

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, enabling availability of affordable furnishing; this also minimises impact on the environment. Storeroom enables Island residents to recycle, thereby helping their community and the environment too. Our figures for 2020 show we have assisted with the re-use of approximately 119,000kgs of furniture and household goods, saving this from being deposited in our Island landfill. It's difficult to imagine that weight, so think of 3,846 average chests of drawers instead!

Customers in need can be referred to Storeroom by one of around 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. On average, four or five people a year move into paid work from a volunteer 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



Storeroom 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. Storeroom simply wants furniture which can then be offered at affordable prices to those who really need it.

In Summer 2020 we celebrated our 10th birthday. We are very proud of all we have achieved in these years, including the purchase of our current Men in 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 Storeroom's future for the benefit of the Isle of Wight community.

Previously Storeroom ran a Skills Gap training project from January 2014 to April 2018, sadly, this closed due to insufficient funding. Grant funding was received from many generous funders both on and off the Isle of Wight, which helped Storeroom2010 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.



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

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

