential risks to their own health shows true character and the town is in their debt.

I must mention my disappointment at the Secretary of State's decision to permit the single access at the Viaduct development site. I believe this to be a short-sighted, politicised decision which puts commercial profits ahead of the people of Ledbury. So many on the Council poured their hearts and souls into defending the town against this ill-advised approach, but if as I fear this is now a done-deal, attention must turn to making sure that the residents of the new houses are welcomed into our community with open arms, and that support is given to the local public services which will need to accommodate them.

It could be seen as faintly ironic that the theme of this year's Ledbury in Bloom is "breaking out", as it coincides with the end of my mayoral term and my decision to step down from the Council. I am grateful for the opportunities that my position has afforded me within the community, and it is with heavy heart that I step away. I am leaving for personal and health reasons, and I do permit myself the belief that the council is in a better state than when I joined. If the voters will have me back, I do hope to stand again in the future, as representing the people of Ledbury, and leading the Council, has been an honour.

I have been privileged to serve with some very capable and thoughtful councillors and a dedicated and highly professional staff, led by our excellent Clerk. The town is in safe hands, and I could hug you all.

## Message from the Chair of Finance, Policy and General Purposes

Councillor Eakin reports that the past year has been one of great challenge and difficulty, both from the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic, and the difficulties associated with modernising and rationalising the policies of Ledbury Town Council.

He would like to thank the Town Clerk, Angie Price, for her invaluable help in navigating the complicated, and at times arcane structures of the council's finances and policies, as well as all the other office staff for their consistent friendliness, professionalism, and willingness to help on all his visits to the council offices. Councillor Eakin would also like to thank his deputy chair, Cllr. Howells, and all members of the Finance, Policy and General Purposes Committee, for maintaining a civil, productive, and friendly atmosphere at meetings, and bringing the range of knowledge, experience and perspectives necessary for local democracy to function.

Councillor Eakin would like to give particular mention to the Councillor Remuneration Policy adopted last year, which makes it easier for less financially secure people to participate in the council, and the Domestic Abuse policy adopted in March of this year, which aims to create a safer environment for staff. The council produced a 2021-2022 budget that was the product of a rigorous and involved debate, and which will allow the council to expand its staff and services for the town, allowing us to do more for the people of Ledbury as we come out of COVID, without putting excessive strain on our already hard-working employees.

**Councillor Eakin, Chair of the Finance, Policy and General Purposes Committee.**



## Message from the Chair of Environment and Leisure

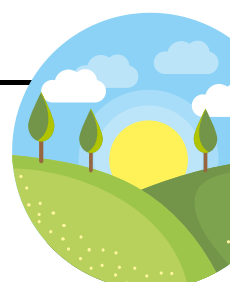
With many of Ledbury's fantastic shops welcoming back residents and preparing for the tourist season, Councillor Knight has been blown away by the community spirit through these challenging times.

Councillor Knight welcomes the new Towns Operative to the Ledbury Town Council team who will be carrying out day to day maintenance throughout the town, including giving the obsolete telephone boxes a new lease of life with a fresh coat of paint. Something to keep an eye out for! The table and chairs under the market house have been very popular and the Council hope to continue this service permanently, especially with summer around the corner. Councillor Knight also reports that the Council are looking at providing more street furniture including benches and litter bins and potentially recycling bins.

