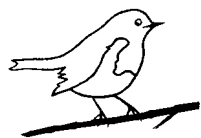
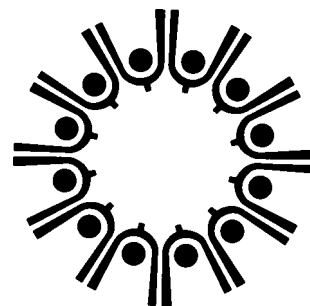


COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE IN MID SUSSEX



WINTER 2010 NEWSLETTER



***Your Councils for Voluntary Service Working Together
Throughout Mid Sussex***

Happy New Year to you all!

We hope that you think that your local CVS has been a good support to you and your organisation in 2009 and we look forward to working with you again in 2010. The high priority that the government has been placing on the Voluntary and Community Sector over the last 5 years or so, has generated many opportunities but has also brought with it challenges and changes to many of the ways that we have traditionally fulfilled our roles in our communities and there are more to come! For example, you may have heard in the mainstream media about the changes to the way that volunteers need to be screened before they help groups, especially where there are young people or vulnerable adults - the so-called 'Vetting and Barring scheme'. You may know that the initial guidance on this has been re-worked and, once this is all finalised, we will be planning some events and a leaflet that will provide what you need to know. In addition, there are local events on other key issues advertised in this newsletter and on our websites. If you have information or requests for other events, please let us know.

Opportunities

Meanwhile, we would like to make sure that you are all thoroughly aware that for the next 12 months we still have the additional resources and expertise of the EESI project which is funded by the Big Lottery. If you have any queries, concerns or particular needs for your organisation, you can contact either of our two part-time workers – Helen Hall and Regina Choudhury and they will be able to spend some time with you to guide and/or support you. You can contact them via the CVS or have a look at the EESI website: www.eesi.org.uk The feedback from groups who have already taken advantage of this service has been extremely positive so don't leave it too late. If you are a group who deals with older people we are pleased to be able to tell you that you can also access some extra support via the Mid Sussex Networks for Older People. This project has been extended for another six months. Further information from: www.midsussexnetworks.org.uk or telephone: 01444 248653. If you are needing additional volunteers, remember the Mid Sussex Volunteer Centres. They may already have volunteers on their databases who match the volunteer vacancy that you have.

And two more things to end with....

Firstly, you may already know that the trustees of the two CVSs in Mid Sussex have begun discussions about a possible amalgamation of their services. You will see that we already work extremely closely on so much of what we do, but possibly there will be other areas where joint work will further improve our efficiency. Both CVSs are totally committed to keeping our local community bases as well as maintaining or enhancing the services we already offer.

And finally, this front page is being compiled by Janice Spence, manager of Mid Sussex South CVS, so it is up to me to tell you that I shall be retiring at the end of March. I have been in post here for just over 10 years, which is hardly believable. It has been an enormously interesting job and the future looks at least as engrossing! One of the best bits has been meeting so many interesting, visionary and empowered people. If more people had the chance to see this side of community life, then there would be less cynicism around. But with my bus pass in my purse, it would be really good to have some time to use it! Many thanks for your friendship and inspiration and best wishes for the future.

Local training opportunities - see page 9

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CVSs are financially assisted by West Sussex County Council, West Sussex PCT, Mid Sussex District Council, Burgess Hill Town Council, East Grinstead Town Council, Haywards Heath Town Council and The Big Lottery Fund.

NEWS FROM MID SUSSEX (SOUTH) CVS

AGM October 2009

As well as the usual AGM formalities this was an opportunity to update members about the eventful Year of the Environment. This has led to some exciting initiatives and contacts which the CVS is intending to build on further in 2010.

A number of organisations were able to promote their work in the display areas and there were short, interesting talks from three groups - Arthritis Care Haywards Heath and District, Central Sussex Credit Union Service, West Sussex Mediation Service.

The enviable FABVORG 2009 trophy was jointly awarded to Mid Downs Hospital Radio, Kangaroos and Mid Sussex Timber Recycling Project.

Finally, there was a presentation to Joan Dew who was retiring after 6 years as a CVS trustee. Joan brought a wealth of information and expertise to the CVS as she was and still is involved in so many voluntary activities both locally and nationally. Her energy and knowledge has been so helpful to us and the CVS chairman thanked her and wished her good health and good luck for the future.

