

Autumn Newsletter 2026



**Erewash
Voluntary
Action**



Welcome to our quarterly Newsletter.
We will bring you updates about our activities all year round.

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JOIN THE TEAM...

Community Development Strategic Lead

Closing Date:

23rd September 26 by 12 noon

Interviews and Assessments: Scheduled for w/c 28th September 26

Community Development Officer (Kirk Hallam)

Closing Date:

23rd September 26 by 12 noon

Interviews and Assessments: Scheduled for w/c 5th October 26



This role is funded by Sport England



Annual General Meeting



Tuesday 29th September 9.30am
Granville Avenue, Long Eaton,
NG10 4HD

We will be hosting our popular
Erewash Community Network meeting
straight after the AGM.

The ECN meeting is open to all Development

Workers
and Volunteer Organisers in the Erewash area.

For more details call on 0115 9466740

You are invited to stay after the AGM and join us for
our Macmillan Coffee Morning. If you're a budding
baker, please feel free to bring something along.



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ICB, Erewash Health Partnership
and the people of Erewash

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Welcome to Our Autumn Newsletter 2026

I am delighted to welcome you to the latest edition of the Erewash Voluntary Action Newsletter.

There is a real sense of momentum at EVA at the moment, and this edition provides a snapshot of just some of the fantastic work taking place across our organisation and throughout the VCSE sector in Erewash.

Over recent months, we have continued to develop our work supporting volunteering, community development, mental health and wellbeing, social prescribing and community networks. From helping people find meaningful volunteering opportunities and supporting local community groups, to providing mental health support and creating opportunities for people to connect with their communities, our focus remains firmly on responding to local needs and making a positive difference to people's lives.

This is also an important period of development and change for EVA as an organisation. We have been strengthening our structure and bringing our different areas of work together in a way that enables us to provide more joined up support to individuals, volunteers, community groups and our partners. Alongside this, we have welcomed fantastic new members of staff, including Marion Wells as our Senior Administrator and Ben Gough as our new Volunteer Development Officer. Both have already made a huge impact on the work we do and I'm really excited to be working with them both in the coming months.

We're delighted to welcome Marion Wells to the EVA team as our new Senior Administrator. When you visit us at the centre or give us a call, Marion will be part of the team ready to welcome and support you.

Marion brings many years of experience working with young people and adults within the education system, alongside more than 13 years of volunteering experience, primarily supporting the RAF community. She is Chair of her local branch of the RAF Association and also serves as a trustee.

Having lived in Long Eaton for nearly 20 years, Marion is passionate about supporting the community she calls home. We're delighted to have her join the team and look forward to seeing the contribution she will make to EVA in the months ahead.



We also currently have two new exciting roles available with EVA. We are looking for a Community Development Officer and a Community Development Strategic Lead, both of which are funded through SPORT England, as part of the work we are doing alongside Active Partner's Trust and other local partners to support Physical Activity in Kirk Hallam. Both adverts close on the **23rd September 2026**

In addition, if you are available, I would like to invite you all along to our AGM which is taking place at 9:30am on **Tuesday 29th September 2026** at our office in Long Eaton and will be followed by our regular Erewash Community Network meeting. This year we will also be supporting the Macmillan Coffee Morning so cakes and refreshments will be available.

Perhaps most importantly, we entered this financial year with significant new investment and support, including major funding from The National Lottery Community Fund and the Erewash Borough Council Investment Fund. This support provides us with an exciting opportunity to build on what EVA already does well, develop new services and reach more people and communities across Erewash.

A great example is our new Community Befriending and Social Inclusion Service, supported through the National Lottery funding. The service will provide a range of opportunities including home visiting, telephone befriending, hobby buddies and support to help people build confidence and become more connected within their communities.

Our community development work remains equally important. Through our community networks, development support and funding programmes, we continue to work alongside local organisations and residents to identify local priorities, develop solutions and strengthen communities. The Sawley and Sandiacre Community Networks, for example, bring together community organisations, statutory partners and residents to develop local priorities around health and wellbeing.

I am particularly proud that, despite the scale of change and development, the values at the heart of EVA remain the same: working with people, listening to our communities and enabling local voluntary action to make a difference.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff team, volunteers, trustees, partners and the many community organisations and residents we work alongside. Your commitment, ideas and energy are what make EVA what it is.

There is a lot to look forward to as we begin this next chapter, and we are excited about what we can achieve together.

Thank you for continuing to support Erewash Voluntary Action



James Bromley
CEO
james@erewashcvcs.org.uk

Volunteering Updates



'As we're now going into the colder autumn season, we're certainly getting into the spirit at EVA. We're continually working on our exciting developments coming with the success of some new funding which will see us launch some new services bringing even more volunteer opportunities.'

Since our last edition of the magazine, we've welcomed new members of the team (hello from Ben later on), continued to pop up at local events, continued to develop new volunteer opportunities, supported with recruitment for other organisations seeking volunteer support, engaged with even more volunteers, current and new, and getting the word out there about the benefits of volunteering'.

