

# Herefordshire Rural Hub

Helping Rural Businesses Thrive

## February 2018 Newsletter

### Herefordshire Rural Hub CIC

Agriculture House  
Beech Business Park  
Tillington Road  
Hereford, HR4 9QJ

Tel: **01432 268 428**

Co-ordinator

**Cathy Meredith**

Mobile: **07970 181628**

[hub@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk](mailto:hub@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk)

Administrator

**Frances Keogh**

[admin@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk](mailto:admin@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk)

Event bookings

Tel: **01432 353 465**

[bookings@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk](mailto:bookings@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk)

Hub Directors

Liz Lloyd (Chair)  
Russell Carrington  
Chris England  
Christine Hope  
Cathy Meredith  
Kate Speke

Hub Hot Group

*The Directors and ....*

Jenny Beard  
Jon Clifford  
Ben Corbett  
Paul Crumpton  
Catherine Every  
Charlotte Gibb  
Clare Greener  
Rachel Jones  
Frances Keogh  
Andy Offer  
Julian Partridge  
Nick Read

### Disclaimer

*The Herefordshire Rural Hub accepts no liability for any direct, indirect or consequential loss arising from any action taken in reliance on the information contained in this newsletter.*

***BERRYS*** are supporting Herefordshire Rural Hub as the ***"Featured Go To Business"*** for February 2018

**BERRYS**  
PROPERTY | BUSINESS | PLANNING

Website: [www.berrys.uk.com](http://www.berrys.uk.com)

**Berrys provides a unique specialist service in planning and development and technical farm business advice from its base in rural Herefordshire.**

Rather than the generalist guidance provided by other agents, Berrys' team can advise on the technical, financial and strategic intricacies of all aspects of farm business management.

Berrys specialises in maximising the value of all rural business assets; whether it's promoting a piece of land for development, ensuring that any funding in place is optimum or simply ensuring that all compliance aspects are managed efficiently to avoid delay or penalties, our team can assist.

### **Berrys "Offer of the Month"**

**Our in-house specialist, Vicky Price, is offering a free 1-hour consultation to Rural Hub members either currently working in, or interested in diversifying into intensive livestock if you call her during February.**

Given the challenges faced by intensive livestock producers, this consultation offers a unique, no-obligation opportunity to consult with an expert on your best course of action in relation to funding, planning and compliance.

*To take up this offer, please contact*

**Vicky Price** Tel: **01544 598084** Email: [vicky.price@berrys.uk.com](mailto:vicky.price@berrys.uk.com)

***In order to help us reduce our costs, if you still receive this newsletter by POST, but are able to receive it by EMAIL (every month, plus other occasional updates) then please contact Frances by phone or email 01432 268 428 [admin@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk](mailto:admin@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk)***

Copy deadline for the next newsletter is:-

**15<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

**Herefordshire Rural Hub website.**

**Check it out at:- [www.herefordshireruralhub.co.uk](http://www.herefordshireruralhub.co.uk)**

*If you have your own website please add a link to our website, and also share it via social media. Thank you.*

You can also follow us on **twitter@Hfds\_RuralHub** and on **Facebook** - search *Herefordshire Rural Hub*

## Are you aiming to start your own rural business? Or maybe diversify your farming business?

**The Business Barn** is a new online resource providing free business guides, articles and case studies to support you in the early stages of planning your new enterprise.  
To find out more, visit their website at [www.thebusinessbarn.co.uk](http://www.thebusinessbarn.co.uk)

### Hoople Training and Education

*Was delighted to be part of the Herefordshire Rural Business Advice Day back in November.*

There was a lot of interest in the fully funded Microsoft Office training they have on offer and Hoople hope to work with many county businesses to improve their IT knowledge and skills over the forthcoming months.

**The funding continues until July 2018** and there are still spaces available on most of the scheduled courses. So if you are interested in free training to improve your Excel, Word, Powerpoint, Access or Outlook skills (beginner and intermediate level) please email [enquiries@hoopleltd.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@hoopleltd.co.uk) or call **01432 383730**.  
Alternatively, visit the company website at [www.hoopletraining.co.uk](http://www.hoopletraining.co.uk)

**Mark Measures**, leading organic and agro-ecological consultant and formerly Farm Project Manager at Holme Lacy College, is currently a Winston Churchill Fellow, studying "**Soil Management for Sustainable Food Production and Environmental Protection**".  
His blog address is: Soil Management <https://info925698.wixsite.com/mark-measures>

**Link to the latest Cross Compliance guidance for 2018:** <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cross-compliance-2018>

**Link to BPS and Greening guidance for 2018:** <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bps-2018>

### Keeping your birds safe

Following confirmed cases of Avian Influenza in wild birds in three separate locations, an avian influenza prevention zone has been declared across the whole of England. It is a legal requirement for **ALL bird keepers** to:

- Feed poultry in enclosed areas to discourage wild birds.
- Regularly clean and disinfect hard areas the birds can access.
- Minimise the number of visitors in contact with birds.
- Cleanse and disinfect footwear, equipment and vehicles which have access to bird areas.
- Ensure food, bedding and water supplies are secure from contamination.
- Implement effective vermin control.

