

Community First New Forest Newsletter



Winter 2013

....building relationships, enabling action

Community First New Forest Supporting the Voluntary and Community Sector

Some examples of how we could help you...

- Support with identifying and applying for funds
- Information and guidance on setting up groups
- Help with finding volunteers
- Supporting you with more complex issues, such as constitutions, becoming a registered charity
- Training on a wide range of issues
- Linking you to other services which can provide additional support
- Promoting your activities through our quarterly newsletter
- Organising Disclosure & Barring Service checks

Becoming a member...

In addition to these examples, as a member of Community First New Forest you will be entitled to hire mini-buses from our Community Transport team, have access to qualified mini-bus training, receive our Quarterly newspaper full of useful updates and information and have access to our other resources / equipment. Full details are available on request.

Enquiries...

Telephone

Community Development Team, Volunteer Centre, Community First New Forest Administrator - please call 01425 482773

Email

General enquires: admin@cfnf.org.uk

Fax

01425 482666

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Members

We extend a warm welcome to the following groups who have become members in the last few months:

New Forest Transition
New Forest Tinnitus Group
Friends of Campion House
New Forest National Park Authority
Pennington Junior School

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Christmas tree recycling

Christmas tree recycling points will be available from Monday 4 January until Sunday 10 January at the following locations across the New Forest:



Fordingbridge

A338 slip road car park, Ringwood Road SP6 1AN

Hythe

New Road car park SO45 6AQ

New Milton

Crossmead Avenue car park BH25 6NF

Lyndhurst

Village car park SO43 7NY

You may also recycle Christmas trees at the Household Waste Recycling Centres:

Efford

Milford Road, Pennington SO41 8EZ

Marchwood

Normandy Way, Marchwood SO40 4UD

Somerley

Verwood Road, Ringwood Forest BH24 3PL

The Household Waste Recycling Centres are open from 8am-4pm.

Christmas trees less than 1.8m may be put out for collection with your refuse, but will not be recycled.

Community First, New Forest: Young Carers Service



Our Young Carers Service is pleased to announce that it has been picked by Forest Fundraisers to be its charity of the year for 2014.

Young Carers coordinator Marie Shotbolt said: "This is amazing news. The Forest Fundraisers supported Nightstop this year and raised over £4000 for them and that amount of money would make a huge difference to us and the number of trips and activities we can offer. We are so grateful to them for selecting us and can't wait to get started on fundraising activities."

Forest Fundraisers was set up at the start of 2013 to raise funds for small local charities or organisations in the New Forest. In this inaugural year they have held a Bridge Day, a Spring Fair and 'Legendary Lunch' and finally an Autumn walk in the Forest with cakes and produce stall.

The Young Carers Service currently works with over 150 Young Carers and their families across the New Forest providing support, advice and activities. For more information please contact Marie on 01425 482773 or visit the Community First website. You can also find us - and like us - on Facebook - New Forest Young Carers, and follow us on Twitter - @NF_Youngcarers.

Telephone Preference Service – don't fall for bogus cold callers

A scam reported in Nottingham is doing the rounds in the New Forest. There have been reports of some residents being cold-called by telephone, where the caller claims to be calling from the Telephone Preference Service (TPS).

The caller advises that there has been a lot of nuisance calls in the resident's area and that they can stop all nuisance calls for a one off payment or a monthly fee which can vary from call to call.

For this fee the caller claims to be able to send a 'device' that plugs into the telephone socket or attaches to the telephone that will stop nuisance calls.

The Telephone Preference Service is a free service and are aware of these types of scams and other scams where callers claim to be calling from the TPS. Further information can be found at www.tpsonline.org.uk/tps/news1.html

Never provide your personal or bank account details to anybody over the telephone unless you are satisfied that you have verified the caller's details and that they are genuine.

If you've received similar calls and think you've been scammed you should report it to Action Fraud. Action Fraud can be contacted online at www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud or Tel. 0300 123 2040.

Source: Broxtowe Community email

Winter help for Home Support clients

By Gael Clemett, Manager, Home Support Service

Winter can be a difficult time for the clients the Home Support Service visits. The weather tends to be colder, wetter and windier and this makes keeping warm more difficult. Often carers have to spend a great deal of time persuading those they visit, not to turn off the central heating.

Houses cool down quickly without heating and when we are older we don't always realise that the temperature is dropping and hyperthermia can easily set in. Being aware of these risks, carers are extra vigilant and do their best to make certain that those for whom they care are kept safe and warm during the winter months.