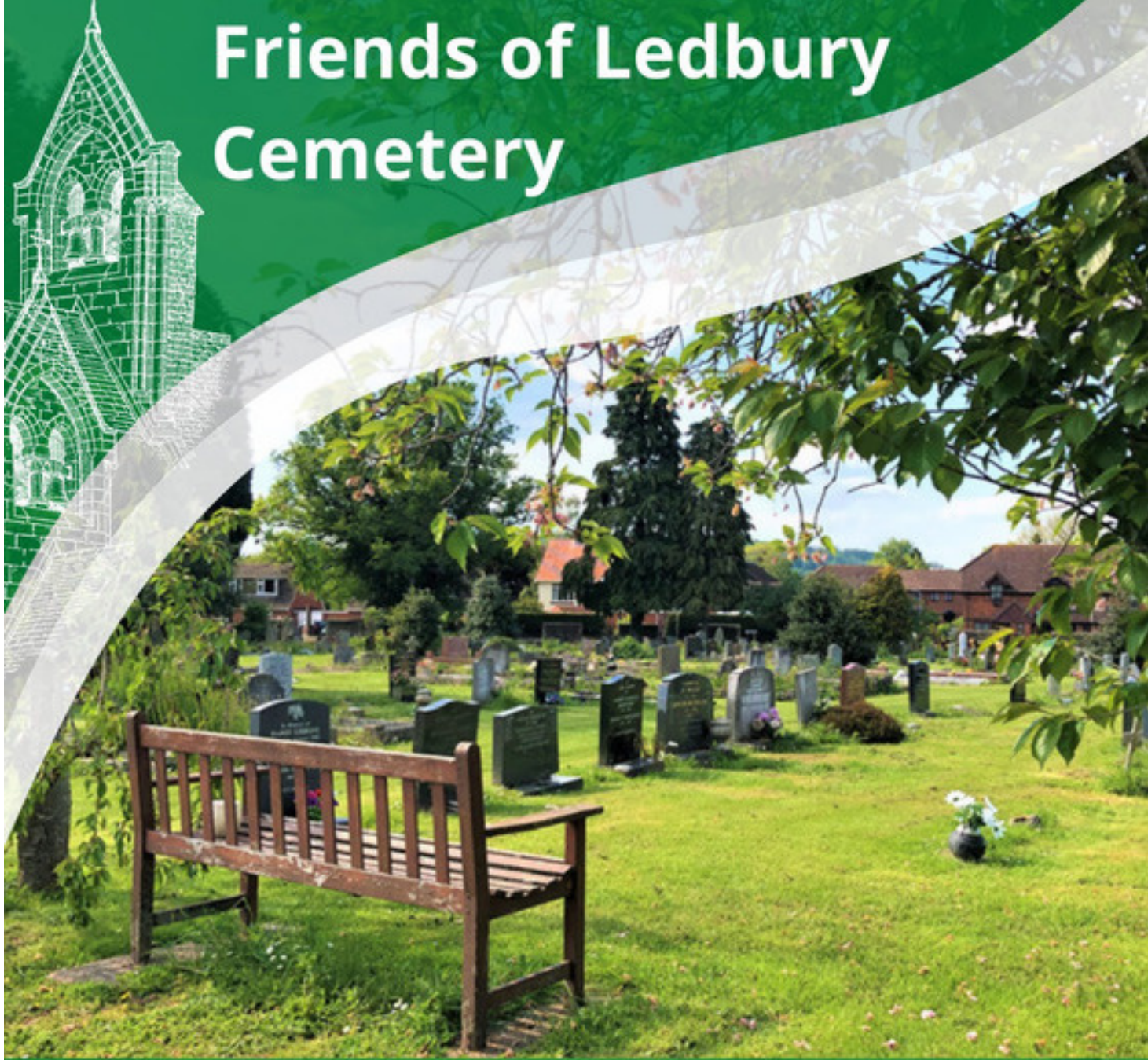
The exterior of the shelter will be painted soon which will complete the shelter revamp. Councillor Knight wanted to especially thank the youth of Ledbury for their fantastic artwork and inspiration.

The Council are hoping to organise a family friendly music event on the Recreation ground this year, Covid-19 permitting, to raise money for the NHS for all of their hard work throughout the pandemic. There will be craft stalls, live music and lots of delicious foods and drinks, a perfect way to end 2021 reports Councillor Knight.

**Councillor Knight, Chair of the Environment and Leisure Committee.**



# Friends of Ledbury Cemetery



## Do you feel passionate about Ledbury Cemetery?

Ledbury Town Council are looking for members to join the Friends of Ledbury Cemetery working party. The group will allow residents and some interested councillors, to meet in their own time to discuss cemetery matters. The council will support the Friends of Ledbury Cemetery group with their ideas and take to council meetings on their behalf.

If you are interested in joining this productive group, please contact the Town Clerk on the following details.

