

AUTUMN EDITION - NOVEMBER 2025



We hope you're enjoying the beauty of autumn as the season unfolds around us.

The response to the launch of our new grants programme was overwhelming and we are delighted to be in the process of distributing £400,000 to charities across the area.

Much has been taking place across the land we steward in the Wallisdown area. In August, around 50 local residents joined us and Jessica Toale MP for a walking tour of Talbot Woods and Village. Martha Searle, our

Community and Engagement Lead, took us on a tour through the woods sharing the vision of the Talbot sisters and the establishment of the village. Headteacher of St. Mark's School, Andrew Bright, spoke to the group as they walked past the school and almshouses and Reverend Nick Wells welcomed everyone into St. Mark's Church where people admired the wonderful environment created by the combination of the original church and the new extension.

We are delighted to welcome Charlie Marchant to the team, who has joined us as Conservation Volunteer Co-ordinator. Charlie is leading volunteer conservation activities over the winter period, helping to protect and care for the woods and surrounding area.

We saw a number of joyful activities this Summer, including a presentation from the Talbot Village History Group at St. Mark's Church. The knowledgeable group members have given a series of presentations on the history of the Talbot Village, the Wallisdown area, and the wider BCP region.

I hope you enjoy this latest newsletter, and we look forward to seeing even more of you at the events planned over the coming months.

With best wishes,

Ian Cheung

Chief Executive Officer

NEW STARTER

Charlie Marchant - Conservation Volunteer Coordinator



With autumn here, we turn our thoughts to our winter conservation volunteering scheme. To lead this, we're delighted to welcome **Charlie Marchant,** our Conservation Volunteer Coordinator. Charlie has considerable experience in this field, having volunteered and worked with The Parks Foundation and the Countryside Education Trust.

MEET CHARLIE (video introduction)

He is running sessions in the woods each week, fulfilling the function that in prehistoric times would have been carried out by large herbivores: pruning back undergrowth to help increase the light reaching the woodland floor, and removing non-native invasive species such as cherry laurel. Each session includes a hot drink and snack, and is a great way to connect with our local wildlife and keep the winter blues at bay.

Sessions run **every Tuesday and Friday, 10am - 12pm and 1.30pm - 3.30pm**

Meeting point: Outside the **Slades Park Pavilion Café.**

If you would like to know more, please email charlie@talbotvillagetrust.org



CONTACT CHARLIE

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

Winter Solstice



Join us on **Friday, 20 December, at the Slades Park Pavilion Café** for a cosy afternoon of creativity and storytelling as we come together to mark the **Winter Solstice** - the turning point of the year and the return of the light.

The event begins with a **leaf crown-making workshop** from 2 to 3.30pm, led by Rosie from CoCreate. Families can enjoy crafting their own nature-inspired crowns using winter greenery and natural materials. It's a lovely hands-on activity for all ages, and a great way to celebrate the beauty of the season. The workshop costs **£4 per person**, and booking is essential, as places are limited.

At 4pm, we'll gather and make our way into Talbot Woodland for a free **outdoor storytelling session around the warmth of a campfire**. Storytellers Martin Coyne and Anna Shiels will share tales inspired by nature, light, and the deep midwinter — stories to lift spirits and bring the community together on the shortest day of the year.

This event is open to everyone, and we welcome families, friends, and neighbours to join in. Wrap up warmly, bring a torch or lantern, and enjoy an afternoon filled with creativity, connection, and the magic of midwinter.

Event details:

Venue: Slades Park Pavilion Café, followed by a procession into Talbot Woods

Leaf Crown Workshop: 2 - 3.30pm • £4 per person • booking essential

Storytelling & Procession: 4pm • free and open to all ages

We look forward to celebrating the Winter Solstice with you!





BOOK A SPACE AT THE LEAF CROWN MAKING WORKSHOP

Common Roots

Common Roots CIC curate creative, nature-connecting wellbeing activities in the Talbot Woodland. They've had a great summer offering family activities, as well as monthly **women's circles** and **creative writing workshops** for adults. Keep an eye on their website for the upcoming autumn and winter programme.

Please be aware that they are permitted to use fire for these events, and are trained and insured to do so. You can recognise a Common Roots event by the A-Frame sign displayed next to the gathering - they always use a fire basket.






Source: Common Roots website

FIND OUT MORE

PHILANTHROPY IN SOUTH EAST DORSET

Grant Programmes 2025 Update

Thank you to everyone who applied for a grant through Talbot Village Trust's Autumn 2025 round.

We were delighted to receive a total of **115 applications** across our Small and Capital Grant programmes. It's wonderful to see that nearly half were from new applicants.

Our assessors and team have been busy reviewing all submissions. The Small Grants have now been awarded, and recommendations for the Capital Grants will be presented to the Board later this month.

The outcomes will be announced in late November.

Grant Programmes 2026 Announcement

We'll be sharing further information soon, including full application criteria, eligibility guidance, and details on how to apply - so please stay tuned for updates in the coming weeks via our email newsletter and website.

Grants draw down over Christmas period

Due to the forthcoming holiday period, please note that **the last day we will submit requests to draw down your award is 11 December 2025**. If you plan to request a drawdown around that time, please send your request to the Grants Team well in advance of that date to allow time to provide any required evidence, including:

- Matched funding evidence (if applicable)
- Bank form and bank statement
- Any outstanding impact reports (if applicable)
- Any other documents required

Please note that it can take up to five weeks for the funds to reach your charity's account from the day your evidence is approved by the Trust.

Processing of requests will resume as normal from **9 January 2026**.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

CONTACT GRANTS TEAM

Other Funding Sources

We hope the following external funding resources will be helpful in identifying other potential funders who may be able to support your work.

