

# Coast 2 Coast

Devon  
Community  
Foundation

Helping local people

Autumn 2008

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## £2.5 MILLION GRASSROOTS WIN TO TRIPLE VALUE OF LOCAL GIVING

Devon Community Foundation is celebrating after winning £2.5 million to support small voluntary and community groups across Devon - both now and for the future.



The win is part of a UK wide Grassroots Grants programme, designed to support thousands of local groups, projects and volunteers working to improve their local communities.

It means that the Foundation now has £1.4 million to award in small grants to grassroots voluntary and community groups who are touching local lives and helping local people.

The win also includes £1.1 million to back our Grassroots Challenge - designed to encourage

## grassroots challenge



companies and individuals to invest in local community projects.

Under the Grassroots Challenge every donation made to the Foundation will be doubled - or even tripled for higher rate tax payers. With gift aid too, this means every £100 donated to the Foundation will be worth at least £250 to local causes.

The money will be used to build our £3 million Grassroots Endowment Fund, providing a permanent source of small Grassroots Grants for local causes and communities across Devon, from Torbay to Barnstaple and from Plymouth to Axminster - both now and for the future.

But the heat is on..... the full £1.1 million will only be released if we can raise £2 million by March 2011.

Chairman Ray Miles comments "This is a brilliant incentive for those who want to put something back into their local community."



"There's never been a better, more cost-effective or more lasting way to give back to your local community and help local people."

David Fitzgerald  
BBC Radio Devon

grassroots  
grants

Managed by the Community Development Foundation  
Funded by the Office of the Third Sector



### First Grassroots Grant

The first Grassroots Grant was awarded to Ilfracombe Youth Canoe Club. The £3,000 will help the group to cover the cost of training indoors through the winter months over 3 years.

Devon Community Foundation: Linking donors who care with local causes that matter

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Firstly many thanks to everyone involved in the winning Grassroots Grants bid and to everyone who has supported the Foundation in anyway since our last newsletter.



The Grassroots win is a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity for us to help you make your local giving go further, last longer and do more for local people.

Joining the Grassroots Challenge means that we can top up every donation you make by 100% until September 2009 (50% from Sept 2009 - April 2011).

With gift aid that means we can turn every £1 into up to £3 for local causes in Devon - tripling the power of your gift and helping us to support more projects which touch local lives.

As you will see opposite, companies and people are already coming on board to take up the Challenge and there's a range of ways to give - including donating to one of our three Grassroots Challenge Funds for Devon, Torbay or Plymouth.

I hope they'll inspire you to do the same and help us make the most of this opportunity to increase the power of your giving and release an extra £1million for local volunteers and local groups across Devon.

Thank you

Ray Miles  
Chairman  
Devon Community Foundation

Download our Grassroots Challenge pack from [www.devoncf.com](http://www.devoncf.com) or call Karen on 01884 235887 to find out more.

## Wales & West Utilities Kick-Start Challenge



Gas distribution company, Wales & West Utilities (WWU) has become one of the first companies to step up to the Grassroots Challenge with a donation of £5,000.

The donation has been transformed into £10,000, thanks to matching funds available from the Challenge.

As a company which plays a vital role in the community it serves, WWU wanted to put something back into local communities across the county.

Half the donation will be used to start making small grants immediately to local groups. The other half –

matched by 'top up' funds from the Grassroots Challenge - will be used to set up an Acorn Fund.

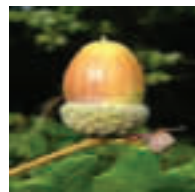
This will be topped up by the company over the coming years - once it reaches £25,000 it will become the Wales & West Utilities Grassroots Fund. Income generated from this will be used to make grants to small groups in Devon every year for many years to come.

***"This is a really effective way to increase the value of our community support and to reach people and communities who need the most help in Devon. Growing the Acorn Fund will help us to have a long-term impact on local lives. We are delighted to be working with the Foundation."***

**Jackie Roe, Corporate Affairs Manager for Wales & West Utilities**

## Anne's Acorn Becomes Family Fund

An Acorn Fund set up by Foundation trustee, Anne Mildmay-White, can now begin grant making to local groups in the family name - thanks to top up funds from the Grassroots Challenge.