Volunteer Centre

Volunteer Drop In Sessions

Open to all volunteers and those thinking about volunteering.

Ilkeston - Every 1st Wednesday of the Month
@ DHA 153 Bath Street, 10:30 - 12:30

Long Eaton - Every 3rd Monday of the Month
@ EVA Granville Ave, 10:30 - 12:30

See Reverse For Dates

For More Information contact us on 0115 9466740

Our monthly Long Eaton Volunteer Drop In mornings continue. We run them every 3rd Monday of the month at our Centre. This session is for anyone who volunteers with us, (current and new) and for anyone who might be thinking of volunteering.

The next session is on **Monday 19th October**. It's a great opportunity to meet the team and other volunteers in a safe, friendly, and relaxed atmosphere. Free drinks and biscuits are always on offer. No booking required, just pop in between 10.30am-12.30pm.

Our Ilkeston Volunteer Drop-In mornings run every 1st Wednesday of the month at Direct Help & Advice, 153 Bath Street, Ilkeston DE7 8AS (opposite the Coffee Bean Café).

Our next one is **Wednesday 7th October**. A huge thank you to Direct Help & Advice for accommodating us. You're welcome to come to either, or both coffee mornings – it'll be great to see as many of you as possible.

The 2nd December drop in Session in Ilkeston is cancelled.

Volunteer Centre

Volunteer Drop In Sessions

Ilkeston	Long Eaton
5 th August	17 th August
2 nd September	21 st September
7 th October	19 th October
4 th November	16 th November
2 nd December	14 th December
4 th January	20 th January
1 st February	17 th February
1 st March	17 th March
5 th April	21 st April
3 rd May	19 th May
7 th June	16 th June
5 th July	21 st July

Events news and what's coming up:

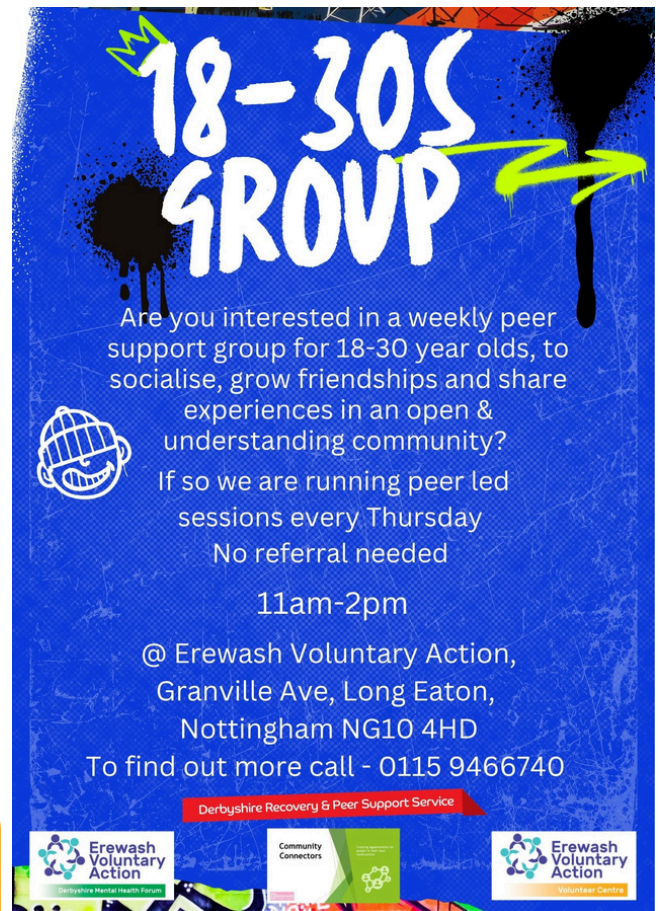
During this period, we've attended several events, promoting the benefits of volunteering, and actively recruiting new volunteers:

- We've continued to host our joint Network meeting, combining our Community Development Network and our Erewash Volunteer Organisers Network. The joint network is now called, 'Erewash Community Network'. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 29th September, 9.30-1.30pm. Please come and join us. Our AGM is included in the meeting as is our Macmillan Coffee Morning. We also have some exciting updates to provide, and some great guest Speakers will be joining us.
- Did you know we're recruiting? Due to new funding opportunities, we currently have two new vacancies – [Community Development Officer \(Kirk Hallam\)](#) and [Strategic Lead \(Kirk Hallam\)](#), both funded by Sport England.
- We hosted three more awareness sessions for volunteers – First Aid Awareness, Dementia Awareness and a new session, Hard of Hearing Awareness. All were delivered in partnership with Derbyshire Adult Community Education Service.
- We continue to be an active member of the Derbyshire Befriending Network. It's exciting to be a part of a network that will help shape local befriending services and work in partnership to seek new opportunities to support vulnerable people in Derbyshire.

