

Imago updates

Infrastructure survey - the results are in

Thank you to all of the voluntary and community organisations in west Kent that took the time to complete our annual survey into the quality of our infrastructure service delivery. Questions were asked about the services provided by our CVS and Volunteer Centre staff and we were grateful for the many positive comments. For a copy of the survey results please email wendy.mcgeachy@imago.community.

Imago will continue to deliver services to Kent's Young Carers

We are pleased to announce that we have been successful in securing a further 3 years of funding for the Kent Young Carers project.

A young carer is anyone under the age of 18 who is taking on caring responsibilities for a family with a long-term illness, disability, mental health or substance misuse issue. The Kent Young Carers project will enable young carers aged 5-18 to receive some respite from their caring responsibilities, socialise with their peers and receive tailored support and information. We provide social groups for young carers called Chill Clubs.

When we got the news about the funding, a series of 'Young Carers Celebration' events took place across the county. These gave young carers and their families the opportunity to share their experiences of the service over the last 3 years. These events were supported by Heart FM and local Lions Clubs. We were grateful to the volunteers of the charity Free Cakes For Kids in Tonbridge who provided incredible centrepiece cakes for each of the West Kent events.

For further information about our Kent Young Carers service contact the KYC hub on 0300 111 1110 or email info@kentyoungcarers.org.uk.



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We would be pleased to hear your comments on our newsletter. Is it clear and easy to read? Is the information useful to you and your organisation? Are there any areas that you feel we are currently omitting and that you would like to see included? We would welcome positive feedback as well as suggestions for improvement and would appreciate you taking the time to contact us. Please also get in touch with us if you have a news item to share. Email wendy.mcgeachy@imago.community or call 01892 530330.



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<http://www.facebook.com/imago.uk>

Kent Charity of the Year

At a glittering Gala Dinner at the Leas Cliff Hall in Folkestone on Thursday 10th March, representatives from Kent's charitable sector gathered as [Abigail's Footsteps](#), a stillbirth bereavement charity, was crowned Kent Charity of the Year 2016!

Imago was thrilled to be one of the 26 finalists at the [Kent Charity of the Year awards](#). Sponsors included Diggerland, Furley Page, Kent County Council, Kent Reliance, KM Media Group, Kreston Reeves, Medway Council, Mid Kent College and Southeastern.

It showcased the fantastic work that is done by so many individuals and organisations in Kent.

Sevenoaks DC Voluntary & Community 'Making it Happen' Awards

Sevenoaks District Council would like to invite Sevenoaks based organisations to take part in their 'Making it Happen' Voluntary and Community Awards. There are 10 categories and you can nominate a person or a project in more than one category. The nominations need to be returned by Thursday 28 April 2016, and the awards ceremony will be held on 15th June from 7.30-10pm at Sevenoaks School.

The form is available here: www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/communityawards. If you would also like to participate on the night by having a stand at the venue please call Kelly Webb on 01732 227000 or email kelly.webb@sevenoaks.gov.uk.

Tunbridge Wells Love Where You Live wards

The awards for organisations in Tunbridge Wells are also open for nominations. They recognise individuals, groups and organisations who are dedicated to helping others, benefiting the environment, or accomplishing personal goals. Nominations close on 29 July, and the finalists will be invited to an awards ceremony at the Assembly Hall Theatre on Tuesday 11 October. For more information go to <http://tunbridgewells.gov.uk/residents/community/love-where-we-live/the-awards>

Tunbridge Wells Sport and Active Recreation Strategy

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council is consulting on a draft [Sports and Active Recreation Strategy](#) for 2016-2021. The consultation runs until Tuesday 3 May 2016. The strategy, with any amendments arising from the consultation, will be adopted by the Council in June 2016. The new strategy provides a framework and sets aims, objectives and priorities for developing sports opportunities and facilities in the borough, and using sport and active recreation to promote healthy lifestyles.

They would welcome your views and comments on the draft strategy. The best way to do this is by using the Council's consultation portal: <http://consult.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/portal>.