Action for Deafness held its AGM in October 2009 and launched its new membership scheme with a range of benefits for only £5 year. As one of the preferred service providers for the NHS West Sussex, Action for Deafness continues to expand its support for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing of all ages. If you would like to become involved as a volunteer or to become a member please contact: 01444 415582
info@actionfordeafness.org.uk
www.actionfordeafness.org.uk

Furnihelp require a range of second-hand goods to distribute to those in need. Sofas, beds, bedding and bedroom furniture, white goods, clothing/shoes are amongst the list of items currently required. If you would like to recycle your unwanted belongings through Furnihelp then please contact: 01342 811755,
furnihelp@furnihelp.co.uk.

Knowles Tooth Children's Centre at Hurstpierpoint provides breaks and holidays to families and children from throughout Sussex.

Knowles Tooth is part of Chichester Diocesan Association for Family Support Work, which provides a countywide service for families who are hurt and broken. Staff and volunteers are involved in a range of practical, emotional and support services for over 2000 families a year. This can include support visits, food hampers,

driving to appointments as well as the holidays at Knowles Tooth. To find out more about volunteering please contact David Dickson on: 01273 832533 or for general information contact: 01273 832363,
www.familysupportwork.org.uk

Park Centre is managed by West Sussex Youth Service and opens four nights a week for all young people in the local area. It offers activities such as dance workshops, art activities, DofE award training, as well as space for young people to chill out and chat, and access the internet. All staff and volunteers are CRB checked and offered training and the centre is always looking for volunteers to help out as often as they can commit.

Park Centre also has a large committee meeting room and a large ground floor hall, suitable for meetings and group activities, available to hire during the day and at weekends rates starting £10 per hour.

Visit: yourspacewestsussex.co.uk/parkcentre or: [facebook.com/parkcentre](https://www.facebook.com/parkcentre) or telephone: 01444 235560.

Group B Strep Support (GBSS) charity started in Haywards Heath in 1996 with the aims of offering information and support to families affected by GBS; informing health professionals and individuals how most GBS infections in newborn babies can be prevented; and generating continued support for research into preventing GBS infection. Over the years the charity has had a significant impact on obstetric/maternity care and impacted the lives of hundreds of families. They continue to tirelessly fundraise so that more babies' lives can be saved. For more information please contact: 01444 416176 or: info@gbss.org.uk;
www.gbss.org.uk.

Office to let at 38 Church Road, Burgess Hill available to voluntary/ local community groups and charities.

342 sq ft / 32 sq mtrs (approx); £5,065 + vat per annum inclusive of heat and power
For further details please contact Graham Fairbairn: 01444 238214 or Judy Pointing: 01444 238211 at Burgess Hill Town Council.

Team Projects

There continues to be demand from local businesses and schools to undertake one-off projects for not-for-profit organisations. If your group or organisation needs some decorating done; have a garden to be landscaped/maintained; a play area to be revamped or anything else that a team of 5-10 people could complete in a day or two, then please contact the Volunteer Centre: 01444 870711.

NEWS FROM EAST GRINSTEAD CVS

I apologise for the short news section from East Grinstead this time - I have received very few items to include in this issue. Please do send in your news - we can include it in the next Newsletter. You can use our Newsletter to highlight your organisation's events or to explain about particular projects you are running. We can also include items in our e-bulletins which are sent out regularly.

Collaborative Events

We have been working very closely with our colleagues in Mid Sussex (South) CVS and other CVSs across West Sussex and have a number of events coming up which are open to all East Grinstead CVS groups - you will find details elsewhere in the Newsletter and on the flyers included with the Newsletter.

I realise that it is sometimes difficult for people living in East Grinstead and the surrounding areas to attend events elsewhere in West Sussex. Please do contact us if there is an event you would like to attend, but are unable to get to - we might be able to pair you up with someone else who is going by car. While it is always nice to attend local meetings, through organising joint events with our colleagues we are able to offer a much wider range of networking and training events.

Supporting Volunteers Day

This will be held on Thursday 25th February and is an important day for all organisations working with volunteers. Sessions and workshops will cover issues such as recruiting, supporting and safeguarding volunteers. John Durrant (Chief Exec. from Chequer Mead), and Eric Mackie (Chairman EG and District Access Group) will talk about their experiences of working with volunteers. Please see the flyer with this Newsletter and book your place on this event now. If there is sufficient demand we are offering transport for our local groups from East Court to Billingshurst where the event is being held, and back at the end of the day in the EGBUS. Please contact us at EG CVS to book a place on the EGBUS.

Training

Don't forget to book onto our training courses - if you have mislaid your training programme, the courses are listed on our website or contact the CVS office if you need more information.