Cold, foggy, snowy or icy conditions also affect our carer staff so they also need to take special precautions. If they are drivers, their cars need to be winter roadworthy and ready to face whatever the weather throws at them. Cyclists need to be aware of the elements as well and dress warmly and ensure they can be seen especially in the early morning and late afternoon. Those walking between their clients homes need to be dressed to take into account the wind chill effect and make sure they are visible to traffic, are carrying a torch and have a mobile 'phone.

It is with some pride that last winter when we had a period of snow we were able to reach all our clients with only a few being cared for by their families helping us with delivering the best service we could. Should we have a similar cold spell this year I am confident that

we will be able to meet the challenge of providing care and support to all our clients, even if some of our visiting times vary.

The Phoenix Club

The Phoenix Club meets on a Monday afternoon from 1.30-3.30pm at Fenwick2 in Lyndhurst. This is a social club open to anyone who would like to join a group who enjoy a cup of tea and a piece of cake as well as various activities and occasional outings. A small contribution is asked for, whenever you attend, and The Friends of Fenwick2 match that amount to enable us to keep going and have enough to buy refreshments and craft items. Transport may be possible if you live in Lyndhurst.

The Pelican Club

The Pelican Club has re-opened. It meets in Totton Christian Centre every Monday between 10am-3.30pm, for tea, cakes, quizzes and more. You'll be welcomed and made to feel at home. You will need to be able to get to and from the centre and there will be a charge for the day. If you are interested please ring us on 02380 667080 for further information or if you would like any help or support at home.

Walking works

That's the conclusion of an extensive new review, produced by the Ramblers and Macmillan Cancer Support. It makes people happy, keeps everyone healthy and can even save your life. Walking brings people together, helps them feel positive and is a cost-effective way to exercise too. To join a Healthy Walk in the New Forest visit www.cfnf.org.uk, click on the Voluntary and Community tab and then Healthy Walks.

Legal highs' advice for parents

Parents and carers are urged to get the facts about legal highs and talk to their teenagers about drug use.

Legal highs are substances that are designed to mimic the effects of illegal drugs like ecstasy and cocaine but are not controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act. But just because a substance is sold as 'legal', doesn't mean that it's safe.

The Safer New Forest Partnership website www.safer.newforest.gov.uk features a link to a factbook which gives information and practical advice on legal highs and club drugs to help parents understand the issues and discuss drug use with their children.

The publication has been produced by The Angelus Foundation, a charity dedicated to reducing the dangers to young people caused by legal highs, the ADFAM charity, which helps families with drugs and alcohol issues and the Drugs Clinic at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital. The handbook also signposts young people to www.whynotfindout.org which will inform them about legal highs, their toxicity and their effects.

"If parents can have informed conversations about legal highs with their children, it will help young people make the right decisions and can potentially save lives," said Cllr Jill Cleary, New Forest District Council portfolio holder for housing and communities. "I hope parents and carers of teenage children, in particular, will read the Angelus Foundation handbook and get the facts about legal highs, which many people know little about. It could stop your child from experimenting with these drugs."

Successful Grandparent Carers Day

Community First New Forest held a Grandparent Carers Day on 25 November at Lyndhurst Community Centre.

Several organisations attended to answer questions and give support with emotional, social and practical issues such as finance, education, benefits and legal matters. These included the Citizens Advice Bureau, Age Concern New Forest and New Forest Carers Forum.

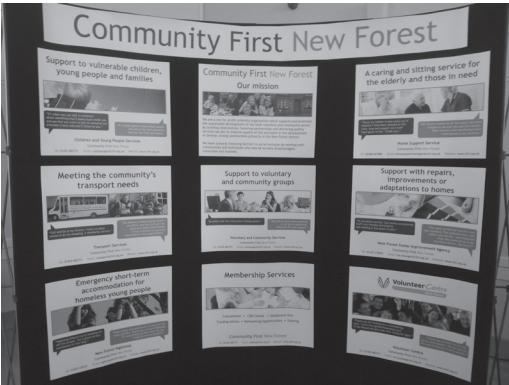
The support group for Grandparent Carers has been running for over three years and helps the growing number of grandparents who care for their grandchildren full-time.

