

The value of trustees

How was your Trustees Week (7th to 13th November)? With just over 1 million trustees in the UK there were a lot of people to thank. At Imago we published case studies of several of our trustees that profiled their different backgrounds and the benefits that they got from volunteering in this way.

Trustees and their responsibilities have remained in the spotlight this year and ensuring good governance will be important for the sector in the years to come. The recently published [National Trustee Survey](#) describes a challenging time for trustee boards—71 per cent of respondents said they felt that what was required of trustees was increasing and there was concern about long hours and limited training.

One of the benefits of Trustees Week is that it results in a number of interesting articles about trusteeship. Some of the articles that you may have missed are:

[Commission re-emphasises the fundamental role and value of trusteeship](#)

[Five questions that will make you a smarter trustee of your charity](#)

[Radical new governance code poses 'stretching objectives' for trustees](#)

The proposed new governance code recommends a board of between 5 and 12 trustees. Do you have a full board or management committee or do you have vacancies? At Imago we can connect you to people interested in becoming trustees. If you would like to tell us about vacancies in your organisation please contact volunteering@imago.community.

Christmas is coming

You are invited to the Sevenoaks Community Carol Service. This is a special service for voluntary organisations, volunteers, community groups and statutory agencies in Sevenoaks to come together to celebrate Christmas and give thanks for our active community. It is on Monday 5th December at 7:00pm at St Luke's Church, Eardley Road, Sevenoaks. This service will be led by Reverend Mark Griffin and refreshments will be provided afterwards.

For more information contact us on 01892 530330.

See [page 8](#) for Pepenbury's charity Christmas tree sales.



follow Imago
https://twitter.com/imago_community



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

Imago Community
invite you to a
**Community Carol Service
2016**



A special service for voluntary organisations, volunteers, community groups and statutory agencies in the Sevenoaks district to come together to celebrate Christmas and to give thanks for our active community

Monday 5th December at 7.00pm
St Luke's Church, Eardley Road, Sevenoaks TN13 1XT
The service will be held by Reverend Mark Griffin

Everyone is welcome
Refreshments will be provided afterwards

For more information, contact 01892 530330
or visit our website at www.imago.community



Sevenoaks District Council Housing Study 2016

Sevenoaks District Council has written to every household in the District asking them to complete a [housing study](#) by **29th November 2016**. The survey results will help SDC to understand local housing needs so they can ensure new homes are the right type and size and are built in the right places. Those residents who return the survey by the deadline will be entered into a free prize draw to win one of three £100 shopping vouchers.

Volunteer police cadet scheme

Kent Police has started work on introducing a Volunteer Police Cadet scheme across Kent. The scheme is designed to support young people between the ages of 13 and 18 by offering them a chance to volunteer in a uniformed group, focusing on community work and seeking to develop their holistic life skills.

The first phase will see Cadet Units in Medway, Canterbury and Tonbridge with a further 9 units rolled out across the county over the next 12 months. For more information contact Inspector Jim Vousden at james.vousden@kent.pnn.police.uk.

Direct Payments

Direct payments and personal budgets are offered by local authorities to give people more flexibility over how their care and support is arranged and provided. They are given to people with care and support needs and also to carers. Direct payments can be made to:

- disabled people aged 16 or over (with short or long-term needs)
- disabled parents for children's services
- carers aged 16 or over (including people with parental responsibility for a disabled child)
- elderly people who need community care services

For further details and information on Direct Payments go to:

www.gov.uk/apply-direct-payments

www.nhs.uk/conditions/social-care-and-support-guide/pages/direct-payments-personal-budgets.aspx

Consortium Development

NCVO has developed guidance on the 10 stages that they recommend for developing a successful consortium. Find out more [here](#).

Charities and Community Groups Can Benefit From Business Surplus

Giving World offers charities access to business surplus for free. Charities and community groups can register to receive these goods free of charge at www.givingworldonline.com.

What Makes a Good Charity?

