

# Herefordshire Community Foundation

## Annual Review 2023-24



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## About Herefordshire Community Foundation

The Herefordshire Community Foundation (HCF) is a local, independent grant-making charity founded in 2002 to support communities and individuals in need across Herefordshire. HCF utilises donor-invested funds (such as George's Fund), donations, trust transfers and program-specific funding to positively impact the lives of vulnerable, isolated, and disadvantaged people with a primary focus on those living in Herefordshire.

HCF supports charities, voluntary organisations, and community groups that deliver public benefit to the broader community, as well as providing grants to individuals and families in need.

Since its inception, HCF has distributed over £7,000,000 in grants throughout Herefordshire, creating meaningful change and improving lives.

The table below shows how HCF funds have performed in the last year and the grants awarded.

|                                          |            |
|------------------------------------------|------------|
| Value of funds awarded                   | £748,110   |
| Total funds raised                       | £970,409   |
| Total Endowment value                    | £7,343.260 |
| New Flow Through funds                   | 2          |
| Number of grants awarded to groups       | 182        |
| Number of grants awarded to individuals* | 410        |
| Average value of grants to individuals*  | £461       |
| Average value of grants to groups        | £3,071.65  |

\*Grants for individuals include households in receipt of the Household Support Fund

Herefordshire Community Foundation works across the county to make a lasting difference to both communities and individuals.

The foundation manages a wide range of funds – some dedicated to supporting isolated communities, others focused on specific themes such as mental health, arts, sport, and education. In addition, broad-based funds, such as the Iron Fund, provide vital support for those facing hardship or need.

Here are some examples of funds that HCF manages with particular county geographics:

- **Charlotte Ballard** supports children living in Ledbury.
- **Conygree** supports voluntary and community groups, as well as individuals in hardship, in Ledbury and the surrounding area.
- **Heaton Fund** aims to support the community in and around Ledbury.
- **Hergest Fund** supports welfare, educational and environmental activities in Kington and the surrounding area.
- **Jeremy Holden Memorial Fund** was set up in memory of Jeremy Holden to promote economic development and job opportunities in Bromyard.
- **Much Marcle United Fund** provides support for community activities in the village of Much Marcle and the surrounding area.
- **Teme Valley Youth Project** supports projects that engage 11 to 25 year olds in social action and skills development in North Herefordshire and South Shropshire

HCF also manages the Joanies Fund, which is open to applications from projects across England and Wales. The fund supports a wide range of community initiatives working exclusively with young people aged 0–25. It prioritises innovative and entrepreneurial projects that help young people progress into employment, gain accreditation, or access further education and training.

The HCF fund page enables prospective applicants to search by fund name or theme and provides details of fund criteria, links to our application forms and ways to donate to funds. <https://www.herefordshirecf.org/our-funds-programmes/>

## Who We Fund

### Funded Groups

HCF funds a variety of charities, CICs and clubs. Herefordshire schools and community halls have also benefitted from awards.

The funded projects address a range of needs from supporting those with terminal illness, poor mental health, living in poverty or social or rural isolation, to providing access to education, nature, sports, arts, culture and heritage.

### Funded Individuals

Grants for individuals continue to support those in poverty or who are disadvantaged. Much of this is thanks to HCF's partnership with Herefordshire Council to administer

the Household Support Fund on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions. The Iron Fund also provides funding to individuals and the Herefordshire Education Fund awards bursaries to students from across the county.

### **Open Grant Data**

HCF publishes awarded grants via 360Giving, an initiative that helps UK funders to publish their data in an open and standard format online.

At HCF we believe that with better information, grant makers can be more effective and informed strategic decision-makers.

Visit the HCF 360Giving page to see the grants that have been awarded.

[https://grantnav.threesixtygiving.org/widget-render/tabular?query=%2A&default\\_field=%2A&sort=awardDate+desc&fundingOrganization=GB-CHC-1094935&fundingOrganization=GB-COH-04468139](https://grantnav.threesixtygiving.org/widget-render/tabular?query=%2A&default_field=%2A&sort=awardDate+desc&fundingOrganization=GB-CHC-1094935&fundingOrganization=GB-COH-04468139)

For more information on how this data is published and improves charitable giving visit

<https://www.threesixtygiving.org/>



Blind football at RNC (Royal National College for the Blind)

## Themes

HCF support individuals and community projects in Herefordshire. There are eight themes which help to illustrate the impact of grant-giving across the county.

These are:

- Arts, Culture and Heritage
- Improve Life Skills, Education and Employability
- Environmental Access, Engagement and Improving Surroundings
- Health and Wellbeing
- Disaster Relief
- IT and Technology
- Poverty and Disadvantage
- Stronger Communities

| Theme                                                       | Total Funding awarded | Number of grants awarded |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Arts, Culture and Heritage                                  | £34,671               | 16                       |
| Improve Life Skills, Education and Employability            | £68,244.91            | 39                       |
| Environmental Access, Engagement and Improving Surroundings | £21,784               | 8                        |
| Health and Wellbeing                                        | £220,735.21           | 68                       |
| Disaster Relief                                             | £8.258                | 13                       |
| IT and Technology                                           | £4,385                | 12                       |
| Poverty and Disadvantage                                    | £184,930              | 375                      |
| Stronger Communities                                        | £184,762              | 42                       |

## Arts, Culture and Heritage

In this category, a total of £34,671 was distributed to 16 groups and schools. 5429 people benefited from the funding.

HCF's main fund for the arts is the Becket Bulmer Fund. It promotes cultural advancement (especially theatre, music and arts), as well as enhancing the education of young people, improving the environment and supporting people living with a disability. Becket Bulmer made awards to nine charities and trusts this year. Four of those awarded in this category are:

- Creative arts project and professional exhibition for adults with learning disabilities
- Hereford Promenade - a piece of contemporary site-specific theatre in Hereford
- Hay Music Festival
- Opera - *Così fan tutte* at Treago Castle.

The Richard Bulmer Fund helps the under-25s to further their musical development. It supported two awards overall and in this category awarded a grant to Black Mountains Chamber Music Trust to support the Fitzwilliam String Quarter @ Hay Chamber Music Festival.

Each year Herefordshire Education Fund has a limited number of bursaries available to support local schools participate in the Hay Festival Programme for Schools. They awarded travel bursaries to three schools to enable them to attend in 2024.

194 pupils enjoyed engagement with literary culture in Herefordshire. Participating schools observed that the children were engaged and inspired by the author talks and workshops they attended. These opportunities fostered a love of reading, improved literacy and increased reading at home.

Aylestone School took 93 students to the Hay Festival. They report that activities such as this have a long-term and subtle impact, such as engendering a more relaxed and positive approach to books and reading. Aylestone students who have enjoyed their Hay trip - and everybody did - will have a strong positive impression of the Hay Festival, which will influence their opinion of it for years to come. On the day itself, the trip was described as '*brilliant*', '*great*', '*amazing*', '*the best day ever*', and '*nine and a half out of ten!*'

Other awards were made from Bulmer Gilmour, Charles & Anna Saunders Family Trust, Glencora, Herefordshire College of Arts, Joanies and Teme Valley funds.

## The Green-eyed Monster Co



Participant and visitor at Hidden Treasures exhibition (The Courtyard, Hereford)

Green-eyed Monster is a not-for-profit company that provides creative, eco-art opportunities for schools and community groups. They run a textile recycling project working with adults with learning disabilities called Rose-Tinted Rags, in collaboration with Echo\*, Leominster.