### New rules for farmers in England to help protect water quality – from April 2018

From 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2018 new rules for all farmers in England will be introduced to help protect water quality, by standardising the good farm practices that many are already performing and offering a new approach to regulation.

**In essence the rules require farmers to:**

- keep soil on the land;
- match nutrients to crop, and soil needs, and
- keep livestock fertilisers and manures out of the water.

To find out more go to:- [www.gov.uk/government/publications/farming-rules-for-water-from-april-2018](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/farming-rules-for-water-from-april-2018) or visit GOV.UK.

### Countryside Stewardship: details of new simplified offers

Four new Countryside Stewardship offers have been introduced for farmers and land managers to boost biodiversity and help protect and enhance farmland and the countryside. Significant improvements have been made to the scheme to make it simpler and easier for farmers & land managers to apply.

The four new offers are **Online Arable Offer**, **Lowland Grazing Offer**, **Upland Offer** and **Mixed Farming Offer**.

The **Online Arable Offer** opens for application on **20<sup>th</sup> February**.

The other 3 offers are open for application, and to request an application pack call **0208 026 1089**.

**The deadline for all is 31<sup>st</sup> July.**

For more information go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/wildlife-offers-countryside-stewardship>

### Key dates for Countryside Stewardship

**To request an Application Pack please call 0208 026 1089**

- **Higher Tier** – Apply for application packs **before 9<sup>th</sup> March**, Deadline for application submission – **13<sup>th</sup> April**
- **Mid Tier** - Apply for application packs **before 31<sup>st</sup> May**, Deadline for application submission – **31<sup>st</sup> July**
- **Hedgerow & Boundary** – Deadline for application submission – **30<sup>th</sup> April**

## **Countryside Stewardship Grants for Woodland**

Apply for support under Countryside Stewardship for woodland creation or improvement, tree health support, or to prepare a woodland management plan.

[www.gov.uk/government/collections/countryside-stewardship-woodland-support](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/countryside-stewardship-woodland-support)

The **Woodland Creation Grant** application window **closes on 16<sup>th</sup> February**.

## **Catchment Sensitive Farming**

The Countryside Stewardship Scheme has been launched again and the application window for both Mid Tier and Water Capital Grants are now open. If you are a priority farm, your local Catchment Sensitive Farming Officer (CSFO) can visit to give you advice on the scheme (5 year agreements and 2 year capital agreements), and give approval for certain option where necessary. If you are within the Wye or Teme catchments and would like to request a visit (**please contact us before 31<sup>st</sup> May**), or find out whether you are a priority farm, please contact your local CSFO on the details below:-

### **River WYE catchment:**

Wayne Davies (West) 01588 640 980  
James Griffiths (North East) 0300 060 0608  
Rachel Bosanquet (South) 07770 331 669

### **River TEME catchment:**

Anne Marie Jones (East of A49) 0300 060 0615  
James Griffiths (Worcs) 0300 060 0608  
Sally Powell (West of A49) 0300 060 0644

## **Herefordshire Grassland Society – February meeting**

### **“Developing a More Efficient Sheep and Beef Enterprise”**

**Speaker – Ben Anthony**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February, starting at 7.30pm**

At the New Market Canteen, The Livestock Centre, Roman Road, Hereford, HR4 7AN

Tea and coffee are served before meetings and light refreshments following.

