

ROTHER VOLUNTARY ACTION

E-BULLETIN

Edition 39
October 2011



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NEWS

FUNDING WORKSHOP FOR COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Funded by East Sussex County Council and in partnership with 3VA and HVA, Rother Voluntary Action is facilitating a workshop to be held on Tuesday 8th November 2011 which will concentrate on funding and fundraising for community transport schemes.

The workshop will seek to explore and expand on ways to find funding for both existing operators and those wishing to start a new scheme whether that is a mini bus to meet the transport needs of your organisation or a volunteer car service.

If you would like to attend the workshop or find out more please contact:

angie.alexander@btconnect.com

HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT - THE INQUIRY FINAL REPORT

'Hidden in plain sight' is the final report of our inquiry into disability-related harassment. The report uncovers that harassment is a commonplace experience for disabled people, but a culture of disbelief and systemic institutional failures are preventing it from being tackled effectively. As well as reporting on the extent of harassment the report also includes case studies and makes recommendations to public authorities to help them deal with the problems uncovered. Click here for full report

http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/disabilityfi/ehrc_hidden_in_plain_sight_3.pdf

ISSUES RAISED AT NETWORK MEETINGS

Below are a list of issues that have been raised at Rye Network, Battle (Muddy Boots) Network and the Bexhill Community Network

- Changes proposed to Patient Transport provided by Sussex Ambulance Services will impact disproportionately on East Sussex residents.
- Extreme increases in numbers of cases of homelessness that local voluntary agencies are dealing with
- Changes to Hate Crime Reporting will mean only the most serious cases will be supported. Concern that ongoing low level issues will not show up
- Possible loss of community asset if Charter Centre is closed
- Lack of advertising and the knock on effect that has on people not being kept informed of changes to vital services and events

THE YOUNG ACHIEVERS TRUST

The 2011 Young Achievers Awards are now open for nominations! Through these Awards, the Young Achievers Trust celebrates and supports the outstanding contribution of young people working to make their communities a better place across the following four categories: arts, environment, community and sport.

If you know an exceptional young volunteer and would like to find out more about our Awards and to make a nomination directly through the website, please go to www.youngachieversawards.org.

ANY QUALIFIED PROVIDER

The government is committed to increase choice and personalisation of NHS funded services by extending patient choice of Any Qualified Provider for appropriate services. This means that when patients are referred for a particular service they should be able to choose where they receive that service from a list of qualified providers who meet NHS service quality requirements, price and other normal contract standards.

The first step towards this is happening now. NHS Sussex needs to decide on three or more services to start implementing patient choice of Any Qualified Provider (this will start in September 2012).

The selection of which services to prioritise must be based on the priorities of local patients, clinicians, professionals and community organisations for improving the quality of, and access to, NHS services.

Contact Yoursay@hastingsrotherpct.nhs.uk to request a short questionnaire and have your say. **The deadline for responses is October 24th 2011.**

FUNDING

S.O.S.

Villages in the South East have one month left to apply for a share of £5million to help start up a community enterprise, big or small.

They have until 5pm on Thursday 20 October 2011 to apply for between £10,000 and £30,000 from the Big Lottery Fund's Village SOS Active competition. Anyone living in a rural village of less than 3,000 people, with an enterprising idea should register at www.villagesos.org.uk where they will find more details as well as an online support network.

All they need to do is outline their idea in a quick and easy online form <http://www.villagesos.org.uk/competition> and the best ideas will be chosen to complete a full application for a grant of between £10,000 and £30,000. Extra support for those interested in applying is available via a telephone advice line - 0845 434 9123 - with experts giving practical tips on how to develop your ideas and make your village business a success.

REACHING FOR GOLD

The Reaching for Gold Competition is a South East competition designed to encourage innovative ideas from groups of up to ten 14-19 year olds that can make a practical difference to society in the areas of Youth, Community and Innovative Access. There are three top prizes of £750, £1,500 or £3,000, as well as the opportunity to put ideas into practice with the help of a top employee from a global business such as BT, Deloitte and Sony and an experienced voluntary sector partner in the region. The application deadline is 5pm on **30 November**, with more information on the entry requirements and an application form available here: www.reachingforgold.org.uk.

RDPE FUNDING STILL AVAILABLE THROUGH THE WARR PARTNERSHIP

As at the end of September 2011, the WARR Partnership still has approximately £480,000 to allocate to new projects. Whilst the Rural Development Programme for England fund officially closes in December 2013, restrictions in its administration budget mean WARR will need to complete its work by the end of July 2013.

