



Dorset's Community News

The Latest Community News, Events & Offers from DCA

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This month is, among other things, the national campaign for Stoptober. So if you wish to stop smoking yourself or wish to support others then now is a great time. Resources for the campaign can be [found here](#).

We also have the bookings now open for our Annual Funding Festival happening on the 13th November, click [here](#) or read more below.

Enjoy reading and please do share across your organisation or community if it might also be of benefit to others.

Get in Touch:



01305 250921



info@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk



[@dorsetcommunityaction](https://www.facebook.com/dorsetcommunityaction)

News around Dorset

Click the underlined words to
link to more information.

Campaign materials to promote winter vaccinations for eligible frontline healthcare professionals are now available to download.

Campaign resources include:

- [Core posters and empty belly posters](#)
- [Social media graphics: Facebook, Twitter & Instagram](#)
- [Digital screens](#)
- [Email signatures](#)
- [Stickers](#)

Alternative [posters](#) and social media graphics are available to allow localisation for NHS organisations & non-NHS organisations.

CO-OP funding for our Community Centre closes on the 19th October.

Please continue to support this via your regular food shop so that our Community Fridge and Kitchen can gain as much support as possible from CO-OP for those in need across Wimborne. Thank you to all those CO-OP members who have supported us so far!

Don't forget about the fresh resource from the National Academy for Social Prescribing. This document is designed for voluntary, community faith and social enterprise sector organisations. It contains guidance and tools to help with evaluating social prescribing projects.

Village Hall Event Resources: The online talks, and the slides for all of the talks, are now available to listen to and download from our online training Academy at '[Village Halls Event](#)'.

Dorset Mind's Big Walk - October 6th

2024 - Come and walk together with us! From its humble beginnings as a virtual London Marathon, to now an annual event that brings our Supporters together with our Staff and Volunteers - The Big Walk is a chance to learn and celebrate what we do, while walking our beautiful coastline to raise money and awareness for Mental Health. Starting at Rick Stein's Restaurant in Sandbanks, you will walk along the golden beaches of Bournemouth, up through Hengistbury Head, then after a quick hop on the Mudeford ferry (weather dependent!) continue to the Christchurch Mind Shop.



The poster is for 'Public engagement events for the future of our health services' by NHS University Hospitals Dorset. It features three circular images: a group of staff, the Poole Hospital building, and the Royal Bournemouth Hospital. The text lists the teams to be heard (surgical, maternity, emergency), key dates for both hospitals, and contact information for attendance.

NHS
University Hospitals Dorset
NHS Foundation Trust

Public engagement events

for the future of our health services

Come along and speak to team UHD about the changes happening at Christchurch, Poole and Royal Bournemouth Hospitals

Hear from our:

- surgical team
- maternity team
- emergency department team

Key dates:

Poole Hospital
Lecture theatre, education centre

- Tuesday 10 September, 6-8pm
- Tuesday 8 October, 6-8pm

Royal Bournemouth Hospital
Lecture theatre, education centre

- Thursday 26 September, 6-8pm
- Monday 21 October, 6-8pm

Email: communications@uhd.nhs.uk
with your name and telephone number to attend.

Light refreshments will be provided, and parking is free for attendees

Transforming
Care
Together

Training & Events

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



Bite-sized Training for Community Spaces

Date: Wednesday 17th October

Time: 10am, 10.45am and 11.30am

Where: Online via Zoom

This will cover three topics and you can join us for one or all of these.

- **10:00** The "must have" policies - An introduction.
- **10:45** Marketing.
- **11:30** Managing a tight budget in difficult circumstance.



Energy Saving Session

Date: Wednesday 23rd October 2024

Time: 3pm to 4pm

Where: Online via Zoom

Read more about this event in full detail on page 8.



Artisan Makers Market

Date: Saturday 26th October 2024

Time: 10am to 3pm

Where: Wimborne Community Centre, BH21 1EA

Local Produce, Artisan Crafts and Gifts, friendly cafe, plus dogs allowed.