Grandparents can be thrown into a caring role unexpectedly, often as a result of a tragedy. Common reasons include an accident, a death or drug and alcohol addiction. According to the Group's Facilitator, Carol Malky, "Just at the time of life when they want to relax and enjoy themselves many grandparents have to put their lives on hold indefinitely. As much as they love their grandchildren, this can be a real challenge."

Carol believes that this type of event and the regular support group meetings help to spread the message that support and advice is out there. She says, "We have been able to help many grandparents cope better with the situation they are in. Knowledge is power and of great importance and putting these people in touch with others who find themselves in a similar situation really helps." If you would like more information on this contact Carol on 01425 482773 or email cypservices@cfnf.org.uk.

AGM

Thanks to all our members, trustees and staff who attended our AGM in November.



Members that took the opportunity to have an information stand included:

- Minstead Training Project
- Age Concern New Forest
- New Forest Disability Information Service
- Lymington Street Pastors
- Wessex Cancer Trust
- NF Tinnitus support Group
- Honeypot

Interesting and informative presentations were give by John Durnell from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Karen Brace from SCARF and Lynn Lyon from the Community Support Service run by Community First New Forest.

A delicious lunch was provided and members enjoyed the chance to network.

We extend our thanks to Lyndhurst Community Centre, which once again, provided a superb venue and excellent catering.

DBS News

Update Service: are you ticking everything off?

When you go through the Disclosure application process with an individual, you can help them join the Update Service at the earliest opportunity. The DBS has produced an application checklist and an application form reference receipt that'll help you achieve this. Download the checklist and application form reference receipt template at www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-update-service-application-form-checklist and use it to make sure you have:

- ☒ Completed the correct workforce and position applied for in lines one and two of field x61 within the 60 character limit.
- ☒ Directed the applicant to the website to join the Update Service.
- ☒ Provided the Disclosure application form reference number or e-reference receipt to the applicant, so that they can immediately apply to join the Update Service and track the progress of their application online.
- ☒ Made sure the DBS receives the Disclosure application form from you within 28 days of the applicant joining the Update Service with their application form reference number.
- ☒ Made the applicant aware that if they join the Update Service using their DBS certificate number, they only have 14 days to do so from the date the certificate was issued – with day one being the date of issue.

DBS News cont...

Use the online tracking service to check the progress of DBS applications by visiting www.gov.uk/disclosure-barring-service-check/tracking-application-getting-certificate

New e-guide

Check out the new e-guide for completing the application form, www.gov.uk/government/publications/completing-the-dbs-application-form-e-guide.

Police backlog

Some police forces are still experiencing backlogs in clearing applications within usual processing timescales. Despite this, the DBS is still achieving its key target of issuing 75 per cent of all Disclosures within 14 calendar days from receipt.

Charity changes its name

Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight (YCHIW) has officially become 4Youth. Although it has a new name the work it does remains the same. For more information visit www.4youth.org.uk.



Hampshire
County
Council

safer new forest
Targeting Crime and Antisocial Behaviour

Have Your Say Grant a huge success

A very big thank you to Hampshire County Council and the Have Your Say grant stream, which has made it a very positive start to the New Year for 17 successful projects and organisations

in the New Forest!

Four hundred residents took the opportunity to vote online and 'have their say' about how £27,500 should be spent on tackling rural crime and anti-social behaviour in the New Forest.

Community organisations in the district were invited to apply for grants, ranging from £250 to £2,000, to fund their own initiatives and projects.

The theme of the grant application was to tackle one of the following:

- To reduce the crime and anti-social behaviour experienced by communities, remote rural dwellings and isolated settlements, rural businesses and landowners
- Reduce domestic abuse experienced in the rural communities and raise awareness of reporting mechanisms
- Increase satisfaction and confidence in the criminal justice services and community safety partners

The grants will fund a wide range of activities from installing CCTV cameras at Community Centres, contributing towards a Citizenship Day, creating a befriending service for isolated older people, increasing youth workers and activities for young people, setting up a New Forest Resolution Panel and many others.

Mike O'Brien, secretary of the Ringwood Good Neighbours said "On behalf of Ringwood Good Neighbours I would like to acknowledge all the help and encouragement given by yourself and Community First in making us aware of the "Have Your Say Grant" and encouraging us to apply. The success of our bid has enabled us to

set up and expand our befriending group. We already have 10 volunteers helping 20 clients in the BH24 area! We have proved there is a great need for this service in Ringwood. Thanks once again.”

