



# Wealden View

Newsletter for the Community and Voluntary Sector in Wealden

Provided by the SDCVS/EAVS Wealden Support Partnership

## Community Involvement and Representation – Keeping Wealden in the Loop

**Community groups and voluntary organisations in Wealden district can get involved in a variety of ways in developing sustainable initiatives in their communities.**

Look out for more information, coming soon, on the new Government White Paper on community engagement called “Communities in Control – Real People Real Power”. For information about the Local Strategic Partnership see page 8. In addition there are various countywide groupings and initiatives that local community issues feed into - the East Sussex Strategic Partnership being the most important as it oversees the integrated community strategy and Local Area Agreement.

A new countywide project – The SpeakUp forum- has been developed to help put some of this into context and to publicise what activity is occurring where.

Through the forum you will be able to identify which community representatives sit where and how to contact them if you have issues you would like to share.



**Miriam Miklaszewska - Development Officer, the SpeakUp forum**

Miriam Miklaszewska has joined the SpeakUp forum as a Development Officer. “I am very excited about the project as I believe it will bring a great opportunity for networking and representation in East Sussex. My background is in working with some of the voluntary groups in Eastbourne and I know how much we are affected by the decisions taken at county level and if SpeakUp brings an opportunity for voicing the needs of voluntary and community sector, it would be a great success. I look forward to the county wide SpeakUp launch meeting where there will be a great chance for groups from the whole county to meet, network and get more information about the forum.

Please do contact me if you have any questions about the SpeakUp Forum on 01273 483832 or send me an e-mail: [speakup@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:speakup@southdownscvs.org.uk).

I look forward to working with you and meeting many of you in the near future.”

### Next Wealden Networking Event - Hailsham

The next Networking event for Wealden Voluntary and Community Groups will be held on Thursday 20th November at Hailsham East Community Centre, Vega Close, Hailsham, 1.30-3.30pm. This event is organised by South Downs CVS. Topics will include funding and future plans for the voluntary sector. One of the speakers will be Mary Carruthers from the Sussex Community Foundation and Karl Parks will run a funding workshop. For further information, contact Val Biggs on 01273 483832 or email: [comnet@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:comnet@southdownscvs.org.uk)

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### Enclosures:

SDCVS Training Brochure 08/09  
Charity Law Information Session  
Developing Communities Newsletter

## 2 Outreach

### **Volunteers Wanted in the Crowborough Area**

Although the Crowborough Volunteer Information Point has now closed, a booklet: 'A Selection of Volunteering Opportunities in the Crowborough Area' is now available and details a variety of opportunities which include: helping with animals; ballroom dancing; office work; hospitality and driving.

Booklets are available from Crowborough Town Hall and other outlets in the town as well as from the South Downs CVS Volunteer Centre 01273 470108, email: [volunteer@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@southdownscvs.org.uk). The information can be found on the South Downs CVS website: [www.southdownscvs.org.uk/volunteering/](http://www.southdownscvs.org.uk/volunteering/)



### **Wealden Support Partnership:**

#### **EAVS**

*Chief Executive:* Adam Chugg  
01323 639373

#### *Wealden Community Support*

*Officer:* Karl Parks, Uckfield  
Volunteer Bureau 01825 765136  
[wealdencommunity@btconnect.com](mailto:wealdencommunity@btconnect.com)

*Community Development Co-ordinator:* Marie Tomblin 01323 419788

#### **SDCVS**

*Director:* Debby Matthews  
*Information Officer:* Kim Lanning  
[Kim.Lanning@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:Kim.Lanning@southdownscvs.org.uk)  
*ComNet:* Val Biggs  
[comnet@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:comnet@southdownscvs.org.uk)  
Contact number 01273 483832

#### **Core Funders:**

East Sussex County Council  
East Sussex Downs & Weald PCT  
Wealden District Council

AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT

### **Are you a Sports Club needing funding?**

Karl Parks, Wealden Community Support Officer, has been developing stronger links with local sports clubs across the district in partnership with the Sussex County Sports Partnership and the Wealden Cultural Sports Network. It has been evident for some time that small, grass-roots sports clubs often have significant funding needs, particularly around new equipment and larger capital projects such as replacing or improving facilities. This closer engagement has identified a specific need for up-to-date information on appropriate funding sources, help with writing bids and longer-term financial planning. Several clubs who requested a one-to-one support session have now benefited by accessing money from the East Sussex Downs & Weald PCT small grants scheme, which is administered by EAVS and SDCVS. We are keen to hear from more local clubs so please contact Karl Parks on 01825 765136 or [wealdencommunity@btconnect.com](mailto:wealdencommunity@btconnect.com) to book a meeting or for any general advice or information.

