

**READ IT AND PASS IT ON PLEASE**

# **FURNITURE SCHEME NEWS!**

**F R E E — PLEASE TAKE A COPY**



**All change at the Furniture Scheme see inside**

The Furniture Scheme is multi-faceted and at the core of our activities is supporting local people and developing their full potential. At all of our facilities we provide numerous volunteer opportunities, ranging from retailing to working in our community garden. We provide a safe and caring environment where people are respected, encouraged and valued.

Our sites include two community centres, Rockspring in Ludlow and CASCA in Craven Arms, Craven Arms Charity Bookshop, Renaissance in Ludlow and The Reuse Centre in Weeping Cross Lane.

We work hard to achieve our three primary objectives of improving peoples life chances, strengthening communities and increasing environmental sustainability.

## SNAPSHOT OF THE FURNITURE SCHEME

### What happens where...

**WAREHOUSE**, Weeping Cross Lane, Ludlow SY8 1JH Mon, Tue, Thur & Fri 9.30am—3.30pm, Wed 9.30am—1.30pm, Sat 10am—2pm **Phone: 01584 877788 for furniture donations**

- ⇒ Trading site
- ⇒ Computer recycling
- ⇒ Wood & Metal recycling
- ⇒ Bulky waste base
- ⇒ Bicycle refurbishment
- ⇒ Volunteering and placement opportunities
- ⇒ Donation point
- ⇒ Three vans based here
- ⇒ The Workshop



**RENAISSANCE**, 7-8 Tower Street, Ludlow SY8 1RL Mon—Sat 9.30am—5pm.  
Phone: 01584 877751

- ⇒ Trading site
- ⇒ Bookshop
- ⇒ Art
- ⇒ Information Board
- ⇒ Volunteering and placement opportunities
- ⇒ Donation point
- ⇒ Furniture restoration and upcycling
- ⇒ Furniture repairs



**ROCKSPRING COMMUNITY CENTRE**, Sandford Road, Ludlow SY8 1SX Mon—Fri 9am—5pm. Phone: 01584 874922

- ⇒ **Head office**
- ⇒ Volunteering and placement opportunities
- ⇒ Rooms for hire
- ⇒ Events and activities
- ⇒ Community Garden



**CasCA**, Newington Way, Craven Arms SY7 9PS **Until 1st October**  
Mon—Wed 9am—10pm, Thur & Fri 9am—9pm, - by arrangement at other times. Phone: 01588 672847

- ⇒ Volunteering and placement opportunities
- ⇒ Rooms for hire
- ⇒ Events and activities
- ⇒ Donation point for clothing, textiles, books etc



**THE CHARITY BOOKSHOP**, Unit 2 Drover's House, Auction Yard, Craven Arms SY7 9BZ  
Open: Mon—Fri 9.30am—4.30pm and Sat 9.30am—1pm. Phone: 01588 673902

- ⇒ Trading site
- ⇒ Donation of books, jigsaw puzzles, CDs and DVDs





**Jean Jarvis MBE**

### **Some background**

It was in 1993 when I heard, through a local interagency group, that people in the local community had furniture they no longer needed who were prepared to donate it if it could be used. I knew from the agencies that attended the group, such as probation, social services, WRVS, CAB, County Training and the local housing association, that there were people out there that couldn't afford to buy new essential furniture. At the time I was managing the volunteer bureaux and we had some Home Office funding through their 'Make a Difference' programme and I thought if we can set up some sort of scheme to collect and store the furniture to help people on low incomes, we *would* be making a difference, so I offered to facilitate the first meeting of the agencies interested in being involved.

We set up a pilot with a small amount of funding from SSHA, WRVS and Social Services - £1500. We hired a van a couple of times a week subsidised by a local firm, someone offered us a large shed on their land (out at Haytons Bent) and we recruited some (fairly strong) volunteer drivers to collect and store the furniture and got something in the local press. The volunteer bureaux (my office) was at the Bishop Mascall Centre in Ludlow and very soon we had a queue of people who either had furniture to donate or were in need of essential items. The South Shropshire Furniture Scheme had arrived! We operated on this basis for a year, working with local agencies to set up a referral system, a form that people could fill in to receive furniture and a phone line for people who wanted to donate, this very busy line was manned through a rota of volunteers.

We had a steering committee of appropriate agencies and we set up as a charity whilst applying for funds to help us continue what seemed to be a needed project. We were successful in our bid to the brand new National Lottery Charities Board and received £10,000 a year for three years which allowed us to buy a second hand van and recruit a part time driver.

The Furniture Scheme had arrived!

### **Things to note**

Because we were either on private land or had leaky and unsafe storage facilities, for the first six years of our operation customers weren't able to view or choose items. We took as much information as we could from them about their needs and matched them up with what we had.

We were thrilled when we bought our first second hand van in 1995 😊

The first store that we had that was open to the public was in Church Stretton, but not all of the stock was there and there was still an element of us taking them items that met their

requirements – it was a nice surprise when the van turned up with their items. In our 24 years of operation, the Ludlow warehouse is the most accessible we've ever been to the public.

