



## **Newsletter**

**8 August 2024**

### **Financial support for households with high energy intensive medical equipment**

The Household Support Fund is continuing to support those that are hardest hit by the cost of living crisis.

If you or someone you live with uses specialist medical equipment and have high energy costs due to this, you could be eligible for up to £250 towards your energy bills.

The fund can be used to support children and adults who rely on high energy consuming medical equipment to meet their health needs. The equipment includes ventilators, dialysis machines, oxygen concentrators or feeding pumps.

To apply, individuals can make a self-referral or be referred by a professional body. For more information or to apply please visit the [Household Support Fund Page](#).



*The Household Support Fund is funded through the Department of Work and Pensions*

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### **Herefordshire Cultural Partnership receives significant grant to transform arts access for Herefordshire Communities**

Herefordshire Cultural Partnership has secured a significant £596,000 grant from the National Lottery through Arts Council England to initiate a transformative programme in Leominster, South Wye (Hereford), and the Golden Valley.

Over the next three years, the 'Our Place' programme will establish a new model for community arts in Herefordshire, improving quality of life through enhanced cultural opportunities.

The programme will be led by Herefordshire Cultural Partnership and delivered by three established local cultural organisations: Leominster Cultural Consortium, Rural Media, and Meadow Arts. They will collaborate with local communities to create and showcase live performances, digital content, and visual art.

The 'Our Place' programme has also received £86,400 funding from the council under the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, and £15,000 from public health funding.

There will be a public launch event for 'Our Place' in the autumn. To find out more about Herefordshire Cultural Partnership and the 'Our Place' programme visit [The Shire website](#).



*The 'Our Place' programme is generously supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and match funding from Herefordshire Council under the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and public health funding.*

*Photo credit: Richard Shakespeare*

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### **River Swimming Survey**

The European Centre for Environment and Human Health along with the University of Exeter are recruiting participants to take part in a new study. The 'Poo-Sticks' river swimming study is looking to find out how wild swimmers might acquire antibiotic-resistant bacteria, also known as 'superbugs', in their gut microbiomes. If you are a wild swimmer and want to find out more about the study and how to take part then visit the [European Centre for Environment and Human Health website](#).

For more information on the risks of wild swimming and how to keep safe visit [Reducing river nutrients – Herefordshire Council](#).



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### **My First Film Festival returns to The Courtyard**

The Courtyard Cinema's My First Film Festival is back for its second year, running from Friday 16th to Saturday 31st August. With tickets priced at just £3, the festival offers family film screenings and workshops aimed at bringing the excitement of cinema to a new generation.

The festival begins on Friday 16th August with Jack Black's 'Be Kind Rewind' (12A) at 2.30pm, followed by a filmmaking workshop at 4.30pm for ages 12-15.

All screenings are relaxed and autism friendly, For tickets and more information, contact the Courtyard Box Office at 01432 340555 or visit [The Courtyard website](#).





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**Don't miss this month.....**

**The Living Well Roadshow is on the road this August**

Don't miss free home energy checks, information and advice or just pop by for a chat and a cuppa on one of the below dates!

**Friday 16th August 9am - 11am** Kington Market, HR5 3AL

**Wednesday 28th August 10am - 12pm** Hereford (location TBC)

Find out more on the [Age UK Worcester, Malvern Hills and Hereford Localities website](#).

**Talk Community's Summer Holiday Activities list**

The [Summer Holiday Activities list](#) on the Talk Community Directory, which includes a list of free events and activities for children and families taking place throughout Herefordshire.



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### **What's new on the Talk Community Directory?**

It may not look like it outside, but summer is still in full swing for us all at Talk Community, and we are still highlighting all the great events and offerings around the county to make your summer the best ever. In the spotlight this week are a few different opportunities for you to try something you might not usually try, whilst visiting some lovely areas in our community.

Here's what's new this week:

[Volunteering at Berrington Hall](#)

[Volunteering at Brockhampton Estate](#)

[Find your calm video course](#)

[Get Creative with Ledbury Poetry: Join the Word Crew](#)

[Get Creative with Ledbury Poetry: Collage workshop](#)

[Get Creative with Ledbury Poetry: Create a play in a week](#)

Our socials are a great way to keep in touch with what's on too, whether you're • a [Facebook](#) fan

- tuned in to [Twitter](#)
- or instantly on [Instagram](#).

**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](#).



**BRINGING  
HEREFORDSHIRE  
TOGETHER**

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