Anne, whose family owns the Flete Estate in the South Hams, began building her Acorn Fund with the Foundation with a personal donation. She also raised money from throwing her gardens open to the public.

When she told friends and family about the 100% top up available from the Grassroots Challenge, a few of them snapped up the chance to make their donation worth so much more. A major donation was received from her brother-in-law's former Atlas Youth Trust.

Now the Acorn has grown into a fully fledged Mildmay-White Family Fund,

worth £26,000. It will generate about £1,300 every year to be used for small grants to support older people and children in South Devon.

Anne will help to decide which groups to support and get a chance to visit the groups and see exactly how the money is being used.

***"This certainly ranks as the best return for any investment I have made and will ever make – and of course has the added reward of providing support to causes I care about in Devon."***

**Anne Mildmay-White**



*"I'm determined to keep adding to our Family Fund, especially whilst the match funding is available through the Grassroots initiative."*

## Summer Ball Raises £16,000



Photos supplied by Stephen Charles Studio

Flybe's Jim French and his wife Alison     David and Karen Fitzgerald     Michael and Diane Hockin who kindly hosted the Ball

The London & Westcountry Estates 25th Anniversary Summer Ball raised over £8,000 thanks to Foundation trustee Michael Hockin, guests and local businesses who donated gifts and prizes.

Held at Brownstone Manor near Plymouth, the event was attended by 280 people and took place on one of the rare sunny evenings of the summer!

A fantastic meal, dancing, Irish bingo and a casino were just part of the entertainment enjoyed by the guests. Radio Devon presenter, David Fitzgerald, stepped up to assist with

the auction and a firework display over the lake finished the evening off with a bang!

The £8,385 will be turned into £16,770 by the Grassroots Challenge and used to set up a London and Westcountry Estates Grassroots Acorn Fund to support local causes and community groups across Devon.

Our thanks to everyone at London and Westcountry Estates for their superb efforts in organising the event and for everyone who donated prizes, made donations and gave their time.

## £20,000 Flying Start For Torbay Challenge

An anonymous donor has come forward with a donation of £10,000 to get the Torbay Grassroots Challenge Fund off to a flying start. With the Grassroots match, it's now worth £20,000.

The Foundation aims to raise approximately £0.25million over the next three years for the Torbay Grassroots Challenge Fund, which will provide a permanent source of small grants for Torbay's community and voluntary groups.

Torbay includes four of the most deprived neighbourhood areas in the UK and lack of facilities can make life difficult for many of its older residents and young people.

Torbay's Mayor, Nick Bye, who is backing the Torbay Grassroots Challenge Fund comments,

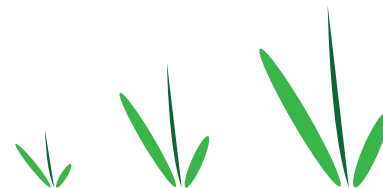


*"This is fantastic news for Torbay and for the grassroots groups who play such a vital role."*

*"I hope this donation will encourage other businesses and individuals in Torbay to join the Grassroots Challenge and help make a long-term difference to local communities in the area."*

## WAYS TO GIVE

### grassroots challenge



### Named Funds

A Named Fund allows you to give in your family or company name. The annual income generated is used to make small grants every year to causes and places you care about most in Devon.

To set up a £25,600 Fund which will generate approx £1,250 in grants each year will cost £10,000.

### Plant an Acorn

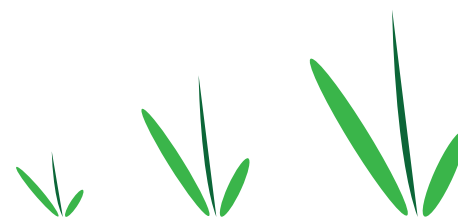
An easy and cost-effective way to grow a Named Fund. An annual donation of £4,000 for the three years of the Challenge will leave you with a Named Fund.