New Chess Academy is coming to Edenbridge and Oxted

A chess professional is trying to set up after school clubs in Edenbridge and Oxted. Ashok Damodaran is accredited by the English Chess Federation and is keen to work with others to help local children get to a competitive standard. For more information on the Prodigy Chess Academies coming to Edenbridge and Oxted please contact Mr Damodaran on 07985 175674 or email ashokmca@gmail.com.

NCVO Civil Society Almanac

NCVO have produced their 2016 UK Civil Society Almanac which includes facts and figures including...

- where charities get their money from and how they spend it
- how many people the sector employs and who they are
- how many people volunteer and what motivates them.

It can be a useful reference tool for organisations in the sector. To access the almanac go to <https://data.ncvo.org.uk>

Consultation on converting to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

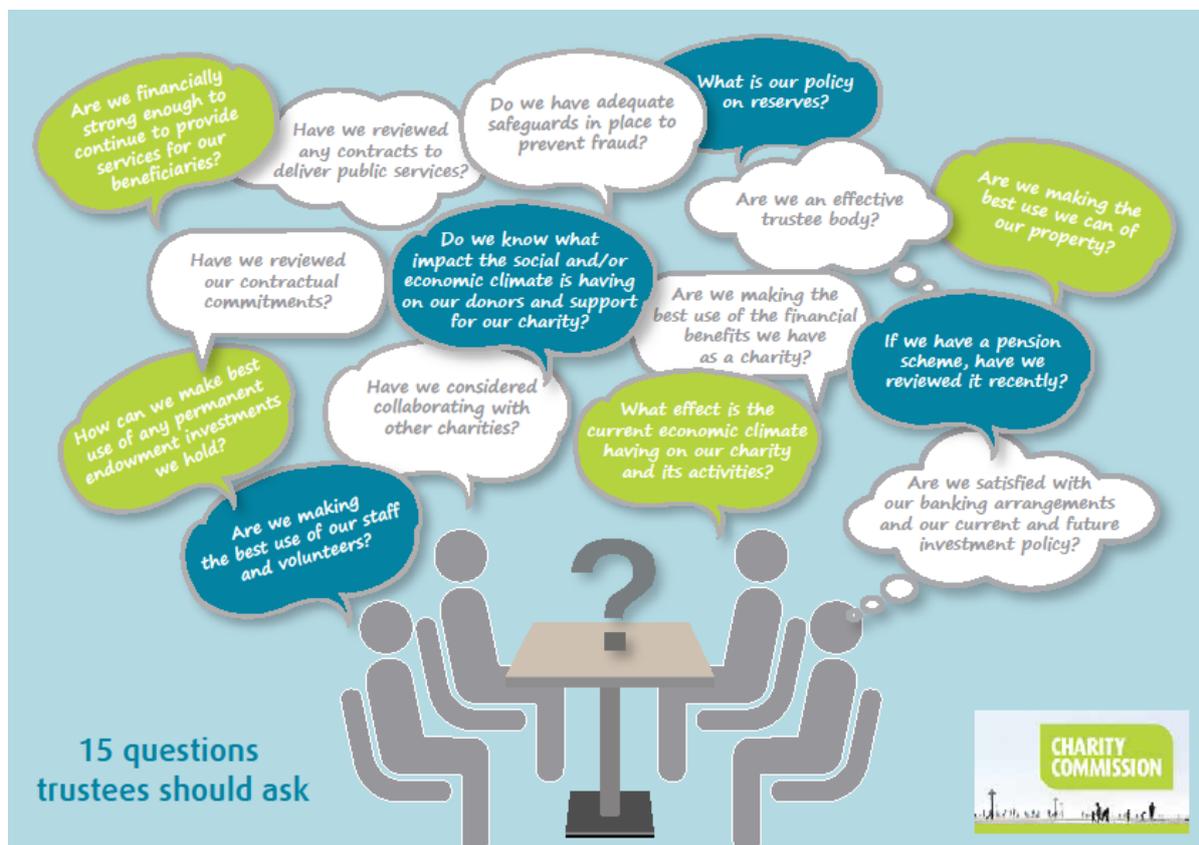
In 2013, the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) was introduced as a new legal structure to meet the needs of charities in England and Wales. Since then it has proved popular with over 6,500 new CIOs being registered by the Charity Commission and it now accounts for over 25% of all registrations. However the introduction of this new legal form had a phased approach and so far there has only been provision for new CIO's or conversions from unincorporated associations to be registered.

