

FURNITURE SCHEME NEWS!

F R E E — PLEASE TAKE A COPY



James Campbell one of our longest serving volunteers see pages 3, 4, & 6.

The Furniture Scheme is a dynamic social enterprise and charity. We collect donated furniture and re distribute to people in need.

We manage two Community Centres and support other Social Enterprises.

We offer a range of volunteering and training opportunities across all of our sites.

We are passionate about relieving poverty, protecting the environment, enabling the disadvantaged and encouraging a thriving Social Enterprise sector.

Visit our website for up to date news: www.furniturescheme.co.uk

SNAPSHOT OF THE FURNITURE SCHEME

What happens where...

RE-USE CENTRE, WEEPING CROSS LANE, LUDLOW

Mon—Fri 10am—4pm, Sat 10am—2pm

- ⇒ Trading site
- ⇒ Computer recycling workshop
- ⇒ Wood & Metal recycling facility
- ⇒ Bulky waste base
- ⇒ Removal of handles, knobs, hinges and screws for re-use
- ⇒ Volunteering and placement opportunities
- ⇒ Recycling point for mobile phones, ink cartridges and household batteries
- ⇒ Donation point
- ⇒ Two vans based here
- ⇒ Recycling Banks for textiles, wood & metal
- ⇒ Tools for Africa collection point



RENAISSANCE CENTRE, 7-8 TOWER STREET, LUDLOW

Mon—Sat 9.30am—5pm

- ⇒ Head office
- ⇒ Trading site
- ⇒ Bookshop and vinyl records
- ⇒ Flea Market
- ⇒ Information Board
- ⇒ Volunteering and placement opportunities
- ⇒ Household battery recycling point
- ⇒ Donation point



ROCKSPRING COMMUNITY CENTRE, SANDFORD ROAD

Mon—Fri 9am—5pm

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



FRIARS WALK, LUDLOW MASCALL CENTRE, LOWER GALDEFORD

- ⇒ Carpentry workshop
- ⇒ Furniture restoration
- ⇒ Training facility
- ⇒ Training, volunteer and placement opportunities available
- ⇒ One van based here



CasCA, NEWINGTON WAY, CRAVEN ARMS Mon—Fri 9am—10pm - by arrangement at week ends

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



OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS!

Di Hyde—Work Placement Officer 01584 877751
diane@furnitureshcme.co.uk

At last summer is around the corner and the community garden will once more be coming to life.

So far this year we've had some excellent volunteers but as always we do need extra helping hands. Since January seven of our volunteers have moved on to employment which is a wonderful achievement for them. It also illustrates what a positive stepping stone volunteering can be when moving from unemployment to employment.

If anyone has a few hours to spare and would like to give something back to the community we urgently need volunteers at our re-use centre in Ludlow. So If you're strong and fit to help move furniture and assist van drivers you would be most welcome. Our handyman service is going very well so if you have a skill and some time to spare we would love to hear from you.

I still get enquiries from people in various parts of the country who've browsed our website. The last one was from someone who thought Shropshire was a suburb of London!

Finally I'd like to mention James Campbell one of our longest serving volunteers. James will be leaving us in June as he is moving away from Shropshire. So a huge thank you to James for his commitment to the Furniture Scheme. He'll be missed by us all but we wish him all the best for the future and hope he will be very happy.

Di Hyde
Work Placement Officer

Staff and Volunteer News—

Gill Pitt, HR Training & Development Manager

We have said goodbye to a number of staff recently. Julie Magill from The Reuse Centre has left us for her new job at Bishops Castle Town Hall, Laurence Holton who is our General Assistant at The Renaissance Centre has also relocated to Bath and a new job as a Retail Assistant. We wish them both well.

Many of you will know that James Campbell, our longest active serving volunteer is leaving us in June and I am sure many of you will wish him well. James joined us when we were based in Church Stretton working in the craft workshop. He has since worked as an assistant in The Reuse Centre and can now be found, 12 years later, on Tuesdays in the carpentry workshop.

We welcome Stephen Watkins who will be working as a relief General Assistant at The Renaissance Centre, covering Saturdays as required. Calvin Brown has been working at CasCA as a relief General Assistant

Ben Jenkins – Volunteer at Rockspring Community Centre

In January 2015 I started my volunteer work at Rockspring Community Centre Sandford Road.

On my first day I met the staff who work here. I was shown around the building and I was amazed on how polite everyone was. I was shown how to work on the computer in reception and answer phone calls in the correct manner. My volunteer work was set up by the job centre which I am very grateful for. On my introduction day I met Diane she went through with me what I need to do when I'm here. She was very polite and gave me a good understanding of what I will be doing. Before I started here I was a very shy and a nervous person because I had not before been doing anything like this. I have now gained more confidence in meeting new people.

Since from the day I started my volunteer work here I have really enjoyed it. I have been here for a few months now and my time here has been increased which I'm very happy and grateful for. Everyone here is amazing. They are all kind and very polite. I am keen to work when I come here I like to be busy and get on with things. All the staff here are very helpful and fair. I enjoy volunteer work at Ludlow Rockspring Community Centre very much. I think they help the community a lot.

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

CasCA—General Assistants

Newington Way, Craven Arms SY7 9PS

General assistants needed to answer phones, set up the rooms, make refreshments (tea and coffee) and meet and greet.



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!



Electrical Testing

We would like volunteers to assist with the function testing of the electrical appliances.

You would work alongside a trained member of staff for this role - times to suit you.