### **Free Funding Surgery for Local Voluntary Groups at Maresfield**

Eastbourne Association of Voluntary Services will be holding a free funding surgery for local voluntary and community groups at the Nutley War Memorial Hall, Maresfield on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October (time tbc). This is an ideal opportunity for groups to discuss their individual funding needs and access up-to-date information on the funding

available to start up a new community project or develop and sustain existing activities. Advice and support will also be available on organisational issues. 20 minute slots are available for groups throughout the afternoon and prior booking is essential. For more information or to book a place, please contact Karl Parks (Wealden Community Support Officer) on 01825 765136.

### **Red Cross back at the heart of Uckfield**

The British Red Cross are moving back to Uckfield High Street following an agreement with Uckfield Volunteer and Information Centre. The Red Cross will have a desk in the Volunteer Centre where people needing Red Cross services can call in, or phone in, and get access to the help they need right away. "As an organisation, we want to be right there when you need us" explains Red Cross Area Director, Jane Roberts. This project is a new venture for the Red Cross: instead of dedicated buildings offering one or two specific services, new Community Access Points will be able to offer access to the full range of services that the Red Cross can provide in the area.

Local volunteer, Tom Crellin, is enthusiastic about the new approach and keen to hear from anyone who would like to be part of the team running this desk. "If you know of anyone who can spare a few hours, please call me on 01825 763194." Open 10am – 1pm Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

## Grassroots

The Grassroots Programme in Brighton & Hove, East and West Sussex, is a two part programme.

**The Grassroots Endowment Challenge** offers individuals and companies an opportunity to boost their giving by at least 100% with no extra effort. The Government will match every pound donated to the Challenge until March 2011 and has set aside £1.5 million to match donations from Sussex. This means that with your help they can raise £3 million. The money raised will be invested in the Endowment Fund and the income generated will support communities for years to come. Donations from individuals can still attract Gift Aid and any reclaimed tax is also matched.

Every donation will make a difference. To support the Challenge contact Kevin Richmond 01273 403980 or visit [www.sussexgiving.org.uk](http://www.sussexgiving.org.uk).

## Small Grants Fund

Local community groups will benefit quickly from the Grassroots Funding Scheme. From 1 August a £1.9 million grants programme will help community groups meeting local needs across Sussex.

'Grassroots Grants' will support groups with an annual turnover of less than £20,000, who may apply for up to £5,000. This will be a real boost for groups of this size, visit [www.sussexgiving.org.uk](http://www.sussexgiving.org.uk)

## Money Saving Expert Charity - New Grants Available

The MSE (Money Saving Expert) Charity is a new organisation, which provides grants to groups/charities looking to develop projects and to individuals seeking to educate themselves.

## Grants for groups and charities

Grants of up to £5,000 are available to constituted groups in the UK. The MSE Charity supports projects such as self-

help groups and other innovative projects that will help educate people about money/debt/consumer issues. Applications can be made at any time.

## Grants for individuals

Individuals in the UK over the age of 18 can apply for a grant of up to £500 to help pay towards a recognised and approved course that will help improve their ability to budget and manage their own finances. The money can be used to pay for course fees or other necessary expenses, but does not include courses which teach the applicant how to work in the finance industry. The maximum award for any one project is £500 towards the cost of attending or participating in the course. Go to: <http://www.msecharity.com>

## Seedcorn Fund

The Seedcorn Fund is a small grants scheme from East Sussex County Council's Community Partnership Finance programme 2007-2009. Small voluntary and community organisations in East Sussex can apply for seedcorn funding for new initiatives that meet ESCC strategic priorities.

