



## 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations

**Did you know that Durham Community Action recently celebrated a milestone birthday, marking 90 years of working with organisations and communities across County Durham?**

Since 1935, we have had the privilege of seeing the voluntary and community sector landscape evolve through many successes and challenges. From our role offering social support in the 1930s to reflecting the growing importance of the rural agenda in the 80s, through the years Durham Community Action has continued to make a difference to community organisations in County Durham.

People are essential to a thriving voluntary sector in County Durham, and so it was wonderful to see over one hundred friends and colleagues gather at Ushaw Historic House and Gardens to celebrate with us, enjoying a selection of [videos](#) from groups that have received support from DCA and browsing our [photo archive](#).

We spoke to a variety of community organisations with whom we have worked closely, such as Just for Women, a mental health support centre in Stanley, who said:

“DCA have been part of our journey since we started 15 years ago. Their support has been absolutely fantastic. From the training workshops, governance or funding, they are always at the end of the phone. We couldn’t do without Durham Community Action.”

Additionally, Blackhall Community Centre highlighted the importance of our support:

“The difference of having DCA in our world means we are at the top end of our game. Our governance is great, we have fantastic volunteers, and we’re constantly updated with funding opportunities. We have recently gone through a charity restructure; DCA are always there either as a shoulder to cry on or a shoulder to just say you’re doing all right and everything is absolutely fine.”

**[You can listen to our 90th birthday podcast to hear more from community organisations in County Durham here](#)**

We exist to help those working to support their communities by making sure voluntary and community organisations are recognised for the work they undertake and the impact they have in communities and we hope to continue for another 90 years!