

Thanet Voluntary & Community Sector Forum

Invite you to:

THE PAVILION, BROADSTAIRS

On Wednesday 25 January 2012 9.30am-1.00pm

For a conference on:

2012 – Meeting the Funding Challenge

Come and find out more!

- Funding Opportunities
- Update on Current Climate
- Big Lottery Funding Initiatives
- Alternative Support Opportunities

To book your place and the networking lunch, please contact us asap.

By post: TVCSF c/o Margate Media Centre, 11-13 King St, Margate,
Kent CT9 1DA or e-mail: cara@tvcsf.org.uk

Additional Information Session

There will be an Information Session from 1.30 to 3.30pm on The Digital TV Switchover and Energy Best Deal. Please confirm if you wish to attend.

Although TVCSF are not charging for events at present, a donation towards lunch and refreshments would be most appreciated on the day. Thank you.

Raffle

Working in Partnership

Buffet



Thanet Voice

YOUR STORIES YOUR NEWS



TVCSF promoting the "Good" in Thanet

WELCOME!

Welcome to the fourth edition of the Thanet Voice



First and foremost – Happy New Year! May we look forward to a prosperous and positive year ahead and much more Good News!

2012 heralds the start of a new chapter. This edition of Thanet Voice will mark the beginning of new ventures for many of us in the voluntary sector and we look forward to hearing about your positive expectations and plans for the New Year ahead. We look forward to sharing our future plans with yourselves in the near future – so watch this space!

So, please keep your good news stories coming in. Keep us informed about all your forthcoming events, projects – both new and ongoing, case studies, job vacancies, volunteering opportunities, etc. The only proviso being that, as always, all the news and information is positive. We particularly welcome stories and case studies from people who have benefited from the support services available within the Thanet community. Remember – this is a paper for the people by the people.

The deadline for inclusion in the February issue is **Friday 22 January**. We ask that, where possible, contributions are sent in Word document. Pictures/photos are welcome as attachments or in doc but we prefer them not to be in PDF format to enable downloading for those that wish to print off hard copies and ease of sending.

Please continue circulating Thanet Voice to your service users, colleagues, acquaintances, friends and neighbours and keep on providing your feedback. Thank you for continuing to help us spread the good news around Thanet and beyond.

Until the next edition – onwards and upwards!

Disclaimer

All the articles included in this paper have been sent in by members and used in good faith. TVCSF hold no responsibility for information sent in which may be incorrect at the time this paper is produced. Anything that is included in this paper is not endorsed by TVCSF, just advertised.

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Are You Prepared for Cold Weather?

The Cold Weather Plan – a public health plan

The Department of Health issued this plan on 1 November 2011 to set out what preparations individuals and organisations should make to reduce health risks before and during severe winter weather.

This includes a Cold Weather Alert Service which runs from 1 November to 31 March based on Met Office forecasts of

- Low temperatures – usually coincident with:
- Widespread ice (when rain or condensation is expected on surfaces with temperatures at or below zero, or compacted snow is expected to cause an ice risk) and/or
- Heavy snow (at least 2 cm per hour or more, expected for at least 2 hours)

There are 4 levels of responsibility and response.

- Level 1 - long term planning all year: identifying those most at risk from seasonal illness, and assisting to improve their resilience to severe winter weather,
- Level 2 - Met Office forecasts a 60% risk of severe cold weather lasting at least 48 hours, to arrive within the next 2-3 days: ensuring all those at risk have been identified and contacted; and when visiting clients check that their rooms are adequately heated, they keep themselves stocked with food and medication, and are getting benefits and entitlements
- Level 3 - the forecast weather is now occurring and is expected to impact on people's health: be prepared for surge in demand of services; contact those at risk in person or by phone every day while the severe weather lasts; ensure that they are receiving their entitlements, have set daytime room temperature to 21°C and bedroom night temperature to at least 18°C, dress warmly and eat well
- Level 4 - major incident with exceptional weather causing widespread transport disruption and/or threatening the operation of health and social care services: continue to take Level 3 actions during the emergency period

Aim

The aim of the plan is to provide guidance to health and social care providers, voluntary groups, and carers to protect people in their care and reduce cold-related illness and death in those most at risk. Cold weather can lead to serious health problems such as heart attacks, strokes, pneumonia and depression.

