Safe in East Sussex

Safer East Sussex Team Newsletter

In focus – Local Community Initiatives

August 2015

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We all need to be involved in keeping our Communities Safer

Engaged and active communities public cooperation, not just passive consent, is important for the police and other professionals to do their job well, so we need the public to become more involved in keeping their communities and neighbourhoods safe.

People do want to get involved: the street level crime and anti-social behaviour maps on www.police.uk had 310 million hits in its first week and 75% of people who do not have a neighbourhood watch scheme in their area are interested in joining one.

Some of the articles in this newsletter could not have been achieved without individuals or groups giving up their time to join or support local community safety initiatives or to take part as active participants.

I think we've become so dependent on the professional agencies (police, local authority, social landlords etc) to sort out problems that we've simply stopped seeing the safety and cleanliness of our community as something we're responsible for or even have any influence over. So, when we see things such as fly-tipping, graffiti or dog fouling, while we might feel disgust and frustration, we'll usually just ignore it. What can we do after all, and isn't it for the police, the local authority or whoever else to deal with?

Baroness Newlove – Victims' Commissioner

Victims' Commissioner
Positive change for victims

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Paws on Watch to make Wealden even safer

There are over 20,000 dogs in the Wealden area. Just imagine if only a small percentage of those owners were keeping an eye open for people up to mischief as they walked their dog Wealden could be even safer than it already is.

'Paws on Watch' is a new and imaginative project from the Safer Wealden Partnership which aims to recruit responsible dog owners. To join, owners must be able to answer three questions:

1. Do you regularly walk a dog?
2. Are you a responsible dog owner and always clear up after your dog in public places?
3. Would you like to help keep you area safe?

If the answer to all three questions is 'Yes', then all a dog owner has to do is to supply a few contact details such as name and address and email address to Sussex Police.The email addresses are then stored on a secure database and can be used by Sussex Police and other partners to alert members to things out look out for.

The Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner, Katy Bourne officially launched Paws on Watch at Uckfield Fire Station on Monday 6 July 2015 at 2:00pm

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Paws on Watch members are asked to do three things:

To act as an extra pair of eyes and ears in their local community, reporting back anything that seems suspicious or unusual;

If they feel able to and it is appropriate to promote responsible dog ownership amongst other dog walkers by challenging those that do not clear-up after their dog and offering them a bag; and

To help Sussex Police and other enforcement agencies to keep an eye out for specific crimes in their area and to report any details. For example, if there was a spate of heating oil thefts or a regular fly-tipper in a certain location, Paws on Watch members in that area would be emailed and asked to be vigilant for any suspicious behaviour.

Members receive a badge, a tag for the dog's collar (wearing either is optional) and a membership card which lists the important contact details for Sussex Police and some personal safety advice.

Initially they are asking dog owners to contact their local PCSO for details on how to join – you can find their details by visiting http://www.sussex.police.uk/help-centre/your-local-district/wealden and clicking on your town, village or ward. In time there will be other places where people can sign up. More details are available on Wealden District Council's website www.wealden.gov.uk

PAWS on WATCH

You can also keep up to date with the latest news on the twitter account: @paws_on_watch

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Albion Goals is all about increasing the self-esteem and wellbeing of job centre claimants and unemployed, vulnerable adults. It's proved to be a hugely successful springboard, helping claimants to move into vocational and employment opportunities. Fulfilling Lives have offered to fund the award-winning Albion Goals programme to come to Eastbourne for a year! They kick-started the programme on Monday August 3rd on the outdoor courts at the Archery. Sessions are free, and designed to motivate, inspire and generally help adults to develop emotional resilience.

The project includes:

Football Sessions

Weekday football sessions for ESA and JSA claimants - past participants usually had no opportunity to engage in sports, many had alcohol and drug issues, and others were unable to pay subscription charges to join local sports clubs.

- Sessions focus on allowing participants to learn key life skills in a footballing context, such as teamwork and discipline, which will help them gain employment.
- Participants develop a sense of belonging, learning to support each other on and off the pitch.