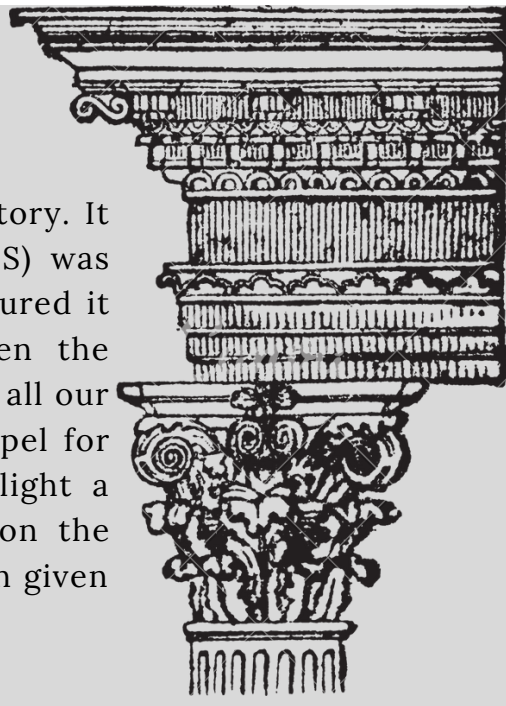
Town Clerk  
[clerk@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk)  
 01531632306

## LEDBURY CEMETERY UPDATES

### LEDBURY CHAPEL- VOTIVE FOR NHS DAY

July 5th 1948 was an historic moment in our country's history. It was the day our pioneering National Health Service (NHS) was born, bringing free healthcare to everyone. We have treasured it ever since, but never more so since March 2020 when the Coronavirus pandemic gripped the UK and utterly changed all our lives. Ledbury Town Council have agreed to open the chapel for NHS Day, lockdown permitting, for those who wish to light a candle for the NHS. More information will be updated on the Town Council's Facebook and Website once advice has been given by the Government.

<https://bit.ly/3vLKfjQ>



# Ledbury Town Council NDP

Ledbury Town Council wants to hear your views on the future of our neighbourhood

In mid-June all residents of Ledbury Parish will receive a questionnaire and leaflet asking for their views on how the town should develop over the next few years.

The purpose is a public consultation on a partial revision of Ledbury's Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP), limited to a small number of topics which were not fully covered in the existing plan. A key question will be whether there should be a settlement boundary and where it should be. A settlement boundary can direct development to those areas where local people would like to see development happen.

Residents are being asked for their views on where new employment and sports facilities should be located and how the town centre should change. We also want to know what people think about the countryside around Ledbury, the green spaces within the town and whether the plan should have policies to protect and increase biodiversity and wildlife.

Everyone 16 or over is invited to respond, preferably online (see the Council's NDP website for the link), but also in paper form for those without internet access.

We would also like residents to tell us about the views and landscape they love in the neighbourhood by sending us photographs with some words about why the view or landscape matters to them. Submissions should be sent to the Town Council, preferably by email to [clerk@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk) or by post to Ledbury Town Council Offices, Church Street, Ledbury, HR8 1DH. Submissions should reach the Council by Wednesday 30th June.

**Councillor Phillip Howells**  
 Chair of the NDP

## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL MARKET



The Charter Market, run by the Town Council, is a twice-weekly retail market held in the Ledbury High Street and under the Market House. The market is held every Tuesday and Saturday, except on a Tuesday in October due to the annual Mop Fair).

The historical market has run since 1584 in Ledbury and comprises of approximately 12 stalls. We offer one stall free to charities.

The market offers a wide range of produce including food (meat, fish, fruit and vegetables, cheese, bread, cakes) and clothes, shoes, bags, jewellery, watches, Flowers, and plants.

### How to apply

If you are thinking of having a stall with us, please contact us for an application form, seasonal and regular traders and charities welcome.

Market stall enquires to the Town Council Offices. Telephone 01531 632306 or Email [reception@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:reception@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk). Your details will then be logged and someone will contact you to discuss your application.



## 16TH CENTURY PAINTED ROOM

We had hoped to be allowed to re-open the 16th Century Painted Room on the 12th of April when government guidelines allowed the re-opening of retail, but sadly were not permitted to do so until the 17th of May. In the meantime we decided to set up temporary information boards about the history of Ledbury under the Market House, so that visitors to the town who were unable to access any of the historic buildings, would have some of the town's history available to read about. Since re-opening a fortnight ago our visitor numbers have been steadily growing after a rather quiet start during the first week! As ever, it varies enormously day to day. We are also pleased to see that more visitors are now carrying cash instead of contactless cards only, which means that sales and donations have been much better this year so far than during 2020.

