

NEWS FROM HASTINGS VOLUNTARY ACTION

New Benefits for HVA Members

In the last edition we informed our members that we were negotiating with local businesses to offer our members reduced fees and services.

Over the course of the next few months you will be hearing about these services which entitle you to claim a reduced fee or access training workshops to update your knowledge. Some of these offers are part of the Transforming Local Infrastructure project in partnership with 3VA, RVA and AiRS.

HVA is pleased to be working in partnership with Michael Foster Solicitors who is offering a reduced rate fee structure for HVA members. Michael will also be hosting a special Employment Law seminar on July 19th at which groups can get information about key changes.

HVA Director Steve Manwaring announced the partnership with Michael Foster as the first of a number of initiatives designed to enable members to access expert services at reduced rates.

“Anyone who employs staff needs to keep up to date with Employment Law and we are delighted to be working with Michael to host a free seminar at which groups can find out about key legal changes which will affect them.”

To book your place on the seminar in Employment Law please use the following link to our main training courses page: <http://digbig.com/5bgfjn>

If you are unable to use the internet, you can book by ringing us on 01424 444010 in normal office hours

In the next edition we will be announcing another partnership arrangement through which HVA members can obtain services at reduced cost.

To join HVA or renew your membership, contact John Humphries on 01424 444010 or visit:

<http://digbig.com/5bgfkt>

Volunteers Week 2012



As part of Volunteer Centre East Sussex, Rose Austen from HVA helped to organise an event on Thursday 7th June in Priory Meadow Shopping Centre to promote volunteering and to recruit new volunteers, together with Su Reece from VCES and the Neighbourhood Enablers team.

Twelve different voluntary organisations attended and despite the intermittently awful weather there was quite a lot of interest from the public and a number of organisations reported potential new volunteers.

You can find out more about how Volunteer Centre East Sussex supports Hastings organisations working with volunteers by going to the following page on the HVA website:

<http://digbig.com/5bgfjp>

or by talking to Rose Austen, who works 10am – 2.30pm, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays on 01424 444010, or Su Reece, who is focussing on the Hollington and Ore areas, on 01424 220769.

Editorial dates:

Next copy deadline – 24th August
Paper inserts deadline – 5th September

Copy to: John Humphries

Email: infoworker@hastingsvoluntaryaction.org

Newsletter Distribution dates:

Email distribution – 4th September

Postal distribution – 7th September

Hastings Voluntary Action Website:

www.hastingsvoluntaryaction.org

Volunteer Centre East Sussex Receives National Award

An initiative which champions volunteering across the county has recently been accredited for its work in supporting local people and voluntary groups to help their communities and other good causes.



Volunteer Centre East Sussex supports people to find volunteering opportunities in their local community by matching them with volunteer-involving organisations in need of help.

This week, the Centre announced that it has been awarded the national Volunteer Centre Quality Accreditation in recognition of the quality of its work in growing and developing volunteering activity countywide.

"We are absolutely delighted to have had all our hard work recognised in this way,"

Sarah Hodgetts, Centre Manager said.

"During the last 2 years since we first opened, we have dealt with 4,965 enquiries from local people searching for fulfilling volunteering opportunities, and we have also helped over 500 volunteer-involving groups to meet their needs."

Sarah went on to thank the organisations that have played a key role in helping the Volunteer Centre achieve this award.

"Our particular thanks go to our partner organisations 3VA, HVA and RVA for the positive role that they have played in delivering volunteering support across the county."

"The Quality Accreditation will be in effect for three years and is a wonderful way for us to demonstrate the quality of the services that we are delivering across the East Sussex," Sarah added.

Support to Voluntary & Community Groups

Hastings Community Network met recently with Hastings Borough Council regarding the review of the support that Hastings Borough Council gives to the voluntary and community sector (VCS).

It was agreed at the meeting that HBC hear information about loss of funding streams to local organisations to enable officers to have a better and more up to date picture of funding within the VCS. Hastings Borough Council therefore invites information to be sent to:

regeneration@hastings.gov.uk

outlining any loss of funding streams along with the sorts of impacts this is having on groups and their users / members / clients.

Shaping Our Future

A major consultation exercise has opened which will determine the future of key services at the Conquest hospital. Shaping Our Future is seeking public views about stroke, emergency and higher risk general surgery and emergency and higher risk orthopaedic services. None of the proposals is about Accident and Emergency (A&E) services.