Open to all. Annual membership of HGS only £10

**Secretary: Andrew Edwards MRICS (Sunderlands LLP) 07825 066 859 or 01432 356 161** [d.griffiths@sunderlands.co.uk](mailto:d.griffiths@sunderlands.co.uk)

*This meeting is sponsored by Frontier Agriculture [www.frontierag.co.uk](http://www.frontierag.co.uk) Tel 01989 780555*

**The AGM will also be held this evening.**

**The next meeting is on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

## **AHDB Cereals & Oilseeds**

### **Bridgnorth Monitor Farm meeting – “Grain marketing post-Brexit”**

**6<sup>th</sup> February 2018, 10am – 1pm, (inc lunch), at Norton Village Hall, Norton, Bridgnorth, Shropshire TF11 9EQ**

Brexit is the currently the biggest unknown faced by the arable industry. The UK could potentially be facing currently unknown barriers to trade with the EU, while also facing full exposure to global grain prices. In these uncertain times, UK arable farmers must have a well thought out Price Risk Management strategy. To help provoke some thinking on this, the Bridgnorth Monitor Farm February meeting will analyse and discuss a wide range of strategies available to growers. Joining us to provide detailed market analysis and lead discussions will be:

**Cecilia Pryce**, Openfield, and **Stewart Johnson**, Cofco

### **Hereford Monitor Farm meeting – “Sweating your assets”**

**21<sup>st</sup> February 2018, 1pm – 4pm, (inc lunch), at The Green Man, Fownhope, Herefordshire, HR1 4PE**

With the current uncertainty within the farming industry, it has never been so important for farmers to be finding alternative sources of revenue to help aid any possible transitions. At this Hereford Monitor Farm meeting we will explore the opportunities available to local farmers to ‘sweat their assets’. This will include a detail analysis of the cost and social implications of diversification projects on your farm.

### **West Region Agronomy 2018 Event**

**8<sup>th</sup> February 2018, 9.30am – 1pm, (inc lunch), at Three Counties Showground, Malvern WR13 6NW**

Tailored to address local issues related to the production of cereals and oilseeds, AHDB’s Agronomy 2018 events focus on applied research and on-farm practice. The West region event will include:

- **Grass weeds: lost battles and war winning tactics** - Stephen Moss, Stephen Moss Consulting
- **Soil health – what do we know? What can we do?** - Liz Stockdale, NIAB
- **Fungicide performance in wheat and barley** - Jonathan Blake, ADAS
- **Phosphorus – feed the soil or feed the crop?** - Roger Sylvester-Bradley, ADAS

**Please book your place for all of these events with Richard Meredith:**

email: [richard.meredith@ahdb.org.uk](mailto:richard.meredith@ahdb.org.uk) or tel: **07717 493015**

## Frontier Agriculture 3D Thinking Meetings

Details at <https://www.frontierag.co.uk/index.php/news-events/events>

**Ledbury** – 14<sup>th</sup> February, 8am-11am at Alexander Park, Court-y-Park, Ledbury, HR8 2RW  
**Moreton-in-Marsh** – 13<sup>th</sup> February, 8am-11am, at The Manor House Hotel, Moreton-in-Marsh, GL56 0LJ  
**Droitwich** – 13<sup>th</sup> February, 5pm-8pm at Gaudet Luce Golf Club, Droitwich, WR9 7JR

**These events are free to attend, but booking in advance is essential**  
Contact **Lisa Wilkinson**, [lisa.wilkinson@frontierag.co.uk](mailto:lisa.wilkinson@frontierag.co.uk) 01989 780807



## Funding for Farmyards



Find out how you can secure funding through the Countryside Stewardship Scheme to help make improvements to your Farmyard for water quality and farm efficiency.

### Come to one of our workshops to find out:

- How Countryside Stewardship grants could help you fund improvements to your yard and farm infrastructure.
- The Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oils (SSAFO) Regulations – what you need to know
- Efficient water and manure management on yards
- Methods to reduce farm Ammonia Emissions\* (\*on 6<sup>th</sup> March only)

**Speakers include:** Sharon Chisholm from the Environment Agency, local staff from Catchment Sensitive Farming and the Wye and Usk Foundation. On March 6<sup>th</sup> Caroline Hanks (Campaign for Farmed Environment) on ammonia.

**Venues and dates:** *(Please book on to the event that suits you best)*

**Teas and coffees on arrival from 10am Light lunch provided**

- **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb - 10.30am – 1pm** Covered handling area, concrete and yard drainage at Rockyfold Farm, Michaelchurch Escley, HR2 0JW, *by kind permission of Mr Andrew Christopher*
- **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb - 10.30am – 1pm** Biobed, covered washdown area, covered silage pit, fencing at Ivingtonbury, Leominster, HR6 0JH, *by kind permission of Mr Bill Layton*
- **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March - 10.30am – 1pm** Covered feeding area, improvements made to slurry store, tracks and fencing. **Also ammonia emission reduction and nutrient planning.** at Lower Green Farm, Pembridge, HR6 9JG, *by kind permission of Mr Glyn Hughes*

**Booking is essential.** Contact Herefordshire Rural Hub [bookings@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk](mailto:bookings@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk) 01432 353465

## The Big Farmland Bird Count is 9th to 18th February 2018

Be part of a growing group of farmers recording the benefits of conservation work on their farms.

