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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

**ISLAND GROUPS CELEBRATING £10,000
WINDFALL FROM COMIC RELIEF**

Two Island groups will receive a share of more than £10,000 following the latest round of Comic Relief grants.

The Island Youth Water Activities Centre in Cowes received over £9,000 to part fund a programme targeting youngsters who are at risk of offending or have offended. It includes training in water sports such as canoeing, sailing and power boating.

The highly successful scheme has seen a number of students voluntarily continuing work experience at the Centre, while others have gone on to take further training and been successful in getting employment in the marine industry. The programme was previously supported for the past 5 years through the High Sheriff's Trust.

“The discipline and teamwork which these youngsters have learnt at IYWAC has had a valuable effect on their readiness to engage with teachers and others in their schools” says Mike Acton from IYWAC. “This grant from Comic Relief will go towards funding twice weekly drop in sessions as well as two day yachting trips and two regattas to celebrate their achievements.”

The Comic Relief grant programme is managed locally by the Isle of Wight Community Fund, who continue to be one of the leading funding providers for community and voluntary groups on the Island.



The second award of over £1,000 was given to Frontline. The organisation, which this year celebrates its 20th anniversary, provides debt advice and assistance to individuals who are struggling with debt and often at risk from losing their homes.

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Notes to Editor

IWCF Info

The Isle of Wight Community Fund has been established by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation and the Isle of Wight Charitable Trust. IWCF raises funds and distributes grants across the Island for the benefit of local communities and works to encourage local giving for local needs.

HIWCF Info

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation (HIWCF) is an independent charitable trust that manages charitable giving on behalf of individuals, businesses and other trusts; distributes small grants to voluntary and community groups and organisations across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and promotes the benefits of “Investing in our local Community”.

HIWCF is the Local Funder for the Grassroots Grants programme which is funded by the office of the Third Sector and delivered by the Community Development Foundation.