They aim to raise self-esteem and confidence levels through creative arts projects, whilst also raising awareness about the environment and creative opportunities for reusing industrial and household waste. In December 2023, Green-eyed Monster held a professional exhibition at the Courtyard in Hereford (Hidden Treasures), showcasing stitchery, painting and performance work by 20 participants at Rose Tinted Rags. The groups were fired up by the exhibition, loved having their work on show and were proud to be able to talk about it.

\*Echo, Leominster supports better lives and offers better choices to people with disabilities in Herefordshire

*“Taking the groups with us to help set up meant that they were more involved in the whole process. It was beneficial to have participants sewing or doing some artwork in the public space where we were exhibiting. Not only did it promote what we did as a project, but also showed some work in progress and gave the opportunity for discussions with the public.*

*By exhibiting in a public place, they get to talk to the general public about their work, explaining what they have done and how they have done it. It is an important part of people feeling independent and part of the wider community.”*

### **Rose-Tinted Rags**

People came into the Rose-Tinted Rags shop afterwards to specifically say how much they loved it.

Feedback from visitors to the exhibition included:

*“..incredible levels of engagement and creativity..”*

*“...by far the best exhibition I have seen at the Courtyard in 16 years!..”*

*“..amazing worthwhile project for all concerned..”*

*“Wonderful show, worth the trip from Leominster and as good as going to the V and A.”*

The groups are very keen to do another exhibition. There is another planned for 2026.

The grant from the Becket Bulmer fund financed publicity and display materials, as well as the production of A1 photographs as a documentation of the project. These portrayed participants taking part in performative projects during the covid period and afterwards. The photographs looked at identity, self-expression and individuality, as well as celebrating the participants own personal creativity.

Michelle Roberts said it was 'very nerve racking' to show her work at the exhibition. *“when I sold I was very happy.. I'd been telling my dad for ages”. Michelle was more unsure about selling her work to someone she didn't know and was worried about where it would go...” I felt happy he'd bought them. I didn't appreciate my own art work was so good.”*

### **Feedback from Green-Eyed Monster**

*“We are thankful for the extra support you have given us now and in the past. We operate on a very small budget and small amount of staff. As such, we are a sustainable project on a day-to-day basis. Financial help towards anything beyond and above this is wonderful to receive. It enables us to celebrate the amazing skills and work that our participants do, as well as helping to promote our project and to help it to remain sustainable.”*

### **The Priory Church of St Peter & St Paul, Leominster**



Participants at Gamalan workshop, The Priory Church, Leominster

The Priory Church is an inclusive church in the rural market town of Leominster, in Hereford Diocese. Priory Arts is a subcommittee of the PCC. They offer people of faith and no faith, or those seeking meaning and purpose to engage creatively through community and church events.

Priory Arts held an exhibition in the Prior from 5<sup>th</sup> June to 21<sup>st</sup> July entitled 'Threads Through Creation'. This consisted of 12 large textile panels telling the story of the Creation by the textile artist Jacqui Parkinson. £10,000 was awarded to them from the Teme Valley fund to contribute to workshop and engagement activities with schools and the local community. People of all ages and backgrounds engaged with art, community,

nature and creative activities. The activities, workshops, concerts, etc were deliberately targeted at different groups in society and included many free events.

Local people were given opportunities for personal development through training and volunteering as stewards and workshop leaders, and by working with others in creative activities.

Visitor numbers at the Priory were approximately 15,000, which was 13,000 higher than expected for the period. Some businesses (local cafés and gift shops) reported increased business of 20-25%.

The project worked with over 50 local organisations, including many creative organisations.

Events that HCF contributed to included:

- Junior Choir singing with world-renowned organist David Briggs (30 school children and 180 audience)
- Gamelan expert Pete Smith engaged 230 mostly 11 to 18-year-olds in creating music
- The Big Stich up- attended by approximately 450
- Echo craft workshops - seven sessions open to the public

A multicultural event involving the recently founded Leominster Association of Malayali People, connected a new ethnic group in this rural area with members of the Priory congregation and the Women's Institute in a celebration of food, song and dance.

Schools made the most of opportunities for reflection and creation by attending workshops. Some, such as Kimbolton St James C of E Primary, included their visit as part of a 'creation walk' from the school to the priory, whilst five schools benefitted from subsidised buses to allow pupils to visit and who would otherwise not be able to attend. Feedback from the children was that they enjoyed it and would like to do more. Headteachers were impressed at the level of interest and extent of interaction amongst their pupils and were keen to provide such opportunities again in the future.

School children were very proud to see their work displayed in response to 'Threads through Creation', as were groups such as Leominster Quilters and Stitched Atlas Folk and Leominster in Bloom. Leominster in Bloom held its judges' lunch in the Priory, and the judges commented that the community collaboration was "*remarkable*".

The Priory Arts team worked with the Head of 6th Form, Julie Newcombe, to put together a process that gave maximum benefit to the students. A job description was written, and any student interested wrote an application. They were interviewed by the Head Steward and a member of the Priory Arts team. Students were sent a job offer

letter. Parents and staff reported that the students took this very seriously – selecting appropriate clothes and practising what questions might be asked, and talking about what was happening constantly.

The stewarding has been a real success. Students came in pairs, accompanied by a Teaching Assistant. Their roles included:

- interacting with visitors
- answering questions about the exhibition, Leominster and the Priory
- ensuring the visitors behave appropriately around the exhibition
- managing the shop
- making sure the Priory was presentable

Different students preferred different aspects of the role (as with all stewards) and it was possible to personalise their activities accordingly.

Below is an example of the impact on students taking on the stewardship job role.

Student A: A leaves school this year and his ambition is to work in retail. He quickly became an expert on the shop system, able to find things on the system that others could not. He enjoyed it so much that he took on extra shifts and travelled independently to the Priory without a TA (teaching assistant), which he wouldn't normally do. A was able to use his initiative. He noticed that there was no donation box on the shop counter. When he returned to school he found one, designed and printed an appropriate label and delivered it to the Priory. This resulted in increased donations. The Priory Arts team observed that, *"He even stands taller, as his confidence has grown."*

The importance of stewards in welcoming visitors to the exhibition was a vital part of the project and had beneficial outcomes for those involved, as explained here:

*"We realised that this was an opportunity to work closely with Westfield and ECHO to create opportunities for young people in need of training, work experience and a positive experience of interacting with the public. Through careful planning, which has been well supported by ECHO and Westfield staff, the young people involved have had a very positive experience. There are already unexpected positives. Two Westfield students are going to be volunteering regularly with activities at the Priory from September. West Easton Residential Home attended an ECHO workshop, delivered by participants, and were so impressed that they are now working with ECHO to provide workshops in the care home, which is real paid work for participants in a safe environment. Claire Mee, from ECHO, said that she had never thought of this as a potential income stream or opportunity for the participants."*

**Priory Arts**

## **Improve life skills, Education and Employability**

In this theme, £68,244.91 was distributed to 39 groups and individuals, with 7105 people benefitting from the funding.

Herefordshire Education Fund awarded grants to four individuals. One attended Hereford Make to support his BA in Blacksmithing at Herefordshire College of Arts. Another was given funding for blacksmithing at Hereford Make as a foundation for success in formal education over the next 12 months. An award was given to an individual for his bricklaying course and another undertook training in carpet cleaning, which helped him achieve his ambition of becoming self-employed.

