

News from Adur Voluntary Action & Chesham House Centre

Transforming Local Infrastructure Statement and Analysis

John Lambourne, Chairman of Adur Voluntary Action, recently gave the following statement on the subject of the Transforming Local Infrastructure initiative:

"The AdurVA Board met last week to consider the Transforming Infrastructure initiative, in the context of evolving public and voluntary sector policies, and in relation to AVA's own business development plan.

After a careful discussion, the Board decided unanimously that there was no business case for AdurVA to participate in preparation or delivery of a bid to this particular fund. As Adur VA is a relatively small and very locally focussed organisation, the board felt that contributing to this bid would divert far too much of our resources away from AdurVA's chosen priorities and philosophy. Hence AdurVA is withdrawing its formal expression of interest in this initiative.

The AdurVA Board continues to support the PAG group, and wishes to involve itself in co-operative activities which clearly benefit the County CVS Network, and either strengthen, or do not undermine, AdurVA's own philosophy and work. For example, AdurVA has particular interest and expertise in health promotion and would like to spend time on considering or developing a CVS Network bid to provide the new Health Watch service.

We hope that this information helps CVS Trustees across the County to understand AdurVA's position and that those organisations who do participate in this bid find it beneficial."

Both Adrian Barritt (AVA Chief Officer) and Sarah Lamb (AVA Trustee) have written articles going into more detail on this subject. To view Adrian's, go to <http://www.independentaction.net/2011/09/01/mad-world-tfi-view/>. To view Sarah's, go to <http://www.independentaction.net/2011/09/01/sarah-lamb-view/>.

Adur Voluntary Action Outreach Shop - Help Needed

AVA is setting up an outreach shop in Lancing High Street, in partnership with Lancing Parish Council, to get more people to use Chesham House Centre and to provide its services closer at hand.

Can you provide two office desks, four office chairs, four comfy chairs or any other office furniture, display boards or leaflet holders?

Email keri@adurva.org or ring 01903 854980 to let us know.

Bonus Supplement: New Best Value Statutory Guidance Consultation

Attached along with this issue of AVA News is a report summarising the varied responses to the Department for Communities and Local Government's consultation on Best Value Duty, as well as the Government's response to these.



Information

Open Sesame

The Open University is providing a collection of materials online (at no charge) for those individuals responsible for leading and managing small charities and voluntary and community organisations. Released under the CharityWise banner, you can find out more at

<http://www.open.ac.uk/blogs/CharityWise/>

CharityWise

Public Policy (and how to influence it)

Ncvo has published two webpages devoted to the explanation of public policy and advice on how to go about influencing it. To view them for yourself, go to <http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/what-policy> for 'What is Policy?' and <http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/influencing-policy> for 'Influencing Policy'.



Information

The South East Co-operative Community Awards

Deadline for nominations: Monday 3rd October, 5pm.

The South East Co-operative Community Awards are a celebration of community achievement in the region and will recognise the workers, organisations and groups who have all made a positive impact to society. The awards also acknowledge those deserving people behind the success – the volunteers and assistants who lend their support to groups, projects and charities.

The **co-operative**
membership

For more information or to nominate an organisation/individual, go to <http://tinyurl.com/3r3ctts>.

Force of Habit

In 2010 the University of Chichester was commissioned by West Sussex County Council (WSCC) to assess the economic impact of the third sector in the County. This study was to build upon previous research assessing the economic and social impacts of social enterprise.



A summary of the report has now been published and can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/3nnd8kp>. The Core Working Group featured individuals from a variety of areas, including our very own Chief Officer, Adrian Barritt.

The Future of Youth Support and Development Services for Young People in West Sussex

Consultation Deadline: Friday 14th October

West Sussex County Council are seeking feedback in response to a consultation on youth services across the area. On top of the £4 million savings already made, WSCC are proposing to cut a further £2 million over the next 3 years from the Youth Service budget. They need your responses to help shape the outcome.



Your feedback will help inform the final proposals and decisions taken by the County Council in November 2011 about the future services offered by the Youth Support & Development Service (YSDS) for young people in West Sussex after April 2012. This survey will take between 15 - 20 minutes (on average).

To take part or to find out more, go to <http://tinyurl.com/69zqw97>.

The Gingerbread Treasure

Gingerbread, an advice and support service for single parents, have published a guide to how to be a group treasurer. It begins with some advice from two experienced treasurers and can be found at <http://www.gingerbread.org.uk/content/634/Treasurers-guide>.

