





We're now six months into Masefield Matters, and we've certainly been busy! Read more to discover what we've been doing and what we're planning over the summer. Masefield Matters is a National Lottery funded project to promote the life and works of Ledbury's own Poet Laureate, John Masefield.

what Masefield Matters has been doing...

Ledbury Community Day and the Great Big Green Week

Ledbury Community Hub ran two 'Sea-Fever' inspired activities, including making origami boats and exploring the prompt 'what the ocean means to you'. Herefordshire Wildlife Trust ran WildPlay sessions based around 'The Midnight Folk.' In the Great Big Green Week, we ran a Ledbury to Eastnor Walk. Local guide Carl Flint led the walk whilst poet Lesley Ingram shared poems and insights into John Masefield's life relating to Ledbury.



Ledbury Celebration Day

Local poets Stephen and Finn read their favourite John Masefield poems in two 'Masefield Moments' during the programming and talked about what the poems meant to them.



LEAF Woodland Activity

The young people from LEAF Youth Group went to Childer Wood for two activity sessions. These included building a den in the woods, telling stories about John Masefield's life and reading and writing poems. We foraged and made nettle crisps and pizzas over the fire. The young people also tried several traditional greenwood carving techniques to make thumbsticks.

...and what we're planning

Ledbury Carnival

As part of Ledbury Carnival, we plan to run a crafts workshop for children, where they will each make an air-dry clay pot and decorate it using Masefield themed words and pictures. Once the clay dries, each participant will fill it with their very own plant!

Heritage Open Days

The John Masefield Society Archive in the Master's House will be open for Heritage Open Days (12th - 21st September). The archive will be open for drop in sessions where visitors can explore a range of themes through Masefield's works.



Ledbury Foodbank X Red Earth Arts CIC Summer Holiday Activity

These sessions for children will take place every Friday in August. The workshops will use the work of Masefield to inspire creative writing and art. These works will then be combined into a book, along with some information about the project and Masefield. This book will be distributed in the Food Bank and around Ledbury.



Meet the Team

The project is run by Emma, the Project Coordinator, and Isabel, the Project Assistant Intern alongside the Masefield Matters Board. We are also working with Janine and Andrew from Engaging Heritage and A Meredith Associates in gathering ideas for the memorial to Masefield during the public consultation phase. The National Lottery Heritage Fund requires that the project is evaluated as it takes place, which is being done by Steve from Bowles Green. This process assesses the impact of the project and ensures it is achieving its goals.



Instagram @masefield_matters



Website and Blog dburytowncouncil.gov.ul



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