- We've also continued to build our volunteering opportunities through our Brokerage service. Unfortunately, our Volunteering opportunities website, Erewash Volife is no longer in use. Whilst we're identifying a new brokerage system and to find out about what opportunities we have on offer, please contact us directly on 0115 9466740 or email ben1@erewashcvs.org.uk. New opportunities are coming through regularly so if we don't have something that could be of interest of you right now, please keep in touch as there maybe something coming up shortly. Please also keep an eye on our socials as we'll be promoting opportunities on there, too.

Training:

- Did you know we can support with digital queries? We were awarded some funding to deliver our Erewash Digital Support Project – if you need any assistance with IT, please get in touch, we'd love to help, however large, or small.
- We are always looking at ways of how we can improve our support to our volunteers and opportunities for training is just one way that we can do that. We have already started sending out opportunities to attend courses and will continue to do so. We will of course, support you to link up with providers if required. Please contact us if you need any support.



18-30s GROUP

Are you interested in a weekly peer support group for 18-30 year olds, to socialise, grow friendships and share experiences in an open & understanding community?

If so we are running peer led sessions every Thursday
No referral needed

11am-2pm

@ Erewash Voluntary Action,
Granville Ave, Long Eaton,
Nottingham NG10 4HD

To find out more call - 0115 9466740

Derbyshire Recovery & Peer Support Service

Erewash Voluntary Action
Community Connectors
Erewash Voluntary Action

VOLUNTEER SHOPPERS REQUIRED

Come and be part of a
very friendly, caring team
and help your local
residents with their
shopping.



Volunteer with EVA

Volunteer Centre

Have you ever found yourself doing small favours to help someone close to you?

Maybe you have occasionally grabbed “a few things” from the shops for your family, or maybe even a neighbour or a friend?

Could you spare an hour of your time a week to shop for someone in need? Or maybe even consider doing someone’s shopping at the same time as your own?

For over 20 years, we have run a shopping service here at Erewash Voluntary Action, helping the most vulnerable people in our community have access to the essentials they really need. They may be housebound, recovering from an illness or injury, or may have been struggling with their shopping for a very long time without anyone even noticing!

Volunteers are matched with suitable clients, who they visit once a week to get the clients shopping (and maybe even squeeze in a chat and a cuppa if they wish). Our clients really look forward to their volunteer’s weekly visit – as sometimes it might even be the only face they’ve seen all week.

We see a variety of people being referred through to us every month from GPs and Adult Social Care, who require our support – and we are always here to help them in their time of need, whether that be short or long term. And without our fantastic team of volunteers, it would not have been possible to be able to keep this service running for so long!

Our team at Erewash Voluntary Action, are also very experienced in shopping for the service – we are always here to listen and support our volunteers whenever needed. If you have any reservations or questions – please feel free to join us at one of our regular volunteer coffee mornings or alternatively, we’re always at the end of the phone or email.

For more information contact: 0115 9466740

**Ben1@erewashcvs.org.uk • www.erewashvoluntaryaction.org.uk
Erewash Voluntary Action, Granville Avenue, Long Eaton, Derbyshire, NG10 4HD**



Community Befriending & Social Inclusion Service

We're really excited to introduce the NEW Community Befriending Service from Erewash Voluntary Action!

We're delighted to have been supported by **National Lottery funding** to launch this exciting new service, which aims to provide support and companionship to an even wider range of people across the Erewash community.

Our new Community Befriending Service will offer a range of options, including:

Home Visits – providing friendly companionship and support at home, helping people to feel less lonely

Confidence & Community Support – supporting people to build confidence to attend local groups, activities or simply take that first step towards getting out of the house.

Telephone Befriending – offering a friendly voice and quicker access to support, particularly when a local volunteer isn't immediately available.

Hobby Buddy – connecting people with someone who shares their interests, so they can enjoy a mutually agreed activity together and build new friendships along the way.

Our aim is simple: **to help people feel less isolated, more connected and more confident within their local community.**

We're incredibly excited about the opportunities this new service will bring and look forward to helping people across Erewash build friendships, confidence and connections.

To help with this we are looking for volunteers - Can you give a bit of time to support someone lonely and isolated.

Friendly 18+ support to help you feel
connected and cared for

Who is this for?

Anyone feeling lonely or isolated who
would like some friendly company
and support in their community.



Jenni Alsbury
Befriending Coordinator
jenni@erewashcvcs.org.uk

Volunteering Updates



Reducing loneliness and isolation within the community of Erewash

Become a Volunteer Befriender

Home
Visiting

Buddy-Walks

Buddy
Groups

Telephone
Befriending

In 2024, 22% of adults felt lonely at least some of the time, including 6% who reported that they often or always felt lonely.

Do you have an hour a week to talk someone who is lonely or isolated ?



Contact: jenni@erewashcvs.org.uk

T: 0115 9466740

Funding by



Volunteering Updates



 Welcome to the Team, Ben Gough!