Customer Service Assistant

In our shop 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.

We also need assistants in our Flea Market

Re-use Centre

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.



Carpentry Workshop

Lower Galdeford SY8 1RZ

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, support and the opportunity to gain a qualification.

Rockspring Community Centre

Sandford Road, Ludlow SY8 1SX

We sometimes have volunteer vacancies for:

- ◆ catering assistant
- ◆ caretaker assistant
- ◆ event support assistants





Jean Jarvis MBE—Chief Executive

Another busy few months, and lots of new things happening at all of our sites. Interesting activities at the community centres, a creative writing workshop at CasCA and a very well attended film club in partnership with Ludlow Assembly Rooms (LAR) at Rockspring. Donations and sales are up, which is excellent news and many of our wonderful volunteers are leaving us to go to paid jobs – great for them but sad for us to see them go when they’ve become useful members of our team. We start all over again then, with new volunteers, but that’s what we do – we’ve supported hundreds of volunteers in this way over the years.

Fuse – our social enterprise development company – has now set up as a Community Interest Company (CIC), but is still very much linked to The Furniture Scheme, sharing staff and a range of useful resources which will bring in much needed income for TFS, I’ll bring you news of developments through our newsletter. Clean Cut Services (CCS), the grounds maintenance and cleaning social enterprise now has a team of seven staff and 3 regular volunteers. As with TFS, many of the people CCS employs were previously unemployed and couldn’t afford driving lessons – they can now, which is very useful to their career prospects, both with CCS and in the future. So our ethos to create employment and employment-ready people is replicated through Fuse across Staffordshire.

Back in Shropshire we’re looking forward to an open day in our Carpentry workshop in the Summer, new and even more interesting activities at Rockspring and CasCA. So please keep donating your good quality furniture, books and time to The Furniture Scheme, you help us to achieve so much.

I’d also like to say goodbye to James Campbell, who has been volunteering with us since Woolworths closed in Castle Square. James has helped in a variety of ways and at most of our sites. He’s on the front cover pictured with his lovely mosaic coffee table.



James Cooper—General Manager

During the financial year of 2014/15 we saw an upturn in the number of furniture donations and in our sales. While we still have a long way to go we are working towards financial sustainability. We rely heavily on our fantastic volunteers and trainees and I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who helps us here at the Furniture Scheme. We are always

looking at how we can maximise our value to the community and in April we started giving away free Children's books from 3 of our centres. So far this project has been very popular and local parents have been making use of our large collection of children's books. Another project that is gathering pace is our 'Handyman Service'; we hope this service will appeal to local residents and businesses who need help with a variety of tasks including carpentry, painting, gardening and building maintenance. Any profits made from the project will help the charity to meet its objectives. For more information or a free quote please contact me on 01584 874922 or james@furniturescheme.co.uk

Perhaps the most pleasing outcome of the last 3 months has been the number of volunteers who have moved into employment. While with the Furniture Scheme volunteers and trainees gain vital work experience, greater self-worth and essential skills – all of this helps them to become much more employable. The only downside of this success is that we are now short of volunteers! If you or any one you know would like to volunteer please contact Di Hyde, Work Placement Officer, on 01584 877751 or diane@furniturescheme.co.uk

We also continue to work closely with South Shropshire Youth Forum at both of our community centres – this partnership allows us to put on a range of activities for young people and broadens our reach to a wider demographic. For more information visit www.ssyf.net/home Partnerships are crucial to the success of charities and voluntary organisations and we always welcome the opportunity to forge good working relationships with likeminded organisations. If any group in the local area would like me or one of my colleagues to come and talk to you, please do get in touch.

Other ways that you can support us...

- Donate furniture, electrical items, books and IT equipment, phone 01584 877788 or visit www.furniturescheme.co.uk/donate-receive/donate-furniture/
- Buy your furniture from our Renaissance centre or our Re-use centre in Ludlow
- Book your meeting, party or event at one of our community centres www.furniturescheme.co.uk/centres/
- Donate money to help fund our work, contact james@furniturescheme.co.uk or 01584 874922
- Join 'Give as you Live' and participating online retailers will donate money to the Furniture Scheme every time you shop www.giveasyoulive.com/join/furniturescheme
- Most importantly, if you or someone you know could benefit from our work make sure they know who we are and how to contact us www.furniturescheme.co.uk/contact/



Gill Pitt—HR Training & Development Manager

I don't often write for the newsletter. I usually leave it to others to tell you all the news about volunteers and work placements and all the community activities on offer through Rockspring and CasCA! But I thought I'd make an exception on this occasion!

There have been quite a few changes and developments over the last few months that you will have picked up through staff meetings, this newsletter and general information through the grapevine.

My role as HR Learning and Development has grown to include FUSE Enterprise projects across Telford and Staffordshire. In the last 12 months the staff team has grown from 36 to 63 staff across all projects! Not just writing job descriptions for new roles, advertising and recruiting but establishing policies and procedures for staff and support systems such as supervision and appraisal. We have also set up volunteering programmes as part of all the projects just as we have done here at The Furniture Scheme.

We rely heavily on volunteers and the FUSE projects such as The Longford and Northfield Centres in Cannock and Stafford are no different. Many of the roles are the same but some are new roles such as a social media volunteer at the Northfield Centre! We have catering assistants at both centres whilst the setting is different in that they may be serving meals to residents in the extra care unit or to patients on their way out from an appointment at the GP surgery as well as centre users attending meetings and the general public!

