

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN EDITION



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THE MAYORS UPDATE

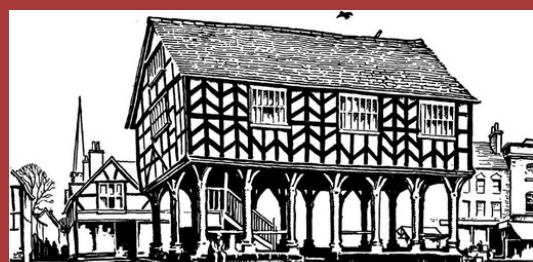
COMMITTEE UPDATES

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LEDBURY FOOD BANK



THE MAYORS UPDATE

Summer is coming to an end, and as I write this in the middle of this heat wave, it feels that it is just beginning, we have all gone topsy-turvey!

Ledbury has been busy over the last few months, and it was great to see so many happy faces at the Carnival on Bank Holiday Monday as I rode in the procession in my 'Mayormobile' courtesy of Ledbury Pet Co. A big thankyou to the Carnival organising committee.

I have been to Civic events in Ludlow, Evesham, Hereford and Little Hereford, as well as enjoying our Community Choir's 'Night at the Musicals', Stromstad twinning dinner at the Talbot (Very good Swedish food), Deer Park Care Home's vintage tea party, U3A anniversary tea and Leaf activity day at the Rec, to name but a few. Our service to commemorate 70 years since the ending of the Korean war was very well attended. We are excited to welcome the Commander and crew of HMS Ledbury when they come to visit Ledbury at the end of September, and I look forward to seeing lots of people at the Fika (Stromstad twinning) coffee morning on Saturday, 23rd September at the Talbot.

My Civic Service takes place on 1st October at St. Michael's church. Everyone is invited. We are receiving lots of lovely raffle prizes from our wonderful shops which will help raise money for my chosen charities Megan Baker House and Close House Youth Project.

I have just read Ledbury's winning score against Droitwich at the start of the new season, 54 /0. That is what I call a result! Please look out for details of a mega Ledbury event, coming shortly



**Councillor Helen l'Anson
Town Mayor**





Everyone is pleased to see work progressing on the War Memorial, and the Council is confident it will be ready in plenty of time for the Remembrance ceremonies in November. The ‘restoration’ carried out during the pandemic was a sorry episode, but we shall have a worthy memorial for years to come when the present works are completed.

Repairs to the roof and to some of the plasterwork on the Market House will soon be in hand. This building is the heart of our town, and every effort will be made to maintain its fabric and improve accessibility for future generations.

The Council has been glad to be associated with the launch of the Daffodil Line bus service linking us with Ross-on-Wye and several intermediate communities. It has proved popular in the summer months, and the one-hour route is full of interesting rural views. It’s very inexpensive, and worth every penny for a dramatic ride.

Councillor Stephen Chowns.



Finance, Policy & General Purpose

The purposes of the Finance, Policy and General Purposes Committee is to monitor the administration of the Council’s accounts; to scrutinise all expenditure; and to receive, review and approve all of the Council’s policies and procedures.

Our current work includes determining applications for financial assistance through the grants process; making in-year decisions to authorise orders, payments and contracts; investigating recovery of monies due to the Council; approving policies recommended from other committees or officers; and make a recommendation concerning the levying of precepts by the Town Council.

We never forget that it is the money of the people of Ledbury that we are spending and that every penny must be directed to fulfilling our collective responsibility to improve the amenities and services; improvements to the infrastructure and appearance of the town, including facilities for residents and visitors. We aim to work with our many vibrant local groups and associations to ensure that new and improved services and amenities are in keeping with everything that makes Ledbury a great place to live.

You may have views on how Ledbury can grow and develop sustainably, whilst conserving what is best. You can find my contact details on the Ledbury Town Council website and I welcome you emailing me with your insights and opinions.

Councillor Mal Hughes - Chair



Neighbourhood Crime Fighting Teams are keeping your streets safe

Delivery on calls for a more visible and accessible police force, Police and Crime Commissioner, John Campion has funded 55 officers to be recruited across five Neighbourhood Crime Fighting Teams (NCFTs) across the force area - with a sergeant leading a team of constables - in each of the Local Policing Areas (LPAs).