Networking in East Grinstead

Our Partnership for Older People Team and our EESI Development Workers are organising a networking event for local groups. This will be held on Wednesday 27th January at 10.00am in the Parish Hall in East Grinstead. This is an opportunity for groups to meet together and discuss issues of common interest. There will

also be a presentation on the new safeguarding regulations, as well as the chance for local groups to give a short presentation on their work. Please see the flyer with this Newsletter.

Janice is Leaving!

You will see the sad news on the front cover of this Newsletter, that Janice Spence is retiring from her role as Manager of Mid Sussex (South) CVS after 10 years. Janice has been a great friend to me and to EG CVS and has supported us through many difficult times. Most of you will have met her at our networking meetings, training sessions and other events. She has been a dynamic force in advancing the interests of the voluntary and community sector in Mid Sussex, and indeed throughout West Sussex. We will miss her!

Are you Interested in the Arts?

East Grinstead Music and Arts Festival had a very successful year in 2009, and entries are now invited for 2010. The Festival takes over most of Chequer Mead every weekend from March 27th – May 2nd. If you sing, dance, act or paint, this is your opportunity to get advice and encouragement from experienced Adjudicators. There are classes for individuals, small and large groups and troupes and for very young and not so young performers. There is also an art exhibition. The choirs and dancing troupes brought in capacity audiences last year and Chequer Mead was buzzing with the energy of so many enthusiastic people. Please encourage talented individuals, schools and local groups to enter this year – the more entries there are in the classes, the more worthwhile and interesting they are. The closing date for entries is Sunday 24th January. The Festival also has a large number of volunteers who act as stewards and in the theatre, directing and assisting performers and ensuring the classes run to schedule. If you can help over this period you could then watch the performances free of charge! Please contact Christine on: 01342 870352 if you have a few hours you could give to this prestigious event. More details about the Festival and the syllabus can be found at: www.egmaf.org.uk.

LOCAL INFORMATION

West Sussex Mediation Service continues to provide a sterling service to their clients, alongside the challenges of securing sustainable funding and recruiting valuable trustees. They also provide training and accreditation for their volunteers, with the next workshop to be held on Saturday 16th January 2009. For more information about the WSMS and being a supporter, mediator, trustee or client please contact: 01403 258900 (answering machine) or: 01403 257800; Email: info@wsms.org.uk; Web: www.wsms.org.uk; Twitter: [Mediation1](https://twitter.com/Mediation1).

Sussex Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (SASBAH) are opening a trading arm of the charity that will be run as a social enterprise. This will give those with spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus the opportunity to gain work experience, qualifications and support to transit into the workplace. For more details contact: 01825 873045.

Carers Support Service now has two new support workers for the Mid Sussex area. Jacqui and Laura will be providing general support to carers registered at GP surgeries in Burgess Hill, East Grinstead & Haywards Heath. For more details contact 01293 657046

Mid Sussex Affordable Warmth Strategy 2009-12 has been adopted by Council and is available online along with some *Frequently Asked Questions* to view here: www.midsussex.gov.uk/warmth.

The aim of the strategy is to ensure that residents can keep warm and well; it outlines what MSDC can do to improve the energy efficiency of properties in the district and help residents in difficulty.

4th West Sussex Social Enterprise Innovation Award with prizes of £5,000 and £2,000 up for grabs. Plus the winners will benefit as well from free support to develop their ideas. Contact: 01243 777606 or mail: esg@westsussex.gov.uk. Download guidelines and application form from: www.wssen.org.uk. Deadline is 29th January 2010.

NHS West Sussex - Customer Service Unit
Between now and March next year, staff at the new Customer Service Unit (CSU) would like to get out and about in every area of West Sussex. The unit can be contacted via a new low cost telephone number: 0300 100 1821, by writing to: Customer Service Unit, 1 The Causeway, Goring by Sea, Worthing BN12 6BT or by emailing: customerservices@westsussexpct.nhs.uk.

AirS Rural Helpline is now open for business. For all enquiries concerning Community Action Planning, Rural Affordable Housing and Village and Community Buildings call: 0845 873 61 65. The helpline will be staffed between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

West Sussex Compact has won the Compact Award for Innovation for their work on their influence and evaluation toolkit. The award was presented at a Ceremony on 3rd November 09. Celebrating excellent partnership working, the Compact Awards showcase the Compact - the long-standing agreement that sets out shared commitments and guidelines for partnership working between the government and the third

sector at a local, regional and national level. The judges were impressed that through the creation of a simple influence and engagement evaluation toolkit, West Sussex Compact has been able to undertake evaluations in key areas such as inter-agency partnerships, working together locally, funding and procurement, performance management and sustainability.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Considering collaboration or merger?