NPC's step-by-step [guide](#) to charity analysis focuses on the key characteristics that they believe are common to all effective charities.



Transforming Health and Social Care in Kent and Medway

At a national level the [NHS Five Year Forward View](#) sets out the vision for health and social care in England. In parallel, every health and care system in England will produce a multi-year Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP), showing how local services will evolve and become sustainable over the next five years – to deliver the Five Year Forward View. NHS organisations, Kent County Council and Medway Council are working on their Health and Social Care Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) in Kent and Medway.

Across Kent and Medway, health and social care have a £3.4billion budget but overspent by £141 million last year. Without change, there will be a projected hole of £485 million in their budgets by 2020/21.

Find out more about what they want to achieve and the ideas so far by reading [Transforming health and social care in Kent and Medway](#).

[Have your say by completing the survey](#). The closing date for comments is 23rd December 2016.

Policing in Kent 2017-2021: Autumn 2016 survey

Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner, Matthew Scott, has to produce a Police and Crime Plan setting out the strategic priorities for Kent Police. The [existing Plan](#) ends on 31 March 2017, to be replaced with a new plan for 2017 – 2021.

When writing a new plan he has a duty to consult with victims and the wider community, so a short [survey](#) has been produced. The deadline for completing this survey is **2 December 2016**.

Kent Youth County Council—vote by 20th November

Voting for this year's [Kent Youth County Council elections](#) closes on 20 November 2016. Anyone aged 11-18 years old who lives or goes to school or work in Kent can vote.

Read about the candidates young people can vote for in these areas:

[Ashford](#)

[Canterbury](#)

[Dartford](#)

[Gravesham](#)

[Maidstone](#)

[Sevenoaks](#)

[Shepway](#)

[Swale](#)

[Thanet and Dover](#)

[Tonbridge and Malling](#)

[Tunbridge Wells](#)

TWBC Small Capital Grants Scheme

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council is now inviting applications for small capital grants for the 2017/18 financial year. The application period opened on Monday 14th November 2016 and closes on Friday 13th January 2017.

The Community Capital Grants Programme aims to help parish/town councils and voluntary/community organisations to deliver projects that contribute to supporting the Council's strategic priorities within the Borough. The grants programme can help fund capital projects that provide new community, sports, recreation or arts facilities. It can also help with funding for improvements to access, equipment and items of major repair like a new roof, floor or heating (where the need has not arisen out of poor maintenance).

Community Capital Grants can be funded by the Council up to a maximum of £4,000. Grant funding will be limited to a maximum of 50% of the total project costs and the applicant must demonstrate how the total cost of the project will be funded.

For further information, or to request an application form, contact Nick Green on 01892 554108 or e-mail: nick.green@tunbridgewells.gov.uk.

Early Help and Preventative Services Grant Scheme

The Early Help and Preventative Services [grant scheme](#) offers funding to non-profit organisations to help Local Children's Partnership Groups achieve their [local priorities](#). £560,000 of grant funding will be used to support projects across all 12 districts. The deadline for applications is **22 December 2016**.

Galaxy Hot Chocolate Fund

The [Galaxy Hot Chocolate Fund](#) is inviting applications from small local charities and community groups from across the UK and Ireland. From November 7th 2016 until February 26th 2017, they are seeking to award a total of seventy donations of £300 to help community groups and people across the UK and Ireland. Five donations will be awarded each week, four by a panel of judges and one through the People's Choice award to the organisation with the most weekly votes.

Explore grant data

[GrantNav](#) is a free online service that allows you to search, explore and download UK grant data from funders publishing their data to the 360Giving Standard. GrantNav has been developed to make it easier to find out which organisations have funded which sectors or regions and how this may have changed over time. This will help visitors to quickly obtain an overview of other organisations working in the same areas.

Deadline approaching for £5m fund for local charities in Kent and Medway

The Raymond and Blanche Lawson Charitable Trust has donated £5m to Kent Community Foundation to set up a new grant-making endowment fund for local charities in Kent and Medway. The new fund will be called the Lawson Endowment for Kent, and typically issue grants of up to £5,000.