We moved out of our Ludlow base in 2000 and moved to much bigger premises in Church Stretton thanks to landfill tax funding.

Our first carpentry workshop was based in the Church Stretton premises and opened in 2001, we worked in partnership with Social Services and provided work opportunities for adults with learning disabilities. We also worked in partnership with South Shropshire Housing Association and ran an apprentice scheme, which is how Stefan Laird started at TFS.

We also had an electrical workshop where we PAT tested and carried out repairs for the public.

We were an Open College Network Accredited Training Centre and for four years from 2001 we ran integrated recycling and upcycling workshop, making items out of plastic, paper (old yellow pages). We recycled phones, batteries, phone directories.

We ran accredited computer recycling workshops, collecting computers from schools, colleges and the public sector. When we first moved the carpentry workshop to Ludlow, half of the premises were devoted to computer recycling.

We worked in partnership with The Probation Service and ran a bicycle repair project, selling a range of children and adults bikes to the public.

We opened The Renaissance Centre, now Renaissance, and Tea Room, in 2004. After a year we closed the Café because we couldn't make it pay. Kath Bills (one of our customers) went on to run it voluntarily for 8 years with a team of volunteer helpers. The large office upstairs was the kitchen where they baked cakes and made soup – this changed after Kath took it over.

What was the Flea Market and is now the Workshop, started as a training centre; the first big group of trainees were all senior civil servants working for the Home Office as prison governors finding out about social enterprise through our Seeing Is Believing project.

When the floods hit Ludlow in 2007 we worked in partnership with the local agencies to provide housing, food and household items. We also provided emotional support to those whose homes had been affected.

We were the first social enterprise in the West Midlands to be awarded the Social Enterprise Mark.

### **My journey**

The Furniture Scheme started out by addressing the needs of local people who couldn't afford essential household items. Some of the volunteers that helped had needs too. Some had been out of work for some time and lost confidence in their ability to find useful employment. Others had excess time and wanted to do something meaningful with it. I could go on but you get the gist.

For these people getting out on our van across south Shropshire to collect furniture from those donating and then delivering it to people who'd been referred to us helped them too. It



soon became apparent to me that the need for furniture was, in many cases, the tip of the iceberg, and that other support was required. For others the need for furniture was a glitch in their life, perhaps due to the breakdown of a relationship. Once they got back on track they were able to give the furniture back to help someone else. As I became more involved I could see that the furniture scheme was incredibly worthwhile on many different levels and to an extent, growing and developing the scheme to address the diverse needs of our community became my life's work!

In the early years we were able to access grants, but it became apparent that to control our own destiny we need to move away from grant dependency and use the furniture – a valuable resource – to generate income to rely less on grants.

As the Furniture Scheme grew, so did our reputation, and I was invited to speak at events nationally. This helped other similar schemes to start up in other communities and we provided support to help them do that.

Off the back of this popularity, I was selected to be one of the 25 social enterprise ambassadors, a government initiative, to raise awareness of the social enterprise model to government ministers and senior civil servants, working with PM Gordon Brown and his team. It was a three year post and we attended and spoke at events nationally. During this time I, and another ambassador, worked with the Home Office through our successful 'Seeing is Believing' initiative for which I was honoured with an MBE in 2011.

My journey with TFS has been a huge part of my life, I have met and worked with wonderful people, who supported me at various stages of this journey. With the support of the staff and volunteers at TFS I have seen people turn their lives around completely and go on to achieve great things. And what is really special about this is that they come back and tell us about it. We've had wonderful board members who have devoted so much of their time and expertise to help sustain TFS through thick and thin – quite often thin. But we've never given up on finding ways to continue to support our staff and to provide our much needed services to the community. For many years our annual accounts auditor told us "you're still here, that's the main thing". Which perhaps isn't exactly the way to run a business, but the commitment and passion within TFS is infectious and spurs you on.

I've always had one eye open for a successor, someone with the same commitment and passion as I have for the extraordinary enterprise that The Furniture Scheme has become and to build on it. In 2009 we employed James Cooper for a monitoring role for a Lottery funded project. He was young, 23, but within months of him working for us I recognised something in him. He quite quickly picked up on the ethos of TFS, accepted, and over the years, added to it bringing his own influence, and questioning systems and processes.

I now feel ready to move on and to put to good use the expertise I've gained from 24 years of running a challenging, but worthwhile business. I'm developing my secondary role as Managing Director of Fuse (our social enterprise development company) to expand and build on the social value delivered across the Wrekin Housing Group. It's a challenging role but one that I feel well equipped to tackle, knowing that I'm leaving The South Shropshire Furniture Scheme in very good hands. I'll still be working with James in a mentoring role and we're all part of the Wrekin Housing Group so I can keep an eye on TFS as it continues on its journey. Jean Jarvis



## **James Cooper—Operations Manager**

In November I will have been working for The Furniture Scheme for 9 years. Every day there are new challenges and exciting new projects and it's impossible to be bored at The Furniture Scheme.