### Make a general donation

Gifts of all sizes matter to us - under the Grassroots Challenge your gift will gain in value and have a greater impact e.g £1,000 will grow to £2,560. Choose to give to one of four Grassroots Challenge Funds including:

- Devon Grassroots Fund
- Torbay Grassroots Fund
- Plymouth Grassroots Fund

**TO DONATE NOW FILL IN THE ENCLOSED GRASSROOTS CHALLENGE LEAFLET.**



*Devon Community Foundation: Linking donors who care with local causes that matter*

# STEP-UP FUND HELPS RURAL DEVON BACK TO WORK

A report on the Devon Step-Up Fund, has revealed that over 1,380 unemployed people across rural areas of Devon were able to take part in activities to build their self-confidence and motivation and help them back on the road to work and training.

Devon Community Foundation supported over 35 different projects with grants from the £295,000 Devon Step-Up Fund, helping more than 200 people to go on to further education, over 150 to take up volunteering and over 70 to find jobs.

The Step-Up Fund, which included money from the European Social Fund, the Department for Children Schools and Families and Devon County Council, was particularly successful in helping young people, those with disabilities, ex-offenders and lone parents and carers to get back on track and move on.

Olive George who co-ordinated the grants programme explains "It's particularly hard for people in rural areas to re-engage once they are out



Cow Green Eco Garden in Ilfracombe received a grant of £5,335 to help long term unemployed adults with mental health problems and learning disabilities to learn new skills and confidence through gardening.

of the loop - the range of resources and opportunities you find in urban areas simply aren't there. The Devon Step-Up Fund helped us to support some really exciting projects which were easily accessible to people in their local communities".

***"Working with the Foundation has really opened my eyes to how much the volunteer and community sector do to encourage some of our most vulnerable people within the communities engage with society again".***

***Joan Farleigh, Local Partnership Manager, Job Centre Plus.***

## COMMUNITY ACTION

A grant of £2,433 to Community Action Barnstaple funded a course of activities and challenges to help young ex-offenders build self-esteem and get themselves back on track - including a number of days in a remote location fending for themselves.

One 19 year old who had already served a four month sentence in Exeter prison - signed up and found he really enjoyed it. The course helped him to gain an ASDAN award, which sets a series of personal challenge in sports, the arts and community involvement.

He has gone on to take up 3 more courses at college.

*"It gave me a fresh start."*

## READY STEADY COOK

A grant of £4,730 helped the Voluntary Support Scheme in Tiverton to set up a self-help group for people dealing with problems like anxiety and depression. The group set themselves all sorts of challenges, including line dancing, running a market store and a cookery group. The icing on the cake was when the group all gained their Food Hygiene Certificate and organised refreshments for a Volunteers Week event in Mid Devon.

***"I've got a totally different outlook since joining the group. More positive."***

***"You haven't been there long before you have a bellyache - not from worrying but from laughter."***

## ECO BUILDING

Straw bale building, oak and timber frame construction, wattle and daubing, lime rendering and creating reed beds for sewerage filtration were just some of the eco-building skills which long term unemployed people in North Devon got a chance to learn when they helped to create a low-carbon demonstration building with the Yarnar Trust.



## NO. 10 VISIT FOR LOCAL HEROES

Two local volunteers from Devon have been recognised as Everyday Heroes by Prime Minister, Gordon Brown.

Dawn Hampshire from the Tiverton Voluntary Support Scheme and Pat Kinsman from Stoke Youth and Community Group in Plymouth were two of just 70 volunteers from across the UK who were invited to No 10 to be personally thanked by Gordon Brown for their contribution to their local communities.

