Outlook

May Community Bulletin

From Sarah Stamford <communitydev@alstonmoorpartnership.co.uk>
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To communitydev@alstonmoorpartnership.co.uk <communitydev@alstonmoorpartnership.co.uk>

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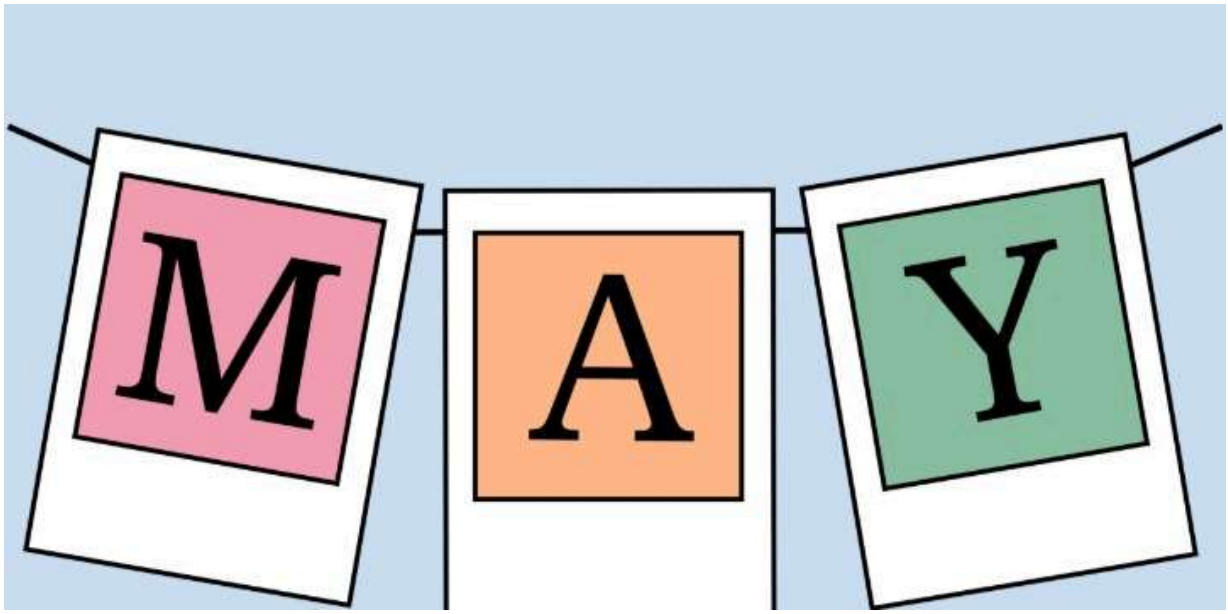


Welcome to the May Community Bulletin

It's peak season for community activity now, with lots of grant funds open for applications, the tourist season well underway, and the start of Alston Moor's big outdoor events calendar in Fairhill's May Fair.

Whatever your and your group's plans are for this summer, I wish you every success!

As always, please get in touch if I can support them in any way.

Sarah

Funding Focus

Writing an Application?

With funding bids flying thick and fast this time of year, here's a few tips to make sure your application's at it's best:

1) Make it clear how your project meets the funder's priorities. This may mean taking care to highlight specific aspects of the project in your wording, such as education or accessibility.

2) Make sure you read the guidelines, stick to word counts, and actually answer the questions asked. They receive many more applications than they need, so breaking these rules could rule you straight out.



3) Have any additional documents in place before you start. If they want your group to have an environmental policy for example, or 3 months of accounts, this needs to be ready, as they may want it uploaded with your application.



Don't Be Afraid to Call!

