

West Wight Timebank August 2025 Newsletter

To all members:

Well, here we are with our final newsletter after 10 wonderful years together.

Thank you all so much for your time, your skill sharing and your commitment to make the West Wight a kinder more caring community.

We have shared over 30,707 hours since we started and our schemes, time transactions and relationship building have demonstrated what a wonderful vehicle Timebanking can be for social change.

Nearly all our current schemes will be continuing under their own steam for which I am both grateful for and thrilled about!

If you would be interested in a new Island Timebank which Timebank UK are currently investigating, please do get in touch with me on 07872304294 so I can give you further details and contact numbers for further discussion with TBUK.

Looking forward to seeing you in my retirement 😊

With love and every good wish for the future to you all

Sally xx

Your Data

By August 31st all the West Wight Timebanks data (which is held on Timebank UK Software) will be anonymised on their system and then deleted after 2 years.

Sally will destroy her paper membership forms but will keep information as requested from our funders for 7 years.

After our last day of trading (August 31st) we will be asking the book-keeper and accountant to prepare the final accounts so that these can be presented at the final AGM which is likely to be November/December this year at Freshwater Methodist Church. Sally will then apply to Companies house to close the company formally.

Please return your Timebank T shirt to Sally if you have not already done so, thank you.

Thank you

Thankyou to the Big Lottery and Reaching Communities grant providers who have made all our community work possible over the last 10 years, along with

local funders-Totland Parish Council, Freshwater Parish Council, Shalfleet parish Council and Parish Hall committee, Yarmouth town council, and Wight Aid who have all been marvellous to us.

Commemorative Bench

The Timebank's Commemorative Bench is on Turf Walk for all to enjoy. Here are some pics when it was unveiled by Doreen and we celebrated the 10 years together. The ceramic tiles on the back were all made by members.









Thank you all for the wonderful retirement gifts you kindly gave me, so many flowers and wine 😊



The Magnolia Grandiflora is magnificent and with the plaque a very special gift which I will be able to enjoy for many years to come.

Open Gardens 2025







After many months of planning, informal meet ups with the gardeners and volunteers, the date was set for this year's Open Gardens on Sunday 1st June 25.

10 gardens were open in and around the Freshwater Bay area this year, every garden different in size, with an abundance of planting, it was a memorable warm sunny day, luckily the rains came to visit us a few days before, freshening up the garden spaces.

All the gardeners had been working tirelessly right up until the last moments each creating different types of planting, a feast for the eyes for the public to view and enjoy on the day.

Gardens opened from 10am till 5pm, with 2 gardens offering refreshments and homemade cakes to enjoy with plant sales on hand at one of the gardens donations going to the two organisations of the day.

Orchard Stores sold tickets and maps before the great day which was an enormous help to all.

25 volunteers were also on hand front of house with maps, stickers, and taking donations, 6 of those volunteers were Timebank Volunteers with the added support from Freshwater Horticultural Society and neighbours.

The total raised on the day was £3300 and this will be split between:

West Wight Dementia Friendly Carers Group.

West Wight Dementia Friendly Choir.

Sincere thanks to all the gardeners, volunteers, neighbours, friends, for making this a memorable day to enjoy.

Allan Lockett.

Eco Refill

Gina has requested spare empty handwash bottles-if you have any please take them to Gina at WWSCC.



Faith will be starting her 'Pay as you feel' food project at Totland Village Hall on 5th September 2025 at 1.30 pm.

Carers' workshops



Living card workshop





Craft with Sue and Sally at the Residential Home



Parish Hall Workshop





Lovely to see Priya again visiting us from the USA 😊

We were also pleased to include residents from Green Meadows this month, who all had a really lovely time- with a craft workshop.

Hanging basket workshop



Competition winner



Joint winners who each win £25 cash prize:

Kae's log pile and Gina's bug mansion

Tina Wilder Communities Officer from Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust explains that ' it was a very difficult decision because all the entries were of a very high standard, each one providing valuable support for our local nature.'

Each entry will receive a plaque and written feedback from Tina 😊

Bug Mansion (Gina)

A work in progress!



Wilder Wight Communities Feedback:

Gina's bug mansion is spectacular. Having made a number of these on projects with community groups, I recognise the work gone into planning, sourcing and collecting the elements and materials.

We love that Gina's creation was encouraged by our community sessions with West Wight Timebank and fits the competition brief perfectly.

Next steps: It would be brilliant if you could add any wildlife you notice in your garden to iRecord – an online species recording platform.

Contributing to local wildlife records helps us build knowledge on how our local species are faring – every record counts!

Think about creating more habitats e.g. a dead hedge boundary or a wildlife pond perhaps. Loads of great ideas here:

<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions>.

Add your bug mansion and other actions to our online Wilder Wight Communities map to help inspire others.

Tell your neighbours or other community members about what you have done for nature in your garden.

Habitat pile, Yarmouth (Kae)



Sadly we had to cut down a very old and dead apple tree which was becoming dangerous and I persuaded Tom to leave the logs in situ to see if they could provide a habitat for bugs. It seems to be working as I've carefully lifted a couple of the logs and seen woodlice, centipedes, spiders, beetles, and woodworm.

It makes me feel that something good has come out of taking the apple tree down.

Wilder Wight Communities Feedback:

We always encourage people to retain any timber when carry out tree work, and deadwood is the best kind. It's always a shame to lose an old fruit tree, however by keeping hold of the felled apple tree wood, you've not only ensured that anything inhabiting the wood e.g. beetle larvae has been saved, you've also created a brilliant new habitat for whole host of species, some of which you've already noticed! In time, your wonderful log pile could also become a welcome refuge for amphibians and reptiles, small mammals. Thank you for supporting our local nature - keep up the great work!

Next steps: Think about creating additional habitats in your garden e.g. a dead hedge boundary or a wildlife pond. Loads of great ideas here: <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions>.

Add your actions to our online Wilder Wight Communities map to help inspire others.

Tell your neighbours or other community members about what you have done for nature in your garden and help spread the word!

Keep up with the species recording. Contributing to local wildlife records helps us build knowledge on how our local species are faring – every record counts!

Display your Wilder Communities Plaque!