Now the Cabinet Office has opened a long awaited [consultation](#) on the process to allow Charitable Companies and Community Interest Companies (CICs) to convert to become Charitable Incorporated Organisations.

These draft regulations set out the process. They also set out a provisional timetable for a phased implementation, to assist the Charity Commission in managing the anticipated demand for conversions. The consultation invites feedback on the proposed conversion process and associated consequential changes. The deadline for responses is 10th June 2016.

15 Questions Trustees Should Ask

This is an interesting [infographic](#) produced by the Charity Commission.



Kent and Medway Funding Fair Comes To Tunbridge Wells

The [Kent and Medway Funding Fair](#) is taking place on 1st June at Skinners Kent Academy in Tunbridge Wells. There will be 24 seminars to choose from and there will be over 30 stands. Some of the exhibitors are new to the fair and include a company who can advise on insurances and representatives from Parliamentary Outreach who will give guidance on how to contact MPs, Lords and Ladies who have a particular interest in the work that an organisation delivers and how to get these people engaged.

As it is taking place in Tunbridge Wells, Imago are hosting the breakfast networking session for west Kent groups which will run from 8.15-8.45am. Coffee, tea and pastries will be available. To attend the free breakfast session please email wendy.mcgeachy@imago.community. Imago will also be operating the free minibus shuttle service from Tunbridge Wells train station to the venue. For more information see the flyer on [page 12](#).

Tesco Bags Of Help

The second round of funding for the [Tesco Bags of Help](#) scheme opened for applications on 18th April 2016. Bags of Help is administered by Groundwork and funded by Tesco customers from the proceeds of the 5p charge for plastic carrier bags. The scheme is open to community groups Scotland to apply for grants of £8,000, £10,000 and £12,000 to improve local green space such as parks, sports facilities, woodland walks and community gardens.



Power to Change

On 26 April [Power to Change](#) will begin accepting applications for a £10 million Community Business Fund. Through the fund they will award grants between £50,000-£300,000 to community businesses in England. There will be two further funding rounds in July and October.

KCC's Dementia Friendly Communities Fund

KCC's Dementia Friendly Communities Fund provides a maximum of £2000 per each of Kent's 12 Districts. This may be allocated as one single bid or as a number of smaller bids. The funding is available to develop things such as assistive technology or therapeutic projects and activities for people with Dementia. Bids that have previously been successful locally include funding for raised beds and planters and integrated seating to create a sensory garden at Greggswood Medical Centre in Tunbridge Wells. The closing date for bids is 31st May 2016.

BBC Children in Need

Although applications are accepted for [BBC Children in Need](#) funding throughout the year, there are specific deadlines and award dates. The next deadlines for: Small Grant applications are: 1 June; 1 September; and 1 December 2016. Main Grant applications are 15 May and 15 September 2016. Full details can be found on the BBC [website](#)



Do you need funding help?

If you would like us to run a funding search for you email details to Carol at community@imago.community.

Children's Centres at Risk

Children and Young People Now reports that the number of children's centres at risk of closure or being downgraded as a result of council cuts has reached 400.

Consultation on Extension of Free Childcare

The government is inviting views on how they should provide an extended entitlement of up to 30 hours free childcare for working parents of 3 and 4 year olds. This consultation closes on the 6th June.

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/early-years-funding/childcare-free-entitlement>

Charity Golf Day

Keith, one of our long-standing volunteers has arranged a **Charity Golf Day** during **Carers Week** at Redlibbets Golf Course in Ash to fundraise on behalf of Kent Young Carers. This will take place on Tuesday 14th June (9.45 for first tee time approx 10.30).

If you would like to attend please contact Kent Young Carers on 0300 111 1110.

If you are particularly interested in golf there is also information about a Pepenbury Golf Day on [page 14](#).

Report on one of our Family Fun Days

On the 29th March we held a family fun day in Dunton Green in Sevenoaks. This was one in a series of Family Fun Days commissioned by Sevenoaks District Council. Almost 100 children plus their family members or carers came to Dunton Green recreation ground. We sent new member of staff Simon Wilshaw to report on the event:

'Tables were set up for arts and crafts, face painting, biscuit decorating and badge making. Other jumbo games were set up and received lots of attention by the children who came to play and learn. I now know that children are much better at hoola hooping than adults are.

