

JULY
2018

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BIG
LOCAL
WORKING
FOR YOU.

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SUMMER EDITION

Dump Your Junk is Back!

Following the success of last years 'Dump Your Junk' project **Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local** have teamed up with **Litter Watch** and **Sandwell Council** again to hold clean up events across the area.



Cleaning up Wallace Close in 2017

At each event we will be litter picking around the area and if you take part your name will be put forward for a FREE trip to Weston Super Mare on 19th August 2018 (Places are limited so this is on a first come first served basis)

All ages are welcome, (children must be accompanied by an adult) so please come along and join us at one of the following events:

- **Hawfield Road** – 1st August 2018, 10am -12noon
- **Wallace Close** – 8th August 2018, 10am - 12noon
- **Hartlebury Road & Wolverley Crescent** – 16th August 2018, 10am - 2pm

A free skip will also be placed at each area for residents to use who do not have access to a vehicle.

YES PLEASE ➡

- ✓ Small unwanted furniture items (non electrical)
- ✓ Household junk (non electrical)



NO THANKS

- X Electrical items
- X White goods
- X Liquid/paint tins
- X Tyres/gas bottles
- X Asbestos
- X Garden waste
- X Beds/mattresses
- X Cardboard

For more information please contact Litter Watch on 07955 7102206.



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Sandwell
Metropolitan Borough Council

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Community Celebrations



Volunteers' Week 2018

As part of the UK's National Volunteers' Week which ran from 1st - 7th June 2018, the GM2LF Big Local Partnership held a party to celebrate our volunteers on Wednesday 6th June 2018 at Oakham Church.



The party was a huge success with nearly 40 people attending and well done to the amazing 36 people who received a volunteer award.

The party was held to say 'Thank You' and to recognise the outstanding contribution which is made by volunteers in the area. These people are a shining example of how we can all make a big difference to other people and the communities we live in every day.

Well Done to all our volunteers!



If you would like to know more about volunteering in the Big local area please get in touch with Helen Trueman, email: helen.gm2lf@outlook.com



Deal Or No Deal hosted by Gracie the Lion!

Roar Talent



Lion Farm Action Centre's After School Club is a free activity supported by BBC Children in Need and GM2LF. It is attended by many children who live in the big local area aged 8 to 12 years.

For the fourth year, in May the children put on "**ROAR TALENT**" and showed off their talents of singing, dancing, comparing and more. The show was attended by the children's family members and the local community. The show was a total success with lots of positive

feedback which really boosted the children's confidence. The children were awarded with medals and certificates.

The staff and children are already planning next year's show which will be titled "Around the world in 90 minutes" this will give the staff and children a chance to celebrate all the different cultures we have attending the club.

This year GM2LF has funded a new set of stage lights, printed t-shirts and hoodies, healthy snacks for the children and extra staff to support the rise of children needing places at the club.

Thank you so much GM2LF

Job Opportunity

GM2LF BIG LOCAL FINANCIAL ENGAGEMENT WORKER



We are looking for an enthusiastic and talented Community Financial Engagement Worker to provide community based financial capability, financial confidence and financial inclusion support as part of our Big Local community-based project.

Working with the Grace Mary to Lion Farm (GM2LF) Big Local Partnership you will deliver a range of financial capability services, the ideal candidate will be self-motivated, a good communicator, who loves working in partnership with local schools, agencies and residents.

We want to engage and work alongside local people to improve the quality of their lives, address low income and poverty and improve their financial confidence.

The post will initially be for 2 years, ideally starting in September 2018. The role will involve flexible working, with Tuesday and Thursday mornings included. The role may also require some evening and weekend work.

Job Title:	Financial Engagement Worker
Contract Term:	2 years Fixed Term
Hours:	15 hours a week, to be worked flexibly as required
Salary:	£19,500 pro rata, plus 6% pension contribution
Accountable to:	Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local Partnership
Location:	Post will be based in Oldbury (B69 1BG)

Purpose of the appointment:

To support and provide people in the Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local area with the knowledge, skills and confidence in good money management.