When Jean interviewed me for a potential administration role back in 2009, I had a basic understanding of social enterprise and a limited knowledge of how the charity supported local people. Jean's enthusiasm, passion and drive are infectious and you can't help but be swept along with her latest project or idea. I soon realised I had found myself working for an organisation that cared deeply for its community, especially individuals who have the will and motivation to improve their prospects but need a helping hand. So much has been achieved since The Furniture Scheme's inception in 1994 and much of this is thanks to Jean's unswerving (and sometimes incredibly irritating!) optimism. Now Jean is focussing on her work with Fuse and the wider Wrekin Housing Group, it is left to me to lead TFS through the next stage of its journey. This is in some ways a daunting task, but with the incredible support of our staff and volunteers, as well as the expertise and help from our Wrekin colleagues we've got off to a good start.

You'll see that our workshop has moved from its home of 12 years to take up residence alongside Renaissance. This exciting new project will allow us to show our customers how furniture is restored and upcycled. We will also be able to offer a repair service to the public and carry out bespoke work as requested. At our Warehouse, the team have worked hard in challenging circumstances to manage the problems created by fly tipping while still continuing to help our customers in need of urgent support. The Charity Bookshop continues to raise vital funds and Rockspring Community Centre has had a very busy summer and is a vibrant hub of activity. At CasCA, the team are busy preparing for the transfer of management to Halo Leisure who will take over from 1st October. We will be sad to say goodbye to the centre and everyone connected to it. Over the last five years the centre has gone from an underused community resource to the vital community facility that it is today and we're sure Halo can help it to develop further. Of course TFS will continue to serve the people of Craven Arms despite no longer managing CasCA. Over the coming months we will continue working with our partners to enable people and empower communities.

Jean's passion for equipping people with the skills and opportunities to be the very best they can be will always be at the heart of what we do. Thank you to Jean, from everyone involved in The Furniture Scheme, for helping the organisation become what it is today. And thank you to all our supporters for helping us to continue to offer our services to those who need them most.



**Justin Griffiths—  
Community Engagement &  
Volunteer Support Officer**

Justin Griffiths 01584 874922

Email: [Justin.Griffiths@furniturescheme.co.uk](mailto:Justin.Griffiths@furniturescheme.co.uk)

Hello and welcome, it has been a whirlwind 3 months since the last newsletter, with lots of changes afoot at the Furniture Scheme. Notwithstanding that, I think many people were caught up in the outstanding performance by England in the FIFA World Cup, which made four very hot weeks just fly by, and despite the disappointment of the children going back to School, we must soldier on:

So what's been going on you demand to know?

Well, we are continuing to utilise the Fareshare GO scheme at Rockspring and now CasCA has joined in, making sure we are keeping food from the landfill. Don't forget that we are giving away a lot of the food we get at our community lunches (Wednesday @ CasCA and Thursday @ Rockspring).

We have recently formed a link with an emerging local branch of a national charity – Read Easy. There is a lot more information about them on page 15, so I won't say too much here, except, get involved if you have the time / opportunity, it is really worthwhile and you could make a real difference to people's lives!

During August we have been staging children's tag rugby sessions at CasCA, which have been generously sponsored by Mark Trafford of Associated Telecom Solutions (Telford). We kicked off in style on 1st August with Tim Pickard from the RFU taking a couple of sessions and ex-England and British Lion international rugby player, Tim Stimpson, coming along to talk to the children and parents, showing them his British Lion cap, before joining in with the children and having fun.



Tim Stimpson—former England full back & British Lion international rugby player

In August, Rob took a much deserved holiday so I had to make myself useful and cook the community lunch, admittedly jacket potato with cheese and beans wasn't exactly cordon bleu cookery, however, nobody suffered from salmonella, so next time Rob is on holiday, I am really going to push the boat out and do jacket potato, cheese, beans and coleslaw, that's probably just blown your mind!

So what have we got coming up?

Back by popular demand is our IT skills for beginners – it is at Rockspring on a Tuesday morning (10am – 11am), for six Tuesdays commencing on September 4th, get in touch if you fancy signing up and getting to grips with IT.

I am also hoping to get some other projects up and running, so keep checking in at Rockspring, on Facebook or on the website, for details – if you are not sure what Facebook or a website is, then maybe the IT skills course for beginners is here just in time!





## VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE FURNITURE SCHEME

All of the volunteering opportunities provided by the Furniture Scheme come with full training and an allowance for travel expenses.

10 week placements for a part or full day per week are available in the first instance with opportunities for feedback and review to make sure all is going well for you.

All volunteers have the opportunity to take a qualification and get employability support if required.

For more information on any of these opportunities please contact:

Di Hyde Tel: 01584 874922 or email: [diane@furniturescheme.co.uk](mailto:diane@furniturescheme.co.uk)

### **The Charity Bookshop**

Unit 2 Drovers House, Auction Yard,  
Craven Arms SY7 9BZ

Selling books, jigsaw puzzles, CD's and DVD's.