The weather was very variable with sunshine and showers so offering indoor activities for the children was very welcome and boosted the numbers of attendees.

The Imago staff were fully occupied with running the activities and answering questions about who Imago are and where SDC have commissioned us to work.

Children of every age joined in the fun, the older ones needed a little persuasion as initially they were 'too cool' for the activities but lots of thank you's followed and everyone left having had an opportunity to try all the activities on offer'.

Keep dancing! Tea dances have returned to the Camden Centre for 2016

Grab those dancing shoes and head to the Camden Centre in Tunbridge Wells to chat with friends, enjoy a cup of tea and dance the afternoon away! You can enjoy the live music played by Chris Housley all year through until December from 2.00 - 4.30 p.m. Arrive early at 1.30p.m for free dance tuition.

Dances include the popular Waltz, Quickstep, Foxtrot, Square Tango and a host of line dancing. Entry is only £2.50 and includes refreshments. You can also pick up information too on a wide range of useful community services. Come on your own or bring friends, no booking required.

The Tea Dance events are run by Imago in partnership with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. For more information contact Liz James at Imago on 01892 530330.

Dance dates:

Thursday 26th May, 23rd June, 28th July, 25th August, 22nd September, 27th October and 1st December.

Dial 2 Drive

Low cost community transport for people unable to access public transport due to older age, illness or disability

DIAL 2 DRIVE

Volunteer Drivers in their own cars can take you to

Medical and social appointments including, surgeries, hospitals, day centres, hairdressers, opticians, dentists, lunch clubs and shopping.

Stay active and independent in your local community

£20 annual membership
Drives charged at 60p per mile from drivers home to completion of journey



0300 777 1200
driving@imago.community
www.imago.community

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DIAL 2 DRIVE

Dial 2 Drive is a service of Imago Community
Registered Charity No: 1108388 Registered

Drug and Alcohol Services in west Kent

Drug and alcohol services for west Kent have recently been recommissioned. Crime Reduction Initiatives (CRI) and their partners were awarded a 5 year contract and will be delivering a newly commissioned service for west Kent residents from 1st April 2016. Services will be available for residents in Dartford, Gravesend, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells.

From 1st April CRI changed its name to change, grow, live 'cgl'. For more information visit either www.cri.org.uk or www.westkentrecovery.org.uk.

Release the Pressure

KCC have commissioned a new service called '[Release the Pressure](#)' providing confidential support to men who are beginning to feel the pressure in order to try and reduced the incidences of male suicide. Posters and images for use on social media are available.

Carers Strategy Call for Evidence

The Department for Health is consulting on a new [strategy for carers](#). They want to hear from carers, those who have someone who care for them, business, social workers, NHS staff and other professionals that support carers. The consultation closes on 30th June 2016.

Eat Well

Public Health England has developed the new [Eatwell Guide](#) to replace the Eatwell Plate. The Eatwell Guide is a policy tool used to define government recommendations on eating healthily and achieving a balanced diet. The new guide reflects the latest recommendations for a healthy diet. It now includes label reading guidance, advice on fluid intake and calorie requirements.

Useful Websites

There are a range of online self assessments available on the [NHS choices website](#) which test things like blood pressure, memory and mood. It would be useful to promote these amongst your communities along with the [NHS' new 'One You Campaign'](#), which encourages the public to take more control over their lives focusing on key areas such as stopping smoking, eating better and reducing stress.

Live Well Kent

The new community mental health and wellbeing service '[Live Well Kent](#)' is now live and will be delivered by two charities; Porchlight and the Shaw Trust on behalf of KCC and the NHS. To refer someone call on 0800 567 7699 or email info@livewellkent.org.uk.

Acknowledgements - thanks to Sarah Richards at the Health Team at TWBC for supplying much of this page's content.

