



ISLE OF WIGHT
FOUNDATION

2015-16
ANNUAL REPORT



HELPING

Helping everyone
to feel part of the
Island community

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Foreword

Island Roads is part of a wider network of companies within the world's leading construction and concession company – VINCI. VINCI established the first VINCI Foundation in May 2002 as part of its determination to form lasting partnerships with the local community and support those who live and work in areas where the company operates. To date there are ten VINCI trusts/foundations all over Europe which have collectively supported over 1,200 projects and helped make social cohesion a reality in its local communities.

In August 2014, the partners in Island Roads launched the Isle of Wight Foundation, a charitable trust, committed to supporting projects on the Island that tackle social exclusion, supporting people to play an active part in their local community and helping them access employment and housing.

The Foundation is jointly funded by partners Ringway Island Roads, Meridiam, Island Roads and VINCI Concessions. Meridiam is a leading global, long-term investor specialising in public infrastructure (transport and social infrastructure eg schools, public buildings, utility networks and services eg water and waste management). The company has a long track record in corporate social responsibility, sustainability and community involvement.

Whilst Island Roads' focus as a company will always be on the work we have been tasked with – improving the Island's roads - we recognise, through the work we do and the people we employ, that as an Island company we will be a prominent part of Island life for a 25-year period. As such, we want to be able to help the community in other ways, by enabling our staff to take time to volunteer and to fund projects that benefit the Island community.

We're delighted to bring you this, our annual report for 2015-16, which outlines the achievements of those projects during the second year of our Foundation. We're proud to have played a part in their success and to have made a difference to the community in which we live and work.

Philip Horton

Chairman

Isle of Wight Foundation Board





About the Isle of Wight Foundation

A massive investment in the Island's infrastructure

Island Roads is undertaking the biggest highway improvement programme ever seen on the Isle of Wight. In partnership with the Isle of Wight Council, as part of the Highways PFI, Island Roads is responsible for upgrading and maintaining the Isle of Wight's infrastructure, including some 804 kilometres of roads, 756 kilometres of footways (pavements), 12,000 streetlights and a wide range of other highway assets.

The majority of the upgrade is being completed over a seven-year period from 2013, but the company will then maintain the highway network at that standard for a further 18 years – meaning that it will be part of community life on the Island for 25 years in total. As such, Island Roads and the companies behind the partnership; VINCI Concessions, Meridiam Infrastructure and Ringway, are keen to play a wider role in supporting the community.

The formation of the Isle of Wight Foundation

In April 2014, the companies established the Isle of Wight Foundation – a charitable trust. Its aim – to help tackle social exclusion on the Isle of Wight through an annual grant giving programme.

The Isle of Wight is a beautiful place to live and work, but behind the vast expanses of stunning countryside and coastal scenery there are pockets of deprivation. Unemployment statistics are high, particularly amongst young people and the rural nature of the Island and difficulties with transportation

links leaves some communities and individuals isolated. Having worked with community representatives and having reviewed local data, the partners formed the Isle of Wight Foundation to help address these issues through community funding. Specifically, the Foundation seeks to help build better communities that encourage social integration and create opportunities for people to access training and development to improve their life skills and opportunity for employment.

Providing opportunities through funding

Each year, the Isle of Wight Foundation launches a grant call, offering up to £80,000 of funding to local community projects that met its criteria for supporting projects that help tackle social exclusion, whether through access to training and qualifications or building stronger communities. The total sum is usually allocated in amounts of between £3,000-£16,000 to not-for-profit, community or charity organisations.

In addition to the financial help on offer, Island Roads employees are also linked up to the selected projects to provide additional support and expertise as part of the company's volunteering scheme.

The opportunity to apply for funding is promoted widely in local media and through voluntary and community networks. A selection committee, formed at the outset, chooses the final projects to receive support following an initial review of applications and potential project visits carried out by the Isle of Wight Foundation support officer. The Board then meets to finalise the approvals.

Funding is awarded for use within one year of the allocation to ensure a swift and marked measurable improvement in tackling social exclusion on the Isle of Wight. In its second year, the Isle of Wight Foundation supported eight projects, each of which are profiled in this report.