The Big Farmland Bird Count is organised by the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust and takes just half an hour of your time to count the birds in one location on your farm. Over 50 Herefordshire farmers took part last year - some teaming up with local birders for support.

Use the GWCT website [www.gwct.org.uk/farming/big-farmland-bird-count/](http://www.gwct.org.uk/farming/big-farmland-bird-count/) to register your interest in taking part in the count, receive recording forms etc.

## Basic Payment Scheme Update

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2pm – 4.30pm, at Withington Village Hall, HR1 3PP**

You are invited to hear from Richard Wordsworth, the NFU's policy lead on the Basic Payment Scheme. Richard will use his extensive experience to skilfully take you through any changes to the Scheme and Greening. He will also assist you to understand how to make your online application.

**To book your place please call the NFU Regional Office on 01952 400500**

## Duchy Herefordshire Women in Rural Enterprise (WiRE)

Come and join a varied, talented group of women from across Herefordshire and share experiences, pick up useful tips and discover what being a WiRE member could mean to you.

Our meeting dates for the next 3 months are **8<sup>th</sup> February, 8<sup>th</sup> March, 5<sup>th</sup> April.**

Check Eventbrite online for more details and to book,

or join us on Facebook – search for Duchy WiRE Herefordshire - to keep up to date.

Alternatively email [annie@lambcommunications.co.uk](mailto:annie@lambcommunications.co.uk) or [Colita@litabix.com](mailto:Colita@litabix.com) to be added to the mailing list.

## EBRI Master Class Course: 'Value from Waste'

EBRI's Master Class Course provides exclusive content for entrepreneurs and business leaders covering the technical and commercial fundamentals of **bioenergy**. Companies looking to develop new products and services can benefit from attending this event, as can those who are simply looking for a better understanding of the bioenergy market.

**Hereford course : 7-8 March 2018**, at Hereford Business Solutions Centre, HR2 6JL

For full details and how to book:-

<http://www.herefordshireruralhub.co.uk/whats-on/value-waste-ebri-masterclass-course-hereford/>

**Shrewsbury course: 21-22 March 2018**

at Centre for Research into Environmental Science & Technology, University Centre Shrewsbury, Guildhall SY3 8HQ

For full details and how to book:-

<http://www.herefordshireruralhub.co.uk/whats-on/value-waste-ebri-masterclass-course-shropshire/>



## FREE Beginners' Computer Workshops at Herefordshire Libraries



### Introduction to email – at Kington Library - Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February, 10am to 12pm

Learn how to set-up an email account, send and receive emails and attachments. Laptops will be provided for the workshop.  
*Book at Kington Library, or phone 01432 260600*

### How to use your tablet – at Leominster Library - Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 10am to 12pm

Learn the basics of how to use your tablet, from learning about apps, picking up emails, using the internet and how to connect to our library Wi-Fi. Bring your own device or we will have a few tablets available for the workshop.  
*Book at Leominster Library, or phone 01432 383290*

### How to use your smartphone – at Ledbury Library - Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 4pm to 6pm

Learn the basics of how to use your smartphone, from learning about apps, picking up emails on your smartphone, using the internet and how to connect to our Library Wi-Fi. Bring your own device or we will have a few smartphones available for the workshop.  
*Book at Ledbury Library, or phone 01432 383499.*

### How to use your smartphone – at Ross-on-Wye Library - Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 5pm to 7pm

Learn the basics of how to use your smartphone, from learning about apps, picking up emails on your smartphone, using the internet and how to connect to our Library Wi-Fi. Bring your own device or we will have a few smartphones available for the workshop.  
*Book at Ross-on-Wye Library, or phone 01432 383280*

*These workshops are provided by FasterShire – the partnership between Herefordshire Council and Gloucestershire County Council to bring faster broadband to the two counties. [www.fastershire.com](http://www.fastershire.com)*

## The Wye & Usk Foundation - How can we help?

- **Free farm visits** across Herefordshire to advise on water & soil health, metaldehyde use, yard infrastructure or any other issues you would like to discuss confidentially.
- **Three free soil tests**, including organic matter levels.
- **Free erosion risk maps** of your farm.
- **Stewardship applications** can be made by our experienced advisers for Mid-Tier & Capital Grants. It's never too early to think about next year's schemes!
- **Under-sowing Maize service** with inter-row precision drill

**For more information or to request a visit please contact one of the WUF advisers: Kate Adams (07766 330 959) Lucinda Lewis (07824 904 877); Mike Williams (07920 441 215); Tom Jolley (07545 253 155); Liz Price (07776 197 740)**

## Hereford & Worcester Chamber of Commerce

**Meet the Neighbours Event** Wednesday 21 February, 10.00-11.30am

At Hereford Business Solutions Centre, Skylon Court, Coldnose Road, Rotherwas, Hereford, HR2 6JS.