The NCFTs will be working hard to keep persistent offenders off the streets and reduce levels of high impact crimes such as anti-social behaviour, drugs, major thefts, and criminal damage.

South Worcestershire and Shropshire are both leading the way with the new teams in place now and already supporting the important work of our Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs), Problem Solving Teams, Roads Policing, Proactive Teams and, of course, the wider force.

The teams for Herefordshire, North Worcestershire and Telford will be in place from September.

PCC John Campion said: “I am delighted to see two new Neighbourhood Crime Fighting Teams already serving the communities of South Worcestershire and Shropshire, with three more to follow in September covering the whole of West Mercia.

“Following my investment which has seen officer numbers reaching record levels in West Mercia, these first-of-a-kind teams in West Mercia will be fast-responsive units working in the heart of communities tackling the issues that matter to you.

“The teams are another example of my commitment to listen and deliver on your calls for more visible and accessible police officers, as I continue to ensure your police force has the resources and tools it needs to deliver a more secure West Mercia, as set out in my Safer West Mercia Plan.”

CALENDAR DATES NOT TO MISS AUTUMN 2023



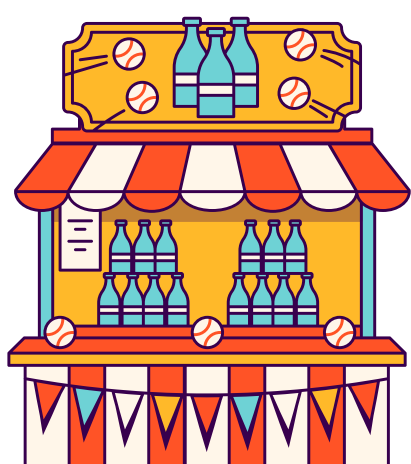
Ledbury Town Council

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



SEPTEMBER

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS - 8 SEPTEMBER - 17 SEPTEMBER
THREE SHIRES CAR RALLY - 16 SEPTEMBER
MAYOR'S COFFEE MORNING, TALBOT HOTEL - 23 SEPTEMBER
COMMUNITY LITTER PICK - 29 SEPTEMBER
MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING - 29 SEPTEMBER



OCTOBER

MAYOR'S CIVIC EVENT - 1 OCTOBER
OCTOBER FUNFAIR - 9-10 OCTOBER
BIG APPLE - 14- 15 OCTOBER



NOVEMBER

PUMPKIN CARVING - 1 NOVEMBER
REMEMBRANCE DAY - 11 NOVEMBER
REMEMBRANCE PARADE - 12 NOVEMBER
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON EVENT & MARKET - 26 NOVEMBER

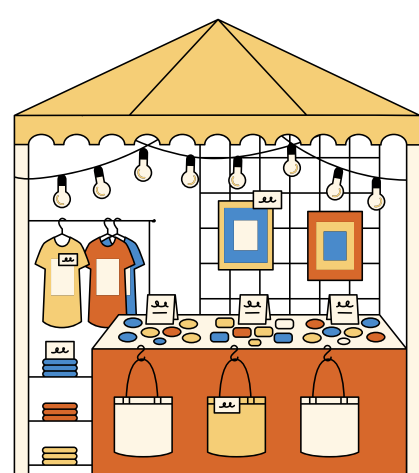


DECEMBER

LATE NIGHT SHOPPING - 1 DECEMBER
MAYOR'S COFFEE MORNING - 1 DECEMBER
FREE CAR PARKING - 2 DECEMBER
CAROL SERVICE - 10 DECEMBER
CANDLE LIGHTING - 17 DECEMBER



LEDBURY FOOD BANK - 10AM-12PM WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS
6PM - 8PM THURSDAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



Details of events can be found on our website www.ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Heritage Open Days 2023



Heritage Open Days will be taking place across the country, September 8th- 17th 2023. Here in Ledbury, we have tried to co-ordinate the openings across the second weekend from Friday 15th to Sunday 17th. Hopefully this will enable visitors to plan their visit on a day when most things are open.

Ledbury Town Council will be opening the 16th Century Painted Room, the Market House, the Cemetery Chapel on the Ross Road with various activities taking place. Also, for the first time we will be making our copy of the Domesday Book available to view in the Jacobean Room.