If anyone is interested in volunteering here, or as an irregular volunteer for holiday cover, please contact Di Hyde on the number above.

### **Customer Service Assistant**

At the Warehouse and Renaissance we need help with answering telephone calls, dealing with enquiries, making sales, using the till and credit card machine, keeping displays looking attractive and using a computer.

We are flexible with time as you are being generous with yours, but ideally either 9.30am - 1pm or 1pm - 5pm.

### **Warehouse**

Weeping Cross Lane, Ludlow SY8 1JH

- ◆ customer service assistants
- ◆ warehouse assistants
- ◆ **van drivers and van buddies**

You will need to be physically fit and able to lift items of furniture.

### **Waste Management Project**

Could you help us to dismantle sofas, washing machines and other items ready for the recycling process?  
Times to suit you, but you will need to be reasonably fit as it's quite hard work!

### **Rockspring Community Centre**

Volunteers are needed to help in our Community Garden on Thursdays 9am—12pm.

### **Renaissance Workshop**

Tower Street, Ludlow SY8 1RL

Volunteers carry out a variety of tasks from stripping and polishing donated furniture to more challenging projects.

Morning or afternoon sessions available, starting with a half day taster. You will be provided with full workshop training and support.

## Rosemary Collie



Sadly our friend and colleague Rosemary Collie died in July this year after a two year battle with cancer. I joined a thoughtful and well attended gathering in August with friends and family to remember and celebrate her life.

I first became involved with Rosemary when she acted as my critical friend for a tender I was writing to the Learning and Skills Council for a half million pound project. I knew what I wanted to do and she was helping me put my words into Euro speak! I remember she kept telling me I needed more bullet points. We got the contract!

I remember thinking how much I'd like someone like Rosemary working with me so that she could help me turn my ideas into reality, translating them in to funder speak. But at that time I couldn't afford her.

I worked with her over the years in various capacities until the opportunity finally presented itself. I'd written a joint funding bid to the lottery, the other organisation folded in the time it took for the lottery to decide to fund us. But I'd told the lottery that I could rewrite the bid for the project to be delivered by us alone.

I contacted Rosemary and asked if she was prepared to help me and get paid at the end (if we were successful) - in a few months' time. Which was a massive gamble? But after some persuasion, she said yes, and after a lot of hard work, we got the funding. I was able to pay her for that work and then to employ her on a freelance basis for a few days a week. This was around 2007/2008. And I worked closely with her on a range of projects right through until last year.

I got to know Rosemary really well during that time and we became friends. She still retained the critical friend persona when it was required, she was never afraid to speak her mind, especially when I got carried away with one of my ideas.

She was instrumental in many of the Furniture Scheme's successes and moved on to work with Fuse our sister company helping to deliver our services more widely across the Shropshire Community.

I miss her wisdom and advice. I still want to speak to her to see what she thinks about a project idea and what we could do to make it a reality. She gave that advice in a measured, diplomatic way which really worked for me.

You may not all know but Rosemary was very much about a fair society and helping people to achieve their very best. The work she did in helping communities to develop into sustainability was and is so worthwhile and many of the charities she helped to set up continue to thrive.

Which is an amazing legacy to leave us with.

Rosemary Collie August 1959 - July 2018

## Renaissance

**Renaissance** provides 'reborn' items for the household. Donated items are imaginatively rejuvenated to a condition worthy of resale. **Open Monday—Saturday 9.30am—5pm.**

**Book Room** sell good quality good value books and a wide selection of rare books and 1st editions. Paperback fiction is always needed as well as interesting non-fiction and quality children's books.

**Art** we sell a good selection of donated art.

**Workshop** where you can get your furniture restored, repaired or upcycled.

Julie Nash, Renaissance Retail Manager Telephone: 01584 877751

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## The Charity Bookshop Craven Arms

The Charity Bookshop is continuing to be a great success. We are very grateful for the support of our customers and volunteers who are helping us to raise vital funds.

If you would like to volunteer here please contact Di Hyde on 01584 877751 or email [diane@furniturescheme.co.uk](mailto:diane@furniturescheme.co.uk)



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## Warehouse

Open: Mon, Tue, Thurs & Fri 9.30am—3.30pm, Wed 9.30am—1.30pm, Sat 10am—2pm  
Phone: 01584 877788

Selling a wide range of furniture, homeware items and white goods. Also now selling second hand clothes—shoes, handbags, belts and scarves as well as other items.

The Warehouse is open to everyone not just people on benefits, if however you are in receipt of benefits, upon showing proof you will receive 25% off—this does not include white goods.





## The Warehouse, Weeping Cross Lane

**TO DONATE FURNITURE PLEASE TELEPHONE: 01584 877788**

The Warehouse has a wide range of household items from washing machines and cookers, refrigerators, tables, chairs, sofas, lamps, beds, mattresses, crockery etc at reasonable prices and is **open to the general public**, not just people on benefits.

