

Dear Ukrainian neighbours, guests, hosts, volunteers and supporters

1) **The Severn Valley Railway** Trip 16th July 2023 🚂🚂🚂🚂🚂🚂🚂

We had a fantastic time on Sunday 16th July on the Severn Valley Railway, just a little bit of rain, which didn't dampen the spirits, families had a lovely time on the steam train from Bridgnorth to Highley. Families enjoyed a picnic lunch and the children were fascinated by a visit to the old locomotives and other exhibits in the Engine House Visitor Centre on Highley Station, Amazingly, we had 80 Ukrainian guests and 10 volunteers and two hosts. People came from North Herefordshire, South Shropshire, Shrewsbury and Broseley.

A big thank you to the South Shropshire and North Herefordshire Refugee support group for their help and support, and Knighton and Ludlow Rotary clubs, and Hereford Diocese who funded the visit.

2) **New Social Event for August - Friday 25th August** 🤍💙🤍💙🤍💙🤍💙

We will celebrate **Ukrainian Independence Day**, 🤍💙🤍💙🤍💙 (and although the actual day is Thursday 24th August, a number of people said they would prefer a Friday due to work commitments the following day)

We warmly invite you attend a BBQ/ food share on Friday 25th August 6.00pm – 10.30

**At Ashford Carbonell Village Hall, Near Ludlow SY8 4BZ. (a few miles from Ludlow)
If the weather forecast is rainy, please still attend, and bring food to share, there is a lovely village hall, and there will be a bar.**

There is a field for Children's games early in the evening and we will eat altogether from around 7.00pm

This will be a fun evening for all Ukrainian families and friends.

We will provide a gas BBQ to cook on, but if you prefer to have a charcoal BBQ, you can also bring your own. Please bring your own food to cook, and any salads and puddings with you. There will be a bar manned by volunteers from Ashford Carbonell, and for Ukrainians we will provide one free drink on arrival.

We will also provide:

- * A patio area to cook in.**
- * A Marquee in the grounds**
- * Lots of outdoor space for children (and adults) to play. Games for children may be organised**
- * The village hall will be open if the weather is cool or rainy (or both) and the bar is inside the hall. It's a lovely space and we will have music and dance**

*** Transport, if you find it difficult to get to the village hall and need a lift, please contact (within four days of the event) Peter Higgins who is our volunteer transport coordinator – email refugeesludlow@gmail.com or mobile 0775789708
Please invite your friends, and spread the word.**

Any queries or questions please ring Erica on 07974001310 Or email ericagarner@hotmail.co.uk or [OKSANA Kholevytska Yaremko](mailto:OKSANA.Kholevytska.Yaremko) is your local Ukrainian contact who is providing support to the Ludlow hub, Oksana can be contacted by email, so369369@gmail.com mobile 07786041678

3) Summer Camp for children – up to Friday 25th August



Summer Camp for Children, during the school holidays 24th July to the 26th of August four mornings per week (free of charge) (not Wednesdays)

We are very lucky to have Iryna Ivanik providing a summer camp for Ukrainian children during the school holidays. We hope this will help families with their work commitments, and will provide, (as last year) a stimulating and enjoyable programme of arts and crafts, sport and visits to museums, parks etc.

Iryna, who is leading these sessions, is able to offer a fantastic, varied programme of activities.

Information that you need as follows:

- The camp started on Monday 24th July and finish on Friday 25th August
- Days are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9 am to 1.00pm
- Venue: The Quakers Meeting House, St Marys Lane, (off Lower Corve Street) Ludlow, SY8 1DZ
- If parents would like their children to attend but may struggle with transport, please contact Peter Higgins who may be able to provide a volunteer to help (Peters contact details are above in section 2)

Please Iryna directly if you are interested in finding out more, 07438027943 or email ivanik_irina@ukr.net.

I have attached photographs of some of the activities that have already taken place during the last few weeks. 😊 😊

4) Laptops

We have a small number of new laptops to issue on a six monthly loan, ideally to young people moving from Junior school to secondary school. Please contact Erica if you would be interested for a Ukrainian child. Contact details ericagarner@hotmail.co.uk or mobile 07974001310.

5) Ukrainian students photography project exhibition

Attached is a poster, which gives details of an exhibition of local Ukrainian teenagers photographic skills, with the theme 'Where am I now'

The exhibition will be from 10-12 on Saturday 2nd September at the Leintwardine Community Centre, Leintwardine, SY7 0LB. Please do attend the exhibition if you are able.

6) Fetch Theatre Workshops

These will be on 14th & 21st October in Leintwardine Community Centre, Leintwardine, SY7 0LB. Focusing on Ukrainian folk tales with a performance on 21st October. This performance is suitable for primary school Ukrainian and English/Welsh Children. These are a non verbal form of visual theatre, with wonderful puppets, Please do circulate. <https://www.thefetch.co.uk/>

7) Have your say on how we can keep Ludlow a healthy and happy place to live - please complete this survey even if you don't live in Ludlow, but access services in Ludlow such as doctors, hospital, shops, sports facilities, clubs etc etc. This is open to all, including refugees, its your town too 😊 Shropshire council want to hear your views.

Please see above attachment for the link to the survey, or you can also request a paper copy via



Erica

Or here is the QR code to scan.

8) English lessons and Exam passes 🍷🍷🍷

We are very pleased to announce that seven of our English students successfully passed the GESE – Graded Examinations in Spoken English. These are for people of all ages who want to develop communicative English language speaking and listening skills for use in real life – whatever the purpose, whether for work, study, leisure or employment. The GESE is available at 12 levels: Grade 1-12, and offer a progressive framework for the development of English language for every learner. Please contact Jacki Moore for more information (contact details below)

- **English lessons** will continue three times a week, through the school holidays (subject to availability of teachers)

9) Furniture and help to move

We have a **village hall full of household items** that may be useful to Ukrainians setting up home, you can visit the hall to view them, but we will need to meet you at the hall. if you contact directly. Also, we can put a call out asking for specific items of furniture etc if required. We can also collect donated items and store at the village hall.

10) General updates

For contact at any time throughout the week-

Erica's contact details are – mobile 07974001310 or email ericagarner@hotmail.co.uk (Please contact for all queries, **except** English assessments, lessons, homework club, and exams)

Jacki's contact details are – mobile 07929656545 or email jackiamoore@gmail.com. For all queries relating to English lessons, assessments, homework club, and exams.

Peter Higgins – if you require help with transport. mobile 07757989708 or email refugeesludlow@gmail.com

Oksana Kholevytska Yaremko - will help with any general or specific queries, if she is not able to answer them directly Oksana will refer on to other people, or agencies where appropriate, mobile 07786041678 or +380953801277 or email so369369@gmail.com

Erica, Jacki, and Oksana will be at the Meeting House each month, and are always available for contact every day by either phone, text or email, they can meet you in person at the Meeting House or other venues if a face-to-face meeting is preferred.

The Saturday sessions for 2023 are as follows:

Saturday September 2nd 3-5pm (Alison Toulson provides help and support in finding jobs, but she **will not be able attend on this day**)

Saturday October 7th 3-5pm (Alison Toulson will be available for support)

Saturday November 4th 3-5pm (Alison Toulson will be available for support)

Saturday December 2nd 3-5pm (Alison Toulson will be available for support)

Please do make contact at any time if we can help in any way.

Erica, Jacki, Oksana, Peter.

Happy Summer holidays everyone

Erica

07974001310

Please let me know if you would like your email address removed from the mailing list.