The Charity Commission has published two toolkits to help charities decide whether collaborative working or merger would help them and their beneficiaries.

www.charitycommission.gov.uk.

New model constitution for charities with under £5000 income

has been launched in partnership with umbrella bodies across the sector. It uses clear, direct language that is easy to understand and provides a concise, practical framework covering all the requirements for a very small charity which does not own land or employ staff: www.smallcharities.org.uk.

Outcome Star™ (funded by the Big Lottery) is a free tool for the voluntary and statutory sector to use. It measures progress for service users receiving support in order to maximise independence or achieve other goals. There are different versions of the Star for different sectors (e.g. homelessness, substance misuse, mental health and young people). To see if it's appropriate for your use, look on the Outcome Star™ website: <http://outcomes-star.squarespace.com/>.

South East Indicator Tool (SEIT) published by the DH, South East.

This is an interactive Excel-based tool displaying trends, projections and Local Area Agreement (LAA) trajectories and Primary Care Trust (PCT) plans for a range of National Indicators and Vital Signs. It is an ongoing project and will be updated as new data is released. To view the tool please go to: www.sepho.org.uk.

Human Resources & Safety

Recognising that small and medium-sized groups often find it difficult to comply with human resources and health & safety legislation, Charity Builder UK (CBUG) has been developed to help local charities and community groups carry out key administrative tasks quickly and easily. It is an online innovation so no additional software is required: www.charitybuilderuk.com; melanie.wright@tennysoninsurance.co.uk or: telephone 07500841285.

Risk Assessment Template

The Health and Safety Executive has published a template to create risk assessments and health and safety policies. It “brings together your risk assessment, health and safety policy and record of health and safety arrangements into one document to help get you started and save you time.”

Download the Risk Assessment and Policy Template from: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/risk/step4.htm>.

Risk management toolkit

The Charity Commission has launched a practical online toolkit, ‘Protecting charities from harm’, which aims to give trustees the tools they need to manage risks and protect their charity from harm and abuse. The first chapter, on the UK’s counter terrorism legislation and how it affects charity work, is available from:

www.charitycommission.gov.uk/news/prtoolkit.asp.

Vetting and Barring Scheme

If you are involved in communicating the upcoming changes on vetting employees and volunteers who work with children and vulnerable people, you may want to check the resources available at: <http://www.isa-gov.org.uk/toolkit/>. Produced by the Independent Safeguarding Authority, there are posters and email inserts (pdf/jpg formats but ‘zipped’ for download) for volunteers, groups not used to CRB checking/registering employees, and groups that are.

Toolkit to create an ICT Strategy, produced by Voluntary Organisations’ Network North East (VONNE), has been upgraded to include additional features. By answering a series of questions about your organisation and the work that it does, it will produce an ICT Strategy to focus your communication and technology needs and a case for funding, if required. Visit: www.web-toolkits.org.uk.

Trustee Matching Group on the CUPP Network, University of Brighton

This social networking site is part of the Community University Partnership Programme and is for anyone involved or interested in community-university engagement: www.cuppcop.ning.com h.eis@brighton.ac.uk.

First Aid

The Health and Safety Executive have updated their guidance on training of first aiders in the workplace, to take account of the changes which became effective from 1 October 2009. From that date appointed first aiders must either have a certificate of competence in first aid at work (FAW) or emergency first aid at work (EFAW).

‘First aid at work - the Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations 1981’. Approved Code of Practice and Guidance’ (October 2009) can be viewed at: www.hse.gov.uk.

Personalisation Briefing

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) has published a new briefing outlining how personalised care will impact on the work of Voluntary/Community Sector organisations and should be integrated into service delivery and organisational planning. It is the latest in a series of briefings on personalisation aimed at a range of audiences, from commissioners to carers. To view the briefing please go to: www.scie.org.uk; See also ‘Training’ section.

Stepping from informal group to official organisation

Voluntary Arts Network has a new briefing on ‘Taking the next step: from an informal group to a registered organisation’, giving an overview of issues to consider. Download the document from: www.voluntaryarts.org.

Age UK is the new name for merged Age Concern and Help the Aged.

Real Accountability: Guidance on the NHS Duty to Report on Consultation

New legislation will come into force in April 2010 that will require all primary care trusts and strategic health authorities that commission services to explain how they have acted upon feedback from patients and the public. The guidance explains the legal obligations and provides practical help and advice in terms of preparing and publishing reports. To view the guidance please go to: www.dh.gov.uk.

ProfitNet - for social enterprises

ProfitNet provides an innovative approach to networking, knowledge sharing, and exploring solutions that can really help your organisation succeed.

