



SPRING-SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2025

We're pleased to issue the second edition of our community newsletter. We created this publication to provide a chance to catch up on what's happening in our local area and to share the great things happening in south east Dorset.

With the warmer months upon us, we're delighted to be able to share lots of lovely upcoming events making the most of our local landscape and to update you on some of the recent Trust activity across the estate.

WE'RE THRILLED TO INTRODUCE IAN CHEUNG, TALBOT VILLAGE TRUST'S NEW CEO



I am honoured to join Talbot Village Trust at such a pivotal time in its journey and to be part of an organisation with a deep commitment to supporting local communities in south east Dorset.

I have lived in Dorset for almost a decade, fulfilling my family's ambition to make the county our permanent home.

I join the Trust from the family-owned firm, Sir Robert McAlpine, where for the last eight years I headed up the business as Managing Director in the South West, South East, and Midlands.

Philanthropy has been a constant thread throughout my career, with charitable giving central to many of the projects I have been responsible for. I am excited to build upon the remarkable legacy of the Talbot sisters and spearhead the Trust's efforts to address and tackle issues faced by our local communities.

I'll be working closely with Caroline Cooban who remains with the Trust as Director of Giving and am also looking forward to meeting more of you in the months ahead".

With best wishes,

Ian

Woodland

With the longer evenings and warmer days, we're seeing a higher use of the woodland. Sadly, a small minority of visitors have caused considerable damage by chopping down young trees, and setting unauthorised fires, which during bird nesting season puts the lives of young birds in jeopardy. If you see any of these behaviours, please dial 999 at the time, and let us know afterwards.



A huge thank you to our seasonal volunteers who have supported the ad hoc litter picking events we've held to tidy up. If you would like to know more about our woodland-based volunteering scheme, please contact Martha.

[Contact Martha](#)

Protect Talbot Heath

We kindly ask all visitors to Talbot Heath to keep their dogs on a lead and to stick to designated pathways - not just during the sensitive nesting season, but year-round. This helps protect rare ground-nesting birds and fragile habitats from disturbance and damage.

Additionally, we urge dog owners to always clean up after their pets. Dog waste may seem harmless, but it introduces high nutrient levels into the naturally low-nutrient soil of our heathland. This disrupts the delicate

ecosystem, allowing invasive grasses and garden plants to overtake the rare heathland flora, such as native heathers and wildflowers. As these plants disappear, so too does the wildlife that depends on them.

By picking up after your dog and staying on the paths, you're helping to preserve this precious landscape and its biodiversity for future generations.

AWE trail in the woods

In partnership with Bournemouth University, we're excited that the AWE Trail project has begun in the woods. Through the project, we're capturing the sights and sounds of nature, spring in action, and the changing of the seasons. The content will enable us to create a special trail, as has been produced for Holton Lee. It is expected that the project will take several months and we're looking forward to sharing the final work later this year.

Thank you to the residents who has allowed us to record the wildlife in their gardens.



[Learn More](#)

Heathland Exhibition



Local engagement artists from the Vireo Collective curated the exhibition 'A Heathland Celebration', in Upton in February, followed by a fortnight at AUB. The show was a huge success and brought the community together to share their appreciation of the heathland and of the talent we have

around us.

Julia Chiapetti, a founder at Vireo Collective and a local artist said: “What a journey it’s been! As local nature lovers, we feel incredibly proud to have had the opportunity to channel the creative voices of our community in honour of our cherished heathland. The passion and diversity of the artworks shared truly highlight the value of these precious habitats - for both people and wildlife.



We’re especially delighted to have brought a piece of Talbot Heath along with us. Using gorse gathered during winter conservation efforts, The Nest was created and evolved throughout the exhibition, now finding its final resting place in the reflection garden at St Mark’s.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported and contributed to making this exhibition such a wonderful celebration of art, community, and nature.”

To stay in touch with the exhibition curators, email wearevireo@gmail.com or follow [@vireocollective](https://www.instagram.com/vireocollective) on Instagram.

