



# South Downs View

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHDOWNS CVS

Supporting community initiatives across the Lewes District

## Two into One makes Three!

**October is shaping up to be an exciting time for community and voluntary groups in the three areas of Eastbourne, Lewes district & Wealden. The two Councils for Voluntary Service Eastbourne Association of Voluntary Services (EAVS) & South Downs CVS (SDCVS) are one step closer to their goal of turning themselves into one organization covering the whole area.**

The aim of the change is to provide a consistent service across the three districts, making the best use of existing resources and harnessing new opportunities as they arise.

EAVS and SDCVS want to underline their commitment to staying local and so the new organisation will be branded locally as **Voluntary Action Lewes District, Voluntary Action Eastbourne, or Voluntary Action Wealden** according to where the service is operated, with a working title of '3VA' for the overall organisation.

It is about five months since the Extraordinary General Meetings of both organisations when the memberships gave the go-ahead for joining forces and good progress has been made since then. Trustees from the two organisations have been meeting regularly to plan a smooth changeover and the two teams of staff have been involved throughout.

So what happens next? The first AGM of the new organisation has been planned for 28<sup>th</sup> October 5.00pm at Polegate so please make sure you put this date in your diary. There will be a new Board for 3VA elected at the AGM by the combined membership that will include representatives from the current Boards of SDCVS & EAVS and new trustees to represent Wealden district. Contact from anyone who would be interested in becoming a trustee of the combined organisation are welcome.

If you are a member of either or both existing organisations you will be hearing from us shortly about the new arrangements, or watch out for updates.

**Lewes district funding advice**  
Under a countywide Lottery BASIS funded project SDCVS is providing funding advice across the Lewes district...

**Jackie Blackwell - Lewes District Funding Advisor**



our funding advisor has been travelling from Plumpton to Seaford giving one-to-one advice to small groups about potential funding sources.

If you would like to book an appointment to talk about your group's needs, please contact Jackie Blackwell at SDCVS (T: 01273 483832 Email: [jackie.blackwell@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:jackie.blackwell@southdownscvs.org.uk))

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CVS Partnership in East Sussex  
IDT Training & Education  
Empowering the Voluntary Sector

**See flyer for details of the first Annual General Meeting of 3VA**

# 2 Outreach

## Lewes Town Partnership Update

The Partnership has been uncovering the lost history of the Parish of St Mary in the Market (now known as Station Street). Phase one was launched at the Tom Paine festival in July with a history trail and 1790s map. The second phase is due to be completed at the end of the year with a permanent interpretation board located in Station Street.

## Youth Awareness Day at Lewes Priory School: 16<sup>th</sup> December

Does your organisation or group work in Lewes? The aim of this event is to let pupils know more about organisations and activities happening in Lewes from bell ringing to rambling! The school is keen for increased links with the community. If you would like to hold a stall or run a workshop, then



### SDCVS Staff:

Director: Debby Matthews  
Information & Training Officer:  
Julia Fowler  
Policy & Development Officer:  
Seema Kapila  
Funding & Development Officer  
Jackie Blackwell  
Finance Officer/Human Resources Officer:  
Sue Newton  
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Office Cleaner: Moyra Huxtable  
**Speakup:** Miriam Miklaszewska  
**Volunteer Centre Manager** Rosey Eggar  
**Volunteers:** John Cooper, Ina Ferguson  
Brenda Noakes, Nicky Macadam,  
Joyce Hancock, Kim Lanning

### SDCVS Core Funders:

East Sussex County Council  
Lewes District Council  
East Sussex Downs & Weald PCT  
**AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT**  
Also available on our website:  
[www.southdownscvs.org.uk](http://www.southdownscvs.org.uk)

Lewes Town Partnership would like to hear from you. Contact Jackie Blackwell at SDCVS (details below) The date for Lewes Town Partnership's AGM has been changed to **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October from 7-9pm**. It will be held in the lovely new premises of St John Ambulance HQ, Suite E, Falcon Wharf, Railway Lane, Lewes.

To join Lewes Town Partnership or for more info please contact [Jackie.blackwell@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:Jackie.blackwell@southdownscvs.org.uk) or phone her at SDCVS.