The Jack Hughes Fund supported five individuals by part-funding their courses in Agricultural Bookkeeping and Management Accounts and City & Guilds Level 2 awards in the Application of Pesticides using hand-held equipment. They also supported a food hygiene course for 15 participants organised by the Herefordshire Rural Hub.

Funding from Herefordshire College of Arts Fund enabled 28 HCA undergraduate students to exhibit their work at New Designers at the Islington Design Centre, London in June 24. Read more about their success in the case study on the HCF website: <https://www.herefordshirecf.org/case-studies/made-in-hereford-helping-students-jumpstart-their-design-careers/>



Rowan Lickerish and Olivia Barber – New Designers 2023

Other awards were made by Charlotte Ballard, George's Fund, Iron Fund, Joanies, Mental Health Fund, Richard Bulmer, Teme Valley and Green Oak funds.

### **Encore Enterprises CIC/Herefordshire Music Service**

#### **'Sing, Move, Play' - Developing music in Early-Years-Foundation-Stage (EYFS)**



Pupils at Sutton Sugwas C of E Academy participating in 'Sing, Move, Play' with EYFS practitioners observing.

Encore is a cultural organisation specialising in music and based in Herefordshire. They were formed in July 2012 and became a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) in 2023. Their vision is to be the best provider of high-quality cultural services in Herefordshire and beyond.

Encore Enterprises identified a need to provide training in delivering music for EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) education. The 'Sing, Move, Play' project was devised to train staff in early years and pre-school settings to deliver musical opportunities for the children. This training has allowed them to develop confidence and gain practical skills in embedding music into their daily timetable.

The project, supported by Richard Bulmer fund and also the Sylvia Short Foundation, delivered three specialist CPD (continued professional development) sessions to

reception and nursery teachers across Herefordshire with a follow-up each visit in each setting. Each teacher was provided with resource packs and audio recordings, as sustainable learning tools.

Information from the training sessions and follow-up visits were disseminated to others involved with EYFS in the settings. As a result, children across the county have benefited from regular singing and musical activities, which are proven to be beneficial to wellbeing and to be a sustainable tool to support all areas of learning.

Who benefitted from the training?

- 463 people, including pupils
- A total of 36 settings have been involved together with three opting for 'in house' CPD. This makes a total of 39 settings.
- 59 teachers/practitioners have been involved directly in the training with additional staff involved in the follow up sessions making a total of 63 staff.

These figures do not reflect the wider impacts of the training. Where staff have disseminated information to the wider school team, the number of children and staff benefiting are likely to be much greater.

Testimonials from participants include:

*"Child X Speech and language difficulties. Poor articulation. Reluctant to talk."*

*"X has blossomed during our music sessions. He is usually very shy and reluctant to join in with whole class activities but since beginning our interactive sessions his self-confidence has really grown. His face lights up when we start to sing!"*

*"I think the model you have adopted for CPD is innovative - and should be used across all areas of the curriculum. From the very beginning - where we watched an expert deliver an inspiring session to a group of children - through to the collaborative nature of the support provided - I have been motivated and excited to learn."*

*"I have been so inspired to embed the singing, songs and music making into my own classroom and have been delighted by how engaged the children have become. It's been fantastic to innovate and expand our repertoire of songs - and yet so simple to add these to our daily routine."*

*"A child with 1:1 support for behavioural needs responds extremely well to the songs we use for routines. For example, he responds to the 'Come and sit down' song much better than when asked to sit on the carpet. He also knows that when we start singing*

*the 'wash your hands' song, it signifies it is lunchtime and that he must come and sit on the carpet. If for some reason we are running late and forget the song, he always reminds us and insists we sing it. He enjoys the song so much that he will not go to wash his hands until every child has been sent and the song has finished."*

The settings involved ranged from inner city schools and nurseries including schools on the periphery of the county, to village schools in rural settings such as Kington, Michaelchurch and Escley.

## **Environmental access, engagement and improving surroundings**

HCF has several funds and grants that support environmental access, engagement and improving surroundings across Herefordshire. These include: Becket Bulmer, CPRE Herefordshire, Green Oak Fund and Wye Valley National Landscapes. HCF also has two funds that support environmental projects in Ledbury – Glencora and Heaton. In this category, eight projects received £21,784, with benefits to 7,122 individuals.

George's Fund celebrates the short and special life of George Price and promotes the interests of Herefordshire's primary-age children. It has supported seven projects this year. Many have an outdoor/environmental element. Included in this theme are those that had environment access as their main focus:

- Use of outdoor learning space in a community garden to teach young children the importance of healthy eating, connecting with nature to improve their well-being and learning how to live more sustainably.
- A project offering young people the chance to develop their skills in wildlife identification to increase their skills and connection to the natural world.

CPRE funded a film about CPRE Herefordshire, its aims, history and how CPRE is protecting the Herefordshire countryside for future generations. The film raised the profile of the work CPRE undertakes and demonstrated the power of communities if everyone works together.

Please see the film, which looks at Queenswood that CPRE purchased in 1934 to protect it for the people of Herefordshire. The arboretum is now operated by Herefordshire Wildlife Trust, who make it fun for children and inspires future generations.

The film also shows how CPRE protects the countryside by reviewing planning and taking steps to speak up against threats to the environment and fight for the protection of ancient hedgerows. It explains how their Citizen Science project is working to protect

the River Wye, with over 400 volunteers involved in data collection, which has formed the basis of CPRE's call to action to protect the county's rivers.

<https://www.cpreherefordshire.org.uk/about-us/who-we-are/>

### **Cultivating Learning and Nature CIC (CLaN)**



School pupils pond-dipping with CLaN

Cultivating Learning and Nature (CLaN) collaborates with local organisations to promote positive mental health through traditional crafts, ecological work and horticulture. They work across Herefordshire and with all ages.

CLaN received an award from George's fund in 2023 to deliver its Future Naturalists programme in Herefordshire schools. The programme focused on young people and developed their skills in wildlife identification (it also fits in with the national curriculum).

Twenty sessions were carried out across 17 Schools. 16 of which were primary schools and one was a secondary school (Fairfield High School). Each session focused on improving students' awareness of the natural world and increasing their knowledge of common plants, animals and fungi.

The Future Naturalist sessions included:

- Tree or plant identification
- Hunting for invertebrates
- Pond dipping

In bad weather, students were treated to a visit from the Nomadic Museum of Natural History (possibly the world's smallest museum of natural history!). Data on the wildlife living on school grounds was logged and sent to Herefordshire Biological Records Centre.

#### **Evaluation from teachers:**

100% said that the students enjoyed it 'Very Much'

89% said that they learned a great deal (11% said 'some')

63% said that they would be undertaking some learning around natural history in the future

Several schools said they intended to purchase equipment to continue natural history learning after the CLaN project was finished.

The schools gave great feedback from the sessions.

*“The children loved the hands-on experience of bug hunting in the field and having Tim's expertise to identify and chat about their finds. Examining and holding different bones/skeletons was brilliant as we just do not have the resources like these to offer.”*

*“Very interactive and pitched to really engage the children. Excellent sessions, both staff and children were incredibly positive. The whole session was excellent. Children were given opportunities to catch wildlife. They thoroughly enjoyed exploring the area and learning about animals. The skulls and animal skins were also a big hit. Thanks Tim, you were amazing!”*

#### **Case Study:**

One child had previously worked with CLaN on another project (Hidden Herefordshire). He was inspired by the session in 2021 to join the Future Naturalists trip, which greatly enhanced his knowledge. He also found an ant colony to take home to his formicary! He is currently looking forward to pursuing a career in the ecology sector.

