



ROSS-ON-WYE TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 15

November 2022

Warm space, warm welcome, warm lives



WARM ROSS
Warm space, warm welcome, warm lives
warmross@rosscdt.org.uk; Helpline 01989 313002
www.rosscdt/warmross; facebook/Warm Ross
Please note that St Mary's Church and the Laruperz Centre will be commencing their Warm Ross sessions from w/c Monday 21 November.

Monday	9.30 to 16.30	Library
	10.30 - 11.30	Zero Waste Stall - at Ross Community Garden
	12.30 - 13.30	From w/c 14th Nov Ross Community Garden - free soup and roll
	11.00 - 15.00	Laruperz - hot drinks and soup
Tuesday	9.30 - 12.00	Library
	9.00 - 12.00	Ross Community Larder has a drop-in Tea and Toast session on Tuesday mornings at St Mary's Church Hall. All are welcome and there is no charge. Soup is also available. The hall has disabled access via the Crossfields entrance to the Churchyard.
	10.30 - 11.30	Zero Waste Stall - at Ross Community Garden
	11.00 - 14.00	From Nov. 8th in Tudorville Community Centre Main Hall we will be offering hot drinks, book swap, Shove Ha'penny, Dominoes, Playing Cards and Jigsaws. Also, bring along your own knitting if you are a knitter or want to start.
Wednesday	10.00 - 14.00	No Library
	12.30 - 13.30	Hvoss The Venue: warm drinks, including homemade soup & biscuits. Advice and support available. Free soup etc will start from 16th Nov. From w/c 14th Nov Ross Community Garden - free soup and roll
	10.30 - 11.30	Zero Waste Stall - at Ross Community Garden
Thursday	9.30 - 16.30	Library
	10.30 - 11.30	Zero Waste Stall - at Ross Community Garden
	10.00 - 15.00	St Mary's Hall - hot drinks and maybe other hot food. IT support, games
Friday	9.30 to 16.30	Library
	10.00 - 1.00	Ross Baptist Church. Hot drinks will be provided
	10.30 - 11.30	Zero Waste Stall - at Ross Community Garden
	12.30 - 13.30	From w/c 14th Nov Ross Community Garden - free soup and roll
	12.00 - 14.00	The Friday Lunch Club at The Laruperz Centre aged 75 and over. We provide a 2 course home cooked meal with hot drinks for £10. Social interaction group, fun activities and a chance to chat and be a part of our Friday family. Pre booking is essential via Sarah O'Neill by the Monday of the week you would like to attend 07814624417 / 01989720627
Saturday	9.30 - 13.00	Library
	10.30 - 11.30	Zero Waste Stall - at Ross Community Garden

The only way that we can continue to provide these activities is with your help so please come along and join in with one of the sessions. If you wish to volunteer please contact us on 01989 313002 or email warmross@rosscdt.org.uk and your help will be gratefully received

Spreading Christmas cheer

Ross-on-Wye Town Council were delighted to be able supply some of the traders in town with a Christmas tree again this year to help give the town a little extra festive sparkle. 30 trees were handed out on Monday 14th November to traders who had pre-registered. The trees were sourced from local company, Coddington Christmas trees.



Council joins the British Hedgehog Preservation Society's Roll of Honour

Ross-on-Wye Town Council are raising awareness of hedgehogs through labelling up their cutting machinery and further educating their operatives on the importance of looking out for hedgehogs when operating equipment. Our teams often carry out works in and around public parks and boundary hedges. This means that they tackle areas that would be the perfect habitat for



Pictured L-R Carla Boyles, Ross-on-Wye Town Council Deputy Clerk and Alison Stephenson of Ross Garden Store

Hedgehogs and make every effort possible to not disturb them. Ross-on-Wye Town Council has now joined the British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS) 'Roll of Honour' with over 100 other businesses that have pledged to become hedgehog aware.

The bright yellow 'hedgehog awareness' stickers, which were supplied by BHPS, were distributed and placed on essential machinery. It is hoped that the stickers will not only increase awareness of hedgehogs but lead to awareness of other wildlife during the cutting season and throughout general maintenance schedules. This is not only a sticker but a direct connection between species declines in urban areas and the small steps the public and small to large businesses can take to halt further declines in wildlife.

As well as raising awareness of hedgehogs, which is the ancient emblem of the town, the Council is also going that one step further by making the Town Cemetery at Tudorville 'Hedgehog Friendly'. Several hedgehogs have been spotted in the area and to help them to continue to thrive, a hedgehog house, along with some food, has kindly been donated by Ross Garden Store, which will be installed before the hibernation season starts.

Carla Boyles, Deputy Clerk, said: "I am pleased that the Town Council is able to support the hedgehog population in Ross, and wish to express my thanks to Ross Garden Store for helping us in our mission."

For more information on how you can help hedgehogs visit: guide-to-helping-hedgehogs.pdf (britishhedgehogs.org.uk)

Road improvements thanks to additional investment

Roads in each of the county's market towns are being resurfaced thanks to additional investment of £1.75m. Each of the market towns had £350k allocated for road resurfacing work and other safety improvement schemes, which are set to take place over the coming months.