Other buildings opening in Ledbury during HODs include the Butcher Row House Museum, the Heritage Centre (Old Grammar School), The Master's House, the Burgage Hall and the Poetry House. There are some special events taking place including live Medieval Music and Timequest in the Market House, a Repair Workshop in the Heritage Centre and tours of the Master's House and the Poetry House. Hot drinks and cakes will be available in the Burgage Hall. In addition, a few miles outside Ledbury, Eastnor Castle will be open on Thursday, 14th September for tours.

Please see the HODs website for full details as some tours and activities must be pre-booked and have limited spaces. Alternatively call in to Reception at Ledbury Town Council where leaflets will be available detailing all the opening times and activities, with a map to show you where everything is.



Save the Date
The Mayor of Ledbury,
Councillor Helen I'Anson
invites you and your guest
to join her at the

LEDBURY Civic Service

SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2023
ARRIVAL FROM 2:00PM
SERVICE 2:30PM
St Michael & All Angels Church,
Ledbury, HR8 1DL
Refreshments will be served in
the Burgage Hall after the service
Please RSVP to
reception@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Fika!



It's Fika TIME!

'Ska Vi Ha Fika' - Shall we have coffee?

Fika is a concept, a state of mind, an attitude and an important part of Swedish culture. Fika means making time for friends and colleagues to share a cup of coffee or tea and a little something to eat.

The Mayor of Ledbury and the Ledbury & Strömstad Twinning Association are putting on a Swedish themed coffee morning for all to enjoy. This is being kindly funded by the Talbot Hotel which is the home of 'Little Strömstad'.

There will be a raffle on the day with the chance to win a Swedish hamper! All donations will be split between the Twinning Association and the Mayor's two chosen charities, Megan Baker House & Close House.

Come and join us for Fika!
SATURDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER 2023
10:30AM - 12:00 NOON
TALBOT HOTEL, NEW STREET,
LEDBURY, HR8 2DX

Logos: CLOSE HOUSE YOUTH PROJECTS, MBH Megan Baker House, LEDBURY TWINNING ASSOCIATION, Ledbury Town Council

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER
2pm - 6pm

Christmas LIGHT SWITCH ON & MARKET

FOOD - ENTERTAINMENT - GIFTS
MUSIC - FUNFAIR RIDES

Grotto open 1pm - 4.30pm

Free Entrance
@Ledbury High Street &
St Katherine's Car Park

Free crafts in St Katherine's Hall

For full details see www.ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Christmas Lights Event Schedule

Sunday, 26 November 2023

- 2.00pm Event Launch - Town Crier/Elves (walkabout)
- 2.10pm The Acro Chaps
- 2.45pm Mirror Ball
- 3.30pm The Acro Chaps
- 4.15pm Brass Band & Ledbury Community Choir and Carols
- under the Market House
- 5.00pm Light Switch On - Ledbury Mayor, Carnival Princesses, Father Christmas and Acro Chaps turn on the Christmas lights
- 5.05pm Ledbury Morris - performance in Arena

Father Christmas will be available in the Grotto from 1pm until 2pm for walk in appointments

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

VISIT FATHER CHRISTMAS

26 NOVEMBER 2023

Grotto open from 1pm to 2pm for walk in visits
From 2pm to 4.30pm by appointment
£2 per child - gift for every child
tickets from Ledbury Town Council Offices
01531 632306 or admin@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk



LEDBURY CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION

The annual Ledbury Carnival took place, as always, on August Bank Holiday Monday. We were blessed with good weather, dry and warm with a little sunshine.

The theme was Countryside Fun. The event commenced with a colourful street procession, wending its way from the Rugby Club, through Town and finishing at Ledbury Primary School. There were large floats, smaller vehicles, walking groups, dancers, Ledbury Fire Services etc. We were delighted to welcome some new groups, local schools, the So Xsighted Visually Impaired Morris Dancers, mobility scooters and wheelchairs, Weston's Dray, the Ploughing Society, all adding to the colour and excitement of the day. The route was lined with local residents and visitors all out to enjoy one of the last days of summer.

In the Town, The Forfeits and Front Runner were playing from the stage, Cool Moves Jive Group were dancing in The Homend, a variety of trade and voluntary organisations were in the High Street and Rowlands Fair in Bye Street. In St Katherine's Car Park there was free of charge entertainment for the children, with Razamatazz Magician, DJ Chris, Kids' Kitchen, Make With Kate and a tombola. Under the Market House was Looby Lou Face Painter and Joey the Juggler, who come back to Carnival every year.