We are delighted to welcome Ben Gough to the EVA team as our new Volunteer Development Officer. Ben joined us on 20th July, and we're excited to have him on board.

 Ben brings with him six years of experience working in the voluntary sector across Derbyshire, alongside a long history of volunteering himself.

In his previous role as Group Development Worker for the Derbyshire Recovery and Peer Support Service and Rethink Mental Illness, Ben has extensive knowledge and experience in supporting volunteers, peer-led groups, community development and working alongside people with and also his own lived experience of mental health challenges and neurodivergence.

Alongside his professional experience, Ben also founded The Creative Arts Project in Ilkeston, a voluntary community group that has been running successfully for more than nine years.

 In his new role at EVA, Ben will be connecting with people, organisations, and services across Erewash to promote volunteering, build strong community relationships, and raise awareness of the fantastic volunteering opportunities available through EVA. Please join us in giving Ben a warm welcome!

 If you would like to contact Ben to talk about volunteering or how he can help your service find volunteers, please contact him on ben1@erewashcvs.org.uk



Ben Gough
Volunteer Development
Officer
ben1@erewashcvs.org.uk

Volunteer with EVA

Trustees

Why Volunteer?

Erewash Voluntary Action CVS works towards a caring and more inclusive society by developing and supporting individual and group voluntary action that responds to local community needs and wishes.

We are seeking passionate volunteers to help us continue providing valuable support to the community. Whether you're a business professional, manager, employee, or retiree, your skills and experience can make a meaningful impact.

If you're looking for a fresh challenge and would like to be a part of shaping the future for supporting many local community services, we need you!

By working alongside dedicated individuals, you'll receive the training and support needed to contribute effectively while experiencing the personal fulfilment that comes from volunteering.

We are keen to hear from anyone who feels they that could help support EVA in the role of a Trustee. In particularly (but not exclusively) we are keen to hear from anyone with one or more of the following skills/experience:

If so, your expertise could be invaluable:

- ✓ Financial management
- ✓ Advising or mentoring
- ✓ Project planning
- ✓ Personnel or legal expertise
- ✓ Decision-making skills
- ✓ Leading and managing teams
- ✓ Human resource experience
- ✓ Strategic planning and leadership
- ✓ Fundraising



By dedicating just a few hours each month, you can make a huge difference to our organisation and the whole of the voluntary & community sector in Erewash.

Ready for a change?

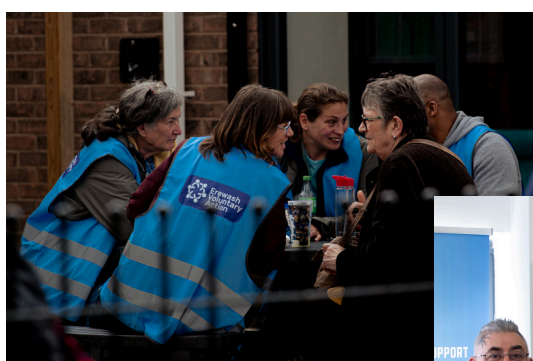
Whether you want to share your expertise or gain experience in preparation for a career shift or retirement, volunteering offers a rewarding way to stay engaged and make a real difference.

Erewash Community Celebration Event



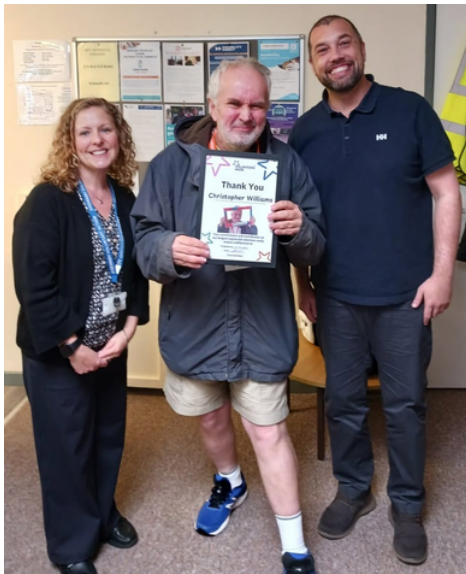
Our celebration event on Saturday 6th June for Volunteers Week unfortunately started off a bit wet and we decided early on to move indoors into Long Eaton Rugby Club.

Some brave staff and stalls did still stay outside.





We held an impromptu Stars in their Eyes for entertainment after we had the U3A Line Dancing (outside in the sun) & U3A Belly Dancing on stage.



At our celebration event we also gave out various awards to volunteers and voluntary organisations.



Our CEO enjoying himself!

Derbyshire Mental Health



Hello from your Derbyshire Mental Health Team! ❤️

It's been a very busy few months and we have so much to share with you.

We'd like to welcome Becky to the team!

Becky has worked for EVA for just over 3 years but has recently joined our team bringing her wonderful Lacemaker Court Project with her.

The Lacemaker Court Project is one of EVA's dedicated direct services, commissioned by Derbyshire County Council, providing wellbeing support and signposting for residents living at Lacemaker Court.