One to One Mentoring

Participants are also offered one to one mentoring throughout the week via home visits, social media and careers events.

Workshops

- Mental Health workshops
- Addiction workshops

Albion in the Community
Giving people a chance

To find out more contact Mark Slide, Inclusion Manager on 07876 898034 or email mark.slide@albioninthecommunity.org.uk

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Discount Motorbike Locks available in Hastings for Second Year

Sussex Police, Hastings Borough Council and local business Hastings Motorcycle Centre have teamed up in a bid to prevent motorbikes being stolen across the town.

Last year we offered local owners of mopeds and scooters up to 50cc the opportunity to buy a heavily discounted padlock chain. This year we are extending this offer to include motorbikes up to 400cc.

A total of 50 Sword Chain and Blaster padlocks are available at the heavily discounted price of £5. These usually retail at £39.99.

Anyone interested should go to the front office at Hastings Police Station in Bohemia Road, taking with them their V5 document, certificate of insurance and driving licence.

A voucher will then be given to exchange at Hastings Motorcycle Centre in Beaconsfield Road, Hastings.

The front office is open from Monday to Saturday, between 9am and 8pm.

Sergeant Dave Townsend, from Hastings Neighbourhood Police Team, said:

"By offering these discounted padlock chains we are encouraging owners to secure their motorbikes, thus making them less attractive to would-be thieves.

"Learning to ride, buying a motorcycle with the necessary accessories and getting insurance all costs a substantial amount of money.

"Please take this opportunity of being one of the 50 lucky people who buy a good quality padlock and chain to secure your motorcycle.

"The only conditions you need to meet are that you own a motorbike between 50cc and 400cc and that you are a resident of Hastings or St Leonards-on-Sea. It is first come, first served, so don't miss out!"

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Road Safety Event for Young Drivers in St Leonards-on-Sea

Many young motorists in Hastings and Rother were able to gain a valuable insight into safer driving techniques at a regular monthly meeting held on Wednesday. (5 August)

Hosted at Corbeau's premises on the Castleham estate, St Leonards-on-Sea, and attended by scores of local car fans, it included an invitation for police, fire and road safety officials to come along, too.

Sergeant Paul Masterson, of the Rother neighbourhood policing team, welcomed it as a chance to pass on safer driving skills in an informal, fun atmosphere.

With young drivers forming just 10 per cent of the UK's motoring population, yet involved in a third of all serious and fatal collisions, it was an opportunity not to be missed.

Sgt Masterson said:

"Rather than have a stand alone event and expect car fans to come to us, we were pleased to be invited to their regular gathering in order to get our messages across. The object was not to preach, but to give all concerned a better understanding of hazards on the roads and how best to deal with them."

A seatbelt sled gave experience of a crash impact, "beer goggles" created the dangerous sensations of drink or drug driving and a simulator allowed people to test their driving skills.

A Ford Ka loaned by Elva recovery provided a "spot the deliberate defects" challenge, while local car dealerships Bartletts Seat, Birchwood Ford and Yeomans Hyundai brought along new demonstrators.

A Seat Leon and a Ford Focus in police livery completed the line up, the latter half patrol car, half taxi to focus minds on the sensible option for travelling on the roads after drinking alcohol.

Little Common School in Bexhill is one of the first School`s in Rother to join up to Junior Neighbourhood Watch (JHNW).

17 children successfully completed a six weeks course on Crime Prevention and Community Safety. They received their certificates at the end of the course from the Rother District Commander Warren Franklin.

` I learnt how to take care of myself and how to stay safe.'

JNHW Is starting to run in school's throughout Rother to show young people that they can make a difference, encourage development of practical skills, and address young people's understanding of community issues, and how to keep themselves and their community safe.

This will help the children grow into responsible citizens, ideally with families and friends that are fully supportive of the aims and objectives of Neighbourhood Watch

Keith Miller(Vice Chairman) and (Senior Co-ordinator) Joe Belton took the course and agree that this is a fantastic start and hope more schools in Rother would like to get involved with JNHW.
http://www.rothernhw.co.uk/

`Once I started the club, I felt so much safer. I really enjoyed this time with the Neighbourhood Watch members, and learning all the different things we discussed. We learnt how to keep our phones safe thanks to the police'.