## Haygrove Community Gardens



Children having fun and laughing at Scarecrows at Haygrove Community Gardens

Haygrove Community Gardens is a charity established in 2017 by Haygrove, a horticultural business based in Ledbury, Herefordshire. It offers support to those who would benefit from the therapeutic nature of horticulture, to engage school children in the growing of healthy fruit and vegetables and to conserve accessible green space for public enjoyment.

Funding from George's Fund enabled the provision of 26 sessions for school children at the Ross-on-Wye site, plus eight Saturday cooking and growing clubs. It also contributed towards activities for a community garden open day.

Haygrove Community Gardens collaborated with eight local schools, nurseries, and other early years settings to provide 30 facilitated sessions in the garden from May to November 2023.

The activities included:

- Growing and nurturing plants to become the food we eat, including planting seeds, pricking out, potting on, planting out and harvesting.
- Using home-grown produce to make healthy meals. Learning how wildlife in the garden, such as bees and butterflies, help to provide a healthy environment for plants to grow Learning how to protect our planet's wildlife.
- Understanding the seasons and what plants grow at various times throughout the year.
- Recognising that a community garden is for all ages and how it supports many people in our community.
- Through the Zero Waste Stall, understanding the importance of reducing waste and distributing food, particularly to those in need.
- Exploring well-being exercises, from a short yoga meditation in the Peace Pole Garden to a meditative journey through the Labyrinth.

*"We have seen children and families grow in confidence from accessing our wonderful green space. These experiences in their formative years will have a lasting effect on the children's mental and physical wellbeing, and this is the legacy of this project."*

Haygrove Community Gardens

Children and their families have benefited in several ways:

- Development of motor skills – through garden-based activities like planting, handling tools and digging and sensory development – using the senses of sight, touch, smell, and hearing.
- Social development – working together, talking about the garden, learning teamwork and sharing, for visiting families spending quality time together.
- Development of self-confidence and improved emotional wellbeing.
- Encouraging healthy eating – showing children where food comes from and developing a sense of pride in '*growing their own*'.

New interpretation boards funded by the project will enable Haygrove Community Gardens to expand their activities and continue to work with children and families in the future.

## **Case Study**

*“A little boy C, who attends our KS1 (4-7 years) Growing Club, is home educated. His mum mentioned that he enjoys the club so much, as it’s a wonderful opportunity for him to meet and play with other children.”*

## **Health and Wellbeing**

This category supports a variety of projects that help with the physical, mental health and wellbeing of the community in Herefordshire.

George’s Fund supported four projects in this category, with 532 beneficiaries. It also made donations to Molly Olly’s Wishes and Be More Frank.

Red Earth CIC was fortunate to receive two grants for art therapy projects for people with dementia and their carers; one in the community and another a pilot project within a care setting.

The Mental Health Fund provided a grant for Mental Health First Aid training for 38 staff across Hereford College of Arts and Hereford, Ludlow and North Shropshire College. They also funded long-term, weekly, one-to-one social and emotional listening support for children and young people in Herefordshire suffering with their mental health and emotional wellbeing with MentorLink.

An allotment group for people with mental health issues received funding for a greenhouse and lots of different gardening tools and equipment. One service user does not have a garden and has always had a keen interest in horticulture. Due to mental health difficulties they struggle to leave the house. Being able to offer them an allotment space with having a greenhouse and the appropriate tools, gave them more motivation to attend the group and leave their flat. This in turn boosted their confidence and improved their mental health by being less isolated.

Community Warm Spaces provided grants to three projects in this category, which benefited 395 people in Yarpole, Kingstone and Hereford. The fund awards grants to help community spaces run community food projects and provide warm, welcoming spaces. Priority is given to projects that support people experiencing homelessness, older people, disabled people and young families in need, as well as those providing meals to those suffering hardship. Feedback from projects demonstrated how this provision boosts the wellbeing of isolated individuals by bringing them together to participate in community events and services.

Herefordshire Together, funded by Public Health at Herefordshire Council, gave nine awards to impactful community-led initiatives that created lasting meaningful connections for people to improve emotional wellbeing, provided a sense of community

belonging and strengthened reach to families in need. Six of these are in this category and they supported:

- Equipment for a Community Arts Centre in the Golden Valley
- A community kitchen and garden initiative at Brierley Court in Hereford City
- Family Cook and Growing Workshops
- Home-Start Herefordshire Volunteer Family Support Service
- Nature-based play in Hereford, providing cognitive, social, and emotional development through outdoor activities such as cooking over a campfire and using tools
- A part-time youth worker to support a new youth group in Ross-on-Wye

Other funds that made awards in this category are Becket Bulmer, Charlotte Ballard Trust, Conygree, Glencora, Heaton, Hereford, Care Fund, Iron Fund., Joanies (England & Wales), Odey Fund and Wye Valley National Landscape Fund



## Red Earth Arts CIC



Participant stamping bird decorations with Red Earth Arts CIC

Red Earth Arts CIC is a collaboration between Jeanette McCulloch (arts/crafts) and Sara-Jane Arbury (creative writing/poetry). They have a studio in Ledbury.

After discussion with a range of local organisations and people living with dementia, they decided to set up a social art club offering stimulating, varied and appropriate art activities over 12 weeks for people experiencing dementia, accompanied by their 'Carers' who were also invited to participate.

In 2023 the Heaton fund gave an award to set up the 'Art and Cake' club.

Those who attended do not live in a care home, where they would receive professional care. They live an isolated life at home with minimal input from any external care providers and for some, this is a lonely existence.

Attendees made artwork suitable to send in the post to family living elsewhere - so items were sent to London, Avon, America and South Africa. Other artwork was shared with infrequent visits from family to Ledbury.

For 11 weeks the 'Fabulously Free From' cake company in Hereford delivered freshly made and gluten-free cake each week, without charge. The group helped decide which cake from a menu they would like to eat, and then discussed cakes, food, baking.

Each week had a unique theme and art/craft activities designed to be appropriate, stimulating, and allow different skills to be used or learned. The subject of the activity initiated conversations, creating opportunities for people to get to know one another as they worked together. Given people's advanced stage of dementia, Red Earth CIC was pleased that the combination of cake and art within their studio space, was warm, welcoming and accessible.

Those who had dementia in the group were initially and understandably quietish, but once they were familiar with the weekly sessions, they quickly became noticeably more confident and relaxed; initiating conversation and they began to bond as a group and make friends. There was lots of sharing of stories, life histories and humour. For carers participating with their loved ones, a support system was established between the wives, husbands, and daughters of those with dementia.

A visit from Age UK, who have shown an interest in how Red Earth offer art sessions, has resulted in several email conversations, as they we acted as a mentor to share their expertise.

