



Newsletter

30 October 2025

Calling all VCSE Organisations – the Herefordshire Volunteering Academy is here!

Talk Community, in partnership with Goal 17, has launched the Herefordshire Volunteering Academy - a free online platform designed to support VCSE organisations across the county in promoting their volunteering opportunities.

The platform offers a simple and accessible way for organisations to reach potential volunteers, increase visibility, and grow their impact. Organisations can register, post opportunities, and access tools and training to help manage and promote their volunteer programmes more effectively.

Find out more on the [Talk Community Directory](#).



Autumnal fun this half term in Herefordshire

If you're looking for ideas to help you and your family stay active and entertained during the autumn half term, we have put a list together of some of the fun activities and events taking place across Herefordshire. The good news is this includes plenty of free and low cost activities! There's everything from spooky WildPlay, to drama workshops and a Halloween pool party.

Find activities for you and your family on the [Talk Community Directory](#), and don't forget to check out our [WOW Activities page](#) for even more inspiration across half term and beyond.



Understanding Private Fostering – What Professionals Need to Know

On Monday 3rd November, 10am to 11am, Herefordshire Council's Kinship Team will host an online multi-agency briefing via MS Teams to help professionals better understand private fostering. This session is aimed at anyone working with children and families in Herefordshire, including schools, health, social care, voluntary and community organisations.

Private fostering refers to arrangements where a child under 16 (or under 18 if disabled) lives for 28 days or more with someone who is not their parent or a close relative. These informal arrangements often go unrecognised, yet local authorities must be notified by law. The session will explore how to identify private fostering situations, the legal responsibilities of professionals, and how to make a notification. It will also highlight the risks and vulnerabilities associated with private fostering and the importance of early identification and partnership working.

To register, please visit [Eventbrite](#).



Apply Now: Common Ground Award for VCSE Organisations

VCSE organisations across England can now apply for the UK government's Common Ground Award, which offers capital funding to support projects that bring people together from different backgrounds and strengthen social cohesion.

The award provides grants of up to £10,000, with the possibility of up to £50,000 in exceptional cases. Funding can be used for building works, renovations, or purchasing equipment that helps deliver inclusive services. Successful applicants will also be invited to join a national community of practice to share learning and collaborate with other organisations and government stakeholders.

Applications are open until 21 November 2025, and funding will be awarded in January 2026. Projects must be ready to spend the grant by 31 March 2026.

For full details and to apply, visit the [GOV.UK website](https://www.gov.uk).



Families Urged to Catch Up on MMR Vaccinations Over Half-Term

With measles now circulating in the West Midlands, families in Herefordshire are being encouraged to use the half-term break to check their children's MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccination status and book any missed doses.

Children typically receive their first dose at one year old and a second at around three years and four months. However, it's never too late to catch up. Parents and carers are advised to check their child's Red Book or contact their GP to confirm vaccination status.

Free appointments are available for anyone who hasn't had both doses, and many practices offer online booking. A gelatine-free version of the vaccine is also available for those who need it.

For more information, visit the [Talk Community Directory](#).



Ledbury Walk & Wellbeing Lunch – Everyone Welcome

Join us on Wednesday 5th November 2025 at Ledbury Rugby Club from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm for the Ledbury Walk & Wellbeing Lunch - a free community event open to all.

The day includes an optional walk around the club grounds, followed by a free lunch and access to a range of local support and wellbeing groups in our community marketplace. The regular walking group will meet at 10:30 am for those who'd like to join early.

There will be advice and support available around the cost of living, and the event is family-friendly with an outdoor play centre and buggy access.

For more information, email: ledburywandt@outlook.com

Ledbury Walk & Wellbeing Lunch



What's new on the directory?

We're excited to welcome a fresh batch of brilliant groups and events to the Talk Community Directory! From creative clubs and wellbeing sessions to energy-saving inspiration and festive fun, there's something for everyone. Take a look at what's new and see what might spark your interest or support your community work.

[The Adhd Support Group Herefordshire \(TAS CIC\)](#)

[Early Prevention of Homelessness Drop Ins](#)

[Inspire Growth](#) - Mindfulness Workshop

[Green Open Homes](#) - Energy efficient open homes opportunities

[Green Open Homes Online: Retrofitting a 1950's cavity walled home](#)

[Sunday Afternoon Centering](#) - Wellbeing group

[Friendly Folk](#) - Community music group

[Green Open Homes Online](#) - Eco House in Ross

[Games Night ft. D&D](#)

[Open Mic - Homend Poets](#)

[Book Club Dinners](#)

[Spanish Club](#)

[Santa's Grotto](#) - Ledbury Community Hub

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](#).

Have you heard of Shared Lives?

Our Lives get better when they're shared

Herefordshire Shared Lives is a Care Quality Commission (CQC) registered service provided by Herefordshire Council. Shared Lives is a highly personalised form of care that supports people





**BRINGING
HEREFORDSHIRE
TOGETHER**

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

If you do not wish to receive emails from Talk Community, you can [unsubscribe](#).

Alternatively, please email talkcommunityengagement@herefordshire.gov.uk