In order to achieve this deadline, projects must complete their spend by the end of June 2013 and all remaining funds must therefore be fully allocated by the end of December 2012. To be eligible for funding, new projects should help to achieve one or more of the WARR Partnership objectives outlined below:-

- Objective 1: Capitalising on the High Quality of the Environment
- Objective 2: Utilising the Woodland
- Objective 3: Promoting Rural Tourism and Cultural Heritage
- Objective 4: Diversifying Farming and Improving the Profitability of Land
- Objective 5: Promoting Local Food Produce
- Objective 6: Developing Basic Services and Improving Community Cohesion
- Objective 7: Collaborating, Innovating and Sharing Services
- Objective 8: Supporting micro-businesses that will create or safeguard jobs in rural areas

For more information about the fund and how to apply, visit www.warrpartnership.org.uk or telephone the team on 01424-787400.

CONSULTATIONS

NEW POLICY DIRECTIONS FOR BIG LOTTERY FUND

A government consultation has opened on proposed new policy directions for the Big Lottery Fund. One potential funding priority is "strengthening and increasing the capacity of the social investment market". There is some sector concern that the principle of "additionality", where lottery funding is distinct from government funds, is being weakened. Third Sector news item at <http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/news/article/1086082/>, official news item at <http://preview.tinyurl.com/3beojmx>, or direct to consultation page <http://preview.tinyurl.com/3bvkw2> Deadline 18th November.

SIMPLIFICATION OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE AGREEMENTS SCHEME

Current Climate Change Agreements expire in March 2013. However, the Government announced in the [2011 Budget\[External link\]](#) (links to HM Treasury website) that "the scheme will continue until 2023, subject to State aid approval, and a consultation on simplifying the scheme will be published this summer".

This consultation therefore presents a number of proposals to deliver significant improvements in energy efficiency while reducing burdens on business including the complexity and overlap of climate change industry policy. It is estimated that the proposals set out in this consultation will provide financial benefits to business in the range of £2.4M to £3.4M during the life of the scheme. Responses must be submitted by 28th October 2011.

CARING FOR OUR FUTURE: SHARED AMBITIONS FOR CARE AND SUPPORT

The government wants your ideas about the priorities for improving social care, including increasing personalisation and choice, improving the integration of services and supporting greater prevention and early intervention. This will inform a Government White Paper due for Spring 2012. The [engagement exercise](#) runs until 2 December.

BLUE BADGE CAR SCHEME CONSULTATION

The Government is changing the Blue Car Badge parking scheme and would like to hear what users of the scheme and carers for people who use the scheme think. As part of proposed changes, from April 2012 therapy staff at mobility clinics would replace doctors in carrying out Blue Car Badge mobility assessments. To take part in the consultation complete the online survey by [clicking here](#) before the deadline on **26 October**, or alternatively if you have any questions call 01323 464244 or email bluecarbadges@eastsussex.gov.uk.

TRAINING

EFFECTIVE VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT with McCrudden Training

Wednesday 12 October, 9.30am – 4.30pm,

Venue: 3VA's Annexe, 8 Saffrons Road, Eastbourne, BN21 1DG

Closing date for bookings: Wednesday 28 September

This course is suitable for anyone with responsibility for managing or supervising volunteers. Learn how to effectively manage yourself and your volunteers. This workshop will help delegates understand the voluntary sector and the role of the volunteer manager more fully, including the recruitment and selection of volunteers. The day considers strategies for retaining existing volunteers, the legal issues surrounding volunteer management and approaches for dealing with common problems. Further information can be found by [clicking here](#).

SOCIAL MEDIA with Clive Gross

Tuesday 25 October, 9.30 am – 4pm

Closing Date for bookings: Tuesday 11 October

Venue: Yarrow Room, Town Hall, High Street, Lewes, BN7 2QS

How to use the Web and Social Media to support your organisation

This one-day course looks at how to use the web and all the different social media tools available to you to support your charity, social enterprise, community group or organisation without it taking over your life. Part one (AM) explores each of the different social media platforms, how they fit together and how they fit in with your off-line marketing activities to save you money and increase your effectiveness. Part two (PM) looks at practical techniques for using the platforms you have chosen,

optimising their content and reaching your audience. Further information can be found on the Training Page of the 3VA website, or by [clicking here](#).

WORLD AIDS DAY SEMINAR

Train the Trainers Opportunity - FREE Course (2.5 hours)

(There is no charge for the course but a non-attendance fee of £50 is payable if 48 hours notice of cancellation is not given).