We are continuing to operate under the same Covid-19 safe system that we put in place last July. Visitors enter through the first door on the left in Church Lane, where we take track and trace contact details, or they register on the NHS app. There is a waiting area with information boards about the Market House. Tours of the wall paintings are every 15 minutes from 11.00a.m. to 1.00p.m. and 2.00p.m. to 4.00p.m. Monday to Thursday and Saturdays. You can just turn up and wait for the next available tour or book ahead by contacting [tourguides@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:tourguides@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk). Numbers are currently limited to 10 per group. Masks are required unless you are exempt. To help us maintain social distancing, visitors are leaving via the back door onto Church Street. We are currently unable to offer tours of the Market House but hope to resume these on request if the regulations are lifted on 21st June as we all hope. We are currently looking for a Saturday tour guide or assistant. For details see elsewhere in the newsletter or on the council website.

We have a range of souvenir items that you might like to consider as gifts, including postcards, china mugs, bags etc. Do come and take a look, our range is currently on display in the Town Council Office window.

We look forward to welcoming all our visitors, old and new, during the season. Entry is free, but please remember that we rely heavily on donations and take cash only and do not have card facilities.



Sample of gifts that you can purchase from the 16th Century painted Room.

## DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Closing date for applications Friday, 18 June 2021  
Interviews will be held during the week commencing 5 July 2021

Ledbury Town Council is seeking to appoint a highly motivated forward-thinking individual to support the Town Clerk in the development, promotion and implementation of the Council's policies, strategic plans, and services.

The successful candidate will have or be prepared to obtain the CiLCA qualification and have experience of line management, project management skills and budget, financial planning knowledge and a reasonable knowledge of local government law and procedures would be beneficial.

Attendance at evening meetings will be required along with occasional weekends. The post is 37 hours a week with a salary grade SCP 24-28 (£28,672 - £32,234) dependent on qualifications together with membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Email: [reception@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:reception@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk) or phone 01531632306.  
For an informal discussion about the post contact:  
Angela Price, Town Clerk on 01531 632306

## ACCOUNTS/BURIAL CLERK

Closing date for applications Friday, 18 June 2021  
Interviews will be held during the week commencing 5 July 2021

Ledbury Town Council is seeking to appoint an Accounts/Burial Clerk to support the Town Clerk(RFO) in managing the Council's accounts workflow.

Duties will include maintaining the Council's accounts on RBS Omega accounts package (training will be given), preparing and providing accounting reports for submission to council meetings, payment of invoices and preparation of invoices for council services, and to support the Deputy Clerk in all aspects of cemetery administration to ensure the smooth operation of the cemetery and associated services.

AAT or ACCA qualification and Knowledge of Local Government Finance and Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) would be beneficial.

The post is 30 hours a week with a salary grade SCP 13-17 (£22,627-£24,491 pro-rata) with membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Email: [reception@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:reception@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk) or phone 01531632306.  
For an informal discussion about the post contact:  
Angela Price, Town Clerk on 10531 632306

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

(Temp - Perm) Closing date for applications Friday, 18 June 2021  
Interviews will be held during the week commencing 5 July 2021

The Administrative Assistant is a key role within Ledbury Town Council, often being the first point of contact for the public. They will be required to provide administrative support to the Clerk and Deputy Clerk, as well as other members of the Council team, including councillors on a variety of administrative tasks and other projects.

The post is a temporary position for 12 months, which will hopefully become permanent after that time. It is 37 hours a week with a salary grade SCP 7-12 (£20,092-£22,183 pro-rata) with membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Email: [reception@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:reception@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk) or phone 01531632306.  
For an informal discussion about the post contact:  
Angela Price, Town Clerk on 01531 632306

## TOUR GUIDE ASSISTANT - 16TH CENTURY PAINTED ROOM

We are currently looking for someone to assist the tour guides at the 16th Century Painted Room on Saturdays and bank holidays for 4 hours a day, until the end of October. Additional weekday hours may be available through the summer.