Clean Cut Services, the first of the new FUSE enterprises, has just passed its first birthday and has a few years to go to catch up on The Furniture Scheme's 20th birthday celebrations last year! We started with two gardeners and now have 3 mobile teams doing grounds maintenance, environmental improvement work such as paving and fencing and a third team doing fire alarm testing and cleaning of communal and sheltered housing schemes. We employ a total of 7 and have around 2 or 3 work experience placements at any one time. What I am most pleased with is that of the 7 staff four were employed from a work experience placement so FUSE Enterprise really is following in The Furniture Scheme's footsteps.



Community News – By Christine Perkins – Community Engagement Worker

Where is this year going to? Here we are in May already, so what's been happening in the world of community engagement?

Holiday Scheme

As part of the Easter holiday scheme we were very lucky to have Ludlow Assembly Rooms run another very successful film event at Rockspring, the animation comedy – Wallace and Gromit's The Curse of the Were Rabbit - with the added bonus of a craft session based on the film afterwards. 40 attended, and as you can see fun was had by all.



The second week of the Easter holiday scheme saw a really good turn out as well – Those attending took part in a circus skills workshop in the morning and watched the Easter film – Hop – the movie in the afternoon. These sessions are usually FREE for young people aged 8 – 12, with just a small charge payable if they have a cooked lunch.



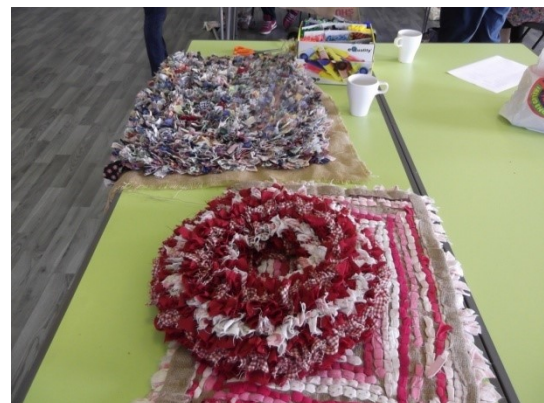
During the forthcoming summer holiday scheme , as well as activities taking place at Rockspring Community centre, we will again be using the excellent services of Arthog Outreach for 2 activities – Canoeing and Rock climbing – Booking is absolutely essential as spaces are limited – don't miss out!

Cookery and Craft

Cookery and craft sessions are proving very popular at Rockspring – These activities are taking place on a monthly basis – not on the same day of course! The cookery sessions are led by Margaret, our cookery volunteer, and include dishes that people want to try out, or have never cooked before. They are all based on the one pot method, and are nutritious and economical. Of course at Easter we had to do something with chocolate!

We held our first rag rug session, and further sessions have been booked – a very relaxing way to spend a creative morning, and if you feel your creative juices flowing – look out for our Arty Crafty Party which will be led by a professional artist but includes all forms of “art” – come along and have a go.

Everyone welcome, just give us a ring at the centre to book onto the next session or to find out more information.



Community News



We are always asking for suggestions from the community to gauge what they would like to have the opportunity to take part in, and then we try to deliver this service, at either no or very low cost to the participants – how do we manage to do this? Well, by looking at all types of funding opportunities and we especially welcome regular cash donations to help us achieve our aims. At the moment we are one of the 50 community groups that have been chosen to benefit from the Shropshire Star's Cash for your Community Scheme. This is dependent on tokens collected from the daily Shropshire Star, so if you have any spare tokens and would like to help us benefit from this cash pot, please drop these off at either Rockspring Community Centre or CasCA (Craven Arms Community Centre)

If you would like to make a cash donation, please give us a ring on 01584 874922 to discuss.

All monies received will be put back to benefit the local community so in the words of a well known supermarket – “Every little helps”.



Community News



A special mention to all our brilliant volunteers, without their help we would not be able to put on so many things. We have been lucky enough to have some new volunteers in the community garden who want to get muddy and dirty! And they are busy planting the raised beds with vegetable seedlings which ultimately will be used either in the community lunches, food bank or cookery sessions. It is great being able to source fresh vegetables on your doorstep.

Two new IT volunteers are working alongside Shropshire Housing Group's officers, delivering IT support in two of their sheltered housing schemes – Whitefriars in Ludlow and Lambeth Close in Craven Arms. These sessions are FREE and open to everyone over the age of 18, so if you would like to join in, give Shropshire Housing Group a ring on 0300 303 1190 to find out more information.

We have a new volunteer receptionist at Rockspring Community Centre to help with reception duties.

Thanks again to everyone who helps us at all of the Furniture scheme sites – your help is greatly appreciated, and if you feel that you have spare time and would like to volunteer, please give us a ring on 01584 877751 and speak to Di Hyde our work placement officer.

Garden reminders!

Garden Competition

Entries are now being taken for the forthcoming garden competition in July- entry forms available from Rockspring Community Centre or Shropshire Housing Groups housing officers. We had a brilliant turn out last year, but let's see if we can't do even better! Lots of categories to enter in- Go ahead – Give it a go!

Community News

Garden tools for hire!

If you are struggling to keep your garden under control now that the good weather has arrived, remember that we have petrol and electric Lawn mowers, petrol and electric Hedge trimmers and a petrol brush cutter as well as hand tools available for hire.

A small charge is made to cover the cost of the hire. Just give us a ring to book what you need.

We do a 'check visit' to the garden before the tools are hired out just to make sure that they are suitable for the job.



