

# Annual Report 2024/2025



Supporting the voluntary  
and community sector in  
Torridge



[www.torridgecvcs.org.uk](http://www.torridgecvcs.org.uk)  
Charity number - 1125142 Company number 06577677



## Mission

In a disconnected world, we create happy, prosperous, healthy communities, living, supporting, growing and working as one. Society, Community, Improved Quality of Life

## Vision

A healthy, connected and happy community with opportunities to exchange ideas, knowledge, learn and empower one another

## Our Values

### Connecting People

At the heart of volunteering in Torridge for over 30 years. We will continue to work to connect, grow and strengthen our community.

### Amplifying the Voice

from individuals to organisations, we believe everyone has a right to be heard.

### Equality.

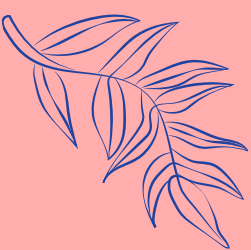
Everyone is equal. We work towards a fairer future for all. By making an impact on the small we change the big

### Action

We Understand from our own experiences the challenges people face. We value people and will not judge or dictate. We will walk side by side with our community groups. We will share our knowledge and experience, resources, skills and connections. Together we will make a difference.

### Inspiring Change

Through courage, resourcefulness dedication and determination we will challenge unfairness; we will ask difficult questions. We will work effectively with the community. We will be a vehicle for social change



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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR – Shirley Law

This report is a record of the work done by our wonderful team. It's the first full year for Beki, our CEO, she has come in like a whirlwind and her vibrant personality has extended the reach of TTVS to areas that we haven't touched before.

TTVS has been able to work constructively with volunteers for many years, but we are now starting to work with volunteers who would not have seen us as their go to place, but the mentoring system has made a difference to both them and the people that they have helped. I would like to thank all the volunteers who give so freely with their time, we would not be able to do so much of the work undertaken without their help.

Whilst "tackling inequalities" has a section of its own, much of what we do goes towards this. The Financial Inclusion Service puts money into the hands of people in need, tackling this inequality, the Young Carers, the Memory Cafes and the Community Developers all go towards supporting those in the community who are in need of help. I would like to thank all the staff, both paid and voluntary, who have made this work possible.

I would also like to thank the funders, most if not all the work could not be done without funding and this has been a source of much discussion within the Board of Trustees, and it, I suspect, will continue to be of concern. Finally, I would like to thank the Board for all the hours of work that they have put in to ensuring that TTVS continues.

I commend this report, and do keep reading!



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



*Beki Sharples*

Another year of huge achievements from the entire team at TTVS, supported at every step by our partners, funders, and those community members who support us in a variety of ways, not least volunteering!

We remain incredibly proud to be part of a compassionate and creative voluntary sector in Torridge, championing the voices of all in the community.

Testament to our long established partner relationships, and the confidence of our funders, we have been able to continue to support the community through our Financial Inclusion project through the investment of The Edward Gostling Foundation. Our Community Development Project has received significant funding from The National Lottery which means we can do even more to support the vibrant community that is our home and community.

This annual report is our way of saying thank you to you and how much we love the work we do.



# Supporting our community



As Torridge's lead organisation for volunteering, our Volunteer Hub connects people with meaningful opportunities. Each year, we handle around 500 enquiries and support a strong volunteer base that supports change across the community.

The Hub is a vibrant space where individuals and groups connect. Our team responds to general enquiries, as well as requests for support in setting up groups, and charities, accessing funding, or managing payroll. We also provide a safe, welcoming space with a compassionate reception for anyone seeking support, open three days a week.

We strengthen local groups through targeted training and hands-on support. Sessions delivered via the North Devon Inclusive Community Framework covered Trauma Awareness, Mental Health, Diversity and Inclusion, Drug and Alcohol Myth Busting, and local support pathways. We also delivered Website and Canva training in response to local requests.



# Volunteering with a difference



At TTVS, volunteering drives everything we do—and we see every day the powerful difference it makes. That's why we're excited to have launched our Inclusive Volunteering Framework, opening doors for people to reconnect, rebuild, and thrive within their community.

Our Peer Mentors are leading the way. Each brings lived experience, resilience, and passion to the role, inspiring others while making a tangible impact. For example, one Peer Mentor—now in recovery from chemical dependency—is collaborating directly with our CEO to design and co-deliver a bespoke training programme for local partners.