What do I need to do?

The action needed depends on the cold weather alert level.

Level 1 - long term planning all year: identifying those most at risk from seasonal illness, and; ensuring that staff are in a position to advise individuals to check their entitlements and benefits, insulate their homes and protect water pipes from freezing.

Practical things to do include;

- Identify individuals who are at particular risk
- Identify changes to care plans for those in high risk groups, including organising daily visits by formal or informal carers to check on people living on their own
- Make sure staff are briefed so they can advise individuals on the dangers of cold and encourage uptake of vaccination programmes, home insulation schemes and benefit entitlements
- Advise clients on how to keep warm (multiple layers of clothing are better than one thick one) and to put simple things in place e.g. making sure heaters are not blocked and working, draught excluders are used for draughty doors and windows
- Have indoor thermometers available
- Ensure you have protocols to monitor clients most at risk

Level 2

As above plus:

- Ensure high risk clients have been identified and for those living in the community; arrange for a daily phone call/visit by formal or informal carer
- Ensure indoor thermometers are in place: recommended daytime room temperature is 21°C and bedroom night temperature at least 18°C
- Check that clients have supplies of food and medication
- Make sure staffing levels are sufficient

Level 3

As above plus:

- Ensure that clients take warm drinks and food regularly
- Contact the client's GP if there are concerns about an individual's health
- Contact KCC Families and Social Care Directorate if you are seriously concerned about any individual.
- Repeat messages on risk and protective measures for travelling to staff

Level 4

- Ensure that all actions above can be maintained over a prolonged period of time.

How to keep up to date?

- Ensure that you have provided a current e-mail address to facilitate the transfer of emergency information, and check this regularly
- Check the latest weather forecasts and cold weather alert messages as the weather gets colder (www.metoffice.gov.uk)
- Promote the following to those clients needing advice:
 - Staying warm in winter

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/HomeAndCommunity/InYourHome/KeepingSafeAtHome/DG_10027755

- Keep Warm, Keep Well Campaign

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/documents/digitalasset/dh_121143.pdf

- Cold Weather payment, Winter Fuel payment, Warm Front Scheme:

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/HomeAndCommunity/InYourHome/SupportAtHome/DG_10026850

- Home insulation

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Environmentandgreenerliving/Energyandwatersaving/Homeinsulation/index.htm>

- Contact NHS Direct on 0845 4647 or at www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk for advice about hyperthermia and cold related illness
- Visit the Department of Health's website www.dh.gov.uk/publications for the full Cold Weather Plan for England 2011 and additional guidance on the effects of cold on health and healthcare services:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_130564

Kent Community Foundation



The following Funds are open for application:-

The Funding Network

Up to five Voluntary and Community Organisations (VCOs) will be given an opportunity to present at the evening event on Thursday 15th March 2012. All proposals put forward will be considered by a Selection Panel to be held at the end of January which will select the projects to be presented at the event, with the aim of getting a good range of issues and areas of Kent & Medway covered. All the Charities/ VCOs must have a personal sponsor.

The event to be held by Kent Community Foundation (KCF) and The Funding Network (TFN) will support **Community Projects that help Vulnerable and Disadvantaged People to Reach their Potential**. Projects must be based in Kent and Medway; this includes projects working on international initiatives eg. support for refugees.

Grants available up to £5,000 Deadline Monday 9th January 2012

To apply please email: manjit@kentcf.org.uk or call: 07812 555024

Kent Grassroots Fund

This fund is interested in supporting projects which improve local community life, with a particular interest in projects that improve the life chances of disadvantaged children and young people.

There is a preference for local groups, practical community run activities and realistic budgets that cover the cost of the planned activity.

Grants from £250 to £5,000 Deadline: 12th January 2012

The Phillips Fund

The Fund supports charities, voluntary groups and organisations using volunteers to deliver small but beneficial conservation and environmental projects to rural communities in Kent & Medway.

Activities receiving support includes: -

- Planting of trees and hedging
- Regeneration of hedgerows or village ponds
- Creation of wildflower meadows, new native woodlands
- Restoration of local habitats

Grants available from £250 up to £2,000 Deadline: 2nd February 2012

Comic Relief

Comic Relief is interested in supporting community groups running projects that are working towards increasing local services, building skills of local people, increasing community cohesion, and responding to local economic needs – for projects in Kent and Medway.

