

Inspiring Giving

October 2011

Celebrating our first five years

Sussex Community Foundation will celebrate five years of working for Sussex at its Annual Public Meeting on 23rd November at Pangdean Farm.

Since its launch in 2006 the Foundation has awarded £3.7 million in grants to 1,709 charities and built an endowment fund of £3.6 million. We are getting to the heart of the local community - there have been 65,631 volunteers involved in the groups we fund and no one in Sussex lives more than 5 miles from a project we have supported.

At the public meeting we will thank the many people and companies who have supported their local community through the Foundation. Their generosity continues to inspire us.

Looking ahead to the next five years we have exciting plans to inspire local philanthropy and to find new ways to help local charities to raise the funds they need. The Foundation aims to become a leader in local philanthropy, informing donors about the

needs of communities across Sussex and helping them to make the maximum difference to groups with their donations.

The website localgiving.com will be a valuable tool to inspire many more people to give to local causes.

We are looking at ways to help our donors to develop their own giving strategies and we are hoping there may be a further endowment challenge fund from the Government. We aim to continue giving out £1 million in grants every year and to build our endowment fund to £10 million.

In order to achieve this we will work hard to spread the word about the inspiring work done by volunteers and community groups every day in Sussex.

Kevin Richmond, Chief Executive of the Foundation, said: "Our Annual Meeting is a unique opportunity for our donors and grant recipients to meet each other and to discuss how we can work together to make a difference for Sussex. We hope you will join us."

Local philanthropy highlighted

Over 50 guests enjoyed a private reception hosted by Denise Patterson on behalf of Sussex Community Foundation at her beautiful house and garden near Bognor Regis.

Denise is a Founder Donor of SCF and has been involved with the charity since it was set-up in 2006. Welcoming guests she spoke about her passion for the local area, in particular a number of arts and heritage charities. She highlighted the important role that the Foundation plays in channelling local support to the smaller charities and voluntary groups.



▲▲ Event host, Denise Patterson with John Peel, Chair of the Foundation



▲▲ Maggie Burgess with John Cowper-Coles from event sponsors, Cheviot

Carol Fullick, Development Manager of local charity Bognor CAN, painted a picture of needs in Bognor Regis and the valuable support that her organisation provides to local families. A recent grant from Sussex Community Foundation funded a Martial Arts project for children and young people aged 3 to 18 years of age, from disadvantaged families.

Kevin Richmond, Chief Executive of Sussex Community Foundation, thanked Denise Patterson for hosting the event and also Cheviot Asset Management for sponsoring the canapés.

Fund matters

Climb every mountain...

Sussex Community Foundation is again a beneficiary of the CADIA Challenge, a fundraising event undertaken by members of this Gatwick Diamond Business Association, to help local charities in the Gatwick Diamond area.

The team completed one of the ultimate challenges in the UK – the Snowdonia 15. The target was to summit all 15 peaks in the Snowdonia Range over 3,000 feet high. They climbed over 4,000m, half the height of Mount Everest, and walked 30 miles.

Main sponsor for the event was Chairman of Sussex Community Foundation, John Peel, who is also on the Executive Council of CADIA. Other sponsors included Andrew Gold of *Roband*, Tracey Evans of *Ashley Law*, Fiona Mulliner of *Jumpstart*, Max Robinson of *MCR Print*, and Alan Peever of *BA Gatwick*.

The event has raised a fantastic £10,000 which will be shared amongst the charities which are members of CADIA. Janet Ormerod from SCF said, "this is an amazing effort by the team involved and we would like to thank them



▲▲ CADIA Challenge team set out on their epic trek

and all the companies and individuals who have provided sponsorship and support."

Rathbones is delighted to support Sussex Community Foundation.

Alex Clay, Investment Director, explains how Rathbones endeavours to provide ongoing support to Community Foundations across the UK.

Our role as investment managers is to help Community Foundations to make the most of their investment funds; however we also believe that it is important to collaborate with Foundations, supporting their missions and objectives far beyond investment management. We have therefore been actively involved in initiatives such as the Boost and Grass Roots campaign and more recently we have become a strategic partner with Dame Stephanie Shirley in creating her new website dedicated to philanthropy and the Community Foundation network.

Rathbones has its origins in the 18th century as a timber merchant and shipping firm. The company evolved into an investment management firm through the stewardship of the Rathbone family wealth, who were of Quaker stock and deeply philanthropic. As Rathbones has remained independently owned it has been able to remain true to the ethos built up by the family based on heritage, stability, stewardship and trust. With these values we aim to forge a strong, long term relationship with Sussex Community Foundation as we believe they provide a unique and flexible platform upon which so many can contribute as a force for good.

We wish Sussex Community Foundation every success in helping to enrich lives through effective giving.

RATHBONES
Established 1742

Local Giving Workshops

Sussex Community Foundation is planning to run workshops throughout the county to assist groups to take advantage of fundraising with their own web page on Localgiving.com.

We will guide you through setting up your page to make it as attractive as possible to donors, give you some ideas about how to use the site alongside your usual fundraising activities and how to extend your network by creating an online community using the basics of social media.

For more information and to secure a place please contact Rex or Tim on 01273 409440.

Every picture tells a story?

Sussex Community Foundation is running a photo competition with the result to be decided at the Annual General Meeting in Pangdean.

With a first prize of £300 and a year's membership of Localgiving.com we are inviting entries from any group which has been funded by SCF to provide an A5 image that best describes or tells the story of your project or service.

It can be coloured or black and white but must be accompanied with a brief commentary of not more than 50 words.

For further details contact Rex on 01273 409440.

Grants focus

Financial pressure on groups

The current economic climate has unsurprisingly affected the community and voluntary groups in Sussex along with the rest of the country.