Forth coming events

Arty Crafty party – Free- Rockspring Community Centre – May 22nd – 10am – 12 noon.

Rockspring Community choir – lunch time concert on 15th June for Parish Wives group.

Rockspring Community Choir – Evening concert – free – Ludlow Buttercross – 17th June - 7.00pm – as part of Ludlow Fringe Festival.

Cookery session – free – Rockspring Community centre — 26th June 10am – 12noon. Booking essential.

And finally ...

This is my way of publically saying “Thank You” for the excellent service I recently received from The Princess Royal Hospital in Telford, part of the Shrewsbury and Telford hospital NHS trust.

Unfortunately I had to undergo surgery which although successfully removing a benign lump, did result in temporary damage to my voice. As you can imagine being a community engagement worker, as well as a member of the Rockspring Community Choir, I rely greatly on my voice, so found this situation rather debilitating (although I thought that my new “voice” did lend itself to a new career in the phone chat line sector so not all was lost! I was also convinced that some of my colleagues had actually asked the surgeon for this result, as it did quieten me down!)

However I was reassured constantly by Mr Syed Ahsan, The Head and Neck clinical Director and my consultant ENT surgeon, that although there was a chance that the damage could be permanent he was confident that all would return to normal.

I am very glad to say that this is the case, and thankfully my phone chat line career has been stopped in its tracks and I have returned to my day job of community engagement worker, where talking is an absolute must!

So, a very heartfelt “Thanks” to all the ENT team at The Princess Royal Hospital and especially to Mr Syed Ahsan who looked after me throughout this whole process, for his expertise, skill, humour and patience and apologies from me for the times he must have thought I was completely bonkers!





RE-USE CENTRE, WEEPING CROSS LANE

TO DONATE FURNITURE PLEASE TELEPHONE: 01584 877788

The Re-use Centre 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 Re-use Centre is open: Monday—Friday 10am—4pm & Saturday 10am—2pm
Do call in and have a browse, all welcome!

Don't Dump It, Donate It.

Donating furniture to South Shropshire 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
 Stereos

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
 Chest of drawers
 Wardrobes
 Bedside cabinets
 Sheets
 Pillowcases
 Duvets
 Blankets
 Curtains

There are 3 things to remember before you get started:

1 We pick-up
 Mon-Thurs
 9am-4pm

MON
 TO
 THURS

* We will contact you to confirm your donation

2 Your item must be in good condition



3 This must be on your sofa*



* If you're donating a sofa!

To Donate: Please Call 01584 877788
or go to www.furniturescheme.co.uk
Celebrating 20 years of Giving Back

YOUR SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS COUNT !

The Autumn edition will be out at the end of August, if you have something to include, do let me know! Would you please send contributions by Friday 14th August 2015.
 Elaine Duggan 01584 874922 elaine@furniturescheme.co.uk



THE RENAISSANCE CENTRE

The Renaissance Centre provides 'reborn' items for the household. Donated items are imaginatively rejuvenated to a condition worthy of resale.

The Book Shop selling 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.

The Flea Market! this is a great opportunity for vendors of antiques, collectables, upcycled items and handmade objects. From 29th March it will be open on Sundays 10am—4pm.

The Renaissance Centre is open Monday—Saturday 9.30am—5pm.
For more information telephone 01584 877751

CARPENTRY WORKSHOP

Did you know our Carpentry Workshop team can carry out competitively priced repairs and restoration to your furniture?

We also make bird boxes, bee boxes and house name plaques.

For more information contact the team on 01584 877706.



Reviive in Shrewsbury



Unit 4, Knights Park, Battlefield Enterprise Park,
Shrewsbury SY1 3AB

Open: Monday to Friday 9am—5pm,
Saturday 10am—5pm, Sunday 10am—4pm

Tel: 01743 588458 or 01743 442642
info@reviive.co.uk

Reviive is a community interest company and is a partnership between the Furniture Scheme and the Shropshire Housing Alliance. Both charities are committed to relieving poverty and protecting the environment and supporting a range of people in need, including victims of domestic violence, families living in poverty through unemployment and those excluded through disadvantage.

Reviive stores can be found in Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Telford and Chester for addresses see back page or for more information see their website
www.reviive.co.uk

rockspring community centre



WHAT'S ON AT ROCKSPRING

Day	Activity	Time	Cost	Other Notes
Monday	Family Drop in - under 5'	9.30am – 11.30am	FREE	Sure Start 01694 723465
	Baptist Church Lunch Club 2 nd Monday of the month	12 noon – 2pm	£2.50	
Tuesday	Basic Flower Arranging	10am – 12pm	DONATION	Every two weeks
	Family Drop in – under 5's	12 noon – 3.30pm	FREE	Sure Start 01694 723465
Wednesday	Tai-Chi	10am – 12 noon		Susan: 01584 874296
	Bumps & Babes – Family Room	10am – 11.30am	FREE	Sure Start 01694 723465
	Rockspring Community Choir	7.15pm – 8.45pm	£2 sub	Chris: 01584 874922
Thursday	Drop in – staff on hand from the Multi Agency Team, Benefits Advisor, Community Housing Officer, IT help with emails, word processing, file management etc Credit Union (12.30 – 3.30pm)	10.30 -12.00pm	FREE	
	LUNCH – it's either homemade soup, jacket potato, cottage pie, sausage & mash or pasta etc! and cake – all welcome! Lunch is FREE for Community Garden volunteers.	12.15pm	£1.50	
	Childminder's – Family Room	10am – 12pm	FREE	Sure Start 01694 723465
Friday				
Saturday	Marches Polio Group – 2nd Saturday every month (except Dec & Jan) – bring and share lunch	12pm - 3pm		Dorothy Crook: 07890 972011

Rockspring Holiday Scheme – free activities take place on Tuesdays every school holiday for 8 – 14 year olds.