ProfitNet works through structured learning, informal networking, communication and knowledge sharing with peers and experts and aims to help you understand your business in real depth and apply your learning through this practical approach.

For more details please contact Deana Ward: 01273 876735 or: d.s.ward@brighton.ac.uk <http://www.brighton.ac.uk/profitnet/>.

Charity tax issues to be addressed by Revenue and Customs

HM Revenue and Customs has met with the Charity Finance Directors’ Group and a group of finance directors from leading charities to discuss current taxation issues faced by charities. Issues covered include sponsorship restrictions, raising the exemption limit for low-level trading and VAT on shared services.

Visit: www.cfdg.org.uk.

TRAINING

Self Directed Support (SDS) and Future Commissioning

Lodge Hill, Watersfield, West Sussex on Weds 20th January 2010, 10.00am-3.30pm.

The way in which our communities receive health and social care support is changing as services become more personalised to meet individual needs. This in turn is transforming the way in which the public sector commission services from providers.

This is an opportunity to find out more about SDS and to discuss how the changes will affect you. Download a booking form from:

www.wssen.org.uk or contact:

holly.chant@westsussex.gov.uk. or: Holly Chant, WSCC, Adults' Services, The Grange, Tower Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1RH. 01243 777693.

'Personalisation' MSLG Networking Event

Wednesday 24th February 2010, 10.30am – 12.30 pm. Handcross Parish Hall, Handcross.

Representatives from WSCC will discuss the way the voluntary sector has a crucial role to play in shaping and delivering public services tailored to and informed by their customers. Book early to avoid disappointment -contact your local CVS.

Safeguarding Regulations Networking Event

Wednesday 27th January 2010, 10.00am - 1.00pm. Parish Halls, East Grinstead.

Come along to network with other groups and get free up-to-date information on the new safeguarding regulations. Please book before 20th January by contacting Helen/Regina: 07920 425 384/ 07824 696 608.

'Get Inspired' at the Mid Sussex Club Conference on Wednesday 17th February 2010 6.15pm – 10.00pm at Ardingly College.

This free conference is open to all involved in Sport and Physical activity across Mid Sussex and will provide local clubs, groups and professionals with an evening of inspiring presentations and informative workshops to help develop participants skills and their club.

To register for a place, please visit: www.doitonline.midsussex.gov.uk. For more information about the conference, please contact Steve Trice on: 01444 477499 or email: stevent@midsussex.gov.uk.

Supporting Volunteers Day

Thursday 25th February 2010, 9.15am – 4.00pm. Billingshurst Village Hall.

A free event for people who support or manage volunteers. This informative and interactive day will include workshops, speakers, stands and 1:1 advice sessions.

To book a place contact: Working Together Project: 01273 234773 or: bookings@workingtogetherproject.org.uk.

Local Global Mid Sussex 2010 – a free event to celebrate the rich cultural diversity in Mid Sussex.

Saturday 6th March 2010 (11.00 am – 3.00pm). Methodist Church, Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath.

This promises to be a colourful event with traditional dances/songs, food from around the world, plus entertainment for children and information stands. The event will also include the launch of the newly formed Mid Sussex Diversity Forum. To book a place contact Regina Choudhury: 07824696608 or email: regina.eesi@hotmail.com.

PQASSO Quality Mark Workshop – a free half day workshop telling you all you need to know about PQASSO and how to apply it. This quality assurance system was designed specifically for the third sector and has helped thousands of organisations to improve their efficiency and effectiveness. 28th May 2010; 2.00 – 5.00pm, London. www.ces-vol.org.uk.

Please refer to the **North East CVS Training Programme 09/10** for details about upcoming courses. Book now to be sure of a place as these are quickly filling up.

FUNDING

Co-operative Community Fund grants, between £100 and £2,000 are awarded to community, voluntary, or self-help groups to run projects that meet the following criteria:

- address a community issue
- provide a good long-term benefit to the community
- support co-operative values and principles
- ideally be innovative in its approach.

For more details visit: www.co-operative.coop.

Community Matters Funding

Waitrose is awarding £2.2 million over the next year to approximately 7,000 charities. The Community Matters Scheme allocates £1,000 to each of the 190 Waitrose branches to be distributed to three community projects chosen by customers and employees. For more information on the Community Matters please go to: www.johnlewispartnership.co.uk.

Abbey Charitable Trust is committed to supporting local communities. They fund projects based on three priorities to help disadvantaged people:

1. Education and training
2. Financial advice
3. Community regeneration.

For more details visit: www.aboutabbey.com .

