



Date: 23rd September 2020

PRESS RELEASE – Plymouth Dads Project launches with Apple Pressing

An exciting new initiative aimed at fathers, grandfathers, uncles, male carers and all father figures and their children is launching on 3rd October. The Plymouth Dads Project is for fathers in Plymouth and the surrounding area who want to have fun with their children, both boys and girls, of all ages.

Project Co-ordinator and founder of The Dangerous Dads Network, Ian Blackwell, explains: 'We have been fortunate in securing a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund to run two Saturday dads' group events in Plymouth each month, as well as 'Conversation Cafés' for men on Tuesday evenings. These will all be free events'.

'The Saturday events are open to all dads and male carers and we have planned some great activities, such as apple pressing, Forest School fun with fire-lighting and campfire cooking, making Christmas presents and lots more. All dads can attend with their children, both daughters and sons. Over the years our events have really caught the imagination with families, carers and partners. Events are hugely popular with dads from all walks of life attending to have a few hours of fun with their children and to make best use of the amazing green spaces on offer in Plymouth. Due to COVID restrictions, we do need people to book first. We are also ensuring all our activities are COVID-secure and we will be following the latest guidance'.

'We are really pleased to launch our activities in Plymouth on Saturday 3rd October, starting at 1pm, with an apple pressing and cider-making events at the Hams Wood orchard, PL2 2HP. This is for dads with children aged 5 and over. Then on Saturday 10th October, starting at 2pm, we are running an 'autumn leaves' session at Just Imagine PL6 5DS for dads with children aged 5 and under. Please book by emailing info@dangerousdads.org.uk or phone 07934 739098'.

'We are also hosting Conversation Cafés for men once a month on a Tuesday evenings. These are for dads to come and meet other dads, to talk about the challenges and rewards of being a father, and to get any support or guidance they might need from professional staff. There will also be pizza. The Conversation Cafés are free to attend, but again people will need to book in advance. The first Café event is Tuesday 20th October 7-8pm at Tamar Folk Children's Centre, at Victoria Road Primary School PL5 1RH.'

'Just to remind people, the events will be free and run by experienced workshop leaders. We will have COVID measures in place to keep everyone safe'.

All further info contact Ian or Chloe:

info@dangerousdads.org.uk

www.dangerousdads.org.uk

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Notes to editors:

Dangerous Dads CIC is setting up the Plymouth Dads Project following a funding award from Big Lottery Community Fund. The Plymouth Dads Project is a small, pilot project in the city of Plymouth during 2020-2021 to support dads/ male carers and their families. In summary we want to:

- run 20-25 fun events for dads and their children
- set up monthly facilitated *Conversation Cafés* for dads to talk about the challenges they experience of being a dad
- pull together resources so that dads have easy access to support and advice to help them
- work with partners to co-ordinate resources, services and information so that families have easy access to resources

The Project is managed by Dangerous Dads CIC, a social enterprise based in South Devon. Dangerous Dads CIC (Reg: 12322946) has been running events for fathers/ male carers and their children in Devon (including Plymouth) since 2007 in partnership with a range of local organisations, including Children's Centres, pre-school settings, Housing Associations and community groups. www.dangerousdads.org.uk

Dangerous Dads CIC is managed by an independent Board of Directors. The Co-ordinator is Ian Blackwell and the Project Development Manager is Chloe Tingle.