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) these can be collected: Monday, Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays 11am – 1pm.

Rockspring Community Garden – run by volunteers for the community. To offer help contact: Chris Perkins - 01584 874922

Community Directory, information on health and care services available to people living in the Southern Shropshire area.
Contact: Elaine Duggan 01584 874922 or 07896642018 Email: elaine@furniturescheme.co.uk

May 2015

Sandford Road, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1SX
rockspring@furniturescheme.co.uk www.furniturescheme.co.uk

**01584
874922**



Community Garden

ROCKSPRING THURSDAYS

Access tenancy support, benefit advice from Sustain, every Thursday between 10am and 12pm, with Sue Wilson, this is available to all, private tenants, home owners and Housing Association tenants.

IT help and support is available from 9.30am to 12pm learn how to use the internet, apply for jobs online, sending emails etc.

At 12.15pm we have a **Community Lunch** which only costs £1.50—it's either jacket potato, cottage pie, sausage & mash/chips, chicken pie or spaghetti bolognese (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

Credit Union is available between 1pm and 4pm.

During the summer months volunteers are welcome to come and work in the Community Garden between 10am and 4pm. **All garden volunteers will have lunch for FREE.**



ROCKSPRING COMMUNITY CENTRE

HIRE PRICES



RATE PER HOUR OR PART THEREOF	WEEKDAYS 9AM-5PM	WEEKDAYS 5PM-9PM	SATURDAYS 9AM-5PM	SATURDAYS 5PM-9PM
COMMUNITY GROUPS MAIN HALL - SEATS 60	£8.00	£12.00	£12.00	£15.00
PRIVATE HIRE MAIN HALL - SEATS 60	£10.00	£15.00	£15.00	£20.00
COMMUNITY GROUPS TEME - SEATS 20 - 25	£7.00	£10.00	£10.00	£14.00
PRIVATE HIRE TEME - SEATS 20 - 25	£9.00	£13.00	£13.00	£18.00
COMMUNITY GROUPS CORVE - SEATS 10 - 12	£6.00	£9.00	£9.00	£12.00
PRIVATE HIRE CORVE - SEATS 10 - 12	£7.00	£10.00	£10.00	£14.00

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

Available in Ludlow

at Rockspring Community Centre
& The Furniture Scheme Re-Use Centre

Free Children's Books!

and in Craven Arms

at CasCA



just
CREDIT UNION LTD.

at Rockspring Community Centre
every Thursday 1pm—4pm

Safe as a bank

Just for you

Just for savings

Just for loans

Just for bank accounts

Find out about us - join

Thursdays 1pm to 4pm

Shirehall • Abbey Foregate • Shrewsbury • SY2 6ND
Tel: 01743 252325 • Fax: 01743 252937

www.justcreditunion.org



Rockspring Community Choir

Wednesday Evenings

7.15pm—8.45pm—Rockspring Community Centre
£2.00 a week subs

We have capacity for more members, so if you like singing
why not come along for a taster session this Wednesday?

We are currently practicing the following 'new' numbers:-

Streets of London
Windmills of your mind
When you walk alone

Music/Song sheets are provided, so all you need to
bring is yourself!

A warm welcome awaits

For more information contact Chris on 01584 874922 or
chrisp@furniturescheme.co.uk





Maria Darcy—Centres Manager CasCA & Rockspring

It has been two years now since The Furniture Scheme took over the running of CasCA and what a great two years it has been.

During those two years numbers of people using the centre has increased from 23,900 to just over 35,000. The income from the increased usage has enabled us to increase weekly staff hours from 71.5 to 181.25, an increase in full time equivalent staff from 1.9 to 4.8. We now employ 12 people from the local community and surrounding areas. This has improved their skills, and knowledge which is enabling them to support their families and the local economy.

It is important that we continue to grow and improve the centre so we are able to provide more jobs and opportunities for the local community.

We have a number of volunteers who are learning office based skills, cooking skills, interpersonal and communication skills building their confidence to attain employment in both the private and public sectors in and around the South Shropshire Area.

We continue to provide an into work service, where we help with CV writing, job applications and we also put people in touch with local employers. This has been very successful as we have seen a number of people we have helped go on to obtain employment.

We are helping both old and young with internet based skills, as well as basic computing fundamentals. We often help many of our older local community residents with the skills they need to perform internet banking, form filling, energy savings comparisons, and show them the power of the internet and how it can improve their lives. This has been warmly received as many of our older community residents feel empowered by the knowledge and skills they have obtained helping to bridge the digital divide between young and old.

In this age of Austerity, the community centre continues to be a life line for so many of our customers who don't have readily available access to the Internet, Printers, or a telephone to chase various forms of employment and access to benefits and other forms of help they need to improve their life chances.

Because of the re-design of Council services, we now house the Shropshire Council customer service point as well as the local Community Library- which has now been at CasCA for 1 year, this has seen over 7,000 visitors (additional to the 35,000+ at the beginning of this report) since it's inauguration as well as 112,573 hours of computer usage – we have a member of staff around one day a week to support this as well as 2 regular volunteers. This year we have started a Home Library service with two volunteers who provide this service for people with mobility issues and are unable to get to CasCA.