Wing walk for Pepenbury

Two brave ladies are planning a wing walk to raise money for local learning disability charity Pepenbury. They will be taking to the skies in superhero costumes on July 22nd at Headcorn Airfield. One of the ladies, Angela Cartwright, has been a volunteer at Pepenbury for the last 8 years. Having previously abseiled down the Spinnaker Tower and Express Tower she is well used to heights. Being a grandmother of 4 and soon to turn 70 there is nothing standing in her way again this year. Her fellow fundraiser Francis Clayden is travelling from Bexhill to join what promises to be a once in a lifetime event.

“I am a passionate supporter of Pepenbury and the great work that goes on there helping adults with learning disabilities. We are aiming to raise £10,000 in sponsorship which will go towards buying a new mini bus for the service users. It’s something they desperately need to get and I’m really happy to help them in any way I can.” says Angela Cartwright.

Comedian Jo Brand sent a message of support: “Please support The Amazing Angela who is planning a death defying wing walk to raise money for Pepenbury. Let's just say, that like myself, she is a woman of advancing years. So good on her! Do your bit by donating what you can”. If you would like to donate go to Virgin Money Giving under the Friends of Pepenbury event page or email thefriendsofpepenbury@gmail.com to make a direct donation.



Untapped Potential report on health and social care transformation

A [report](#) (April 2016) by NPC commissioned by the Richmond Group of Charities (a collaboration of 12 of the biggest health and social care charities) outlines the issues for the charity sector arising from the NHS Five Year Forward View (5YFV). The Forward View identified the need for stronger partnerships with the charitable and voluntary sector. The report identifies some key issues and potential solutions.

The issues:

- The charity sector has evidence of its effectiveness in improving outcomes in the health and care system, but this is fragmented and poorly understood.
- The charity sector struggles to articulate what it can offer in a way that resonates with the health and care system.
- The health and care system doesn’t always see the breadth of what the charity sector can offer, and how this is relevant.
- The health and care system instinctively recognises that charity sector approaches are essential for achieving outcomes, but doesn’t effectively communicate this.

If health and social care decision-makers have a clear understanding of the charity sector’s evidence in relation to their priorities, the charity sector can be more involved in developing and delivering better health and care services—which will support better outcomes for people and communities.

The approach they propose involves integrating the VCS offer, creating a shared language, assessing of evidence to see the strength of the evidence base across the charity sector and demonstrate which activities add value. The voluntary and community sector (VCS) needs to make a strategic case for its inclusion in the design and delivery of the future health system.

Volunteer Centre News

West Kent Volunteer Centre is busy preparing for Volunteers' Week, 1-12 June. This year, a few extra days have been added... more time to celebrate the amazing contribution and achievements of volunteers across West Kent.

The end of Volunteers' Week will also coincide with [the Patron's Lunch on 12 June](#), a celebration of Her Majesty the Queen's lifetime of service to more than 600 charities and organisations to which The Queen acts as a Patron, on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

You can find out more and download resources at <http://volunteersweek.org/>.

We'd love to know what events you have planned and hear your amazing volunteer stories; email us at volunteering@imago.commmunity and look out for highlights throughout Volunteers' Week on the Imago website and on our Facebook and twitter pages.

Facebook: VolunteeringWK

Twitter: @Volunteering_WK

Volunteer for nature with Kent High Weald Partnership

In the coming couple of months Kent High Weald Partnership will be carrying out a huge amount of enhancement over a variety of local sites and the best news is, everybody is welcome to join them!



Fancy a bit of construction? They've got four boardwalk building tasks at Hilbert Wood for this Lottery funded project. They are also running four tasks at Barnett's Wood, a lovely mixed woodland near High Brooms. Here they'll be sprucing the site up with boardwalk and fence repairs, as well as installing new information boards and a storytelling chair!

With glorious views and acres of heathland and mixed woodland, Cinderhill is a must! Here they'll be managing pathways and clearing invasive bracken over three tasks.

They'll be maintaining their regular visits to Sherwood Lake and Wood, building important reptile habitats and introducing native aquatic plants. They'll also be visiting Harper's Weir near Goudhurst twice, to carry out some river enhancement works and undertaking weed control at Reynolds Lane meadows. All tasks run from 10am-3pm. For all details, including location, please visit www.khwp.org.uk or call 01580 212972.