Becky is based on site Monday to Friday, offering one-to-one support, helping residents access local services, and leading on a range of monthly wellbeing activities designed to bring people together, tackling loneliness, and creating positive mental wellbeing.

We're excited to have Becky on board and look forward to sharing the amazing work going on within the Lacemaker Court community.

If you'd like to find out more about the Lacemaker Court Project, or get in touch with Becky, please email Rebecca@erewashcvs.org.uk.

In August along with staff from the Housing 21 team Becky held a 'School's Out For Summer' themed party for Lacemaker Court residents! Becky brought everyone together from having a sports day races and a shooting range to a tuck shop, tombola and even packed lunches and school dinners, there was plenty to keep everyone entertained!

It was lovely to see residents getting involved, having a laugh, enjoying some friendly competition and, most importantly, spending time together.

A huge thank you to everyone who came along and embraced the spirit of the day.



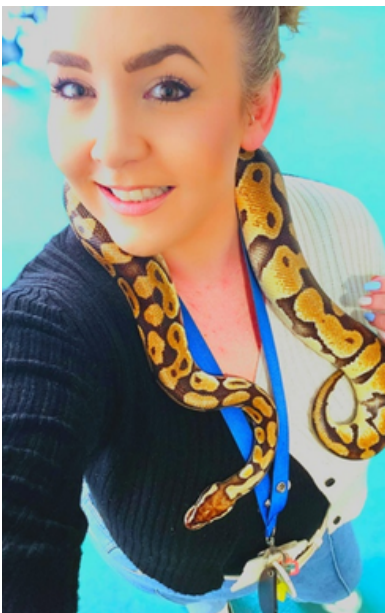
L - Lacemaker Court Residents enjoying their school dinners!
R -Lesley with our Becky getting into the spirit! ❤️

Becky has also had a busy summer at Lacemaker Court

In July she hosted a truly unforgettable wellbeing session with the fantastic team from CJ Pets, who introduced residents to an amazing collection of animals including a tortoise, a Blue Tongued Skink, a Bearded Dragon, two snakes... and even some cockroaches!

For many, it was a chance to step outside their comfort zone, try something completely new, and discover that these fascinating creatures aren't as scary as they first seem! Residents enthusiastically held the animals, asked lots of questions, and enjoyed learning about each one. We were also delighted to welcome visitors and members of staff who joined in the fun.

Activities like these do so much more than entertain. They encourage conversation, build confidence, reduce feelings of isolation, spark curiosity, and create shared experiences that bring people together. Judging by the smiles (and a few surprised faces!), today's session was a huge success.



L-R Becky, Jo, Ben and Debra – making new friends! 💚

Listening Lounges - Now Online!

Our popular programme of Listening Lounges – supportive peer spaces for Mental Health First Aiders who are using their skills in either paid or voluntary roles across Derbyshire – has evolved for 2026.

Following feedback from last year, the sessions have now moved online, making them even more accessible for people across the county. Each session begins with Mindfulness Minutes led by our wonderful volunteer Nikki Hall, an NLP Practitioner, who helps everyone settle in with a moment of calm and relaxation.

Our most recent event was on 10th August where we were joined by Sophia Spring from Kooth and Melani Hani from Derbyshire County Council Public Health Team, who shared valuable insights around mental health, lived experience, and community support.

Small actions, supportive conversations, and acts of kindness can make a real difference.

If you'd like to join our next session on 12 November, please contact isabelle@erewashcvs.org.uk to book your free place or scan the QR code on the poster.



Nikki, Work-Life Balance Coach, NLP Practitioner, and Derbyshire Mental Health Team Volunteer ❤️

Volunteer Voice

Our wonderful Derbyshire Mental Health Team volunteers add quality and experience to our work – they are vital and central to what we do.

Nikki: “One of the things I’ve most enjoyed is helping create space for genuine connection and supportive conversations within the community, especially through the Listening Lounge sessions. It’s been incredibly meaningful to volunteer alongside such a compassionate team and to see the positive difference kindness, listening and wellbeing support can make to people’s lives.”

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AIDERS NETWORK

THE NETWORK IS A PEER GROUP FOR ANYONE IN DERBYSHIRE OR DERBY CITY WHO HAS COMPLETED MHFA ENGLAND ADULT OR YOUTH TRAINING AND USES THEIR SKILLS THROUGH WORK OR VOLUNTEERING.