Since The Furniture scheme has taken over the centre, the Pre-School Nursery is now open five days a week and throughout the summer holidays. Previously it had been open only three days a week and closed through the holidays. However the Nursery is in urgent need of electrical upgrades and we will be looking at funding opportunities to carry out this work as well as reducing our energy over heads.

Future projects:

Derwin college who support students aged 16-25 yrs of whom have special needs have moved into Craven Arms and we will be working together to provide life skills and work experience to their students as well as helping them to integrate into the community.

Together with Shropshire Libraries CasCA is putting forward a bid to West Midlands Reader's Network for a reader in residence. This will instigate a wider interest in reading and use of the library.

We still have plans to improve the changing rooms and pavilion, however this is heavily dependent on funding, should we receive funding this will give us the ability to become more sustainable as this will increase CasCA centre corporate bookings leading to an increase in revenue.

Maria Darcy
Centre Manager
May 2015



Ali Kennedy—CasCA Supervisor

It's been over 2 years since the furniture scheme took over Craven Arms Community Centre. Before this myself and a couple of others worked tirelessly to keep the centre running as it was in dyer straight. It was a great relief to hear that the future of the centre was now in the hands of a great organisation.

I first heard of the Furniture Scheme when I was in a difficult time in my life and they helped me to get back on my feet by supplying some furniture for mine and my daughters new home. In which I was very grateful.

Almost immediately after the Furniture Scheme took over you could see the change, with new opening times and staff being paid for all their hard work. Within a year the whole centre has been turned around and it is a pleasure to work under a great manager Maria Darcy. People have started to regain their trust again in the centre and our user figures have almost doubled.

I have been promoted to supervisor which has made me very happy as all my hard work over the last 4 years has been paid off. I am now just waiting to go full time then all will be good.

CasCA aka Craven Arms Community Centre is now the place to be with a whole range of things to do from yoga to art, car boot sales to community lunch at only £2.50

I for one was very happy with the change and here's to a bright future.

Craven Arms Community Centre

Indoor Car Boot

CasCA
Cafe
Will be Open

Anything

My old Games, books, cakes and I could even sell them plants

What can I sell?

CasCA
Community arts sports Craven Arms

Every **Last** Sunday of the month **NEW TIME**

Sunday 31st May, 28th June, 26th July, 30th August, 27th September **8am-12pm**

are interested in having a table for **£5 NEW PRICE** please contact us on **01588 672847** or Email us at casca@furniturescheme.co.uk

From Babs Fraser—a CasCA Centre user.

CasCA has given me a new lease on life and without them I don't know where I would be today and I travel miles just to be here at this Library. The staff here are wonderful and amazing and I have taken them all into my heart. Their work is here is exceptional and I can't believe there is a place like this on this planet let alone the universe.

They are so friendly and helpful I feel safe, secure and never want to leave when I do come here. When I'm away I never stop thinking about them.

I would sadly miss and cry for all eternity if I could never come here again.

I am looking at all their activities and planning to join in some of them in the future and as I said I travel miles just to be here.

CasCA ROCKS AT CRAVEN ARMS and I would love to see it franchised out all over the country. I for one would love to be a part of that franchise if I could.

So well done CasCA.



From Brian Timmis—a CasCA Centre user

I would like to convey my appreciation to all at CasCA who make such an excellent community Hub possible.

I use the library, café and computer facilities many times per week, a lifeline for me since I do not have internet facilities at home. Without such services I would find day to day communications in this modern world next to impossible.

The atmosphere at CasCA is lively and sociable, and I am considering either joining one of the local groups based here or perhaps starting up a creative writing or poetry group as I have done elsewhere.

Long may CasCA continue.



Rhyme Time
Under 5's
Free
Stories, Rhymes and Craft
1.30-2.00pm
Last Thursday of every Month
26th February, 26th March, 30th April, 28th May, 25th June
to be continue.....
At Craven Arms Community Centre



The **Library** at CasCA, opening hours are Monday to Thursday 9am – 9.30pm, Friday 9am – 7.30pm & Saturday 9am – 12 noon.

Craven Arms and District History Group are based here on Friday mornings 10am–1pm, just drop in to view parish records, old photographs, maps, documents etc. For more information contact: Russell Jones 01584 861547

Cafe @ CasCA—on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesdays 10am – 2pm, offering sandwiches, Panini's, cakes and more! See menu on page 26.

Children's Party Packages are available, see our website for more details or call into the Centre and pick up a leaflet.

We have a **Bouncy Castle** which we hire out for parties held at the Centre.

WALK IN WEDNESDAYS AT CasCA 9am–12 noon

Support team from Sustain Consortium (Main office based at The Gateway)



Helen & Sue at the Drop-in

Drop in and meet members of the team, who will be available between 9am and 12 noon every Wednesday morning at Craven Arms Community Centre, to help with Housing issues, Debt related problems, Benefit advice.

It may be as simple as helping someone make a phone call, or if long term support is needed, this can be arranged. If the Team do not know the answer, they can refer onto other Agencies that do! The service is free, confidential and open to everyone living in Craven Arms and surrounding area.

COMMUNITY LUNCH at 12.15pm it's either jacket potato, cottage pie, sausage & mash or spaghetti bolognese followed by a slice of cake for only £2.50.

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

FREE IT support also available.