Grants from £1,000 to £10,000 Deadline: 12th February 2012

The Brook Trust Fund

The Brook Trust for Kent will make grants to organisations and individuals working to achieve positive social outcomes. Projects using early intervention where possible to tackle disadvantage, deprivation and social exclusion. Particularly in areas of older people, offenders & ex-offenders, women's groups and parenting support for vulnerable families.

Grants available from £500 to £5,000 Deadline: 5th March 2012



The Sarah & Francis Salway Grassroots Fund

This fund is interested in projects that involve local people in self-started initiatives which support the spirit and wellbeing of the community. Especially projects that support individuals and communities to help themselves in enterprising and self-sustaining ways. There is a preference for projects involving volunteers. Particularly interested in environmental projects and projects involving and encouraging creativity.

Grants available from £250 to £3,000 Deadline: 7th June 2012



The Rooney Foundation Fund

The Rooney Foundation Fund has a specific interest in supporting those affected by disability and life-limiting conditions, especially children and young people. The fund will give grants to groups, charities, families or individuals. Families and individual applications must be referred by an independent professional charity or organization which is providing a service to the person concerned.

Grants awarded on a case by case basis No Deadline

Ward & Partners Charitable Fund

The Ward & Partners Charitable Fund makes grants to support charities, community groups and projects that directly benefit children with disabilities in Kent and Medway. There is a strong preference for projects that can demonstrate a direct benefit to children with disabilities with a clear indication of how many children will benefit. The fund will also consider applications for individual children.

Grants available from £250 to £5,000 Applications are assessed on an on-going basis

To apply for any of the above mentioned funds please go to our website and download a grant enquiry form on: <http://www.kentcf.org.uk/funds.html> or contact us by email: admin@kentcf.org.uk or tel: 01303 814500

Keep up to date with our Grant information - Join us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

Kent Community Foundation Website: www.kentcf.org.uk

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East Kent Mencap Pantomime, *Aladdin!*



On the 15th December, East Kent Mencap Drama Group performed the Pantomime, *Aladdin* (with a modern twist) to a packed audience of more than 100 people at Bugsy's Tenpin Bowling in Margate. The Drama Group have been rehearsing all year long to make this their best performance to date and they certainly delivered!

One of the stars of the show was Susan Ables who played Princess 'Javelin'. Here is what Susan had to say:

"I really enjoyed preparing for the pantomime this year. I think I suit the character 'Javelin'. I love being in the Drama Group and spending time at Gateway House where we practice. I think it's nice to share what we have been doing all year with people. After the pantomime we had a big party which was really fun."

East Kent Mencap would like to thank Bugsy's Tenpin Bowling and their wonderful staff for offering the use of their venue and for their kind hospitality.

District Partnership Groups

East Kent Mencap were recently successful in tendering to provide support and facilitation for District Partnership Groups (DPGs) for the Kent Learning Disability Partnership Boards. We submitted as a Consortium with Community Futures Kent, North Kent Independent Advocacy Scheme and Voice4Kent, to cover all of the Districts in Kent.

DPGs give people with learning disabilities, families, carers and service providers a way to be more involved in local decision making and community building. DPGs have been busy collecting information about what is working well and what is not working so well – so we need to hear from you! This information will be used by each District to write an Annual District Plan. The District Plans will look at the important things in *Valuing People Now* and work with other organisations and people to make sure things change for the better. The DPGs will also help to check that things are being done.

DPGs are holding regular coffee and chat groups for people with learning disabilities. This is a chance to find out more about DPGs and tell us what you think, as well as meeting new people. Monthly family carers coffee mornings are being held in Dover, Thanet and Canterbury. We plan to organise carers meetings for other areas early in 2012. For more information about DPGs or any of the groups mentioned please contact Sue Bates sue.bates@eastkentmencap.co.uk

Tel: 07412085975

Sue Bates



Women's Group

Luncheon Club

A self help group in a supportive environment for informal discussions of mental health issues. Come along and meet like-minded women

Dates for the next meetings:

Thursday January 19th

Thursday February 16th

Thursday March 15th

Thursday April 19th

Thursday May 17th

Thursday June 21st

12.30 p.m.

At- Sovereign, Harbour Street, Ramsgate.