`I`ve enjoyed Neighbourhood Watch very much because we got to learn different ways to protect your family and friends. I learnt all about keeping safe. The particular thing that I liked was the lesson on how to plan out a flood bag! It was really interesting'.

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And another…..South Malling CE Primary School in Lewes join Junior Neighbourhood Watch in 2015

Chris Burt, Chair of Lewes Neighbourhood Watch, said: "We started off with a smaller group of children than usual, due to their very busy school programme, and only four children were available to receive their certificates on the presentation day at the end. However, quality is more important

than quantity, and we have built a firm foundation which will enable us to roll out Junior Neighbourhood Watch to other schools and also further courses at South Malling. I was very pleased with the way that our first course turned out."

"Chief Inspector Rob Leet, District Commander, Lewes Police, was on hand to hear some safety tips the children had learnt, and to present them with their certificates.

"For many years Neighbourhood Watch across Sussex has been an important feature in helping to keep our homes and streets safe. I was delighted to have this opportunity to meet some of the youngsters who have taken part in Junior Neighbourhood Watch, and to see their enthusiasm first-hand. We in Sussex Police see a great future for both Neighbourhood Watch and Junior Neighbourhood Watch."

Sussex Oakleaf provides a range of support service to people with mental health needs, those with a personality disorder and individuals at risk of homelessness.

Originally established to provide homes for people being moved out of long stay mental health institutions, they now operate throughout Sussex providing both accommodation and community based support services.

They empower people and promote independence by providing recovery focused community wellbeing services, residential care, peer mentoring, housing support and volunteering opportunities.

The 'Place of Calm' is a new pilot project, commissioned by East Sussex County Council, as part of a suicide prevention initiative. The new project is being delivered jointly in partnership by Sussex Oakleaf and Recovery Partners, two established Sussex-based, not for profit organisations. The Place of Calm project will be a 7 day a week service, providing a calm space with access to 1:1 suicide prevention and peer support, for up to 24 hours, for individuals referred by suicide prevention and crisis management professionals.

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer? Are you looking for a way to help people or give something back in your community?

Sussex Oakleaf services rely on people who selflessly give up their time to help others. Volunteers make an invaluable contribution which impacts greatly on Sussex Oakleaf enabling them to provide a high quality service.

Further information on volunteering can be found here:
http://www.sussexoakleaf.org.uk/volunteering/

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Restorative Justice Project

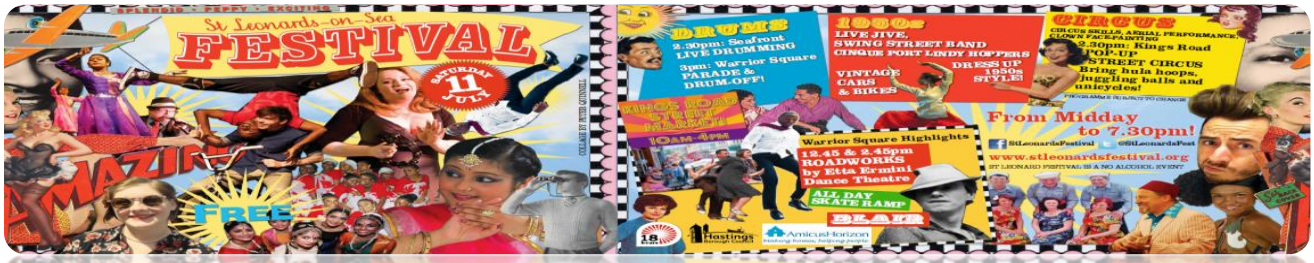
1000 Hearts and Souls of St Leonards

Feeling safe, and being safe, in our communities is important for all of us whatever age we are. Youth work and interaction with law-abiding adults in the community (especially the elderly) helps to reduce conflict and offending and make communities safer.

This project is a partnership between the Safer East Sussex Team, AmicusHorizon and Brighton Housing Trust and funded by the Sussex Police Crime Commissioner.