The role will consist primarily of welcoming visitors, so a cheerful and welcoming disposition is essential. The successful applicant will also be required to sell and record the sale of souvenir items and to record visitor numbers. Computer literacy would be useful, but not essential. The opportunity also exists for the right candidate to train as a tour guide. Minimum wage, Immediate start.

Contact reception at Ledbury Town Council for details  
Tel: 01531 632306  
Email: [reception@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:reception@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk)

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT THE BUTCHER ROW HOUSE MUSEUM



## Are you interested in the History of Ledbury?

Butcher Row House Museum has a fantastic opportunity to join their team as a volunteer. There is an opening for volunteers to help with viewings of the museum, all training given, and no experience needed!

Butcher Row House Museum features many items of local interest including reproduction helmets and breastplates that would have been worn in the Battle of Ledbury in 1645 and a small collection of musical instruments ranging from a 'hurdy-gurdy' to a Tibetan pipe fashioned from a thigh bone.

This is a great opportunity for those who love to meet new people and jump into the history of our wonderful market town.

For more information please contact:  
Andy Tector : Email [chair@ledburycivicsociety.org](mailto:chair@ledburycivicsociety.org)

## Ledbury Food Bank - Here to Help



**If you are struggling to feed yourself or your family we are here to help.**

Ledbury Food bank is open every Wednesday and Friday between 10.00 and 12.00 at St Katherine's Hall. You do not need to be referred to us, just turn up and we will do the rest.

If you need to contact us please call us (during our opening hours) on 07581283092 or email us at [food@ledburyfoodbank.org](mailto:food@ledburyfoodbank.org)

**ARE YOU USING OR NEEDING A CAR ONLY 2 OR 3 TIMES A WEEK? THEN YOU CAN HALVE YOUR COSTS, MOST MEMBERS SAVE MUCH MORE**

**A CAR WITHOUT HASSLE, NO TAX, INSURANCE, DEPRECIATION, OR REPAIR BILLS**

**A CLUB RUN BY VOLUNTEER MEMBERS FOR MEMBERS**



[malvern hills-carclubs.org.uk](http://malvern hills-carclubs.org.uk)  
01684 540284

## TOUR GUIDE - 16TH CENTURY PAINTED ROOM

National Minimum Wage  
9 hrs a week (Saturdays and one weekday - to be arranged)  
May to the end of October.

We are looking for a tour guide to help us to cover our opening hours from May to the end of October.

Hours of work will be Saturday and one other weekday (to be arranged) 11.00 A.M. to 4.00P.M. to include a one-hour unpaid lunch break.  
Current opening hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, 10:45 A.M. to 4.15 P.M.

There may be some additional hours available to cover holidays etc.  
We offer bookings for coach parties and School Activity Days out of normal opening hours and help with these will also be required.

Please mention any previous presentation experience and professional or amateur theatre work. The guides will be dealing with the public so we are looking for someone with an outgoing, friendly demeanour who will be welcoming to visitors. The job would suit an articulate person with presentation skills and good general historical knowledge.

The guide will be responsible for showing visitors around two historic sites in Ledbury. The primary site is the 16th Century Painted Room in the Town Council Offices in Church Lane, where the guides are based. The secondary site is the Market House which the guides take visitors to see by request. Full training will be given.

Email: [reception@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:reception@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk) or phone 01531632306.  
For an informal discussion about the post contact:  
Angela Price, Town Clerk on 01531 632306

# LET US TACKLE LONELINESS, TOGETHER!

## Pop up Seating Area under the Market House

On April 12, 2021, Ledbury Town Council set up its first 'pop up seating area' under the Market House. The idea was to provide a seating area for residents and visitors to enjoy a takeaway coffee or lunch from Ledbury's fabulous cafes and restaurants, while maintaining social distancing.

Councillors and Staff at Ledbury Town Council are delighted with how popular the outdoor seating has been, particularly as the warm weather and sun make a most certainly welcomed appearance.

After much discussion, the Council are looking into developing the outdoor seating to benefit the community further, like schemes to tackle loneliness in Ledbury. One idea is something we like to call 'friends' hour', where people can share tables and make new acquaintances. This could mean a lot to somebody who has been self-isolating alone for the past year.