**The Warehouse is open: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30am-3:30pm, Wednesdays 9:30am – 1:30pm and Saturdays 10am-2pm. Do call in and have a browse.**

## Don't Dump it, Donate it!

**Donating furniture to the Furniture Scheme is easy and it goes a long way towards helping your community.**

*Here are some of the items we accept:*

### Electrical

Fridges  
Cookers  
Vacuum cleaners  
Washing machines  
Freezers  
Irons  
Toasters  
Microwaves  
Lamps  
Televisions (slim only)  
Stereos  
Computers

### Kitchen & Household

Saucepans  
Crockery  
Cutlery  
Waste bins  
Washing up bowls  
Baking tins  
Ironing boards  
Tables  
Chairs  
Clocks  
Freestanding cupboards  
Sideboards

### Living

Settees/sofas  
Armchairs  
Coffee tables  
TV stands  
Fireguards  
Mirrors  
Pictures  
Rugs  
Books

### Bedroom

Beds  
Mattresses  
Chests of drawers  
Wardrobes  
Bedside cabinets  
Sheets  
Pillowcases  
Duvets  
Blankets  
Curtains

**Unfortunately we are no longer able to take printers or large Televisions**

**There are 3 things to remember before you get started:**

<p><b>1</b> We pick-up Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm</p> <p><b>MON TO THURS</b></p> <p><small>* We will contact you to confirm your donation</small></p>	<p><b>2</b> Your item must be in good condition</p>  	<p><b>3</b> This must be on your sofa*</p>  <p><small>* If you're donating a sofa!</small></p>
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**To donate: please call 01584 877788  
or go to [www.furniturescheme.co.uk](http://www.furniturescheme.co.uk) to book your item in online**

Finding good quality white goods locally, that are reasonably priced and from a trustworthy source, is not easy.

**Did you know we now stock an extensive range of refurbished electrical appliances at our Warehouse?**



The machines are refurbished, function and PAT tested by one of the UK's leading electrical retailers and come with a 3 month guarantee. We stock, cookers, washing machines, tumble dryers and much more. If you can't find what you're after just ask and we'll be happy to help.

Visit our Facebook page to see our latest stock or call in to our Warehouse, Weeping Cross Lane, Ludlow SY8 1JH to see for yourself.

We are open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30am-3:30pm, Wednesday 9:30am-1:30pm and Saturday 10am to 2pm. Phone 01584 877788 for more information.

**Your purchases help to support the work of the Furniture Scheme**



## A New Adult Reading Charity Needs Your Help

If you're reading this article without any difficulty, then you're probably someone who, like most of us, gives little thought to what life would be like if you couldn't read.

Can you imagine how different your life would be if you couldn't read forms, medicine instructions, letters from your electricity supplier or bed time stories to your child or grandchild?

Research shows that 5% of adults in England and Wales can only recognise a few common words, with a further 2.1% barely able to read simple notices; that's hundreds of thousands of people.

Help is at hand. A charity called Read Easy UK, which was set up to tackle this 'invisible' problem, has already helped hundreds of people by providing free one-to-one coaching for anyone who struggles with reading.

We are setting up a branch in the Ludlow and Knighton area – but need volunteers to join a small team to launch and run the service. We would also like to hear from you if you can provide a coaching venue, or if you are interested in coaching.



To find out more contact Caroline Keely on 07811 582256 or email her at [ludlowandknighton@readeasy.org.uk](mailto:ludlowandknighton@readeasy.org.uk)

Ian proves it's never too late to learn to read

[www.readeasy.org.uk](http://www.readeasy.org.uk)

**There will be a meeting at Rockspring Community Centre on Tuesday 9th October at 6pm for anyone interested in helping this group.**

## **GOT SOMETHING THAT NEEDS MENDING? FIXING?**



**DON'T BIN IT – BRING IT  
to  
LUDLOW REPAIR CAFÉ!!!  
on  
SATURDAY 27<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER  
ROCKSPRING COMMUNITY CENTRE  
10.00 am to 12.30 pm**

**Our team of volunteers will do their best to fix it  
and send it home working again  
and you can watch the repairers at work!**

**There's no guarantee so there's no charge  
but donations are asked for to help cover the costs of the event –  
and that will be cheaper than buying new!!!**

**You can bring household goods, electrical items, garden and general tools,  
clothing, jewellery, clocks, bicycles, toys .....**

Apart from that great 'feel-good factor' of mending something, extending its working life, avoiding simply throwing it away in the black bin .... you will have saved some money as well as knowing you have also done something to save the planet!



We look forward to seeing you.