Networking for Community Spaces

Date: Wednesday 30th October 2024

Time: 5.30pm

Where: Online via Zoom

Funded by Dorset Council, for more information on the whole programme click [here](#).

We are trying a tea-time session to see how it goes and will be discussing the timings for the other sessions when we meet. The focus for this one will be on the financial challenges faced by community spaces.

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

Training & Events

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



Annual Funding Festival

Date: Wednesday 13th November 2024

Where: Charlton Down Village Hall

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'

Supported by:



BOOKINGS OPEN!

Following on from a successful event last year, this year's funding festival will look at raising money for work at the heart of your community. It will be particularly relevant for community spaces at village halls.

Topics will include:

- How to use your community space to bring economic benefit to the local community
- Raising money together - community fundraising, crowd-funding and how to do it reliably over time
- Big one-off building projects - how to make it happen
- Going green - getting money for green initiatives and improvements

Plus, how to make your bids stand out, meet the funders and a chance to network and swap ideas. We will also be giving away fact sheets and other useful material to help you to tackle the challenges for your organisation.

Do note that this event will cost £5 per booking (no matter how many people are coming from your organisation) of which £2 will go into the "pot" which can be won by making a strong "pitch". (See below on how to make a good pitch for funding.)

Every organisation coming on the day can bring a one-side of A4 pitch for how they would spend, say, £100.

Participants will vote for the best one and that one will get the whole pot.

****Please see within the resources section on page 12 for more information on pitching!****

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

Village Hall Updates

An update from last month's Village Hall event:

Held on 12th September

The recent Village Halls Event at West Moors Memorial Hall, as well as some people joining us online, was a great success.

Almost 80 people got involved and most voted it very useful.

"Good, practical information"

"Excellent presentation outlining some very important issues"

"As a new trustee - most helpful"

"Interesting over-view, clearly set out"

The videos of the online talks, and the slides for all of the talks, are now available to listen to and download from our online training Academy at [Village Halls Event](#).

A Template for Fire Safety Checks and the full text of Village & community halls - a Net Zero design Guide by Stagg Architects, plus other goodies, are available to download free.

Well done goes to West Parley Hall for their winning pitch from the Cake Fundraiser, we hope it helps support your updates and if you fancy your own chance at winning our prize pot then read more on the upcoming Funding Event on the previous page.

Our gratitude and thanks go to: All the speakers, our funder, Talbot Village Trust, sponsor Hallmaster and to the exhibitors, Norris & Fisher, UtilityAid and the Dorset Village Halls Association, plus Julie Johns who talked about some of DCA's projects, the team at West Moors Memorial Hall as well as all those who took the time to attend!



Presentation by the Fire Service



DCA team - Julie, Rae, Caro and Paula



Winners - West Parley

Supported by:



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

Jobs & Adverts

Click the underlined TITLE to read more.

Patient Safety Partner at NHS Dorset

Information: Patient Safety Partners will help NHS Dorset to ensure the NHS in Dorset can become the best place for patient care.

Can you help us make that happen?

We are expanding our initiative to involve the public in our aim to ensure we review services to make them as safe as possible for patients, public and carers. We are seeking to recruit someone to work alongside our existing Patient Safety Partner, Patient Safety Specialist and the wider Integrated Care System. Our main areas of involvement are in our patient safety and Quality Improvement (QI) work. We are looking for people who are able to consider our work from a public perspective and who will ask how our plans meet the needs of our patients.

If you are motivated to help future patients, carers and families then apply today and see what difference you could make.

There is a flexible time commitment of around six hours a month primarily through online virtual meetings and communications.

The role is voluntary and not paid. Expenses are covered and IT equipment is provided. Further information about the role and an expression of interest form are provided at: <https://ourdorset.org.uk/psp/>



DCA Trustees

Information: Trustees required within our team.

Volunteer role, with many opportunities.

Closing Date: When ideal candidates found.