Nine voluntary and community groups across East Sussex benefited from grants from round 2 of East Sussex County Council's Seedcorn Fund. The Fund was set up to help local community groups and the latest to benefit from over £33,000 of County Council funding include projects to support youth work, respite care for carers in rural areas, support for bereaved children and for families affected by self harm. Groups receiving the grant include The Association of Carers (Rother) who received £5,000, Eastbourne and District Cruse, £5,000, Rural Voices, Rural Choices (Lewes) £5,000, Act On It (Lewes) £3,000, Circle of Life Rediscovery (Lewes) £4,280 and Safe UK (Hastings & Eastbourne) £4,700.

## Because of unallocated funds for this small grants scheme there is to be a round 3.

Voluntary and community groups can apply for up to £5,000, although smaller applications will be encouraged – **the closing date is Friday 14 November 2008.**

You can download criteria, application form and guidance notes from:

[www.southdownscvcs.org.uk](http://www.southdownscvcs.org.uk) or [www.hastingsvoluntaryaction.org](http://www.hastingsvoluntaryaction.org)

For further information, or for help to complete your application, contact: Julia Fowler at South Downs Council for Voluntary Service, t: 01273 483832, e: [info@southdownscvcs.org.uk](mailto:info@southdownscvcs.org.uk). For Wealden District contact Karl Parks on t: 01825 765136

## Community Matters

Waitrose's new giving initiative, Community Matters, was rolled out to all branches in July 2008. Each trading month, shops will have £1,000 to divide between three local organisations – such as welfare organisations, community groups, schools or local divisions of national charities. All branches should have the system in place by 9 September. Under the scheme, customers nominate organisations, with the final decision made by PartnerVoice forums (Waitrose's local democratic bodies). Each branch will have a Community Matters Champion, who will find out about potential beneficiaries. Customers will be offered a token every time they shop. These can be inserted in one of three Perspex tubes – one for each organisation. At the end of the month the tokens for each organisation are weighed. The beneficiaries will then receive a proportion of the cash. Go to: [www.johnlewispartnership.co.uk/Display.aspx?MasterId=a4e17b78-fb5b-40d2-9499-46154da7dd91&NavigationId=1235](http://www.johnlewispartnership.co.uk/Display.aspx?MasterId=a4e17b78-fb5b-40d2-9499-46154da7dd91&NavigationId=1235)

## 4 Training & Conferences

### **South Downs CVS Training Opportunities**

**Introduction to working with the Media** (a 2 half day course) with McCrudden Training.

9.30am - 12.30pm Thursday 23 October 2008, and Thursday 30 October 2008, at South Downs CVS, Lewes.

Every voluntary organisation needs to get their message across – with their staff, volunteers and service beneficiaries, as well as with the ‘outside world’. This workshop will give delegates an understanding of the role of both internal and external communications and will explore how to promote your organisation. (This course is run over two half days to allow delegates time to draft a press release and review it in the second session). Cost £45 - £60 depending on status. Closing date for bookings: Thursday 9 October 2008.

### **Writing, editing and designing a newsletter**

with SCIP & Working Together Project, Tuesday 4 November 2008, 9.30am – 1.30pm, at South Downs CVS, Lewes. This course will look at the basics of writing news, features and headlines; help you learn the basics of sub-editing and explore design and lay out options. You will have the opportunity to focus on producing your own newsletter, and get constructive feedback. Cost £25 - £45 depending on status. Closing date for bookings Tuesday 21 October 2008.

### **Legal Responsibilities of Management Committees**

with Kate Honeyford, Wednesday 26 November 2008, 9.30am - 12.20pm at South

Downs CVS, Lewes. This is a three-hour session designed to pack in information for busy committee members. Cost per person £25 - £35 depending on status. Closing date for bookings Wednesday 12 November 2008.

Further details of the above courses can be found in the training brochure enclosed in this newsletter. You can also contact Julia Fowler, telephone 01273 483832, email: [info@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:info@southdownscvs.org.uk) or go to the SDCVS website: [www.southdownscvs.org.uk/information-and-training](http://www.southdownscvs.org.uk/information-and-training).

### **Charity Law Information Session**

Tuesday 7 October 2008, 5.30pm (light refreshment) 6pm (start) – 8pm. Venue: St Johns Church Hall, Church Lane, Polegate, East Sussex, BN26 5BX. The Charities Act 2006 is now largely in force and covers a wide range of issues. This session will cover what is new, what is optional and what trustees should do in practice to implement the Act.