Initially we looked at local issues in relation to older/vulnerable people being victims of ASB/Hate crime and where young people in the community have been identified as being part of the issue. We held an engagement event between older and younger residents and gathered some initial thoughts around a project which would remove some of the mystery around perceptions of others in the community and encourage people to see how each person has their own story/experiences – young or old and would introduce a reassuring sense of knowing a bit more about people in their own community. This would take away some of the mystery of perceptions some people have and hopefully nurture a more caring and compassionate community.

We agreed on a community project – ***1000 Hearts and Souls of St Leonards*** - an exhibition of individual statements from local people and their photograph on a board/plaque and a short statement of what St Leonards means to them individually or a particular memory of the area which encourages a feeling of community/ownership and feeling safe. We launched this event on Saturday 11th of July at the St Leonards - over 30 local residents young and old took part and we captured their personal views and stories on a film. This will now be developed into a meaningful communication resource to share locally with organisations and businesses in the town highlight the positive community feelings people have about St Leonards.



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Café North

Café North is a project being developed by the Safer East Sussex Team and CRI. The project, a café, is based in central Eastbourne and any profits generated will be reinvested in the project. It is based in a fully refurbished building which has been a café for over 50 years. The café will be open Thursday - Sunday and will serve a wide range of hot and cold food. It will also feature a dry bar providing smoothies and juices. The venue is completely alcohol free.

The café will also provide a range of activities which will benefit those in recovery from substance misuse. Some of these activities will also be open to the wider community and range from training opportunities to social activities. These will be provided by a range of partners including STAR Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service, East Sussex Recovery Alliance, Reformed Eastbourne services and Action for Change.

There will also be volunteering opportunities for those within the recovery community. They will work with the café manager to become involved in all aspects of the cafe.

For more information please contact:

Caz Evans, Community Development Officer, Safer East Sussex Team

Caroline.evans@eastsussex.gov.uk

Tel: 07879 117579 or 01323 464182

Photographs show the refurbished interior of Café North

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Apply for Funding

Community Safety Fund – providing financial support (grant awards up to £5,000) to local organisations and projects that aim to reduce crime and improve community safety.

Victims' Services Fund – providing financial support (grant awards up to £10,000) to voluntary and third-sector organisations in Sussex that help individuals to cope and recover from the impact of crime.

The next round for receiving applications will be open from **Tuesday 1 September 2015 until Friday 2 October 2015.**

To apply or find out further information please visit:

http://www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/apply-for-funding/

To see a list of organisations and projects that have successfully been awarded grants please click on this link:

http://www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Specified-Information-Order-Grant-recipients-updated-14.08.2015.pdf

Other sources of funding can been viewed each month in the ESCC Funding News Bulletin

https://new.eastsussex.gov.uk/community/funding/find/news/

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DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER

KEEPING EAST SUSSEX SAFER – ASB/Hate SHOWCASE EVENT

We are inviting practitioners from various organisations including housing, the voluntary and community sector, police, local districts and boroughs, family key work teams, ESFRS, children and adult social care services, mental health teams and victim support services to attend this showcase event.

This event will be an opportunity to:

- See how the new ASB tools and powers are being used effectively and share good practice
- Promote and share the support provided to high and medium risk victims of ASB/hate
- Share and promote intervention options such as RJ and key work as other options for tackling and supporting some individuals
- Gather views from practitioners on how working together can be improved and what areas of existing collaboration are good practice for others to imitate
- Understand how cases are managed in East Sussex
- Know what proactive steps and preventative measures to take to safeguard others who report cases of ASB/hate

Date: **Friday 23rd October 10.00 – 3.30**

Venue: **All Saints Church Hall, Grange Road Eastbourne**

To book your place please visit: https://safereastsussex-asb-hate.eventbrite.co.uk

If you would like to find out more about what the team have been doing, then why not sign up to the new fortnightly e-bulletin.

This complements the current newsletter which will continue to provide an in depth focus on our priority areas.

To sign up please do so at: http://eepurl.com/bfQM6H

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