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October, 10.00 am to 12.30pm at Rockpsring**

[diane.lyle@btinternet.com](mailto:diane.lyle@btinternet.com) / 07786 620 624



**Free**



# IT COURSE

**FREE** yes **FREE** IT course at

Rockspring Community Centre  
Sandford Road, Ludlow SY8 1SX

**Tuesdays** at **10am–11am** 6 week course starting  
September 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, 2nd & 9th October

The perfect time to learn something new

To book a place on the course please  
contact Elaine on 01584 874922



**BBO Shropshire**

where will **your** journey take **you?**



**NATIONAL  
LOTTERY FUNDED**



**European Union**  
European  
Social Fund



Community Garden

## ROCKSPRING THURSDAYS

**At 12.15pm** we have a **Community Lunch** which only costs **£2**—it's either jacket potato, cottage pie, sausage & mash/chips, potato & cheese pie, pasta bake etc (requests welcome within reason!) and slice of home made cake. **Everyone welcome**, no need to book, but if you are vegetarian it would be useful to know. See our website or call in to find out what the dish of the week is: [www.furniturescheme.co.uk](http://www.furniturescheme.co.uk)

During the summer months volunteers are welcome to come and work in the Community Garden between 10am and 4pm. **All garden volunteers are offered a free Community Lunch.**



Find out what's going on at Rockspring and what's on the menu for our Community Lunch by following our Facebook page: [Rockspring Community Centre](https://www.facebook.com/RockspringCommunityCentre)

**Telephone: 01584 874 922 Email: [rockspring@furniturescheme.co.uk](mailto:rockspring@furniturescheme.co.uk)**



### ROCKSPRING COMMUNITY CENTRE

## ROOM HIRE PRICES



RATE PER HOUR OR PART THEREOF	WEEKDAYS 9am - 5pm	WEEKDAYS 5pm - 9pm	SATURDAYS 9am - 5pm	SATURDAYS 5pm - 9pm
PRIVATE HIRE MAIN HALL - SEATS 60	£11.00	£16.00	£16.00	£21.00
PRIVATE HIRE TEME - SEATS 20 - 25	£10.00	£14.00	£14.00	£19.00
PRIVATE HIRE CORVE - SEATS 10 - 12	£8.00	£11.00	£11.00	£15.00
COMMUNITY GROUPS MAIN HALL - SEATS 60	£9.00	£13.00	£13.00	£16.00
COMMUNITY GROUPS TEME - SEATS 20 - 25	£8.00	£11.00	£11.00	£15.00
COMMUNITY GROUPS CORVE - SEATS 10 - 12	£7.00	£10.00	£10.00	£13.00

Payment in advance is requested for all private parties.

Please note, the centre is not licensed to sell alcohol.

To book a room or for more information contact: 01584 874922 or email [rockspring@furniturescheme.co.uk](mailto:rockspring@furniturescheme.co.uk)

APRIL 2018

# rockspring community centre

Day	Activity	Time	Cost	Other Notes
<b>MONDAY</b>	Baptist Church Lunch Club 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month	12 noon – 2pm	£2.50	Diane: 01584 831109
	GKY Dance – Ballet, Lyrical, Jazz, Street Dance etc (term time only)	Between 4pm – 7pm Age 4 – 16 years		Phone Grace to book 07939638637
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Basic Flower Arranging	10am – 12pm	FREE but bring your own flowers	Every three weeks
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Tai-Chi	10am – 12 noon	£9 a session or conces £7	Susan: 01584 874296
	Singing for Lung Health	2.30pm – 3.30pm	£4 a session	Kate: 01584 890284
	Rockspring Community Choir	7.15pm – 8.45pm	£3 sub	01584 874922
	Zumba	6pm – 7pm	£4.50	Lu: 07709301030
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>LUNCH</b> – it's either soup, baked potato, cottage pie, sausage & mash or pasta bake etc followed by a dessert – all welcome! Lunch is <b>FREE</b> for community garden volunteers.	12.15pm	£2	No need to book just turn up! Although if you are vegetarian please let us know in advance.
<b>FRIDAY</b>	Get together Fridays - Cooking or craft	10am – 12.30pm	FREE	Craft every week but once a month it will be cooking.
<b>SATURDAY</b>	Marches Polio Group – every 3 months – bring and share lunch	12pm - 2pm		Ask at Rockspring for next meeting date

**Ludlow Churches** provide Emergency Food Parcels (by referral only through Housing Officer or Citizens Advice Bureau at Ludlow Youth Centre, Lower Galdeford, Ludlow Tel: 08444 99 11 00 ) Food parcels are made up on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday between 11am – 1pm and can be collected from Rockspring Monday – Friday 9am – 4.45pm.

**Rockspring Community Garden** – run by volunteers for the community. Contact: Justin Griffiths - 01584 874922

**Computers are available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9am – 4.30pm. PLEASE NOTE – NOT AVAILABLE ON WEDNESDAY MORNINGS**

AUGUST 2018





**As of 1st October the centre will be managed by Halo Leisure**

**Telephone: 01588 672 847**  
**Email: [casca@furniturescheme.co.uk](mailto:casca@furniturescheme.co.uk)**



The **Library** at CasCA, opening hours are Monday to Wednesday 9am – 10pm, Thursday & Friday 9am – 9pm.

**IT suite** with free access to computers (for the first 60 minutes) and unlimited free WiFi for using with your own devices available during opening hours.

