

Community News

Newsletter of the Wealden Residents' Action Group

www.wrag-online.co.uk



Alderbrook Community Association Big Lunch June 2015

Issue 19 Summer 2015

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What is WRAG?

The **Wealden Residents Action Group**, a Community Interest Company (CIC) exists in order to support local residents groups and council tenants.

Holding around 6 general meetings a year, members of all resident groups are encouraged to send a representative along to share their groups views and issues.

Please complete the enclosed short survey. WRAG need to know residents views so a survey is being undertaken. We would encourage residents to complete - WRAG works for both residents and groups which makes any feedback very important and shapes future action we need to take. Please use the postage paid envelope to return your survey.

Many groups share similar issues and WRAG can collect all the information and take it forward to Wealden District Council's Wealden Homes Partnership in order to find solutions.

WRAG needs a Resource Centre – at present it is hoped we can be housed in the Jarvis Brook Community Hub project – this is still at a Fund Raising stage (see article in this issue) but we hope to include lots of facilities – support for groups – ie printing and IT, training for residents, volunteer opportunities and so much more.

Members are committed to WDC providing more council houses at genuinely affordable rents so if you would like to have more say in rent rises and other such issues please do come along – refreshments always provided! If you want to contact WRAG, you could try a member of the WRAG executive committee (see below).

Executive Committee Members:



Treasurer: Raymond Whiteway-Roberts
Email: i.am.ukray@gmail.com



Facilitator: George Hedges
Email: hedges.george@googlemail.com



Facilitator: Colin Stocks
Email: colin@stocksy.org



Facilitator: Jo Stonebrook
Email: info@alderbrookonline.co.uk

Committee

Jennie moon · Email: jennielmoon@googlemail.com
Sue wheeler (SHRG) · Email: susan.wheeler@btinternet.com
Gill Roche (SHRG) · Email: groche@btinternet.com



Big Lunch 7th June 2015

The Big Lunch is a very simple idea from the Eden Project. The aim is



to get as many people as possible across the whole of the UK to have lunch with their neighbours annually on the first Sunday in June in a simple act of community, friendship and fun. Since starting in 2009, thousands of Big Lunches have taken place in all types of communities. In 2014, 4.83 million

people took to their streets, gardens and community spaces for the sixth annual Big Lunch. So for 2015 the Alderbrook

Community Association invited residents to enjoy their picnics in Adam field on Big Lunch Day. It was a lovely



sunny day and the Throw the Sponge was helpful in keeping people cool. A Bouncy Castle kept the children occupied and St Richards Church kindly supplied cakes and drinks.

A Raffle was held; the prizes went down well with all monies raised going towards the Alderbrook Community Association.



For more information about the Association contact

Jo Stonebrook

info@alderbrookonline.co.uk

or visit the web page:

www.alderbrookonline.co.uk

Churchcoombe Community Association, Uckfield



The Churchcoombe Community Association (CCA) organised a bowling trip to Freedom Leisure, Hailsham for the youngsters on the estate (8 – 15 yr olds). They enjoyed an hour of bowling followed by a pizza buffet and a thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all.

The CCA represents all residents living in: The Drive, The Mount, Manor Way, Manor End Manor Close, Lealands Drive, Uplands Close, Crown Close, Cambridge Close and Claremont Rise.

The Association is focusing on environmental improvements and building on community spirit in the area. The Community Association meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30pm in the lounge of: Margaret House; Lealands Drive, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 2AG. For more information or if you would like to get involved email the Chairperson Maggie Evans Maggiethecook@gmail.com or find our group page on Facebook.

The next general meeting of
Wealden Residents Action Group (WRAG).

On: Wednesday 22nd July.

At: 7pm.

In: Uckfield Civic Centre

To be added to the mailing list please use the sign-up form at <http://eepurl.com/jXu5H> or scan this QR code



Unity Community Association, Heathfield

Unity Community Association is in Heathfield and was recently awarded £150 from the Police Property Fund. The Association will use the £150 towards a pantomime trip in December for the residents of our estate. The cheque was presented by PCSO Fleur Whittaker. The cheque was



presented on the Leeves Common Play Area, which is the heart of our community. Details of the pantomime will be distributed later on in the year in a Community Association newsletter.