Concertina makes grants to charitable bodies which provide musical entertainment and related activities for the elderly. This not only brightens up their lives, but also provides a therapeutic benefit to their health and well-being.

Charities are invited to make an application to the Trustees who review applications January 31st, April 30th, June 30th and October 31st. Sally Dyson, the Administrator, would be delighted to hear from you should you require any further information. She may be contacted at: 20 Kent House, Aylesford Street, London SW1V 3QB Tel: 020 7976 5785.
info@concertinamusic.org.uk ;
www.concertinamusic.org.uk.

Youth Music Grants of between £5,000 and £30,000 are available to support projects that provide music-making activities for children and young people. The charity will fund non-profit making organisations which are more than one year old and are committed to music - making activities for children and young people. For more information on the programme please go to: www.youthmusic.org.uk.

ESF Community Grants Scheme is now open to applications. Voluntary/Community groups that focus on hard to reach communities and unemployed/economically inactive individuals can apply for grants of between £1,000 and £12,000. The next application deadline is the 3rd February. For more information on the fund go to: <http://ruralsussex.org.uk/blog/?p=333>.

Biffawards Flagship Programme awards grants to community and environmental projects and re-opens for applications in Spring 2010.

Organisations can apply for grants of between £150,000 - £500,000. Projects must be within 25 miles of a Biffa operation and eligible to enrol with ENTRUST as an Environmental Body. For more information on the programme please go to: www.biffaward.org.

Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust are awarding grants during 2010 (£1,000 - £10,000) for projects in the areas of: children, youth, elderly and medical research projects dealing with the ageing population.

The deadlines for application are 1st June and 1st November each year. For more information, please visit: www.austin-hope-pilkington.org.uk.

Charity Employees Benevolent Fund launched in November 2009 and is now providing advice and financial assistance for the families of charity employees in need. You can download an application form from: www.cebf.org.uk.

Charity Employees Benevolent Fund, The Finsbury Business Centre, 40 Bowling Green Lane, Clerkenwell, London, EC1R 0NE Tel: 020 7415 7004.

The Skinners' Company Lady Neville Charity provides grants that will make a clear and significant contribution to grassroots charitable organisations working in designated priority areas. One-off grants of up to £1,000 are made to small registered charities and not-for-profit organisations. The priority areas are disability, local heritage, local community and performing & visual arts. www.skinnershall.co.uk.

V Cashpoint funding round is open for applications. The activities supported by the fund range from activities for children, transforming a community space or setting up a local campaign. www.vgrantfunding.com.

Community Cash Awards The Awards ranging from between £250 and £5,000 are available to disadvantaged 14 to 25- year olds who want to transform their area. Applications can be made at any time. www.princes-trust.org.uk.

J Paul Getty Junior Charitable Trust awards grants of up to £250,000 in the areas of social welfare as well as the arts and heritage. Applications can be made at any time. www.jpgettytrust.org.uk.

The LEADER programme is available to help farmers, growers, foresters, small businesses and rural communities in Sussex and East Hampshire. It aims to improve the competitiveness of farming and forestry; support a diverse and successful rural economy; develop vibrant and thriving rural communities. Please contact Peter Simpson: 01243 756755 or Richard Chalk: 01243 756606.
Email: RDPELEADER@westsussex.gov.uk ;
www.westsussex.gov.uk.

Mercury FM Grants

Charities and voluntary organisations invited to apply for grants up to £3,000.

Applications close on 20th January 2010.

If you want to apply for a 2010 grant, e-mail: irena.cook@thisisglobal.com.

Supply and Demand

The Supply2 website has dropped the fee to search their database for UK public sector contracts of £1,000,000 or less. Over 6800 of these are registered with the website including local government, health, education and housing authorities, emergency services and the Olympic Delivery Authority. For more information go to: www.supply2.gov.uk.

Commissioning and Procurement - has it worked for you?

The Funding and Finance sub-group of the South East Regional Strategic Cross-Sector Partnership, are undertaking a 'quick and dirty' piece of research to establish whether the third sector is

commissioned to deliver public services more widely now than was the case five years ago, or even one year ago.

The findings from this research will establish a base for a conversation with the Office of the Third Sector about whether the government's stated policy on increased commissioning and a simpler procurement process for the third sector is working. To answer the 5 simple questions please go to: www.raise-networks.org.uk.