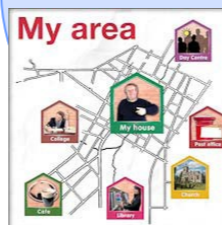
(Disabled Access)



Speakup (CIC) Media Centre | 11-13 Kings Street | Margate | Kent | CT9 1DA
E-mail: admin@speakupcic.co.uk | Tel: **01843 609359**
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Thanet District Partnership Group



Are you a Carer of a person with a learning, physical difficulty; would you like to get together with other carers to have a chat over a nice cuppa?



The next coffee morning will be on **Tuesday 10th of January** from 10:00 till 12:00 at Holy Trinity church café, Cliftonville.

So come and join our free and friendly gathering.



Who are we?

We are from your local Thanet District Partnership Group (Learning Disabilities). This group meets 4 times a year to discuss local issues.

We can feed in any ideas you may have from our coffee mornings, to help improve your local community.



Share ideas, thoughts and difficulties you may have had or are having, together we may be able to help each other.

Contact number: Michelle 0757 7681 783

Contact number: Sue Bates 0741 208 5975



Thanet Day Service

The Thanet Day Service has moved its office base- new address from 21st November 2011 to **17 St Johns Road, Margate, CT9 1LU. (please note the now correct postcode)**

Photography Exhibition

East Kent Mencap Photography Group are holding another exhibition in February with photographs of Thanet on display. Details of the exhibition are below and photographs can be purchased for £20 each.

Held at Birchington Library, Alpha Road, Birchington, CT7 9EG

6th February - 2nd March

Open weekdays 9am - 12.30pm

Dyslexia East Kent Support

Saturday Afternoon Drop-in Centre,

with a library of over 1,000 books

Held on the first Saturday in every month in school term time, 2 - 4 pm

For parents of children with dyslexia & adult dyslexics

To borrow from the library you need to be a member, which is £15 per year

& allows free entry to 4 evening talks

Specialist teachers are available to talk to.

Venue: Kingsmead Leisure Centre, Kingsmead Road, Canterbury. CT2 7PH (next door to Sainsburys)

For more information see www.dyslexia-east-kent.org.uk

Email info_deks@btinternet.com

Phone:0845 0038 979

Do You Have Any Stories!

Emily and Cara from Thanet Voluntary & Community Sector Forum (TVCSF) have thoroughly enjoyed putting this paper together, from reading the articles to collating all the information. We hope you enjoy reading this and then see fit to forward it out to all of your contacts.

We would also like to hear your views about this paper, whether good or bad. All feedback will be taken into consideration as this is not our paper it is yours.

If you have any 'Good News' stories, events or something you would like to advertise, please do send them in so we can shout about them on your behalf.

If you have an article please send it in to Cara via email: cara@tvcsf.org.uk and your feedback and views should be sent to Emily via email: Emily@tvcsf.org.uk

Or you can post them to 11-13 King Street, Margate, Kent CT9 1DA



Meet and make friends

TRINITY SHOP

Saturday

21 January

10.00 am - 12 noon

in the Community Centre

Raffle and Refreshments

Lots of stalls and Bargains

Admission Free



Thanet Day Service

We work with people who need help managing their mental health . For any information please contact us . Tel: 01843 280022



