



Dorset's Community News

The Latest Community News, Events & Offers from DCA

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It's the summer holidays! Hopefully the summer sunshine will hold...

In this edition we have kept things short and sweet as we appreciate this is often a quieter time of year while many of you are either taking some time back from a busy year or your end users are maybe having a break themselves.

Should you be in need then there are also the lists of support for both BCP and Dorset Council areas, with HAF information throughout the holidays.

Take care and do let us know if you need extra support or having any queries at all.

Get in Touch:

 01305 250921

 info@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk

 @dorsetcommunityaction

News around Dorset

Click the underlined words to link to more information.

An update from the Dorset Innovation Hub Summit - The focus was on how innovation can be used to support communities to live their best lives; enabling delegates to learn from leading voices (nationally and locally), reflect on building a culture supportive of innovation growth and development, explore co-production with communities as a key voice, as well as network and build connections across the system. Read the full report from page 2 of their [newsletter here](#) Edition 9.

Possible Email Issue with BT
It has come to our attention that those with btinternet.com email addresses may not be receiving our mailings (or others potentially) mailings, to rectify this you can add us as "not spam" or "trusted sender" depending on your system. If you are receiving them but they're not displaying correctly or always going into your junk folder then this should help, should you know someone in your organisation who has one of these email addresses then we would be grateful if you could pass on this information. Please get in touch if you have any queries or concerns. Thank you.

Missed Crowdfunder's sold out webinar on how to raise £30k in 30 days?

You can now watch this free online masterclass to supercharge your fundraising efforts in just 30 days.

Have you taken the State of the Sector survey yet? This 30-minute online survey will help shape the future of the VCS in Dorset. Get started and make your voice heard!

Last month we shared an 'open call' for creative posters to enable a celebration of the improvement work in Dorset. 48 poster submissions were received, all of which were on display within the Dorset Museum during the Summit and are now available to view via the FutureNHS Innovation Community space. We winner was the HealthBus Trust, which detailed their innovative model for delivery of specialist healthcare for people experiencing homelessness, together with the impact of their work so far. A copy of the winning poster can be [viewed here](#), with more information on the HealthBus service [available here](#).



VOLUNTEER WITH US

Help grow food for the local community
No experience needed

Sessions run Wednesdays
10.00am - 1.00pm
Plot behind St Francis Church, Littlemoor

#HELPUYGROW

For more information contact Lydia at
lydia.harvey@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk

Training & Events

Click the underlined TITLE of each event to read more and book your place.



Trustee Breakfast Club

Date: Wednesday 11th September

Time: 8.30am, with a 90 minute duration

Where: Online via Zoom

Cost: Free

Starting at 08:30 with networking from 08:15. This quarter's meeting will be discussing roles and responsibilities of charity trustees. Whether you are new to this, or have been doing this a while, this run through of what is expected of trustees will be useful. We will look at what is legally required - and what is good practice. The session will demystify the guidance from the Charity Commission. We will be looking at how to talk about the role to prospective trustees so that it isn't off-putting.

There will be a giveaway of a template trustee role description. Plus, "ask the experts" where you can share your questions, news and other updates.



In Person - Village Halls Event

Date: Thursday 12th September 2024

Time: 2pm to 5pm

Where: West Moors Memorial Hall, BH22 0HZ

Cost: Free

DCA would like to invite you to our event dedicated to Village Halls. Speakers, training, advice, networking plus our exciting fundraiser (which involves cake!) Read more about this event in full detail on the next page.

Sponsored by:



Save the Date - Funding Festival

Date: Wednesday 13th November 2024

Following on from the success of last year's event, pop this date in your diaries. Including talks and workshops both online and in the room. Last year participants heard about AI and funding, met the funders and '10 new ways of raising money' (Several talks are still available to view at [Funding Festival 2023](#)).

To help us shape this event click [here](#) and complete a brief questionnaire before 30th August 2024.