Red Earth CIC provided the following account from an attendee:

*"One gentleman, R, hasn't had the opportunity to join in on social activities for some time as his dementia and immobility are worsening rapidly, which he is aware of. His wife is his carer. They used to have an active social life and were also both physically very fit. He reluctantly came to the first Arts & Cake Club, and then came to every single meeting. By being in this communal group, R felt less self-conscious about his memory loss as he was trying to express himself and reminisce. He made friends with another gentleman with dementia and found connections in their jobs, which they shared. He misses his son and family in America and wanted to make things to send, and by doing this, he opened up a new type of conversation with his son, who was proud and appreciative of what his Dad had made. R had no previous interest in crafts, but his wife does, so we gave them things to do together at home, and this craft activity kept R busy at home. The things he made he brought to show and share with the group. R's dexterity in his hands improved because he was using different tools to make artwork. R told his wife how much he liked the session, he also told us how much he enjoyed the session.*

*For 16 weeks he attended and we could see how his health was deteriorating, but he continued to enjoy each Arts & Cake club. Sadly, towards the end of the sessions, his wife said he would moving when somewhere is available into a Ledbury care home.”*

The practitioners provided the following approach to guide people sensitively while chatting to help support them to continue to have a voice:

- 1:1 conversation with people, whilst moving around the room and working with people.
- Patient and considered conversation and asking a question which might lead to an answer.
- Supporting someone as they struggle with lost words, forgetting what they were saying mid-sentence or misunderstanding.

Red Earth CIC noticed how everyone enjoyed the sessions away from home, in a different environment, meeting new people and seeing new friendships develop. Despite the stress of the situation and sadness as a spouse becomes the carer; trying to adapt and deal with a complex and demoralising illness; participants thanked the practitioners each week. Some of their comments included:

E *“This is a nice quiet space, and you can go at your own pace. From my point of view, I can sit and relax, do arts and crafts, it’s the only activity we do together each week, outside of the house”.*

R *“I cannot believe I just made this, it’s really good.”*

P *“I look forward to this, it’s really helping me to relax.”*

J *“I don’t make things anymore at home, I make lovely things here.”*

E *“Our son received his dad’s card, and it was a talking point on the telephone together”. Their son lives in America.”*

P *“It’s F’s birthday and I am going to display it all to our family who are visiting, all the things we have... made to show them.”*

F *“I liked art at school. This is the first time I have enjoyed painting again.”*

C *“Mum has always been creative, but she lost her confidence because of dementia, but she loves coming each week to this art club.”*

D *“Me and my wife never did arty things, and I am surprised she is joining in.”*

C *“Thank you for doing this in the morning, afternoons are no good for Mum, she’s tired in the afternoon.”* C’s mum is 91 years old.

P *“F likes coming here. We don’t really go out together very much.”*

A *“There is nothing else like this happening in Ledbury for people with dementia. This is the only place me and my husband go to together.”*

**Severn Freewheelers** received a grant toward the cost of a replacement blood bike.



New bike for Severn Freewheelers

Consisting mainly of motorbike riders, car drivers, controllers and fundraisers, the team at Severn Freewheelers has grown since its foundation in 2007 from membership of one motorcycle and five volunteers to the current fleet size of nine and over 150 members, representing a variety of people from many walks of life.

They transport blood products, urgent samples and medical supplies, along with donated breast milk to hospitals and milk banks across and beyond the Herefordshire area. They also partner with other blood bike groups across the country to relay samples across regions and provide an invaluable volunteer service to the NHS Trusts that they serve and to the area population as a whole.

In transporting blood products, urgent samples and medical supplies to and from hospitals, patient recovery at home far outweighs hospital stay, so by transporting medicines from the hospital pharmacy to the patient, Severn Freewheelers speeds up patient discharge time.

An award from our Iron Fund enabled the purchase of the new bike and enhanced response times for rural hospitals sending and receiving medical supplies to and from major centres during off-peak times (nights, weekends and Bank holidays).

## **Giving with HCF**

Herefordshire Community Foundation (HCF) has funds and programmes that enable it to support worthy local causes and individuals. Every single one of its funds and programmes is focused on tackling specific local challenges. Almost all of these rely on donations to make a difference in Herefordshire.

Every donation makes a real difference to groups, communities and individuals and helps HCF make Herefordshire stronger

### **How to make a donation**

Donations may be made via the HCF website as single or regular donations. You can choose the fund you would like to support and follow the options to give a single donation or make a regular commitment. Donations can be made via credit card, PayPal or by cheque or bank transfer (i.e. offline donation).

<https://www.herefordshirecf.org/ways-of-giving/make-a-donation/>

### **Start a Fund**

HCF can also help you make a difference in Herefordshire by setting up a named fund. Our expert team makes it easy and efficient to establish a charitable fund that supports the causes that are important to you.

- We match your interests with local needs
- We look after your investment
- We handle all compliance & governance

<https://www.herefordshirecf.org/ways-of-giving/start-a-fund/>

## **Leave a Gift in your Will, set up Legacy & Memorial Funds**

By leaving a gift in your will, you can give to Herefordshire and to causes that matter to you. Donations can be made by cheque, bank transfer or a donation to a specific fund.

HCF memorial funds offer a thoughtful and lasting way to honour loved ones with a connection to Herefordshire. We work at your pace, making arrangements as quickly or slowly as you wish. If required, a fund can be established within days.

### **Memorial funds provide an opportunity to:**

- Celebrate the memory of a loved one in a meaningful and enduring way
- Support a cause that held a special place in their heart.
- Create a positive and personal focus for family and friends to unite around
- Augment donations through tax-efficient schemes e.g. Gift Aid
- Avoid the complexities and administrative burden of establishing a separate charitable memorial trust or foundation through the Charity Commission

<https://www.herefordshirecf.org/ways-of-giving/legacy-memorial-funds/>

*“To have a fund managed by HCF makes perfect sense to us. Starting a charity from scratch takes a huge amount of work and due diligence, which as well as working full time would have its added pressures. This way we can solely focus on raising money and know that it is in the safest possible hands and going to the causes that matter to us as a family.”*

**Laura Hughes, George’s Fund**

## **Disaster Relief**

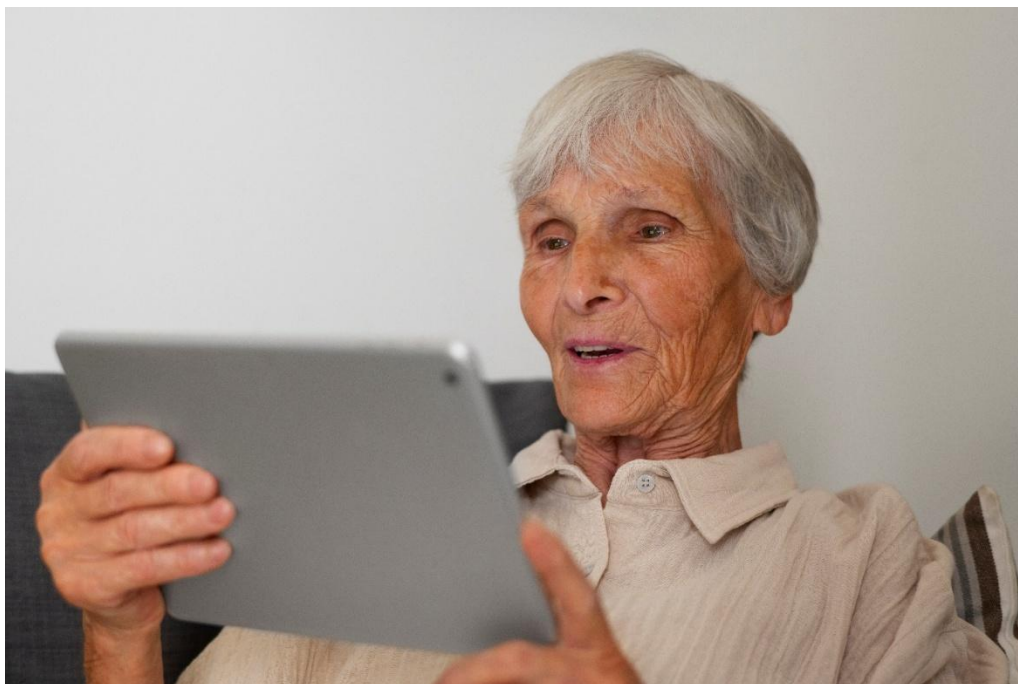
HCF has an Emergency Relief Fund that provides vital support to individuals and families affected by flooding or any other natural disasters. The fund’s priority is to offer immediate financial support for people affected and to help with urgent needs such as the cost of temporary accommodation or purchasing items that enable residents to stay in their homes, such as dehumidifiers and replacing damaged food, clothing or bedding.