**Free to members and non-members**

**Hereford Women's Business Forum in association with Thorne Widgery Accountancy,**

Tuesday 27 February 9.30 - 11.30am. At Thorne Widgery, 2 Wyevale Business Park, Kings Acre, Hereford HR4 7BS

**£10.00+VAT Members and £20.00+VAT Non-members**

**Contact: Yasmin Bent Tel: 01905 673 600 Email: [yasminb@hwchamber.co.uk](mailto:yasminb@hwchamber.co.uk)**

## St Michael's Hospice

### The Big Spring Walk 2018 is on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March, from 9am onwards Fownhope Recreation Ground, Hereford HR1 4PJ

Whether you're looking for a challenging woodland walk or a more leisurely stroll beside the River Wye, there is a walk for you, your friends and family, and maybe even your dog.

Choose between 2K, 5K, 11K and 16K routes starting and finishing at Fownhope Recreation Ground.

All routes will be fully signposted, and our team of marshals will be positioned along the path ready to help you on your way.

Dogs on leads welcome for the 5K, 11K and 16K walks only.

For further information or to register, please call the Events Team on 01432 851 000

or go to our website: <http://www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk/big-spring-walk/>

## Countryside Productivity Scheme

The RDPE Countryside Productivity Scheme provides funding for projects in England which improve productivity in the farming and forestry sectors and help create jobs and growth in the rural economy. It is administered by the Rural Payments Agency. Under the RDPE Countryside Productivity Scheme, there are grants for:

- **Improving forestry productivity (application deadline 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018)**
- **Water resource management and reservoirs (application deadline 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018)**
- **Adding value to Agri-food products (application deadline 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018)**  
Grants to fund projects that improve the processing of primary agricultural products (i.e. Annex I products), benefiting the Agri-food supply chain which will in turn improve farm productivity.
- **Improving Farm Productivity (application deadline 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018)**  
Grants to fund projects that improve farm productivity through the use of robotic equipment and systems to aid crop and livestock production; increasing the use of renewable energy produced on farm; the use of LED wavelength controlled lighting to aid crop production; more efficient use of livestock slurries and manures, and digestate.

For full details go to: [www.gov.uk/guidance/countryside-productivity-scheme](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/countryside-productivity-scheme)

The grants are funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).

## The Prince's Countryside Fund

The Herefordshire Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (HFYFC) working in partnership with Herefordshire Rural Hub have secured funding to provide support for training in a **rurally based career** to the end of December 2019. The funding is easy to access. All you need to do is select which course you would like to go on and complete the application form. If your application is approved you will be able to reclaim **70%** of your training and test costs, up to a maximum of **£250**. **Applicants must be a current member of HFYFC or a past HFYFC member (up to 40 yrs old).**

The fund will support training that will; **improve your employability, increase or improve your skill set, improve your safety or allow you to undertake extra responsibility in your current job.**



For further details and an application form please contact:

**Herefordshire Rural Hub CIC,**

Agriculture House, Beech Business Park, Tillington Road, Hereford, HR4 9QJ

Email: [admin@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk](mailto:admin@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk) Tel: **01432 268 428**

## The Jack Hughes Fund - administered by Herefordshire Community Foundation

The Jack Hughes Fund will fund up to a maximum of 70% of the cost of training or costs up to a maximum of £150.

Funding will be limited to one family member/employee per annum

**The 2017 programme will be available for farmers aged over 40** and will specifically provide funds to support those who require:

- retraining or upskilling as they are leaving the industry
- training to support a new farm diversification enterprise
- training or business support for succession planning

**Funding will also be available for the following courses:**

- Safe use of pesticides – PA1, PA2, PA6
- Rodent control on farms
- Emergency first aid
- Food safety (Basic Food Hygiene)
- Chainsaw Maintenance & Cross Cutting (CS30)

**The funding is easy to access, but please note that the project will not support training retrospectively and places will be limited. Applicants need to be resident in Herefordshire.**

For further details or an application form contact:- **Herefordshire Community Foundation**

The Fred Bulmer Centre, Wall Street, Hereford, HR4 9HP. Email: [administrator@herefordshirecf.org](mailto:administrator@herefordshirecf.org) Phone: 01432 272550  
Details are on the hub website at under Grants & Funding at <http://www.herefordshireruralhub.co.uk/useful-links-information/>

## Marches Building Investment Grant Scheme

For details go to the "Grants & Funding" section in "Useful Links" on the Herefordshire Rural Hub website at <http://www.herefordshireruralhub.co.uk/useful-links-information/>

Or visit the website: <https://www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding>

For updates on other funding opportunities in the County, please visit <http://www.marchesgrowthhub.co.uk/> or contact the dedicated business support hotline on 0345 6000727.