This information session is a partnership project between SDCVS and EAVS and funded by Capacitybuilders, delivering the ChangeUp Programme. For further details **please see flyer with this newsletter**.

### **National Association for Voluntary & Community Action (NAVCA) to deliver an “Empowering the Voluntary Sector” workshop in conjunction with South Downs CVS**

The Empowering the Voluntary Sector project brings together the Public Law Project (PLP) to support the voluntary and

community sector to understand the principles and framework of public law. A national programme of one-day workshops on the principles of public law has been taking place and feedback from people attending has been very positive - over 98% rate the training highly. NAVCA in conjunction with South Downs CVS are holding a workshop on 11 November at Uckfield Civic Centre, Uckfield. Further details and booking form can be found on the website at: [www.southdownscvs.org.uk/information-and-training/training.php](http://www.southdownscvs.org.uk/information-and-training/training.php) **Attendance will be limited to 15 participants, so early booking is advisable.**

### **OTHER TRAINING & EVENTS IN THE DISTRICT**

#### **South East Regional Volunteer Managers’ Conference - Empowering Today’s Volunteer Manager**

This conference is being held on 6 November 2008 at the International Lawn Tennis Centre, Eastbourne. Don’t miss out on this excellent value conference and volunteer managers’ award ceremony (to celebrate the work of volunteer managers - the deadline for nominations is 6 October). Visit <http://www.mccrudden-training.co.uk/volunteer-managers-conference.html> to see details and to book a place.

#### **East Sussex Compact Annual Event: “Bringing the Compact to Life”**

Friday 7 November 2008, 9:30am - 1:00pm, Uckfield Civic Centre. The event is an opportunity for representatives from the Voluntary & Community Sector and the Public Sector to come together to learn, discuss and explore how the Compact is working in East Sussex. The Compact Steering Group will be presenting the headline findings of the 2008 Compact Annual

Review. The event is free and a Buffet Lunch will be provided. For further details and registration form please go to the South Downs CVS website at [www.southdownscvs.org.uk](http://www.southdownscvs.org.uk)

Please return completed registration forms no later than 27 October 2008, by email to: [Compact@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Compact@eastsussex.gov.uk) by post to: East Sussex Compact, C6E, County Hall, St. Anne's Crescent, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1SW. For more information on the East Sussex Compact please visit: <http://eastsussex.gov.uk/community/partnerships/downloadcompact.htm>

### **[www.thecountylink.net](http://www.thecountylink.net)**

This is the new website for the County LINK (the East Sussex Local Involvement Network) that has replaced the PPIH Forum (Patient & Public Involvement in health and social care).

### **Six Hallmarks of an Effective Charity**

The Charity Commission has revised this guidance (CC10) "to clarify the key areas of governance that will provide a governance framework based on good practice for all charities" and to reflect the increasing importance of financial prudence and accountability. Go to: [www.charitycommission.gov.uk/publications/ccpubstg.asp](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/publications/ccpubstg.asp)

### **What Are Local Area Agreements?**

This information leaflet is for local infrastructure organisations and the broader Third Sector. It explains how Local Area Agreements (LAAs) work and why and how Third Sector organisations should engage with them [www.navca.org.uk/publications/laas](http://www.navca.org.uk/publications/laas)

### **Family Information Service site 'Innit'**

KITES family information service is developing a new web-based directory for young people in East Sussex aged 11-19 years (up to 25 with additional needs). Categories of information include leisure activities, the arts, volunteering & support groups. KITES are working very closely with Sussex County Sports Partnership to provide up-to-date sporting activities and information. Young people entered a competition to name the site and design a logo and the winning entry was 'Innit'. Please go to: [www.innit.org](http://www.innit.org) The directory will continue to grow, if you know of any new groups or services for young people setting up in your area please e-mail: [kites@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:kites@eastsussex.gov.uk) or tele: 01323 737294 or 0845 6010 777.