Gatwick Airport Community Trust

This is a small grants programme open to voluntary and community organisations within the Gatwick Diamond. This includes all organisations working anywhere in Mid Sussex north of the A272. In the past year grants of between £250 and £4,000 were made to church groups, playgroups, arts organisations, groups working with people with specific disabilities etc. The closing date for applications is Monday 1st March 2010. Go to: www.gact.org.uk, phone: 01892 826088, or write to: GACT, PO Box 464, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 9PU

PUBLICATIONS & WEBSITES

FREE! CHANGE Guide – How to Make Information Accessible

CHANGE, the national equal rights organisation led by disabled people, has developed this free guide about how to produce easy to read documents. For more information on the guide please go to: www.changepeople.co.uk.

UPDATED! Voluntary Sector Legal Handbook, Directory of Social Change. The CVS's copy of this publication has now arrived which means that we have a reference copy that will answer just about anything that anyone could want to know about the legal requirements of charities – whatever their governance structure.

NEW! Guide to Procurement Law has been published by NAVCA and NCVO to help local charities, voluntary organisations, community groups or social enterprises understand the laws around public sector contracting. 'Pathways through the Maze – a Guide to Procurement Law' is free to download from the NCVO and NAVCA websites: www.ncvo-vol.org.uk.

Charitable Status by Julian Blake, £14.95. A 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 & VAT issues, the distinction between charitable and political campaigning

and regulations. Available from: www.trustfunding.org.uk.

Tools for Tomorrow: a practical guide to strategic planning for voluntary organisations £35 (NCVO members £24.50) Gives a complete set of practical tools to simplify and structure your planning process. Combines exercises, case studies and worksheets. To order visit: www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/tools or borrow it from your CVS!

Basic legal advice by web and email

This new web-based system provides brief legal information on straightforward legal queries, to assist not-for-profit organisations and individuals who cannot afford to pay for solicitors privately. Initial Electronic Advice is run by LawWorks in partnership with advice agencies and voluntary sector umbrella bodies. Visit: www.lawworksiea.org.uk.

ICIS News

Signposting you to services providing advice, care and support. To download the publication from the website, please visit: www.icis-info4life.org.uk.

Charities Back on Track: themes and lessons from the Charity Commission's compliance work 2008-09 has now been published. It reports on the themes and wider issues arising from the CCs regulatory work, which is concerned with ensuring that charities comply with their legal obligations and with undertaking investigations into serious abuse or mismanagement in charities. www.charitycommission.gov.uk.

Incorporating an existing charity as a company A Questions and Answers pack on this topic has now been produced by the Charity Commission. www.charitycommission.gov.uk.

UPDATED! Advice for employers of lone workers

A leaflet from the Health and Safety Executive, giving advice and guidance on how to keep lone workers healthy and safe, has been updated. Download 'Working Alone - Health and safety guidance on the risks of lone working' from: www.hse.gov.uk.

Charitable Giving During the Recession

This annual report publication, from the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) UK Giving, seeks to provide an overview of the latest trends in individual charitable giving. During 2008/09 the economic downturn has caused an 11% decrease in charitable donations throughout the

UK, returning figures to those reported in the 2006/07 financial year. Currently, 54% of adults donate in an average month, down two percent from 56% in 2007/08. For more information visit: <http://j4bfunditpundit.wordpress.com>.

RAISE 2009

Post conference report is now available online at: <http://www.raisepolicy.org.uk/agm.html>.

Ways of setting up social enterprises

Bates Wells and Braithwaite solicitors have contributed to the Guardian's series of articles giving legal advice to the sector with a Q&A on setting up a social enterprise. The article provides some useful explanation of the different legal forms. Visit: www.guardian.co.uk/society/2009/oct/06/social-enterprises-and-the-law.

West Sussex Volunteering Network are the eight Volunteer Centres in West Sussex working together to promote and support voluntary action in your local community.

If you're interested in volunteering, looking for volunteers, need to access training for volunteers or have a team that wants to volunteer on a project then this website is for you and can signpost you to all you need to know about volunteering in West Sussex.

Visit: www.westsussexvolunteering.org.uk.

Sharing resources on volunteer management

A new website where those who work in the field of volunteer management can add useful resources and others will be able to access them, thus avoiding re-inventing the wheel. Visit: www.oursharedresources.com.

Networking for befriending schemes

VitalLinks is a new national network (England and Wales) of befriending schemes for older people, visit: www.counselandcare.org.uk.

Advice Line on Personal Debt Issues

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. See: www.debtadvicefoundation.org for more details.

The whole caboodle

NAVCA have set up a social network for the third sector called navcaboodle, which has been developed for colleagues to network, discuss and share their experiences in a number of ways. These include groups, discussion forums, photo/video sharing and events. For more information please go to: www.navcaboodle.org.uk or email: navcaboodle@navca.org.uk.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Self Directed Support (SDS) and Future Commissioning

Wednesday 20th January 2010, 10.00 am to 3.30 pm. Lodge Hill, Watersfield.