We're growing our Peer Mentor team and are looking for more people who want to share their experiences, strengthen community connections, and shape positive change across Torridge. Together, we can turn challenges into opportunities and make our community stronger.



# Volunteer Centre Case Study



A young man in recovery, living in supported accommodation, was seeking meaningful ways to spend his time—and found it through volunteering at local Memory Cafés. Very quickly, he became a valued and much-loved volunteer, building friendships, making a real difference, and even helping our attendees enjoy a few card game victories!

His journey didn't stop there. As a Peer Mentor, he helped host a pilot Drop-In at Harbour Bideford, where we engaged with local people experiencing homelessness about their health needs. Their voices and insights were captured in a report submitted to the Public Health team at Devon County Council, ensuring their experiences help shape real change.

Focused on building his future, he has now secured a volunteer placement with a local bricklaying firm, which he'll begin after moving into independent housing—turning his vision for employment into action.



## TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITIES



This year, TTVS has been proud to support our community by working in partnership and amplifying the voices of those too often unheard—people facing challenges who simply need the right support to move forward.

Together with Harbour Bideford, The Lighthouse Project, and other local partners, we launched a pilot project that created a safe and welcoming space. Here, community members could enjoy warm meals cooked by our Peer Mentors, connect with professional services such as drug and alcohol support, and access vital housing advice.

Our Peer Mentors also played a key role in listening—capturing the lived experiences of those who attended. This insight was evaluated by Public Health and is now being used as evidence to shape alternative ways of accessing primary health care in Bideford.

This pilot shows what is possible when local organisations collaborate: in a short time, with limited resources, we created something powerful, practical, and full of potential for long-term change.






## **SUPPORTING PEOPLE – Our Projects**

The following pages give details of all our projects.

We are so proud of the support we provide to the vulnerable people in our community.

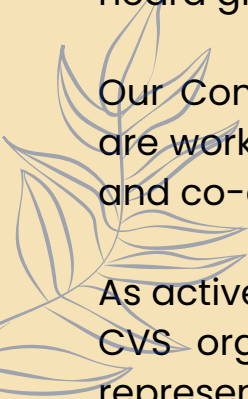
A big thank you to all our funders, without their generosity we could not achieve all that we do.



# Community Development across Torridge



We're proud to be leading a major community development initiative in Torridge, part of a pioneering three-year National Lottery investment across Northern Devon. In partnership with North Devon Voluntary Services, we're connecting coastal and rural communities, ensuring the voices of seldom-heard groups are not only included but uplifted.



Our Community Developers in Bideford, Great Torrington, and Holsworthy are working side by side with local people—listening, identifying challenges, and co-creating solutions to build stronger, more connected communities.

As active members of Devon Voluntary Action—a countywide partnership of CVS organisations—we make sure the needs of our communities are represented regionally and nationally through our seat at the Torbay, Plymouth and Devon VCSE Assembly.

We're also proud to play a key role in the Bideford and Great Torrington Regeneration Programmes, championing local voices and working with partners to unlock potential, celebrate strengths, and bring out the very best in the places we live and work.

**CREATIVE CRAFTING TASTER SESSIONS**

**Creative Lives**

**ARE YOU:**

- LOOKING TO TRY SOMETHING NEW?
- FEELING LONELY OR ISOLATED?
- LOOKING TO CONNECT WITH OTHERS WHILE LEARNING A NEW SKILL?

**WE MIGHT JUST HAVE THE THING FOR YOU!**

Combining fun for the beginner with the excitement of crafting with a purpose in a relaxed atmosphere, sessions for inclusive learning and socialisation are available for people with a learning difficulty or mental health issues. Sessions are held on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month (except August) from 10.00am to 12.00pm. Free of charge and a donation most appreciated.

**REGISTER YOUR INTEREST!**  
**AMANDA.SAFFELL@OBU.ORG.UK**  
**OR CALL 01453 442424**



**Creative Lives TV's**

# PERMISSION TO PAINT

A Relaxed Introduction to Acrylic Painting

**ARE YOU:**

- LOOKING TO TRY SOMETHING NEW?
- FEELING LONELY OR ISOLATED?
- LOOKING TO CONNECT WITH LEARNING A NEW ART FORM?