Successful applicants include:

The Community Youth Group Hordle, 1st Fordingbridge Scout Group, Milford on Sea Community Centre, The Fortune Centre of Riding Therapy, Ringwood Good Neighbours, Fawley Parish Council – Citizenship Day, Parentlink, The Ringwood Youth Project, New Forest & Southampton Mediation Service, Team that just happened – Fawley, Wheels to Work (moped loan scheme), Jubilee Hall, Ringwood Youth Practitioners, Fawley Parish Council – Calshot, Community Support Team, a partnership bid to raise awareness of reporting mechanisms for Domestic Violence and Community First Training.

If any of these projects have inspired you and you are interested in volunteering, please contact Community First Volunteer Centre – vol.bureau@cfnf.org.uk or for more information please contact Jackie Hartless, Community First New Forest on 01425 482773.

..... what would happen if your charity changed its treasurer?

Let's look at a very familiar story :

Malcolm had been the treasurer of his charity for a number of years. He had his own way of running the accounts which involved a number of different spreadsheets and documents with each one saved on his laptop. Then he decided that it was time to put his feet up and to hand over the

reins to someone else. The accounts were passed onto Elizabeth who was looking forward to her new role as treasurer. Unfortunately, after a number of attempts by Malcolm to explain the way he was using the spreadsheets she became quite confused. Despite this, she took on the challenge and tried to continue with the way things were.

While Malcolm was taking a well-earned break, Elizabeth was getting more and more confused and frustrated as she grappled with the spreadsheets. Also, she was struggling to produce the reports for the trustees meetings. For these, she had to pull together some adjusted figures using a calculator.

After many months and numerous confused and frantic phone calls she considered creating her own spreadsheets. Then, on further consideration, she decided, for the benefit of her own sanity, that she should tender her resignation. So now, the trustees are seeking another new treasurer.

..... and how different it might have been :

Malcolm realised that the charity needed to implement a simplified set of accounting procedures in order for him to pass the role of treasurer on to somebody else. The decision was taken to install the Paxton Charities Accounting package that provided one single system for everything with clear and consistent input procedures and reporting.

When Elizabeth took over as treasurer, Malcolm showed her how to enter the transactions to the Paxton package. The procedures were in place and the reports were already set up and so she was able to continue producing the accounts and the trustee's reports with a minimum of

disruption. Also, if she got stuck on entering a particular transaction then Paxton were available to offer advice and help.

The trustees are happy, Elizabeth is enjoying her role as treasurer and, as for Malcolm, well, he is just so glad that he managed to ditch those spreadsheets.

* * *

Paxton Charities provides leading accounting software for charities. After many years involvement in the charities sector and consultation with the Charity Commission, Paxton has developed its Charities Accounting software range specifically for the third sector. Charities accounting is more complex than regular commercial accounting and so the Paxton range includes those particular facilities required to maintain *proper charity accounts*.

This superb range of accounting packages from Paxton provides treasurers and trustees of small and medium sized charities with the perfect facility. For more information visit www.paxtoncharities.co.uk or Tel. 01234 216 666



freedatabase.org.uk is leading the way!

freedatabase is a social enterprise. It was launched in 2011 to provide community organisations with free software.

In 2012 the resource was opened up to small businesses, many of which were struggling under the credit crunch. As a completely free service, not surprisingly 1,000 database downloads were exceeded within the first year of operation.

freedatabase aims to reduce the technology gap between those with large resources and those without. Thanks to the ongoing success of the project, database systems and services have never been more accessible.

For more information visit www.freedatabase.org.uk



My donate is a free fundraising service where every penny goes directly to charity.

This not-for-profit service aims to help organisations to raise the most funds possible online. It is part of BT's broader 'Improving Lives' programme which aims to raise £1 billion for good causes by 2020.

As well as MyDonate, BT offers a variety of services to help charities thrive as part of its Better Future programme.

For more details visit www.btplc.com

Community First New Forest

Thank you for
your support in
2013

Vision

An excellent
quality of life for
everyone living in the
area served by CFNF

£134,000

The level of funds
secured by groups
that we
supported with
funding
advice and
support

£184,344

*the annual
economic value of
volunteering that we
supported to happen in
the New Forest*

We support

1391

older people to
remain
independent in their
own homes

*We supported
over **150** Young
Carers and their
families across the
New Forest
providing support,
advice and
activities*

Our Mission

To identify the needs of
local people and meet
those needs through
sustainable solutions; and
to support and promote the
effective development of
the local voluntary and
community sector

*To date New
Forest Nightstop
has provided
1878
bednights to
245 homeless
young people*

We provided
80,615 visits that
provided home
support for older
people

Supporting older people - Do you know someone who needs help to remain independent in their home?



