

December 2009

Special points of interest:

ChOPP goes to Fernhurst

Send in your events and news. We look forward to hearing from you.

Inside this issue:

- ChOPP goes to Fernhurst **1**
- Samaritans receive funding for new volunteers **2**
- Community Wardens visit Senior Forum **2**
- WRVS at the ChOPP meeting **3**
- Dementia Resources Library **3**
- First ChOPP meeting in 2010 **4**
- Essential Telephone Numbers **4**

ChOPP – supporting 66 parishes from Plaistow in the north to Selsey in the south

Chichester District Older People's Partnership (ChOPP)

A Year of Achievements Draws to a Close

It has been a year of many achievements for Chichester District Older People's Partnership (ChOPP) and, as it draws to a close, the Team would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. We look forward to new opportunities in 2010.



ChOPP goes to Fernhurst

A recent Health and Wellbeing event in Fernhurst attracted nearly forty older people keen to obtain advice and information on a range of issues. The event was run through partnership working between Chichester District Older People's Partnership (ChOPP) and Chichester District Council. It was also supported by approximately twenty stall holders, including the Department of Work and Pensions, the Carers Support Service, Meals on Wheels and West Sussex Fire and Rescue. Stall holders were able to chat with attendees and offer advice and guidance on a whole range of issues, as well as demonstrating a range of equipment.



It was noted that the event had additionally been helpful to stall holders, from both statutory and voluntary organisations, who had identified various ways in which they could link up and work together to improve their service delivery in the future.

Feedback from those attending the event was very positive, with one stating, 'This event has been so timely for me, I have just become a carer for my wife and this is exactly the kind of information that I need.' Another said, 'This has taken the weight of my shoulders, not only have I sorted out my claim for benefits, I now realise there is help for me as a carer.' A further attendee said, 'I have a smoke alarm but was unaware that it could be linked to the Careline service and this will now be done for me.'



One of the stall holders confirmed, 'The number of attendees in a rural area will always be lower, but the quality of enquiries today has been excellent and I now have four home visits to schedule. I have also made useful contacts with other organisations and discovered ways in which we can work more closely together.' Speaking on behalf of the Pension Service, Carolyn Phelps confirmed, 'Today, I have dealt with some very specific benefit enquiries which are likely to result in additional entitlement.' Similarly, a local community group stated 'You have invited some excellent stall holders today and I have taken information from each stall and will make this useful advice available to my community group.'

Samaritans receive funding for new volunteers

Through successful partnership working with ChOPP, the Bognor Regis, Chichester and District Branch of the Samaritans has been provided with funding, allowing them to train thirty new volunteers during the next two years.

The volunteers, aged 18 or over, are needed to support the local branch of the national charity, providing 24 hour emotional support to callers in despair or distress. A variety of roles are available. To find out more, call 08705 62 72 82 for an information pack or write to the Samaritans, 13 Argyle Road, Bognor Regis, PO21 1DY.

Visitors are also welcome to attend their regular Information Evenings at 13, Argyle Road, Bognor Regis, which are due to be held in 2010 on Tuesday 12th January, Monday 22nd February, Wednesday 24th March and Thursday 29th April all at 7.30pm.

A year of name changes

As many of you will already be aware, 2009 marked a new name for the Chichester CVS as it became Voluntary and Community Action Chichester District.

After extensive consultation the charities Age Concern and Help the Aged have selected their new names for the four new national organisations created as a result of their merger. The charities will be using the joint branding, Age Concern and Help the Aged, until Spring 2010, when the names Age UK, Age Cymru, Age NI and Age Scotland will come into use.

The Community Wardens visit the Senior Forum

The Chichester Senior Forum were pleased to welcome Community Wardens, Gareth Jones and Jay Blackwood to one of their monthly meetings.

Gareth and Jay spent time explaining the role of the Community Wardens and the excellent work that has been undertaken in the Selsey area.



CORGI becomes Gas Safe

Are you aware that the Gas Safe Register has replaced CORGI in Great Britain and the Isle of Man? The register exists to protect you, your family, and your property from dangerous gas work. By law, anyone carrying out work on gas installations and appliances in your home must be on the Gas Safe Register.

Be gas safe – always use a Gas Safe registered engineer - and always ask to see their Gas Safe Register ID card.



**Community
Wardens
visit the
Chichester
Senior
Forum**



The ChOPP Meeting - November 2009

Chichester District Older People's Partnership (ChOPP) holds bi-monthly meetings which all groups working with older people are very welcome to attend. The final meeting of 2009 was held in November and included a food tasting session provided by the WRVS Meals on Wheels service.



The first meeting of 2010, will be held from 9.45am – 12.30pm, on Monday 1st February 2010 at the Newell Centre, Tozer Way, Chichester and further details will follow shortly on the website.



A small pot of funding is available to be used as reimbursement for any travel costs incurred in circumstances where attendance at meetings would become prohibitive due to costs incurred. This would apply to recovering costs following the use of community or public transport and further information can be obtained from Sarah Williams.

For further information, contact Sarah Williams on 01243 528460 or email: sarah.williams@vcacd.org.uk.

Changes to Anchor Handyperson Service

Anchor Staying Put has provided the following message highlighting changes to their Handyperson Service. 'Anchor is pleased to announce a number of beneficial changes to their Handyperson Service which includes a reduction in charges, down from £25 to £15 plus materials.'

There are extra types of jobs they are able to undertake through the service, for example:

- Half steps
- Garden handrails
- Mowing and hedge clipping

For further information on this service, contact Anchor Staying Put on 01243 539988

Dementia Resources Library

Chichester Area Mind, with funding from Healthier Chichester Partnership, has recently put together a Dementia Resources Library. This consists of a collection of books and DVDs on various aspects of Dementia. The material will be useful to those caring for someone with Dementia, as well as those with an interest in the subject. Books and DVDs can be reserved for collection and can be collected from the Dementia Resources Library, Chichester Library or the Mobile Library. A guide to Dementia related websites is also available and includes websites that provide detailed factsheets, telephone helplines etc.

For further information please contact Carole on 01243 787878, or email dementiarl@chichestermind.f2s.com



**WRVS visits
the ChOPP
Meeting**





**Chichester District
Older People's
Partnership (ChOPP)**

60a North Street

CHICHESTER

West Sussex

Phone: (01243) 528460

E-mail: choppadmin@vcacd.org.uk

**Supporting 66 parishes from
Plaistow in the north to Selsey
in the south**

First ChOPP meetings of 2010:

1st February 2010 at the Newell Centre, in
Tozer Way, Chichester. Further details to
follow shortly.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Check out the website!
www.chopp.org.uk

Essential Telephone Numbers

Emergency Police 999

Non-Emergency Police 0845 60 70 999

Initial First Point of Contact for: Support at Home

Community Partnership Team 01243 536529

West Sussex County Council - Adult Services Help Desk 01243 752999

Other Supporting Services

WRVS Meals on Wheels 01243 642230

Age Concern Information Line 0800 019 1310

Home Fire and Safety Checks + Smoke Alarms 0800 328 6487

Anchor Staying Put - Handyman Service 01243 539988

Home Heat Helpline 0800 336699

Pension and Benefit Advice

Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)

01273 364713 (Chichester)

01273 364707 (Selsey and Wittering)

(The DWP numbers will change at the end of January 2010 - details to be advised)

Citizens Advice Bureau 01243 784231

Medical Advice

NHS Direct 0845 4647

Help for Carers

Carers Support Service 01243 537011

ChOPP – Supporting 66 parishes from Plaistow in the north to Selsey in the south