Volunteering coffee mornings at Knole

Would you like to become a volunteer at Knole?

Saturday 7, Friday 20 and Thursday 26 May, all start at 10am

If you are interested in volunteering at Knole, come along to one of their free coffee mornings to find out more and meet their friendly team. You'll be able to discover what opportunities are currently available and talk to some of their volunteers to see what volunteering means in practice.

There are many ways to get involved, including leading park walks, assisting the conservation team, helping out on school visits, welcoming visitors and providing tours of the house. This is an exciting time in Knole's history and many new spaces will be opening to the public this year.

They provide a full induction programme and training and in return you get the chance to learn new skills, work in an amazing place and know that you're helping a great cause.

Please reserve your place online at <http://knole-volunteering.eventbrite.co.uk>. For more information contact their volunteer team on knolevolunteers@nationaltrust.org.uk or 01732 467162.

Imago Training Courses

Introduction to Volunteer Management

16 May 2016 09:30 - 16:30

Venue: Imago, John Spare House, 17-19 Monson Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1LS

This introductory course covers the basics of volunteer management from good recruitment practices through to volunteer learning and development

Roles and Responsibilities of Trustees

14 Jun 2016 09:30 - 16:30

Venue: Imago, 17-19 Monson Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1LS

Enhance your understanding of the roles of trustees in the charitable sector, by exploring practical ways of establishing an effective board of trustees.

Motivating and Retaining Volunteers

12 Jul 2016 09:30 - 16:30

Venue: Imago, 17-19 Monson Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1LS

Organisations often end up on a recruitment treadmill, constantly looking for volunteers.

This course aims to equip participants with the skills and understanding, to effectively motivate and increase retention of volunteers.

Presentation and Public Speaking

16 Aug 2016 09:30 - 16:30

Venue: Imago, 17-19 Monson Road, Tunbridge Wells Kent, TN1 1LS

Learn how to plan, prepare and deliver your presentations to maximum effect and enjoyment.

For more information on the above courses go to:

<http://www.imago.community/Training-and-Consultancy/Training-Calendar>

HOW TO BOOK

You can book and pay online by debit or credit card. You could also complete a booking form and return it with payment by post or email.

For further information on how to book, please contact: Jon Weller on 01892 530330 or email jon.weller@imago.community

critical Voices

connecting people, ideas, arts, medicine & health



critical Voices is part of a growing movement to understand medicine, illness and health, through insights from the arts. Our 2016 event brings together health professionals, patients, artists, photographers, film makers, writers, poets, performers and the wider public.

If you are interested in medicine, illness and health, curious about diverse perspectives and ideas, or want to hear powerful personal stories about critical areas of our lives, join us at *critical* Voices 2016.

Saturday 11th June, 9.15 — 5.00
Trinity Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

For tickets and further information about our contributors visit
www.criticalvoices.org.uk

Contributors to *critical* Voices 2016 include:

Tim Andrews — *Photo diarist*

Antonia Atwood — *Film maker*

Emma Barnard — *Artist*

Alice Evans — *Film maker*

David Gilbert — *Poet*

Dr. Margaret Hannah — *Director of Public Health*

Heart to Heart — *Theatre*

Lucy Lyons — *Artist*

Katharine Stambollouian — *Fourth Year Medical Student*

Dr. Stephanie Strachan — *Critical Care Consultant*

Monica Suswin — *Writer*

Daniel Regan — *Photographer*

Tulsi Vagjiani — *Survivor and motivator*

critical Voices is a not for profit initiative by its curator, Graham Shaw Email: info@criticalvoices.org.uk



KENT & MEDWAY FUNDING FAIR

Twitter: @FundingforAll Facebook: Funding for All
 Website: www.fundingforall.org.uk Email: fundingfair@fundingforall.org.uk

**Are you involved in a community or voluntary group?
 Need help and advice on where to find funding?
 THEN THIS IS THE EVENT FOR YOU!**



Kent & Medway Funding Fair
 Wednesday 1st June 2016, 8.45 am - 4.00pm

The Skinners' Kent Academy
 Sandown Park, Tunbridge Wells,
 Kent, TN2 4PY

£17.50 – Early Bird
£25.00 – Standard Price

BOOKING NOW OPEN
 Bookings close
20/5/16
 (Early Bird discount available for delegates who book by 06/05/16)

Run or looking to run a Project in your community?