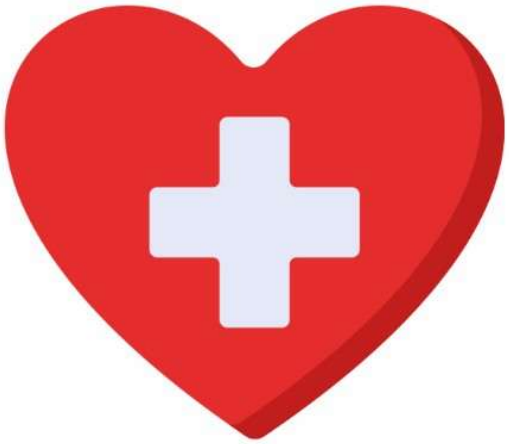
Many funders, especially our smaller local ones, have staff who are willing to chat to you about your application, and help you through any tricky bits. This won't damage your chances - if anything, it will give you a chance to understand better what they want, and see how your project matches up. If your chosen funder has something along the lines of "Call to talk to us about your application." on their website - do it!

It could really help.

Volunteers? Ideas!

Health Benefits

It's not always easy keeping your show on the road, so make your group feel good with the following: 'Did You Know…?'
There's a solid body of research showing that volunteering has real, measurable health benefits, both mental and physical, such as:
-Lower levels of stress, anxiety & depression.
-Higher levels of life satisfaction & happiness.
-Improved mobility in older adults.
-Lower risk of early death.
-Maintaining cognitive function as you age.
So well done you!





Team Up for Success

One way to increase your volunteer numbers for a particular project, is to team up with another community group. Use the directory to find one aligned with your interests, and see if they want to run a class, event, exhibition or fundraising session together. You could both benefit from each others' perspective, experience, and extra volunteers!

Why Not Try...

…Making Your Stall Interactive?

If you're having a stall at a community market, fair, event or show, think about how you can draw people to you, and get them to linger. One way is by having something interactive for them to do: it could be a video to watch, a kids' game, a competition or raffle, or a 'give your

view' pinboard. This will make your stall much more memorable, and get more people interested in what you're up to.





…Using an Unexpected Space?

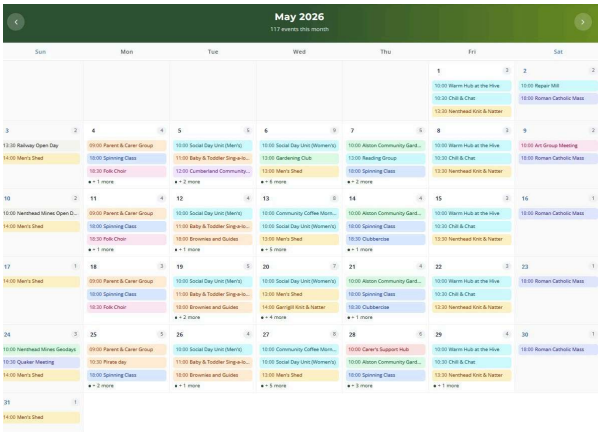
Move your activity somewhere new, and unusual. Why not try a pop-up stall in a car parking space, a mini concert in a shop, a class in a field, or an exhibition at the pub? The element of surprise could get you that attention and engagement you need, and show off your work to a whole new audience. (Just remember to get permission from the space's owner first!)

Community Corner

Online Events Calendar

We now have an online version of the old date-claiming book: a community events calendar!

Use the link below to have a look at What's On across the Moor this month. You can also add your own events, club meetings or classes via the 'Submit an Event' button. Alternatively, email me the details, and I'll add it for you.



Calendar Link



May Fair - 25/05/25

Monday 25th May sees the return of Fairhill's annual May Fair. It's sure to be another fun-filled day with music, craft stalls, kids' activities, food and drink. Some other community groups will be there too, including the PTFA who are starting to sell ducks for their annual Duck Race. All in all a great excuse to get out for the day - whatever the weather - and celebrate the fantastic work the Fairhill group do for Alston Moor.

You're receiving this email because this is my main contact address for the community group(s) that you support.
If you'd prefer these bulletins to go to a different or additional email address, please let me know!

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