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 2023 Ludlow Dog Day, made it possible for the Club to offer grants totalling almost £7,000 in support of 11 community projects in 2024.

All grant recipients subsequently wrote to confirm how their grants had been used. Amongst the letters:

- Christine Perkins of Rockspring Community Choir said "We're very grateful to Ludlow Rotary Club for the grant the choir received, which has enabled us to purchase a projector and screen and scarves for choir members. It has meant that we are actually looking at our Musical Director rather than having our heads buried in a music score! The purchase of the scarves and ties has raised the



profile of the choir when we are taking part in fund raising concerts."

- Philip Sandell of 1st Ludlow Scouts wrote "We have now spent the grant that you so kindly gave on four first aid kits and an emergency shelter. As the shelter was cheaper than we were quoted, the balance of the grant was spent on hiring a GPS tracker for use in Scout expeditions so we can continuously track where the young people are at any time. It worked better than any of our expectations. It also saves the Leaders a lot of time looking for them when they take the wrong turning or divert because they don't like the look of the cows!"



- Rob Loynes on behalf of South Shropshire Engineering Ambassadors wrote: "This year we were able to provide interactive engineering projects for around 100 children, inspiring them to engage and further their understanding with a view to them becoming our engineers of the future. Without your kind and generous support for the work we do this would not be possible. A big thanks to the whole team at Ludlow Rotary Club."

This year, the Tree of Light in Castle Gardens will be switched on at 7pm on Friday 22 November by the Mayor of Ludlow, Councillor Beverley Waite, and the tree will remain lit until Twelfth Night on 6 January. The tree lighting will be preceded at 6.45pm by a torch light procession led by the Rocksprings Community Choir across the Market Square.

Notes for Editors

- 1. The photos, jpegs attached, 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:
 - 1st Ludlow Scout Group
 - South Shropshire Youth Forum
 - South Shropshire Engineering Ambassadors
 - Shropshire ME Group
 - Orleton Footpath Maintenance Group
 - Orleton Evergreens
 - Girl Guiding Ludlow
 - Gallows Bank Millenium Green Trust
 - Cleobury Mortimer Friendship Club
 - Rockspring Community Choir
 - Kyrebrook Daycare Centre CIC
- For further information contact: Barry Forrester <u>forrester.ludlow@gmail.com</u> 01584 878872 / 07786 078470