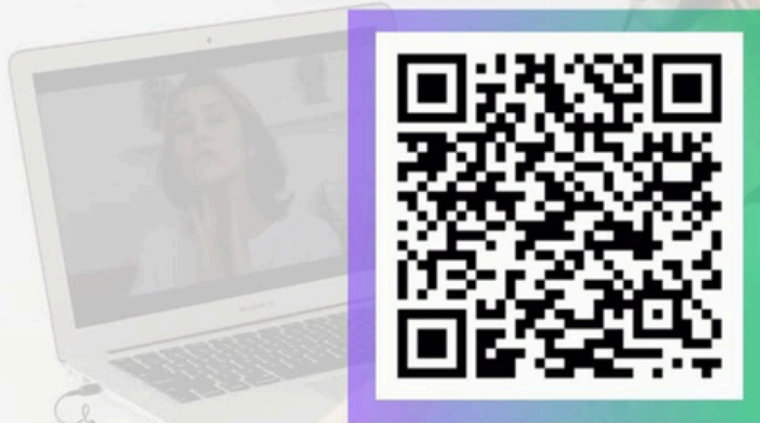
WE'RE EXCITED TO HOST A BRAND-NEW SERIES OF ONLINE LISTENING LOUNGES FOR 2026, RUNNING FROM 10-11AM ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:



THURSDAY 12TH NOVEMBER



DROP IN, AND BE PART OF A SUPPORTIVE SPACE WHERE VOICES ARE HEARD AND WELLBEING COMES FIRST. WE CAN'T WAIT TO WELCOME YOU!



THE NETWORK INCLUDES:

- ✓ COLLABORATIVE PEER SUPPORT & COLLECTIVE LEARNING
- ✓ ENHANCED ACCESS TO RESOURCES
- ✓ MEANINGFUL NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES
- ✓ HOLISTIC SELF-CARE GUIDANCE & WELLBEING PROMPTS
- ✓ ADVOCACY & INFLUENCE



**TO JOIN THE NETWORK, EMAIL MHFA@EREWASHCVS.ORG.UK
WITH YOUR CONTACT DETAILS AND A COPY OF YOUR MHFA
CERTIFICATE**



Mental Health Friendly Clubs

Mental Health Friendly Clubs is a collaborative initiative led by Active Derbyshire and Erewash Voluntary Action, supported by partners including Compass Changing Lives, Derbyshire Mind and Derbyshire Public Health.

**Understanding, Inclusive,
Supportive**

The initiative aims to help clubs create safer, more supportive environments with a culture of listening, understanding, and positive mental wellbeing.

Through tailored support, clubs can access mental health awareness training, practical signposting resources, peer mentoring support, and bespoke workshops to help reduce isolation, improve wellbeing, and contribute to suicide prevention across Derbyshire.

By becoming a recognised Mental Health Friendly Club, organisations demonstrate a genuine commitment to supporting the mental health and wellbeing of their members, volunteers, and wider community.

Find out more or register your interest:

Isabelle@erewashcvs.org.uk or
Franky.boyland@activepartnerstrust.org.uk

[NEW! Derbyshire Mental Health Friendly Clubs - Making Our Move](#)



**MENTAL HEALTH FRIENDLY CLUBS PROGRAMME
AIMS TO SUPPORT SPORT AND ACTIVITY CLUBS
TO PROVIDE A SAFE AND INCLUSIVE
ENVIRONMENT FOR ADULTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE.**

**MENTAL
HEALTH
FRIENDLY
CLUB**

SUPPORTIVE, INCLUSIVE, UNDERSTANDING

**BY PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAMME, YOU WILL GAIN
ACCESS TO FREE MENTAL HEALTH & SUICIDE PREVENTION
TRAINING, AS WELL AS CLUB WELLBEING AMBASSADOR
TRAINING, A RANGE OF RESOURCES TO SUPPORT
MEMBERS, MENTAL HEALTH PACKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE,
AND A DIGITAL BADGE TO SHOW YOUR COMMITMENT TO
BEING A MENTAL HEALTH FRIENDLY CLUB & LOTS MORE!**

✉ FRANKY.BOYLAND@ACTIVEPARTNERSTRUST.ORG.UK / ISABELLE@EREWASHCVS.ORG.UK

active derbyshire | Erewash Voluntary Action | Derbyshire Mind | Derbyshire Public Health | Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

Football Friends and Memories - A county-wide event to share support for those living with dementia and their loved ones

After many months of planning, our very first Football, Friends & Memories event took place at Chesterfield F.C. on 20 May — and it was a truly unforgettable day.



Created to support people living with dementia and their loved ones, the event used the power of football to reconnect people with treasured memories, shared experiences, music, laughter and companionship.

More than just a football event, it was a celebration of connection, friendship and the moments that matter most. The atmosphere throughout the day was incredibly uplifting, with music from Sing Along with Ellie helping to fill the stadium with joy and togetherness.

We were enormously proud work with all of the partners, supporters, volunteers and the fantastic Football, Friends & Memories project team who helped bring this special idea to life. Together, we created something very meaningful — and we are excited about what the future could hold for this project. ❤️⚽🎵

Out and about!

☀️ What a busy summer it's been for our team! ❤️

Over the past few months, we've been out and about supporting a fantastic range of local events, including **Our Crafty Place Feel Good Friday, Long Eaton Carnival, Three Rivers Rotary Fun Day and the B&K Recovery Football Fundraiser.** ⚽️🎉

At every event, we've taken along our information stall, packed with useful signposting resources, information and plenty of freebies! Most importantly, we've been there to chat, listen and offer support and advice to anyone who might need it.