Ecofair Mid Sussex

Saturday June 5th 2010 - Haywards Heath. Details coming shortly.

Safeguarding Regulations Networking Event

Wednesday 27th January 2010, 10.00am – 1.00pm. Parish Halls, East Grinstead.

Mid Sussex Club Conference

Wednesday 17th February 2010, 6.15 pm – 10.00 pm. Ardingly College.

'Personalisation' MSLG Networking Event

Wednesday 24th February 2010, 10.30am – 12.30 pm. Handcross Parish Hall, Handcross.

Supporting Volunteers Day

Thursday 25th February 2010. Billingshurst.

Local Global Mid Sussex 2010

Saturday 6th March 2010, 11.00am – 3.00 pm. Methodist Church, Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath.

LOCAL TRAINING DATES

To find out more about the courses please look at the NE CVS Training Brochure you received before Christmas or consult the CVS websites. To enrol on the courses either telephone: 01273 234773 or email: bookings@workingtogetherproject.org.uk.

26th Jan. Making the transition to Microsoft Office 2007 (Morning) Horsham Free.

29th Jan. Policy development (All day) Crawley CVS Free.

2nd Feb. Time Management (Morning) Crawley £15.00.

5th Feb. Creating a website using WordPress.com (All day) Crawley Free (Day 1 of 2).

10th Feb. Volunteers and the Law (All day) Burgess Hill £30.00.

12th Feb. Creating a website using WordPress.com (All day) Crawley Free (Day 2 of 2).

23rd Feb. The Legal Responsibilities of a Management Committee (evening) Horsham Free.

2nd March Introduction to Excel (All day) Horsham Free.

10th March Developing a Training Needs Analysis (All day) Horsham Free.

11th March Effective Administration (All day) Burgess Hill Free (Day 1 of 2).

12th March Producing a Newsletter (All day) Crawley Free.

16th March Press Publicity and Promotion (All day) Horsham Free.

18th March Effective Administration (All day) Burgess Hill Free (Day 2 of 2).

19th March Introduction to Accounting on QuickBooks (All day) Free (Day 1 of 2).

24th March The A - Z of Fundraising (All day) East Grinstead Free.

26th March Introduction to Accounting on QuickBooks (All day) Free (Day 2 of 2).

30th March What to do if you're worried a child is being abused (Morning) Horsham Free".

EAST GRINSTEAD CVS

The Old Court House, College Lane,
East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19 3LS
Tel: 01342 328080 • Fax: 01342 324664
Email: christine@egcvs.co.uk - Registered Charity No. 1120520
Website: www.egcvs.org.uk

MANAGER: Christine Hardisty

Administrator: Jakki Jackson

Volunteering Information: Loral Bennett

EGFLEET: 01342 305275

Transport Assistants: Judy Hamilton,
Alison Daniels

MID SUSSEX (SOUTH) CVS

38 Church Road, Burgess Hill,
West Sussex RH15 9AE

Telephone : 01444 258102

Email: cvsms@copperstream.co.uk

Website: www.midsussexsouthcvs.ik.com

Registered Charity No. 1059204

MANAGER: Janice Spence

Volunteering Information: Jane Harding

Tel: 01444 870711

PR: Catherine Pardoe: 01444 258102/870711

cvspr_cvsms@copperstream.co.uk

Administrator: Sue Rabbett

EESI Development Workers:

Helen Hall: 07920 425384
helen.eesi@hotmail.com

Regina Choudhury: 07824 696608
regina.eesi@hotmail.com

Contact the CVS Office for:

- more information on any of the above;
- if you would like to receive a large print version of the newsletter.

Please photocopy for your colleagues and pass on the information as widely as possible. This newsletter is available online through our websites: Mid Sussex (South) CVS www.midsussexsouthcvs.ik.com; East Grinstead CVS www.egcvs.org.uk.

Newsletter Contributions:

We welcome contributions of up to 100 words in any form. If you are able to, send them by email, either in the body of the email or as an attachment. If you send us news of your voluntary organisation, we will be very happy to include it.

Please check that we have your correct details and, if not, contact us so that we can amend the database. Thank you for your help in this matter.

- Be sure that we know your Group's email address so that we can keep you informed of any urgent information.

Note! Deadline for the next issue is: Spring - 17th March 2010

Visit our websites:



www.midsussexsouthcvs.ik.com and www.egcvs.org.uk