## Good News for the Exchange Project in Seaford

This wonderful voluntary run community garden based in Crouch Gardens in Seaford was set up by Lindsay Thomas & Wendy Simmons in Sept 2007. It has become a thriving oasis of personal and horticultural growth. The Project successfully applied for ESCC Seedcorn Grant for special tools & adaptations to enable full disabled access. On hearing about the grant Lindsay said '*This is the best news...we can finish the build phase bang on schedule. Fantastic!*' Find out more about the project at [www.exchangeproject.org.uk](http://www.exchangeproject.org.uk)

## Walking the Line

In October 1884 astronomers and representatives from 25 countries convened in Washington at the International Meridian Conference to recommend a common prime meridian for geographical and nautical charts that would be acceptable to all parties. To mark the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Meridian Line, Sussex Life journalist Clive Agran walked the Line from East Grinstead, passing through Lewes and ending in Peacehaven. The Mayor of Peacehaven held a small reception in Peacehaven before going to the clifftops to the King George V Meridian monument.

Lewes Landport resident David Gray is currently leading a solo campaign to raise money to replace the bronze Meridian obelisk that was stolen from the top of the column in the estate. The obelisk and monument has local and global historical interest. It was funded by local businessman John Every from the old Phoenix Ironworks and importantly marks the spot of the Prime Meridian of Greenwich. The monument was unveiled November 1938 at the official opening of the new Landport housing estate. The Prime Meridian only passes through a few towns from Greenwich to Peacehaven and this obelisk was the second monument on the line after Peacehaven's in 1938. For more info on the campaign contact David Gray on 01273 745480.

## Newhaven Uncovered

is a new project being run by Newhaven Town Council. It is a town guide with a difference. The Council is creating historical interpretation boards; self guided and guided walks and a new resident's guide as part of the project.

They will be piloting one of the walking tours and have a photographic quiz with great prizes at the forthcoming **Isn't it Bonkers** fair at **Denton Island on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September**. Come and find their stall and take a walk on the West Side...

For more information about this project please contact Ian Everest at Newhaven Town Council on **01273 516100**

## Cash 4 Clubs

Cash 4 Clubs is a sports grants scheme which provides funding to support grassroots UK sports clubs. Cash 4 Clubs gives clubs a chance to win grants ranging from £250 to £1000, whether it is to improve facilities, purchase new equipment, gain coaching qualifications, or generally invest in the sustainability of their club.

The Cash 4 Clubs scheme is funded by Betfair and is supported by SportsAid. Betfair and SportsAid have worked in partnership for a number of years and both organisations understand the importance of community sport in promoting an active lifestyle and stimulating local pride. Clubs can apply for a Cash 4 Clubs Sports Grant by filling out the online application form at anytime, available at website below. There are 3 tiers of grants at £250, £500 and £1,000 which are awarded on a discretionary basis. Any sports club can apply as long as they are registered with their sport's National Governing Body or local authority. Funding can be requested for anything that will add to the sustainability and effectiveness of the sports club.

Grants are awarded on a quarterly basis after selection by the committee. Application forms are available on their website at <http://www.cash-4-clubs.com/>  
Email: [cash4clubs@betfair.com](mailto:cash4clubs@betfair.com)

## Communitybuilders Fund – Now Open!

Communitybuilders is a £70 million government programme which aims to help build more cohesive, engaged and active communities through investment in community-led organisations looking to develop long term viability. The Fund will provide a mix of loans, grants and mentoring support to a range of community

anchor-type organisations across England.

The Fund is designed to help empower citizens and communities by strengthening the resilience of multi-purpose community-led organisations across England through a mixture of financial and advisory support.

For more information please visit: [www.communitybuildersfund.org.uk/](http://www.communitybuildersfund.org.uk/) or call 0191 261 5200 to find out more.

## Hardship Fund

The Hardship Fund offers grants between £50,000 and £250,000 to third sector organisations that are suffering financial hardship, impacting on their ability to deliver front-line services in:

- health and social care
- housing support
- education, training & advice; and
- information and guidance.