In addition to there being fewer pots of money to apply for, significant cuts to public services across the region mean that there is more need than ever for the community youth clubs, older people's groups, day centres, family support, and disability organisations provided by the community and voluntary sector.

Financial pressures have led to a significant increase in people using advice and support services; the rise in the cost of living and cuts in services can disproportionately affect vulnerable families and children; homelessness charities report that they have more clients using their drop-ins and needing their support.

The following are examples of community groups seeking to address the social and economic isolation of two particular client groups in Sussex - young people in Selsey and those living on low incomes in Hastings

Phoenix Snak Shak

The Phoenix Snak Shak is a drop-in centre in Selsey for young people between 11 and 17 years old.



They were awarded a grant of £3,000 towards their rent through the Goldsmiths Charity Fund. Started in 2005 in a rusty, mobile catering wagon in a supermarket car park, the Snak Shak provided a safe place for the disaffected youth of Selsey to meet with their friends. The Shak tries to show the young people, many of them socially excluded or with mental and emotional issues, that they are cared for. It is run by 27 volunteers, mostly aged over 60.

In 2008, they were able to move into their warehouse in the centre of Selsey and they received their first grant from SCF through Grassroots Grants. Incidents of anti-social behaviour in Selsey have been reduced on the evenings the Shak is open; young people have a safe place to gather together and the volunteers hope that as the project continues to develop the young people will feel more part of the community they live in.

Can You Help? We are seeking volunteers to help us manage our grants. If you can help please contact the office on **01273 409440**.

Hastings Credit Union

Hastings & Rother Credit Union received a grant of £3000 from the Marit and Hans Rausing Fund in June to help towards their running costs.



Established in 1999

HRCU offers a community-based savings and loan service to those on low incomes in Hastings and Rother. They have in excess of 1,100 members.

Most members are financially excluded; many would otherwise turn to loan sharks or door-step lenders to try to resolve their financial problems. These companies often target people living in known areas of social and economic deprivation with offers to lend money in times of crisis or for special occasions. However, they often charge exorbitant rates of interest which clients do not realise or fully understand and people can find themselves in a cycle of debt from which they can see no way out.

Hastings & Rother Credit Union works with other local advice services such as *Hastings Advice and Representation Centre*, *Hastings Community Housing*, the CAB and *Housing Advice Hastings*. They also work with the council's housing department to hold and distribute housing benefit and negotiate on behalf of clients when problems arise over benefits. They encourage clients to save and will not issue any loans until they have saved for at least 6 weeks. They can provide a lifeline to people excluded from the financial mainstream.

Like many other 3rd sector organisations, their grant from Hastings Council has been significantly cut this year. Hastings is very vulnerable to the reduced levels of public expenditure planned for the next few years as a result of the cuts; it has high levels of benefit dependency and a reliance on public sector employment. It ranks amongst the most deprived areas in the country.

HRCU has seen a substantial rise in the demand for membership and it is important that its range of services to those who are financially vulnerable should be protected.

Other News

Towry raffle proceeds

Towry, the Wealth Advisors, recently held an event to celebrate the first anniversary of their office in Haywards Heath.

The company are sponsors nationally of the Open Art Competition and during the evening artwork from the competition was on display. A painting donated by Neil Lawson-Baker, Chief Executive of the Open Art Competition, was also raffled. The company then matched the amount raised and a total of £500 has been donated to Sussex Community Foundation.

Fund Development Manager at the Foundation, Janet Ormerod, said, 'We are very grateful for this support from a local professional company and to Neil for so generously donating one of his paintings'.

www.thenationalopenartcompetition.com
www.towry.com



Surviving Winter Appeal

Community Foundations across the UK have launched *The Surviving Winter Appeal* to help elderly and vulnerable people affected by the cold winter.

The number of households in fuel poverty has doubled since 2003 to just over 4 million. In the winter of 2008-9, it was estimated there were 36,700 excess winter deaths in England and Wales, an increase of 49% over the previous year. The Winter Fuel Payment is a universal state benefit made to everyone aged over 60 during November and December. Surviving Winter encourages those who can afford it, to donate their Winter Fuel Payment to support those for whom the Payment is not nearly enough.



Wealth Management includes Giving!



Janet Ormerod from SCF, was recently guest speaker at a Wealth Management Seminar hosted by Spofforths, a major accountancy firm with five offices in Sussex. Over 100 people attended the event held at the beautiful surroundings of Christ's Hospital School.

A team of Wealth Management Advisors from the firm gave presentations identifying various financial planning opportunities.

Janet explained the role of SCF in enabling local people to give effectively to local charities, and the variety of advice and services offered by the Foundation that can help donors manage their local charitable giving. Commenting on the developing partnership with the firm, Janet said,

'Spofforths were one of the lead founder donors to the Worthing & Adur Fund. The firm has also helped to spread the word about the value of local giving and raised the profile of Sussex Community Foundation We are very grateful for all their help and support.'

Crawathlon boosts charities

The proceeds from the latest *Crawathlon* have recently been distributed to four local charities. The total raised this year was nearly £15,000 with each charity receiving a cheque for £3,730— *Rocking-horse*, *St Catherine's Hospice*, *Olive Tree Cancer Support* and the *Alzheimer's Society - West Sussex*.

The campaign aims to raise £1 million across the UK to support the elderly and the vulnerable. The money raised by the Surviving Winter Appeal will be used to support local charities and community organisations who can reach the people most in need of help and make sure they can afford to stay warm, eat well and remain mobile. It will also help them in practical ways i.e. ensuring they can make doctor's appointments, get to the shops, and maintain an active social life.

If you would like to support the Surviving Winter Appeal you can send a cheque to Sussex Community Foundation Surviving Winter Appeal to our address below or go to www.Localgiving.com/SurvivingWinter