## Herefordshire LEADER programme 2015 – 2020

Contact the team on **01432 383023/39** or email [leader@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:leader@herefordshire.gov.uk)

Full details are on the website at [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/leader](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/leader)

### What will the LEADER Programme do?

The main objective is to create jobs and economic growth by supporting rural businesses.

The programme themes are:

- Support for micro and small enterprises, including farm diversification
- Support for rural tourism
- Support for increasing farm productivity
- Support for increasing forestry provision
- Provision of rural services
- Support for cultural and heritage activities

Project applications will be eligible from:

- Micro businesses (0-9 employees) and small businesses (10-49 employees)
- Qualifying micro and small farming and forestry businesses
- Social enterprises
- Voluntary organisations
- Community groups
- Parish councils based in rural Herefordshire

### How will I know if our project is eligible?

LEADER funding contributes to around 40% of total project costs. Cash match funding will be needed for around 60% of each project. This is a predominantly capital grant programme. Training, skills and running costs are not eligible for funding. Business addresses must be registered in the Herefordshire LEADER area.

Each project should read the Herefordshire LEADER Handbook please follow link to our webpage for further details of eligible and ineligible costs: [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/leader](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/leader)

### What outputs could my project achieve?

An output is a measurable assessment of performance and success.

The main outputs for the program are: a) Jobs created & b) Businesses or holdings benefitting

**How much can we apply for?** Projects may be eligible for a grant of £2,500 up to a maximum of normally £35,000 to fund specific activities. Higher grants may be awarded to projects demonstrating exceptional output levels.

## The RDPE Growth Programme administered by DEFRA has live calls for applications for:-

A Capital Grants pot of £7.2m is available to support tourism projects, food & drink processing activities and business development in the Marches LEP area

<http://www.herefordshireruralhub.co.uk/useful-links-information/>

**Expressions of Interest are now being accepted until 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018.**

*Grants funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), part of the European Structural Investment Funds (ESIF).*

**Further information about making an application, forms and guidance, can be found online at:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rdpe-growth-programme>

**The Marches Growth Hub** can provide advice & support to businesses wishing to apply for this and other funding.

Tel: **0345 6000 727** Email: [enquiries@marchesgrowthhub.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@marchesgrowthhub.co.uk) Visit their website at:- [www.marchesgrowthhub.co.uk](http://www.marchesgrowthhub.co.uk)

## The Marches Growth Hub

Providing advice, support, networking opportunities for businesses

Marches Growth Hub Calendar of Events [www.marchesgrowthhub.co.uk/calendar/](http://www.marchesgrowthhub.co.uk/calendar/)

Tel: **0345 6000 727** Email: [enquiries@marchesgrowthhub.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@marchesgrowthhub.co.uk) Website: [www.marchesgrowthhub.co.uk](http://www.marchesgrowthhub.co.uk)

**News from the Blues – West Mercia Police**  
**Crime Reduction advice from Paul Crumpton**

**Information is key**

- Being informed enables you to make better decisions whether it be about the weather forecast or the cost of fuel and feed. It is also true about crime happening in your area, crime trends in general and advice to help reduce your chances of crime.
- If you use email and want to know more about Crime happening in your area, up and coming events or some good old fashioned crime reduction advice there are loads of places you can get it from, and here are a few.

**Community Messaging Service**

- Is a FREE to subscribe service operated by West Mercia Police providing all the information I outlined above and more by email, direct to your inbox.
- Go onto the West Mercia Police website and register by clicking on a link at the top right corner of the home page called 'Register for your "My account" ' <https://www.westmercia.police.uk/register>

**Social Media users**

Please follows us on Twitter at @WMPBusinessMatt and @WMPRuralMatters and on Facebook at West Mercia Police Your Business Matters and West Mercia Police Rural Matters.

**Staying with the social media theme....**we have a steadily growing number of people joining Watch schemes as a means of sharing stuff that is happening near them with other people to drive crime out of Herefordshire. By way of example, in a 4 week period before Christmas, various social media posts were viewed over 1.9M times and 500,000 of those resulted in some form of further engagement.

