

South Hams CVS' Snippets Newsletter Winter 2020

What a year it has been! However the pandemic has affected you or the groups and organisations of which you are part, one thing is for sure, Covid-19 has turned our world upside down. Our communities, our volunteers, our voluntary and community groups in South Hams have been amazing throughout and it is hard to find a way to truly convey our awe and appreciation for what has been achieved. THANK YOU for hanging in there, doing your best, doing your part and being amazing. We hope that you and the communities you support can celebrate the Christmas break in some way. Here is a taster of some of the opportunities that may be relevant to you, your group/organisation or service users.



South Hams CVS AGM – the 2020 Annual General Meeting will take place online (zoom) on Tuesday 19 January 2021 11-12.30. Everyone is welcome to attend, but only a nominated representative of organisations enrolled as Local Supporters will be eligible to vote. If your organisation has not renewed its membership in 2020, please contact us for a renewal form or if you wish to be a local supporter of this valuable organisation, download an application pack at cvs@southhamscvs.org.uk Nominations for new Trustees to join the team in governing South Hams CVS would be welcome. If you would like further information about becoming a South Hams CVS trustee, please contact us to discuss.

South Dartmoor Community Energy (SDCE) provide a South Hams wide Energy Advice service offering free help and support to eligible local residents, and with no sales angle. Any people you are working with who are struggling with poor health, low income or advanced age will be eligible for SDCE help. [Click for a short video](#) for front line workers for an overview of the service. Email jinni@sdce.org.uk to request a Referral and Marketing pack including case studies, referral guides and helpful material to spread the word about the service.

Devon Carers - in response to the big increase in the number of unpaid carers this year alongside a reduction in usual channels to raise awareness of Devon Carers and their wide range of advice and support and have made a free 22min online training, for frontline workers and volunteers '[Introduction to Carer Awareness](#)'. Local VCSE are encouraged to use this in inductions and to help identify and signpost unpaid carers to Devon Carers.

Local Connections Fund will be open to charities and community groups that reduce social isolation through shared interests, activities and hobbies. A total of £4 million (in 2 rounds) will be offered by the Government and the National Lottery Community Fund. Groups can apply for amounts of between £300 and £2500. The aim is for local organisations to bring people and communities together, as the country recovers from the coronavirus pandemic. The first application window opens on 5 January 2021.

Recruiting Covid-response volunteers - Groups needing more volunteers to support in their Covid-response efforts can promote the opportunities to NHS Volunteer Responders through the website or on the fortnightly mailing that is sent out to registered volunteers. (Note – not all vacancies can be promoted in this way due to volume). If you would like to try this, please send basic details of the role, location, and contact details to nhsrvpartners@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk

Charity Commission 5-minute guides for Trustees - Short guidance on the basics all trustees need to know are newly available. Take a look at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/charity-commission-guidance>


Social Prescribing - South Hams CVS is now providing Social Prescribing Link Worker services to South Hams Primary Care Networks (PCN) and Mewstone PCN. Link workers give people time, focusing on what matters to them and taking a holistic approach to their health and wellbeing. They connect people to community groups and statutory services for practical and emotional support. If you know anyone who may benefit, guide them to ask their GP for a referral. If you think link workers could signpost people to your activities, please email jane@southhamscvs.org.uk

Devon Climate Emergency Response Group, a collaboration of local authorities and various organisations in Devon have useful resources for community groups on their website and are holding a series of webinars on the interim Carbon Plan. To register for the Community Groups webinar on 19 January 2021, go to <https://www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk/> tab: 'Carbon Plan'

South Devon AONB - Peter Sandover, the AONB Management Committee's community representative is keen to learn if you have anything you would like to raise with the AONB. Peter, a local architect, has a particular interest in community regeneration, renewable energy, and all things sustainable and has helped a number of communities and parishes with their recent plans. Please get in touch with Peter by email at peter@sandoverassociates.co.uk

The Sir Francis Chichester Trust is once again offering FREE places on the 19 day Outward Bound 'Skills for Life Award' course to young people who live in Devon and who are aged 16-19 (at the time of the course, which will be July/August 2021). The course is designed to help participants make an effective transition into sixth form, further education or work. The courses are held at the Outward Bound centres in the UK. The closing date for applications is Monday 1 February 2021 An [application form](#) can be downloaded from the Trust Website.

South Hams CVS Workshops - Training is an important part of our work at South Hams CVS and we are pleased to offer the following (online) in the New Year to support South Hams' voluntary and community groups and volunteers:

7 th Jan 10.30am – 12.30pm	Introduction to Wellbeing Listening	
13 th Jan 10am - 12.30pm	Supporting Volunteers	
20 th Jan 10am – 12.00pm	Promoting Inclusion & Challenging Discrimination – NOW FULL (waiting list open)	
28 th Jan 10.30am – 1pm	Wellbeing Listening in Action (for those who have previously attended the Introduction session)	
2 nd Feb 10.30am – 12.00pm	5 Steps to Suicide Awareness	
24 th Feb 1pm – 3pm	Making the most of Zoom	
2 nd March 1pm – 3pm	Introduction to Wellbeing Listening	

Please email events@southhamscvs.org.uk for more information or to book on to any of these events



This newsletter is sent with very best wishes for you, your families, beneficiaries and communities from the team at South Hams CVS