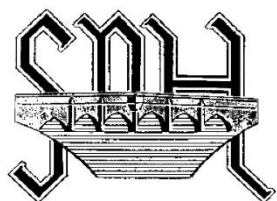


COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

We have retained here some of the items submitted by community groups for reference.



Sturminster Newton

Heritage Trust

SNHT works to maintain the Museum and the Mill as community assets by preserving and displaying the local history of the town and ensuring that the Mill continues as a rare, historic working example of national milling heritage.

The Trust hosts a number of different events throughout the year from talks, walk, workshops, cream teas, exhibitions and mill tours (see the events pages).

The Community Learning Centre

Free advice, problem solving and learning for computers, tablets, smartphones etc. Just drop-in on Mondays from 9 till 12:30 or Wednesdays 9:30 to 4:30. Or make an appointment via Dorset Digital Champions Hotline Tel: 01305 221048. Our friendly volunteers are ready to help.

Regular Seminars 2:30pm
1st Wed of month: Buying & Using a Smartphone
2nd Wed : Microsoft Office Workshop
3rd Wed : Windows 11

Web Site snclc.org.uk
Email snclc@btconnect.com
Tel 01258 475272 (when open)



u3a **SPECIAL OFFER!**
Sturminster Newton **Half Price Joining Fee**
- Only £7!

Across the UK, u3a members are discovering new things, staying active and having fun in later life. It's local, social, friendly, and open to all!

Make the most of life once you're no longer in full time work by exploring new ideas, skills and interests with Sturminster Newton u3a – from walking to wine tasting! If you are interested in joining us please visit our website at:

u3asites.org.uk/sturminster-newton



sturlitfest.com

A little about the Sturminster Newton Orchestra

Our concert this summer is somewhat special. In 2020 we were planning to hold one to mark the 30th anniversary of the founding of SNO, but of course Covid got in the way.

If you have never heard us before, why not come on 23rd July and enjoy the celebration? – Concert 10.30am for 10.45, The Exchange.

We now consider ourselves the “North Dorset Community Orchestra”. All orchestral instrument players, of all ages, are very welcome to join.

We rehearse most Saturday mornings during the school term, starting at 9.30am. Please join us in the Bow Room - just follow the sound of music!

The Vale Pantry

The Vale Pantry is North Dorset's 'social supermarket' – it was set up and is led by Carole Jones, - Councillor for Sturminster Newton on Dorset Council. "The Pantry was set up during Covid times when it became clear the level of food insecurity that we have amongst our community", Carole states. There are so many individuals and households really struggling to keep on top of bills, rent and often food becomes the flexible budget – and where cut backs are made.

Whilst the Pantry appears all about food – actually there is so much more on offer to members who visit each week. There are a host of underlying issues that Carole and her team deal with which include: debt, redundancy, domestic violence, homelessness, long term illness, disabilities and much more. Very often a helping hand can prove life changing to getting people back on their feet.

Since opening in November 2020, over 540 households have been helped, - at the time of writing this 245 households are registered for help weekly, - meaning that just under 300 have been helped back on their feet and are completely independent again.

The misconception is that many people think all of the food is donated – it's not, we have to purchase 98% of it, - amounting to anywhere between £2500 - £3000 per week. "The fundraising is relentless" Carole says, "Not a day or week can go by without scouting through all of the grant making trusts and funds available and bidding where I think we can meet their criteria". Since becoming a registered charity in October 2021, The Vale Pantry is driving a campaign to build the 'supporters' or 'friends' of the Vale Pantry with monthly standing orders. "No matter how small, every pound given each month will help us become sustainable in the long term.

The work we do is so important – food banks are not the answer, the Pantry provides the perfect way for a family to manage and feed the family properly with a full range of fresh foods including fruit, vegetables, meat, dairy and so on".



The Pantry is currently at it's busiest with new requests coming almost daily due to the rising cost of living, the increase in fuel bills has hit families hard. If you need help, or know of anyone who needs help – please pass on our details, equally – if you can help us, we really would be so incredibly grateful – this testimonial below encapsulates exactly what the Vale Pantry is all about:

It is hard to find the words to thank you and all at the Pantry for the continuing to get me through a very hard and stressful time. I don't think everyone realises the Pantry is not a "foodbank" it is so much more it IS a community of caring people helping others who are down on their luck financially and mentally No matter what faith belief or religion.

It a place to get advice and help with so many social issues its where you know at least once a week you will see people who are pleased to see you and not just full of platitudes and fake smiles They go the extra mile to help the less fortunate. I just wish every town or village in the UK had one like it we would then have a much happier healthier country

Valepantry.co.uk info@valepantry.co.uk

07968 348481

THE BIG YELLOW GARDEN BUS PROJECT

On the southern edge of Shillingstone with access from the railway.

Orchard, growing areas and garden.

One third of produce is donated to Blandford food bank, one third to The Vale Pantry in Sturminster Newton and one-third available on-site.

The project has provided planters for either end of the village and outside the co-op.

Bikes are available to borrow for rides along the railway.



Clockwise from top left: Viewing platform on the railway overlooking the mystic garden; the water cascade under construction; the guide to varieties in the orchard; the orchard itself; and the sunken garden.

Menopause Peer Support Group

This brand new peer support group is for women to help them live with the Menopause and the symptoms associated with it.

A place where everyone understands what you are living with on a day to day basis - come along and join us!