To apply, organisations must have a turnover of £200,000 a year or more. The total amount awarded is subject to applicants demonstrating the need, and providing a detailed description of costs and activities. The total amount is unlikely to exceed 25% of projected turnover for this financial year. The Fund is administered by the Community Development Foundation (CDF). There is no specific closing date. Applications will be assessed in the date and time order received, until there are sufficient relevant applications up to the value of the Fund. Website: <http://www.cdf.org.uk/web/guest/hardship-fund>, tel: 0113 246 1561, email: [hardshipfund@cdf.org.uk](mailto:hardshipfund@cdf.org.uk)

## BBC Children in Need

Applications are now only accepted exclusively online. Children in Need give grants for projects delivered by organisations working with disadvantaged children and

young people, who must be 18 years and under, living in the UK, the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands. Disadvantages experienced by children and young people include:

- Illness, distress, abuse or neglect;
- Any kind of disability;
- Behavioural or psychological difficulties;
- Living in poverty or situations of deprivation.

The application should focus on the children your project will work with and the differences that your project will make for them. You should clearly be able to demonstrate how your project will change the lives of the children involved for the better. Where possible it should take into account their views and involve them in decisions that affect them. You can contact them by Email: [pudsey@bbc.co.uk](mailto:pudsey@bbc.co.uk) or Helpdesk Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm Tel: 020 8576 7788. Application deadline dates will be 15 January, 15 April, 15 July and 15 October 2010. Guidance and application forms are available at: [www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/apply.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/apply.shtml)

## Changes at HBOS Foundation

Following the acquisition of HBOS by Lloyds TSB in January 2009, resulting in Lloyds Banking Group, a review of the new group's community investment is in progress. The grant-making activities of the HBOS Foundation will be replaced by the Lloyds TSB Foundations grants programmes. To apply for a grant, charities should visit the website for the region of the UK in which they are registered, where there are also details of the charities and projects previously supported. For further information please go to: <http://www.hbosfoundation.org/index-community.html>

## 4 Training & Conferences

**The current 2009/10 training programme is enclosed with this newsletter**

**The training programme includes:**

**Introduction to Bookkeeping using Excel (2 day)** with Steve Early

Thursday 8 October 9.30am - 1pm and Tuesday 13 October 2009 9.30am - 1pm, at South Downs CVS, 66 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XG

**Demonstrating your value to funders** with SCIP & Working Together Project

Tuesday 20 October 2009, 9.30am – 4.30pm, at Yarrow Room, Town Hall, High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2QS

**Press Publicity & Promotion** with SCIP & Working Together Project

Tuesday 10 November 2009, 9.30 – 4.30pm (light lunch included) at South Downs CVS 66 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XG

**Excel intermediate (Formulae)**

With David Guthrie (SCIP)  
Thursday 26 November 2009  
9.30 – 1.30pm at South Downs CVS, 66 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XG

**Taking time to manage your time** with Nicola McCrudden

Wednesday 20 January 2010, 9.30am - 12.30pm at South Downs CVS, 66 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XG

Details of SDCVS training can also be found at

**[www.southdownscvs.org.uk/information-and-training](http://www.southdownscvs.org.uk/information-and-training)**. For further information contact: Julia on 01273 483832, email: [info@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:info@southdownscvs.org.uk)

**Empowering the Voluntary Sector**

Wednesday 16 December 2009, Yarrow Room, Town Hall, Lewes  
*A one day workshop exploring how to use the principles of public law to challenge unjust and unfair decision making by public bodies*

Many organisations find it difficult to balance the need to work with public bodies and to challenge unfair practice, the Empowering the Voluntary Sector workshops delivered by NAVCA provides clear information and guidance to help you to make appropriate challenges. So far the project has trained nearly 700 people from Third Sector Organisations to use the principles of Public Law. Those who have attended found the day to be both an enjoyable and interactive learning experience.

- “Very good course, the resource will be excellent as a reference source
- “I found the training very effective and enjoyable and would recommend it to anyone, colleagues and other organisations alike”
- “Excellent value for money”

The workshop costs £30/£40 per person and includes the resource pack, lunch and VAT. The day runs from 09.15 to 16.15, with the workshop starting at 09.30 prompt. For more details please go to: [www.southdownscvs.org.uk/information-and-training/training.php](http://www.southdownscvs.org.uk/information-and-training/training.php)