The volunteers were nominated to attend the Everyday Heroes Day by



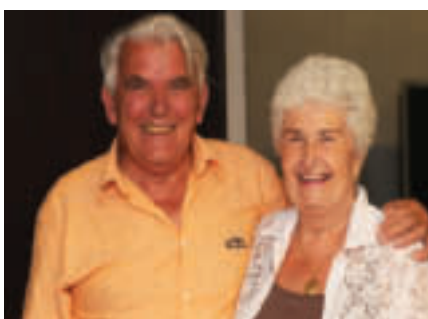
*Dawn has been providing voluntary help to people with severe emotional problems for over 13 years. The Tiverton Voluntary Support Scheme pairs local volunteer listeners with people suffering from anxiety, depression, loneliness or bereavements.*

the Foundation, which has supported both the groups with grants.

Kathy Beechen, Assistant Director of Devon Community Foundation comments,

“Dawn and Pat are real ‘salt of the earth’ people who can’t do enough for others. It’s volunteers like these and their community groups which are exactly the sort of causes the Foundation supports.”

“These are local people doing life changing work for local people who need help.”



*Pat Kinsman, who is 70, has been involved with the Stoke Youth and Community group in Plymouth for more than 30 years. She cooks lunch for 30 elderly and isolated residents every week and helps to run the youth club.*

## SMALL GRANTS – BIG DIFFERENCE



**Cullompton Rangers Youth:** A grant of £1,867 will help the club to buy new equipment and provide even more opportunities for young people from 5 – 15 to play football.

**Bigbury Memorial Hall:** A grant of £3,765 has helped to buy fireproof curtains which meet fire regulations. This means the hall can continue to be used for many clubs and meetings for local people in the area.

**Chittle Cherubs Pre-School:** A grant of £1,976 over the next two years will help to run a lunch club for children in this village, extending the pre-school sessions and helping them to get ready to move up to primary school.

## FIRST GRASSROOTS GRANTS

grassroots  
grants

Managed by the Community Development Foundation  
Funded by the Office of the Third Sector

Our grants administration team has pulled out all the stops to make sure the first round of Grassroots Grants totalling £70,000 has been awarded to seventeen groups within just six weeks!

As part of the Grassroots Grants winning bid, we have £1.4 million to award in small grants to small voluntary and community groups over the next three years.

Grants of between £250 - £5,000

are available to groups led mainly by volunteers, with an annual turnover of less than £20,000. Groups need to have been up and running since before January 2007.

Our grants team is working with local advisory panels, which have been set up to get feedback from local people who will help make decisions on applications.

Olive George, grants co-ordinator explains, “The great thing about Grassroots Grants is that we can get the money quickly to the really small community groups who need it most. Smaller grants can be awarded in as little as two weeks.”

**For more information on how to apply for a grant email [kathy@devoncf.com](mailto:kathy@devoncf.com) or call 01884 235887.**



**Soundart Radio Ltd:** A grant of £4,957 will help this community radio station based at Dartington to update its studio equipment and provide more training for volunteers. Over 70 people are involved in making local programmes, which feature local musicians and local issues.

## £5,000 PRIZE ON OFFER FOR GREEN AWARD

Environmental figures from across Devon have joined with the Foundation to help launch its first Small Green Steps Award.

The award is challenging community groups across Devon to show the steps they've taken to save energy and resources in a bid to tackle climate change.

Small Green Steps is the brainchild of Foundation trustee, Michael Gee, who has put up £5,000 prize money for the winner.

Michael explains, *“Even small community and voluntary groups can make a valuable contribution when it comes to tackling climate change. Simple measures like using low energy light bulbs, cycling to work, recycling waste and looking after local wildlife areas can all add up to make a real difference”.*

The award will give community groups a chance to win an extra £5,000 for their group which they can spend as they wish, whilst also helping to make a difference to the environment.

*“It really sums up the whole ethos of the Foundation, small steps taken by Devon’s volunteers can make a big difference, not only to the environment but to the lives of local people and local communities”.*



Judges for the award include: Ian Mercer CBE; environmentalist and current president of Devon Wildlife Trust, Kylie Russell; the Principal Climate Change and Energy Office for the Environment Agency and Ian Hutchcroft; SW Regional Manager of Energy Saving Trust.

