



Newsletter No. 1 Spring 2016

Welcome to the first edition of our Newsletter. Do let us know what you think, feedback is always helpful. We will email this out to all our members and supporters but plan to distribute some hard copies around the town. If you know somewhere that would be happy to take a few copies, please let us know. We are aiming for 3 editions a year.

How about writing an article for us? You might want to comment on one of our events. Perhaps you would like to write a book review. I'm sure we've got some budding writers out there. In the meanwhile, thank you for your continued support. With the government planning to cut all funding to local councils, the Library Service continues to be under threat. We still have a lot of work to do.

Nina Shields, Chairman, Ledbury Library Development Group

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During the past 12 months we have had some very successful events, notably Quentin Letts in January.



We held a series of talks with Rob Elliott and Sally Dean on the subject of food. The latest talk was in February when we explored food intolerance with kinesiotherapist, Jayne West.

### Future Events

**15th April 2016 –**  
**Ledbury Library Development Group AGM** -  
7 p.m. in the Burgage Hall.

The business of the evening should take about 20 minutes, followed by a fascinating talk by Jan Long.

### The Life of Elizabeth Barrett-Browning

This is a free event with drinks available for a donation. Do join us for a very interesting evening.

**31st May - LLDG** are co-sponsoring with the **Ledbury Poetry Festival** an event for children aged 6-12. The theme will be **The Owl and the Pussycat**.

**11 June 2016 - Ledbury Community Day** – venue to be confirmed. We will be raising awareness and further funds to enrich the library experience.

**June 2016** - We are planning another 'food' talk

**14th – 16th July - Second hand Book Sale** in the Panelled Room – please start saving books for this.

**30th July 2016 - Phil Rickman – 2.30 Market Theatre.** We managed to book a date before he was swamped with requests following the success of the TV series of his book 'Midwinter of the Spirit'.

We are trying to fix a date with **Conn Iggulden** for an event this year as his new book is out this May. You may know his early series on Ghengis Khan or his current series on the Wars of the Roses.

Some events have to be booked well ahead - **Feb 2018 - Chris Beardshaw** – garden designer, Chelsea gold medal winner and TV gardening guru.

We have now run two quiz nights which have proved very popular. We are intending to make this an annual November event. Watch out for details later this year.

It is important to remember why we need support for our events. The picture below shows some of the much needed new items we have supplied to the library.



We aim to organise events in time to be published in the Master's House leaflet. They are included on the library website and on our own website [www.library-live.org](http://www.library-live.org) If you join our email list, we can send you details.

**Ledbury Library Development Group AGM**  
**7 p.m 15th April Burgage Hall**

**Membership** ~ Membership is important because we need to be able to demonstrate that we represent a significant number of library users. The easiest way to do this is through the number of 'paid up' members. Subscription is only £5, or £8 per couple. You

can join, or renew your membership at the April talk/AGM, at the Library, or by emailing [ledburylibraryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:ledburylibraryfriends@gmail.com)

Please consider paying by direct debit as this cuts out quite a lot of paperwork.

**Committee** ~ There have been a few changes this year in your committee. Audrey Bishop is stepping down as Treasurer at the AGM. She has done a lot more than just the Treasurer role and we are very pleased that she has offered to carry on helping booking events. Very many thanks to Audrey for all her hard work over the past two years.

We are delighted to welcome Tony Evans as our new Treasurer. Unfortunately he is away for our April meeting but no doubt you will meet him at some of our events.

Robert Waddington is stepping down as Membership Secretary as the workload increases in his role as Chairman of the Friends of the Master's House. Robert has also done a lot more than the Membership Secretary role and has been key in some of the discussions with the Library Team and the County Council. Very many thanks to Robert. We won't entirely lose the benefit of his advice as we continue to work closely with the Friends.

We are also very pleased to welcome Christine Tustin as our Membership Secretary and hopefully you will meet her at our AGM.

**Recruitment** ~ With Robert stepping down, Nina needs help with the continuing work with Joint Action for Herefordshire Libraries (J AHL). This involves meetings with County Council officers, members of the Library Team and fellow J AHL representatives.

We need someone interested in the planning, strategy, lobbying and communications side of our work. It would be great if you have negotiating skills or just good business sense.

If you can spare about 6 to 8 hours a month to attend meetings, please get in touch.

To find out more, contact Nina on [ledburylibraryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:ledburylibraryfriends@gmail.com)