Room Availability in Wimborne

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

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.

Contact Jayne on 01202 847 600 or email roomhire@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk

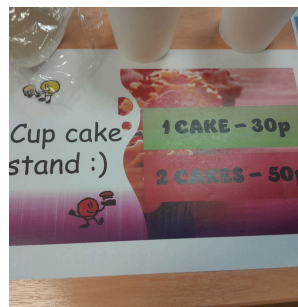


WANT TO ADVERTISE YOUR OWN JOB VACANCY OR EVENT?

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

NCS

Updates for Young People



Do you work with young people aged 16-17 or 16-24 with SEND, care leavers and those experiencing mental health difficulties?

We have been working with groups of young people to come up with a solution to an issue that is affecting them or their community.

Events have included raising funds for a common room, a children's charity and an animal rescue. We have enjoyed a wii bowling tournament, a film event, a cupcake sale, making jam and created a courtyard kitchen garden among many others.

The projects covered topics such as planning, budgeting and promotion and are designed to support a participant's personal development by improving their confidence, communication and team working skills.

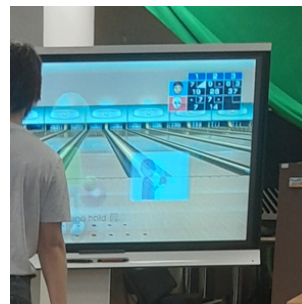
Building their employability skills, connections and opportunities within their own community.

Participants have told us that their confidence has improved, they have enjoyed learning how to run a successful event and how to work well in a team.

We have fully funded limited places available with projects to be delivered throughout the BCP and Dorset County area. Is this something that you feel might be beneficial to the young people or groups that you work with?

We still have dates for October however on a first come, first served basis, don't miss out!

Drop us a message or email lydia.harvey@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk to book your place.



Our social media pages are the places to find out the most up to date news and information!

Energy Outreach Advice



Dorset
Community
Action



ADVICE SESSIONS for FRONTLINE WORKERS & VOLUNTEERS in 24/25

Are you a volunteer or frontline worker supporting under-represented communities who may struggle to pay their energy bills this winter?

We are pleased to announce Dorset Community Action has been successful in securing funding to deliver Energy Insecurity Awareness Training for frontline workers, staff and volunteers for the remainder of 2024 and 2025, in partnership with the Big Energy Saving Network and Citizens Advice Bureau.

There have been many changes since March 2024 with a new government, changes in policy, changes in energy price caps and in financial support available for individuals. For those who have not accessed the Energy Outreach Advice Training previously, this is an opportunity to learn the latest on how you can support your under-represented communities to provide valuable information on how to save on energy bills this winter, be more energy efficient, signpost to energy schemes, upgrade heating or replacing appliances and make referrals to access grants and fuel vouchers.

For those who attended previously this is an opportunity to Refresh and Upskill yourselves or to book for new members of your team.

The training will be for one hour and we will cover topics such as:

- Energy Efficiency
- COL & Fuel Poverty
- Fuel Poverty and Health Impacts
- Debt Advice & Grants
- Your Rights as a Consumer
- Support & Signposting

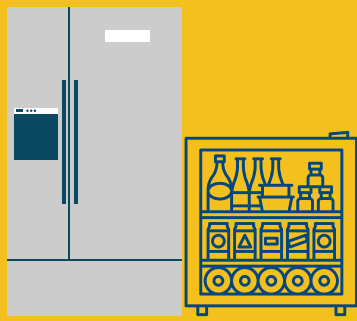
You will receive useful handouts of further information from the session.

These sessions are free to attend and can be delivered In-Person for your team at your location or on-line. We also offer a monthly session for individuals to access.

We are specifically looking to support those who work with:

Older People, Faith Groups, Black, Asian and other Minoritised Communities, Women, LGBTQ+, Single Parent Families, Young People, Carers, Care Leavers, People with Learning Disabilities, People experiencing Physical Disabilities, Mental Health Service Users, Refugees, Asylum Seekers and other vulnerable migrants with Indefinite Leave to Remain and Veterans.