The Council are also grateful for those who take advantage of the seating area and keep it clean for the next user.

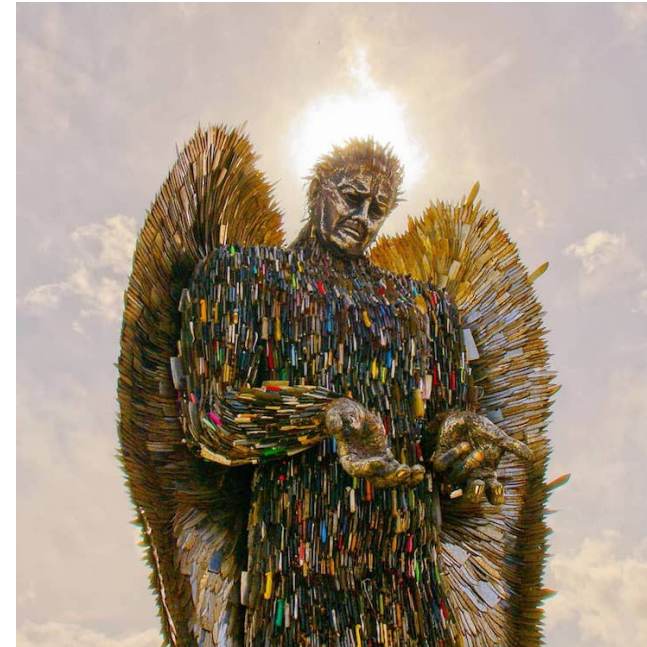
The seating area will be under the Market House every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9:30am to 3:00pm. Keep an eye out for our hanging baskets around the Market House, they should be delivered soon.



# THE KNIFE ANGEL - HEREFORD

## Knife Angel Visit to Hereford Cathedral - 14 June to 12 July

The Knife Angel will be situated outside the West End of Hereford Cathedral from 14 June to 12 July. The sculpture is 27ft tall, it weighs 3.5 ton and is made out of 100,000 confiscated knives received from 43 Police Forces across the UK. It originated from The British Ironwork Centre in Oswestry and took sculptor Alfie Bradley over two years to construct. It has been on tour round the UK and has become a national monument against violence and aggression in all its forms. Not only does the Angel act as a catalyst for turning the tide on violent and aggressive behaviour, but it is also acts as a beautiful memorial designed to celebrate those lives who have been lost through these violent and thoughtless actions.



Inside both the cathedral and Hereford Library, there will be boards displaying work carried out in response to the Knife Angel by children and young people. The project team will also share work via social media. Hereford City Youth Council have also arranged a series of workshop events throughout the month including creative arts and self-defence coaching.

The knife angel creators would like as many young people as possible to become anti-violence champions and have created an anti-violence certificate as a thank you to all young people who stand up to violence. There will be printed copies of the certificate available at the Knife Angel for those who visit.

For more information please visit the Knife Angel Hereford website: [www.knifeangelhereford.co.uk](http://www.knifeangelhereford.co.uk)

# LEST WE FORGET

## LEDBURY HONOURS ITS DEAD HEROES

### ARMED FORCES WEEK - LEDBURY'S WAR MEMORIALS

The raising of the union flag will take place on Monday, 21st June at 11:00am to commemorate the service of men and women in the British Armed Forces. There will also be information boards displayed under the Market House on Monday 21st June and continued through the week, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. The displays are full of information on the War Memorials in Ledbury, by Jennifer Harrison, with the support of Ledbury Town Council, Joined-Up Heritage Ledbury, and the Heritage Lottery Fund. The display boards are also available in booklet form to take away.

Copies of the booklet were due to be distributed in May 2020, to coincide with an exhibition in St Michael's Church and the re-dedication of the refurbished War Memorial on VE Day75.

Covid 19 prevented this happening, so the Town Council is pleased to present this small display as Ledbury's contribution to Armed Forces Week 2021.

An extra board is included to celebrate Stuart Heaton's donation which funded the refurbishment in 2020.

Copies of the booklet are available free from Ledbury Town Council Offices or Ledbury News