**For more information on how to enter email [karen@devoncf.com](mailto:karen@devoncf.com)  
Closing date 16th January 2009.**

## HIGH SHERRIF’S GARDEN PARTY

Lifeplay Learning Theatre Group, Street Factory street dance and the Real Steel Band were just three of the groups who were chosen to perform by the High Sherrif of Devon, Lady Clifford of Chudleigh, at her garden party this year.

The Groups have all received grants from the Foundation and were chosen to highlight the work of the Foundation in helping community and voluntary arts groups to make a difference in their local area.



*“I cannot thank you enough for providing me through Devon Community Foundation such inspirational and talented performers for my garden party. Everyone commented on the rich and diverse talent as something so different and let’s hope it made people aware of the wonderful work carried out by the Devon Community Foundation.”*

Lady Clifford of Chudleigh.



## FIT AS A FISH



Image courtesy of Torbay Herald Express

Water dancing and exercises to music were just some of the activities enjoyed by Torbay’s older residents when they took part in the first Fit as Fish session held at Plainmore Pool.

A Sport Relief grant of £4,500 from the Foundation to Swim Torquay has helped the club to set up two weekly swimming sessions for older residents, giving them a chance to use the pool at quieter times - as well as keep fit and healthy.

Peter Tysoe of Swim Torquay explains, *“Swimming when the pool is crowded can be quite overwhelming for older people and can put them off. Being able to offer special sessions is fantastic”.*

The sessions are part of a nationwide initiative to help over 50’s ‘get up, get out and get active’ and give them a chance to meet other people.

Patricia Warren, Fit as a Fish co-ordinator adds *“The sessions are proving extremely popular and we have people aged from 50 to over 80, as well as some with disabilities. We all meet for a cup of tea afterwards - it’s a great opportunity for isolated older people to get out”.*

*“I’ve enjoyed myself so much. I only get out for a couple of hours a week because I look after my wife. Thank you so much”.*

The grant also helped to lever in additional money from the Devonshire Trust and Age Concern.

## BOND PEARCE BACKS CHALLENGE AS CSR OPTION

Bond Pearce has urged local companies to get behind the Grassroots Challenge as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility programmes.

Many companies can find supporting charities time-consuming and costly, taking staff away from core tasks and eating into valuable business time. However putting something back into the local community where they operate is an important part of their CSR remit and one which needs to be addressed.

Under the Challenge, the Foundation can match the value of any donations made to its Grassroots Challenge Endowment Funds. Companies can even set up funds in their own name through the Foundation, choosing specific causes or areas of Devon



and involving employees in choosing which projects and community groups to support with grants.

Richard Cobb, Partner at Bond Pearce explains.

***"It's a really exciting option for companies looking to make a real difference to local causes through their Corporate Social Responsibility programme".***

## VINEYARD EVENT



Twenty solicitors, financial advisors and accountants gathered at Yearlstone Vineyard recently for our first Mid Devon Professional Advisors evening.

The event included a tour of the vineyard, wine-tasting and supper in the stunning location with views across the Exe Valley. There was also a presentation about the flexible and cost-effective philanthropy and corporate giving options the Foundation can offer clients.

Our thanks to Yearlstone Vineyard and everyone who attended for making it such an enjoyable evening.

## TAX MATTERS

Self-assessment deadlines are looming, but the good news is you can now increase the value of your donation to the Foundation even further by ticking one small box!

If you would like Devon Community Foundation to receive any tax repayment due to you, simply tick box 19A on the full self-assessment return or section 12 of the short SA return.

Any donations made in this way will also be eligible for a 28% Gift Aid uplift and then doubled by our Grassroots Challenge.

Our Charity Code is: NAB60EG  
For further information about donating through the SA tax return visit [www.hmrc.gov.uk/charities/gift\\_aid/index.htm](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/charities/gift_aid/index.htm)

## CONSIDERING A CHARITABLE LEGACY FROM YOUR PENSION?

Langtons Financial Advisors in Tiverton looks at the benefits of leaving your pension residue to charity.

New rules introduced in April 2006 means that there is no longer a requirement to convert accumulated pension funds into an income for life by buying an annuity by the age of 75.