It's been a busy few months, but we absolutely love what we do — getting out into our communities, meeting people and making sure people know where they can turn for support. ❤️

Here's to a brilliant summer of community connection! 🌟



Derbyshire Mental Health Forum

Did you know that Joanne sends an average of 26 bulletins per month?

These updates are packed with news, event details, job opportunities, and local resources to keep you informed and inspired.



Joanne Keeton
Mental Health Team
Coordinator

joanne@erewashcvs.org.uk

Derbyshire Mental Health Forum's mission is to strengthen the local mental health landscape by empowering community-based groups and charities with the tools, resources, and networking opportunities they need to thrive.

It's your one stop-shop to share your group or organisations events, activities or to reach out for support, or feedback.

By collaborating with our partners, we aim to create a more connected, resilient, and effective support network for individuals experiencing mental health challenges.

Contact Jo: joanne@erewashcvs.org.uk
To subscribe to the forum, see our website:
www.erewashvoluntaryaction.org.uk/dmhf

To keep up to date with all of our team's activities follow our social media channels:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DerbyshireMentalHealthForum>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/.../derbyshire-mental-health.../>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/derbyshirementalhealthforum/>

Got feedback? We'd love to hear your thoughts: <https://www.erewashvoluntaryaction.org.uk/feedback>

If you are interested in mental health related training opportunities, contact us on mentalhealth@erewashcvs.org.uk, and we'll be happy to share details with you

Derbyshire Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Outreach Project

Izzy is our lead for the Derbyshire Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Outreach Project, and she is working hard with a wide range of small businesses, community groups and organisations to build stronger, more supportive communities by raising awareness, increasing understanding, and creating a positive culture around mental health.

**This project is commissioned by
Derbyshire County Council Public Health and can offer:**



- Fully funded training opportunities – Gain the knowledge and confidence to support yourself and others through a variety of mental health and suicide awareness courses.
- Support to develop action plans and policies – Embed mental health support into the heart of your organisation.
- Join our Mental Health First Aider network – Connect, share good practice, and access peer support and signposting resources.
- Engaging workshops/sessions – Ideal for team meetings, group sessions, and youth engagement to spark open conversations around mental health.
- Access to resources and signposting information – Stay informed with practical tools and up-to-date information.



Isabelle Grainger
Mental Health & Suicide
Prevention Project Officer
isabelle@erewashcvcs.org.uk

If you're part of a small business, community organisation, charity, sports club or local group, we can support you to create a mentally healthy environment for everyone.

Join the project community via our website:

www.erewashvoluntaryaction.org.uk/mental-health-suicide-awareness

Lacemaker Court Wellbeing and Signposting Service:

The Lacemaker Court Wellbeing & Signposting Service provides dedicated wellbeing support to residents living at Lacemaker Court in Long Eaton. Delivered by Erewash Voluntary Action on behalf of Derbyshire County Council, the service is designed to promote independence, improve emotional wellbeing and create opportunities for residents to enjoy happier, healthier and more connected lives.



Rebecca Henry
Wellbeing and Advice Service
Coordinator -
Lacemaker Court
rebecca@erewashcvs.org.uk

Our Wellbeing Officer works closely with residents to provide personalised one-to-one support, practical advice and a varied programme of wellbeing activities. Whether someone needs help completing paperwork, accessing local services, rebuilding confidence after illness or simply someone to listen, we're here to provide compassionate support at a pace that's right for them. Every resident is different, so our approach is flexible, person-centred and focused on what matters most to the individual.

If you'd like to find out more about the Lacemaker Court Project, or get in touch with Becky, please email Rebecca@erewashcvs.org.uk.

You can contact the team:

www.erewashvoluntaryaction.org.uk

Erewash Voluntary Action,
Granville Avenue, Long Eaton, NG10 4HD
Telephone: 0115 9466740

isabelle@erewashcvs.org.uk

joanne@erewashcvs.org.uk

debra@erewashcvs.org.uk

rebecca@erewashcvs.org.uk



Together, we're building a kinder, more connected Derbyshire—one conversation at a time.

— The Mental Health Team 

Erewash Small Grant Scheme and Social Connect Funding

The Erewash Small Grant Scheme and Social Connect funding is designed to support a wide range of expenditure including but not limited to:

- Instructor's fees for an activity or guest speakers
- Facility Hire
- Marketing and promotions
- Equipment Hire/purchase
- Training fees
- Volunteer expenses



The Erewash Small Grant Scheme & Social Connect Funding is funded by Derbyshire County Council Public Health.