Day	Activity	Time	Cost	Other Notes
Monday	Art Group	1.00pm – 3.00		Call 07891106669
	KFA Karate	5.30 - 6.30pm		All Ages Tony – 07773 506468
	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 11yrs Wendy 07891106339

Tuesday	Dance Expressions – under 5's	11am – 12pm		01694 771805
	Indoor Bowls	2.00 - 4.30pm	£3.00	October – March ONLY
	Girls Group (10yrs – 16yrs)	5.00 - 7.00pm	FREE	Call 01588 672847
	Rice Martial Arts	6pm – 7pm; 7.15 - 8.15pm		5 – 16yrs £3.50 & 16 + £5
	Hula Hoop Exercise	7.30 - 8.30pm	£4.00	07866513431 - Ruby

Wednesday	Knit & Natter	10.00am – 12.00 noon	FREE	
	Support from Sustain Consortium	10.00 - 1.00pm	FREE	Pop in for tea/cake and a natter.
	Basic IT skills	10am – 1pm	FREE	Adrian
	Community Lunch	12.15pm	£2.50	Soup, bread and slice of cake
	Yoga	11.00 - 12.30		Andrea Ford 01694 724317
	Tea Dance	2.00 - 4.00pm	£2.50	2 nd & 4 th Wednesday
	Slimming World	5.30pm and 7.30pm	£4.95	01584 874430
	Walking to the Light - Spiritual	7.30pm prompt	£4.00	Terrence 07460580798
	Corvedale Badminton	8.15 – 10.00pm		

Thursday	Rhyme Time – under 5's	1.30pm – 2pm	FREE	Last Thur of month
	Gymnastics 3-16yrs	3.45 – 6pm	£3.00	07769151649
	Youth Club 9-13yrs	6.00 - 8.00pm	FREE	
	Marches Branch Embroiderers Guild	7.00pm – 9.30pm	£1.50 (member) £5.00 (visitors)	1 st Thursday of the month

Friday	Local History Group	9.30am – 12pm	FREE	
	CASBA Samba Drumming	4.15pm – 5.45pm	Children £1.50 Adults £3	Carol: 01588 672640
	Flames Netball	4.30 - 5.30pm 5.30 - 6.30pm		U 11's 01584 U 16's 841231

Saturday	Marches Family Network	Starting soon		Every other Saturday
	Empathy	2.00 - 4.00pm		Every Other Saturday

Sunday	Indoor Car Boot Sale	8am – 12pm	£5 a table	Last Sunday of the month
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Badminton and Volleyball are available every day and evening upon request Tennis: £8.00 per Court
 Badminton: £8.00 Per Court. Volleyball: £8.00 Per Court. CALL 01588 672847 MAY 2015



SUNDAY - INDOOR CAR BOOT every last Sunday of the month, new time 8am–12pm only £5 for a table

HIRE CHARGES FOR CasCA



Room		Corporate per hour	Community per hour	Youth per hour
Welsh Mountain (Sports Hall)	350 Theatre Style 200 Boardroom style	£30.00	£20.00	£15.00
Badminton Court		-	£8.00	-
Bowls per individual		-	£2.60	-
Children's party hire		-	£15.00	-
Shropshire	200 Standing/Theatre 170 seated	£25.00	£17.50	£15.00
Plowden	50 Theatre Style 30 Boardroom Style	£16.00	£12.00	-
Clun	20 Theatre Style 10 Board Room	£10.00	£5.00	-
Kerry	30 Theatre Style 15 Board Room Style	£13.00	£10.00	-
Playroom/pre-school		£13.00	£10.00	£6.00
Pavillion		£15.00	£10.00	£5.00
Small Office			£7.50	
Kitchen		£15.00	£7.50	
Badminton/Tennis/Table		£8.00		
Tennis/Volley Ball				
Bowls per individual		£3.00		
Tea Dance per individual		£2.50		
Art Group per individual		£1.50		
Children's Party Hire		Weekdays £15.00	Weekends £20.00	Bouncy Castle and room hire 3 hrs £100.00
Conference Hire (full use of building)		£1000 per day	£500 per day	

Into Work Support at Casca

Every Wednesday from November 2014 to March 2015



Support will be available to Job seekers living in and around Craven Arms and tailored to individual needs.

So if you would like help with:

Writing and updating CVs and help making job applications
Help accessing Universal Job search and 'entitled to' websites
Liaising with Jobcentre
Interview skills practice
Access to volunteering opportunities
Business development advice for becoming self employed

To book an appointment or find out more, why not drop into Casca on a Wednesday and speak to Christine Perkins or email chrisp@furniturescheme.co.uk



Café @ CasCA

Menu



Full menu available Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10am-2pm

Sandwiches £3.00 / Panini's £3.50

- ♦ Chicken & Pesto ♦ Coronation Chicken
- ♦ Cheese & Onion ♦ Cheese & Pickle ♦ Tuna Mayo
- ♦ Bacon, Brie & Cranberry £3.60
- ♦ Bacon Butty £2.50

All Sandwiches/ Panini are served with a fresh seasonal side salad and crisps.

Jacket Potatoes £2.50 with one filling

- ♦ Cheese ♦ Beans
- ♦ Tuna, Sweetcorn & Mayonnaise ♦ Homemade Chilli
- 50p per extra filling

- ♦ Homemade Soup of the Day served with a Roll £2.50

- ♦ Packet of Crisps 60p ♦ Chocolate Bar 30p

Drinks

- ♦ Selection of Coffee £1.50
- ♦ Tea £1.00
- ♦ Hot Chocolate £1.50
- ♦ Cans 80p





twitter

FIND US ON TWITTER & LIKE US ON FACEBOOK !

