

PRESS RELEASE NO 2 FOR LUDLOW ADVERTISER



TREE OF LIGHT SUPPORTS COMMUNITY LIFE

Each year, the Tree of Light arranged by the Ludlow Rotary Club gives local residents the opportunity to shine a light in memory of a loved one, to celebrate a special occasion or to send good wishes to friends or family by making a dedication and donation. All funds raised are earmarked by Ludlow Rotary Club for local projects through its annual community grants scheme, Ludlow Rotary Cares.

Donations made to last year's Tree of Light, along with money raised at the 2022 Ludlow Dog Day, made it possible for the Club to offer grants totalling £5,000 in support of 10 community projects in 2023.

David Burton of the Ludlow Men's Shed has since said "Ludlow Rotary Club have been fabulous supporters of Ludlow Men's Shed. During 2023 the Rotary grant enabled us to move from using mains-fed power tools to battery-powered tools. This has made a huge difference – no more power cables trailing across the floor or risks of electric shocks plus the ability to move around the workshop and assist others without setting up electrical connections. We have subsequently had no trips, falls or accidents this year".

Another recipient was Kimbolton St James Primary School. Sara Smith said "We've been able to buy an outdoor blackboard hundred square, beautiful waterfall water-play equipment, a writing cupboard with resources, an outdoor sink and hose and a planting/potting shelving unit. It's taken time to purchase everything and build/erect it, and as always, there's still lots to do. But we're super happy and so grateful for what we've been able to achieve this far"



Tracey and Debi on behalf of the Clun Valley Sewing Team said “With the support of Ludlow Rotary we have been able to deliver 120 menstrual care kits to women and girls in Angola. Kits are provided to young girls to enable them to attend school throughout the month, both improving their life chances and giving them dignity. Your kind grant enabled us to buy the fabric and other items needs to make the kits. We work hard to make sure each kit is brightly coloured and a joy to own, as well as the life changing practical difference made by having access to menstrual care items. Each kit costs around £10 to produce so your support was vital in helping us to achieve this goal.”



And South Shropshire Engineering Ambassadors, recent winners of The King’s Award for Voluntary Service, said “In securing this award, we would like to pay special thanks to Ludlow Rotary Club which plays a vital part in everything we do. We provide after-school clubs in a number of local schools, support schools in the assembly and competitive racing of Goblin cars, and arrange school visits to places of engineering interest. This

year the youngsters took their cars to the Curborough Sprint Course near Lichfield in Staffordshire to compete with other schools from Shropshire and Staffordshire”.

This year, the Tree of Light will be switched on at 5pm on Saturday 25 November on by the Mayor of Ludlow, Councillor Glenn Ginger, and the tree will remain lit until Twelfth Night on 6 January. Members of the public are invited to join a torch light procession led by the Rocksprings Community Choir and singing star Macy O from the Market Square to the Tree of Light, located in Castle Gardens.

Forms containing full information on how to submit a dedication may be obtained from St Laurence’s Parish Church, Nock Deighton Estate Agents or downloaded from www.ludlowrotaryclub.org.uk.

All dedications received by 13 December will be published in the Christmas edition of the Ludlow Advertiser. A complete list of dedications received by Twelfth Night will be recorded on the Ludlow Rotary Club website.

Notes for Editors

1. The photos may be used with the text.
2. A full list of charities and community organisations benefitting from this year's Ludlow Rotary Cares community grants scheme comprises:
 - The Friends of Cleobury Mortimer Primary School
 - The Arts Society Teme Valley
 - Kimbolton St James' Primary School
 - South Shropshire Engineering Ambassadors
 - Ludlow National Childbirth Trust (Ludlow)
 - Hands Together Ludlow (Ludlow Men's Shed Project)
 - Ludlow Food Bank
 - Clun Valley Music
 - Clun Valley Sewing Team
 - Ludlow Supports Refugees Group
3. For further information contact:
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