The New Forest Community Support Service helps older people with continued independence in their home. Funded by Hampshire County Council, it is successfully supporting over 400 people in the New Forest District and is keen to help more.

Trained support workers provide support across a range of needs. These include benefits advice, housing/tenancy related needs, exploring housing options, providing a home safety check, organising home repairs and adaptations to your home, information on local social groups and events, arranging community transport or help in arranging any care needs/home help. Michael Clowes, Chief Executive, commented "this service is a lifeline for many older people, where a little bit of help makes a big difference."

The support service is free for up to 12 weeks. After that, clients may have to pay an hourly rate but if they are in receipt of a means tested benefit they will continue to receive the service free of charge. If you would like to find out more about this service, or if you know someone who might benefit from this type of support contact Community First New Forest on 01425 478005 or visit www.cfnf.org.uk.

Food waste: national campaign aims to stop the rot by 2020

Government, council and retailer-backed report says ban on landfill could save UK £17bn and heat 600,000 homes

Food producers, retailers, restaurants and consumers are being urged to join forces to secure a ban on all food waste going into landfill by 2020, in a bold national campaign.

Compulsory collections of food waste from all homes and businesses by local councils are among a series of measures recommended in a new report to enable food waste to be harnessed as a valuable resource to provide energy, heat and benefits for agriculture.

Official figures revealed the average UK family was wasting nearly £60 a month by throwing away almost an entire meal a day. Britons are chucking out the equivalent of 24 meals a month, adding up to 4.2m tonnes of food and drink every year that could have been consumed. One-fifth of what households buy ends up as waste, and around 60% of that could have been eaten. At the same time the UK's largest retailer, Tesco, recently agreed to reduce its multi-buy items and other promotions after revealing that 35% of its bagged salad was being thrown out. It also found that 40% of apples were wasted, and just under half of bakery items.

The new study, Vision 2020: UK Roadmap to Zero Food Waste to Landfill is the culmination of more than two years' work

Source: The Guardian, 11 November 2013

Volunteering

New Year – New Start

Want to do something amazing in 2014?
Volunteer in your community and make a real difference where you live!

Why volunteer?

People chose to volunteer for many different reasons these include:

- Make a difference to the lives of others
- Help the environment
- Help others less fortunate or without a voice
- Feel valued and part of a team
- Gain confidence and self-esteem
- Enhance CV and improve employment prospects
- Socialise with others

What can I do?

The New Forest Volunteer Centre currently has over 200 opportunities to volunteer across the New Forest. These range from administration or office work, working with the elderly or children, driving, being part of a committee to environment and conservation, just to name a few. So many incredible causes in the New Forest simply couldn't operate without the help of local volunteer 'heroes' and you could be one of those people.

What to do next?

Contact the Volunteer Centre and you will receive a one to one interview and be matched to a suitable opportunity. You can visit www.cfnf.org.uk or contact Sarah or Tanya on 01425 482773 for more information.

There are lots of other useful websites that also might help you onto your volunteering journey.

www.do-it.org.uk Every 45 seconds someone in the UK finds a volunteering opportunity thanks to Do-it. Do-it is the national database of volunteering opportunities. Search more than one million volunteering opportunities by interest, activity or location and apply online.

www.ivo.org.uk ivo is a social network for the community minded, connecting people and organisations that want to make their worlds a better place. It allows you to search through 25,000+ volunteering opportunities and jobs available in the not for profit sector.

www.charityjob.co.uk If you're looking to volunteer in the UK or for opportunities abroad then CharityJOB might just have the perfect role for you.

New Forest Recognition Event 2014

We all know that volunteers do an amazing job and many organisations simply couldn't function without them. Here is your chance to say thank you!

We need to know about your volunteers who deserve to receive a special recognition award for the work they do. If you would like to nominate any volunteers please get in touch.

We would like to hear from charities and organisations in the New Forest who would like to be part of this very special event. Please contact Sarah Suddrey in the Volunteer Centre on 01425 482773 or email vol.bureau@cfnf.org.uk

Funding

The Sarah Kinsley Fund

The Fund was founded in the late 1970's by a group of friends who wanted to raise money to support a teenager, Sarah Kinsley, who had kidney failure. Sarah died, sadly, but a charity was founded in her memory to create a permanent source of help for children and young adults with special needs. It can assist with the purchase of special equipment/services that are not available from the National Health Service or Department of Education or other statutory body.