**The Third Sector - Where will the funding come from?** (Keynote speaker Charles Hendry, M.P. for Wealden)

Rotherfield St. Martin, a village charity for the wellbeing of older residents in the Parish of Rotherfield, East Sussex, is holding a forum on Friday 20 November to address future policy and implementation of proposed Government devolvement of elements of social and healthcare services to the voluntary sector. As well as Charles Hendry there will be speakers from national, regional and local bodies concerned with the provision of support services to older people. Venue: Rotherfield Village Hall, 09.30 for 10.00. Buffet lunch will be provided, close at 16.00. Full programme will be available in early October from the office at: Rotherfield St. Martin, Carisbrooke, New Road Entrance, Rotherfield, TN6 3LU, tel: 01892 853021, email: [rsmcentre@googlemail.com](mailto:rsmcentre@googlemail.com)

### ON THE WEB

**[www.debtadvicefoundation.org](http://www.debtadvicefoundation.org)**

The Debt Advice Foundation, which promotes research and education around debt issues, has launched a hotline as a response to the increasing demand for support from people struggling with debt and money worries.

**[http://www.crb.gov.uk/media/press\\_releases/crb\\_reduces\\_fees.aspx](http://www.crb.gov.uk/media/press_releases/crb_reduces_fees.aspx)**

The Criminal Records Bureau is to reduce the fee for a Standard Disclosure from £31 to £26 as of 1st October. This is due to an expected increase in the volume of disclosure applications being processed as the new Vetting and Barring Scheme comes into place. Enhanced checks, used by organisations working with children or vulnerable adults, will remain at £36. The above link takes you to the CRB news item.

<http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/recessionresources/index.asp?id=14574> Five key tips on managing volunteers during the recession, and a case study on IT volunteering charity, iT4Communities, which has seen a 200% increase in IT volunteers registering to use their skills to help charities this year.

**<http://www.nhs.uk/Pages/HomePage.aspx>**

Have you heard of the Choices website? This website gives you access to all sorts of information from updates on swine flu, travelling abroad, comparing hospitals or information with regard to carers.

**A Guide to Local Area Agreements**

Urban Forum have published a guide to local area agreements: what they are, how they operate

and how they fit into the local structures. To view, download or order the guide please go to: <http://www.urbanforum.org.uk/handy-guides/handy-guide-to-laas>

**A Practical Guide to Managing in a Downturn**

By Kim Sayer *et al* (2009). ISBN: 978 1 906294 35 9. Price: £18.95. Guide for those running a charity that is feeling the pinch. contains practical guidance on how to manage finances, information about the legal position, how to spot early warning signs and practical tips on how to keep afloat. Available from: [www.dsc.org.uk/publications](http://www.dsc.org.uk/publications)

**Charitable Status**

by Julian Blake – Price: £14.95 Guide to setting up and running

a charity, covering new legal and practical developments following the 2006 Charities Act. It looks at the responsibilities and liabilities of trustees, fundraising, trading, social enterprise and fee-charging, tax and VAT issues, the distinction between charitable and political campaigning and regulations. Available from [www.trustfunding.org.uk](http://www.trustfunding.org.uk)

**Department of Health Patient Information Leaflet**

The Department of Health has recently published a patient information leaflet, 'Help and advice for living life well with a long term condition' To view the leaflet and additional resources please go to: <http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Healthcare/Longtermconditions/yourhealth/index.htm>

**TOPICAL TIPS**

**“You’ve got a friend...all you’ve got to do is call!”**

A new helpline service has been launched in Sussex to help vulnerable people should they become ill with swine flu.

Everyone is being urged to identify a number of family members, neighbours or friends who can become your Flu Friends and help you if you become unwell.

Flu Friends could collect antiviral medicines, food and other supplies for you if you get swine flu. However, not everyone will have someone they can ask to be their Flu Friend.

The helpline is available for anyone in Sussex who has become ill with flu-like symptoms, accessed the National Pandemic Flu Service or contacted their GP, and has been offered antiviral

medication, but who is unable to find a Flu Friend who could collect the antivirals for them.

If anyone is without a Flu Friend, they should call the Sussex Flu Friends Helpline on 0300 1001822. The operator will then arrange for a British Red Cross volunteer to collect the antivirals and deliver them to your home.

Currently, the helpline will be available during working hours (9am-5pm). Out of hours there is a recorded message giving directions on how to contact the British Red Cross directly.