## TOPICAL TIPS

### **Financial Reporting by Smaller Charities**

Under the Charities Act 1993 all charities must publish annual accounts, but charities with incomes up to £100,000 are allowed to use the Receipts and Payments (R&P) basis, rather than having to produce accounts complying with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP). The Association of Charity Independent Examiners report looks at the effectiveness of the R&P regime as compared to the SORP regime in the context of charities of this size, arguing that the proposal from the Charity Commission to increase the R&P upper threshold from £100,000 income to £250,000 should be put on hold, as the lack of confidence in the R&P regime could lead to charities in this band losing out on funding. For details visit: <http://www.acie.org.uk/>

### **Gift Aid Transitional relief and administrative changes**

In his first Budget Chancellor Alistair Darling announced that Charities will still be able to claim 28p in every pound donated through the Gift Aid scheme until 2011. For donations made by donors on or after 6 April 2008, charities will claim Gift Aid repayments at the new basic tax rate of 20 per cent but they will also be entitled to a transitional relief worth 3p for every £1 donation they receive under the Gift Aid scheme. This transitional relief has been provided by Government to allow charities to adjust to the fall in basic rate tax from 22 per cent to 20 per cent, and will be paid in respect of all qualifying Gift Aid donations made to charities between 6 April 2008 and 5 April 2011. This means that for every pound donated under the Gift Aid scheme the charity will continue to receive 28p. A number of changes are being made to

HM Revenue and Custom's Gift Aid audit processes for charities, and their guidance for charities will be improved over the next few months. The changes are aimed at reducing administrative burdens and encouraging greater use of the Gift Aid scheme. Further information can be found at: <http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/budget2008/gift-aid-admin.pdf>

### **Trustee expenses and payment**

The Charity Commission has updated its guidance on expenses and payments for trustees (CC11). It confirms the principle of voluntary trusteeship, but covers when trustees can be paid for supplying goods or services, managing conflicts of interest, what counts as reasonable expenses, and when it might be appropriate to pay a trustee for their trusteeship. See the guidance at [www.charity-commission.gov.uk/publications/cc11.asp](http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/publications/cc11.asp)

# 6 Policy & Information

## **Make a Difference Day – 25 October 2008**

This is the UK's biggest annual day of volunteering! It is a chance for you to make a difference in your community by organising a project with friends, family, your workplace or place of worship. Just look around and find something you'd like to change, and CSV will help you do it. Go to: [www.csv.org.uk](http://www.csv.org.uk)

## **iT4Communities**

iT4Communities (iT4C) is the UK's lead IT volunteering charity that introduces volunteer IT professionals to charities and third sector organisations needing IT help and support. iT4C's volunteers are IT professionals who want to share their time and talent for a good cause. An iT4C volunteer needs to have at least one year's IT experience with relevant IT qualifications or three years' experience without relevant qualifications. For more information or to request help from a volunteer call 020 7796 2144, visit [www.it4communities.org.uk](http://www.it4communities.org.uk) or email [info@it4communities.org.uk](mailto:info@it4communities.org.uk)

## **Low cost Payroll service**

Able Internet Payroll is a simple payroll system to learn and use. It has an intuitive driven menu and steps to guide you through every payroll function to help you manage your UK payroll with ease over the Internet, 24 x 7. Once you have signed up for an account over the Internet you can get your UK payroll up and running in minutes. The system adopted 128 bit SSL secured connection technology to protect your data in the same way the Internet Banking operates. Your employees may also log on from any internet point to view and print their own payslips and other pay details.

Whether you are a payroll novice or a payroll professional Able Payroll enables you to do your UK payroll professionally and fully in compliance with HMRC's statutory requirements. The e-filing of your returns are inbuilt, automatic and easy to follow. Your end of Year P14 & P35 Annual Returns, P45, P46 & also P6 DPS can all be done with just a few click of the mouse. The cost is less than £4.20 a month.

Six months free trial: The company is offering 6 months trail and you are not obliged to pay anything and allowed to quit at anytime. Website: [www.ableinternetpayroll.co.uk](http://www.ableinternetpayroll.co.uk)

## **Sector Satisfaction with Local Authorities**

A pilot survey of third sector satisfaction with local authorities has shown that only 22 per cent rated the support given by local statutory bodies as 'positive' or 'very positive', reports Charity Finance. The pilot was carried out by the Office of the Third Sector as a precursor to a much larger satisfaction survey of

97,000 third sector organisations in England, which is to be conducted this year and again in 2010.