Grants will be made available to charities and community groups addressing genuine need in the local community. Examples include charities supporting isolated elderly people, creating opportunities for vulnerable families and young people, or assisting those furthest from the workplace to find meaningful employment. Projects relating to homelessness and/or housing will be particularly welcomed

Priority will be given to projects that engage local people especially local volunteers. The next deadline for applications is Friday 25th November and further details can be found [here](#).

Over the Wall

[Over The Wall](#) is a national children's charity and a member of the international SeriousFun Children's Network. They provide free of charge therapeutic recreation camps to help children with life-limiting illnesses and their families reach beyond the perceived limitations of illness to rediscover a whole new world of possibilities. Through participation in a programme of fun-filled recreational and educational activities, their camps help promote inclusion whilst developing the confidence, self-esteem, coping strategies and peer relationships of the campers.

They give children one glorious week of experiences that are memorable, exciting, fun and empowering, in a physically safe and medically sound environment. Over The Wall is the only residential camp in the UK structured on the late Paul Newman's renowned 'Hole in the Wall Gang Camp'. As Paul Newman put it "A place where kids can kick back, relax and raise a little hell"

They work with children age 8-17 and their families in camps in the South of the UK, the Midlands and in Scotland. Camps are held in the school holidays to make them accessible for children and young people.

They work with a variety of health conditions and are always looking for new families to work with. If you know of someone that could benefit from coming to camp, email info@otw.org.uk.

They are also looking for volunteers (age 18+) to join them in providing these life changing camps for young people. They need around 650 volunteers a year. Camps are a really fun way to use and share your skills, while learning new ones. Volunteers meet new people and support some of the most inspiring children you could meet.

For more information about volunteering, email volunteering@otw.org.uk



OVER THE WALL



a seriousfun camp
founded by paul newman

Rusthall Community and Youth Project

This group organises a series of activities for young people and the wider community in the Rusthall area of Tunbridge Wells. One project is their Rusthall—Great War Remembered activities. A group of adults and young people from age 9 to 93 visited the Somme, France, in September, to commemorate Rusthall servicemen who died in the 1916 Battle of the Somme. With research details from R C & Y P, Rusthall Local History Group and Clive Roberts 'Rusthalls Fallen', commemorative crosses and wreaths were laid at Fricourt German cemetery, where some 25,000 are recorded, many of them missing; at Lochnagar Crater and at Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, where over 74,000 are commemorated.

It was a very emotional and reflective day. For more information about the Rusthall Community and Youth Project contact Mike Bassett by email: mikebassett@blueyonder.co.uk



Kent Autistic Trust

Kent Autistic Trust has a support group in Tunbridge Wells for parents and carers of children with Autism or Asperger Syndrome. Meetings take place on Tuesdays from 7.00-9.00 pm at the TN2 Community Centre, Lakeside, Greggwood Road.

For more information contact: Jo Blamires, Family Support Officer on 01634 405168 or by email: jo@kentakautistic.com.

Fundraiser

Citizens Advice Tunbridge Wells and District is an independent charity with aspirations to expand both its range of activities and its income, so that it can provide expert advice and support to everyone in the local community including those suffering poverty, mental health problems, social isolation, loss of employment, cuts to benefits and unmanageable debt. To meet these goals, the charity seeks to employ a specialist in grant funding who can work closely with the Chief Officer to develop strong and sustainable funding for the charity.

The successful candidate will have a strong track record of successful grant applications, preferably demonstrating experience across a diversity of grant-giving bodies and sizes of grant. The role will entail identifying appropriate grant funding opportunities, supporting the Chief Officer in building relationships with funders, bid writing and oversight of grant monitoring requirements.