**Top Tips from the Primary Care Trust**

The Primary Care Trusts in East Sussex have written some articles giving advice on how to stay healthy and look after yourself. We have been

publishing these in the weekly Bullseye! e-bulletin. All the articles are available now at: <http://www.askcasper.org.uk/pctadvice>

**File on time to avoid a penalty**

You have one month less to file your accounts. If your company normally files its accounts on 31 January, remember that the deadline this year will be 31 December – nine months after the end of the year as opposed to ten.

**Countdown to October 2009 -**

The Companies Act 2006 is changing the law for companies. These changes affect every company operating in the UK. Passed in 2006, the Act reaches the final stage of implementation on 1 October 2009. [www.companieshouse.gov.uk/companiesAct/companiesActCountdown.shtml](http://www.companieshouse.gov.uk/companiesAct/companiesActCountdown.shtml)

### “Compact – is it working for your organisation?”

**Compact** is the agreement between local public bodies and voluntary groups to improve their relationship for mutual advantage. It makes commitments on both sides, clarifies what partners can expect from each other and how to work together. It's more than a document: it is a reference to be cited, followed and used to hold each other to account, ensuring through compliance mechanisms that we stick to what we signed up to do. The East Sussex Compact was launched in 2003 and is being reviewed each year. The aim of the annual review is to:

- build awareness of the Compact and help create a better understanding of it
- report on events and activities to date
- -collect and present evidence of successes and good practice
- -collect and present evidence of any bad practice, and to learn and develop from this.

**The 2009 Consultation** started in August and closes on **26 October 2009**. The Compact Team is asking for your views on:

- how the Compact is working in East Sussex
- the Compact Action Plan 2009
- East Sussex Compact Information Folder - that holds all the important documents and guidance on Compact Working

The Action Plan and the contents of the Information Folder are available at <http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/community/partnerships/downloadcompact.htm>  
The questionnaire for the annual review can be downloaded at: <http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/consultation/2009/compactreview/download.htm>

The outcomes of this review will be presented at the East Sussex Compact Annual Event to be held on Monday 2 November 2009. To find out more about this consultation or receive a hard copy of any documents please contact the Compact team at:

**Compact@eastsussex.gov.uk** or Paul Rideout at East Sussex County Council, tel. 01273 482911, e-mail: **Paul.Rideout@eastsussex.gov.uk**.

To learn more about Compact you can come to the **free local training sessions** organised by South Downs CVS and SpeakUp Forum. Groups from Lewes District as well as public sector partners can attend on 20 October, 12am to 2pm in Lewes. Please contact Miriam Miklaszewska at SpeakUp Forum, tel. 01273 483 832 or [speakup@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:speakup@southdownscvs.org.uk) **for more information and to book a place.**

### Adult Social Care Direct

Adult Social Care Direct is a contact centre, providing one single point of contact across East Sussex for Adult Social Care services.

Adult Social Care Direct provides help for adults who find it difficult to manage daily tasks in the home. Carers can also use this service. Contact: t: 0345 60 80 191, fax: 01323 466567, e: [socialcaredirect@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:socialcaredirect@eastsussex.gov.uk), Minicom – via Type Talk: 18001 0345 60 80 191, Mobile SMS text: 0779 7878 111, W: [www.eastsussex.gov.uk/socialcare/adults](http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/socialcare/adults). Post: Social Care Direct, St Mary's House, 52 St Leonard's Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 3UU.

### Hate Crime hurts...Report it!

*Have you ever suffered hatred directed at you because of who you are?*

*Have you ever been abused, attacked, harassed, bullied, or victimised because somebody perceives you as different to them?*

If you have, then you will know how much it can hurt. You will understand the effect it can have on everyday life, and how difficult it can sometimes be to cope. The charity Victim Support has set up a special hate crime service, specifically to offer emotional support and practical guidance to victims of hate crimes or incidents.

A victim of a hate crime or incident may be targeted because of their race, nationality, religious beliefs, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity or disability. It is vital that hate crimes and incidents do not go unreported.