**Thank you.**

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST!  
AMANDA.S@TYS.GOS.UK  
OR CALL 01223 824141

**PHOTOGRAPHY  
FOR  
WELLBEING**

Creative  
Lives

**ARE YOU:**

- LOOKING TO TRY SOMETHING NEW?
- FEELING LONELY OR ISOLATED?
- LOOKING TO CONNECT WITH OTHERS WHILST  
LEARNING A NEW SKILL?

**WE MIGHT JUST HAVE THE ANSWER FOR YOU!**

Come and/or (as appropriate) joining existing photography for adults.  
Bring your camera phone, or a digital camera if you have one, complete  
beginners welcome. Every Tuesday in June from 10am – 1pm, 1st  
Torrington, with one session taking place at RHS Rosemoor.  
£10 suggested

**Torrington**

  Community Action  
Devon  Libraries  
Unlimited 

# GREAT TORRINGTON REPAIR CAFE

HELEN FROM CAO DEVON  
WILL BE JOINING US AT  
TORRINGTON LIBRARY ON  
**TUESDAY 13TH MAY**  
**@6PM**

TO SHARE HOW REPAIR  
CAFES WORK IN OTHER  
DEVON COMMUNITIES AND  
TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ON  
SETTING UP AND RUNNING A  
REPAIR CAFE.

**COME ALONG AND FIND OUT**

- WHAT REPAIR CAFES ARE
- HOW THEY WORK
- HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED



CALL NOW TO FIND OUT MORE

CALL TYS  
**01237 420131**

CALL TORRINGTON  
LIBRARY  
**01805 622110**



# Christmas Card

## FREE CRAFT WORKSHOP

Let's spend a fun morning learning how to make handmade Christmas cards.

No skills needed, card kit provided to produce a card on the day and take one away.

Booking recommended as limited space available.

To book contact TTVS on 01237 420130  
or email [info@ttvs.org.uk](mailto:info@ttvs.org.uk)

November 20th  
from 10am to 12pm

Happy Pear  
8 Regent Street, Bideford,  
Devon PL6 8AB



**Libraries Unlimited**

## CHATTY CAFE

You bring the chat • We bring food and tea for FREE! • Starting April

Thursdays 12pm - 1.30pm  
In the Juniper Room on Level 2

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity 1070092  
To donate, please visit: [Bidefordunlimited.org.uk](http://Bidefordunlimited.org.uk)  
Supported by: Devon TORBAY COUNCIL

## CARERS' WINTER WARMERS LIGHT BITES

TTVS IS CARING FOR CARERS BY TEAMING UP THE PARTICIPATING CAFES BELOW. WE WILL BE OFFERING A WARMING BITE AND DRINK TO THE VALUE OF £10.00 IF YOU ARE A CARER OF AN ADULT, YOUNG PERSON, PARENT CARER VOUCHER ARE AVAILABLE FROM TTVS, DEVON CARERS.

ENQUIRE FROM [NEO@TTVS.ORG.UK](mailto:NEO@TTVS.ORG.UK) US 11 & 15 MSLT.



# Community Development in Bideford

## My Voice

We asked those we worked with,  
how has this helped?  
this is what they had to say....

### Digital Assist...

Elderly lady had struggled with her phone,  
through digital assist we were able to solve the  
issue and reconnect her with her phone.

With funding from Creative Lives we were able to offer  
opportunities to many who would not have been able  
to access social groups.

- Meditation
- Sketch & Walk
- Men's Monthly Breakfast Club
- LGBTQ+ Breakfast Club
- Christmas Card Workshop

We were able to support Libraries Unlimited to bring to Bideford a 'Chatty Cafe', where lonely people came together once a week for a lunch and to enjoy the friendship of others in a warm and inviting community space. This was led by Libraries Unlimited volunteers and located in Bideford Library.

With support from, Bideford Bridge Trust we have been working closely with Carers and the Rough Sleeper community to enhance their wellbeing by offering £10 Winter Warmer meal vouchers. These can be spent in a selection of Bideford Cafes'.