The larger survey will be conducted to measure how local authorities perform against the national indicator 7 – "creating an environment for a thriving third sector". For details visit: <http://www.charityfinance.co.uk/home/content.php?id=2088>  
Social Enterprise e-bulletin, Issue 23

## **UK Older People's Day 1 October 2008**

This year the focus of the day is bringing generations together to promote greater understanding and respect. The main aims for the day are to: celebrate the huge contribution older people make to our society and economy; create a positive view of later life and tackle outdated stereotypes; raise awareness of the opportunities and entitlements for older people across society; ensure older people don't feel excluded or isolated from the rest of society. More information will appear at <http://campaigns.direct.gov.uk/fullloflife/>

## **Rural Youth Network**

Rural Youth Network aims to raise, develop and maintain an awareness of issues affecting young people and those who work with them in rural areas. These issues include barriers in relation to provision of transport, housing, health services and access to employment, training and education. Membership is free and membership services include advice and information, monthly e-bulletins, online good practice magazines and conferences. For more details please visit the RYN website [www.ruralityouth.com](http://www.ruralityouth.com)

## **Funding Commission**

NCVO, the UK's leading umbrella body for civil society organisations has announced the establishment of a new Funding Commission that will look at future financial provision across the whole range of civil society after 2010.

The Commission is expected to be up and running by early 2009. Its job will be to come up with practical and public policy proposals that ensure secure funding for the voluntary sector, for the longer term. Website: <http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/press/releases/?id=9290>

Wealden Community Network (ComNet) provides representatives to sit on different partnership bodies or planning groups. It holds an annual review and runs events on health improvement related topics. It is supported by East Sussex Downs & Weald PCT

## World Mental Health Day - 10 October 2008

### Citizenship & Advocacy – Uckfield Civic Centre, Uckfield

Wealden District Community Network and partners have been preparing hard for World Mental Health Day. Their event aims to challenge the way many of us work and promote good practice when working with mental health service users.

The event is suitable for voluntary/community and statutory providers and there will be speakers: Majorie Holmes (Poet), Morag Murray (Sussex Partnership Trust), a speaker from Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service (CamHs), two other speakers to be confirmed.

#### Workshops:

- 1) Addressing the Stigma that surrounds Mental Health (Reg McLaughlin - ESDA)
- 2) Dual Diagnosis – Carers, Questions and Crises (Polly Summers – Rethink)
- 3) Innovation and Advances in Mental Health Services (Ian Watling – Sussex Partnership Trust)
- 4) Suicide – Risks, Warning Signs and What to do? (Claire Pooley – Rethink)
- 5) Supporting People with Severe Mental Health Issues in Recovery (Lewes District & Wealden Mind).

There will be Displays by: Sussex Partnership Trust, Rethink, Lewes District & Wealden Mind, Eastbourne & District Mind, East Sussex Disability Association, Samaritans, Sussex Interpreting Services, Smoking Cessation, Care For the Carers, Job Centre Plus, LINKS, Alzheimer's Society, Wealden District Council, Poetry Display, COPEs, CAB Wealden, Mental Health Advocacy, Home Start, plus a networking

lunch. Contact Valerie Biggs on 01273 483832 or email: [comnet@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:comnet@southdownscvs.org.uk)

#### East Sussex LINK

*The County's Local Involvement Network in Health and Social Care*

This is a network of local people, organisations and groups from across the county that want to make health and social care services better. The aim is to provide a stronger voice for local people and communities in the planning, design, commissioning and provision of health and social care services and ultimately influencing key decisions about the services they use. Everyone can get involved and joining a LINK will give you the chance to say what you think and to suggest ideas to help improve services. The LINK can give feedback to service providers about what people think is necessary so that service provision can be improved. The next meeting in public will be held on 30th September 9.30 – 2.30 at the Civic Centre, Uckfield, TN22 1AE

For further information go to:

[www.thecountylink.net](http://www.thecountylink.net) - contact the office of the East Sussex LINK at 1 Faraday Close, Eastbourne, BN22 9BH tel: 01323 514510; email [info@thecountylink.net](mailto:info@thecountylink.net); text on 07968119806. 169

#### Wealden ComNet Annual Review – Monday 24 November 2008

Heathfield Community Centre 10 – 1.15 pm (including lunch)