The schemes included resurfacing, patching, safety barrier improvements, structural and drainage improvements, vegetation clearance, and white line repair.

Works have been completed in Ross-on-Wye with Purland, Springfield Road, Eastfield Road/Fernbank



junction, Chapel Road/Tudor Street, Tudor Rise, Verschoyle Gardens, Roman Way all being resurfaced.

Equinox Festival hosts award winning international musicians

Ross-on-Wye Town Council organised its second Equinox Festival at Ross-on-Wye's Bandstand on the riverside on 24th September, where international award-winning musicians joined the line up, including headliners Transglobal Underground as well as ambient world music DJ, dr trippy, the Omar Puentes Sextet from Cuba and percussionist Jon Sterckx.

The annual festival, part funded by the Arts Council of England, was launched last year post-pandemic lockdown, and took place during the Ross-on-Wye Walking Festival. The free one-day event celebrated world music alongside a wellbeing programme including circus skills workshops, arts & crafts, percussion, yoga and nature walks. Charities and organisations including the Ross-on-Wye Community Development Trust, Ross Horizon Centre, the Civic Society, the Ross Lions and Taurus Healthcare attended to profile volunteer opportunities and community support available locally.



Deputy Mayor, Cllr Bev Pope, officially opened the event introducing local choir, the Border Belles – the fifty singers performed a set including world music favourite, 'Africa' by Toto. During the afternoon, Jon Sterckx, a world class percussionist, performed a rhythmic tabla drum set during lunch.

The Wye Valley River Festival also joined the event and held an afternoon of arts and crafts where adults and children could make their own eco-friendly bunting under their tent. Teacher, therapist and singer, Jenn Singleton, also held a singing for wellbeing workshop under the festival stretch tent.

Later on, the Bandstand came alive with the show stopping Cuban group, the Omar Puentes Sextet. The crowd at the Equinox Festival joined in with their lively performance and danced with Omar and his guitarist who circulated with them at the front of the stage.

dr trippy provided a chilled out ambient DJ set during sunset, where festival goers enjoyed relaxing in the sunshine with gin cocktails from the Fizz Origin horsebox before Transglobal Underground took the stage for the finale.



Success for Ross in Bloom

There was success for Ross in Bloom in the Britain in Bloom competition, following a number of years' absence from taking part.

A new group was formed just before the pandemic, and they have been working hard to bring back Ross in Bloom. Ross Town Council have supported the committee with a community grant of £750 to help re-establish the group.

Judging took place in July, with the winners being announced mid-September.

Heart of England awarded Ross in Bloom a Silver Award for the town, and The Royal Horticultural Society and Heart of England in Bloom presented Ross-on-Wye Linear Arboretum (Croft's Lane/Blake's Garden/Horizon Group) with an It's Your Neighbourhood Award Level 4 (Thriving).



Experience all the seasons with Ross Allotments

In 1976 the Town Council created allotments on land adjacent to the cemetery in Walford Road, and in 2002 they were leased to Tudorville Allotment Association to manage on behalf of the council. Today 67 plots are let to Ross residents aged from their mid-20s to one over 90 who grow a wide range of vegetables, fruit and flowers.

The physical benefit of gardening helps plot-holders keep fit and this helps mental well-being. An allotment can supplement a family's weekly shop with fresh fruit and vegetables. As many new plot-holders discover, freshly picked produce tastes better and eating their first home grown tomato or beans make them even more delicious! Working a plot year-round means that allotment holders experience the seasons and become more environmentally aware.

Nationally there is a trend for younger plot holders and an increasing number of women, and we have seen this

in Ross.

The plots in Ross are at the edge of town below Chase Woods. It is a great place to spend a few hours getting closer to nature. If you wish to visit the allotments, know more, or apply for a plot, email john.bosley@btinternet.com



Becoming Dementia Friends

Staff from Ross-on-Wye Town Council recently attended an introductory session at Ross Library to help develop their understanding of dementia.

The sessions were run by Dementia Matters Here(fordshire) in partnership with Herefordshire Libraries and Ross-on-Wye Dementia Friendly Town Working Group.

As a public facing role the Town Council staff were keen to learn more about how they can help those living with dementia. They found the session extremely informative and helpful.

If you would like more information on how you can help visit: <http://dementiamattershere.co.uk> Ross Meeting Centre also provide a local service for people with mild/moderate dementia, as well as providing support for both people with dementia and their carers. Contact

rossmeetingcentre@gmail.com for all enquiries. Sarah Robson, Clerk, Carla Boyles, Deputy Clerk, Jane Mainey, Tourism and Marketing Manager and Charlotte Reynolds, Community Development Officer all attended a session.

The Ross-on-Wye Town Council newsletter is moving to online at www.rosstc-herefordshire.gov.uk/newsletter/ There will also be copies available at various drop off points around the town. A list of venues will be published soon

Contact us

Ross-on-Wye Town Council offices are normally open Monday to Friday from 0930 to 1300.

✉ The Corn Exchange, 7 High Street, Ross-on-Wye HR9 5HL @ admin@rosstc-herefordshire.gov.uk

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