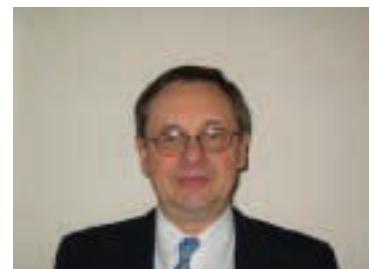
Individuals can now leave their pension fund invested and may draw down a regular income within prescribed minimum and maximum amounts.

So what happens to any residual fund remaining on death after age 75? If the plan owner is survived by a dependant, then the fund must be used to provide them with a pension.

If not, or on death of the dependant, the remaining fund can be transferred to the pension fund or another individual, perhaps a son or daughter. However, this transfer will be taxed at 82%. Alternatively, the remaining fund can be left to charity free of all taxes.

So considering a charitable legacy from your pension makes real sense. This is money which before April 2006 was completely lost and even now, if left to non-charitable causes will almost entirely disappear in tax.

Ask your financial advisor for more details.



Kevin Mills is based at Langtons and can be contacted on 01884 242424

## KATE'S RUN RAISES £800

Trustee Dr Kate Gurney raised over £800 for the Foundation, following her spectacular performance in the Great West Run back in May. Kate completed the half marathon in 1 hr, 56 minutes 8 seconds and is already in training for next year's run.

Thank you to everyone who supported her and for your kind donations.

**Run the Great West Run to support our Grassroots Challenge and we'll double your donations.**



Diary Date: Great West Run, 3rd May 2009  
[www.thegreatwestrun.co.uk](http://www.thegreatwestrun.co.uk)

## NEW FACES

**We're delighted to welcome two new trustees and a new member of staff on board.**



**Jane McCloskey, Regional Director of ITV in the South West of England.**

Jane began her career in TV at the age of 16 as ITV's youngest ever scriptwriter and went on to become GMTV's Head of Features. Based in Plymouth but working across the region, Jane is also a board member of Business in the Community and a Trustee of TSW Film & TV Archive.

## NEW DEVON OPERA

Opera fans from across Mid and North Devon gathered at Loyton Lodge in July to see a line-up of international opera stars perform Verdi's Rigoletto.

The performance by the New Devon Opera raised over £500, which was kindly donated to the Foundation by partner at Loyton Lodge, Alick Barnes. He comments, "We wanted to support a charity which has a lasting impact on the lives of disadvantaged local, rural people."

Thank you to everyone who attended and to Loyton Lodge for their generosity.



Blundells School will be hosting a Garden Opera performance on behalf of the Foundation on 26th February 2009.

### David Stevens, Former Chief Constable, Essex Police.

David is a former vice-president of Essex Community Foundation. He recently moved to Devon and decided to put his past experience to good use by joining us. He is also involved locally with the hospice movement and with Citizens Advice. We welcome him to the board and look forward to working with him.

### FUND DEVELOPMENT TEAM:

To find out more about supporting the foundation

Call Karen on 01884 235887  
[karen@devondcf.com](mailto:karen@devondcf.com)

**grassroots challenge**



To see our work in action link to:

[http://www.devondcf.com/changing\\_local\\_lives\\_dvd.html](http://www.devondcf.com/changing_local_lives_dvd.html)

[www.devondcf.com](http://www.devondcf.com)  
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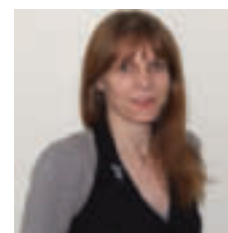
### GRANTS TEAM:

To apply for a grant

Call Olive on 01884 235887  
[olive@devondcf.com](mailto:olive@devondcf.com)

**grassroots grants**

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**Karen Dunton, Fund Development Administrator.**

Originally from Eggesford, Karen recently returned to Devon after several years of working in the South East. She has a keen interest in charity and has even slept outside in a cardboard box for Shelter, carried water for Send a Cow to Africa and more recently worked as a Cancer Research UK shop Manager. Her administration, marketing and sales skills are already proving invaluable to the Fund Development team.