



September – December 2025

Issue 37



Connecting people with
learning disabilities in Dorset



Who are People First Dorset (PFD)?

We are a charity led and run by people with learning disabilities, with support from staff and volunteers.

Important Information



Inside you will find information about our meetings and events from September to December 2025.



If you need support at our events, you must bring someone to support you.



If you would like to support our events and make a voluntary contribution, we will have a 'donation subs' box at events.

Important Information



Sponsored Walk

Don't forget we have our sponsored walk on **Saturday 13th September 2025**. Meet at 1030am at **Weymouth Pavillion**. We will walk to Greenhill Gardens and back. We aim to finish at 1pm.

Wear bright, bold, People First Dorset colours.

If you would like a sponsorship form, please get in touch.



Big Night Out with Suttles

We know you all miss the Big Night Out with Suttles. There won't be an event this year but we are working hard to make sure there is one in the new Year so keep an eye out for more information!



Online Events

Please let us know if you would like to join our online events, so we can send you the Zoom link.

Our contact details are on the back of the booklet.

Remembering Ruth



With much sadness we want to share the news that our fabulous Trustee, Ruth, has died.

Some of you knew Ruth, and will know she was a lovely, kind and clever person. She volunteered her accountancy skills, helping make sure our charity money is managed properly, in turn helping us keep running the activities you love.

Ruth wanted to make things better for people with learning disabilities. She always had time to listen. Ruth was a wonderful person and a great friend to many of us.



We are so grateful to Ruth, for all her hard work, helping us make People First Dorset a better place. Thank you Ruth. We miss you.

Behind the scenes at People First Dorset (PFD)

Welcome to 'behind the scenes at PFD'! Here Kerry shares some things you may not know about our work.



Meetings we Attend

Did you know? We don't only run events at PFD. We also go to meetings with other organisations. We do this to make sure your voice is shared with decision makers (e.g. Dorset Council, NHS etc.) so they know what is happening for people with a learning disability in Dorset and what could be improved.

As part of my job, I co-chair different meetings in Dorset. One of these meetings is the Health Action Group. Which makes sure people get access to good healthcare. For example, yellow health books, annual health checks and screenings.

MAKE

In the last Connect, you would have seen that the PFD team went to the Houses of Parliament. Since then



Emily and myself, have continued this work on showcasing the impact of advocacy organisations under a new group called MAKE. We have met with Liam Conlon MP and written a letter to the Government about their reform bill. We will be meeting Liam and other MPs in London later this year.

Future Planning

It's important our events continue to be run and led by you, our members. If you ever have suggestions or recommendations about our events and the work we do, please let us know. You can speak to staff and the Management Committee at events; or contact the office.

I hope you liked this section? Let us know. Stay updated by reading our weekly Dorset Echo column (on our website under 'News').

September 2025 Events

Don't forget we can't offer support at our events. If you need support, please bring someone to support you.

Friendship Club Events



Dorchester

Date: Tuesday 2nd September

Time: 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Where: Great Field, Poundbury

Activity: Picnic and games



Weymouth

Date: Thursday 11th September

Time: 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Where: Centenary Club, Weymouth

Activity: Disco



Dorchester

Date: Tuesday 16th September

Time: 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Where: SWRAC, Roman Road, Dorchester
DT2 9SL (was Whitfield Centre)

Activity: Picnic and games



Weymouth

Date: Tuesday 23rd September

Time: 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Where: Redlands, Weymouth

Activity: Cricket

September 2025 Events

Don't forget we can't offer support at our events. If you need support, please bring someone to support you.

Speaking Up Events



Weymouth

Date: Tuesday 2nd September

Time: 11.00am – 12.30pm

Where: Bethany Hall, Weymouth



Dorchester

Date: Wednesday 10th September

Time: 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Where: United Church, Dorchester



Swanage

Date: Monday 15th September

Time: 11.00am – 12.00pm

Where: Durlston Country Park, Swanage

Online Events



Please see page 2 on how to sign up to our online events.

Date: Monday 8th September

Time: 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Activity: AI and bingo



Date: Monday 22nd September

Time: 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Activity: 'What Matters' chat and bingo

October 2025 Events

Don't forget we can't offer support at our events. If you need support, please bring someone to support you.