Our Six Key Areas of Support

The Isle of Wight Foundation was formed to help tackle social exclusion through access to employment and building better communities. Applications were sought from charity, not for profit and community interest organisations within six key areas of support:

Integration through work

Projects which support those currently excluded from the job market to adapt to the working world, while also receiving the training and support they need.

Training and qualification

Projects that offer basic training and guidance to enable individuals with no qualifications to enter the working world.

Social integration

Projects to support people who are excluded from society, to help them regain self-confidence, recover a decent standard of living, accomplish day-to-day activities and integrate with society.

Access to housing

Projects that facilitate access to housing for the most underprivileged individuals to provide them with more stability.

Road back to employment

Initiatives that help people to reduce the factors restricting their mobility and improve the mobility of people deprived of a means of transportation, thereby allowing them easier access to employment, health care and education.

Youth and citizenship

Initiatives aimed at promoting citizenship and responsibility among young people.





Our Key Criteria For Funding

Projects applying for funding also have to meet key criteria in order to qualify for support. These are focused around the following principles:

Lasting commitment

The Isle of Wight Foundation supports projects which are sustainable and can provide permanent employment or activities that benefit the Island community.

Social innovation

It also supports projects or initiatives which seek innovative solutions to tackle social exclusion.

Impact

Projects and initiatives are sought that can make a measurable impact on the community within the specified 12-month period.

Employee engagement

The Isle of Wight Foundation also funds projects with which it can link support from its employees - whether providing advice, contacts, expertise, skills, training and practical, physical support and which can help develop those individuals involved.

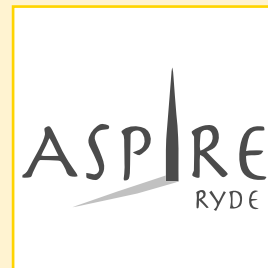
Compliance

Any projects submitted are required to be compliant with relevant legislation and are able to evidence their constitution as charity, community or not-for-profit groups and their ability to manage any grant funding effectively. Certain funding criteria must also be met and restrictions apply.

Community Projects Supported

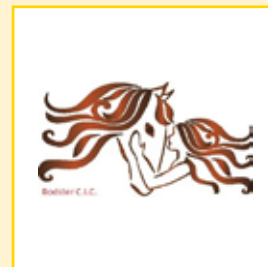
Aspire: Community and Enterprise Hub

Awarded funding to transform and upgrade a room in a redundant church building into a community IT hub with creative workspace and access to IT equipment, to help facilitate community entrepreneurship and provide access to online courses to encourage young people, in particular, to further develop their computer skills. See page 24.



Bodster Equine: Training and Work Preparation through Horses

Awarded funding to support up to 100 individuals, aged 16+ years, lacking self-confidence or with low self-esteem, to gain qualifications and self-development skills to help their prospects of employment. See page 26.



Carers Isle of Wight: Linking Carers Islandwide

Awarded funding to help carers, of all ages, across the Island transitioning from under 18 services to feel less socially excluded, by providing access to online support and social networking. See page 28.



Independent Arts: Creative (Digital) Café

Awarded funding to help address older people's social exclusion by providing training in the use of touch screen and other digital technology to enable them to connect, learn and exchange information. See page 30.



During 2015-16 the Isle of Wight Foundation awarded funding to eight community projects. You can read more about these projects in the case studies section.

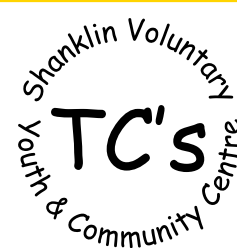
Nature Therapy: Expedition Leaders

Awarded funding to support people (aged 16 and over and not in education or employment) across the Island to secure leadership qualifications to help them gain confidence and employment. See page 32.



Shanklin Voluntary Youth and Community Centre: Active Citizenship Programme

Awarded funding to provide an enriched programme of activity promoting active citizenship for the young people and community of Shanklin and South-East Wight. See page 34.