[Email We Are Vireo](mailto:wearevireo@gmail.com)

Access Audit

We recently undertook an access audit of the Talbot woodland, so we can start developing plans to make the space more accessible to walkers. We’d also very much like to hear from people currently using the paths.

We will be popping up in the woods over the summer, inviting walkers and visitors to share their comments on how accessibility could be improved in balance with it being a space for nature. Look out for us over the coming months and share your thoughts and ideas.

PHILANTHROPY IN SOUTH EAST DORSET

Grant Programmes Update

Following workshops and feedback from grantees, we are shaping a new programme of grants embracing - Small Grants, Places and Spaces (capital), Talbot Village, Large Grants and Strategic Partnerships programmes. We will be releasing more detailed information via our website and key publications over the course of the summer.

Other funding opportunities

We recommend that organisations take a strategic approach to fundraising and explore a range of funding opportunities alongside ours to

help secure the necessary support. As our grant process is highly competitive, we are only able to support a limited number of strong, well-aligned applications each year. In many cases, grants awarded may only cover part of the total amount requested.

To improve the sustainability of your project and strengthen your funding position, we suggest exploring additional funding streams that align closely with your objectives. Below are some useful platforms and networks:

- [BCP Council Fund Finder](#) and [What Funds email newsletter](#)
- [CAN100](#) - free membership
- [Dorset Council Fund Finder](#) and [website](#)
- [Volunteering Dorset email newsletter](#)

Carefully considering which funders are best aligned with your aims and submitting targeted applications can significantly improve your chances of success.

Helping charities and organisations with digital storytelling

It's an age-old frustration that there are so many amazing charities in our area, helping people to live well, but they are often unrecognised and not widely heard of. In response to this need, we're recently welcomed **Alex Dowding** to the Talbot Village Trust team as **Digital Engagement Creative**.

Alex is working with some of our grantees to help them use digital platforms for storytelling and profile raising. His support includes helping grantees to access free software, learn to use IT tools to increase productivity, making short videos, and creating and implementing a social media plan.



Look out for heart-warming stories from brilliant people coming soon!

The History Project

The Talbot Village History Group has established to bring together members of our community to reflect and look back upon the deep human connections and shared histories that make Talbot Village unique and special, and the impact that this has on people's lives today.

The group meets regularly at Slades Café, and is currently making a slideshow on the history of the Talbot Village area, from the Iron Age to 20th century. If you would like to know more, would like to meet the group, or would like to request their talk, please contact Martha.



From the left to right: Bryan Keet, Dorothy Fox, Martin Senior, Martha Searle, Phil Holloway and Paul Miles.

"I always knew that our family had a history with Talbot Village from its beginning and having lived on the Village myself for 41 years I did have some knowledge of the area. However, being part of the History Project has inspired me to find out more about my family, and through the work of other members of the team I have also learnt so much more than I would have had I not joined the group as a volunteer".

Phil Holloway

"Having been involved in history research for many years and having several personal links to Talbot Village, this project ideally suited my interests and prior knowledge. I consider it is very important for all communities to know their historical beginnings and development which can explain much of present-day decision making and increase democratic involvement in the future of their settlement. Discovering more about the primary school's story has been a pleasure which I hope to share with others."

Paul Miles

"I have loved researching my family history for many years and it is now really interesting to study the histories of the people who lived in Talbot Village. Meeting regularly with a great group of other local people and reminiscing and sharing our findings is always a pleasure.."

Dorothy Fox

"This project has provided a range of pluses from learning how to do oral and historical research, to discovering more about a local area (as well as surprisingly a small family connection), through to meeting and collaborating with some very interesting team members."

Martin Senior

The Talbot Quarter project seeks to support the emerging needs of our community by creating a place near to the universities for great people, great minds, and great ideas to come together.

In July 2024, we were granted with a hybrid planning consent meaning that there is full consent for the hospital and outline planning permission for the rest of the site. Outline planning permission grants permission for the principle of the development (the overall concept and suitability of the proposed project) but not all the specific details.