They provided nine grants of £250 to help individuals and also awarded a larger grant for a village hall that suffered from flooding again this year. This grant allowed them to clean and repair the hall floor and part-pay toward the increase in gas and electricity costs due to using a dehumidifier.

Herefordshire Care Fund is also available to fund any Herefordshire emergency or requirement that needs an immediate response. The emphasis is on individuals, the homeless, poor or needy, such as emergency replacement clothing for a family after a house fire, or an essential home appliance for an individual or family needing urgent rehousing after domestic abuse. This year the fund helped an individual who lost their possessions in a house fire.

The Logistic Aid Fund facilitates the transport of essential goods and emergency relief from Herefordshire to Ukraine and bordering countries. This year, they funded two trips carrying aid to Ukraine.

## **IT & Technology**



Older lady using a tablet

In January 2023 HCF purchased one hundred Tactus Geobooks from XMA at less than cost price. Each came fully loaded with Microsoft Windows 10 Pro Education and a 2-year warranty. To meet their Corporate and Social Responsibility, XMA supplied part-funded laptops to anyone where there would be a social value or benefit through their digital poverty mission to “Connect The UK.”

In 2023-24, we were able to provide 22 laptops for 12 Herefordshire organisations including food banks and community hubs. The estimated number of beneficiaries from this funding would be 659.

One large foodbank also received funding for a colour printer to allow the printing of leaflets and posters to increase awareness of the organisation and promote the collection of donations.

At Much Birch Village Hall, three laptops were provided. These have been used at social gatherings and in IT workshops with Tea and Tech. Feedback from the community has been very positive - *"Being able to access services from a laptop at the coffee morning was such a relief. It's a useful tool for us to use at events such as the coffee morning".*

Tea & Tech workshops help rural and older people in the community become more tech-savvy and IT-confident, resulting in reduced isolation, greater access to more online services, feeling more able to keep in touch with their community, improving a sense of inclusivity and a greater ability to stay in touch with friends and family.

HCF also provided laptops to 14 Ukrainian families participating in hvoss' Ukrainian Integration Project, supporting families who had arrived in Herefordshire after having to leave their homes in Ukraine.

*"One couple have been able to use their laptop to start learning English online. They arrived in Herefordshire with very little English and so being able to attend evening classes that suit their schedule and working pattern is making a big difference to be able to continue their learning. This will open up more opportunities for them and increase their confidence. The lady has also started her own online business with the laptop which has made it a lot more straightforward to run the business."*



Top: The Hub @ Ross on Wye, Middle: Open Arms Kington (OAK) CIC, Bottom: The Cracked Slipper Company

## Poverty and disadvantage

HCF has two funds that particularly support individuals in Herefordshire who are in poverty or disadvantage. These are Iron Fund and Household Support Fund. The Surviving Winter Fund also helps households with the rising cost of household fuel during the winter.

The Iron Fund provides grants to alleviate the needs of people in Herefordshire. It favours projects that encourage community cohesion and those that alleviate issues of isolation and disadvantage.

The Household Support Fund is a programme that HCF administers on behalf of Herefordshire Council with funding from Department of Work & Pensions. Grants provided to vulnerable households allow them to cope with the rising cost of living. Funds awarded pay for fuel costs and/or the purchase of essential household appliances, such as cookers and washing machines.

The Iron Fund made 21 awards for households in need of white goods and furniture, plus an award to Herefordshire Badminton Club to provide bursaries to households which might otherwise not be able to afford club fees.

In 2023-24, 346 households and 769 individuals benefitted from the Household Support Fund and Surviving Winter Fund with awards totalling £160,991.

Here are just a few examples of the difference support to individuals in need has made:

*“The funding has given the individual and her family ease of worry. This has given the individual a chance to focus on her mental health, making improvements and changes.”*

*“Using HCF to support those I work with, and you have been AMAZING!!! Making lots of positive changes and opportunities for people! Thank you!”*

*“Our client was really blown away by the support. He feels like a weight has been lifted. His neighbour, who picks up food for him, says he looks 10 years younger because of the easing of stress by the fuel grant.”*

*“A new washing machine and cooker have given a family a new lease of life! The HCF has been a lifesaver – literally!”*

Other funds that awarded grants in this category include Community Warm Spaces, Conygree, Herefordshire Rural Support Network, Iron Fund and Joanies (England & Wales).

## **Herefordshire Badminton Academy**



Herefordshire Badminton Academy provides coaching and competitive opportunities in badminton, in a professional, fun and supportive learning environment for young people between the ages of 6 and 18.

A grant awarded to the academy enabled them to set up a hardship fund to promote the benefits of the sport for all, so that any parent of a child attending classes can apply for support.

The Academy is a really important part of the sport offered in Hereford. Lots of children come from deprived parts of the city and most of these can walk to the sports hall at The Academy school. They would not be able to attend elsewhere, as they are unable to pay for transport. Other families have two, three or even four siblings attending and say that they struggle to pay for more than one child.

This grant has allowed children who might otherwise not have this opportunity, somewhere to go and be socially, physically and mentally active on Sundays and enable those living in poverty to send their children to clubs. The fund has also encouraged new parent volunteers from the local community, who enjoy giving their time and having a sense of purpose. 100 children from Herefordshire have benefitted from this funding.

*“We have a family of five who couldn't afford to send all of their children to badminton because of the fees involved, so they stopped coming. Once they heard of the reduced fees and the hardship grant, they were able to come and pay for 3 children and get 2 completely free. Without the funding, this family wouldn't have been able to participate in their favourite sport.”*

## **Stronger Communities**

Building stronger communities in Herefordshire is at the heart of what HCF does. Grants are awarded to worthy causes and individuals, using funds donated by local residents, families and businesses.

In the Stronger Communities theme, 42 grants totalling £184,762 were awarded. Awards included those such as the South Wye Development Trust for improvements to The Kindle Centre and another to Ross on Wye Town Council for their Dean Hill Park Regeneration Project, which benefitted 85,369 people.

The High Sheriff made 12 awards in this category. The average value was £1,000. The projects and organisations all supported Law and Order, Community Cohesion and Life Chances.