The Way Forward Programme: Personal and Development Programme

Awarded funding to train more people and provide more in-depth and longer Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network (ASDAN) courses. The funding will also support the training for a peer programme to assist learners with a disability. See page 36.



Wight Home Care: Daisy Chain Club

Awarded funding to help provide a replacement minibus used to provide days out for those who are elderly or wheelchair users, helping to address isolation and loneliness. See page 38.







Photo © visitisleofwight.co.uk

Building Better Communities

The Island community has a population of just under 140,000, living across an area of 146.8 square miles with just over a half living in the seven major towns across the Island. A quarter of all residents (26.1%) are aged 65 and over and this proportion is increasing. Just under 15% are aged 0-14 years old.

For young and old alike, there are challenges as well as benefits to living on the Isle of Wight. The Island has several areas that are classed among the 20% most deprived areas in England, transportation is limited and a challenge particularly for those living in the rural areas of the Island. Social exclusion is a very real issue for people of all ages living on the Island and this in turn can be detrimental to physical and mental health, day-to-day living and economic wellbeing.

We hope to help minimise social exclusion for the Island community by funding projects that can help build stronger communities, with more active citizens working together and supporting those who are most vulnerable.



Access to Employment

Unemployment can affect so much of people's lives and wellbeing. From the obvious economic wellbeing; financial stability, access to housing, to the less obvious physical and mental wellbeing, the stigma and exclusion from society.

Through the work of the Isle of Wight Foundation we hope to improve social integration by funding projects that help support people to get into employment.

We help to fund projects that work with people who, for a variety of reasons, may have found themselves excluded from the world of work, whether they are long-term unemployed, on minimum social benefits, have physical or mental health issues, or are young people without any work experience, skills or qualifications.

Through these projects we can help provide access to develop new skills, training and qualifications as well as developing confidence, self-esteem and life skills, helping people to rebuild their personal and professional lives.

Sponsorship: Involving Our Employees

The Isle of Wight Foundation offers Island Roads employees the opportunity to make a personal commitment by sponsoring tangible, and often very innovative projects, which benefit the local community.

These sponsors form a crucial element in the work of the Isle of Wight Foundation. They supplement the financial support provided by contributing their skills to the non-profit organisations supported.

Sponsors are carefully selected to marry their

specific skills with those that will benefit the project and organisation involved as well as providing the employee with an opportunity for their own personal development.

Their role can include general assistance and advice or more specialist support (eg management, communication, IT, accounting, commercial strategy, administration) or on technical aspects (eg safety, legal considerations, works, etc.) as well as getting involved directly in aspects of the projects where appropriate.



Being a project sponsor

Emma Stevenson
CCTV Operator
(Aspire)

"It was wonderful to be part of a project which transformed an old store room into a warm and inspiring environment thanks to the support of the Isle of Wight Foundation. The new office space, filled with digital equipment linked by a brand new networked server is providing real opportunities for members of the local community to learn new skills, get connected and work and learn among like-minded people."



Darren Vaughan
IMS Coordinator
(Nature Therapy)

"Being a sponsor gave me the opportunity to gain a true understanding of how alternative therapy can have a positive impact on people's lives. The Expedition Leaders course run by Nature Therapy helped people to build in confidence and develop communication and leadership skills through outward bound activities such as navigation and map reading, camp craft and cooking. At the end of the course, each candidate not only felt the experience had a positive impact on them but they also had a real sense of personal achievement."

Rachel Mills
Data Asset Analyst
(Bodster Equine)

"As a sponsor I was fortunate to be able to see first hand the fantastic work undertaken by a local charity and specifically how the Isle of Wight Foundation is helping to support this work.

During my visits I spoke to the volunteers and also read a number of testimonies detailing how, through the work of Bodster and their ponies, disadvantaged adults and children have improved their confidence to help with their future life opportunities."

Iain Thornton
Streetworks
Manager
(The Way Forward)

"The project I sponsored gave an important step up to a group of Islanders who went on a journey of personal improvement and became an important part of the community. The courses funded by the Isle of Wight Foundation were structured to meet the needs of the individuals taking part, meaning students could work at their own pace to achieve their chosen qualifications. Having completed the various courses and study units, all funded by the Foundation, those who took part were in a better position to be able to find work and become an active member within the Island's community."