## The voice of a rough sleeper

Supported by the Bridge Trust, we offered  
£10 cafe vouchers to our caring  
community and also our rough sleeper  
community.

this is what we heard...  
An elderly gentleman was sleeping rough.  
He had been a carer for his mother, but on  
her death had found himself homeless,  
his mother's home was rented and he was  
evicted. After a month on the streets he  
found TTVS and collected cafe vouchers.  
In conversations with him, he said,  
'I am a proud man and at 62 I never  
imagined this would happen to me. I am so  
grateful for the support given to me from  
TTVS, Cool Beans and the locals in the  
town'.

## My Voice

We asked those we worked with, how has this helped?  
this is what they had to say....

A rough sleeper said:  
Thank you. The vouchers really helped me.  
I was really hungry.

I was able to go into a café and feel normal and do  
what other people do...

Carers say:  
I was feeling overwhelmed and the voucher allowed  
me to take time for myself. It was flexible so I could  
manage this around my caring role...

What a great idea for making me  
think about going out

# Community Development in Holsworthy



## Holsworthy Monthly Hub

FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH AND BEYOND CANCER

**Wednesday 11 December 2024**

**2-4pm**

Holsworthy Hospital, Dobles Lane, Holsworthy, EX22 6JQ

\*support/coffee/help/tea/advice/cake/chat/company\*

**MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT**

**361**

**Farm Centre**

**TTVs**

Please pop in and find out how we can help you!

For more information contact Holly or Tara on 01271 511855 or email [duh.thefarmcentre@nhs.uk](mailto:duh.thefarmcentre@nhs.uk)

## HOLSWORTHY LIBRARY

### Photography FOR WELLBEING

Are you looking to try something new? Looking to improve your skills? Looking to connect with others? Join a training fun!

6 Sessions  
Fridays 10AM - 12PM  
3rd, 17th, 31st Jan, 14th, 28th Feb

Come along for 6 sessions of relaxing walking photography for adults. Bring your camera, phone or digital camera. If you have one, complete beginners welcome. Meet at the library before going out into Holsworthy. Return to the library for refreshments.

To sign up, contact us:  
Tel: 01271 511855  
Email: [holsworthy.library@nhs.uk](mailto:holsworthy.library@nhs.uk)

## ROC 2025

### CONVERSATION HOLSWORTHY

DATE | TUE 18TH TIME | 6.45 for 7pm MARCH

MONEY WORRIES? Where can you find help?  
CHILDREN'S WORRIES? What can we do to help?

Holsworthy Community College  
Purple Circle  
EX22 6JQ

ALL WELCOME

## Over 70s Singing For Joy Sessions with Rosa Rebecka

Helping to reduce loneliness for the over 70s. Come & connect with your local community and have a sing along. No particular singing ability needed.

Starts 15th Nov  
Every week until March 25  
(except for school holidays)

Free class funded by the National Lottery.  
Warm, friendly chats with tea and coffee.  
Call Rosa to let us know you are coming along - 01983 47 050

FRIDAY: 3PM-3.30PM WEEKLY - NOT ON IN SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

MANOR SUITE AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, HOLSWORTHY, EX22 6DJ



## TECHIE TEA PARTY

### TECHNOLOGY FOR BEGINNERS

JOIN US FOR FREE TRAINING & WORKSHOPS ON:

- Familiarisation with technology.
- How to use smart phones.
- How to access useful apps like the NHS app.
- Presentation & discussion about internet uses.
- Find out about Digital Devon and how you can access free IT support.
- Introduction to free short courses & qualifications.

Free Cream Tea!

THE MANOR SUITE, HOLSWORTHY MEMORIAL HALL, HOLSWORTHY  
2-4PM FRIDAY 18TH MARCH

## Coffee Morning

Holsworthy and District Community Forum

Growing Stronger Together

## Making Connections

In the Memorial Hall  
Wednesday 24th July

Find us on Facebook  
Search: Holsworthy & District Community Forum

On the Web  
[holsworthydcf.org](http://holsworthydcf.org)

## HOLSWORTHY COMMUNITY & VOLUNTEER EVENT

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

THURSDAY 6TH JUNE  
3.30-6.30PM

Come along and find out about local groups, clubs, activities and volunteering opportunities in celebration of National Volunteering Week. Everyone welcome!

FREE ENTRY  
FREE REFRESHMENTS: FREE BISCUITS

Please Call: 01237 420130 for more info

Holsworthy Memorial Hall  
Manor Car Park, North Rd  
Holsworthy EX22 6DJ

## HAVE YOU HAD A STROKE?

Are you interested in an independent stroke peer support friendship group in the Holsworthy area?

