



## Winter Newsletter 2011

### News

### Christmas Opening

CVA Ledbury's office will close at **4pm on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2011** re-opening on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2012**.

Bookings for our Ring & Ride service or Community Minibuses are possible for the period between Christmas and the New Year but please ensure you call us before we close to make arrangements.

Many thanks.

### Amey may be able to help you

As a part of Amey's Herefordshire business strategy to support the local community they are looking at give their apprentices the opportunity to work on a Herefordshire project on a volunteering basis, in order to benefit the community. Engagement with community and citizens is a key part of their business.

We would request your help in identifying suitable projects for them to consider either within your locality, school, charitable organisation or similar. This could be along the lines of gardening/decorating/building etc, or anything else you may consider appropriate or feasible.

Amey currently has 22 apprentices working within their business and they are open to consider all suggestions, using skills, energy and enthusiasm of some or all of their apprentices.

Please let Amey have details of any possibilities which you consider suitable as soon as possible giving as much information as you can.

Suggestions should be sent to: **Rachel Davies at Amey. Unit 3, Thorn Buisness Park, Rotherwas, Hereford HR2 6JT or email [Rachel.davies@amey.co.uk](mailto:Rachel.davies@amey.co.uk)**

## Coneygree Grants

### Two awards made

We are delighted to announce the first two awards from the Coneygree Fund made by Trustees in November of this year.

Putley Darby & Joan Club were awarded £300 by Trustees for a scheme of activities to promote confidence in the members helping to prevent isolation and encourage social contact and Ledbury Evergreen Club were awarded £250 for a Live Music Project.

### 2012 Awards

Are you a local community or voluntary group working with older people?

Are you looking for funding?

We may be able to help.

**For more information please visit:**

[www.voluntaryactionledbury.org.uk/coneygree\\_ledbury\\_community\\_grant](http://www.voluntaryactionledbury.org.uk/coneygree_ledbury_community_grant)

or call Elizabeth Pimblett or Abbie Mason on 01531 635339 for more details.

## Volunteering News

### Independent Age seeks volunteer visitors

Volunteers are assigned to an older person living near to them and the role involves anything from dropping in for coffee and a chat, checking that someone is alright or arranging a trip to the local shops. Some of the older people they help may need more support, others less so. As a volunteer visitor you'll be matched with an older person living near you and you can fit visits around other commitments and responsibilities. Many of their current volunteers visit their member once a fortnight and they do not ask for any more time than you are able and willing to give.

Like to know more?

Contact terry Osborn on 01531 635339 or email [terry@voluntaryactionledbury.org.uk](mailto:terry@voluntaryactionledbury.org.uk)

## Charity Christmas Fair



Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December saw CVA Ledbury hold its annual Charity Christmas Fair at Ledbury Community Hall with local charities and community groups hosting stalls.

The Fair was officially opened by the Mayor of Ledbury, Cllr Allen Conway and his wife, Judy and we are grateful to them both for taking the time to be with us.

Over 300 people visited the event enjoying the many stalls, wide choice of Christmas gifts, tombola, refreshments and more.

The event was only made possible thanks to the support of many willing volunteers from the local community and from our staff and we are grateful to all who contributed to the success of the event.

Thanks to Jean, Liz and Judy who made the delicious cakes, biscuits and flapjacks which were sold on the day and raised £50.

Special thanks go to the 1<sup>st</sup> Ledbury Scouts who helped with the day giving out flyers to publicise the event with us receiving many compliments about how polite and helpful they all were, a real credit to themselves and their leaders.



Sue Herrington our Ring & ride Coordinator who came dressed for the event along with Jane who volunteered.

## 2012 Events

What events like this would you like to see during 2012?

Spring Fair, Summer Fair, another Christmas Fair perhaps?

If there is something that you feel would benefit our local community then please let us know by calling Elizabeth on 01531 635339 or email her [elizabeth@voluntaryactionledbury.org.uk](mailto:elizabeth@voluntaryactionledbury.org.uk)

## Events

### Let's Get Together Event

#### Calling all local charitable organisations, community and voluntary groups

In March of 2012 we are planning an event to bring together as many local charities, community and voluntary groups to look at the services which we, individually and collectively provide. From this we hope to see where there might be gaps in what is provided for local people and also look at how we can assist in making local services sustainable in the long term.

Following this, on the same day, we would also like to open the event to members of the public giving us all the opportunity to 'showcase' what we do and encourage more usage of and support for our services.

For more details please call:

Elizabeth Pimblett on 01531 635339 or email: [elizabeth@voluntaryactionledbury.org.uk](mailto:elizabeth@voluntaryactionledbury.org.uk)  
Abbie Mason on 01531 635339 or email: [abbie@voluntaryactionledbury.org.uk](mailto:abbie@voluntaryactionledbury.org.uk)

## CVA Services

### Ring & Ride

Are you disabled or infirm?

Do you not have access to your own or public transport?

Then Ring & Ride may be able to help you.

We provide a much appreciated service to local residents who can call to book a driver to enable them to have access to the shops, hairdressers, medical appointments and links to rail transport.

**For more information please call us on 01531 635503.**

## Shopmobility Centre

CVA Ledbury's Shopmobility Centre, which operates from St. Katherine's Car Park in the town centre, provides, for short or long term use, electric scooters, manual and powered wheelchairs, walkers and other disability aids for both local people and visitors to Ledbury and District who need mobility aids.

Thanks to some willing volunteers the Centre has recently had a mini makeover with new paint and cleaning helping to improve the appearance of the building which is scheduled for refurbishment in the near future.

**We are seeking more volunteers to help man the centre - For more information call Sue on 01531 636333.**



## Team News



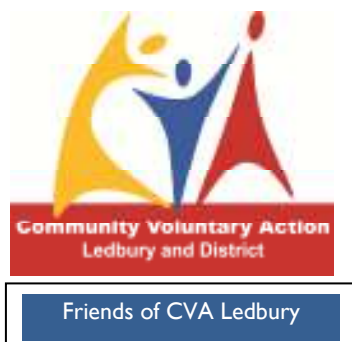
**May we wish you all a Joyous Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year**

**Best wishes**

**Tess, Jane, Sue, Elizabeth, Abbie and Terry**

## Growing Groups

### Friends of CVA Ledbury



We, in common with many charities, community and voluntary groups have been through a year of many changes particularly in respect of our funding and we are seeking to develop a Friends of CVA Ledbury Group to help us raise funds in ways which we previously have not such as events.

Do you know anyone who could help us to form this new group and work alongside our staff and Trustees to ensure that we are able to continue to make a positive difference to the lives of rural people?

If you can help then please give Terry Osborn a call on 01531 635339.

### Sharing gardening space.

Ledbury is lucky to have older properties with large gardens, but there are more modern ones and flats which may not come with the potential to grow vegetables! If you have space but not the time to garden the whole plot, or if you'd like to grow food for your table but don't have the land, you can sign up with Transition Hereford's Gardenshare scheme. This carefully matches people with unused land with those who want to borrow it and maintain an area. They have some people from Ledbury on their books already but they need more to get the scheme 'off the ground' in our area. To sign up or to find out more, contact [gardensharehereford@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gardensharehereford@hotmail.co.uk) or call their contact person, **Charlotte on 01432 343577** who will take a few details and get one of the GardenShare team to call you back. **Please be prepared to leave a message if no reply!**

## Contact us

To receive this newsletter by email or to submit items for this newsletter please email [terry@voluntaryactionledbury.org.uk](mailto:terry@voluntaryactionledbury.org.uk) or call 01531 635339