Ledbury Strömstad Twinning Association

The Association continues to build on the links with our Twin Town, Strömstad on the west coast of Sweden. The Towns were formally twinned in April 2000 and marked over 20 years of friendship in July 2022, with celebrations on both sides of the North Sea.

Our main focus is the sharing of friendship, culture, and special interests such as music and sport with the emphasis on young people. We are pleased to report that Strömstad now have a committee similar to the one in Ledbury with representation from music, education, sport etc. They meet regularly with the Strömstad Kommun who have always been supportive of the initiatives between our two towns. The Committee in Ledbury meet regularly and updates are shared between the two groups. The Ledbury Committee has a Facebook page and produces regular newsletters for members.

We organise various social events each year. In March we held our annual quiz, at the British Legion Club in Ledbury, in June we held a very enjoyable Smörgåsbord evening at the Talbot Hotel.

The Talbot Hotel is the home of our 'Twinning' in Ledbury, the back bar is affectionately known as 'Little Strömstad, named so by one of the first Swedish Choirs to visit Ledbury. There are lots of photos, memorabilia etc.

At the end of July, Ledbury Swifts Under 16 Boys returned to Strömstad to play in matches against other Swedish/Norwegian teams. The Swifts boys/girls have been going to Strömstad to play on an annual basis since 2000 and are the Association's greatest and most consistent ambassadors. As always the Swifts received a wonderful welcome in Strömstad. Three matches were played, the Swifts won a match, lost one and won the Ledbury Cup, the latter played against IFK Strömstad. There was also a match between the coaches of Ledbury Swifts and IFK Strömstad. A big thank you to IFK Strömstad for hosting the Ledbury team, coaches, and parents.

Over the years the Association has supported visits to Strömstad by the Swifts, various music groups etc and hosted music groups, schools, Rotary etc. in return. Part of our role is to support visits and put groups in contact with partner groups in Strömstad. All part of promoting social, cultural, and general understanding between our two communities.

The Association participated with a decorated car in the Carnival Procession and a stall, offering fun and games to children and adults.

Plans for the future include a Swedish style Coffee Morning 'Ska Vi Ha Fika' at

The Talbot Hotel, on Saturday 23 September 10.30 am – 12.00 noon. Fika is a great Swedish social institution.

We will be contacting local schools and other community groups, to offer talks about the Twinning with Strömstad that highlight Swedish traditions etc.

In Spring 2024 a music collaboration is planned between singers from a Ledbury group and also from Strömstad. More details to follow.

For further information contact The Secretary: Jill.jupp@hotmail.co.uk



Community Speed Watch is coming to Ledbury. Ledbury Town Council have voted to support a local Community Speed Watch scheme in Ledbury. Community Speed Watch (CSW) schemes are coordinated by the police but managed and run by volunteers in the community. The scheme enables local people to take an active role in road safety and make our community safer.

The aim of CSW is to encourage motorists to drive at a safe and appropriate speed, reduce speed in areas of concern such as near schools, re-educate drivers about the dangers of speeding and address concerns from local residents about cars speeding through their neighbourhood.

At specified safe locations, volunteers monitor the speed of passing vehicles with a handheld speed detection device. Offending vehicles’ details are recorded on a log sheet, the make/model and registration number of the vehicle and the speed recorded by the handheld device. Log sheets are submitted to West Mercia Police and warning letters are sent to the registered keepers with advice on safer driving. Before a scheme can be established Ledbury, we will need to recruit a Co-ordinator and at least six volunteers. Schemes are open to anyone aged 17 or over. Volunteers will only be accepted onto a scheme once appropriate checks have been carried out. We currently have four volunteers including a volunteer co-ordinator but cannot move forward to help protect our children and senior citizens until more volunteers come forward.

If you would like any further information at this early stage, please email Councillor Mal Hughes on mhughes@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillor Mal Hughes
Police Liaison Councillor
Ledbury Town Council



LOCALLY ENCOURAGING ALL TO FLOURISH (LEAF) SUMMER AND AUTUMN EVENTS 2023

LEAF had organised two family fun events on the Recreation Ground for this summer, sadly the one on Saturday 22 July had to be cancelled owing to wet weather.