Key responsibilities:

- Provide advice on money management and savings to the local residents through one to one, group sessions and school-based work
- Spread awareness of financial matters in the Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local area
- Provide bespoke packages of support according to individual needs and develop other opportunities
- Build capacity of local residents to engage in the Big Local process

Specific outcomes:

- Delivering to an agreed work plan, to facilitate financial capabilities
- A clearly defined local vision for the future of the area
- The preparation, approval and delivery of our Big Local Plan

For more information and to apply:

Download a full application pack from: www.gm2lf.org/financial-engagement-worker/

Alternatively email Helen Trueman: helen.gm2lf@outlook.com

Deadline for applications: 12 noon, Friday 31st August 2018

Interviews: Wednesday 12th September 2018



What's on each week in and around our Big Local Area

Monday

Oakham Library 10:15-11am Story and Rhyme Time . (Under 5's a morning story and rhyme).

St James Church 1-3pm Indoor Carpet bowls
Open to all within the Big Local area, competitive fun for all.

Lion Farm Action Centre 1pm-3pm Art Group
Open to all within the Big Local area, Art Tuition for both the beginners and experts.

Lion Farm Action Centre 3:30pm - 5pm. After School Club Dance session also held on a Friday and midweek activities (Age 8—12).

Oakham Library 3:30pm - 4:30pm Art Club.
Children can come and be creative with a variety of materials.

Oakham Library from 4pm Family Film Club
Families and Children invited to come and watch our family films.

Holy Cross Church. 6pm - 7.30pm Karate (all ages).

St James Church 7—8.30pm Slimming World
A friendly group for those that want to lose weight or feel better about themselves.

Tuesday

Lion Farm Action Centre 9.30—11.30am Job Club. Providing support to find employment, help with CV writing and advice and guidance.

Oakham Evangelical Church 9:15am Carer and Toddlers. Pre-school play, make new friends and Carers get a chance to meet.

St James Church 9.30 - 11am Stay and play toddler group . Term time only.

St James Church 9am—12pm. Place of Welcome

Lion Farm Action Centre 1pm—3pm Over 50s Club. Activities include a game of scrabble , nice chat with a cup of tea and biscuits.

Lion Farm Action Centre, 3.30pm—5pm. After School Club (Age 8—12). Term time only.

Wallace Youth Club, 5.30pm-7.30pm
8-16 years old . Great opportunities and activities for young people.

Oakham Evangelical Church 7pm Tuesday Crew Activities include Pool, table tennis, games, and art sand crafts. Tuck shop

Wednesday

Lion Farm Action Centre 9.30-11.30am Job Club. Providing support to find employment, help with CV writing and advice and guidance.

Rounds Green Library 10.30am - 12pm Knit and Natter.

Oakham Library 11am-12:30pm Theory test Pro and Go Citizen.

Lion Farm Action Centre, 1.30pm—3.30pm. How to use a computer and stay safe online'. Online computer training (Age 16+).

Lion Farm Action Centre, 3.30pm—5pm. After School Club (Age 8—12). Term time only.

Holy Cross Church , 5.45pm - 6.45pm. Rainbow Guides.

Holy Cross Church 6pm - 7.30pm. Brownie Guides.

St James Church 6 - 7.30pm Tividale Shotokan Karate Club (Age 5+). Also held on a Friday 6-7.30pm.

Thursday

Lion Farm Action Centre 9.30-11.30am Job Club. Providing support to find employment, help with CV writing and advice and guidance.

Oakham Evangelical Church 10.30am. TLC Club for senior citizens, meet up, chat and take part in activities. Just £3.50 which includes lunch.

Hope Church 10:30am-12:30pm Indoor Bowling for over 50s. Great activity for unwinding and getting rid of stress.

Lion Farm Action Centre 11:30am-1:30pm. How to use a computer and stay safe online'. Online computer training (Age 16+).

Lion Farm Action Centre, 3.30pm—5pm. After School Club (Age 8—12). Term time only.

Portway Lifestyle Centre 7pm-8pm Karate for beginners.

Portway Lifestyle Centre 8pm - 9pm Karate for those aged 18 plus unless accompanied by an adult

St James Church 7-9pm RE:Act Youth Club
Offering a range of craft, sports and a place relax and meet up with friends.

Friday

Lion Farm Action Centre 9.30-11.30am Job Club. Providing support to find employment, help with CV writing and advice and guidance.

