



Norfolk
Community
Foundation

Your giving

Lovewell Blake Fund

Together, Norfolk shines brighter

Together with Norfolk Community Foundation, you helped us award over £3.3million of grants in 2017, supporting 584 community groups and charities and 279 individuals.

This report provides an overview of just some of the great projects that could only happen with your help.



connecting the community...

Hub Community Project runs a number of projects for those who are more socially and economically disadvantaged in the Wymondham area.

A grant was awarded to support 'Meeting Point', which is a volunteer led weekly drop-in session on a Friday morning for people in the area who are lonely and/or isolated. The group is run by volunteers who signpost members to other agencies, and support where needed. There are around 30 people currently attending the drop-in including those with mental health difficulties or other disabilities, and it is therefore important that the group is centrally located and fully accessible.

The drop-in has become a lifeline for some, who without close friends or family can have periods of not speaking to others or leaving the house.



We are most grateful that the funding has enabled us to continue to operate and allowed us to remain in a central location with parking for the disabled.



“ I have learned so much and it has helped me to understand and love my child even more, thank you so much. ”



Sunbeams Play is based in Great Yarmouth and was set up to address the issues faced by children, parents, carers and families of children and young people on or thought to be on the Autistic spectrum. Sunbeams aims to give them the opportunity to meet in a fun and safe environment.

A grant in 2017 was utilised to help parents coping with the pressures of an autistic child. A new 'Well-being advisor' is in post working alongside the support coordinator to offer one-to-one support, training and workshops.

Pictured above are parents who have recently completed the Cygnet training, which aims to increase parents' understanding of autistic spectrum conditions and help them develop strategies for challenging behaviours.





Open Road West Norfolk

Open Road is a modern automotive workshop and training facility, which provides young people with opportunities to develop skills and professionally recognised qualifications that are unavailable in mainstream education.

Young people involved are those who have been excluded, or who are at risk of exclusion, from school.

A grant helped the charity repair guttering which had resulted in water damage to the computer suite where students study for qualifications alongside the practical skills they learn in the workshop.

Centre 81

Based in Great Yarmouth, Centre 81 provides services for adults with physical, sensory and other disabilities.

Attendees range in age from 18 - 80 plus years, can become isolated from their local community and are considered to be vulnerable.

Members can choose what activities they wish to take part in, and take an active role in organising them. The emphasis is very much on having fun and getting the most out of life.



“ The receipt of a grant enabled us to change all of our outdated lighting and worn out carpeting in two of the Centre’s rooms. Members felt that the rooms had been revitalised as they are welcoming and a positive place to spend some time. ”

Home-Start in Suffolk aims to give children the best possible start in life by supporting parents to grow in confidence, strengthen their relationships with their children, improve their health and wellbeing and widen their links locally.

Home START

**Support and friendship
for families**

“The volunteer has helped through some of the toughest times of my life – to the point I couldn’t have done it without her”

A grant was awarded in 2017 towards training additional volunteers for their home visiting service to support families in the Waveney area.

Volunteer training completed in February 2018. The 18 new volunteers have engaged 73 families (of which 22 are single parent families) and 174 children (92 of whom are under the age of 5).

“The way my volunteer has interacted with my son has really made an impression on him and he very much looked forward to seeing her – she has helped us move forward”