**Children's Party Packages** are available, call into the centre and pick up a leaflet.



Find out what's going on at CasCA by following our Facebook page:  
[Craven Arms Community Centre](#)

**Café @ CasCA open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10am—2pm**



**Sandwiches £3.00**

Egg and cress  
 Ham salad  
 Cheese and pickle  
 Cheese and tomato  
 Cheese salad

Bacon  
 Sausage  
 Fried egg

Any two hot fillings for an extra 50pence  
 Served on brown or white bread  
 With a salad garnish

**A selection of**  
 Homemade cakes and biscuits from 30p

**Soup of the day**

Served with crusty bread £3.00

**Chips £1.50**

**Toasties:-**

Cheese  
 Ham  
 Tomato  
 Onions

£3.00 for 1 filling

Add an extra filling for 30p

**Monday lunch**

Homemade soup with crusty bread  
 (first week)  
 Jacket potato with a choice of toppings  
 (second week)  
 £3.50

**Wednesday**

**community lunch**  
 A changing menu of hot meals with a pudding  
 £3.50

Tea—£1  
 Coffee—£2  
 Cappuccino—£2  
 Espresso—£2.50  
 Latte—£2  
 Hot chocolate—£2  
 Cans—£1  
 Water—80p  
 Fruit juice—50p

Hot food is served from 10am—2pm Monday to Friday

Drinks, cakes and snacks available during our regular opening times.

01588 672847

**WALK IN WEDNESDAYS AT CasCA 10am—12 noon**

**COMMUNITY LUNCH** at 12.15pm it's either baked potato, cottage pie, sausage & mash, spaghetti bolognese, cheese & potato pie etc followed by a slice of cake or a pudding for only **£3.50**



**KNIT AND NATTER** bring your knitting and have a cuppa while having a natter!





**As of 1st October the centre will be managed by Halo Leisure**

Day	Activity	Time	Cost	Other Notes
Monday	Art Group	1.00pm – 3.00		Call 07891106669
	CA Men's Chorus	7.30 - 9.00pm		Not in Jan or Aug
Monday- Friday	Craven Arms Childcare & Pre School	9am – 3pm – flexible hours		Birth to 5yrs Wendy 07891106339

Tuesday	Indoor Bowls	2.00 - 4pm	£3.50	October – March ONLY
	Youth Forum Football	6 – 7pm	FREE	Rich Morley

Wednesday	Future Family Fitness	9.30am – 10.15am	£6	Nina: 07824508536
	Knit & Natter	10.00am – 12.00 noon	FREE	
	Yoga	11am – 12.30pm		01694 724317
	Community Lunch	12.15pm	£3.50	Meal and slice of cake
	Tea Dance	2.00 - 4.00pm	£3	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday
	C/A Football (under 12's)	5.30 – 6.30pm		Dave 07976241463
	Slimming World	5.30pm and 7.30pm	£4.95	Alan - 01584 874430
	Corvedale Badminton	8.00pm – 9.30pm		Val: 01584 841331

Thursday	Strength, Balance & Flex – 50's, 60's, 70's	10.45am – 11.30am		Nina: 07824508536
	Gymnastics 3yrs +	3pm – 7.15pm		07769151649
	Marches Branch Embroiderers Guild	1.30pm – 4pm	£1.50 (member) £5.00 (visitors)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month marhcesembrodierers@hotmail.co.uk
	Modified Pilates	6.30pm – 7.30pm & 7.45pm – 8.45pm	£8 per session incl equipment	Booking essential 079967814412

Friday	Modified Pilates	9.45am – 10.45am	£8 a session	Book: 079967814412
	Craven Arms Samba Circle	4.15pm – 5.45pm	Children £1.50 Adults £3	Carol: 01588 672640
	Ballroom/Latin Dance	7pm – 8pm & 8pm – 9pm		07904466411

Saturday	Empathy	2.00 - 4.00pm		Every Other Saturday
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## AUGUST 2018

Badminton & Volleyball are available every day ad evening upon request. Tennis: £9 per Court.  
Badminton: £9 per Court. Volleyball: £9 per Court CALL 01588 672847



Find out what's going on at CasCA by following our Facebook page:  
[Craven Arms Community Centre](#)

## CasCA News

There have been lots of activities over the summer here at Casca.

The outdoor gym has been installed and has had lots of people trying it out; the equipment is of very high quality and is a pleasure to use.



On the 6th August we helped to host the annual Play day with the Craven Arms Area Youth Group. This was very well attended with over 300 children enjoying a range of activities including a climbing wall, a bouncy castle, story time with BookStart Bear, face painting, glitter tattoos and lots more. Our local Community Support Officers came and answered lots of questions. The weather was glorious and Marilyn's cafe sold out of ice cream!

We have a variety of different sized rooms that can be hired and this is done for a very wide range of uses. We have got our regular bookings such as Slimming world with Alan, gymnastics with Caroline and our local Menonites worship here once a month. New bookings are always welcome and The Citizen's Advice Bureau is now holding a drop in session on the first Monday of every month from 9.30 until 11.30, they provide free, confidential, independent advice on subjects including; housing, benefits, employment, debt, tax credits, family and personal, legal matters, consumer rights migration and immigration. Should you wish to contact the service you can do so on 03444 99 11 00 or [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk). You do not need to make an appointment to access this service.