Our events page has all the latest timetabled activity and updates, so check it out for up to date information.

Village Hall Updates

September Village Hall event further details:

12th September at West Moors Memorial Hall

DCA would like to invite you to come to our event dedicated to Village Halls. [Book here](#) to ensure your place.



Already on the (draft) programme:

- Coffee and a chance to chat with exhibitors and purchase 'bid' cake.
- Keynote speech ACRE: What the policy environment will be like going forward, Martyns Law and what support will there be for Village Halls from government?
- Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service will speak about the how about the Building Safety Act 2022 changed the requirements for organisations such as Village Halls on fire safety checks and records
- Village and Community Halls - a net Zero Guide A presentation on the new resource and information on Carbon Literacy training
- Presentation of Hallmark awards and announcement of winner of cake fundraiser
- Top Village Halls issues presentation

What would you do with £100?

As part of the event, we are holding a Cake fundraiser. Organisations attending the event can bring with them a "pitch" for a piece of work they want to do. What will yours be? A sensory window box, accessibility signage, bright new mugs for coffee mornings?

Your pitch should include:

- Who you are and the community you serve
- What you want to do with the money
- The difference it will make to those using your Village Hall (this is the key one!)

Hand your pitch in at the welcome desk when you arrive and it will be displayed for people to vote on. The pot is raised by everyone purchasing cakes at £1 per portion. Everyone attending the event will be given 5 spots to vote for their favourite pitches. The one that gets the most votes wins the whole pot of money, a tie is decided by the judge.

(We ask the winner to send us a picture of the work when it is completed please.)

Our events page has all the latest timetabled activity and updates, so check it out for up to date information.

Jobs & Adverts

Click the underlined TITLE to read more.

Seed2Plate Volunteers

Information: Mornings in Ferndown (Mon), Littlemoor (Weds) or Wimborne (Fri).

Learn to grow your own produce, meet new people and enjoy being outdoors!

Message us via [Facebook](#) or email

lydia.harvey@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk for more info



Chair of Trustees

Information: Trustee Chair required within our team.

Volunteer role, with many opportunities.

Closing Date: When ideal candidate found.



DCA Trustees

Information: Trustees required within our team.

Volunteer role, with many opportunities.

Closing Date: When ideal candidates found.



WANT TO ADVERTISE YOUR OWN JOB VACANCY OR EVENT?

Reaching all across Dorset's VCSE and statutory sector community!
[Click here to read more on our advertising options.](#)

Jobs & Adverts

Click the underlined TITLE to read more.



ROOM AVAILABILITY & HIRE WITHIN WIMBORNE

Openings for flexible hire or 4 hour slots, Mondays & Evenings.

Our two rooms currently available are the Walford and Minster rooms, both of which have good capacity.

Walford is ideal for arts, crafts or dance as it has a hard floor. Extras such as the urn, mugs, refreshments and flip-charts are also available.

Based next to the Minster in the heart of Wimborne, our Community Centre is a space for all the community to use and enjoy.

Providing the community with affordable venue hire either for regular classes, meetings, events or training sessions. The centre is an accessible Dementia Friendly facility with fully equipped rooms suitable for a variety of activities.

Room sizes are: Minster - 12x6m and Walford - 7.6x8.5m, the Minster room also have a private sink and sideboard.

Find us at: 41-44 King St, Wimborne, BH21 1EA.

Or speak to Jayne on 01202 847 600 or email roomhire@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk

Read more here: <https://www.dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk/community-centre/>



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Safe And Warm

An update from Julie,
on the Energy Project

DCA are delivering the SGN x CSE Safe and Warm Energy Project in Partnership with Bournemouth Foodbank



We are a few weeks into delivering this project now and have so far supported 34 individuals and families to save money on their energy bills, advocated on their behalf to energy companies regarding fuel debt and provided fuel vouchers to those that qualified. In addition to this we have identified further support needs and signposted to other organisations for specific help.