Herefordshire Together, funded by Public Health at Herefordshire Council, made six awards to impactful community-led initiatives in this category. These awards were for:

- Community Link Worker @ The Hub, Ross-on-Wye
- Community Engagement Lead at Hereford Community Farm
- Community Engagement & outreach at OAKS, Kington
- Core funding for Ross-on-Wye Community Development Trust
- Counselling support for women, men, and children aged 5+, their families who have survived rape or sexual abuse
- Shed's Together Co-ordinators to support a group of volunteers to deliver sessions for over 50s

Other funds that made awards in the category are Becket Bulmer, Bulmer Gilmour, Community Warm Spaces, Green Oak Fund, HCF Emergency Relief Fund, Iron Fund, Joanies (England & Wales), HCF Mental Health Fund and Teme Valley.

**West Hereford Pétanque Club (WHPC)** is an incorporated association set up in 2022. The club is open to all and concessionary memberships are offered to encourage family groups, OAPs, military personnel and veterans. The sport provides gentle but prolonged activity and stimulation via friendly competition. The nature of the sport helps to widen people's social circles.

An award from the Iron Fund helped them to set up a permanent home attached to a community hall in Credenhill, enabling them to build and lay a playing surface (terrain) with the stone and timber and purchase of a player/spectator shelter (part-funded). They also purchased Pétanque equipment and floodlighting to enable them to operate from a temporary base until their new home was built. In the future, they aim to accommodate a minimum of 12 - 12m x 3m Pétanque Pistes to play local, regional and national Pétanque events.



New hut and terrain at West Hereford Pétanque Club (WHPC)

As a result of the funding, WHPC has become established in the wider Pétanque and locally through its affiliation with Hinton FC.

The sociability of WHPC has proved to be a welcome diversion for three new members suffering from bereavement, personal trauma and the associated isolation. Also has helped existing members to cope with family and personal ill health. An account is provided below.

*“As part of a "Mental Health Day" at the community hall, WHPC was approached by one particular gentleman who was intrigued by our new facility . His wife had recently passed away and he was searching for " a new activity to take part in" following his loss and resulting loneliness. After meeting some of our existing members of a similar age and trying the game he was eager and willing to "sign up" on the spot. He is now a very active member of WHPC!”*

**West Hereford Pétanque Club**

**Herefordshire Mencap** received funding for ‘Hear Our Voices’



Participants at 'Hear our Voices' event at The Kindle Centre.

'The Herefordshire Society for the Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults' (now known as Herefordshire Mencap) was set up in 1955 by families who had children with a learning disability, then termed 'mental handicap'. It was and remains affiliated with the Royal Society Mencap, which itself was started by a parent, Judy Frydd.

As the dynamics within the learning disability landscape have changed - at last recognising that people with a learning disability too have a voice, can make choices and should be able to plan their own lives (with the right support to do so) - Herefordshire Mencap has been present to support and promote the needs of those with learning disabilities in Herefordshire.

They work in partnership with all local disability organisations, local authorities, local health services, carers' organisations, West Mercia Police, and anyone who can enhance the lives of people with a learning disability, together with their family members.

Herefordshire Mencap identified that when statutory and voluntary organisations require people's opinions, the same people are asked without reaching out to others and that there needs to be a bigger pool of local people to have their say. Local organisations were surveyed and asked:

- Do you enjoy speaking up about what matters to you and other people with learning disabilities?
- Would you like to meet other people with learning disabilities who speak up as you do?
- Do you get asked a lot and would like to share the load or find better ways to say what you think?
- Would you like to see how you can represent people with learning disabilities with a stronger voice by working together?

A good response was received and the project was born.

In October 2023, Herefordshire Mencap teamed with Healthwatch Herefordshire\* to deliver an event at the Kindle Centre, Hereford, that gave people with learning disabilities a voice and enabled them to share their opinions. This networking event led to some great partnerships working together across Herefordshire and was supported by an award from the HCF Mental Health Fund.

53 local people with learning disabilities from 11 local organisations directly supporting or working with people with learning disabilities, came together in October 2023 to discuss ways that their voices could be heard by statutory authorities and others, to share their stories and meet new people. Attendees were encouraged to talk about their lives and what affected them and to think of ways to effect change across the county.

#### **What attendees liked about the day:**

*"Today was amazing I would love to do more."*

*"Everyone got to have their say"*

*"The variety of organisations, group discussions, sharing of information, seeing individuals speaking up and being involved."*

Please watch the YouTube film of the day. It shows, more than just words, what the day meant to people.

<https://youtu.be/x0cfbb7KFF4?si=bew7hS7osQovGCMH>

\* Healthwatch Herefordshire is an independent statutory organisation and social and healthcare champion in Herefordshire.

By the end of the day, attendees confirmed their desire to continue, emphasising the need for the project to be sustainable.. Two more days were held in April and October 2024, thanks to the lottery and other funding. An increasing number of people with learning disabilities contributed to both the planning and delivery of these sessions. They were asked to create an ice-breaker activity centred on participation in decision-making, self-advocacy, and confidence-building. Family carers were also invited to subsequent events, in acknowledgement of the fact that many adults with learning disabilities continue to live with their families.

*“The grant enabled a really good event to kick-start an ongoing programme of people coming together to share their ideas about change in their lives and to make them happen: meeting others from around the county, either working in groups or perhaps become a leader. We really appreciate the opportunity that the funding has given us to start a process. By the end of the day, the atmosphere in the room was electric with a "Yes we can" air. It was more than the organising team had dreamt of. What was good was the young age of some of the most vociferous people. What is needed is for the work Herefordshire Mencap and others have accomplished over the years to continue.”*  
Herefordshire Mencap

## Feedback

At HCF we love to hear stories from those who have received funding from us and request feedback from our grant recipients as part of their end-of-grant monitoring report. Here are some of the things they said this year.

*“We appreciate the assistance you have provided over the years and without we would not be able to provide volunteering opportunities and run a family not-for-profit event”*

Wye Float

*“Thank you again for supporting our project - we are ever grateful for your continued funding and support particularly as our new garden and project develops.”*

Growing Local CIC

*“Thank you again for yet another grant that has made such a difference to the local community.”*

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| The Big Skill CIC |
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| <i>"This has not only given many children and families something positive to do in the community and something to work for, it has also helped us as a dance school keep our prices as low and affordable to all families as well as help us keep a float and doing what we love to do. Thank you for all your support. The impact of performing and experiencing something positive for the children each week was heartwarming to be part of."</i> |
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| Melody Dance Company CIC |
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| <i>"We so appreciate receiving this grant, it has made a big impact. We're a small charity and at the start of fundraising, so receiving support like this makes a difference. Thank you."</i> |
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| The Family Place Foundation |
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| <i>"Just very happy with the whole process, such lovely and helpful people. Thank you."</i> |
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| Much Birch Village Hall |
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| <i>"We want to thank everyone involved for the generous grant that has enabled us to offer amazing opportunities to the young people around the Bromyard area."</i> |
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| Scouts Bromyard |
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| <i>"It was nice to have comments from your team on our Facebook posts. Thank you for taking an interest and supporting what we do"</i> |
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| Echo – Eaton Barn Pop-up Markets |
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| <i>"On behalf of everyone here at Re-engage, thank you again for your support, which enables us to continue making a difference in the lives of isolated and lonely older people across Herefordshire."</i> |
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|           |
|-----------|
| Re-engage |
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*"Of particular note is the HCF ability to steer the application to match a potential funding pot. This is a really brilliant way for HCF to continue to support innovative arts and culture/heritage events in Herefordshire."*

Feral Productions

*"Thank you for your grant and the opportunity to share its impact. It has been hugely beneficial and important in developing opportunities for the children and growing these further. The grant has helped the seed of an idea to grow into something that will continue to bear fruit for some time."*