The public consultation runs until Friday 28th September and copies of the key documents can be found at: <http://digbig.com/5bgfjq>

Free Meeting Room Space for New Groups

If you are a new group or in your first year of existence you may be eligible for free room hire at Jackson Hall. HVA have a small amount of funding to support organisations. If you think this applies to you please speak to a member of the HVA team when you book your room. There you are – something for nothing!

Free Stalls for Community and Voluntary Groups at Summer Day@the Park

It's that time of year again where local catering business eat@ hosts the splendid Summer Day@the Park, in Alexandra Park, Hastings. This year the generous organisers are offering free stall spaces to any not for profit organisations.

Details and booking forms are on our website:

<http://digbig.com/5bgfjr>

or you can also call 07423059706 or email Michelle at pickledchillis@hotmail.com

Meet the Community Reps for Academies

Thursday 12th July 2012 11am at HVA

Hastings Community Network were invited to have four seats on the Advisory Groups for St Leonard's Academy and the Hastings Academy (2 on each), to represent wider community issues.

Ron Bennett, Marc Turczanski and Julie Eason from HCN's Executive Group, along with ex Executive Board member Dick Edwards came forward as willing volunteers for these positions.

Dick and Ron sit on the Hastings Academy and Julie and Marc on St Leonards. Last month we all met with Steve Manwaring (Director of HVA) who sits on the joint Academies Board, to discuss the key issues for reps to take forward.

A rough scoping exercise identified the following

areas for concentration: school exclusions, admission policies and practise, vulnerable children and the interrelationship with other secondary schools in the area.

To achieve this, they would welcome a meeting with all those in the community who work with children and young people who attend the Academies, to home in on the issues, intelligence and projects which support children outside of school hours.

We therefore actively invite you to come for a briefing and discussion about the work you do in secondary schools and to share your experiences with community representatives.

RSVP Cheryl@hvauk.org or call 01424 444010.

NEWS FROM ELSEWHERE

Games4Life

Our friends at Public Health have asked us to promote the new Games4life questionnaire, which aims to help and encourage people to increase their levels of physical activity. A personalised activity pack will be available for everyone who completes the questionnaire, and all the data collated will help plan future Public Health work in East Sussex. Do try it out yourself, and promote it to your members if it is relevant.

<http://digbig.com/5bgfne>

East Sussex Space1 Online Resource Directory

The Hastings Community Network has been promoting this new resource and member Roger Sweetman has kindly produced the attached report as to why your organisation should join. Please see the link below to read his report:

<http://digbig.com/5bgfjs>

Where's Our Big Lottery Refund?

A new campaign, set up by Directory for Social Change, to get the Government to give a commitment that lottery money taken for the Olympics will be refunded as soon as the games ends.

<http://digbig.com/5bgfjt>

Giving White Paper

One year on from the publication of the Giving White Paper, in May 2011, the Cabinet Office have published a review of progress made.

The paper sets out the priorities for the next year and

recognises infrastructure organisations (councils for voluntary service) as 'providers of opportunities'

<http://digbig.com/5bgfjx>

Forward Plan of Cabinet Decisions – HBC

The second round of panel decisions from The Foreshore Trust Small Grants Programme go to HBC Cabinet for approval on 2nd July.

Non-Domestic Discretionary Rate Relief Review goes to Cabinet on 9th July.

Approval being sought for submitting bids for Regional Growth Fund, Coastal Communities Fund, Interreg One and Portas Pilot funding also go to Cabinet on 9th July.

<http://digbig.com/5bgfjy>

Forward Plan of Cabinet Decisions – ESCC

Proposed Rationalisation of Children's Centres – Consultation feedback and recommendations goes to ESCC Cabinet on 3rd July.

Consideration of the Carers Strategy takes place as ESCC Cabinet on 17th September.

<http://digbig.com/5bgfka>

Poverty Search Tool

The Church Urban Fund has produced a resource that can provide you with deprivation statistics for your area. Poverty in England gives figures on such issues as poverty, life expectancy, social housing, and ranks them separately, and overall. The information is based on parishes (Hastings parishes are in the 'Chichester Diocese').

<http://digbig.com/5bgfkc>

NEWS FROM GROUPS

RSPCA Bluebell Ridge Cattery Open Day

July 15th 2012 (Sunday) 11.30am – 3pm, the photos for the Annual Calendar Photo Competition will be displayed for judging by all who attend. Bargains can be had from the many stalls selling gifts, books, music, bric-a-brac, toys & games and puzzles to name a few. There will be a large tombola and teddy tombola, also home baked cakes and savouries. Refreshments will also be available. Bluebell Ridge Cat Rehoming Centre, Chowns Hill, Hastings

<http://digbig.com/5bgfkd>

STAR Community Day

STAR will be holding their 5th Community Day on the 25th August 12-4pm on St Andrews Square. Jumble sale, tombola, stalls, Gizmo Kids, refreshments, tallest sunflower competition and more.

