



West Berkshire Council chairman Billy Drummond opens V365 at the Corn Exchange
Ref: 03-1225C



Jill Bosley, Karen Robbins (VCWB) and Jane Hipkiss of U3A
Ref: 03-1225C

Local charities go on show at volunteer fair

'Incredible turnout' as more than 50 groups bid to attract new members

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HERE they all are – the V365 class of 2025.

More than 50 charities took part in this year's V365 Volunteer Recruitment Fair to showcase their work and to harness the skills of volunteers.

The event, which took place at the Corn Exchange in Newbury on Saturday, was organised by the Volunteer Centre West Berkshire (VCWB).

Guests included town mayor Andy Moore, West Berkshire Council chairman Billy Drummond (Lib Dem, Newbury Greenham), who officially opened the event, and Newbury MP Lee Dillon.

VCWB chief executive Rachel Peters said afterwards: "We're thrilled by the incredible turnout at this year's V365 Volunteer Recruitment Fair."

"The energy and enthusiasm in the room were inspiring, and we are excited to see the connections formed at the fair flourish into meaningful con-



V365 at the Corn Exchange is officially open!

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tributions across West Berkshire."

Among the groups taking part were: 2nd Newbury Scout Group; Arlington Arts Centre; ABC to read; Berkshire Scouts; Berkshire Vision; Berkshire Youth – Waterside Centre Newbury; Bridge For Young People; Brightwalton CE Primary School; Bruce Boats – Accessible Canal Holidays; Canine Partners; Citizens Advice West Berkshire; City Arts – Newbury; Cosier Homes Energy Advice; Education Business Partnership; Eight Bells for

Mental Health Newbury; Enrych Berkshire; 5aday-garden; Good Hope Farm; Healthwatch West Berkshire; Home-Start West Berkshire; Hungerford Food Community; Hungerford Youth and Community Centre; iCollege; Interakt Community Charity; Kennet and Avon Canal Trust – Newbury branch; Lambourn RDA; Living Paintings; MND Association Reading & West Berkshire; Sandham Memorial Chapel – National Trust; NYAS – The National Youth Advocacy Service; Newbury

Almshouse Trust; Newbury and District Talking Newspaper (The Kennet Cassette); Newbury Cancer Care; Friends of the Earth Newbury; West Berkshire Neighbourhood Watch; Newbury u3a; PALS (West Berkshire); Patient Information Point – WBCH; Read Easy West Berkshire; Newbury Rotary Club; RSPCA North Wiltshire and Newbury District Branch – RSPCA; North Wilts Newbury & Thatcham Shop; Newbury Samaritans; South West Advocacy Network; Sport in Mind; Step by Step; Sue Ryder; Swings & Smiles; Thatcham Town Council; The Fair Close Centre; TUXchange CIC; Volunteer Centre West Berkshire; Friends of Wash Common Library; West Berks Foodbank; West Berkshire Green Exchange; West Berkshire Homeless.

For more information on volunteering visit <https://www.volunteerwest-berks.org.uk/>
■ Volunteering opportunities – see page 32

What's on

FRIDAY

Film night, Gourmet Pasta Co, 34 Market Place, 7pm. Enjoy *Crazy Stupid Love* on a big screen while you dine. No ticket needed, just book a table.

SATURDAY

Hungerford Repair Café, Croft Hall, 10am to 12.30pm. The repair café will help fix your broken electrical goods, repair toys and furniture, sharpen tools and help mend clothing. It now has an expert on leather repairs too. Repairs and refreshments are free as the repair café relies solely on donations from grateful members of the public to help cover costs. If you would like to volunteer to help as a fixer or in any other capacity, please make contact using the details on the web page. For more information, including further dates for 2025, visit <https://www.repaircafe.org/en/cafe/hungerford-repair-cafe/>.

Care home open day, Stoneham Grove, Tilehurst, 10am to 4pm. Guests will be able to enjoy freshly-brewed tea or coffee and home-baked cakes and will have the chance to meet the team and take a personally tailored tour of the recently opened home.

Country and Western dance, Royal British Legion, Pelican Lane, 7.45pm to 10.45pm, members £6 and non-members £7.



Gourmet Pasta Co is holding a film night and a live jazz evening

SUNDAY

Tea dance, Royal British Legion, Pelican Lane, 1.30pm to 4pm, £4. Ballroom, Latin and sequence dancing.

MONDAY

Newbury Gardeners Association talk, Newtown Village Hall, Newtown Common, 7pm to 9pm, £5. Chris Bird, horticulture lecturer from Sparsholt College, giving talk *'Fabulous Fruit'*.

WEDNESDAY

Women's choir InCantata open morning, St Mary's Church Hall, Greenham, 9.30am to 11.30am. If you would like to give singing with a group of like-minded, welcoming, people, come and try InCantata. It is not necessary to read music. InCantata meet during

term time on Wednesday mornings. For further details see www.incantata.co.uk or Facebook.

Live jazz evening, Gourmet Pasta Co, 34 Market Place, 7pm to 9pm. Vocalist Aret Komlosy and guitarist Hugh Turner Latin jazz style. Aret has performed at the Royal Albert Hall, the London Jazz Festival, opened for the Sugababes and appeared with Bryan Ferry and Peter Gabriel. No ticket needed, just book a table.

■ If you are organising a charity or community event and would like to be included in these free listings, please email details – type of event, time, venue, date and contact – to report@newburynews.co.uk

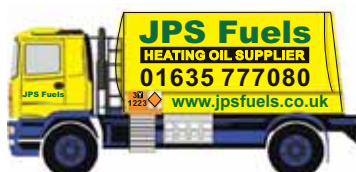
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NEWBURY NEWS



Palmer Arnau Bret, Katy Hawthorne and Jacqui Letsome Ref: 03-1225U



Swings & Smiles – Nicola Lawrence and Quona Constable Ref: 03-1225S



Hundreds of people attended the event

Ref: 03-1225Q



V365 at Newbury Corn Exchange

Ref: 03-1225F



Billy Drummond with EBP's Lesley Stewart and Georgina Curtis Reed Ref: 03-1225J

Pictures by PHIL CANNINGS



Louis, Hope and Mark Grant talk to Ros Crowder from Sport in Mind

Ref: 03-1225O



National Youth Advocacy service – Sara Mullen, Felicity Dracott and Katie O'Donnell

Ref: 03-1225I



Marcela Roshan and Lizzy Chenery of Sue Ryder

Ref: 03-1225H



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Saturday 11th

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