Dave Marsh
Design Manager
(Linking Carers
Islandwide)

"From the first moment I met the people from Carers IW, and heard about the valuable work they were undertaking and how much the Foundation meant to them, I knew I'd made the right choice in being a part of this project. To be able to assist them, in even the smallest way was rewarding - knowing that it helped carers young and old in the Island community. To see the iPads being used by the carers and hearing the feedback on how much of a difference it made to their day-to-day life just proved how important the Foundation is to Island charities."

Sebastian Fry
Works Scheduler
(Creative Digital Café)

"It was a pleasure to work with Independent Arts, the local charity behind the Creative Digital Café. I really enjoyed learning about the charity and found it very rewarding to be able to help them use the technology they had been provided with through the Isle of Wight Foundation. I found being a sponsor an excellent learning opportunity for both myself and the nominated representative from the charity. We both brought different strengths to the project and worked together to deliver the project for the benefit of the elderly residents of Newport."

Michael Clarke
Structures Technician
(Shanklin Voluntary
Youth and Community
Centre)

"It has been a pleasure to have been involved with the Shanklin Voluntary Youth and Community Centre and to know that Island Roads is not only enhancing the quality of life for Islanders with our infrastructure improvements, but also becoming embedded into the community with financial support for many worthy causes, organisations and charities through its Isle of Wight Foundation work."



The privilege for me is to have been involved with this process in a small way, to see this show of kindness and support in action from our business, and to have met one of the many wonderful groups who, through their actions are enriching the lives of people and in particular with this project older folk within their community. A fantastic scheme, this is "Smileand Roads" in action!"

Our Foundation Structure

The Isle of Wight Foundation is supported by a Board of directors and a selection committee representing all of the partner organisations. It is also supported by the crucial role of the Isle of Wight Foundation coordinator who oversees the day-to-day implementation of the charitable trust's activities on the Island.

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the general administration of the Foundation, including the approval of its annual budget and decisions on the use of funding.

The 2016 Board comprises the following members:

Philip Horton
Chairman Isle of Wight Foundation Board

Thierry Edmond Deau
Chief Executive Officer, Meridiam Infrastructure

Rob Gillespie
Regional Director, Ringway Infrastructure Services

Clive Pitt
CEO Fulcrum Group

Herve le Caignec
Managing Director UK, Vinci Concessions

Selection Committee

The Selection Committee is responsible for reviewing the applications for funding and making recommendations to the board for future funding requests.

Paul Herbert
Chairman (Island Roads)

Michael Bulpitt
External Expert (Community Action Isle of Wight)

Roger Kimpton
(Island Roads Services)

Alan White
(Island Roads)

Alan Ransom
(Island Roads)

Nicola Vaughan
Isle of Wight Foundation Coordinator

Isle of Wight Foundation Coordinator

Nicola Vaughan

The Isle of Wight Foundation Coordinator is responsible for promoting the grant funding available from the Foundation and for encouraging applications each year from community, charity and not-for-profit groups across the Island.

Nicola's role is also to oversee the initial short listing and presentation of applications to the selection committee. The coordinator is also responsible for facilitating the development of partnership projects in conjunction with their individual sponsors.

Right: Philip Horton, Nicola Vaughan, Paul Herbert



Looking Ahead to 2016-17

We have already allocated almost a further £80,000 of funding to more community projects on the Isle of Wight for our 2016-17 grant year. These include:

Ability Dogs 4 Young People

Awarded funding to help transform their training centre into an environment that is fully accessible for the disabled young people coming to classes, as they prepare to work with their new ability dogs.



Blue Sky Arts: Growing Together Project

Awarded funding to develop and alter their premises to make their land management programme for young people with learning disabilities, fully inclusive and accessible to all.



YMCA Young Carers: My Time Project

Awarded funding to support young carers under the age of 18 with personal grants to support their individual educational, social and wellbeing needs.