To arrange a 1-hour training session for your team, please contact Julie Johns directly via email: julie.johns@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk Or BOOK HERE for the monthly online session – next date: Weds 23rd October 3-4pm



Wimborne Community Centre

COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Food collection
from 8am
Monday to Thursday



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

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

FIND OUT MORE:



@wimbornecommunitycentre



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

Dorset Community Action, The Little Keep, Barrack Road, Dorchester, DT1 1SQ.
Registered Charity: 1060910. Company No: 03320011. A Company limited by Guarantee in the UK No: 03320011

Community Notice Board

Artisan Makers Market

Saturday
26th October

10-3pm



WIMBORNE
COMMUNITY
CENTRE
BH21 1EA

Charity No: 1060910



ATTENTION

Are you 16-17 or 16-25
for those with SEND,
care leavers and those
experiencing mental
health difficulties

Want to boost your skills, make new
mates, do some good and make a
change in your community?
YES?

Then our new young peoples team
challenge, has you covered!



LYDIA.HARVEY@DORSETCOMMUNITYACTION.ORG.UK
07421 994591

Dorset Community Action, The Little Keep, Barrack Road, Dorchester, DT1 1SQ.
Dorset Community Action, Company No: 03520011, A Company limited by Guarantee in
the UK No: 5320011

Funded by
UK Government



Portland Sculpture & Quarry Trust Green Skills in Stone Crafts

A Free - Four Week Course
(September to December 2024)

Stone Carving / Stone Masonry / Lettercutting /
Dry Stone Walling



Create your own work using traditional hand carving skills

Free courses available to those -
Living in Dorset / Age 18+ years / Unemployed / Upskilling / Economically Inactive

Further Details - t: 01305 826736 / e: psqt@learningstone.org / w: www.learningstone.org
Portland Sculpture & Quarry Trust - The Drill Hall, Easton Lane, Portland, Dorset DT5 1BW.



**Dorset
Community
Action**



Energy Outreach Project, formerly known as Big Energy Saving Network, is an outreach only energy advice programme delivered across England and Wales.

It is delivered by a network of Champions and Regional Energy Leads, based in local organisations.

Are you a Frontline (Key) Worker, working with hard to reach and/or under-represented communities?

Do you know enough to spot the signs of fuel poverty or to advice your clients on where to go for advice and support?

If not, we can help.

DCA in partnership with NEA and CAB can provide free training to frontline workers to support their vulnerable clients/patients. This training is delivered by a qualified member of staff from Dorset Community Action. It can be delivered to your team in person, or on-line. The training will be for one hour and will include handouts of further information from the session.

**We will cover
topics such as:**

- Energy Efficiency
- COL & Fuel Poverty
- Fuel Poverty and Health Impacts
- Debt Advice & Grants
- Your Rights as a Consumer
- Support & Signposting

If you are an individual, a member of a local community group, or meet with a group of friends on occasion and consider this information to be valuable to you, we can come and deliver the training in person. The presentation will cover all the topics above.

Sound of Interest?

If so, please contact Julie.johns@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk and I'll look forward to speaking with you shortly.

Julie Johns - Community Advisor (Projects & Engagement)

Dorset Community Action - Telephone 01202 847610

Resources & Extras

Click the underlined part as the link to read more.

Annual report season is upon us:

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 have to do a formal report to go with their accounts, and may also be pulling together reports for funders. However, it is also useful to consider 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. You know the stories, the comments people have made, the stats for what you have accomplished, but they don't often make it into the reports. How about creating a brief report, something visual, showing-rather-than-telling people the highlights of the difference you made last year? Your community, volunteers, prospective volunteers, service users - and even funders - will be shown a whole different perspective.

