

SOUP! – How it works

SOUP! is a powerful tool to start conversations, enjoy yourself, make new contacts and improve where you live.

At each SOUP! lunch there are four presentations on local Wells projects. These range from charities, culture, regeneration, community, social justice, social enterprise, education, to technology and more.

Each presenter has four minutes to share their idea, showing how it will benefit the Wells community. No PowerPoint or other technology is allowed, but passion is welcome! Audience members can ask each presenter up to four questions about their project.

After the presentations, the audience is encouraged to discuss and debate before voting. They then vote on which project they think will benefit Wells and the surrounding area the most. Whichever presenter gets the most votes wins half of the money collected at the door, to support their project going forward. This can be as much as £350, including match-funding by sponsorship from a local business. The runners-up share the other half. So, all four go away with new funds but most importantly have been given a platform to spread their word!

The winning good cause is invited back to a future SOUP! to share what has been achieved due to the funding and the impact SOUP! has had.

SOUP! Support

Wells SOUP! is supported by Waitrose, Morrison's, Burns the Bread, Santé Wine Imports, Wells Blue School – all of whom provide the food and beverage – and Mickey in the Market the flowers for the tables.

We are also extremely grateful to the companies who have 'match funded'/sponsored SOUP!:

Basil Powell Shoes, Belleview B&B, Bowleys Garage, Burns the Bread, Charlie Bigham's, Changing Rooms, Chubb Bulleid, DH James, Greenslade Taylor Hunt, Lodestone Estate Agents, Old Mill Accountants, Pilgrim Financial, Probusiness Accountants, Protec, RMW Knight Surveyors, Somerset Community Foundation, Studley Jewellers, Swan Hotel, The Laundry, Twenty One Café & Kichen, Wells Health Practitioners.

Please email soup@wellsindependents.org if you have any queries about SOUP!

SOUP! Funding

Since SOUP! was introduced to Wells, the following 71 causes have received funding:

Connect Youth	Wells Art Contemporary
The Lawrence Centre	Vineyard Food & Drink for the Needy
Safe Systems Consultancy	Headway Somerset Performers
Counsellors Collective	Somerset & Wessex Eating Disorder Association
Beanstalk	Project Linus
Somerset Guild of Craftsmen	GlastonburyFM
YMCA Mendip	Wells Air Cadets
Strawberry Line East	City of Wells Dementia Action Alliance
Mothers Union	Somerset Area Bereavement Care
Parkinson's UK	Count Me In
TS5C	Somerton & Wells Guide Dogs for the Blind
City of Wells Almshouses	Friends of Mendip Hospital Cemetery
Somerset Sight	Cruse Bereavement Centre
Wells Little Theatre	Wells Home Library Centre
Wells Macular Group	Wells Bipolar Support Group
Wells City Carnival	Wells City Band
Freewheelers 'Blood Bikes'	Connect Centre Outreach
Wells Swimming Club	Mid-Somerset Self Help Tinnitus Group
Wells Museum	Wells Community Chernobyl Link
Mendip MS Group	Somerset Levels Carriage Riding for the Disabled
Horrington Cricket Club	Wells in Mosaic
MIND in Somerset	STAR (Somerset Trust for Arts & Recreation)
Wells Millennium Tapestry	Wells MacMillan Cancer Support
City of Wells Lions Club	Children's Hospice South West
Heads Up	Wells Art Practice
Marie Curie	Society of Disabled Artists
Sustainable Wells	Hope for Tomorrow
Wells Beat Diabetes	Alzheimer's Society
PromiseWorks	Stoma Heroes
Ageing Well (Age UK Wells)	Blue School Plastic Free Eco Group
We Hear You	Friends of Wells Cathedral
Wells St John Ambulance	Somerset Prostate Cancer Support Association
Children's World	Mendip Fibromyalgia Support Group
Wells Neighbourhood Watch	

How to apply to present at Wells SOUP!

SOUP! is a great way to raise money, tell people about your work, build community support and get connections to local resources that can help you carry out your project.

Once again, we are putting out an open call for groups from right across Wells and the local area to present at SOUP! This call is open to all charities, not for profit organisations, Community Interest Companies, social enterprises and individuals. The only condition is that any money raised is spent in Wells or the immediate surrounding area. We don't need a massive amount of information, just:

The name of your group	
What type of Group it is (charity or other organisation)	
The purpose of the group	
How you would you use the money from SOUP!	
Contact name	
E-mail address	
Postal address	
Phone number	
Web address	

Faith groups can apply for community projects but not to promote their beliefs. Organisations that are not selected to present and those that do not win the top award on the day will still be eligible for selection at future Wells SOUPs.

You can apply to present at Wells SOUP! by writing to soup@wellsindependents.org

For details about future SOUP! dates, please refer to the SOUP! page on www.wellsindependents.org