



Spotlight on the Super Suburb of Southway



The good people of Southway are busy preparing for their first community event of the year. On Saturday the 4th of February the Hendwell Centre will be throwing open its doors and inviting residents to learn more about the community and all the wonderful things that happen in the north of the city.

Come along and find out more: there'll be free refreshments; craft activities for young & old and local clubs and groups taking part helping to show why Southway is a super suburb.

Saturday the 4th of February at the Hendwell Youth & Community Centre between 11 & 3.

For more information or to get involved contact our own POP trustee and the LGBTQ+ Community Builder for Plymouth.w

alan.butler@prideinplymouth.org.uk

A few words from POP's CEO, Matt Bell:

2023 is a crunch year for POP. We are waiting to hear if our primary funding partner, the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, is to continue its relationship with us. Five years ago, through POP, it invested more than a million pounds in Plymouth, a city that it regarded as being worthy of this level of investment. We hope that they've seen how far we've come: both POP, as an organisation, and Plymouth, as a city.

In this time, we have worked hard to promote the values of 'trust' and 'collaboration' and, in doing so, we believe that we have helped to transform and strengthen the voluntary and community sector throughout Plymouth.

We are testing new ways of doing things: different types of 'structures', such as, networks, collaborations and collectives; we are considering how 'power' and 'control' can be better shared; we're inviting others to communicate in a more 'open' way and we're encouraging individuals to participate 'voluntarily' rather than through 'mandatory engagement'.

Through all the changes that we ask of our members, we are trying to learn how we, as individuals, might manage those feelings of 'difference' and 'uncertainty' that can come from innovation so that we can understand, and empathise and, in doing so, make us more resilient.

We are so proud of all that has been achieved – and continues to be achieved - by you, our members. So, as we settle in to 2023, let's hope we can use these new ways of working to galvanise collective action and be better-prepared; strengthened and supported to face the challenges ahead.

POP is here to help. Connect with us and feel part of something bigger.

POP 'Membership' Consultation

The POP team has been busy thinking about the services and benefits which we offer to our members and wondering what - and how - we might evolve. We've come up with a few ideas and now we're asking for your thoughts.

We would like to invite you to take a look at our new membership proposal and tell us what you think via this short three-question survey. There's a £50 food voucher for one lucky winner to be spent in one of our member-restaurant organisations.

Please read the proposal document and complete the survey here:

<https://www.plymouthoctopus.org/pop-membership-consultation-proposal/>

Cost-of-Living Fund for voluntary groups set up so that they can better support people during the financial crisis



As we embark on the many significant challenges ahead of us this year, POP starts the new year with a new fund, the Cost of Living Community Fund, designed to offer greater support to those who are struggling financially and emotionally

POP is launching the fund in partnership with the charity OneDevon, and working with local partners across Devon County Council; Plymouth City Council and Torbay Borough Council, to give more money to voluntary organisations that support people who have been disproportionately affected by the cost-of-living crisis.

A total of about £60,000 is available for Plymouth organisations with two levels of funding available: either under £5,000 or between £5,000 and £10,000.

So, if you have an idea of how you might support families and individuals hit particularly hard by the cost-of-living crisis, and can start before the end of March, then click here for further information:

POP Cost of Living Community Fund
Email: info@plymouthoctopus.org
or phone us on 01752 395131.



Young people from Ernesettle in Westminster Hall with MP Luke Pollard

Unique fund gives young people the gift of £1000

POP is giving away £1000 to groups of young people who want to do something good in their community. Its new fund, Ideas Into Action, has been designed specifically for 16 to 25 year olds and will allow them to spend the money as they want to spend it.

In December a group of teenagers from Whitleigh, keen to learn about the mechanics of local and national government, used their £1000 kitty to go to Westminster. They had already raised £200 through a sponsored walk from Whitleigh to The Council House, in the city centre, where they were met and shown around by the Lord Mayor, Sue Dann. Wanting to learn more, they used the Ideas Into Action fund to help pay for a two-night stay in London, with some additional funding from Councillor Philip Partridge, and which was organised by the MP Johnny Mercer's Office. They had a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament and a Q and A session with the MP, Luke Pollard.

POP believes that young people can be **trusted** to make good decisions and to **collaborate** successfully for the good of their communities. Ideas Into Action groups get access to their own bank cards and must spend the money within eight weeks. Although POP stays in touch via a WhatsApp group, the young people make all the decisions. It works on trust and relationships.

Matt Bell from POP says he's excited to see how the money is spent:

"Our work in Keyham showed us that young people have a voice and want to be heard. Through this POP fund, we'll be helping them and giving them the means to get their ideas off the ground and into action."

Ideas Into Action is a unique opportunity that puts real power in young people's hands. To find out more message **07402 340797**.

POP wants to enable funding to get into the heart of our communities. POP believes that people can be trusted to make the right decisions with, and for, the communities in which they live.

Free online events from **POP ideas**

Register at **BIT.LY/POPIDEASEVENTS**

Finding & Refining the Words

POP Drop-in - Plymstock

Proving Your Impact

7 February

21 February

23 February

An introduction to the essentials of a successful funding bid.

Come along to Plymstock Library to meet the team and access free support & advice.

Improve your social impact measuring skills to attract more funding, support and publicity.