We envisage that the Quarter will include a mix of workspaces such as offices, labs, shared working hubs, and flexible buildings that can be used in different ways. The aim is to create a place that supports new businesses and jobs, especially in partnership with nearby universities and the Nuffield Health Hospital. The people working here are likely to be local graduates, researchers and healthcare professionals. We want to create an opportunity to help our young people to live and thrive locally, by enabling investment in their talent, and the successful creation of desirable jobs near to where they live, removing the need to commute.

The opportunity for further healthtech development in Bournemouth was discussed at a meeting we hosted this April. Over 40 business leaders, academics, councillors, creatives, medical professionals, and innovators came together to discuss building a long-term partnership for a Bournemouth Innovation Cluster - a group of businesses, organisations, and teams that benefit from being based in the same location.

While there will be some new buildings to foster this innovation, the majority of the space will be natural and open, with real care taken to support local wildlife and protect the landscape.

The total site covers around 25 hectares. Of that, about 10 hectares are set aside for the Innovation Quarter. But only about half of that (5 hectares) will actually be built on - including buildings, roads, parking, and paths. Most of the overall site (around 80%) will stay green, including the 12-hectare Heathland Support Area planned to help protect the nearby Talbot Heath and boost biodiversity across the whole area. This includes meadows, native trees and hedgerows, small water features, and other habitats designed to support local wildlife. We'll be able to share further plans for the Heathland Support Area, later this year.

To help us to bring the Talbot Quarter to life, we're now looking for delivery partners, investors, and potential occupiers. It's important to us that we find the right people and organisations to work with, who share our vision and values, and as such, this is a process we won't rush. Earlier this month, Talbot Village Trust representatives attended The UK's Real Estate Investment and Infrastructure Forum in Leeds to support BCP Council in championing Bournemouth as a destination for creative innovation on a national stage and to start conversations with some potential partners.

We've put together some FAQs that we hope will provide you with further detail and information about the project. You can view these on the Talbot Village Trust website: talbotvillagetrust.org/our-estate/talbot-quarter/faqs
If you have further enquiries, please get in touch with us at: info@talbotvillagetrust.org

CONNECT WITH THE COMMUNITY - WHAT'S ON IN OUR AREA

Creating Health and Harmony in the Community: How You Can Make a Change

On June 4th 2025, Bournemouth University proudly hosts the 4th annual Creating Health and Harmony in the Community conference inspired by King Charles III’s philosophy of Harmony.

The event focuses on education and young people, prisons and prevention, health and environment, and communities. The conference consists of talks, discussions, and networking opportunities.

Whether you are a healthcare professional, educator, policymaker, or an active community member, this event offers a unique opportunity to gain valuable insights, network with like-minded individuals, and discover practical tools to help you make a positive difference.

Location: Bournemouth University, Talbot Campus, Fusion Building

Date and time: Wednesday, 4th June 9am - 4pm

[Register here](#)

Summer Solstice



We celebrated the Spring Equinox with workshops making bird staffs and wands and more storytelling in the woods. You can watch the video from this event on [YouTube](#).

Join us again on Saturday 21st June to mark this year's Summer Solstice.

We'd love to invite you and your family to an afternoon of making paper crowns, followed by a 4pm procession into the woods for storytelling around the fire.

The storytelling is free, and there's no need to book. Just meet us outside the Slades Park Pavilion Café at 4pm. You might also like to bring some marshmallows, a blanket to sit on, and in case there are some midge flying around, some insect repellent.

Location: Slades Park Pavilion, Ensbury Avenue, Bournemouth, BH10 4HG

Date and time: Saturday 21 June 2025, workshops from 1pm, procession and storytelling from 4pm



[Book a space at the crown making workshop](#)

Active Dorset Activity Day



As part of ActiveDorset's activity day, we will be holding a mini-BioBlitz event.

Alongside expert ecologists from BU, the idea is to identify as many species as we can find in the woods throughout the day. It's a great way to get to know our local plants and animals better, and discover the abundant nature on our doorstep.

If you can, please download the [iNaturalist](#) app in advance. Don't worry though, we'll also have paper records you can use if smart phones aren't your thing, and helpers available on the day. There's a prize for the person who uploads the most observations, so come ready to do lots of spotting!