The group will be held at Abbey View Medical Centre in Shaftesbury every 2nd Friday of the month between 5 and 6.30pm - and every 4th Friday of the month between 2.30 and 4pm at Sturminster Newton Medical Centre.

No booking is necessary - just turn up and join in!

North Dorset Parent and Carer Support Group

An opportunity to connect those of us with children or young people aged 0-25 years in our care, who have additional needs and/or learning disabilities of any kind. A safe, relaxed space to share experiences and ideas, as well as gaining support and friendship from others facing similar day to day challenges.

The group operates on Monday mornings during term time between 9.30 and 11.30am at Stour Connect in Sturminster Newton.

Refreshments are available from the very reasonably priced community cafe on site.

They can offer support (or help you find it) with any ongoing issues (eg EHCP's, Housing, Linking with other services etc), share ideas with each other or just be a listening ear.

There is now a toybox on site too for any children under 5 years old who accompany you - please note children remain your own responsibility at all times.

They look forward to seeing you there! No booking necessary just turn up and join in!



Keep Reading with the Home Library Service

If you or somebody you know or care for are unable to get to your local library, whether in the short or long term, the Home Library Service can deliver a regular supply of books to your home, completely free of charge. This service is delivered by Royal Voluntary Service volunteers on a regular basis to meet your needs. For more information please contact the local co-ordinator Carey Pearce carey.pearce@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk 07423 471019

Stour Connect

Friends of Stour Connect and Nordcat now share board membership and are working in closer partnership. We are now jointly running the community car scheme. This had 12 drivers at one time, all local people, who could offer journeys to those needing mainly medical/hospital transport but also for other appointments. Previously the scheme provided some 500 journeys per year. We desperately need more volunteer drivers to help support this vital service for people in our rural community who do not have access to transport. Volunteer mileage rates are paid from the time of leaving home to the time of returning home. Please contact Friends of Stour Connect for more details. admin@friendsofstourconnect.org

Our Community Cafe on the Bath Road serves fresh local produce and homemade cakes at competitive prices. Open weekdays 9am - 1.30pm.

We are very proud to have received a Charity Excellence award. This would not have been achieved without the hard work and dedication of our volunteers, staff (we now employ 6 part time staff) and Trustees. We are seeking additional volunteers to work on new projects, so please get in touch if you have a few hours to spare, there is always something going on.

[Friends of Stour Connect](#) | [Sturminster Newton](#) | [Dorset](#) | [Charity](#) | [Home](#)

NORDCAT

North Dorset Community Accessible Transport (NORDCAT) provides a door-to-door demand-responsive service enabling access to shopping, visiting friends, medical appointments and much more. It is for anyone who has difficulty using public transport and anyone over 60 can use the service. You must register first and book 24 hours in advance between 9am and 4pm. There is an annual registration fee £5 and a bus fare. We operate Monday to Friday and have wheelchair-accessible minibuses. For further details call us on 01258 472164 or email info@nordcat.org.uk.



Community Speedwatch Team



More new members welcome.

This group was formed in 2014 and three of the original Police-trained volunteers are still in the current team of seven members. It was formed in response to the many complaints about speeding traffic from residents on both sides of the river. Community Speedwatch is a countrywide Police initiative.

Dorset Police always assesses the sites for a team to monitor. Stur's team have six sites with others under consideration. A site is usually monitored for an hour by three trained volunteers. Occasionally a police officer with a camera may support a team. All CSW teams work under the authority of the Chief Constable and according to the Dorset Police strict guidelines.

It is hoped that the visible presence of a CSW team in high vis jackets will serve as a reminder of the local speed limit and help to deter motorists from speeding. However if a driver is speeding the recorded data is submitted to the Police and its civilian staff to process. It is followed by an advisory letter to the registered keeper. A different approach would be applied for a persistent offender.

We do get feedback at the roadside, complimentary and sometimes more negative. It does reveal, however, that many residents are concerned about speeding traffic in the town and would like us to do more. If you think you can help us make Stur a safer place, then please consider joining our friendly team by giving 2 to 4 hours of your time a month. This would enable us to spread the load and monitor site more frequently.

We are very grateful to the Town Council and The Rotary Club for our recently upgraded equipment.

You can Email speedwatch@sturminsternewton-tc.gov.uk to find out more and register your interest.



North Dorset
(Sturminster Newton)
01258 475582

Your local charity for all age-related Advice.

- Befriending
- Welfare advice
- Telephone support
- Foot clinic

Office staffed Monday & Wednesday 10am - 2pm

at Stour Connect, Stour View Close

Phones answered remotely Friday 10am – 2pm

info@acnorthdorset.org.uk www.acnorthdorset.org.uk



Noticing and enjoying Sturminster Newton's beautiful natural environment and the wildlife and plants that share it with us

Take a look at sturbuzz.org.uk for more about Sturbuzz plus links to seven related organisations and eight local nature spots to enjoy.



Sturminster Newton Tree Project

The Tree Group is calling on all of us to both appreciate the beautiful trees we have in and around our town and help to plant new ones, as part of the **Sturminster Newton Queens Green Canopy Project**.

If you can offer any help in any capacity please contact
taprisha@googlemail.com

Sturminster Newton-Montebourg Town Twinning Association

If you are interested in knowing more, please contact the Secretary on
sturminster.twinning@gmail.com.

Helen Lamper Twinning Association Secretary