It is with great sadness to report that Casca is parting company from The Furniture Scheme who have managed us for the last five years; we will miss being part of such a great charity. As of the first of October Halo Leisure will be our new managers, they are a large charitable organisation with lots of experience managing leisure centres in Herefordshire, South Wales and Shropshire. Halo is aiming for the transition from The Furniture Scheme to them to be seamless and all bookings will be honoured. This is an exciting time for Craven Arms and we are looking forward to the new ideas and methods that Halo will bring with them.

Elizabeth Barnfield, Team Leader



### Find us on Twitter and Like us on Facebook!

The Furniture Scheme, Rockspring Community Centre are on Facebook and we welcome anyone to who would like to follow our pages!

The Furniture Scheme is also on Twitter which we try to keep regularly updated. Find us at : [www.twitter.com/furniturescheme](http://www.twitter.com/furniturescheme)

Also visit our website for more information about The Furniture Scheme and up to date news [www.furniturescheme.co.uk](http://www.furniturescheme.co.uk)

### Volunteer Training Opportunities

There are plenty of volunteer training opportunities in customer services, retail, warehousing and carpentry, these are great opportunities for developing employability skills in a workplace environment and giving something back to the local community. For more information contact: Di Hyde 01584 877751 [diane@furniturescheme.co.uk](mailto:diane@furniturescheme.co.uk)

### IT @ Rockspring

**Rockspring** have a computer suite with free access to computers and WiFi which are usually available Monday – Friday 9am – 4.30pm (excluding Wednesday mornings and Bank Holidays).

Visit our website for up to date news: [www.furniturescheme.co.uk](http://www.furniturescheme.co.uk)

## The staff and where they work

### **Rockspring Community Centre, Sandford Road, Ludlow SY8 1SX Tel: 01584 874922**

James Cooper—Operations Manager	<a href="mailto:james@furniturescheme.co.uk">james@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>
Gaynor Abel—Executive Support & HR Administration Officer	<a href="mailto:gaynor.abel@furniturescheme.co.uk">gaynor.abel@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>
Justin Griffiths—Community Engagement Officer	<a href="mailto:justiin.griffiths@furniturescheme.co.uk">justiin.griffiths@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>
Elaine Duggan—Marketing, Administration & Newsletter	
<a href="mailto:elaine@furniturescheme.co.uk">elaine@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>	
Rob Gardner—Caretaker	<a href="mailto:rob@furniturescheme.co.uk">rob@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>
Lynda Hoad—Finance Officer	<a href="mailto:accounts@furniturescheme.co.uk">accounts@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>
Jean Jarvis MBE—MD Fuse/Furniture Scheme	<a href="mailto:jean@furniturescheme.co.uk">jean@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>

### **Renaissance, 7-8 Tower Street, Ludlow SY8 1RL Tel: 01584 877751**

Julie Nash—Renaissance Retail Manager	<a href="mailto:Julie.Nash@furniturescheme.co.uk">Julie.Nash@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>
Richard Carpenter—Retail & Systems Administrator	<a href="mailto:richard@furniturescheme.co.uk">richard@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>
Di Hyde—Volunteer Co-ordinator	<a href="mailto:diane@furniturescheme.co.uk">diane@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>
Paul Francis—Operations & Administration Assistant	
<a href="mailto:paul@furniturescheme.co.uk">paul@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>	
Lisa Jacks—Customer Service Assistant	
Stefan Laird—Workshop Supervisor	<a href="mailto:workshop@furniturescheme.co.uk">workshop@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>
Graham Lambourn—Volunteer Support Worker	

### **Warehouse, Weeping Cross Lane, Ludlow SY8 1JH Tel: 01584 877788**

Simon Magill—Warehouse Centre Manager	<a href="mailto:simon@furniturescheme.co.uk">simon@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>
Kevin Jones—Assistant Manager	
Stuart James—General Assistant	<a href="mailto:stuart.james@furniturescheme.co.uk">stuart.james@furniturescheme.co.uk</a>
Tim Stevens—Van Driver	
Daniel Price—Van Driver	
Antony Brooks—Van Driver	

### **CasCA (Community arts sports Craven Arms), Newington Way, Craven Arms SY7 9PS Tel: 01588 672847**

Alison Kennedy—Team Leader  
Elizabeth Barnfield—Team Leader  
Jackie Wright—Finance & Administration Officer  
Marilyn de Warrenne—Catering General Assistant  
Ben Jenkins—General Assistant  
Chris Prayel—General Assistant  
Jenny Corney—Cleaner  
Krisztina Racz-Fabri—Cleaner

**As of 1st October the centre will  
be managed by Halo Leisure**

**The Charity Bookshop**, Unit 2, Drover's House, Auction Yard, Craven Arms SY7 9BZ  
**Tel: 01588 673902** Monday to Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm and Saturday 9.30am - 1pm.  
[charitybookshop@furniturescheme.co.uk](mailto:charitybookshop@furniturescheme.co.uk)

**The Wrekin**  
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