To apply, please email astarke@twcab.org.uk for an application pack

Application deadline	Noon on Wednesday 23rd November
Interviews	30th November
Salary	£28,000 to £30,000 pro rata plus contributory pension scheme
Hours	22.5 hours per week
Location	Tunbridge Wells

Citizens Advice in North and West Kent - Volunteers needed

We are looking for volunteers to train in January 2017 as advisers in our Sevenoaks and/or Swanley offices.

You don't need specific qualifications or experience to train for the role but you do need:

- an ability to understand detailed information
- to be polite and good at listening
- to be familiar with using a keyboard and searching the internet
- to be able to input data accurately
- a good level of literacy and numeracy
- to be open minded and not judge clients
- to enjoy helping people

For more information and to apply online, please go to www.citizensadvice.org.uk.



pepenbury



Charity Christmas Tree Sales

26th November to 21st December 2016
Every day 9.30am-4.30pm

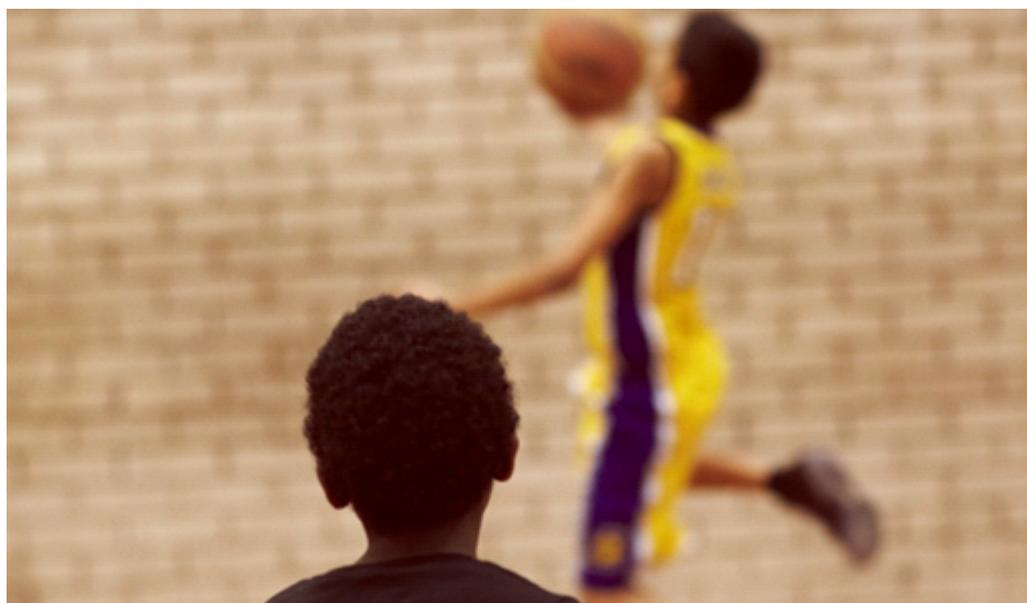
Pepenbury, Cornford Lane, Pembury TN2 4QU

Tel: 01892 822 168

www.pepenbury.info

Registered charity no. 307894





Have you got the skills to make a difference in a young persons life in Kent.

Do you have a spare room in your accommodation?
 Do you want to make a positive difference in the life of a young person?
 Would you like to be rewarded for your positive impact?

It does not matter if you are single, married, working full or part time or retired. All you need is a spare room in a safe and stable living environment, to help this young person build their self esteem and self confidence, and help them gain a range of skills that enables them to live independently. The support given and the room will be rewarded for as a supported accommodator.

You will have no legal or parental obligation.

If this sounds interesting to you, why don't you contact Tinu Ojo, Recruitment and Training Coordinator at Catch 22 on 07801012864 /01233223761 or email at Tinu.ojo@catch-22.org.uk.

**catch
22** catch-22.org.uk

Head Office: Catch22 27 Pear Tree Street, London EC1V 3AG. T: 020 7336 4800
 E: information@catch-22.org.uk Registered charity no. 1124127. Company no. 6577534.