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Help project scoop the £38k windfall and make their day

BY BODHI MAIA

email somersetlivenews@nngad.co.uk

A PROJECT in Frome has been shortlisted as one of the most promising projects in the South West, and has a chance of winning £38,000.

Every year, ITV and Big Lottery team up to showcase and support community projects

across the UK.

Hundreds of organisations apply, and only seven from each region get filmed and featured in the ITV People's Pro-

This year, The Remakery: Frome has been chosen, and with enough votes, it could secure a substantial amount of money to benefit the town.

If successful, The Remakery: Frome will partner with six of the well-established local community groups to run 113 days of community activities in The Remakery – the community DIY and repair workshop at the Welsh Mill Hub.

Lisa Hawes, a co-ordinator of The Remakery Frome project, said: "This is a great opportunity for us to build on the wonderful work that is already happening in our com-

"Frome is an extraordinary town and we hope that local people will get behind us.

With their help, we can

secure funding to build deeper connections between some of our most-loved community groups and do more of what makes this town so special.'

The project will run 113 days community activities including:

■ Edventure: Frome will be able to run three 'MAKE' courses. Unemployed young adults learn craft, business and team skills on this threeweek course during which they design and hand-make ethical products and sell them the Frome Independent Market.

- Frome Men's Shed (which is currently full to bursting) will be able to double its capacity and run an extra 50 weekly sessions for older people. Shedders come together to make and mend things for themselves, each other and our community.
- The Furniture Bank at Fair Frome will be able to collect donations of furniture in need of repair/upcycling (which they currently have to refuse). Together, we'll run workshops to restore them so that they can be given to local families in need of items to create a home.
- SHARE a Library of Things

Frome is an extraordinary town and we hope that local people will get behind us

will be able run free monthly repair and upcycle events where everyone from our community will be welcome to bring along their broken items (electricals, clothes, bikes, furniture, toys etc) and our fixers will help get them back in good

- Open Story Tellers will be able to run workshops for people with learning difficulties to build outdoor fur-niture from wood - working as part of a team to develop transferable work skills and build confidence in a safe, supportive environment.
- Coder Dojo Frome will be able to run free workshops to support children to learn to code in an informal, creative and social environment.

Patrick Abrahams, of Frome Shed, said: "Please vote for this project-it could benefit a huge range of people in Frome and the surrounding area.

"The Frome Shedders are delighted to work with the five other groups on this project, in a way typical of the community of Frome.

"We hope the project gets enough votes to help more men and women from Frome to lead healthier, more active lives, build a stronger community, and help Frome people progress.

Joe Ferns, UK funding director of the Big Lottery Fund, said: "As the largest funder of community activity in the UK. we are proud to support grassroots groups that are using the vision, determination and drive of local people to strengthen communities.

"The People's Projects showcases the best of these and is a chance for you to have your say on how National Lottery funding can benefit your local community."

The Remakery: Frome project is currently being showcased on ITV regional news at

Voting can be done online at www.thepeoplespro-jects.org.uk, or by free postal vote by visiting Frome Wholefoods or the SHARE Shop.

Online voting closes at midday on Monday, April 30.

Alternatively, the last date to post your vote is Wednesday, April 25.

The project team has dis-tributed postcards around town which can be filled in and posted with no required.

Frome Wholefoods and The SHARE Shop have a stock of postcards and are happy to collect and post your completed

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