

Somerset

Village

Agents

PRESS RELEASE



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Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group



## New Community Centre opens just in time for Christmas

A festive opening for a new Day Centre called 'Dulverton and Brushford Pastimes Club' was held at Hanover Court Dulverton last Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, for both residents of Hanover and for local residents to attend.

The opening day offered a morning session with Movement to Music, followed by a delicious three course Christmas lunch and then in the afternoon the children from Dulverton First School came to entertain the guests with carols and music. This was followed by a surprise visit from Father Christmas who kindly gave out lots of presents to both school children and guests.

Community Council for Somerset Village Agent Caroline Harding has been supporting Hanover Court Manager Mike Stables over the past few months to re-open a community day centre for Dulverton residents and neighbouring parishes. The day centre is open every Friday from 10am to 3pm to the community; it offers a morning Movement to Music session, three course lunch, guest speakers, crafts and bingo.

Caroline Harding said: "It is such an achievement to have this day centre available to the community and I am so impressed with the range of activities Hanover Court is offering."

Somerset Village Agents live and work in their local area, making them perfectly placed to support groups to set up, grow and flourish. Village Agents also provide support for individuals to improve the quality of life of people living in rural areas.

If anyone is interested in attending the Friends of Hanover Court day centre which is held every Friday, or is interested in volunteering at the day centre please contact either Mike Stables of Hanover Court on 01398 324076 or Caroline Harding, Village Agent on 07908 160733.

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Editors notes:

The Somerset Village Agent project is a project of CCS and now covers half of the county. The project uses paid, part time, highly trained individuals living in the parish 'clusters' they support. They help to bridge the gap between isolated, excluded, vulnerable and lonely individuals and statutory and/or voluntary organisations which offer specific solutions to identified needs.

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Village Agents offer a signposting and referral service with a difference

Village Agents work with all ages dealing with a wide variety of issues, although a considerable number of their clients are elderly and involves social care issues. Helping to solve these problems may, ultimately, help the elderly to remain living independently for longer. Village Agents also have the role of helping to shape services by feeding back to the appropriate body information about gaps in service e.g. transport provision. They can also motivate and support a community to respond to a local need by working together to address issues e.g. by helping them to set up a coffee morning for a group of lonely people or start a volunteer car scheme.

CCS supports people who live and work in Somerset communities. We do this through a range of diverse projects which bring together people who care about local community life in Somerset. We focus our energy on helping you and your community.

See [our work](#) to see what projects are running across Somerset.