Break the Cycle: Mind the Gap

Awarded funding to assist all survivors of homelessness and those that are currently homeless, to ensure that they get the help and support they need to build confidence and self-esteem to enable them to move forward with their lives.

More information on the projects and their achievements will be available in our next annual report.

For up to date information visit our website www.islandroads.com/137-iw-foundation.html

IW Island Games

Awarded funding to provide match funded grants to talented young sports people living in poor and/or deprived social situations to enable them to take part in the Gotland 2017 NatWest Island Games.



Storeroom2010

Awarded funding to further improve their training programme and introduce certified training in horticulture to help increase the employability of unemployed younger people and those who are long-term unemployed.



Shanklin Football Club

Awarded funding to provide training and qualifications in FA Level 1 and First Aid for Sports to increase opportunities for the youth in the Shanklin and South-East Wight area.



The Links Trust: Betty's Bus

Awarded funding to provide a new wheelchair accessible minibus to enable the Links Trust to provide their services to those who are wheelchair users. The Links Trust help provide days out for those people aged 50+ years who do not have the physical ability to leave home without assistance, helping them to meet others and integrate with their local community.



Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust: Woodland Apprentice Scheme

Awarded funding to help support the recruitment of three apprentices over a four-year period, aged between 18-24 years, to learn new skills and gain experience in environmental conservation to prepare them for future employment in this sector.



Case studies

Aspire: Community and Enterprise Hub

Status: Community Interest Group

Area: Islandwide

'Aspire' (a branch of ISYOU) is a hub in the centre of Ryde - an area amongst the 20% most deprived nationally. Aspire now sees in excess of 500 people each week from babies and toddlers through to OAPs visiting and accessing services.

The hub holds many clubs and classes on a weekly basis including free lunch for the over 70s. It is also being used in other ways to help the community, for example, a paint recycling centre, bicycle recycling centre and a restaurant for entrepreneur chefs - to name but a few. Aspire wanted to continue to build on this success and create an environment that encouraged and developed a culture of entrepreneurship, both profit-orientated and social business that can have a positive impact on whole communities. In particular, it wanted to create a business area, IT suite and meeting facilities to help young people aged 18 to 30 to become entrepreneurs, offering hope and a future where they can make a change for themselves and for the community.

The funding from the Foundation enabled Aspire to create a fantastic environment to help the voluntary sector, social entrepreneurs and young people who are interested in innovation to have a place to collaborate. Users say the new space 'captures the fun and creative element of Aspire Ryde' and 'is a great place to sit, think and work alongside other like-minded people'.

The project has exceeded its original outcome targets. More than 40 young people have accessed the new workspace, and over 1,000 people have used the meeting room. 65 people have accessed the basic enterprise skills sessions and 137 people have attended creative social enterprise sessions in partnership with the Eden Project and School for Social Entrepreneurs.

ISLE OF WIGHT FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Grant

£15,580 to help transform part of a redundant building into a creative space, with work space, meeting room area and access to IT and professional services.

Project lead

Heath Monaghan

Leader of Aspire Ryde

"A warm environment has been created for the people our charity supports, fully equipped with computers, monitors and printers all linked together with a new network communications server. Aspire Ryde and the beneficiaries are very thankful for the help, support and financial contribution from the Isle of Wight Foundation and for the help of Emma, the project sponsor."



A S P I R E

R Y D E S

S O C I A L

E N T E R P R I S E

H U B

N O W

O E N

**Access to
Employment**

**Integration
Through Work**

Bodster Equine: **Training and Work Preparation through Horses**

Status: Community Interest Group

Area: Islandwide

Bodster Equine works with learners through various exercises involving horses to develop their self-esteem, confidence, communication, observation and listening skills. Activities are tailored to each individual learner's needs. Bodster Equine works particularly with learners who feel isolated and socially excluded including those with learning difficulties or additional needs and those who are not in education or employment.

The project works with accredited awarding bodies eg AptEd (Access, Progress, Transformation through Education) to offer Level 1 qualifications in Equine Assisted Learning. Learners gain confidence by working with ponies, seeing that things are possible, altering their view of learning and ability to enter employment.

