

VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

12 July 2024 Issue 7



Love Your Neighbourhood

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

We would like to say a massive “**THANK YOU!**” to all the groups and individuals who took part in the [Love Your Neighbourhood](#) (LYN) Weekend of Action so enthusiastically. There was lots of activity happening all across the district last weekend, too much to cover everything in this newsletter. A total of 21 events were held, with 822 volunteering hours pledged, which is a fantastic result.

As well as helping show our neighbourhoods some love, sprucing and tidying up where we live, there was plenty of creative things happening too.



Children from New Swannington Primary enjoyed a

craft session at Meadowview to paint flowerpots, which they then planted up to celebrate the occasion.



Local residents in Greenhill, Coalville, also came together to tidy up their community garden, repairing raised beds, applying compost and planting up with vegetables.

LYN Litter Wombles

The North West Leicestershire Litter Wombles do an amazing job week in and week out across our district. Thank you to every single one of you for helping make our communities look so beautiful.

Ashby Wolds Litter Heroes were out in force last weekend; 11 heroes picked seven key areas, collecting 15 bags of rubbish.



Thank you for all your efforts throughout the year!

Well done to the **Diseworth Wombles** who worked so hard within the village, collecting 17 bags of rubbish on the day and coming back to help tidy up at the Cross.



Ten **Castle Donington Litter Wombles** also hit the streets, collecting 11 bags of litter. Also, congratulations to the group on their recent nomination for a Green Award in the [BBC Make a Difference Awards](#). You can listen to their recent excellent BBC Radio Leicester interview [here](#).



LYN Community Events



Last Saturday community LYN events were held in three areas - Greenhill, Coalville; Wigeon Estate, Measham; Melrose Estate, Thringstone. Patch walks had been carried out to identify areas that needed further work and, on the day, NWLDC teams were on hand to help collect larger items, clear communal areas and generally make the neighbourhoods look so much better.



At Melrose Estate in Thringstone we had some super keen young people who could spot litter from a dozen paces and are likely to be our next generation of litter wombles. Well done to everyone!



Green Shoots Grants



Don't forget to order up your bulbs in time for autumn planting!

[Green Shoots grants](#) are available to constituted community groups and parish councils to help communities brighten up their areas in spring.

Mixed Bulb Species:

- Spring bulb mixture comprising of crocus large flowered mix, tulip rainbow mixed, daffodil & narcissi mixed
- Long Season bulb mixture comprising of snowdrops, crocus, narcissi, tulips, mixed alliums

Individual Bulb Species:

- Daffodils
- Crocus (mixed)
- Tulips (naturalising mixed)
- Narcissi (mixed)
- Snowdrops

Please note that there will be limited numbers of daffodils and tulips this season due to the weather conditions between November up until April, so early ordering is recommended as these will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.



Uniform Swap Shop

[The school uniform swap shop is back](#) at venues across the district and the rails are already packed with school uniform ready to find a new home.



Thank you to all the venues who have come on board and kindly offered up space for the swap shop, it's hugely appreciated. You can find the full list of participating venues and schools [here](#).

The swap shops will accept donations throughout the summer but please help spread the word that people don't have to bring uniform along to be able to take some. Families are welcome to come along and take what they need.

NWL Community Lottery

Has your group signed up to the NWL Community Lottery as a good cause yet? This is a great way to promote and raise funds for your group. For further information click [here](#).



Key dates coming up:

- Tues 16 July - NWL community lottery opens for ticket sales
- Sat 24 August - first draw takes place!
- Sat 31 August - NWL superdraw - there will be three great prizes for lottery players in our district only!

Funding

[NWL Community Grants](#)

Visit our [grants' page](#) to find out about:

- [Green Shoots](#)
- [Small Grant](#)
- [Zero Carbon Grant](#) - now up to £1k!



[Investing in Spaces and Places Grant](#)

Grants of between £10,000 to £25,000 from the ASDA Foundation to 'enable communities to have a safe space for people to be together'. Deadline for applications is Sun 28 July.

[Biffa Award](#)

Main grants from £10,000 to £75,000 are available for projects that focus on: rebuilding biodiversity; community buildings; recreation; cultural facilities. Total project cost must be under £200,000. Projects must be within five miles of a Biffa operation and 10 miles of an active licensed landfill site.

[David Wilson Foundation](#)

This grant fund is focused upon 'advancing the health and wellbeing of younger members of the community' and supports schemes that build skills and confidence through education and sport. Size of grant undisclosed, can fund capital costs and salaries and running costs if appropriate.

[EMA Community Fund](#)

Organisations within the [EMA Area of Benefit](#) can apply for grants up to £2,000 for tangible items of lasting benefit, such as equipment and furniture. Next deadline is Wed 14 August.

[EMA Community Sponsorship Fund](#)

Provides grants up to £200 to support local charities and community groups with projects and events that provide a benefit to the local community. Must be based within the [EMA Area of Benefit](#). Next deadline is Tues 24 December.

[Monthly Funding Bulletin](#)

For a really comprehensive list of funding available, check out the latest funding bulletin from Leicestershire Communities. It's well worth a read!



VAL Employment Hub County



Meet the Voluntary Action LeicesterShire (VAL) [Employment Hub County](#) team for North West Leicestershire and Hinckley & Bosworth. They are bridging the gap between local employers and local people seeking employment opportunities.

Employers

Collette Bird is VAL's Business Engagement Project Officer, working with employers across our district to understand their recruitment needs and explore ways for them to become more inclusive and promote the benefits of their employment offers.

Job Seekers

Phil Pearson is VAL's Applicant Engagement Support Officer, looking to identify job seekers to ensure they are ready to apply for roles and go through recruitment processes and then match them to employers and job roles. Please [email the team directly](#) for further information and support.