Monthly Events			
Day/Time/ Meeting Place	Venue	Event	Details
Tuesday 17th January meet outside the burger King 1pm	Burger King Westwood cross near Argos	Lunch club	Burger King – after Christmas economy lunch club. Meal deals available. Lunch from £2.00. Friendly group- all welcome.
Tuesday 24th January 1.30- 3pm. Meet outside club. 142 High Street	Oddfellows club Ramsgate	Snooker club	New Free Group. Enjoy a game of snooker/pool- beginners welcome.
Tuesday 31 st January 11.00am until 2pm Meet outside Thanet Gateway at 10am	Broadstairs Westwood Industrial estate	Half day trip	Hornby visitors centre – come to the visitors centre for a fascinating journey through the history Britain's best loved toys. Café available
Wednesday 4th January 3-4 pm Gateway Room C and D	Thanet Gate-way Margate	Women's group	First Wednesday every month. New discussion group to explore women's issues. Please arrive on time.
Wednesday 11 th January 3-4pm Gateway Room C and D	Thanet Gateway Margate	Speakers group	New Year new you -This months speaker is Mark the health trainer. Talking about healthy diet improving fitness and lots more !
Wednesday 18 th January room C and D 3-4pm	Thanet Gate-way Margate	Creative writing and book reviews	All abilities welcome. Come and explore the World of Literature and Poetry and try your hand at creative writing.
Wednesday 25th January Room C & D 3-4pm	Thanet Gate-way Margate	Service User Forum	An opportunity to express your views on mental health services. This group is facilitated by SpeakUp CIC
Thursday 5 th January 11.00 -12.00 noon Meet inside church	St Paul's Church, Cliftonville	Drop-in	Come along to St Paul's Open Church Coffee Morning where you can meet new people. (Drinks provided - donations welcome.)
Thursday 9th January and 23rd January 10.30am -12 noon Meet outside church	Baptist Church Queens Road Broadstairs	Self Help Depression Group	A self help group for people who experience low moods. Offering a supportive network with a positive outlook. This group is back by the Depression Alliance. Service staff will also offer support if needed.
Friday 20 th January at 2.00 pm. Meet outside Thanet Gateway	Margate area	Walking group	Join Jo for a gentle walk and coffee in a friendly, informal group. Friends, family, all are welcome. This walk is run by KCA, for more information please contact Jo Johnson on 593832

KENT RECEIVES NATIONAL FUNDING TO END ROUGH SLEEPING

Kent is one of 19 communities to get a grant to ensure nobody is forced to sleep on the streets for more than one night.

Kent-based homelessness charity Porchlight has been successfully awarded £250,000 to adopt No Second Night Out* – an initiative that aims to ensure that anyone who ends up on the streets gets helped quickly so they don't spend a second night out.

Announced today, the grant is part of an £8m pot being awarded by the Homelessness Transition Fund to 41 projects that aim to help ensure that no one lives on our streets.

The £20m independent Fund was set up to help support the national rough sleeping strategy Vision to end rough sleeping: No Second Night Out nationwide.

Administered by umbrella organisation Homeless Link, the Fund received 190 applications from charities wanting to protect key homelessness services and adopt initiatives like No Second Night Out.

Porchlight case study

Porchlight has seen a 93% increase in the number of referrals to their rough sleeper service in the past year. However, the existing service is being re-commissioned with funding cut by 75% next year making it difficult for them to meet increasing demand.

From February 2012 Porchlight will receive £250,000 over 12 months to support new rough sleepers. The Homeless Transition Funding will give Porchlight the opportunity to refocus existing services for rough sleepers, establishing seven hubs across the county that provide vital support to address health, debt and housing needs of those people sleeping rough. They will work in partnership with all local authorities in Kent and Medway, as well as a range of other agencies and charities to enable them to do this.

Their 24 hour Helpline (0800 5677 699) will continue to be an easy point of access for the general public to let them know if they see anyone who is sleeping rough.

Chris Coffey, Strategic Manager for Outreach at Porchlight, says:

"Porchlight is delighted to be chosen as one of the organisations to receive a grant from the Homelessness Transition Fund. This grant will enable us to continue to deliver vital services to people who are sleeping rough in Kent and Medway, at a time when other funding is being cut.

"Porchlight will be working in partnership with the 13 local authorities in Kent and Medway to create a Reactive Outreach Service which will be responsive to those who are new to sleeping on the streets, supporting the principles of No Second Night Out.

"We will also be seeking volunteers to help us deliver this service. This involvement from the local community is vital to ensuring that we reach people who need our help as quickly as possible."

Welcoming the news, Housing Minister Grant Shapps said:

"When economic times are tough, protecting the most vulnerable in society becomes even more important.

"That's why we have dedicated £8 million to extend No Second Night Out outside the capital and make sure that anyone who finds themselves on the streets quickly gets the help they need.

"I'm delighted that vulnerable people in Kent have £250,000 of extra help to make sure that they will never need to spend more than one night sleeping rough. A safe, warm place to stay is something that everyone should be able to rely on."

Commenting, Sharon Allen, Chair of the Fund's Grants Panel said:

"In these difficult times, the funding announced today will help charities provide the vital support that many homeless people need to get back on their feet."

"The quality of applications and demand for help was extremely high. However, I am pleased that these grants will help protect essential services and develop new, more effective ways to stop people living on our streets."



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