Stretton Sugwas Church of England Academy

*"We are immensely grateful to HCF and the Iron Fund for your support of this project which would have been very difficult to fund otherwise, there being a surprising lack of funding for emergency equipment such as this, nationally."*

Royal National College for the Blind

*"We can only thank you for the huge donation. it made a big difference to us this year knowing our 2 main core costs were fully funded. Core costs are extremely important in the day-to-day running and being able to carry on providing treatments etc to help some of the most debilitating symptoms of our members. Energy costs have risen with no help for charities, the medical oxygen is a vital part of treatment, so whilst both these items were almost invisible, we could not do without the oxygen supplies and the energy donation ensured we had a warm safe space for our members to come."*

Oxygen & Wellness Therapy Centre

*"Thank you all for the support and guidance you have provided to us setting up as a new charity, it has been truly amazing we look forward to working with you all in the future."*

Carers of Herefordshire

*"All of our involvement with HCF has been nothing but positive and I thank you for your support and belief in us as a charity and the work that we do."*

*Dementia Matters- Here(fordshire)*

*"The Iron Fund grant has been a significant contribution to our funding for the last year and provided much-needed continuity for staffing our Herefordshire team."*

*Hope Support Services*

*"We are very grateful for the continued support, help and advice, partnership working that Herefordshire Community Foundation give us and we look forward to talking to you in the future so that we can continue to support our local community."*

*South Wye Development Trust*

*We are so grateful for your funding. we invite any members of your organisation to join us when we have a visit, to see for yourselves how much good your funding does. lots of visits booked for lambing time!"*

*J Hoddell & Partners*

*"We are very grateful for your support which has enabled us to put on the bi-monthly sessions without the pressure of finding funding. Before the funding, we were looking at closing the group due to the financial pressure to fund each session. We are very aware of diversifying income and we look to local businesses for support. We have also engaged with Andrew Wood of Herefordshire Reuse and recycling centre who is very supportive of our initiative. it has been a challenge to get this group up and running and we're very grateful for your support, taking the pressure of volunteers and enabling the young people in the area to come together without financial pressures."*

*Staunton on Wye Youth Café*

*"Thank you to Joanies Fund for your continued support of Amber's work in transforming the lives of young people. We couldn't do it without your kindness and generosity."*

*The Amber Foundation*

*"It has been a pleasure to work with the foundation and the fund. We are incredibly grateful for your support for the Youth Lab programme and the Cambridge Film Trust as an organisation. Contributions like yours help small charities such as ours, to implement and continue our projects and achieve tangible results."*

Herefordshire Mencap

*"The continued support and generosity of the Becket Bulmer Trust of the Fitzwilliam @ Hay Chamber Music Festival is something that we are extremely appreciative of. This support has meant that the festival has been able to develop and grow into a more diverse event and is now attracting and benefitting a wider audience and is recognised as a local and national annual event."*

Black Mountains Chamber Music Trust



'Future Talent' is on air with AudioActive

## **List of organisations who benefitted from grants 2023-24**

Advice for Renters  
Age UK Hereford & Localities  
Age UK Herefordshire & Worcestershire  
Arts & Crafts Community Centre, Ewyas Harold  
Aspire Living  
Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain  
At the Hub  
AudioActive  
Aylestone School  
Basement Youth Trust  
BCHA  
Be More Frank  
Black Mountains Chamber Music  
Brampton Abbots Parish Hall  
Brimfield Village Hall  
British Disabled Angling Association  
Bromyard Foodbank  
Bromyard Methodist Church  
Bromyard Scouts  
Cambridge Film Trust  
Canon Pyon C of E Primary School  
Carers of Herefordshire  
Christian Life Church  
Circus Eruption  
Close House Projects  
CPRE film project  
Craftspace  
Community Chaplaincy Association  
Connexus Enterprises  
Cultivating Learning and Nature (CLaN) CIC  
Dementia Matters - Here  
Eardisland Village Hall  
ECHO  
Ellwood YFC  
Encore Enterprises  
Equal Vision CIC Ltd  
Friends of Castle Green  
Friends of Ledbury Children's Centre  
Get Set Girls  
Good Nugget Academy  
Greyfriars Flood Group  
Growing Change CIC  
Growing Local CIC  
Gympanzees  
Harry's Pals

Haygrove Community Gardens  
Hay Music Trust  
Hands Up for the Planet  
Healthwatch  
Helping Angels Charitable Association  
Hereford Amateur Pantomine  
Hereford College of Arts  
Hereford Community Farm  
Hereford Football Association  
Hereford Make  
Hereford Police Male Voice Choir  
Hereford Badminton Academy  
Hereford Cider Museum  
Hereford City of Sanctuary  
Hereford Foodbank  
Hereford & Worcester First Responders  
Herefordshire Board Gamers  
Herefordshire Green Network  
Herefordshire Historic Churches  
Herefordshire Light Infantry Museum  
Herefordshire Mencap  
Hereford Nuture through Nature  
Herefordshire Rural Hub  
Herefordshire & Worcestershire Health & Care NHS Trust  
Herefordshire Young & Young Adult Carers  
High Sheriff Shrieval Lecture  
Home Start Herefordshire  
Hope Support Services  
Hothouse Theatre  
Hunderton Community Gardens  
hvoss  
Journeyman Mentoring  
Kent Enterprise Trust  
Kingstone Village Hall  
Kingswood Arts  
Lea Lunch Club  
Ledbury Foodbank  
Ledbury Poetry Festival  
Ledbury Primary School  
Logistics Aid  
Longlands Care Farm  
Make 2nds Count  
Marches Family Network  
Marden Links  
Megan Baker House  
Melody Dance Company  
Mentor Link

Migrant Empowerment Group  
Molly Ollys Wishes  
Much Birch Village Hall  
Open Arms Kington (OAK) CIC  
Orleton Young Farmers Club  
Ormiston Families  
Outkast Panda Crew C.I.C  
Oxygen & Therapy Wellness Centre  
PCC of Leominster  
Pheonix Bereavement  
Portsmouth and Portland Sail Training Trust (PPSTT)  
Ross on Wye Town Council  
Rotherwas Together  
Royal National College for the Blind  
Severn Freewheelers  
South Wye Development Trust  
Staunton on Wye Talk Community Hub  
Staunton on Wye Village Hall  
Stretton Sugwas C of E Academy  
St Martin's with St Francis Hub  
St Mary's Kington PCC Church Organ  
St Thomas Cantilupe C of E Primary  
Sutton Walls Conservation  
React Club CIC  
Red Earth CIC  
Re-engage Ltd  
Ross-on-Wye Community Development Trust  
The Amber Foundation  
The APE Project  
The Big Skill  
The British Horse Society  
The Brookfield School  
The Cart Shed  
The CLD Trust  
The Courtyard Trust  
The Cracked Slipper Company  
The Ethel Trust  
The Family Place Foundation  
The Green Monster Co  
The Living Room  
The Matrix Trust  
Up 'N Away  
West Hereford Petanque Club  
West Merica Rape & Sexual Abuse Support Services  
West Mercia Women's Aid  
Wigmore Village Hall  
Winchester Youth Counselling

Withington Group PC  
Wye Float  
Wye Play  
Yarpole Parish Good Neighbour Scheme  
Young star Mentoring  
Young & Inspired  
Youth Dream (Selsey) Ltd



Wye Float

**Contact:**

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