The funding has enabled 60 learners to achieve National Open College Network (NOCN) Level 1 Certificates in 'Developing Personal Confidence and Awareness', helping those taking part to develop key skills including teamwork and leadership, decision making, problem solving, and health and safety while at the same time building confidence and self-esteem. By the end of the training, everyone taking part had updated their CVs and had a clear route mapped out for their future career goals.

Over the course of the training, all learners grew in confidence and became more aware of what they could achieve, through trying new tasks and developing new skills. Some of the feedback received showed amazing self-awareness.

Since completing the course a number of learners have returned to Bodster to complete Level 2 courses, some going on to do voluntary work and others now in full or part time jobs.

ISLE OF WIGHT FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Grant

£10,410 to help fund the equipment needed to help evidence learners work and assist the project.

Project lead

Jo Boddington
Bodster Equine

"This course has had a major impact on many young people's lives by helping them to develop a range of skills, grow in confidence and build self-esteem while gaining an accredited qualification at Bodster Equine. We now have better equipment to help us deliver courses and enable the learners to keep records of their training and experiences by taking photographs and videos of their work and the work of their peers."





**Access to
Employment**

**Training and
Qualifications**

Carers Isle of Wight: Linking Carers Islandwide

Status: Charity

Area: Islandwide

Carers Isle of Wight is a charity that offers care and support to carers across the Island, many of whom are caring for close friends and relatives with their caring role often starting from an early age as a young carer. Being in a caring role comes with many sacrifices that everyday people take for granted, for example, maintaining relationships and social networks or accessing services - which can lead to isolation, depression and their own ill-health.

The project funded by the Foundation was designed to support around 50 individuals; 40 younger carers and 10 older carers by providing them with an iPad and training to help them feel less socially isolated, enabling them to FaceTime with friends and family members, do online shopping, gain access to online courses, support and financial assistance. In addition, creating three new closed Facebook groups, one for younger carers, one for older carers and a combined group helping to provide a network of peer-to-peer support reducing their social isolation.

By connecting with one another through the new networks created through the scheme, carers found they could access information about what support is available to them which led to an increased sense of wellbeing and reduced the incidence of carers breaking down. Due to the success of the scheme, many carers have gone on to purchase their own equipment meaning that iPads have been returned and made available for more carers to benefit from connecting with their peers.

ISLE OF WIGHT FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Grant

£11,867 to help provide funding for the purchase of the IT equipment to support young carers across the Island.

Project lead

Elizabeth Martin
*Manager at Carers
Isle of Wight*

"This contribution to Carers Isle of Wight has and will continue to offer carers an opportunity to connect with their peers, family and friends, as well as learn new skills. We are very grateful for this support and look forward to continuing the weekly drop in sessions and ICT library which the grant from the Foundation enabled us to set up."





Building Better Communities

Social
Integration

Independent Arts: Creative (Digital) Café

Status: Community Interest Group

Area: Islandwide

Independent Arts is a small charity established in 1987, working to address issues faced by predominantly older people in the Island's community; illness and disability, social isolation and disadvantage. The charity uses arts as a tool to improve health, wellbeing and quality of life.

The Creative Café helps address older people's social exclusion by providing training in the use of touch screen and other digital technology to enable people to connect, learn and exchange information. Through supported instruction older people can be given increased connectivity with friends or family members (eg Facetime) which will help reduce isolation, or through assisted living applications such as dementia apps.

The café provides weekly social and learning workshops. It also brings together younger volunteers to help older people to learn new skills and in turn giving the younger people confidence and help with their time-keeping and communication skills ready for future employment.

The support from the Foundation has allowed Creative Cafe to help older people to stay in touch with friends and family by teaching them to use email and Facetime; to stay safe by ordering groceries online, (most falls occur in the winter months as people try to shop in bad weather); and access archived music and film which can really help with memory issues.

The digital equipment has also enabled members to record their activities on the Creative Café blog (www.iacreativecafe.com), a platform to share photographs from sessions, creative writing and thoughts about the activities held at Creative Café. Participants have contributed regularly by using their iPads to take photographs of their art and crafts and writing up short articles and memoirs, helping them to grow in confidence and share their work with others.