Holy Cross Church 8.30am - 9.30am Tea and Toast.

Lion Farm Action Centre Community Garden open Mon - Fri , 10am—2pm

Holy Cross Church 11am. Mass – short simple said service. 12pm - 1.30pm Free lunch at "Fathers Kitchen".

Lion Farm Action Centre 1:30pm-3:30pm Multi Crafts. Try your hand at something a little crafty.

Holy Cross Church 1.30pm Bingo
A great get together for all residents 2.30pm Cards and Dominos. A social gathering for all.

Lion Farm Action Centre, 3.30pm—5pm. After School Club (Age 8—12). Term time only.

Oakham Evangelical Church 7pm Friday Youth Club. Activities and chance to meet friends. For young people aged 11 plus.

Saturday

Rounds Green Library 10-11am
Councillor Surgeries Bring your ideas and concerns to your local councillors

Portway lifestyle Centre 10.30-2:30pm Eminence Dance Works
Creative Dance Group for all

Oakham Library 10:30-12pm
Breakfast Club for Children 8 and over. Free Toast and drinks

Rounds Green Library 11-11:45am
Colouring and Craft Club
Colouring sheets and puzzles

Wallace Youth Project 5pm—6pm.
Lowes Combat Academy & Fitness,
Free Kickboxing (Age 8 - 16).

Darley House, Wallace Close 5.30pm.
Get Motivated to Lose Fat Lose Fat,
slimming and fitness club

Sunday

Oakham Evangelical Church
10am Communion Service a time to stop , reflect and refresh
6:00pm Evening Family Celebration,
A lively family friendly service.

St James CoF Church 10-11am
Morning Worship and Sunday School. A friendly traditional church, sharing God's love to all.

Holy Cross CoF Church
6pm Sunday Mass. A friendly group meeting for relaxed worship and prayer. Chat and cuppa afterwards.

Newbury Lane Methodist Church
10:45am Morning Service and Junior Church
6pm Sunday Evening Service

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Get Motivated to Lose Fat	07817 175998
Holy Cross Church	01384 257888
Lion Farm Action Centre	0121 544 3094
Newbury Lane Methodist Church	0121 552 2145
Portway Lifestyle Centre	0300 012 0121
Oakham Evangelical Church	01384 859012
Oakham Library	01384 255563
Rounds Green Library	0121 552 2879
St James Church	0121 552 5491
Wallace Youth Club	07817 175998

If you would like to submit an article for inclusion on the website or in this newsletter
please email **Helen Trueman**: helen.gm2lf@outlook.com

Mention of products or services in this newsletter should not be construed as an endorsement or recommendation by the GM2LF Big Local Partnership.

Money Matters



www.sandwell.betteroff.org.uk

BetterOff Sandwell is free and easy to use. It will help residents to:

- access advice on benefits and ways to improve their job opportunities
- apply for welfare benefits
- find work that pays and record their job search activity
- see how their money changes when they move into work

better off Sandwell

BetterOff Sandwell
www.sandwell.betteroff.org.uk

BetterOff Sandwell - a new website to help you to:

- access advice on benefits and ways to improve your job opportunities
- apply for welfare benefits
- find work that pays and record your job search activity
- see how your money changes when you move into work.

BetterOff Sandwell is free and very easy to use.

- You can access it 24/7
- It brings together lots of useful information all in one place, helping you to save time
- It provides **access to information in other languages**. Simply select from a list of over 100 different languages from the drop down menu at the top of the home page
- Use BetterOff Sandwell on mobile phones and tablets, as well as computers
- It's easy to create a BetterOff account – you can do this through Facebook or Google, or by registering your email address or mobile number.


Keep on top of your budget, search for jobs and see what benefits you may be entitled to. Go to www.sandwell.betteroff.org.uk and get the support that you need.

Contact GM2LF Big Local

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 **Visit our website:** www.gm2lf.org

 **Like us:** Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local (GM2LF)

 **Follow us:** @GM2LF_Official

General Enquiries

Helen Trueman, GM2LF Big Local Development Co-ordinator

Email: helen.gm2lf@outlook.com

Tel: 07724 5842411

Post: Lion Farm Action Centre, The Vicarage, Shelsley Avenue, Oldbury, B69 1BG .

