

Storeroom2010

The Isle of Wight's leading furniture re-use charity



**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**

We are a small independent charity, operating without the benefits of statutory funding. Situated on the Isle of Wight in an area which suffers disproportionately high unemployment and child poverty compared to many other areas in the UK, Storeroom2010 enables disadvantaged families to affordably furnish their homes, improve their quality of life and keep their dignity. Our doors are open to everyone.

In June 2017 we were delighted to receive The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the MBE for Volunteer Groups.

At Storeroom2010, furniture (that may otherwise have been taken to Isle of Wight landfill sites) donated by Island residents is utilised, facilitating availability of affordable furnishing; this also minimises impact on the environment. Storeroom enables Island residents to reuse, thereby helping their community and the environment too. Our figures for 2023 show we have assisted with the reuse of approximately 162,000kgs of furniture and household goods, saving this from being deposited in our Island landfill. It's difficult to imagine that weight, so think of around 5,226 average chests of drawers instead!

Customers in need can be referred to Storeroom by one of around 40-50 support agencies (statutory and voluntary) across the IOW; referred clients then benefit from a discount on a substantial proportion of our stock, on our already very reasonable prices.

Storeroom2010 provides volunteer opportunities and work experience to those seeking a route to employment; enabling people to build confidence and transferable skills within a framework of support. We have seen people 'change' over the space of just a few days and become more socially interactive and pleased they have found something they can do and enjoy. Since we opened in 2010, over 50 people have moved into paid work from a volunteer or work experience position at Storeroom.

The Island Probation Service send clients to Storeroom who are required to work unpaid hours. Community Payback Individuals often find themselves motivated by the industrious, but enjoyable community environment at Storeroom2010 and some stay on as volunteers.



*1 Mariners Way, Cowes, PO31 8PD
Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am-4pm*

Keeping Storeroom2010 open to everyone who would benefit from affordable furniture is our main priority.

In a nutshell the purpose of Storeroom2010 charity and its objectives are threefold: -

- The prevention and relief of poverty by supplying donated furniture and household goods at minimal cost to people in need.
- The protection and preservation of the environment by encouraging re-use/recycling of donated furniture and household goods.
- The relief of unemployment for the benefit of the public in such ways as may be thought fit, including the provision of training, employment, work experience and volunteering opportunities.

Storeroom2010, 1 Mariners Way, Cowes, PO31 8PD
Tel: 01983 298679

Email: nicksstoreroom@yahoo.co.uk Web: storeroom.org.uk
Registered Charity 1142010 Registered Company 7488966
Patron: Fred Dinenage MBE



Storerroom is different from other charities which collect furniture for re-sale, as they are often looking to achieve the best possible profits to help their cause/purpose. Storerroom simply wants furniture which can then be offered at affordable prices to those in our community who really need it.

In Summer 2023 we celebrated our 13th birthday. We are very proud of all we have achieved in these years, including the purchase of our current Cowes Men's Sheds premises in 2015 (loan from NatWest, funding from Clothworkers Foundation) and in 2016 the purchase of our main premises (loan from SASC and funding from Power to Change and Garfield Weston Foundation). These purchases have helped to secure Storerroom's future for the benefit of the Isle of Wight Community.

From January 2014 to April 2018, Storerroom ran a Skills Gap training project, sadly this closed due to insufficient forward funding. Grant monies were received from many generous funders both on and off the Isle of Wight, which helped Storerroom2010 to finance the Education Project. Teaching staff were employed as required and we saw 678 learners. Of these, 152 people attended for an activity and 526 learners took an accredited course and gained a certificate to show prospective employers their achievement. The learners' new trades-based skills would have helped them in their home lives as well as with employment opportunities. Around 20% of the learners went on into employment, self-employment, or further education when they finished their course, or in some cases, courses. Storerroom Education was a registered NOCN Centre No. 30000877.



Storerroom received the IW Chamber of Commerce, Business Awards for Excellence in the Business in the Community Awards 2016.

We also met Fred Dinenage at the awards ceremony, who became our Patron.