Friendship Club Events



Dorchester

Date: Tuesday 7th October

Time: 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Where: The Junction, Dorchester

Activity: Meal and quiz



Weymouth

Date: Thursday 16th October

Time: 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Where: Centenary Club, Weymouth

Activity: Disco



Dorchester

Date: Tuesday 21st October

Time: 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Where: Walnut Grove, Dorchester

Activity: Meal and bingo



Weymouth

Date: Tuesday 28th October

Time: 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Where: Famous Old Spa, Weymouth

Activity: Meal and bingo

October 2025 Events

Don't forget we can't offer support at our events. If you need support, please bring someone to support you.

Speaking Up Events



Weymouth

Date: Tuesday 7th October

Time: 11.00am – 12.30pm

Where: Bethany Hall, Weymouth



Dorchester

Date: Wednesday 8th October

Time: 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Where: United Church, Dorchester



Blandford

Date: Wednesday 15th October

Time: 10.30am – 11.30am

Where: Blandford Connect, Blandford

Online Events



Please see page 2 on how to sign up to our online events.

Date: Monday 13th October

Time: 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Activity: Wellbeing and bingo



Date: Monday 27th October

Time: 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Activity: 'What Matters' chat and bingo

November 2025 Events

Don't forget we can't offer support at our events. If you need support, please bring someone to support you.

Friendship Club Events



Dorchester

Date: Tuesday 4th November

Time: 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Where: Vivo Lounge, Dorchester

Activity: Meal and quiz



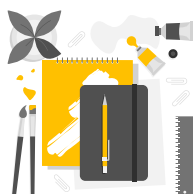
Weymouth

Date: Thursday 13th November

Time: 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Where: Centenary Club, Weymouth

Activity: Disco



Dorchester

Date: Tuesday 18th November

Time: 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Where: Brewhouse, Dorchester

Activity: Meal and art



Weymouth

Date: Tuesday 25th November

Time: 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Where: Brewers Fayre, Weymouth

Activity: Meal and quiz

November 2025 Events

Don't forget we can't offer support at our events. If you need support, please bring someone to support you.

Speaking Up Events



Weymouth

Date: Tuesday 4th November

Time: 11.00am – 12.30pm

Where: Bethany Hall, Weymouth



Dorchester

Date: Wednesday 12th November

Time: 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Where: United Church, Dorchester



Ferndown

Date: Wednesday 19th November

Time: 10.00am – 11.00am

Where: Ferndown Library, Ferndown

Online Events



Please see page 2 on how to sign up to our online events.

Date: Monday 10th November

Time: 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Activity: Digital crime and bingo



Date: Monday 24th November

Time: 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Activity: 'What Matters' chat and bingo

December 2025 Events

Don't forget we can't offer support at our events. If you need support, please bring someone to support you.

Friendship Club Events



Weymouth

Date: Thursday 11th December

Time: 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Where: Centenary Club, Weymouth

Activity: Christmas Disco



Dorchester

Date: Tuesday 16th December

Time: 6.30pm – 9.00pm

Where: The Junction, Dorchester

Activity: Christmas meal and disco

You must book for this event, we will have prices and meal choices at the end of September.

Speaking Up Events



Weymouth

Date: Tuesday 2nd December

Time: 11.00am – 12.30pm

Where: Bethany Hall, Weymouth



Dorchester

Date: Wednesday 10th December

Time: 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Where: United Church, Dorchester

December 2025 Events

Don't forget we can't offer support at our events. If you need support, please bring someone to support you.

Online Events



Please see page 2 on how to sign up to our online events.

Date: Monday 8th December

Time: 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Activity: Managing money and bingo



Date: Monday 22nd September

Time: 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Activity: Christmas bingo

A BIG Thank You



Thank you to everyone who continues support us whether you are a funder, volunteer, or have given a donation. Every person and every penny makes a difference, please know it is appreciated.

If you ever want to see what we do firsthand, you are welcome to come along to our events.

For more information see:

www.peoplefirstdorset.org.uk

Call: 01305 257600

Email: office@peoplefirstdorset.org.uk

Write:

**People First Dorset
Unit 2 Herringston Barn,
Dorchester, DT2 9PU.**

