

THE  
VERNON  
  
BUILDING SOCIETY  
COMMUNITY AWARDS

2018  
Finalists Booklet

# Jump Space



Jump Space is a Stockport based charity who provide Rebound Therapy (therapeutic use of trampolines) and sensory play for disabled people of all ages and a wide range of disabilities. Their unique centre is specially designed to make play and physical activity accessible. They specialise in activities for wheelchair users.

Jump Space would like to use the funding towards buying a range of new small toys and equipment to help promote movement and social interaction. They hope to buy a range of things which will help individuals explore play and therefore encourage personal development.

# Friends of South Park



Friends of South Park in Cheadle Hulme are a group of local mums who formed a community group in October 2013. The aim being to improve the recreational, environmental and educational facilities in the park, in particular, the children's play area, providing picnic and seating facilities, carrying out planting, and erecting nesting boxes and feeding stations for wild birds.

The aim of this project is to install new toddler play equipment in South Park. In doing so, this project will tackle the deficiency in local play provision and create a high quality public play space. The main beneficiaries will be children and their families that do not have an accessible play area near to their houses.

# Stockport County Community Foundation



Officially Registered Charity No: 1125117

Stockport County Community Foundation, an independent Registered Charity established in 2007 is very proud of the opportunities it offers within our local community to over 100 adults with serious mental illness. They provide weekly Football and Multisport coaching for those living with long-term health and serious mental illness to take part in physical activity and have fun. Service users are participating in sport to improve their mental, physical and social well-being. SCCF aim to reach out and support people experiencing loneliness and living in social isolation, extending opportunity and choice.

Stockport County Community Foundation plan to use this funding to support the Foundations Mental Health Football and Multisport Project by providing weekly coaching sessions to service users and monthly football tournaments for those living with serious mental illness. They are desperately in need of funding for much needed equipment, training venue hire, tournament costs and coaching costs. This will help benefit the local community in many ways such as extending opportunity and choice, providing opportunities for those with serious mental illness to take part in physical activity and also promoting health and wellbeing.

# Pure Innovations



Pure Innovations are a Stockport based charity supporting adults with disabilities to lead fulfilled lives. The Kitchen is a new bakery and coffee shop opening on Chestergate in Stockport Town Centre. They will support people with disabilities to learn new skills in bread and cake making whilst being valued members of the community providing freshly made bread and cake daily.

They want 'The Kitchen' to be a place for people to come to Eat, Drink and Meet which is why the space they have belongs to everyone in the community and not Pure alone. The café will offer a comfortable seating area whether it's for groups wanting to meet, business people needing to log on to the free Wi-Fi or friends and family just popping along to enjoy some of the treats on offer.

Pure Innovations are conscious of so many people in need within our community and plan to reach groups in many practical ways. They will work alongside support those relying upon food banks and with holiday hunger issues. Young carers will be able to connect with each other over lunch and The Kitchen will also support community groups combatting loneliness and isolation including older people with dementia and people experiencing mental health issues. Working alongside partners to ensure they can contribute positively to addressing many issues.

# Adventure Mexico 2020



As part of Girlguiding UK Adventure Mexico 2020 are running a two year project that will include:

- 5 UK residentials that will look at issues around equality in the UK and internationally that face women.
- Girls will be challenged to make a difference in their individual units by running activities that challenge the girls to understand how they can make a difference locally.
- Girls will be champions of the period poverty campaign and will encourage local organisations and businesses throughout Stockport to make a pledge to address period poverty in our area.
- The project will include a trip to the World Guiding Centre in Mexico in 2020 that will allow the girls to work with guides and scouts from throughout the world and share their experiences over the two years.
- Girls have been selected to take part in the project based on not only their enthusiasm but also on their potential. People have been selected who would not be able to take part in the project due to financial or personal reasons e.g. low income families, young carers, looked after children, victims of domestic abuse and those who have been victims of crime.

# Bramhall Green Guide Hut



Bramhall Green Guide Hut is home to Rainbows and Brownies groups as well as being a building used for hosting training sessions for many volunteers from across Stockport. Each week girls meet to take part in exciting activities, complete badges, learn new skills and make new friends.

They would like to be able to improve the outside space that the girls can use so that they can play more games, learn more about nature and be safe while taking part in these activities. The building is located on the banks of the Ladybrook River. BGGH would like to create a fence by the side of the river to keep the girls safe and improve the gate access to the car park. The Rainbows and Brownies have already started some gardening, but would like to create something to be proud of for the future.

# AuKids Magazine



AuKids magazine is a quarterly not-for-profit magazine for carers of children on the autism spectrum. They provide practical, impartial and upbeat advice to help parents and teachers champion autistic children and build their confidence and capabilities.

For parents of special needs children, practical support is thin on the ground. AuKids magazine is a lifeline to those who sometimes feel left on the fringes of society. They're friendly and fun, with a warmth that we hope helps parents to feel like they 'belong' in our community. This funding will enable them to expand the magazine print and online advice and reach a wider audience of readers in this area. AuKids magazine be able to give copies to diagnosis clinics, support groups and special needs information events.

# Middlewood Riding for the Disabled Group



MIDDLEWOOD GROUP

Middlewood Riding for the Disabled Group is a registered charity and offers FREE riding lessons on a Thursday to 24 primary school children from the local area who have a wide range of disabilities. Riding takes place in the indoor school with mounted exercises, games and proficiency tests designed to benefit medically and give a sense of achievement. Young riders enjoy interacting with the ponies and our Volunteers, and the progress they make over the weeks is amazing.