All enquiries to Jane 07792469799 or: standrewsneighbourhoodwatch@yahoo.co.uk

Bohemia Counselling Fun Day

The 2012 Bohemia counselling fun day in Alexandra Park is on 25th August 2012 starting 10.00am finishing 5.00pm. Live acts, stalls and space to promote your group's work. (details on stalls etc from Dave or Sue on 01424 722923 or email:

bohemiacounselling@btconnect.com

Walk Week 2012

Senlac Rotary have set up this initiative to encourage voluntary organisations to see if their members, or indeed clients (where appropriate), would enjoy meeting each other socially by going out for a walk during one day in the Autumn. The 'week' takes place between Saturday 22nd September and Sunday 30th September- including 2 weekends includes allows for some flexibility in timing for each group.

Many of our volunteers do not necessarily meet with other volunteers socially and may enjoy the company of others who are like minded. The duration and the route would be decided by each group and we can assist with advice regarding good walking areas, perhaps meet the group and offer the use of maps, and make suggestions regarding timings. This year our Rotary Club will also offer a walk for Bexhill organisations and another for Hastings groups.

We have a flyer and a letter explaining the concept. The response last year was very encouraging. The benefits varied from exercise for some, to pleasant company for others and a feeling of well being for most. If your organisation would like to join in or you wish for more details please phone Peter Cocker on 01424 443646 or Mobile 079 859 859 62 or email swanents@hotmail.com

FUNDRAISING

Sussex Community Foundation

Sussex Community Foundation administers a wide range of different grants.

Their General Grants are up to £5000. Grants are assessed every quarter, and the next deadline is 20 July 2012. These grants will support community groups and registered charities working in Sussex that are seeking to address social and economic disadvantage

and deprivation across Sussex.

Sussex Community Foundation run the Comic Relief small grants and ESCC Seedcorn Fund. Other specific funds include wildlife, environment, community garden and allotments, employability, and women affected by domestic abuse. Their latest list of grants can be found here: <http://digbig.com/5bgfkw>

For more information about any of their grants contact the Sussex Community Foundation on 01273 409440 or visit www.sussexgiving.org.uk

HBC grants for Seniors and Young People

Small grants are available from Hastings Borough Council for projects that benefit older people (over 50 years of age) and young people in Hastings and St Leonards. The deadline for both the Seniors small grants and the Youth cash grants is 5pm on Friday 13 July 2012. You can obtain an application form from the Hastings Information Centre or download it from:

<http://digbig.com/5bgfkf>

Localgiving.com

Sussex Community Foundation are working with local community groups and charities to enable them to access online fundraising through a website called Localgiving.com



Registering on Localgiving.com gives you your own unique web address with webpages you can easily update and receive automated donations and Gift Aid through, so you can receive and manage donations from new and existing supporters.

Localgiving.com also provides guides, promotional tools and a dedicated Help Desk to support your online fundraising activities; there are local opportunities to work with other organisations and fundraising resources in developing your webpage to ensure an ongoing, reliable income source.

Donors are encouraged by the unique opportunity to search for, find and donate to local groups working in their community; and because all groups register through their local Community Foundation, donors can trust that their donation is being used effectively.

A video illustrating how Localgiving.com has benefitted an organisation can be found at:

<http://digbig.com/5bgfke>

Kate Kirkham from Sussex Community Foundation will be running surgeries at Jackson Hall in early August to help local charities and community groups to set up a webpage on Localgiving.com/sussex

For more information about Localgiving.com, contact

Sussex Community Foundation on 01273 409440 or visit:

www.localgiving.com



Global Fashion Show, one of the local activities that has benefitted from Localgiving.com

J Paul Getty Jnr Trust

The Trust's main aim has always been to fund well managed projects which help to relieve poverty, support disadvantaged people, and effect long-term change where help is not readily available from the public or private purse. The Trust also provides funding for the arts, and towards the conservation of the natural and built environment.

In accordance with the expressed wishes of Sir Paul, it is the intention of the trustees to wind down the Trust within the next four years. It is likely that the Trust will close to new applications at the end of 2012.

Main grants can be between £10,000 and £250,000 over a period of 1 to 3 years. Multi-year grants will often be paid as a single instalment. On average it takes approximately 6 months to award a main grant, so please allow plenty of time when making your application.

