

**OPEN DAW
NEWSLETTER**
March
2015



Open DAW — lots going on....

During the past months, it has been wonderful to see an increased number of agencies at the Open DAW, regular enquiries each day and all the community projects we are involved in. It was most heartening to hear glowing comments from all the Town Councillors present at their last Finance meeting when they granted us our application for a grant (see below).

Since January we have seen more people in for information and enquiries than those just wanting teas and coffee (the latter is usual for the winter months). Coach parties are fewer and the drivers stop for only short periods. Some have been heard to say "Most places are closed in Dawlish at this time of the year, so there is little point in staying too long!" Although this is not true, it is a reflection of how Teignmouth is seen in comparison to Dawlish.

Harry Moore, Treasurer

Coordinator – Naomi Merrall

Naomi has taken over from Angie as Coordinator and her appointment will have to be confirmed by the Trustees in April. She is helped by Angie who is acting as our voluntary Projects Consultant. Please do come into The Open DAW and have a chat with Naomi—lots of interesting things are happening!

Please try to choose a day when there is an agency representative present who is of interest to you.

Town Manager

Town Manager, Tracey Scranage comes on Friday mornings each week. She has a lot of information about what is going on in Dawlish now and in the future. Do come along and ask her about the plans for the events and about Dawlish!!

The Open DAW - Dawlish Community Information Centre
Vestibule of Dawlish Methodist Church , Brunswick Place EX7 9PB
Open Mon - Fri 10am to 12 noon Tel: 01626 867722

Registered Charity: 1113482
Email: opendaw@btconnect.com
Twitter: @OpenDAW

Latest News

Grant approved for Litter Picking Equipment

Dawlish Town Council have kindly approved Open DAW's latest application for £480 to provide more litter grabbers and protective gloves for additional volunteers.

Open DAW would like to hold a joint 'thank you' and training/update session for the current volunteers and for people who may be interested in joining the litter pick. This would take the form of a 'cream tea' event and hopefully be attended by the Mayor to thank the volunteers for their work with a certificate. Open DAW wants to run a publicity campaign to increase the number of volunteers and this event would form part of that campaign. £30 was approved by the council for expenses towards this event.

Some of the Community Litter Pickers are shown below in with the Mayor and Mayoress of Dawlish at a recent Saturday event!

Thanks to Steve Thompson for the great photo!!



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Dementia Support Morning

On March 3rd. Norman McNamara, from the “Purple Angels Campaign” came along to talk to people about dementia and raising public awareness . The aim was to encourage communities to be more dementia friendly. It was well attended and the Open DAW can now advertise the fact that we are dementia friendly. The hope is that gradually the whole town will be displaying stickers in shops to indicate that it is a dementia friendly town. Mr. McNamara will be making another visit in the near future.

Support for the Visually Impaired

Open DAW is willing to help those who are visually impaired to read any correspondence if they so wish. Each month on the 2nd Wednesday there is also help for the visually impaired when there is a representative from Devon Disability Network –Living Options available for assistance. Also some of Open DAW have volunteered to help with the “Talking Newspaper” which is being organised by Valerie Forrester.

Got a poster for an event?

Don't forget Open DAW manages the Community Events notice board and also put events on the lovedawlish website in partnership with the Town Centre Manager. Just make sure two copies of your poster get to Naomi!

New Display Board for Community Information and E-information Screens

A large display board similar to the one on the Co-operative store wall is to be mounted on the wall of the wildfowl enclosure. The Open DAW has been asked to manage that as well.

In addition Angie and Huw Weatherhead are working on e-information boards which will be managed by them for Open DAW in partnership with Tracy, the Town Centre Manager.

Poetry for Pleasure

A very successful evening of poems was held at the Library with the outstanding poet Matt Harvey providing over 50 people with a most memorable evening. The monthly poetry sessions in the vestibule have also proved very popular too. Three events are also planned for the Dawlish Arts Festival including ‘ Poetry on the Beach’.

Dates for Your Diary

Don't forget to try and make the Charities Bingo Night at the Langstone Cliff once a month—look out for dates—as Open DAW is one of the chosen charities over the next year.

Saturday 21st March - Poetry for Pleasure 10.30-12 noon at Open DAW

Thursday 23rd April – St. George's Day at the Ugly Duckling.

Open DAW Workshop—Finding Reliable Health Information Online

The first of the 4 workshops takes place in the Library on Monday March 23rd from 2.00 -4.30 pm. It is free and open especially to those over 60 who are not sure when looking for information on the internet. This will focus on finding reliable health information online and will be run by Helen Wharham, Public Health Project Officer at East Devon District Council. Book with Naomi!

10th Anniversary Celebrations in June

Don't forget to help us make the week Monday June 8th - Saturday June 13th a special week. Invitations to agencies and organisations are about to be sent out.

Thursday 11th will be a special morning for Friends of Open DAW acknowledging the importance to the Open DAW of all the donors. All funds raised that day will go to the Friends of Open DAW.

Saturday is the climax to the week when there will be a 3 course dinner + lots more to be held at the Manor.—look out for YOUR SPECIAL INVITATION SOON!!!

Trustees and Committee Meetings

The next meetings are:

TUESDAY 24th March - Committee at 6.00 pm in the Vestibule.

TUESDAY 4th April - Trustees at 6.30 pm in the Vestibule.

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