Join us on the 1st FRIDAY of the month at 2:15pm

THE KINGS ARMS, THE SQUARE, HOLSWORTHY, EX22 6EB

Please call Alison to register your attendance as space is limited:  
07708 471705



Our recent ROC Conversation (Redeeming Our Communities) brought people together at Holsworthy Community College to explore two vital topics: financial worries and children's wellbeing. Supported by our Community Developer, the event created a safe and open space for honest discussion, community connection, and shared learning.

The insights gathered are proving invaluable, helping us inform decision-makers at the right level and ensuring that local voices directly influence the changes that matter most.

The Food Hub has around 195 members and hands out 40 bags of food a week

# **Our Memory Cafés**

## **Northam Hall & Bideford Robins Nest**

We are truly fortunate to have an incredible group of volunteers whose time, energy, and kindness make our Memory Cafés possible. Thanks to their dedication, our cafés continue to be a place of warmth, connection, and joy.

At Northam and Bideford Memory Cafés, around 25 people come together each session—volunteers, those experiencing memory loss, and carers alike. Everyone is welcomed as equals, sharing laughter, conversations, new experiences, and treasured memories.

We are also grateful for the support that keeps these cafés thriving: Northam Town Council, whose generous grants sustain our Northam café, and Bideford Football Club, who provide their clubhouse and the ongoing support of their staff for our Bideford café.

Together—with volunteers, community partners, and attendees—we're creating spaces filled with friendship, belonging, and understanding.



# TAI CHI

Every year our Tai Chi group hold a special session at Christmas. All donations at this event, along with their weekly fee, is donated to a charity of theirs and Ian's choosing. This year Ian Godfrey presented a special, 'Singing Bowls' meditations and 'Indian Chants' class . They raised in excess of £100 for the Pickwell Foundation.



# Financial Inclusion

## Torridge & North Devon

This project is dedicated to supporting people of state pension age, ensuring they can access the benefits and services they are entitled to—especially during times of illness or following a difficult diagnosis.

Our team often works with clients over the long term, helping them navigate complex systems and secure life-enhancing support. This includes accessing Attendance Allowance and Pension Credit (both key gateway benefits), reducing council tax payments, applying for Blue Badges, and connecting with other essential services.

Where needed, we also assist with applications to grant funds for vital items such as white goods and furniture—providing not only financial relief but also comfort and dignity.

Through this project, we are not just offering advice—we are helping older people feel supported, informed, and empowered to live more securely.

**372**

**Total Number of Referrals**

**557**

**Over 500 applications made for benefit support submitted.**

**£1,117,494.23**

**Accumulative £ of Benefits Awarded**

*We were delighted to be able to run a series of drop-in sessions in our Volunteer Centre, and also extended our drop in service to Holsworthy.*

**COFFEE MORNING**  
All welcome!

On October 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 6th and 13th November  
Denise from TTVS will be available from 09:30 onwards to discuss:

**TTVS Financial Inclusion**  
Are you:  
Living in Torridge? Struggling financially? Living with a long term health condition? State pension age or over?  
We may be able to help you.  
Our FREE service helps people of state pension age and over living in the Torridge area.  
Our highly trained members of staff or volunteers can offer and support with:

- Information on the types of benefits available to you (this could include Attendance Allowance, Pension Credit, Blue Badges, Council Tax reduction, Disability Living Allowance/PIP and housing benefit).
- Support with completing and submitting application forms.
- Information on where to access debt management advice.
- Help with grant applications for equipment.

For any questions / more information, please contact:  
☎ 01237 459337 / 01237 420130 ☎  
Or email:  
✉ [financialinclusion@torridgevolunteercentre.org.uk](mailto:financialinclusion@torridgevolunteercentre.org.uk)  
[www.torridgevolunteercentre.org.uk](http://www.torridgevolunteercentre.org.uk)

**Are you eligible for Pension Credit?**  
**DROP INTO OUR TTVS CENTRE ON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING DATES TO FIND OUT.**