Who it supports?

It is a very local children's charity that covers the geographical areas of Ringwood, Fordingbridge, Cranborne, Downton and the villages in between. The child or young adult must live in the catchment area, although may attend a school outside of that area. Children and young adults from birth to 19 years of age, who have special needs, are eligible for assistance. The special need may be physical, emotional, developmental, illness or learning difficulties. Sometimes this is a temporary situation, more often it is permanent.

How can you help?

If you would like to help the Sarah Kinsley Fund, you can do so in many ways. Apart from monetary contributions, are you able to offer a venue for one of our events? Do you have a skill or talent you could offer? Do you represent a club or society which might like to work with SKF?

The Fund is currently looking for a Chair for the Committee. Please contact : info@sarahkinsleyfund.org.uk or visit www.sarahkinsleyfund.org.uk

Crowd Funding—what is it?

Crowdfunding is a way of raising finance by asking a large number of people each for a small amount of money. Until recently, financing a business, project or venture involved asking a few people for large sums of money.

Crowdfunding switches this idea around, using the internet to talk to thousands – if not millions – of potential funders. Typically, those seeking funds will set up a profile of their project on a website. They can then use social media, alongside traditional networks of friends, family and work acquaintances, to raise money. There are three different types of crowdfunding: donation, debt and equity.

Donation/Reward crowdfunding

People invest simply because they believe in the cause. Rewards can be offered (often called reward crowdfunding), eg. acknowledgements on an album cover, tickets to an event, regular news updates, free gifts and so on. Returns are considered intangible. Donors have a social or personal motivation for putting their money in and expect nothing back, except perhaps to feel good about helping the project.

Sites include:

www.banktothefuture.com www.buzzbnk.org
www.crowdbnk.com www.crowdfunder.co.uk
www.gambitious.com www.peoplefund.it
www.pleasefund.us www.sponsorcraft.com

Funding

Debt crowdfunding

Investors receive their money back with interest. Also called peer-to-peer (p2p) lending, it allows for the lending of money while bypassing traditional banks.

Returns are financial, but investors also have the benefit of having contributed to the success of an idea they believe in.

In the case of microfinance, where very small sums of money are lent to the very poor, most often in developing countries, no interest is paid on the loan and the lender is rewarded by doing social good.

Sites include:

www.abundancegeneration.com

www.banktothefuture.com

www.buzzbnk.org www.trillionfund.com

Equity crowdfunding

People invest in an opportunity in exchange for equity. Money is exchanged for a number of shares, or a small stake in the business, project or venture.

As with other types of shares, apart from community shares, if it is successful the value goes up. If not, the value goes down.

Sites include:

www.banktothefuture.com www.crowdbnk.com

www.crowdcube.com www.ethex.org.uk

www.gambitious.com www.microgenius.org.uk

www.crowdmission.com www.seedrs.com

www.sharein.com

The Variety of Club of Great Britain Top of Form



the children's charity

improving young lives every day

Variety aims to improve the lives of disabled and disadvantaged children and young people throughout the UK. The club's website has the following interesting account of the origins of the charity:

"The roots of the Variety Club of Great Britain go back to 1927 when, in Pittsburgh, United States, a group of 11 men, all friends and involved in show business, set up a social club. They rented a small room in the William Penn Hotel for their new club, which they named the Variety Club, as all its members were drawn from various branches of the show business world. On Christmas Eve 1928 a one-month-old baby was abandoned on a seat in the Sheridan Square Theatre in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with a note pinned to her dress, which read: 'Please take care of my baby. Her name is Catherine. I can no longer take care of her. I have eight others. My husband is out of work. She was born on Thanksgiving Day. I have always heard of the goodness of show business people and pray to God that you will look after her' (signed, 'A heart-broken mother').

When all efforts by the police and local newspapers failed to locate the parents, the theatre's 11 club members decided to underwrite the infant's support and

Funding

subsequent publicity surrounding Catherine and her benefactors attracted many other show business people anxious to help.

Before long Catherine had more clothes and toys than any child could possibly need. Naturally the Club members had no trouble finding other disadvantaged children to benefit from the extra gifts and while the generous show business world donated presents to Catherine, the Club continued to supply a growing number of children with much-needed presents.

As a result, by the time Catherine was adopted at the age of five, the Club that she had effectively started was well on the way to becoming a recognised children's charity.