Location: Slades Park Pavilion, Ensbury Avenue, Bournemouth, BH10 4HG

Date and time: Sunday 8th June, 9am - 3pm

CommUNlty

The Talbot Village Residents’ Association, in partnership with Bournemouth University, takes great pride in organising free information evenings for its members to help provide opportunities for everyone to connect, learn, and grow.

There’s a fantastic line-up of CommUNlty events set to take place throughout the year, and forthcoming sessions include:

‘Stay One Step Ahead of the Scammers!’ with Dorset Police’s Cyber Unit

Would you know how to spot a scam, protect your online accounts, or stop hackers in their tracks? Now’s your chance to learn vital cyber safety skills directly from Dorset Police’s Cyber Crime Unit. Join us for a powerful, eye-opening talk to empower yourself, protect your family, and help keep our community safe.

Location: Inspire Lecture Theatre, Fusion Building, Talbot Campus, Bournemouth University, BH12 5BB

Date and time: Tuesday 27th May, from 6.30pm to 7.15pm

[Book now](#)

Positive Mental Health

This informative session, led by trained mental health professionals from Bournemouth and Poole College, will provide an overview of common mental health conditions and offer practical advice on how to care for your own mental health and support others. You’ll find out how to recognise signs and symptoms of mental ill health, learn about simple and effective tools for maintaining good mental wellbeing, and where to find help if you or someone you know is struggling.

Location: Inspire Lecture Theatre, Fusion Building, Talbot Campus, Bournemouth University, BH12 5BB

Date and time: Tuesday 10th June, from 6.30pm to 7.20pm

[Book now](#)

Keep an eye on the CommUNlty schedule, as there will be a session for everyone. We’d love to see you there!

Bournemouth University’s New Community Garden

Bournemouth University has created a community garden on its Talbot Campus, aiming at helping students access healthy, affordable food.

They welcome volunteers, no prior experience required.



Contact for more details

Common Roots

Discover Common Roots CIC at Talbot Village Woods

Looking to reconnect with nature and boost your wellbeing or just having a wonderful time in the woods? Common Roots CIC is a community-focused social enterprise based in the beautiful Talbot Village Woods, where people from all walks of life can come together. They use the power of green spaces and creative activities to give you a place where you can enjoy the benefits of being outside and make meaningful connections in a friendly, welcoming environment.

They offer a range of nature-based activities; for those who want to try something new and spend time with friends, family or meet new people, to more thoughtful activities that supports mental health and personal reflection.

Through nature-based activities, they create a safe and welcoming space for everyone to be able to spend time outdoors and to explore creativity — both personally and together.

Whether you're here to explore your creative side, strengthen your wellbeing, or just enjoy time in nature, there's something for everyone at Common Roots.

Get involved. Feel better. Root yourself in nature.

Join them at Talbot Village Woods and be part of something meaningful.

Book now

St Mark's Church



There is always range of marvellous events taking place at St Mark's Church (Talbot Village, Wallisdown Rd, Bournemouth BH10 4HY), and those already in the diary for 2025 are:

- **Saturday 14th June** - An evening with Nina Garcia, a talented solo vocalist and electric fiddle player.

Doors open at 6:30pm, show starts at 7pm and finishes at 10pm. Tickets cost £15 (over 18s only) and includes a complimentary cheese selection and glass of wine. These can be purchased from the Parish Office, Monday to Thursday, 9am to 12.30pm, or by calling 01202 529349 to pay by card.

- **Saturday 5th July** - The P&P Singers

This choir is renowned for their precision, close harmonies and eclectic programmes ranging from classical choral pieces to pop music and everything in between.

- **Saturday 12th July** - Summer Fete
- **Saturday 9th August** - Church picnic

COMMUNITY CAPTURES



Thank you Lucy Russell for this beautiful photograph of the woodlands.

SHARE YOUR NEWS

We'd love to hear from you and share your news, pictures, events, and learnings in our next edition of 'TVT Times'.

To contribute, please get in touch!

Contact Us



THANK YOU!



Talbot Village Trust
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