All of their Instructors and Volunteers are RDA trained and everyone gives their time for free. Middlewood Riding for the Disabled Group is entirely self-funded, relying on donations from the generous local community.

This Award will be used to pay for the riding lessons which currently cost £10 per child per lesson. That's about £1,000 every 6 week half term. They also provide all riding hats and boots, reins and stirrups and some saddles. Inevitably these wear out and funding would help with replacements.

# Friends of Stockport Cemeteries



Friends of Stockport Cemeteries (FOSC) have been working closely with Stockport council since 2004. Their aim is to bring about improvements within cemeteries in Stockport, as they are steeped in local history and military history. They hold task days organise walks, talks for schools community groups and host events within cemeteries.

FOSC has been working with Reddish Army Cadets on the site of Brunswick Methodist church built in 1848 by the Methodist community in Stockport on the outskirts of the town centre, it closed in 1955. The group has applied for funding for the clearance and renovation of the area occupied by this old church until it's demolition in the 1960s. They hope to be able to use the funding from Vernon Building Society towards the cost of providing information board, which will give people an insight to the history of the site.

Their aim is to acknowledge it is a burial site, memorialise the soldiers, utilise the area for recreation and contemplation.

# Beechwood Cancer Care



Beechwood Cancer Care will provide a safe and supportive space for children to explore their feelings about grief in a natural environment. A group of around 30 children, guided by a qualified therapist will start accessing support as they express their losses and move through the healing process.

Although the day will no doubt contain some sadness, it will also be filled with fun activities such as shelter building or working in a mud kitchen. Activities as well as being fun, encourage the children to bond as a team and work together, helping children to open up with each other without feeling any pressure.

There will be two facilitated sessions throughout the day, an example would be to make 'dream catchers', alongside the pleasure of creating the dream catcher, they are able to use as tools to help them cope with bad dreams. The fun and the therapeutic activities will be specifically designed to help begin addressing the difficulties children experience losing a parent.

One of the greatest benefits of the program is that the children no longer feel misunderstood or alone - they become encouraged and inspired by sharing similar experiences with other young people.

# Friends of Reddish South Station



Friends of Reddish South Station formed in 2007 to campaign for regular rail passenger services from Stockport to Manchester Victoria via Reddish South and Denton Station, as well as refurbish the sadly neglected station environs. Their regular passenger service was replaced in 1991 by a single weekly 'Parliamentary' train (one way only to Stalybridge).

ForSS have transformed the station with a Mural on the wall. They worked with Arts for Recovery in the Community (ARC) on the design. Plants and flowers in the garden are finished off with a white picket fence adorned with "Welcome to Reddish" art work, which was designed by local Primary schools.

In 2016 ForSS made it on to TV in "Paul Merton's" Secret Stations". May 2018 saw their once a week train move to a Saturday. It now goes both ways to Stockport and back to Stalybridge, a 100% improvement! Retrorailtours make Reddish South a regular stop on their rail excursions.

Friends of Reddish South Station are now working on our Armistice project with 1st/4th Reddish Cubs and Beavers to Remember Railway Workers of WW1. Any funds they receive will go towards their Station event on Saturday 3rd November 2018.

# Action for Sick Children



A leading UK children's  
healthcare charity  
Registered charity no 296295

The Dental Playbox® is a unique scheme run by the charity in Stockport and Greater Manchester to educate children at the Early Years Foundation Stage (age 0-5) about the importance of good dental hygiene, and to empower them to make healthy choices. This is achieved via the incredibly powerful medium of play. The long-term goal of the project is to reduce the number of hospital admissions for dental extractions for children and young people in the UK.

The project was established in 2007 as a direct response to concerns about the increasing issues surrounding children's oral health and has since gone from strength to strength. The Dental Playbox® project's main area of focus has so far been in Stockport, and particularly in areas of low income where dental health might not be a priority for parents.

Each session teaches children the importance of brushing their teeth, and how to make healthier, low or sugar free food/drink choices. The sessions also aim to reduce children's fears of visiting the dentist by teaching them about the equipment a dentist may use, and what to expect from an appointment. All of this is achieved through play, age appropriate stories, and fancy dress.

# Signpost Stockport for Carers



1 in 6 Stockport residents care, unpaid, for a loved one that could not manage without their support.

That's more than 32,000 people – colleagues, neighbours, friends and relatives - juggling a very physically demanding and emotional role alongside all of their other commitments. Signpost Stockport for Carers believes that being a carer should not be a barrier to leading a fulfilling life, regardless of the age of the carer or cared for. They offer a range of services that are designed to give carers the support that they need to continue with their caring role – An empty lantern provides no light!

They will use their funding to care for the carers. Signpost will use the funding to improve the emotional and mental health of Stockport's carers, recognising the stresses and strains of their caring role. £200 would fund a course of 6 counselling sessions; £800 would enable us to offer heavily subsidised complimentary therapies to 80 carers and £1500 would pay for 2 wellbeing and training events, open to all unpaid carers across our Borough.

# Millie's Trust



Millie's Trust are a local Stockport charity who provide first aid training to those that want to learn lifesaving skills and we make it available at a low cost or in many cases free. They have worked with new parents, grandparents, child carers, universities, schools, homeless units and many more. Millie's are very proud to be able to provide first aid training for free in local schools.

The funding will allow them to continue the work in the schools that local children attend. As well as allow them to provide a group of 2 hour courses to classes of school children in Stockport. The children are very enthusiastic about learning CPR, choking treatment, recovery position and simple things like how to make a 999 call; they effectively leave the course with the knowledge and confidence to be able to save a life!