

Client: Bournemouth Churches Housing Association
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New home sparks charity 's revival

Jade
Grassby



A POOLE-BASED charity, which supplies art and craft materials for the community, is celebrating its newfound success since moving to a new site.

Dorset Scrapstore, based at The Factory in Alder Hills, receives donations of waste manufacturing materials and re-uses them as a community resource for creative and educational projects.

The charity first opened its doors to the public in 1999, before moving to the current location in 2010 when it was a Remploy factory. In October 2012, when Remploy ceased operations due to government cuts, Dorset Scrapstore moved to Boscombe, but in April this year it moved back to the Remploy building, which has since been extensively regenerated into a social enterprise hub 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 building was bought by Bournemouth Churches Housing Association in March 2014 but because it had lay empty for some time, it was derelict and in need of repair. However, through support from the Dorset LEP and The Talbot Village Trust, it has been transformed into a creative space for the local

community.

The Scrapstore provides an ever-changing supply of clean, safe and often random making materials, which have been donated by local businesses including Lush, Sunseeker, Simpli Pac, Aeroflex and BV Dairies.

Vanessa said: "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 Dor-

set schools, community groups and families."

Peter Wiggins, enterprise business manager at New Leaf, said he was "delighted" with the progress at The Factory and is enthusiastic about its other new tenants, Hey Create, Micro Aces, and Print Room 105.

"All organisations are working together to help each other to succeed, which is our aim. We already have other businesses based here, such as Lunch'd and First Aid That Cares, and these

local organisations are a welcome addition. With the opening of our new co-working hub, we are certain that they will all go from strength to strength and we wish them every success."

The Dorset Scrapstore is now open from Tuesday to Friday from 11am - 5pm with extended hours until 7pm on Wednesday and Thursday. They are also looking to recruit additional store assistant volunteers. Contact Vanessa Marsh at vanessa@dorsetscrapstore.org.uk or on 07932 325193.



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WASTE NOT: Poole-based charity Dorset Scrapstore is celebrating its success after moving to a new site