It was not long before the Variety Club decided to actively raise funds for its adopted cause of disadvantaged children. The first fund-raising event of the Club was held under a Circus Big Top, which is why the circus vernacular is used within the Club structure world-wide. The Variety Club of Great Britain - or Tent 36 - was set up by two Americans: Robert S Wolff, chairman of RKO, who became the club's first Chief Barker, and C J Latta of ABC Cinemas/ Warner Brothers. It was formed at an inaugural dinner at the Savoy in October 1949 and by the end of 1950 had already raised nearly £10,000.

From the start, Tent 36 - like the Variety Club as a whole - consisted of a group of charitable individuals and companies, the majority of whom were related to show business and were happy to give large sums of money for the cause, sometimes as straightforward cash donations and sometimes through their support for the Club's auctions and raffles with donated items. The Club numbered a formidable array of film producers, agents and celebrities within its ranks,

all of whom were eager to give their time and help towards making the increasingly varied and wide ranging fundraising events as successful as possible. Variety Club of Great Britain, along with the other members of Variety Club International, has long been characterised as 'the Heart of Show Business'. Its membership over the years is drawn in large measure from the multi-faceted world of entertainment and the leisure industries.

Summary

- to promote and provide for the care and upbringing of sick, disabled and disadvantaged children within the UK
- the advancement of education and the relief of financial need of children within the UK
- to undertake, and to assist others to undertake, research into any illness or affliction affecting children which will advance knowledge and to publish the useful results of research
- the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation for children in the interests of their social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for such children.

The three main areas of work cover:

- mobility- coaches and wheelchairs, including sports wheelchairs
- caring and health- specialist children's hospital wards and in-home care equipment
- youth and education- youth clubs plus fun and educational days out.

Grant making

In 2011/12 the charity had assets of £1 million and an income of £6.2 million. Grants and

Funding

donations paid out during the year totalled just under £2.5 million. Of this total, just over £2.1 million was granted to organisations and £343,000 was granted to individuals. See www.variety.org.uk for more details.

Thomas Cook Children's Charity

The Children's Charity makes grants to organisations working with young people and also individuals (up to the age of 18) that meet its criteria of:

Making Dreams Come True for sick and disadvantaged children by;

- Improving education facilities
- Improving facilities that provide well-being and health care
- Working with its Charity Partner, Happy Days Children's Charity to provide short breaks

It also provides funding for specialist equipment. Details of what can and cannot be applied for can be found in the Application Guidelines in the publications section of this website at www.thomascookchildrenscharity.com

Places People Play-Inspired Facilities

Inspired Facilities is focused on making it easier for local community and volunteer groups to improve and refurbish sports clubs or transform non-sporting venues into modern grassroots sport facilities. Part of Places People Play, Sport England's programme to deliver a London 2012 legacy of increased mass participation in sport, it is investing £50 million of National Lottery funding in up to 1000 community sports projects. There has been an additional £40 million investment allocated to continue the Inspired Facilities programme for a further three years; the new round opens spring 2014. www.inspiredfacilities.sportengland.org

Greggs Foundation

The Regional Grants programme makes small grants of up to £2,000 to help organisations based in local communities to deliver activities that they wouldn't otherwise be able to. Grants are made to charitable organisations who make a difference to people in need in the heart of our local communities. The programme supports additional activities that are not part of the core service.

Grants are made to charitable organisations that work in local areas that have a Greggs presence such as shops, offices and bakeries. The groups included are those who are disabled or suffering chronic illness, living in poverty, voluntary carers, homeless and isolated older people.

www.greggsfoundation.org.uk/regional-grants

BBC Children in Need Small Grants Programme

Children and young people 18 years and under experiencing disadvantage through:

- Illness, distress, abuse or neglect
- Any kind of disability
- Behavioural or psychological difficulties
- Living in poverty or situations of deprivation

The programme funds organisations working to combat this disadvantage and to make a real difference to children and young people's lives. In its Small Grants programme it is looking for projects where a relatively small amount of money can make a big difference for children and young people. It is unlikely to fund applications which top up funding for salaries or larger projects where a small grant would only make a marginal impact on its success.

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes

Funds available – open call for project ideas

LankellyChase Foundation's mission is to bring about change to improve the lives of people who are experiencing a combination of severe social harms such as homelessness, substance misuse, mental illness, extreme poverty and violence and abuse.