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Lion Farm's Community Garden

Calling Out For Votes

Lion Farm Action Centre is bidding to bag a massive cash boost from the Tesco Bags of Help initiative.

Tesco teamed up with Groundwork to launch its community funding scheme, which sees grants of £4,000, £2,000 and £1,000 raised from carrier bag sales in Tesco stores awarded to local community projects.

Three groups in every Tesco region have been shortlisted to receive the cash award and shoppers are being invited to head along to Tesco stores to vote for who they think should take away the top grant. **Lion Farm Action Centre** is one of the groups on the shortlist.

Help Lion Farm Action Centre transform our enclosed garden area into a thriving outdoor retreat: providing a fun, safe place for children to explore, a relaxing space for adults and a haven for our wildlife



We want to make this space:

- A space for children to get close to nature, learn how to care for the environment, play and explore natural materials and grow their own food.
- A space for adults to take part in gardening activities, socialise, relax, paint and take morning coffee or afternoon tea.
- A space where the existing wildlife can flourish while trying to attract and protect new visitors to the garden.

Voting is open in all Tesco stores in **July and August** and customers will cast their vote using a token given to them at the check-out in store each time they shop.

You can vote for Lion Farm Action Centre Community Garden project at the following stores:

- Cradley Heath, B64 5DF
- Dudley Road, Halesowen, B62 8AA
- Hasbury, Halesowen, B63 3JS
- Rowley Regis, B'Ham, B65 9AS
- Stourbridge, Halesowen, B63 3UD

Community Space To Relax & Enjoy!

Lion Farm Action Centre would like to make their garden a space for all the community to enjoy, whether it is taking part in gardening activities and meeting other people, taking part in Centre run activities or just to relax in and read a book.

With many people in the immediate area having no garden of their own, this space could be a wonderful place for them to relax and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee while reading a book, doing a crossword, or maybe even drawing.

You can join Lion Farm Action Centre's gardening club as a volunteer and take part in creating flower displays or ask about using the garden for a relaxing hour away from the stresses of everyday life.

The garden will be open Monday to Friday 10am until 2.30pm (Some restrictions will apply during the School summer holidays)



For more information contact:

Kate Cross, The Vicarage,
Shelsley Avenue, B69 1BG
Tel: 0121 544 3094



Sharing Stories



Living Memory Exhibition at Haden Hill House Museum

The first Living Memory exhibition took place in June 2018 at Haden Hill House Museum in Cradley Heath, Sandwell. Just under 1,500 visitors attended the exhibition over the eight-day period

The exhibition included a selection of personal photographs and stories, previously unseen photographs from the Ron Moss Collection, 'Seven' by St Micheal's School in Rowley Regis, samples of work-in-progress by students at Sandwell College in West Bromwich, photo and story collection sessions and creative writing workshops.

In Partnership with GM2LF Big Local

For the last six months Living Memory has been working with the GM2LF communities to record and celebrate photography collections and life stories. Please visit the Living memory website where you will find some wonderful stories from local people.

If you would like to share a story or photo or would just like to know more please email: hello@livingmemory.live

Or leave a voicemail on 07967 093256

Website: www.livingmemory.live



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The Big Local Bug Takes an Adventure



GM2LF Big Local Partnership's Vice-Chair Fr Martin Ennis had some "Time Out" from the day job of being Vicar of Tivdale.

Fr Martin packed a rucksack, put on his boots and travelled to St Jean Pied de Port in the French

Pyrenees and started out on the old pilgrimage route, the Camino Frances. "The Camino" as its usually known runs all the way to Santiago de Compostella, near the Atlantic Coast of Northern Spain a distance of 770 km.

Fr Martin walked 570 km and took the train for 200 km when his feet had to recover from rather nasty blisters. The journey took six weeks to complete.



Templar Castle in Ponferrada

Fr Martin has a lot of photos and says "it was an amazing adventure. He would love to go back to the Camino if he was given the chance". The GM2LF Bug went along on the adventure and is pictured meeting an old King of Galicia in Sarria.

You can read Fr Martin's blog at:

www.dsp60.blogspot.com