ISLE OF WIGHT FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Grant

£5,474 to help fund IT equipment such as iPad/ Macbook, monitors, cabling, printer and Wi-Fi boosters.

Project lead

Kate Ball

*Chief Executive of
Independent Arts*

"The funding we received from the Isle of Wight Foundation was absolutely fundamental to this project's success. It allowed us to equip the Creative Cafe with the latest digital technology which was used to help members of our community to develop a wide range of skills while at the same time reducing isolation and loneliness."





**Building Better
Communities**

Social
Integration

Nature Therapy: Expedition Leaders

Status: Community Interest Group

Area: Islandwide

Nature Therapy is an award-winning social enterprise established in 2013 aimed at supporting everyone, whatever their circumstances, who is interested in involving nature to gain a recognised qualification.

Funding from the Foundation helped 15 people to complete a BEAL (Basic Expedition Assistance Leadership) leadership course, providing them with a meaningful qualification to assist them in securing employment in the future. In addition, due to the high number of women requesting access to the course who were working part-time or were on a low wage an additional bushcraft course was delivered meaning a total of 26 people directly benefited from the Foundation's support.

Those who completed the BEAL course had previously been unemployed for periods ranging from three months to 30 years and some had experience of long term mental illness.

The course required those taking part to compile a portfolio of evidence for assessment which included videos, pictures and written statements about their work. They also went on to volunteer for an organisation of their choice for a minimum of 15 hours. Placements included the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme, Challenge and Adventure, the Youth Offending Team, the Scouts and the Island Post Traumatic Stress Support Group as well as Nature Therapy CIC's Wolf Medicine programme – meaning even more people benefited from the support provided by the Foundation.

The Expedition Leader qualification accredited by Sports Leaders UK will help those involved in the course to access future employment opportunities. While some of the participants had been out of work or unwell for some time, they have shown movement towards an improvement in self-esteem and for many it is the very first time they have ever achieved a qualification.

ISLE OF WIGHT FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Grant

£5,250 to help fund the costs of providing the course for ten people.

Project lead

Dr Kim Brown
*Founder Director of
Nature Therapy*

"The difference this course has made to people's lives cannot be understated. It has been a delight to see the participants grow and blossom. It would be such a pleasure to be able to capture some of this and send it as a gift of thanks for funding this project. We would love you to experience a little of the feel-good factor. Keep doing what you are doing. A massive big thank you from all the new expedition leaders."



Access to Employment

Training and Qualifications



Shanklin Voluntary Youth and Community Centre: Active Citizenship Programme

Status: Charity

Area: Shanklin and South-East Wight

Shanklin Voluntary Youth and Community Centre was established in the 1960s and provides a programme of activities that can be accessed by all in a safe, supportive and sensitive environment, helping to build a stronger local community. The centre's volunteers have received a raft of awards.

The centre provides an enriched programme of activity for the young people and community of Shanklin and South-East Wight by working in partnership with organisations and initiatives like Shanklin Green Towns, Royal British Legion and local schools and community organisations.

The project has three core components: first aid training, additional table tennis facilities, and a community arts project focused around the Island's involvement in conflict for every decade since World War One.

The grant from the Foundation funded two first aid courses which were attended by representatives from key community groups from within the Shanklin and South East Wight areas including the community library, community theatre and green towns initiative.

Thanks to the Foundation's support, the club's table tennis team is now able to enter the Island League and thanks to the new equipment including a match quality table tennis table, the club can now host matches at the centre, meaning the team doesn't have to travel to Ryde. Participation has increased at the club thanks to the Foundation's help.

The art project brought the community together, involving local schools, churches and British Legion all working to create a piece of public artwork to remember those lost from the town during past conflicts.

ISLE OF WIGHT FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Grant

£5,626 to help fund the provision of sports and art equipment, fund the wages of a qualified table tennis coach and the provision of first aid training to some of the volunteers and members.