Please Note: This funding is not designed to fund revenue or large capital projects such as bridging staff salaries or large building projects

Erewash Small Grant Scheme

The scheme has five priority themes and applicants must meet at least one of the themes to be eligible to apply. The five themes include:

- **Healthier Lives:** Helping people of all ages to live healthier, more independent lives by encouraging healthy habits, physical activity, and activities that support physical wellbeing and healthy ageing.
- **Safe, Strong and Connected Communities:** Supporting safer, more resilient neighbourhoods by bringing people together, strengthening community connections, raising local voices, and reducing loneliness and social isolation.
- **Better Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing:** Improving mental health and emotional wellbeing through prevention, early support, peer support, and activities that help people access appropriate help when they need it.
- **Fair Opportunities and Inclusive Growth:** Helping people improve their financial wellbeing and access opportunities to learn new skills, undertake training, gain confidence, volunteer, or move closer to employment.
- **Joined-Up Support Services:** Encouraging organisations and community groups to work together, share information, and provide effective signposting and referrals so that people can access the right support at the right time.

Applications can be made from the following groups:

- Voluntary or community groups with a constitution
- Registered charities or charitable incorporated organisation
- Community interest company or social enterprise
- Other not-for-profit organisations
- Applications are welcomed from un-constituted groups as well as constituted.

If a group is un-constituted, please contact our Community Development Team to discuss how we could support

Statutory organisations are not eligible to apply to this grant scheme.
From 1st August 2023 Parish Councils are not eligible for this grant scheme.



Colin Houghton
Community Development
Officer
Colin@erewashcvs.org.uk

Funding is available through two grant pots. Applicants may apply for up to £1,500 from the Small Grants Fund. Where a project demonstrates a clear focus on social connection and/or reducing isolation, applications may be considered for combined funding of up to £3,000 in total (£1,500 from each fund). If the grant is awarded through Social Connect Funding, your monitoring form will need to be submitted to us no later than 1st March 2027.

Applications may be made at any time, there are no deadlines.

There are no deadlines for Erewash Small Grants applications, submit at any time. However, the deadline for Social Connect applications is 1st December 2026.

Groups can apply once every 12 months, but not for the same project. For more information on this, please contact Erewash Voluntary Action's Community Development Team.

If you are thinking of making an application contact **Colin Houghton, our Community Development Officer** on colin@erewashcvs.org.uk to discuss your ideas and to check eligibility.

Community Networks



The Sawley Community Network and Sandiacre Community Network are made up of local community and voluntary groups, organisations, statutory partners and residents.

Members of the networks meet every eight weeks and are open to anybody to attend. Network members identify the needs and priorities of the community and have developed a Community Wellness Action Plan. This helps people of all ages in Sawley and Sandiacre have access to activities and opportunities to improve their health and wellbeing.

Although the networks have different priorities and objectives to work on, promoting community activities and involvement for residents is a common purpose. Members of both networks are always keen to create opportunities for people to give feedback in order to develop activities based on needs to help improve health and wellbeing.

Erewash Voluntary Action are commissioned by Derbyshire County Council Public Health to lead and coordinate the Sawley and Sandiacre Community Networks.



JOIN THE SANDIACRE COMMUNITY NETWORK



Are you a group based in Sandiacre and looking to start a project, or already running one?

Join our network of local groups and gain access to a range of support and resources - all aimed at benefiting the Sandiacre community.

JOIN THE SAWLEY COMMUNITY NETWORK



Are you a group based in Sawley and looking to start a project, or already running one?

Join our network of local groups and gain access to a range of support and resources - all aimed at benefiting the Sawley community.



Clare Ejiofor
Community Activator
clare3@erewashcvs.org.uk

For more details contact Clare on
clare3@erewashcvs.org.uk 07849 115938

Membership



BECOME A MEMBER

Membership is £10 per annum payable on a rolling basis, being a member gives you a voice at our Annual Meeting.

Note: Membership costs go directly back into our work within the community and allows us to offer comprehensive and dedicated support to those that need it.

The best reason to become a member is to give your group or organisation a voice.

Download our membership leaflet and form from our website



BENEFITS OF BECOMING A MEMBER

- Funding support and referrals
- Voting rights
- Access to EVA events
- Group directory
- Signposting Opportunities
- Training Advice and mentoring
- Room Hire
- Benefit from discounted access for your activities
- Discounted DBS Check

Group Development

Development advice and support is available to help existing groups continue to flourish and develop. Advice will depend on the needs of individual organisations and their members.

Advice and support are also available to new groups that would like to set up.

This can range from help with writing a constitution and relevant policies, searching for grant aid, marketing, and promotion as well as any other relevant advice.

Our Development Worker can help signpost to a wide range of resources including, funding information and training.

WHO CAN BECOME A MEMBER

Membership is open to all voluntary and community organisations working with the Erewash area including:

- Unincorporated small community groups
- Incorporated not-for-profits
- Registered charities
- Charitable Incorporated Organisations
- Charitable Community Benefit Society
- Community Interest Companies

Monthly Grants and Funding Bulletin

A monthly funding bulletin is produced containing local and national funding and grant aid opportunities. To Receive this bulletin please contact us regarding membership for your organisation.