From the 1st July the energy price cap dropped by 7% until 30th September 2024 when it will begin to rise again and your energy bills will increase. To protect against this as much as possible, look on an energy comparison site to see if it is worth fixing in a deal.

I always say Martin Lewis the Money Saving Expert is my guru!
Follow the link to take a look at the energy comparison site here:
<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/utilities/are-there-any-cheap-fixed-energy-deals-currently-worth-it/>

If you require help with understanding your energy bills or have energy debt, we can help you, so please book in a time to come and see us. Throughout the month we are based 2 hours a week at St. Georges Foodbank in Boscombe, Life Centre in Winton or Citygate Church in Bournemouth.

Please contact us so we can book you in.
You can contact Julie on julie.johns@dorsetcommunityaction.org or call M: 07421994586 or Lauren on lauren@bournemouth.foodbank.org.uk and you will be met with a friendly face!

From Tears to Smiles - Taken from July's SGN Safe & Warm Communities News

"At the Life Centre a client came in with very challenging personal circumstances. We were able to refer her immediately to the Debt Advisor who was present in the same venue at the same time as our Safe & Warm Project. The debt advisor put an immediate block on any bailiffs coming to her house, to her great relief [...] and sent her the links to be placed on the Priority Services Register. We will also be following up on the energy debt - currently she is having income maximisation and budgeting support. We have sent her links to apply to the Household Support Fund and the Family Fund, where she can receive help for school uniforms and other support the children may need. She can also apply for a family holiday through the Family Fund, when she feels ready. This person went from being in tears on arrival to smiling as she was leaving, saying she "felt a huge weight had been lifted from her shoulders". It was a pleasure to work with and help this client."

In photo above, Roger, Julie and Lauren at St. Georges Foodbank Boscombe – on a rare sunny day!

Seed2Plate Updates from the Garden

It has been a busy few weeks at Seed2Plate, working with groups of learners as part of our young people's community projects funded by NCS, looking after the plots and redesigning the community garden at Wimborne Community Centre.



We have been working with students from EmployMyAbility to turn their courtyard area into a productive kitchen garden, all their hard work has paid off and the hospitality students are now able to harvest and use fresh produce in their cooking direct from the garden. We are looking forward to the chutney and jam making later in the year!

Learners at Millie College designed THREE new products as part of their community project. We worked with three different groups, each group developing a product using produce grown onsite. We had great fun coming up with names and designs as well as making jam, mint sauce and a curry sauce with more product ideas in the pipeline. The garden at Wimborne is flourishing, everything is growing well and we are harvesting lots of fresh salad and herbs for the community lounge and cafe at the Wimborne community centre. It has been wonderful to see people using the growing space for relaxing and even holding meetings outside.

Fresh veg from the plot at Littlemoor, Weymouth has been donated to the local foodbank, with more crops being planted, ensuring a continuous harvest. Delicious strawberries and salads are growing well at the Ferndown Community Centre garden, with beetroot and red spring onions nearly ready to harvest. With session planned with the children from the nursery, showing them how to sow, water and harvest the produce from the growing garden.

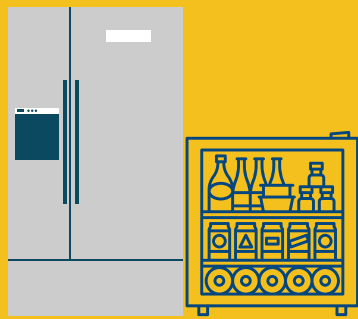
With everything that is happening, we are looking for a Seed2Plate trainee to support delivery of workshops and growing garden maintenance. If reading this has sparked your interest in learning how to grow your own food or in supporting the community, get in touch, no experience necessary! Please get in touch by messaging us via Facebook or emailing [Lydia by clicking here](#).