Gingerbread
Single parents, equal families

Time to Apply

The Centre for Charity Effectiveness at Cass Business School has published new research on how charities can learn and benefit from unsuccessful grant applications and how grant makers can help unsuccessful applicants. Entitled 'The Art of Refusal: Promising Practice for Grant Makers and Grant Seekers', it sets out a new series of guidelines to help charities reduce the time spent on unsuccessful applications.



Cass Business School
CITY UNIVERSITY LONDON

To find out more and download, go to <http://tinyurl.com/6j4uwqm>.

It's a Conspiracy!

A series of papers from the NCVO/VSSN Researching the Voluntary Sector Conference 2011 are now available to view online. The papers cover such varied topics as the History of Volunteering, The Importance of People in Achieving Outcomes, and Exploring the role of Islamic Philanthropy in the setting of the UK. To read them for yourself, go to <http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/researchconf11papers>.



Trustee Stories

Trustees' Week 2011 is being held from the 31st of October to the 6th of November and the Charity Commission want your stories. If you're a trustee and have an inspiring story about trusteeship and what it means to you, e-mail trusteesweek@charitycommission.gsi.gov.uk and get in touch.



TRUSTEES' WEEK 2011
31 OCTOBER - 6 NOVEMBER

For further details, go to <http://trusteesweek.blogspot.com/p/jon-snows-story.html> (and try and ignore the eyeball distracting background).

Events

Shifting Sands - making sense of a changing environment

Date: Tuesday 1st November, 10am - 4pm

Venue: Bradbury Conference Center, Lodge Hill, RH20 1LZ



West Sussex Council for Voluntary Youth Services are hosting this conference to support the voluntary and community sector in developing a shared understanding of the vital role individuals play in the changing environment around supporting children, young people and their families. Its other aims are to build confidence in the sector's essential role in universal safeguarding and to ensure the sector is working in partnership to provide the right support at the right place at the right time for the right child.

To attend, fill in the form at <http://tinyurl.com/4xwlo5t> and return to WSCVYS by Monday the 17th of October.

European Conference against Austerity and Privatisation

Date: October the 1st, 10am - 5pm

Venue: Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, London, WC1H 9AU

A Conference is being held in London in October to campaign against the policy of cuts. It will be the first event since the start of the crisis in 2008 where all those who want to oppose the cuts will meet. The conference will not only issue a declaration against the austerity programmes but plan a movement of resistance across Europe.



To find out more, go to <http://www.europeagainstausterity.org/>.

Getting Down to Business with Social Enterprise (WSSSEN Workshop series 2011-2012)

Find out about social enterprise

13th October 2011 and 2nd February 2012

Starting up a social enterprise - putting your ideas into action

20th October 2011 and 9th February 2012

Planning ahead - preparing a business plan and business case for your social enterprise

2nd November 2011 and 1st March 2012

Financing your social enterprise

17th November 2011 and 21st March 2012



WSSSEN are hosting a series of free workshops aimed at helping organisations get started and operate successfully as a social business. For more information on the content of these workshops and for booking details visit www.wssen.org.uk.

'Hardest Hit' Day of Action for disabled people

Date: Saturday 22nd October, 11am - 2pm (speakers between 11:30 and 12:30)

Venue: Jubilee Square, Jubilee Street, Brighton, BN1 1GE

Disabled people in the South East, their families and friends will take to the streets in Brighton to protest against Government cuts to disability benefits and services. This is one year on from the Comprehensive Spending Review, which revealed the Government's intention to slash public spending.

The event will be in the form of a rally taking place in Jubilee Square from 11am. The day of action in Brighton is just one of many Hardest Hit events taking place across the UK.

Visit www.hardesthit.org.uk or www.facebook.com/thehardesthit for more information on times and locations.

Events

Upcoming 4SIGHT Events

Chinese Fundraising Dinner

Date: Sunday 9th October

Join 4Sight for a Chinese meal at The Golden Willow Chinese Restaurant, Storrington, RH20 4HJ.



Supporting blind and partially sighted people

4SIGHT AGM

Date: Friday 28th October

4Sight's annual general meeting will be held this year at the Chichester Festival Theatre, PO19 6AP.

Sussex Obstacle Dash

Date: Sunday 30th October

There are places available in this unique cross country 5k or 10k obstacle course race at the South of England Show Ground, Ardingly, RH17 6TL.

For further details of the above events, contact Lisa Foard on 01243 838008 or e-mail lisa.foard@4sightsussex.co.uk.