If social media is not something you have done, just check out some of the posts on Facebook for Herefordshire on @NWHerefordshire

**ATV Thefts** – For those who have had Quad bikes stolen, you will know the costs and frustration involved. Many are simply rolled onto a trailer and away, or driven off. So based on my experiences here are some suggestions. There are numerous tracking devices, wheel locks, Quad Vices etc...on the market but before you spend a penny, try my **top five tips** to make it more difficult to simply roll it away

1. **Store it out of sight**
2. **Take the key out of it**
3. **Chain it to the floor/post or other immovable object**
4. **Lock the door to the secure storage unit it's now in !**
5. **Take a fuse out/disconnect fuel pump/disconnect starter**

**If you would like some crime reduction advice specific to your property, contact me on the details below:-**

**Paul CRUMPTON** Rural & Business Officer (Crime Prevention) HEREFORDSHIRE, West Mercia Police

Internal Tel: **4408** External Tel: **101** then **4408** Mobile: **07773 044781** Email: [Paul.crumpton@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Paul.crumpton@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

**In my diary** – Amongst other things I am at Luctonians Rugby club on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February to give some crime reduction advice and tips.

**Sastak 7Y**

Please contact Paula Strangwood Tel: **07717 895 009** Email: [paula@sastak7y.com](mailto:paula@sastak7y.com)

<u>Course</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Venue</u>
Emergency First Aid at Work	9 <sup>th</sup> February	Wharton Court, Leominster
C & G Chainsaw occasional user	13 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> February	Wharton Court, Leominster
Rodent Control on Farms	23 <sup>rd</sup> February	t.b.c.
City & Guilds Safe Use of Pesticides PA1	27 <sup>th</sup> February	Wharton Court, Leominster
City & Guilds Handheld Applicator PA6	28 <sup>th</sup> February	Wharton Court, Leominster

**Spring dates available for full or refresher courses in:-** Lifting Equipment such as Telescopic, Fork lift trucks  
ITSSAR or IPAF MEWP – Cherry Picker and Scissors

<> Health & Safety courses e.g. First Aid, AED, Manual Handling and Fire Awareness.

For the Lantra or ITSSAR Telescopic or Counterbalance courses, we can arrange a short assessment to determine how many days training is required – this ranges between 1-5 days.

**If you are interested in any courses that are not listed please contact Paula.**

## Herefordshire & Ludlow College

Tel: **0800 032 1986** Email: [enquiries@hcollege.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@hcollege.ac.uk) Website: [www.hcollege.ac.uk](http://www.hcollege.ac.uk)

Course	Dates	
<b>Chainsaw Maintenance &amp; Cross Cutting</b> 2 days + assessment	5 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> March	21 <sup>st</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> May
<b>Felling &amp; Processing Trees up to 380mm</b> 3 days + assessment	5 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> June	
<b>Maintenance, Cross Cutting &amp; felling of trees up to 380mm</b> 5 days + assessment	16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> April	18 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> June
<b>Ground based Chainsaw refresher</b> 2 days	19 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> February	
<b>Chainsaw Maintenance and Operations Occasional User</b> 2 day	8 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> May	9 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> June
<b>Maintain and Operate your Chainsaw – Hobby user</b> 2 days	10 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup> March	9 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> June
<b>Safe use of Brush Cutters and Strimmers</b> 2 days	30 <sup>th</sup> April – 1 <sup>st</sup> May	
<b>PA2 Ground Crop Sprayers, incorporating PA1 Safe Use of Pesticides</b> 2 days + assessment	6 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> February	26 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> June
<b>PA6 Handheld Applicators, incorporating PA1 Safe Use of Pesticides</b> 2 days + assessment	6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup> February 17 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> April	13 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>Tractor Driving 16yrs and over</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup> March	9 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> June
<b>Tractor Driving 13-16yrs</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> February	31 <sup>st</sup> May – 1 <sup>st</sup> June
<b>ATV handling – experienced operators</b> 1 day + assessment	4 <sup>th</sup> June	
<b>Animal Care – How to create a Bio-Active enclosure</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> February	21 <sup>st</sup> April
<b>Animal Care – Introduction to Reptile &amp; Amphibian keeping</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> February	13 <sup>th</sup> April

**All courses take place at Holme Lacy Campus, HR2 6LL**

**Other courses arranged subject to demand, so please call to register your interest**

Chainsaw courses, Rodent Control, Safe use of Aluminium Phosphide,  
Forklift Truck Operations, Shooting with Shotguns  
*Please contact the enquiries line for further information*

## Wyvern Training Ltd

Email: [enquiries@wyverntrainingservices.com](mailto:enquiries@wyverntrainingservices.com) Tel: **07468 465 303**

We are currently building our Winter/Spring 2018 programme and the following events form part of this.  
If you have any specific training needs, please contact us.