If you want to see what else we have been up to, follow us on Facebook and Instagram

@Seed2PlateDorset

#HelpUsGrow





Wimborne Community Centre

COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Food collection
from 8am
Monday to Thursday



WHAT WE OFFER:

- Free to all
- Short date or short life items
- Self-collection from our Fridge within the main seating area of our Cafe
- Preventing food waste and items going to landfill

Our community lounge
is for everyone, come
and be in it!

FIND OUT MORE:



@wimbornecommunitycentre



www.dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk/community-centre/

Resources & Extras

Click the underlined part as the link to read more.

Free Policy Template:

This month's free policy template is the GDPR Policy. Each policy comes with suggested text and links for you to follow for essential information. It can be used to review your current policy or to create a new one. Follow the link and then use code GDPRFREE at checkout. (Please Note that this will necessitate a brief free sign up/sign in process.) You can email caro.hart@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk for any policy related questions.

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Village Halls Project:

We are funded to give advice and support to Village Halls and community buildings, especially those in East Dorset and BCP. You can have a free 45-minute meeting via Zoom with our Village Halls Adviser on any topic of your choice and a follow-up email with free resources and information. Please email caro.hart@dorsetcommunityaction.org to book a session.

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Annual report season is approaching:

For most charities with a financial year around end of the end of March, the summer is a period of finalising the year's accounts and pulling together the Trustees Annual Report ahead of the Annual General Meeting in September or October.

Most charities do the formal report to go with the accounts and may also pull together reports for funders, however, have you considered creating a brief impact report as well? The other reports look at what you did and what it cost, but what interests your supporters is the difference your work makes! This includes the stories, personal comments, the outcomes you have accomplished. By doing so, your community, volunteers, prospective volunteers, service users and funders will be shown a whole different perspective.

For more information on, or support with, any of these issues, please contact caro.hart@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk or complete our [enquiry form](#) and we will get back to you.

You may also find [Writing your annual report](#) useful. You can download this at a discounted price of £10 for August only.

Our Training Academy requires you to set up a FREE account, once complete you'll be able to see all training available!

Funding in Brief

News from Grant Providers

Our members gain exclusive e-bulletins with fuller tailored funding information. [Click here](#) if you wish to find out more about this and the other benefits of becoming a DCA Member!



Funder: The Hospital Saturday Fund

Who can apply: Registered medical health charities, hospices, hospitals, medical clinics and individuals.

How much? Large Grants up to £10,000.

Focusing on: Supporting capital projects, hospice/respite care, medical care, training, research or running costs.

Important dates: Deadline is 27th August 2024.

Funder: Lloyds Bank Foundation

Who can apply: Registered Charities & CIC's led by and working for deaf and disabled people.

How much? £75,000 over 3 years (£25,000 per year).

Focusing on: Organisations working directly with deaf and disabled people to support them to have more control and choice over their lives, access their rights, entitlements and challenge the barriers they face.

Important dates: Deadline is 28th August 2024.

Funder: Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Fund

Who can apply: Those working on a renovation or improvement project (not repair or maintenance), the work must be completed by March 2025.

How much? Grants up to £75,000, broken down as 20% of eligible project costs minimum £7,500 (project value £37,500), maximum £75,000 (project value £375,000).

Important dates: Closing in March 2025 - but applications should go in sooner rather than later.

If you find this snapshot of our funding news useful then why not sign up as a Member to gain the fuller tailored funding information bulletins we offer each month.

Share your stories and join the conversation!

Click on the images for handy quick links to our socials, news and jobs listings.



Did you know?

The Paris 2024 Olympic medals each contain actual iron once used as part of the Eiffel Tower!

Also, you can click here to sign up as a DCA Member and start benefiting your Organisation today!

We'd love to know your thoughts and opinions on our service, this insight will help shape our offering and enable us to tailor our priorities to your support.

So do get in touch and let us know what you think
info@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk

Dorset's Community News - Brought to you by Dorset Community Action

Issue #10 - 1st August

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Dorset Community Action, The Little Keep, Barrack Road, Dorchester, DT1 1SQ

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