Guild Care AGM

Date: Tuesday 27th September, 6pm - 7.45pm

Venue: Healthy Living Centre, Methold House, North Street, Worthing

Tom Scott, Care Fees Advice Agency will be talking on the 'Benefits of Financial Planning' for providers, care seekers and their relatives. The AGM will be followed by a hot buffet supper. To book a place, call Nicola Giles on 01903 528609 or email nicola.giles@guildcare.org

Technology

Only the Young

Young People in Focus, a recently closed charity, is continuing to make resources available on the web, while it can, at <http://www.studyofadolescence.org.uk>. This includes the microsites Young Fathers, Services for Young Adults and Youth Voice Peer Power.



Wired

Media Trust have relaunched 'Community Newswire', helping charities and communities get their stories into the national and regional media.

To submit stories, press releases and photos, visit <http://tinyurl.com/6crbpkm>

The best are selected and written up by a dedicated Press Association Journalist and distributed to thousands of newsrooms across the UK.

Volunteers

Trustees Wanted - Worthing and Arun Mind

Worthing and Arun Mind is a dynamic organisation that provides community services for people with mental health problems.



For better
mental health

Mind wants to strengthen its Board with people who have a passionate interest in promoting social justice. Skills in finance and general management, public relations, marketing or communications would be especially welcomed. Trustees will need to commit about 30 hours a year of their time to help develop Mind's work. Applications are welcomed from all sectors of the local community.

For an application pack, email Elaine Sola, the Director via Elaine.sola@worthingmind.org or telephone 01903 695410. For more information about the organisation, visit www.worthingmind.org.

Jobs

Corporate Services Team Receptionist (Age UK West Sussex)

Hours: 22.5 hours per week
Wage: £11,697 per annum, pro rata
Location: Head Office, Anchor Springs, Littlehampton
Closing Date: 29th September
Interview Date: 21st October



Age UK West Sussex are searching for a receptionist to provide reception services for their head office, in addition to providing basic admin support to the admin team. To find out more and to receive an application form, e-mail caron.lewis@ageukwestsussex.org.uk or phone 01903 731800. Alternatively, apply online at <https://secure.fast.net.uk/acwestsussex/28/job-detail/receptionist/>.

Funding

Sussex Community Foundation

Deadline: 14th October

Sussex Community Foundation awards grants to community and voluntary groups whose work benefits people in Brighton and Hove and East and West Sussex.

They are particularly interested in supporting smaller community based groups where a small grant can make a significant difference.

The Foundation manages a range of funds on behalf of various donors which each have their own priorities and criteria. The majority of grants are in the region of £1000 to £5000. However, the Foundation also has some Comic Relief Funds to distribute - up to £10,000.

For further information on the grants available, visit <http://www.sussexgiving.org.uk/apply-for-funding/> or call 01273 409440.

Edgar E Lawley Foundation

Deadline: 31st October

The Edgar E Lawley Foundation is a grant giving Charitable Foundation founded in 1961 by a gift from the late Edgar E Lawley. The Foundation maintains a preference for awarding unrestricted grants to smaller charities. The current annual grants programme amounts to approximately £225,000 per annum with a typical grant being in the region of £1200 to £2000 per successful applicant.

To find out more and to apply, go to <http://www.edgarelawleyfoundation.org.uk/obtaining-grants.htm>.



Events

Introduction to Fundraising and Bid Writing

Venue: University of Chichester, the Dome Building, Upper Bognor Road, Bognor Regis, West Sussex
Price: £500 per person
Workshop Dates: Workshop 1 - 10th October, Workshop 2 - 7th November, Workshop 3 - 5th December, Workshop 4 - 23rd January 2012



Voluntary and Community Action Chichester District, through their Fundraising Hub, are offering a new University of Chichester accredited course suitable for existing and aspiring fundraisers who wish to develop the skills required to make successful bids. For further information or to book a place, call Julie Budge on 01243 782393 or e-mail julie.budge@vcacd.org.uk.

E-mail the editor at euan@adurva.org or for general inquiries, info@adurva.org

AVA News is published by Adur Voluntary Action, Chesham House, 124 South Street, Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 8AJ - Registered Charity (no. 1131610).

AVA News aims to promote informed debate about voluntary action. We seek to offer a balanced perspective on all issues, and any opinions quoted or expressed are not necessarily the views of the Editor or AdurVA.

Check the site out at www.adurva.org.

Adur Voluntary Action is a member of NAVCA - www.navca.org.uk.