



Newsletter

23 November 2023

Fun, free activities for the family this winter (WoW)

Through our [Winter of Wellbeing \(WoW\) grant](#), organisations across Herefordshire are holding fun and free activities for families in a warm space during the winter months!

From family cooking sessions in Leominster, badminton in Ross-on-Wye, to family tea in Kington (with Nana and Grandpa) and films and forest school crafts in Hereford.

All events include free hot food and drinks (we've spotted warming soup and hot chocolate), and families will be able to access information and advice to support them around the cost of living.

For information about the different activities taking place, visit the [WoW page on the Talk Community Directory](#).



The Winter of Wellbeing programme is supported by the Household Support Fund with funding from the Department for Work and Pensions.

Here for Herefordshire Holidays

Free Christmas activities for children are back (yay!). During the Christmas holidays, children and young people (school aged 5 to 16) in Herefordshire who receive benefits-related free school meals can once again get involved and enjoy our free countywide programme.

Eligible children can book up to 16 hours of free activities to take part in between 23 December and 5 January. There'll be a free healthy meal at each activity session too (good to know).

The Here for Herefordshire programme aims to get young people involved with new, fun activities. Talk Community are working in partnership with a fantastic range of local organisations, who deliver the range of free indoor and outdoor activities for the festive break. From sport to crafts, dance, drama, martial arts and cooking.

Eligible families can book their places through the [holiday activities page on the Talk Community website](#). **Bookings will open on Wednesday 29 November.**

For more information on the programme contact HAF@herefordshire.gov.uk



The Here for Herefordshire Holidays programme is funded by the Department for Education. The scheme has provided free activities and meals to thousands of Herefordshire children and young people since it began.

Questions about Here for Herefordshire Holidays?

The HAF team are here to help parents / carers. If you, or someone you support, wants to find out more about the **Here for Herefordshire Holidays (HAF) programme**, there's an information session heading your way this December.

The wonderful HAF team at Talk Community are running drop in sessions throughout December for parents / carers, to support with anything related to this winter's Here for Herefordshire Holidays activities. Whether it's feeling unsure about how to book or needing help with registering, pop by and the team will be able to help answer any questions you might have.

The when and the where:

- Hereford Leisure Pool – Tuesday 5 December, 9am - 11am
- Leominster Leisure Centre – Wednesday 6 December, 9am - 11am
- The Bromyard Centre - Wednesday 6 December, 12:30pm – 2.30pm
- Blueschool House, Hereford - Tuesday 12 December, 9am - 11am
- Ledbury Children's Centre – Wednesday 13 December, 9am - 11am
- Ross-on-Wye Library – Wednesday 13 December, 12:30pm – 2.30pm



Pyjamas and fluffy socks (warm and cosy)

The lovely team at hvoss are collecting new Pyjamas and Fluffy Socks to give children across the county that warm and cosy Christmas feeling.

They have some fantastic charities and groups ready (with their sleighs) to help them get the wonderful donations to the families most in need this Christmas.

So while you're out doing your Christmas shopping, why not grab a few extra pairs of socks, Pyjamas or night wear (how about a onesie!) to drop off at one of the 6 drop-off points.

Donation points in Hereford: hvoss offices (52 Broad Street), HSBC-Hereford, Halo Hereford Leisure Pool and Halo Hereford Leisure Centre, Asda (Hereford) and Philip Morris and Son.

If you'd like to donate, the last day to be an elf is **Wednesday 6 December**.



Veterans' Career Development Fund

If you're part of an experienced not-for-profit organisation that's been registered for three years, that delivers qualifications and training to enable veterans and their families to enter stable long-term employment, then this funding opportunity could be for you.

The Veterans' Career Development Fund will support registered charities, Community Interest Companies and Universities to create and promote opportunities for UK veterans and their families looking to enter employment, and those already in employment who wish to progress in their careers, to work towards extra qualifications and developing skills.

Grants of up to £70,000 over two years are available, and the fund is looking to support projects that are aspirational, inclusive, collaborative and deliver sustainable change.

The closing date for applications is **Monday 8 January 2024 (5pm)**. For more information and to apply, visit [The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust website](#).



The Veterans' Career Development Fund is provided by the Office for Veterans' Affairs and administered on their behalf by the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust.

What's new on the directory?

With the festive season peeping around the corner, there's a sprinkling of the season's magic settling on our [What's on calendar](#) this week, with Christmas fayres and festivals.

[Aspire Growing Christmas Fayre](#) – Saturday 2 December, Hereford

[Baby Ballroom](#) – Fridays, Hereford

[Christmas tree festival](#) – Friday 8 to Sunday 10 December, Wellington

Take a look at what's on offer at [Newton Farm Community hub](#) with both a music and film club, and a little knit and knatter. Their January timetable includes shared reading, Citizens Advice and Healthy lifestyles (handy to know about).

Here for Herefordshire Holidays drop in sessions in December:

[Halo Hereford Leisure Pool, HR2 7RQ](#) - Tuesday 5 December

[Leominster Leisure Centre Halo, Coningsby Road, HR6 8LL](#) - Wednesday 6 December

[Bromyard Centre Halo, Cruxwell St, Bromyard, HR7 4EB](#) – Wednesday 6 December

[Blueschool House, Hereford, HR1 2DU](#) - Tuesday 12 December

[Ledbury Children's Centre, Long Acres, Ledbury, HR8 2BE](#) – Wednesday 13

December

[Ross-on-Wye Library, 7 Cantilupe Road, HR9 7AN](#) – Wednesday 13 December

Herefordshire Cares

Do you want to make a difference to people's lives every day? Working in social care is a rewarding career – to find out more about a career in adult social care, visit the [Herefordshire Cares website](#).



For more updates, follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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Alternatively, please email talkcommunityengagement@herefordshire.gov.uk

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