You also have to submit your annual return to the Charity Commission (between this month and the end of January next year for people with a March year-end). This means you have to do different things depending on the size of your turnover:

- Under £10,000 and unincorporated charity or charitable company a simple income and expenditure report
- If you are a CIO (or unincorporated charity or charitable company with a turnover of £10,000 to £25,000) you need to answer a number of questions, including your income and expenditure, where your income came from, where it went and what policies you have in place. You can see the 2023 questions [here](#). The 2024 questions will be available later this month, keep an eye on the Charity Commission's site.
- Over £25,000 You must answer the questions about your charity plus declare that there are no serious incidents that you have not reported to us. ([Report serious incidents](#) before you submit your annual return.) You will need to [get your accounts checked](#) and provide copies of your [trustee annual report](#), accounts and independent examiner's report. These links relate to the Charity Commission's guidance.
- Over £1m you are required to do all the above, plus submitting fully audited accounts. (You may have a full audit on your accounts under this turnover for various reasons.)

Incidentally, the person doing the reporting needs to have set up their [My Charity Commission Account](#), using an individual email address and password, to access services on behalf of a charity. This system changed this time last year.

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

Resources & Extras

Click the underlined part as the link to read more.

Making an effective pitch:

As part of the funding festival, we are inviting everyone who comes on the day to pitch for a pot of money. Whoever is voted the winner, gets the whole amount raised. It can be hard to know what to say to attract funding; how exactly to sell yourselves, so here are four practical suggestions:

- Talk about the difference you make, not what you do; i.e. we help lonely older people to get out and make friends, not we run lunch clubs. Tell your story in a way that we can relate to - maybe use your service-users' own voices to show what you do.
- Talk about what makes you unique as an organisation, as a project or as an idea. Why is your idea the one we need to support rather than the community centre down the road?
- Be specific; what will you do with this money and how will this money help you to make a difference?
- A picture tells the best stories; happy children, laughing older people, snoozy rescued kittens - well worth making space for.

It is always worth getting your pitch critiqued by others - both those who know about what you do and then try practicing the pitch to a friend who doesn't. Is it clear, does it tug at the heart strings - and the purse strings...?

Is your group or charity having the right meetings?

If you are a trustee of a charity or constituted group, it is worth checking that you are abiding by the rules set out in your governing document. If yours are very old, then they may not be as up-to-date as needed. Your governing document is clear about the ways you can hold meetings. If you want to hold virtual or hybrid meetings, it should be amended to specifically allows you to do so. The Charity Commission's guidance, Charities & Meetings, says:

"You should amend your governing document if:

- it does not say anything about meetings
- it does not give enough details about meetings, for example rules about how to vote at meetings
- it has rules that are no longer workable

"This may help your charity to work effectively in the future. You do not usually need the Charity Commission's authority to make these changes."

DCA can help you to with this; from going through the constitution and helping draft new wording, meeting with trustees to even talking to the Charity Commission on your behalf.

If you would like any further information on any of these issues, please contact Caro Hart via caro.hart@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk

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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: Physical Activities Grant - Parkinson's UK

Who can apply: UK based organisations with a business or community bank account.

How much? Up to £3,000.

Focusing on: Innovative and new projects that help people with Parkinson's become active and stay active. For those who are already active to increase their levels of activity.

Important dates: Will stay open until all funds are allocated.

Funder: Wessex Water Community Fund

Who can apply: Registered Charities, Constituted Community and Voluntary organisations, CIC's limited by guarantee, Companies limited by guarantee that have a clear not-for-profit clause and clear charitable or social objectives, Parish Councils may apply if they can demonstrate clear social objectives.

How much? Grants of up to £4,000.

Focusing on: Aims to support local groups and activities that benefit local people in areas of multiple deprivation or areas of rural isolation; helping to build stronger communities, helping people to take steps to manage debts, bills and building financial capability.

Notes: Will fund core and running costs as well as project and activity costs.

Important dates: This fund closes on 18th October 2024.

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?

In October 1974 the very first McDonald's in the UK opened its doors in London...
and is still operating today!

**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

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

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