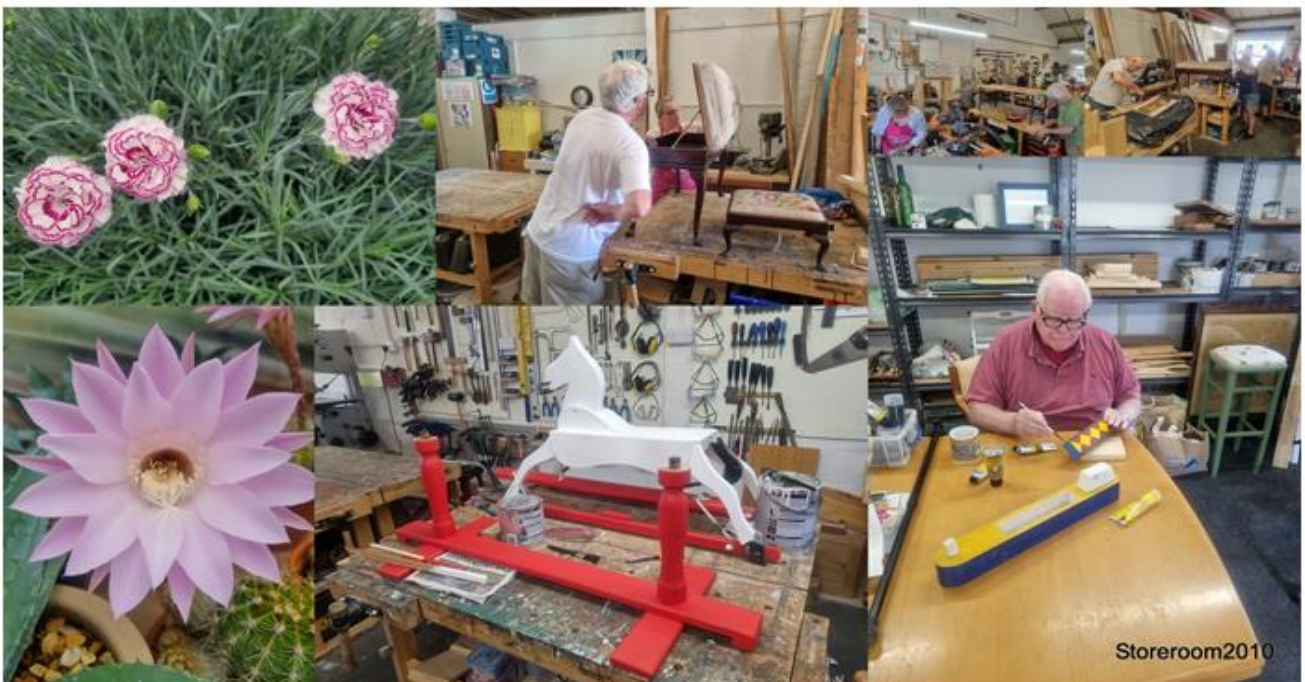


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Storeroom's current Community Project is the Cowes Men's Shed which opened in May 2018. Supported by funders, both local and national, the Shed has nearly 160 members aged 18+ and 27% of the members are women.

Predominantly aimed at seniors, the Shed provides a well equipped carpentry workshop, hobby room, gardens with seating area, raised beds and two glasshouses. Shedders are encouraged to enjoy the company of others, complete projects for themselves, their friends and families, or maybe assist with philanthropic projects for local churches, schools and our hospital. Some members make or refurbish items to sell at Storeroom to raise funds towards the Shed's running costs. However, we do not expect anyone to take part in any project not of their own choosing.



Our customers continue to support Storeroom charity and despite the current financial difficulties so many are experiencing, they still come to us. Without the public's unwavering loyalty and the generous donation of their free time by our volunteers, we would not be here to serve our Island Community.

During 2023 Storeroom received referrals for 198 disadvantaged people. This group received extra discounts on basic stock items. Some people/families made no payment for the goods supplied at all, as their Housing Association were engaged in a partnership scheme with us, in order to help their most needy and vulnerable clients.

We saw over 5,600 paying customers who purchased more than 16,100 items, with a little over 2,100 people making donations of their unwanted, but reusable furniture and household goods to us.

Our Community Project received 153 visitors, including local dignitaries, and saw over 1,500 member attendances over the year.



Please do call me, or our General Manager Kerri Salter, if you would like any further information about Storeroom and our work.

Nick Miller
CEO
Storeroom2010

April 2024