Come along and listen to seminars by Big Lottery Fund, Charity Bank, Kent Community Foundation, Heritage Lottery, Arts Council, KM Charity, University of Kent, UnLtd, Funding for All specialist mentors plus many more.

NEW FOR 2016!

Speakers for 2016 include:
 Tudor Trust, Small Charities Coalition, Skinners Company.
 Plus an opportunity to purchase a printed copy of our Funding Guide priced at £5.

**Interest Groups for Older People? Youth Projects?
 Community Buildings? Sports Projects?
 How to Evidence Need? Income Generation?
 Project Development? Arts Project?**

Free 1-2-1s with a Funding Mentor available (bookable on the day)
 Come along and speak face to face with Funders and Support Organisations.

Let's not forget Support outside Grants?

We have seminars with top tips on Approaching a Business or Philanthropist, Diversifying income, Gifts-in-Kind or using Social Media?

24 confirmed seminars
Over 35 exhibitors

Opening Speakers:
 Skinners Livery Company, Kent County Council, Big Lottery Fund, Olympic Sports Personality

Planning a new community building or refurbishing an existing one?

Come and speak to Action with Communities in Rural Kent, KCC Community Halls, Ethical Property and Whitehead Monkton

FREE shuttle bus for all delegates will be available from Tunbridge Wells Station to the venue.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT
www.fundingforall.org.uk/event/kent-and-medway-funding-fair-2016



SKATEPARK EAST PECKHAM

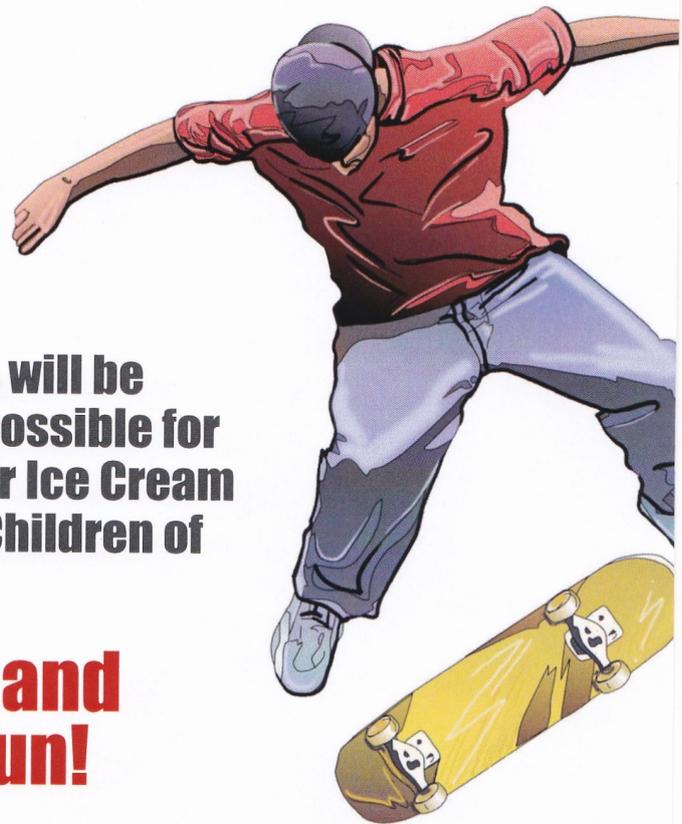
A Pop Up Skate Park is being organised for Saturday 14th May between 11am & 3pm.

It will be at the Jubilee Hall (Playing Field Area) with the view of a permanent one being erected if popular enough. Safety equipment will be provided as will Skateboards and Scooters.

There will be 2 Qualified CRB Instructors present one First Aid trained.

Various size ramps will be erected it may be possible for a burger van and/or Ice Cream Van to be present Children of all ages welcome.

Come along and have some fun!



Charity Golf Day

in aid of



inspiring • supporting • caring

Friday 13th May 2016

Woodlands Manor Golf Club

West Kingsdown TN15 6AB

Raffle!



Application form on
www.pepebury.info

Registered charity no.
307894