Course	Dates	Venue
<b>ATV Sit Astride (experience operators)</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> February	To Be Confirmed  Please contact Wyvern Training
<b>First Aid at Work re-certification Level 3 (2 day course)</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> February	
<b>First Aid at Work Level 3 (3 day course)</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> February	
<b>Level 2 Food Safety</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> February	
<b>Manual Handling Awareness – ½ day</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> February	
<b>Rough Terrain Telescopic Lift Truck refresher</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> February	
<b>Abrasive Wheels</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> February	
<b>Emergency First Aid at Work Level 2 (1 day course)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> March	

**Some other courses being planned:-**

Safe use of Aluminium Phosphide <> Chainsaws – basic felling techniques (up to 200 mm) <> HACCP's Level 2  
Chainsaw Cross Cutting and Maintenance <> ATV Sit-astride refresher & novice <> PA2 Field Crop/Fixed Boom sprayers  
PA3a & PA3b Air Assisted Applicators <> Managing Health & Safety and Risk Assessment

***For the full list of useful website links/contacts/information on the  
Herefordshire Rural Hub website  
visit the "Useful Links" page on the Herefordshire Rural Hub Website  
<http://www.herefordshireruralhub.co.uk/useful-links-information/>***

### Are you unsure about details of rules or regulations? Need help with understanding record keeping?

You may be cautious about asking for help from a regulatory body such as the Environment Agency, but they are always willing to advise and help you. Herefordshire Rural Hub can help signpost which organisation can help you. Don't hold back from asking for help. It's free and could save your Basic Payment.

- **Farming Advice Service** Email: [advice@farmingadviceservice.org.uk](mailto:advice@farmingadviceservice.org.uk) website: [www.farmingadviceservice.org.uk](http://www.farmingadviceservice.org.uk)  
The Rural Services Helpline **03000 200 301** provides a single number for all **Farming Advice Service, Rural Payments Agency or Animal and Plant Health Agency (AHPA)** enquiries. It is open from Monday to Friday, 8.30am till 5pm.
- **Natural England** 0300 060 1115 [enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk)
- **Environment Agency** Sharon Chisholm (Tues, Weds, Thurs) Tel: 02030 251692  
Email: [sharon.chisholm@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.chisholm@environment-agency.gov.uk)
- **N.F.U.** (Herefordshire) Clare Greener Tel: 01432 807464 Mob: 07771 626080 Email: [Clare.Greener@nfu.org.uk](mailto:Clare.Greener@nfu.org.uk)
- **C.L.A.** Richard Goodwin 01785 337010 [richard.goodwin@cla.org.uk](mailto:richard.goodwin@cla.org.uk)
- **Animal Health & Trading Standards** (Herefordshire) Tim Barber Tel: 01432 383145 Fax: 01432 383169

### Could you or someone you know benefit from support:-

- **Farming Community Network** 03000 111 999 website: <http://www.fcn.org.uk/>
- **Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RABI)** 0808 2819490 website: <http://www.rabi.org.uk/>
- **Borderlands Rural Chaplaincy** 07958 591 646 website: [www.borderchaplain.org](http://www.borderchaplain.org)
- **You Are Not Alone (YANA)** 0300 323 0400 website: [www.yanahelp.org/](http://www.yanahelp.org/)
- **Farming Help** 0845 367 9990 website: [www.farminghelp.org.uk/](http://www.farminghelp.org.uk/)
- **Addington Fund** 01926 620 135 website: [www.addingtonfund.org.uk/](http://www.addingtonfund.org.uk/)
- **Herefordshire Samaritans** website: [www.samaritans.org/branches/herefordshire-samaritans](http://www.samaritans.org/branches/herefordshire-samaritans)

## Herefordshire Rural Hub – Classified Page

Would you like to place an Advert, for e.g. **Services / Job Vacancy / Items for sale / looking for work etc ?**

Then please contact **Frances** for full details of the advertising packages on our **Classified Page**

[admin@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk](mailto:admin@herefordshireruralhub.co.uk) **01432 268428**

[www.herefordshireruralhub.co.uk/advertise-herefordshire-rural-hub-website/](http://www.herefordshireruralhub.co.uk/advertise-herefordshire-rural-hub-website/)

### *Disclaimer*

The Herefordshire Rural Hub accepts no liability for any direct, indirect or consequential loss arising from any action taken in reliance on the information contained in this newsletter.