This is an opportunity for Nurses, Teachers and Youth Workers working in schools or anyone who would like to deliver a one-hour seminar workshop this World AIDS Day (December 1st) to help inform, educate and promote awareness around this very important issue to students or colleagues

Places are limited and the dates for the training are:

Eastbourne: Wednesday 23rd November 9:30 – 12:00

Hastings: Thursday 24th November 1:00 – 3:30

For a booking form please e-mail: HD.Training@esht.nhs.uk

For more information about the course, please contact:

Andrew Hoyt - Specialist Health Development Training Co-ordinator on 01323 418 998

VACANCIES

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER JOB OPPORTUNITY

A temporary job opportunity is available at the SpeakUp Forum at 3VA. This post will be based in Eastbourne, with occasional travel across East Sussex. It will be based with SpeakUp Forum which is a project hosted by 3VA. We are seeking a highly motivated and organised individual to join the countywide project as a Development Officer. This is a part-time post (18.5 hours) until March 2012. The Development Officer will join the SpeakUp team, support the Development Coordinator and be responsible for organising countywide events and meetings and developing new areas of work. We are seeking a self-starter, a person with experience in working in community development and organising events, developing funding bids and income generating activities and managing volunteers.

For more information, please [click here](#).

TRAINING MANAGER JOB VACANCY

Thanks to funding from The Big Lottery Fund, the East Sussex Association of Blind and Partially Sighted People (ESAB) are currently recruiting for a Training Manager to develop and deliver training courses for clients, and vision awareness courses for organisations. This is a new, full-time position with a salary of £25,000. The closing date for applications is 9am on **Monday 10 October** more information is available by [clicking here](#).

BITS & PIECES

SOCIAL CARE & SUPPORT – PERSONAL BUDGET SURVEY RESULTS

The outcomes of the above survey, which closed on June 30th 2011, can now be downloaded via the following link on the East Sussex County Council website:

<http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/consultation/2011/supportoptions/download.htm>

Please feel free to share the report with anyone you think it may be of interest to.

WHAT MOTIVATES YOUR SUPPORTERS TO GIVE MONEY AND TIME?

You'll get some fascinating answers from the just-released '[Pathways through participation](#)' report.

COUNTING THE CUTS

The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) have produced a detailed analysis of the Government's projected spending plans for the Spending Review period (2011 – 2015), entitled 'Counting the Cuts: The impact of spending cuts on the UK voluntary and community sector'. Using the Government's own figures, from the Office for Budget Responsibility, NCVO have estimated that the voluntary and community sector is facing nearly £3billion in cuts over the next five years. NCVO say the report is not intended to be a post mortem exercise on cuts but is NCVO's contribution to taking the debate forward; the report can be read by [clicking here](#).

COMMUNITY NEWSWIRE IS BACK

[Community Newswire](#), the free news distribution service is back thanks to Big lottery funding. The service lets charities and community groups upload their press releases and news stories, which are then picked up by journalists from the Press Association news agency, rewritten, fact checked and distributed to newsrooms nationwide.

COMMUNITY TOOLKIT

Zurich are supporting [Community Toolkit](#), a free information resource for people who want to get involved in organising smaller, straightforward community activities. Get some guidance on how to set up and plan your community group's activities. Get a free personalised Community Toolkit Pack to help get your activity started.

DIGITAL SWITCHOVER

The following link will give information about the digital switchover for our region (Meridian) takes place on 8th February 2012. <http://www.digitaluk.co.uk/>

COUNT THE COST OF ONLINE DONATIONS

There are a growing number of methods for donating online, however it is important to know the true cost to the donor and to the organisation. With ever greater fundraising challenges, this brief article from SCIP highlights the pros and cons of some of the most popular methods, please [click here](#) for more details.

COMMUNITYFORCE

Making a difference where you live

Communities are important to all of us. At the heart of each and every one you'll find great people doing great things to make them better places.

NatWest CommunityForce is a new initiative which sees us working with local communities to support the people, projects and charities making a real difference where you live.

20 Days left to vote. Visit <http://communityforce.natwest.com/> to see who in your area you can vote for.

WHATS ON

RYE NETWORK: 4TH October 2011 - The School Creative Centre, New Road, Rye at 2pm

MUDDY BOOTS (Battle area Network): 3rd November 2011 - The Watch Oak, Battle, at 2pm

BEXHILL COMMUNITY NETWORK: 7th December 2011 - Bexhill Town Hall at 2pm

RYE MUSEUM

Saturday, 8th October, East Street - 10:30-12 noon -Coffee Morning

Help to promote the Museum by bringing your friends for cake and coffee or tea and some socializing. You can bring and buy books too.