**Thursdays 10am - 12pm**  
17th Oct, 31st Oct,  
14th Nov, 28th Nov  
& 12th Dec  
No appointment needed


**TTVS, 14 Bridgeland Street,  
Bideford, Devon**

# Financial Inclusion

## Torridge & North Devon

### Case study

- Our client lives with a dedicated family member who provides daily care and support. Until recently, both had faced challenges managing everyday tasks without formal assistance or financial aid.
- During our initial home visit, it became evident that they had been doing their best to maintain the property under difficult circumstances. They were unaware of the benefits they might be entitled to, so we carried out a comprehensive benefits check.
- As a result, Attendance Allowance was successfully awarded—opening doors to further support such as Council Tax Support (CTS) and Pension Credit (PC).
- Since receiving this support, our client has expressed feeling more financially secure and significantly less anxious when dealing with correspondence. The intervention has led to meaningful improvements in their wellbeing and confidence.
- This outcome highlights the transformative impact of proactive, person-centred support. It reinforces how tailored guidance can help individuals overcome barriers related to communication, mobility, and navigating the benefits system—empowering them to live with greater dignity and independence.



I can now afford my heating this winter,  
it has taken a weight of worry off my  
shoulders.

**Your  
VOICE  
MATTERS**

We are extremely grateful for your help.  
The extra financial support is so useful  
and the whole experience was so easy  
and pleasant it could not have been  
easier.  
thank you so much.

Yes, she finally received it,  
and at the higher rate too.  
I will arrange for extra  
cleaning to be done.  
Mum now has options



**Mum with significant mental health needs:**

**Sibling with Autism:**

**Sibling with Downs Syndrome:**

**Young Carer trying to cope in a challenging household.**



One day I sat with a TTVS Young Carer Support Worker as she talked to my child, and I had a light bulb moment.

I realised that I have the tools within myself to help my family. I now see that my child is feeling more confident and is able to use their voice to show how they're feeling.

It has been an amazing experience. Thank You.

When we were still in complete shock and facing a terrible time, you came into our lives and offered unwavering support. Thank You.

We run a bespoke and personalised one to one support service for young carers, we had 61 referrals in 1 year...

Over half of these referrals were for children who were under 14 years of age.

Many of our young carers have challenging times at home and need a lot of support, including conversations with school, family practitioners and social services.

**Hear My Voice.**  
We help our young carers to develop skills around how to advocate on behalf of themselves and to be able to articulate their own voice.





# Help at Home

*Your life, your way*



Help at Home provides a truly unique and flexible service that puts individuals firmly in control. Every visit is tailored to meet their personal needs, offering a bespoke experience that adapts to their lifestyle and preferences. We work in partnership with care agencies, easing pressure on the sector while enriching the support available. Services include:

- Household tasks: cleaning, laundry, ironing, changing bed linen, decluttering, and more
- Help with paperwork and appointments
- Respite for carers
- Shopping, running errands, and accompanied outings
- Coordinating additional services, including trusted tradespeople
- Meal preparation
- Signposting to other helpful organisations
- Befriending and companionship
- Light gardening and dog walking

This year has been another great chapter for Help at Home. We've proudly delivered thousands of hours of support—empowering our clients to maintain their independence and thrive in the comfort of their own homes.

**Number of Hours of Service Delivered 2271**

**Number of Clients Supported 80**

We began our project in July 2023 with the aim to overcome loneliness and isolation within our community. Volunteers are engaging with older people, visiting them in their homes as well as encouraging them back to social activities in our community.



## Client Voice

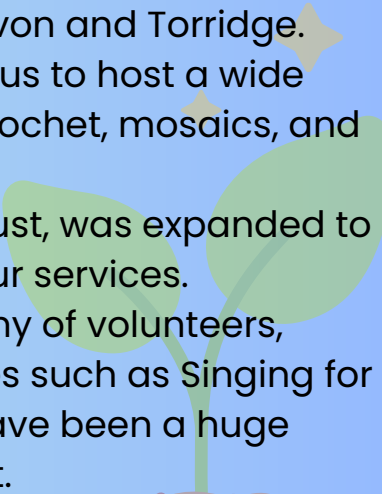
After losing my leg and being unable to return home due to accessibility issues, I had to move to an unfamiliar area where I didn't have friends. At first I wasn't so sure about, Connecting with your Community, but that changed after being paired with my new friendly volunteer. Her weekly visits gave me renewed purpose and emotional support, helping me to recover mentally from what I had been through. We bonded and now I have a new genuine friendship, filled with shared laughter and connection. The experience has been life-changing and deeply meaningful.