Saturday 19 August, however, was blessed with beautiful weather and was a lovely family fun event. Well over a 100 children and adults attended, enjoying crafts and games ranging from bunting decorating, Becky’s nature crafts, glitter tattoos, football scoring, cascades etc. The event was supported by over 40 volunteers from around the churches in Ledbury. The Maritime cadets also attended and gave their support and entertainment was provided by ‘SoXsighted’ the Visually Impaired Morris Dancers, providing further colour and action to the event. A BBQ lunch was provided, followed by delicious homemade cakes and tea later in the afternoon

Further planned events include:

‘Fun in the Forest’ Saturday 23 September 2023 10.30 am – 12.30 pm Forest School by Ledbury Primary School

‘Light Party’ (Alternative Halloween) Sunday 29 October 2023
3.00 – 6.00 pm St Michael and All Angels Parish Church
Advent Party Sunday 3 December 2023 2.30 – 5.00 pm – Venue TBC

Nativity Festival Saturday 9 December 2023 Ledbury Methodist Church

For more information contact Mary Anne Keyes makeyes25@hotmail.com

LEAF is a local charity dedicated to supporting the well-being of people in Ledbury and the surrounding areas. Its focus is on those in need, improving people’s welfare and allowing all to flourish. It has three main strands:

- Physical health
- Emotional and mental health
- Spiritual health

[Well-being.I.LEAF.I.Ledbury\(leafledbury.com\)](http://Well-being.I.LEAF.I.Ledbury(leafledbury.com)) leafledbury@gmail.com



FRIENDS OF LEDBURY CHILDREN’S CENTRE

The Friends of Ledbury Children’s Centre run play sessions at Ledbury Children’s Centre for families with under-fives. During the holidays older siblings may accompany. Places at sessions need to be booked by contacting Becky on 07939 840315 or Jill 07531 31199.

Sessions run on a Wednesday and Friday afternoons 1.30 – 3.30 pm. They offer lots of play and fun, in small groups, with crafts, messy play, stories, songs etc. The sessions are run ‘free flow’ so that children can play indoors and outdoors. Parents and children playing together is a big part of our sessions with the emphasis on outdoor fun. Wellies etc. can be provided. Drinks and healthy snacks are included.

Come rain or shine we have fun digging in the garden, watering, growing, mark making, exploring in a safe and friendly space. All of what we do is based on learning through play and having fun, letting children follow their interests in a safe way.

During the summer holidays we ran some special ‘Fun in the Forest’ sessions’ which catered for older siblings as well. The sessions included den building, mud kitchen, art and craft, tools, fire lighting, cooking, stories and songs etc. Drinks and healthy snack were included. Becky who ran these sessions is a trained Forest School Lead. The sessions were funded by Herefordshire Community Foundation and there will also be one at the autumn half term and the Christmas holiday.

The Friends have a Facebook page which is updated weekly with our activities and other related information. Sessions are free of charge but a voluntary contribution of £1.50 per family is very welcome for the regular weekly sessions.

The Friends would welcome new volunteers to help in their sessions. This is not an onerous commitment and would involve helping in one of our Play Sessions, Wednesday or Friday afternoon, once a month. The sessions are small, friendly and supportive. Activities would involve engaging with families, supporting play with children, helping to set up the sessions etc. Our team of volunteers is friendly and supportive and the sessions are fun. This opportunity may suit a grandparent or semi-retired person.

For further information contact Becky on 07939 840315 or Jill 07531 311991. Come and have fun.



Ledbury Food Bank - Here to Help



Ledbury Food bank has experienced an unprecedented increase in demand for its services this year and had exceeded the number of visitors it had in 2021 by the end of September.

In addition to providing emergency food parcels visitors can access advice on benefits, housing and debt problems and has recently been awarded almost £25,000 form the government’s Household Support Fund which will be used to provide additional support to Herefordshire residents.

The food bank is open each Wednesday and Friday morning between 10.00am and 12.00pm and Thursday evening between 6.00pm and 8.00pm. If you are in need of support please just turn up when the food bank is open, no referral is needed.

Alternatively either call the food bank on 07581 283092 during opening hours or send an email to food@ledburyfoodbank.org