Project lead

Richard Priest
SVYCC co-leader

"Thanks to the support of the Foundation, members can enjoy the health benefits of playing table tennis. The Foundation also funded a commemorative mural, dedicated to the 45 residents, and firefighters, who lost their lives in Shanklin in World War Two; ensuring future generations are aware of the events of that time."





**Access to
Employment**

Training and
Qualifications

The Way Forward Programme: Personal and Development Programme

Status: Charity

Area: Islandwide

The Way Forward Programme is a branch of the charity Osel Enterprises Limited established in 1988. It helps support young people and adults, from 12 years of age to retirement all of whom have some form of learning or physical disability, to undertake training and gain accredited qualifications to help them prepare for or enter employment.

The programme received funding from the Foundation in 2014 and sought additional funds to help extend their accredited courses in personal and social development, activities and peer tutoring and peer mentoring.

Their aim being to train a group of people aged 18 years and over, with a disability, to become peer advocates for others so that they can work with individuals, also with a disability, to support them with any issues they might be experiencing and help them to build their confidence.

The Foundation enabled the Way Forward Programme to deliver courses in 13 different subject areas ranging from dance to animal care.

By the end of the year 21 students achieved full Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network (ASDAN) certificates, 35 gained achievement awards and 12 were continuing to work towards gaining a full ASDAN certificate.

ISLE OF WIGHT FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Grant

£4,769 to purchase the relevant manuals, workbooks, photographic and IT equipment to progress the project.

Project lead

Alison Murray
*Way Forward
Programme Lead*

"The funding has provided a framework of activities that rewards achievement and promotes personal and social development through the ASDAN training programme. We are truly grateful for the support of the Foundation, it has given many people with disabilities and autism access to further education and it has been inspiring to watch people develop their skills and confidence."





**Access to
Employment**

**Training and
Qualifications**

Wight Home Care: Daisy Chain Club

Status: Community Interest Group

Area: Islandwide

The Daisy Chain Club started in 2010 to provide days out for those who are elderly and wheelchair-users to various places and attractions on the Island; from a cream tea in Godshill, to IW Monkey Haven, to a trip shopping at Tesco.

The Daisy Chain Club is primarily run by volunteers and anyone who feels socially excluded can attend any of the day trips. It helps address social isolation and loneliness by enabling housebound people who would normally rely on others to have independence and choice on trips that we take for granted, such as buying your own clothes and food. The club is advertised through occupational therapists, doctors' surgeries, social services and by word of mouth in the local community. Within no time at all the project was a success and the Daisy Chain Club had a long waiting list.

The bus – a converted ambulance – was a fairly old vehicle and started to have mechanical issues and become unreliable and costly to repair. The club approached the Isle of Wight Foundation for funding to buy a new minibus and ideally one that was slightly larger to accommodate more people on each trip. It was anxious that people, who often felt this was the highlight of their week/month, wouldn't be let down as a consequence of the bus breaking down.

The funding from the Foundation enabled the group to purchase a new 7/8 seater Renault Master with electric ramp to enable wheelchair users to access the vehicle. It is a great improvement on the group's old bus which could only take one wheelchair user. The new bus is also more comfortable for the people the charity supports and is also more reliable – giving peace of mind to the charity and those it supports.

ISLE OF WIGHT FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Grant

£15,000 to help fund a new minibus for the Daisy Chain Club.

Project lead

Chris Bagnall
Wight Home Care

"The new bus has made a huge difference to our members who really look forward to their trips out with the club. The new bus is larger and able to accommodate up to three wheelchair users at once, which is hugely beneficial. As well as enabling our members to do some shopping or visit an attraction, the Daisy Chain Club has important social benefits. Our members love catching up with friends – and meeting new ones – while out and about."





**Building Better
Communities**

Social
Integration

The background of the entire page is a photograph of three people in a forest. On the right, a young man with glasses and a dark quilted jacket leans against a large tree trunk, looking towards the camera. In the center-left, another young man with glasses and a grey and black jacket smiles at the camera. Behind him, an older man with grey hair is partially visible. The forest has many trees with green and some autumn-colored leaves.

ISLE OF WIGHT FOUNDATION

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