The Wealden ComNet AGM will provide an opportunity for community, voluntary and statutory organisations to get together, and decide what 'choosing health' priority ComNet could focus on for the coming year. It will also give representatives a chance to look at the work of the network over the previous year and hear what speakers from Adult Social Care and LINKs have to say. Contact: Valerie Biggs on 01273 483832 or email: [comnet@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:comnet@southdownscvs.org.uk)

# Wealden Area News

## Wealden Local Strategic Partnership - LSP

The next meeting on 17 September will include a presentation from the Wealden Support Partnership managed by SDCVS and EAVS to provide support and information to groups in Wealden. For more information about the work of the LSP and community strategy see their website [http://www.wealdencommunitystrategy.co.uk/Strategic\\_Partnership/Index.aspx](http://www.wealdencommunitystrategy.co.uk/Strategic_Partnership/Index.aspx)

## WARR Partnership secures £2.4 Million for the rural parishes of Wealden and Rother

The Wealden and Rother Rural (WARR) Partnership area covers the rural parishes in Wealden and Rother Districts as well as Hailsham, Heathfield, Battle and Rye. They have been awarded £2.4 Million from the Leader programme to help revitalize and support rural businesses and

communities over the next five years.

Leader is a locally-led approach, which will support schemes to regenerate rural areas. Individual projects will be eligible for grants of up to £50,000, with funding available for diversification, tourism, renewable energy projects, collaboration to develop new products and services, and innovative community projects.

We would like to hear from people who believe they have a project idea which needs funding and could benefit the area. For further information go to: [www.seeda.co.uk/rdpe/](http://www.seeda.co.uk/rdpe/) or [www.warrpartnership.org.uk/](http://www.warrpartnership.org.uk/) or contact WARR by email: [info@warrpartnership.org.uk](mailto:info@warrpartnership.org.uk) or tel. 01424 787400.

## Electronic blanket testing dates

The Wealden District Council Electric Blanket Testing and Safety roadshow will be taking place again this year from the 13 - 17 October 08, morning sessions 10-12 noon and afternoon sessions 2-4pm.

Mon 13 am Westham Village Hall, pm Hailsham Fire Station;  
Tues 14 am Uckfield Fire Station, pm Polegate Village Hall;  
Wed 15 am Grombridge Village Hall, pm Wadhurst Fire Station;  
Thurs 16 am Heathfield Fire Station, pm East Hoathly Village Hall;  
Fri 17 am Crowborough Fire Station, pm Nutley Village Hall.

For more information, please contact Sophie Hepworth or Zoe Clarke on 01323 443302

## Save Money, Save CO2 with grants from Wealden District Council

Improved insulation can save up to £275 a year off heating bills and can help reduce your CO2 emissions. Our new grants for insulation and renewables can help:

- Free loft and cavity wall insulation for people over 60\*
  - Free loft and cavity wall insulation for those on most benefits \*
  - Discounted loft and cavity wall insulation for all £162 \*
  - Limited numbers of 100% grants for renewables like solar thermal for those in fuel poverty
- \* *subject to the size of the property, there may be an additional charge.*

To find out more, to apply or make a referral call the Wealden Home Energy Efficiency Hotline on 01323 443321. For free talks and training to voluntary organisations call or e-mail [John.Proctor@wealden.gov.uk](mailto:John.Proctor@wealden.gov.uk)

## DIARY

### October

1 UK 'Older People's Day' 14 ESCC Cabinet Meeting 10.30am County Hall 25 East Sussex Downs & Weald PCT board meeting 10am (for venue call 01424 735641) 31 SDCVS AGM

### November

10 EAVS AGM 18 Wealden LSP meeting 20 Wealden Voluntary and Community Networking event, Hailsham 24 Wealden Comnet Annual Review Heathfield Community Centre 25 ESCC Cabinet Meeting 10.30am County Hall 27 East Sussex Downs & Weald PCT board meeting 10am (for venue call 01424 735641)

Next issue copy date:  
Tuesday  
18 November 2008



Wealden View

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South Downs Council for  
Voluntary Service

Registered office: 66 High Street,  
Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1XG  
T: 01273 483832 F: 01273 483834  
E: [enquiries@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@southdownscvs.org.uk)

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