

Our Vision

Self empowered people in strong, healthy communities.



Our Values

Recognising people as assets Because people themselves are the real wealth of society.	Redefining 'work' Recognising all that people do to raise families, look after those who are frail and vulnerable and maintain healthy communities can be called 'work' and has value.	Promoting reciprocity (giving & receiving) Because it builds trust between people and fosters mutual respect. Someone receiving support is not just a consumer, but also a co-producer.	Supporting the core economy Through the development of relationships within the community, we will support the general health and well being of individuals. Thus contributing to the ability of individuals to support themselves and others without the need for clinical intervention.	Building social networks Because people's physical and mental well-being depends on strong, enduring relationships.
--	--	--	---	---

Our Aims

1 To support the development of our communities through the model of timebanking. Increasing community cohesion, improving health & wellbeing, and contributing to the reduction of health inequalities.	2 To support, enhance and promote the core economy, by creating effective partnerships and redefining resources.	3 To ensure that all timebanks are strong, vibrant, well supported and reflect the strengths and skills of all involved.	4 To develop a framework to monitor and evaluate our work, measuring the impact of social capital, changes in health and wellbeing and effectiveness of co-production.
--	--	--	--

Come and join the conversation...

"Is it OK if I can only give my time occasionally?"

Of course.
We appreciate that everyones situation is different. The beauty of timebanking is it's flexibility – just get in touch and we can have a chat about what works for you.

"Can my business get involved with timebanking?"

Absolutely.
We have built some fantastic relationships with all sorts of business and organisations over the years. Give us a call to discuss the possibilities...

"Can you make use of my lawn mower?"

Yes!
A loan or donation of equipment and other assets (meeting rooms etc) is always welcome. If you think you might have something useful, get in touch!

Call us and speak to one of the team: 01452 415900
Visit our website: www.fairshares.org.uk
Email us at: time@fairshares.org.uk

Fair Shares
community time banks

Designed by www.nimble-design.co.uk

- Fair shares turns -

1998 **18** 2016

Celebrating the journey so far

A colorful illustration of a birthday celebration. In the center is a large yellow rectangular cake with many lit candles. To the left is a green bottle and a glass of blue liquid. To the right is another green bottle and a glass of blue liquid. There are also some party hats and streamers scattered around the cake.

Fair Shares
community time banks

T 01452 415 900
E time@fairshares.org.uk
W fairshares.org.uk



Mark Gale, Chair

When we reach the ripe old age of 18 we are supposed to become adults so it is with great pleasure that I am writing to say Fair Shares is now 18 years old and is definitely now a grown up charity which has established its own unique character and role in Gloucestershire. Our support for timebanking is unique in the county and we are now the oldest timebank in Europe.

When the father of UK timebanking, Martin Simon, introduced me and others to the idea of timebanking 20 years ago, we recognised it as a simple but effective way to connect people and help build stronger neighbourhoods. That year I was lucky enough to visit the USA and find out more about timebanking from participants in Grace Hill, St Louis and in Chicago. The principles of timebanking have never changed but the numbers of people helping each other through timebanks has increased every year since then.

Every single participant has made a contribution and every exchange is a cause for celebration.



Martin Simon, Patron

Fair Shares helps people to feel good about themselves and to commit to the places where they live. People share their skills, their care and their inventiveness and by so doing restore a culture of community.

Community building is unpredictable and depends on collective action. There is no linear pathway that, if followed will deliver a cohesive, equal, respectful community. It is clear to us, however, that the first step is to reconnect people, help them deepen their relationships and to rebuild trust.

Timebanking does all of this very well and is a tool that is being widely used to prepare the ground for successful 'person-centred-care', 'community empowerment' and all forms of 'co-production'. It is an asset based approach and it recognises that community building can only be done by the people who live in the community, those who call the place home.

When a community discovers what it cares about, what skills and connections are already there then social action becomes a possibility and active citizenship a reality. There is no other more powerful force for social change.

Over the years Fair Shares has shown us that there appears to be no limit to the skills, talents, resources and ingenuity of the people in any community.

When unused talents and strengths are matched with unmet needs we are reinventing a 'social commons', a shared wealth that is owned by no-one and enjoyed by the many.



Jez Spencer, CEO

We are in an era where we face many financial challenges. There will never be enough money, but we can recognise and redefine the resources that are available in abundance: the 'in-kind' contributions that support communities every day. It's these contributions we need to invest in if we are to truly engage in co-production and community development. Empowering people to define themselves as co-producers, as part of a workforce, gives people a status and ability to get involved and contribute.

It can be much easier to offer help than to ask for it return. But we must foster a culture of reciprocity – giving and receiving – in order to create the kind of world we all want to live in. And we need everyone's engagement, you, your family and your community. Because, even when we don't have the money, when we come together, we do have the time.

"It's time to recognise and redefine our resources."

