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Dorset Scrapstore celebrates success at The Factory

Dorset Scrapstore is celebrating its first eight months of business at The Factory, its new location on Alder Hills in Poole.

Dorset Scrapstore is a charity where manufacturing waste doesn't go to landfill but instead becomes a low cost community resource for craft and creativity.

It first opened in 1999, before moving to the current location in 2010 when it was a Remploy factory. In October 2012 Remploy ceased operations due to government cuts, so Dorset Scrapstore moved to Boscombe.

In April this year it moved back to the Remploy building which has been regenerated by **BCHA** into a social enterprise hub called The Factory run by the New Leaf organisation.

Vanessa Marsh, general manager at the Dorset Scrapstore, said: "We couldn't be happier about our move to The Factory – business has doubled since opening in April."

The Factory was bought by BCHA in March 2014 and with support from Dorset LEP and The Talbot Village Trust it has been transformed into a creative space.

BCHA is a specialist housing and social care provider, which helps

homeless and vulnerable people access the right housing, health, learning and work opportunities. It develops social enterprises and re-invests profits to fund community initiatives and charity projects.

The Scrapstore provides a changing supply of clean, safe but random materials which are donated by local businesses, including: Lush, Sunseeker, Simpli Pac, Aeroflex and BV Dairies.

Its new location is proving to be an asset as manager Vanessa explains: "We are now able to offer longer and more convenient opening times, free parking and access for the disabled, plus a range of workshops hosted on-site in the conference facilities which is great news for the Dorset schools, community groups, and families who benefit from our services."

The Dorset Scrapstore is open from Tuesday to Friday from 11am to 5pm with extended hours until 7pm on Wednesday and Thursday. It is recruiting additional store assistant volunteers to help at the new store, anyone interested should contact Vanessa Marsh, email vanessa@dorsetscrapstore.org.uk or phone 07932 325193.



From left Vanessa Marsh general manager at the Dorset Scrapstore, Peter Wiggins enterprise business manager at New Leaf, Jon from Print Room 105 (PR105) and Lisa from Hey Create