You can report a hate crime or incident anonymously- simply tell them what happened on the reporting form, and where it took place then send it to them without filling in your name or address. They still need to know if you or someone you know has been a victim of a hate crime. With your help we can work towards putting a stop to these terrible crimes. Call Victim Support confidentially on 0845 3899 528. The confidential hate crime/incident reporting form can be found online: [www.eastsussex.gov.uk](http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk) or by emailing: [SussexHateIncidentReport@victimsupport.org.uk](mailto:SussexHateIncidentReport@victimsupport.org.uk) *In an emergency always call 999. Don't suffer in silence.*

## Have your say on the East Sussex Alcohol Strategy

East Sussex Drug and Alcohol Team (DAAT) are asking all partners and community and voluntary groups what they think about the newly revised East Sussex Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy.

Consultation on this strategy is taking place for twelve weeks and everyone involved in its development, plus individuals and organisations who have an interest in the effects of alcohol on individuals and society, are welcomed to complete the questionnaire and feedback their views. The strategy has been developed through the multi-agency Alcohol Steering Group and its overall aim is for partner agencies

to work together to minimise the health harm, violence, crime and anti-social behaviour associated with alcohol for individuals, families and communities.

As part of the consultation process, any thoughts, suggestions and opinions given will help to inform the final version of the Alcohol Strategy and your views will help to us to create a comprehensive, reflective and forward looking strategy. Access both the draft Alcohol Strategy and consultation questionnaire at: [www.safeineastsussex.org.uk](http://www.safeineastsussex.org.uk) then 'Publications' - 'Other Publications'.

For more information please contact Justine Armstrong - on 01323 466526 or email: [Junstine.Armstrong@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Junstine.Armstrong@eastsussex.gov.uk). Consultation ends 21 October 09.

**The Community Links Worker Project** is a new service run by Newhaven Community Development Association covering Newhaven, Peacehaven and Lewes.

The service is for individuals aged between 18 and 65 who are experiencing mental health problems and its focus is on providing a tailored package to support them to be able to contribute to the local community. Through support and guidance it aims to increase confidence in individual's participation in learning and creative activities.

For further information contact Stephanie Loard on 01273 477691; E: [Stephanie@ncda.org.uk](mailto:Stephanie@ncda.org.uk)



**“Put the date in your Calendar...20 January 2010 – SpeakUp Countywide Annual Conference** (day time, free event). Speakers, workshops, networking lunch and info displays will be available. One of the themes will be the countywide recession research and what can be done next. Contact Miriam Miklaszewska, SpeakUp Forum Coordinator for more information and to express your interest (contact details at the bottom).”

## Support for Disability Sector in the county – exciting time of change

SpeakUp is supporting **“Putting Service Users in Control”**, a free one-day conference on 17 November 2009, 10.00am – 4.00pm at Civic Centre in Uckfield. This conference is for disabled people, their carers and the organisations that support them. It will explore how disabled people and carers can be more in control of the services they receive; the benefits of service user led organisations and how disability organisations in East Sussex can work together to promote the initiative.

**Key note speaker: Tim Cooper**, Chief Executive, Office for Disability Issues. Plus representatives from key government departments and disability organisations.

To indicate your interest please contact Sara Willis at ESDA as soon as possible, e-mail: [info@esda.org.uk](mailto:info@esda.org.uk), tel. 01323 514 500, Address: 1 Faraday Close, Hampden Park, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN22 9BH

Help can be provided with transport or travel expenses.

## More support for the Black Minority Ethnic organisations in East Sussex

SpeakUp Forum have received additional funding from the regional Empowerment Partnership to support Black Minority Ethnic organisations in East Sussex. This short project (till March 2010) will include workshops on Community Safety, Older People and Putting People First and a countywide event “Celebrating our voice!”. All activities will bring together BME organisations, other VCS groups and public sector partners. All of these were planned in response to the issues raised at the BME event in March this year. The project is organised to benefit any BME organisation from East Sussex and will continue under the **“Together as One”** title. Please **contact Miriam** at SpeakUp Forum for more information and to register your interest, tel. 01273 483 832, e-mail: [speakup@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:speakup@southdownscvs.org.uk). Also visit: [www.askcasper.org.uk/speakup/BME](http://www.askcasper.org.uk/speakup/BME).

# Lewes Area News

Platform is the news column from members and partners. If you have any relevant information that you would like to bring to our attention contact Julia on 01273 483832 or email [info@southdownscvs.org.uk](mailto:info@southdownscvs.org.uk)

## Deaf or Hard of Hearing? Living in Lewes?

### Platform

Why not come along to the Lewes Hard of Hearing Group and take the opportunity to meet other people in an easy-to-communicate atmosphere?