Tuesday, 11th October, East Street

Mena Star: The Story of a Local Shipwreck by Carl Bagwell

Carl Bagwell is Rye's former Harbour master and knows many stories about the many shipwrecks off nearby coast. If you need a reminder of just how numerous these wrecks were over centuries past visit the Ypres Tower again, climb up to the first floor and look at the Shipwrecks chart next to the doorway to the balcony. There is hardly room for another ship's name on the chart!

Members £2.00 Non-Members £3.00 to include raffle and refreshments

Tuesday, 25th October, 2 – 4 pm, East Street

Half-Term Children's Activity Afternoon

Heather Stevenson has planned a fun-filled afternoon of crafts and activities at the Museum for the younger set (ages 4-10) — and their parents/grandparents/aunts or uncles/other minders. Cost is £3 per accompanied child. Your youngsters can make peg dolls, plant bulbs; make a decoupage plant pot cover . . . while learning about the history of some favourite nursery rhymes – linked to medieval garden, Tudor and Victorian times.

What about decorating a costume for Mary Tudor with buttons and sequins to depict her as 'Mary Mary quite contrary'? Or giving Wee Willie Winkie a nightshirt? (Did you know he was the forerunner of the Town Crier?) Or would they rather plant spring bulbs in a container and make a plant pot cover

by recycling old magazine pictures and pots — using PVA glue? Recommended: wearing old clothes or bringing an old shirt.

There will be items to take away – then maybe the peg dolls could be used for a puppet show with friends or the planted pot and cover given to Mummy or Grandma.
Telephone: **01797 226728** Email: info@ryemuseum.co.uk

WALK AND SURF WITH ROTHER SENIORS FORUM

Monday 3rd October from 1pm at Bexhill Library

A fun event for seniors, and those about to retire from work, to celebrate UK Older People's Day. There will be a Treasure Hunt Walk and an opportunity either to 'surf' the internet or to be show some extra 'whiz bangs' in computing. They will provide individual computer helpers. The event ends with a free tea. Numbers are limited so you need to book. Cost is FREE. Contact Ron Sunderland on 01424 870 or email ronsunderland@talktalk.net

HARD OF HEARING GROUP

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.

The next meeting at Battle will be on Friday 7th Oct 2011, 2pm – 3.30pm at the Battle Medical Centre, Telham House, 13 Mitre Way.

The subject for our talk this month is "TV listeners." Do you have problems hearing the TV? If so, come along and find out how a TV listener may help. Talk presented by David Rowan.

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)
Email: david@eshrc.org.uk • www.eshrc.org.uk

HEALTH WALKS

Rye: Every Monday - 10 am - Meet at Gibbets Marsh Car Park

Battle: Every Friday – 10 am – Meet at Battle Abbey Steps

Bexhill: Every Friday - 11am - Meet in De La Warr Pavilion. (Till work completed on the Colonnade)

Ticehurst: every Monday 10.00am - meet at Pickford Lane car park

John's Cross: every Monday - 9.15am - meet Mountfield and Whatlington CE Primary School

Robertsbridge: Buggy Walk every Tuesday 9.30am - meet outside Robertsbridge Youth Centre

Sidley: every Monday from 4 July to 22 August - 11am meet on Sidley Green outside the New Inn pub.

For further information telephone Paula Hubens, Healthy Walks Project Officer on 01424 446395

FARMERS MARKETS

Rye: Every Wednesday – 10am till noon at The Strand Quay

Battle: Every Saturday – 9am till 1pm at Abbey Green

BEXHILL MUSEUM DATES

For full details of current, extensive, programme visit www.bexhillmuseum.co.uk

GET RVA NEWS AS AN RSS FEED ON YOUR HOMEPAGE – CLICK ON THIS LINK

<http://www.google.com/ig/add?feedurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk%2Fnews%2Ffeed>

RVA would like your short films about your community or local events or your opinions about things happening in your community. If you would like us to highlight news or issues contact Tina for more information at tina.hall@rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk

The Bexhill office has a small meeting room that can be used by any voluntary or community group. In addition we can provide photocopying services for groups in the Rye office.

Disclaimer: we check all information in the newsletter and web site, but as ever with these things we give no warranties, and encourage active checking before you make any decisions.