It says it is not interested in sticking plaster solutions, even if they make people's lives better in the short term, but in changing the fundamentals. If you think your project (large or small, short or lengthy) can help bring about such change, the Foundation would like to hear from you. It is especially keen to hear about work led by people with lived experience of severe and multiple disadvantage. Full information at <http://tinyurl.com/pkhxef9>

Looking for Funding?

Community First New Forest can help you access sources of funding for your organisation or as an individual. We can search a database that will identify Trusts that might fund your cause. If you would like us to carry out a search on your behalf or need any other advice regarding funding then please get in touch. Debbie Grace Tel. 01425 482773, debbie.grace@cnf.org.uk or visit www.cnf.org.uk

Community First New Forest Training Courses

Time Management

Wednesday 15 January
10am-12.30pm

How to manage your time effectively.
Cost: £40 members, £45 non-members

Introduction to Welfare Benefits

Wednesday 26 March

1-4.30pm

What benefits are available and how to access them.

Cost: £35 members, £45 non-members

Funding Workshop

Tuesday 11 March

10am-12.30pm

A workshop on sources of funding and how to make applications.

Cost: £40 members, £45 non members

First Aid

Tuesday 15 May

9am-4.30pm

Accredited course for small low risk organisations.

Cost: £60 members, £75 non members

Food Safety

Wednesday 2 July

9am-4.30pm

An accredited course delivered by Brockenhurst College on all aspects of Food Safety.

Cost: £60 members, £75 non members

Midas training

Both new driver and refresher training is available. Contact Transport on Tel. 01425 482773 or visit www.cnf.org.uk

We are always interested to hear of new courses or to arrange different subjects to be introduced to the programme. Training may be on an informal basis, for example, a one to one session, or it can be for up to a hundred people at one time. If we cannot provide the training you ask for, we can normally direct you to the right place that can provide what you are looking for.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Transport solutions for the New Forest including Call & Go, Wheels 2 Work moped loan scheme, minibus hire and MiDAS training. Volunteers always needed.

Email: transport@cfnf.org.uk

Booking Line: 0845 6024326

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community development supports and promotes the development of an effective and sustainable voluntary and community sector. We can visit you, provide one-to-one support, offer funding advice and offer help in identifying training needs and where to access training.

Tel: 01425 482773

Email: cdmanager@cfnf.org.uk

HOME SUPPORT SERVICE

Offers personal care and additional support (shopping/outgoings/domestic help) to older people and adults with physical disabilities living in their own homes.

Tel: 023 8066 7080

Email: homesupportmanager@cfnf.org.uk

HOME IMPROVEMENT AGENCY

A non-profit agency which helps the elderly, the disabled and those living on a low income, to remain independent in their own homes.

Funding • Adaptations • Improvements
Help in finding a suitable contractor

For further details or a friendly chat to see if we can help, please phone 01425 478005.

Email: hiamanager@cfnf.org.uk

Community Support for older people

We can help you:

- Arrange any care needs/home help
 - Provide benefits advice
 - Provide a home safety check
- Arrange a community alarm
- Organise home repairs/adaptations to your home
 - Access local social groups and events
- Arrange community transport

Tel: 01425 478005

email: hia.manager@cfnf.org.uk

Nightstop

We provide temporary accommodation for homeless young people. Nightstop has a team of trained volunteers who provide a room and meals for between 1-5 nights. Agencies (not young people themselves) can ring the Co-ordinator who will contact host families to request their help. Nightstop also has a team of drivers and support volunteers.

Tel: 01425 478391

Email: nightstop@cfnf.org.uk

Volunteer Centre

At the Volunteer Centre we promote and support volunteering. The VC recruits potential volunteers from all sectors of the community and seeks to place them with voluntary organisations who are actively looking for volunteers to assist with their work.

We also offer advice, information and training to voluntary groups using or considering using volunteers.

Tel: 01425 482773

Email: vol.bureau@cfnf.org.uk

Community First New Forest

Our Vision

An excellent quality of life for everyone living
in the area served by CFNF.

Our Mission

To identify the needs of local people and meet those
needs through sustainable solutions; and
To support and promote the effective development
of the local voluntary and community sector.

Independent **Caring** Reliable **Inclusive**
Flexible Creative **Professional** Evolving
Passionate Learning Confident **Partners**
Equality **Ambitious Community** Dedicated
Challenges **Dynamic**

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Registered charity no. 1068964 Registered company no. 3483827