External funding resources:

- BCP Council Fund Finder and What Funds email newsletter
- Free funding advice and support service (email: funding@bcpcouncil.gov.uk)
- CAN100 - website and email newsletter (free membership)
- Dorset Council Fund Finder and website
- Volunteering Dorset email newsletter
- Build: Not-for-Profit Growth Programme - programme

Thank you once again for all the amazing work you do.

We look forward to keeping in touch and supporting your efforts wherever we can!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Subway mural



Source: Arts University Bournemouth website

We were delighted to **support a recent initiative** between Talbot Village Residents Association, AUB and BU to create the mural for the subway under Wallisdown Road. The student team, supported by Graphic Design course leader Marten Sims, undertook the work with great skill and commitment - working to a tight deadline to deliver a great result. Congratulations to all involved - we're sure pedestrians and cyclists are enjoying the brighter, more welcoming space enormously.





MP Jessica Toale walk



We were very pleased to lead a **community walk hosted by Jessica Toale** MP as part of her summer recess celebration of Bournemouth West's blue and green spaces. The walk, inspired by the work of the **Talbot Village History Group**, featured early footage gathered by BU's Augmented Wildlife Experience Trail (AWE) Trail. Despite the threat of rain, over 50 participants joined the walk, including members of the St

Mark's Church congregation, Common Roots and the Talbot Village History Group.

We also visited Headteacher Andrew Bright at St Mark's School as he prepared for the start of the new academic year, and Rev. Nick Wells kindly gave us a short tour of the church. Both the church and the school were founded by **Georgina and Marianne Talbot** as part of their vision to create a thriving community and provide sustainable livelihoods in Wallisdown.







History Group



Throughout this year, the **Talbot Village History Group** has worked tirelessly, researching the history of the Talbot sisters' landholdings, leading to the creation of a fascinating public talk. Their work is already inspiring other local projects, including the subway murial project, and the creation of the heritage route we followed during Jessica Toale's community walk. The group is now looking to share their talk with other audiences - please do get in touch if you are interested.





EMAIL MARTHA TO FIND OUT MORE

Woodland consultation

We're working with Julia and Kira from locally based **Vireo Collective**, an organisation dedicated to connecting people with the natural environment, to gather local feedback on the accessibility of our woodland.

We are inviting residents, visitors, commuters, and school families to share feedback on how they currently use the woodland, and we especially want to hear from those who don't yet find the space accessible to them.

It is important that our green space is accessible to everyone, including those with specific access needs. For example, we're seeking to understand whether improvement to path surfaces and the introduction of low, timed, and sensitive lighting would make the woodland safer for our community.

Julia and Kira have been surveying local people at Slades Park Pavilion and Slades Lane over the past few weeks. They're also running an online survey, which can be found here.

If you have any questions or wish to contribute to the discussion, please email wearevireo@gmail.com.




ONLINE SURVEY

ESTATE NEWS

Heathland Support Area

We're pleased to share the latest on the Heathland Support Area (HSA) - a new green space designed for local people to enjoy and connect with nature.

As part of the planning permission granted for the HSA, we've submitted our **Management Plan** to BCP Council for review and approval.

Over the past year, we've worked with local experts and key organisations, including Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service, Natural England, and the Dorset Heath Partnership, to ensure the plan reflects best practice in environmental management and maximises community benefit.

We're currently considering the best way to deliver and open the HSA alongside our wider delivery plans for the wider Innovation Quarter, to ensure everything comes together efficiently and to a high standard.

Our aim remains to create and open the HSA as soon as posible, providing a valuable green space for the community to enjoy. We'll continue to share updates as the project progresses and look forward to working with local residents and partners as we move closer to opening.

If you have questions, please get in touch with the TVT team.

CONTACT US

Management of green spaces

We have a few projects coming up that will protect and enhance our green spaces:

Woodland management: this winter marks the next round of undergrowth removal, in line with our ecologically informed management plan. The next area earmarked for this work is adjacent to Slades Lane,

on the eastern side. In the absence of large herbivores, such as bison in the woods, the current undergrowth has grown to the extent that it reduces the levels of light reaching the woodland floor, preventing native flora from establishing.

In line with accepted best practices, we will also remove a small number of trees that are diseased, pose a risk to public safety, are excessively blocking light to the woodland floor, or are otherwise hazardous to walkers.

On and near Talbot Heath, we will also be clearing fire breaks this winter, as required by the Fire Service. This is to prevent the uncontrolled spread of fire on or near the Heath.

You might also have noticed that we've closed 'Field 1' - the land behind Sainsbury's on Alder Hills. This is because we had some unauthorised livestock entering the field, which could be unsafe for the livestock, or walkers and dogs. This is a temporary measure, as next year this land will be opened to the public as part of the Heathland Support Area (HSA).

We are working hard to progress our plans for the **Heathland Support Area** and have submitted some detailed plans for the landscaping and maintenance of the Heathland Support Area to BCP Council, where it is undergoing the final rounds of expert review. At that point we propose convening a Citizens' Assembly to ensure a range of public voices are included in the conversation, contributing to the Management Liaison Group. Look out for further updates later this winter.

Estate warden - We're recruiting a full-time, locally based, and experienced Estate Warden who will oversee the day-to-day maintenance of the woodland and heathland. We look forward to sharing an update in our next newsletter.

As always, we're here to answer any questions you may have. Please DM us or get in touch via email.

CONTACT US

COMMUNITY CAPTURES





Thank you Susanna Trickett for these beautiful photographs.

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!

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