The group meets once a month and is run by the East Sussex Hearing Resource Centre. Different speakers attend each month to talk on a variety of subjects and

equipment is demonstrated which can be of help to hard of hearing people. You will also learn useful tips on how to communicate with deaf or hard of hearing people so your friends and family might want to come along too.



**South Downs View**  
The newsletter of South Downs CVS  
Editor: Julia Fowler

Notices of publications, events and services do not necessarily carry an endorsement by the editor or South Downs CVS, nor do they represent the CVS' own views

**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)  
Registered Charity No: 1062717/0  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Nº 3334341

Member of the National Association  
for Voluntary & Community Action  
(NAVCA)

The next meeting at Lewes will be on Monday 19 October 2009 (10.30am - 12noon) at Age Concern, House of Friendship, 208 High Street, Lewes.

The title for October's talk is, "Supporting People." East Sussex County Council Supporting People team are responsible for providing care services to elderly, disabled and vulnerable people. Come along a find out if any of the services that they offer would benefit you.

Everybody welcome so put a note in your diary. For further information please contact: David Rowan, East Sussex Hearing Resource Centre, 8 St Leonard's Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 3UH, tel: 01323 722505 (voice/text/fax) E: [david@eshrc.org.uk](mailto:david@eshrc.org.uk) [www.eshrc.org.uk](http://www.eshrc.org.uk)

## Don't Miss The Bus!

East Sussex Hearing Resource Centre and Adult Social Care are working in partnership to provide a mobile information and advice service (Deaf Outreach) for Deaf, deafened, hard of hearing and deaf/blind people living in East Sussex.

The mobile unit will be visiting Lewes on Thursday 15th October 2009 (Phoenix Centre Car Park), 10.30am – 3.30pm.

The bus is accessible to wheelchair users and representatives from both the East Sussex Hearing Resource Centre and Adult Social Care will be available to provide individual information and advice on all aspects of hearing loss.

For further information please contact:  
Teresa Davis, East Sussex Hearing Resource Centre, Tel: 01323 722505 (voice/text/fax) e-mail: [teresa@eshrc.org.uk](mailto:teresa@eshrc.org.uk)

## Celebrate National Older People's Day in Lewes

### LIFE ON THE HOME FRONT

The October National Older People's Day will be celebrated in Lewes on Thursday 22 October. Lewes District Seniors' Forum will host a celebratory event at the Cliffe Hall, Cliffe High Street - behind St Thomas à Becket Church - beginning at 2pm.

For further details of the event or Forum go to: [www.lewesdistrictseniors.org.uk/](http://www.lewesdistrictseniors.org.uk/) or contact: Secretary, David Glen, on 07947 422897, email: [secretary@lewesdistrictseniors.org.uk](mailto:secretary@lewesdistrictseniors.org.uk).

### YOUR TOWN YOUR SAY

#### Lewes Forum

1st Tuesday bi-monthly. For venue and time contact SDCVS: 01273 483832

#### Lewes district Seniors' Forum

Please visit the website for Forum details: [www.lewesdistrictseniors.org.uk](http://www.lewesdistrictseniors.org.uk)

#### Newhaven Forum

2nd Tuesday bi-monthly. Contact Penny Shimmin (NCDA) tel: 01273 612539 or fax: 01273 612821

#### Peacehaven Forum

3rd Friday each month, 12.30-2pm, Peacehaven Library, Meridian Centre, Peacehaven. Contact Heather Maskell, (Sec), email: [town\\_forum@btinternet.com](mailto:town_forum@btinternet.com)

## DIARY

### October

6 Lewes Town Forum, see above 7 Lewes Group in support of Refugees & Asylum Seekers AGM 7.30pm, Westgate, Lewes, contact 01273 472366 20 ESCC Cabinet Meeting 10.30am County Hall

### November

6 Action in rural Sussex –AGM, Norfolk Pavilion, South of England Showground Ardingly 17 User-Led Disability Organisations Conference at Uckfield Civic Centre, contact Theresa on 01424 205414 24 ESCC Cabinet meeting 10.30am County Hall 26 East Sussex Downs & Weald PCT board meeting 1pm (for venue call 01424 735641)

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