## Volunteer Voice

*Meeting my lady for me has been an inspiration and she has become a friend. She is such a determined lady. We laugh a lot, drink lots of cups of teas, and enjoy some garden time. She has definitely got more confident in the time I have met her, and we do have such a lot in common. I shall never feel sorry for myself ever again.*



# Financial Report – Investing in our Community

- This year has been one of growth, collaboration, and continued support from our valued partners including Torridge District Council (TDC), Bideford Bridge Trust, local Councillors, and Bideford Town Council. Thanks to their commitment, we can further our mission of building a happy, healthy, and empowered community.
  - The National Lottery continue to play an instrumental role in their continued support, supporting our Volunteer Hub and investing in a 3 year programme of community development.
  - Our partnership with North Devon Voluntary Services (NDVS) continues to flourish. Together, our Community Developers in Bideford, Torrington, and Holsworthy are nurturing a strong and dynamic VCSE sector across North Devon and Torridge.
  - Generous support from Creative Lives and Asda has enabled us to host a wide range of engaging activities—from photography and art to crochet, mosaics, and digital skills workshops—all of which were very well received.
  - The Carers Lunch Scheme, backed by TDC/Bideford Bridge Trust, was expanded to include vulnerable adults, a much-appreciated addition to our services.
  - Our Know Your Neighbourhood initiative brought together army of volunteers, creating opportunities for connection through weekly activities such as Singing for Joy, chair yoga, IT tutoring, and Breathwork. These sessions have been a huge success in reducing loneliness and fostering community spirit.
- 

# Financial Report – Investing in our Community

- We were delighted to receive a Deed of Gift from The Edward Gostling Foundation, which enriched our Financial Inclusion project, empowering older community members with essential benefit support.
- This year saw the completion of Young Carers Connected, funded by the National Lottery—an initiative that provided vital support and will continue to inspire.
- Thanks to the dedication of Ian Godfrey, our weekly Tai Chi group continues to be a highlight, drawing participants and raising valuable donations.
- Our Memory Cafés in Bideford and Northam remain joyful spaces, supported by The Hedley Foundation and DMCC, where participants not only benefit from seated exercise and creative activities but also play an active role in fundraising.
- As we look ahead, we are filled with optimism about the difference we will continue to make. While we, like many charities, face rising costs, increasing salary costs and essential technology upgrades—we see these challenges as opportunities to innovate and grow stronger.
- **Over the past five years, TTVS has generated an incredible £5,780,385 for the community**—an achievement that speaks to the power of collective effort. With continued support from individuals, partners, and funders, we are confident in our ability to build on this success and secure a bright future for our community.

## Impact report March 2024 to March 2025

### Financial Inclusion



Referrals received: **372**

Number of interventions:

**3828**

Total awarded back to our community: **£1,117,494.23**

# TTVS

### Vision

A healthy, connected and happy community with opportunities to exchange ideas, knowledge, learn and empower one another



### TAI CHI



In excess of 100 volunteering hours of tutoring given to TTVS  
Average of 20 attendees per week

### MEMORY CAFE'S

Bideford and Northam memory cafe's welcome around 25

to each session, and some may have a memory loss.



### Help at Home

Your life, your way

Number of Clients supported - 80

Service hours delivered - 2271



41 Young Carers looking for support.

82

Young Carers supported between March 2024 - March 2025, thanks to the funding of National Lottery..



COMMUNITY FUND



Our Volunteer Centre has supported many individuals of a wide range of needs (some more complex than others) during our opening hours.

### Community Developers:

249 TOTAL  
(members)

Torrington - 39  
Bideford - 142  
Holsworthy - 68



Our CD's have organised multiple events / workshops for the benefit of those within our community.



# Thank you to those who have supported us!



Northam Town Council



Bideford  
Town Council



DMCC  
Devon Memory  
Cafe Consortium



The Edward Gostling Foundation  
Enhancing Quality of Life for People in Need



# Thank you to those who we have worked with!



Working for the Community  
Contact: [brianjaycee@btinternet.com](mailto:brianjaycee@btinternet.com)



OneAtlantic



Torrridge District Council

the plough  
ARTS CENTRE



Great Torrington  
Town Council



TTV