The Furniture Scheme, Rockspring Community-Centre and CasCA are on Facebook and we welcome anyone who would like to be our friend or like our page!

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

Also visit our website for more information about The Furniture Scheme and up to date news www.furniturescheme.co.uk

VOLUNTEER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

We will be continuing our popular courses in Customer Service, Mental Health First Aid and Carpentry. Details of courses will be displayed at all sites when courses are finalised so please apply for a place quickly to avoid disappointment!

In addition, we continue to offer national Open College Network qualifications via a range of Work Experience modules.

For more information contact: Gill Pitt 01584 874922

IT Support @ Rockspring & CasCA

You can hardly cross the road these days without needing to be able use a computer. Accessing Government and Local Council services – it's called Digital by Default

At Rockspring and CasCA we offer free support and training to help do many of the things you want to do with the computer in a relaxed and jargon-free atmosphere. People have even said "it's fun"!

Help setting up an email account, preparing a CV, learning to use a Word Processor, finding information. Advice on On-Line Security, help with tablets and E-Book readers (up to a point). You learn in small groups with a patient tutor.

And did we mention that it's free? And fun?

SOUTH SHROPSHIRE CARE INFORMATION PROVIDER (SSCIP) COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

If anyone would like information on where to access a support group or information on a health or care related issue, please contact Elaine Duggan on **01584 874922** Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm, or call into Rockspring Community Centre. Alternatively you can access the Community Directory at: www.shropshire.gov.uk/community.nsf
If you know of a group which is not on there and you feel should be, please let me know.



SCD
Shropshire
Community Directory

The staff and where they work

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

Jean Jarvis MBE—Chief Executive

jean@furniturescheme.co.uk

Rosemary Collie—Social Enterprise Advisor

rosemary@furniturescheme.co.uk

James Cooper—General Manager

james@furniturescheme.co.uk

Gill Pitt—HR Training & Development Manager

gill@furniturescheme.co.uk

Elaine Duggan—Community Directory & Marketing

elaine@furniturescheme.co.uk

Kristine Squires—Administration Assistant/Reception (Mon, Wed & Fri)

kristine@furniturescheme.co.uk

Christine Perkins—Community Engagement Worker

chrisp@furniturescheme.co.uk

Adrian Cobley—IT Technician & Tutor (Thurs)

adrian@furniturescheme.co.uk

Lynda Hoad—Finance Officer

accounts@furniturescheme.co.uk

Amy Morling—Management Team Support

amy@furniturescheme.co.uk

Rob Gardner—Caretaker

rob@furniturescheme.co.uk

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

Di Hyde—Work Placement Officer

diane@furniturescheme.co.uk

Paul Francis—Statistics Officer

paul@furniturescheme.co.uk

Richard Carpenter—Renaissance Centre Co-ordinator

richard@furniturescheme.co.uk

Matt Duley—Renaissance Centre Systems Administrator

matthew@furniturescheme.co.uk

Carpentry Workshop, Ludlow Mascal Centre, Friars Walk, Ludlow SY8 1RZ Tel: 01584 877706

Stefan Laird—Workshop Supervisor

carpentry@furniturescheme.co.uk

Graham Lambourn—Volunteer Support Worker

Re-use Centre, Weeping Cross Lane, Ludlow SY8 1JH Tel: 01584 877788

Simon Magill—Re-use Centre Manager

simon@furniturescheme.co.uk

John Jones—Customer Services Team Leader

john@furniturescheme.co.uk

Tim Stevens—Van Driver

Kevin Jones—Van Driver/Recycling Officer

kevinj@furniturescheme.co.uk

Kevin Gubbins—Van Driver

Chris Marston—General Assistant

Stuart James—General Assistant

CasCA (Community arts sports Craven Arms), Newington Way, Craven Arms SY7 9PS

Tel: 01588 672847 Email: casca@furniturescheme.co.uk

Maria Darcy, Community Centres Development Manager

maria@furniturescheme.co.uk

Alison Kennedy—CasCA Supervisor

Lorna Odour—General Assistant

Richard Handley—General Assistant

Adrian Cobley—IT Tutor/Technician (Wed)

Jackie Wright—Finance Administrator

Alexis Seaborne—General Assistant

Marion Bailey—Domestic Assistant

Julie Walden—Domestic Assistant

Marilyn de Warrenne—Catering General Assistant

Clean Cut Services— www.cleancutservices.co.uk info@cleancutservices.co.uk

Michael Bolton — 07816 510250 Gareth Roderick – 07816 510272

The Longford Centre, Longford Road, Cannock, Staffordshire WS11 1QN info@longfordcentre.co.uk

Tel: 01543 571157 www.longfordcentre.co.uk

The Northfield Centre, Magnolia Avenue, Stone Road, Stafford ST16 3DU www.northfieldvillage.co.uk

DIRECTORS

Susan McCormack

Philip Reckless

Julian Price—Co-opted

Clare Ratcliff

Steve Price

Chris Horton—Company Secretary

Reviive, Unit 4, Knights Park, Battlefield Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury SY1 3AB Tel 01743 588458

Reviive, Trench Road, Telford TF2 8AA Tel: 01952 217300

Reviive, Sovereign Way, Chester CH1 4QJ Tel: 01244 297396

Reviive, Unit 1 Mile Oak Industrial Estate, Maesbury Rd, Oswestry SY10 8GA Tel: 01691 679817