For more information about the Community Association contact Anna Batchelor annbat71@aol.com

Keld Close Community Garden, Uckfield.

The Keld Close Community Garden project has made good progress and should be completed by July.



The Community Garden before work started

The Project is being led by local residents and has been funded by the Community and Environmental Budget.

For more information contact Derek Hainsworth.
derekh55@aim.com



Work near to completion

Newtown Action Group, Uckfield

Selby Meadow, Uckfield open day May 17



Residents and visitors enjoyed Selby Meadow's first open day of the year.

The community garden was looking good, with plenty of seating for people to rest and enjoy refreshments or just have a friendly chat. One of the features of the day was a 'smoothie bike', provided by Action in Rural Sussex (AiRS). People could choose their own fruit and juice, milk or yoghurt and pedal to power the liquidizer that turned the ingredients to a drink. Claire Reynolds and Chiara Vagnarelli from the charity were on hand to help with producing the drinks.



This year a new bird bath has been installed in the Meadow, and raspberry, strawberry plants, rhubarb and herbs have all been planted for people to come in and pick during visits.

Selby Meadow will be hosting a charity event on July 19, 2.00pm-5.00pm, for St. Peter and St. James' Hospice, entry is free, donations would be appreciated and all proceeds will go to the charity.

For more information about The Group contact Derek Hainsworth.
derekh55@aim.com



Jarvis Brook Community Centre Project



Working in Partnership

The trustees of Jarvis Brook Community Centre Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) are a small group of local people who are raising funds to build and run a small



Community Centre in Jarvis Brook. Working in partnership with the Wealden Residents Action Group, (WRAG) and the Jarvis Brook Community Association, and with support from Wealden District Council we've now got planning permission to convert and extend the old lavatory block on the Jarvis Brook Recreation Ground to provide a multi-use hall, kitchen, kiosk, meeting room and office space to house the WRAG Resource Centre. The building will also provide fully accessible public lavatories available for users of the adjoining Recreation Ground (in keeping with the original function of the building!) We are also really pleased to announce we will be working in partnership with environmental organisation Groundwork South to develop and progress this exciting community project.

So far £60,000 has been secured, including £47,000 from the Wealden District Council Community and Environmental Budget, and from community fundraising, donations and grants from local businesses and the Town and District Councils. We have a long way to go before we can start to lay the first bricks, so perhaps you'd like to help us? We need people to get involved to help with publicity, promotions, funding bids as well as organising and running fun days and other activities.

Alternatively we'd be happy to just take your money! Do contact us if you can help by phoning our Chair, Carolyn

Wickens on **01892 665563**, email

jbcommunitycentre@gmail.com or find us on

Facebook and twitter.



Southfield Community Association

Pictured are Peter and Sarah Conway from Southfield Community Association presenting a cheque for £300 to the staff and Youngsters at Polegate Youth Club. The Youth Club intends to use the well needed money on equipment for a craft machine they had previously bought but had limited funds to operate.



The Youth Club meets on Tuesday evenings with a variety of activities always taking place, local youngsters under 16 are always welcome.

For more information about the Community Association contact the Chair, Peter Conway: peterconway1968@yahoo.co.uk

Jarvis Brook Community Fun Day

The Jarvis Brook Community Association (JBCA) and the Jarvis Brook Community Centre Charitable Incorporated Organisation (JBCC CIO) organised a huge Fun Day at the Jarvis Brook Recreation Ground on



Saturday, 4th July. As the photo shows, the weather was perfect, and lots of local residents turned up to support the event. Organisers hoped to ensure two things - fun for everyone attending, and an increase in funds raised for the redevelopment of the Jarvis Brook Community Hub (see article on previous page).

A big thank you to everyone involved in organising the day and to everyone who came along.

For more information contact Colin Stocks: colin@stocksy.org