Small grants of up to £5,000 are also available for smaller charities. Applications are made in exactly the same way as for their main grants programme. However, if you are successful, your grant may be awarded in as little as 3 to 6 months.

They are currently inviting applications from registered charities in the following areas:

- **Reducing Reoffending:** projects aiming to improve the lot of people in prison and smooth the transition for those leaving prison, maximising their chances of successful resettlement
- **Improving Prospects:** projects providing meaningful occupation for young people aged 14-19 to improve their employability and diminish the risk of social exclusion; work to improve the treatment of refugees and asylum seekers

- **Repairing Communities:** projects led from within the community with the aim of integrating different social and ethnic groups in pursuit of worthwhile goals
- **Repairing Lives:** projects making a lasting impact on the lives of people with substance misuse problems; projects helping people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- **Preserving Heritage:** conserving or restoring buildings and landscapes which are of national value and accessible to the public; saving from export art and manuscripts of national importance; developing conservation skills, especially among disadvantaged groups
- **Sustaining the Arts:** nurturing and developing artistic endeavour of the highest quality

Applications made via the online form on the website www.jpgettytrust.org.uk

TRAINING

Employment Law Seminar

July 19th 12noon – 2pm

In partnership with Michael Foster Law, Hastings Voluntary Action is hosting a free seminar on employment law.

This seminar will best suit smaller voluntary and community organisations that don't have access to HR advice, but that employ staff or are likely to employ staff in the near future.

It helps us if you can book through the website on: <http://digbig.com/5bgfkg>

Telephone booking is available during office hours on 01424 444010 if you are unable to use the internet.

3 Free Web Seminars

Following a recent technology survey and research carried out for Children England, Lasa – www.lasa.org.uk – is presenting a series of three free webinars in July. Aimed specifically at CYP (children and young people) organisations, the one-hour webinars, which run from 11.30 to 12.30, will be run by sector experts on a range of topics:

4 July – **Managing ICT** (Miles Maier, Lasa) – take advantage of discount and donation schemes, where to go for impartial technology help, funding and managing ICT.

<http://digbig.com/5bgfkh>

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(Free Web Seminars continued from page 5)

11 July: **Data Protection** (Paul Ticher) – how data protection issues affect organisations working in the CYP sector. Includes an update on the new cookie law.

<http://digbig.com/5bgfkj>

18 July: **Social Media** (Paul Webster) – get the most out of social media tools – like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube – to raise your organisation’s profile, connect, campaign and collaborate.

<http://digbig.com/5bgfkm>

NEWS FROM THE STATUTORY SECTOR

Shaping Hastings – The Development Management Plan

We recently consulted on a document that set out potential development sites and the detailed policies to manage them.

As part of that consultation several new development sites were suggested and we would now like to know your thoughts on these – as well as sites for local protection and other policy issues.

We will be running a focussed six week consultation from 6th July to 17th August 2012.

Consultation documents will be available from 6 July on our website at:

<http://digbig.com/5bgfkp>

or please collect from Planning Reception, Aquila House or Hastings Information Centre.

Documents are also available to view at Hastings Reference Library.

Improving Health and Wellbeing in East Sussex

This consultation is the first step in developing a three-year plan to improve the health and wellbeing of local people at every stage of their lives.



The consultation document is based on detailed studies of local needs. It focuses on the issues that need most attention and where the biggest differences could be made:

- ensuring the best possible start for all babies and young children
- safe, resilient, secure parenting for all children and young people
- reducing the harm caused by alcohol and tobacco
- preventing and reducing falls, accidents and injuries
- enabling people to manage and maintain their mental health and wellbeing
- supporting those with special educational needs, disabilities and long term conditions
- providing high quality and choice of end of life care.

<http://digbig.com/5bgfjm>

Autism Consultation

Adult Social Care is currently consulting on developing an autism commissioning plan for East Sussex. The plan’s outcomes currently include:

- Developing increased understanding of local need – understanding prevalence and commissioning a diagnostic pathway
- promoting awareness and understanding of the needs of people with autism – better targeted information and a training pathway, including a ‘champions’ network
- improved support for young people, adults and carers – considering commissioning supported employment, carers breaks, peer support and an online chat room
- a clear local plan and leadership arrangements – a series of annual workshops chaired by Keith Hinkley to implement the plan.

You can find out more through the following link:

<http://digbig.com/5bgfkn>


We are hosting a workshop on:

3 July, 10am – 1pm at Sovereign Harbour

and are keen to include local views in the development of this plan. You can book a place via:

autism.adults@eastsussex.gov.uk

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Published monthly by  **HVA**
Hastings Voluntary Action

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