

Winter 2020 Newsletter

OLDER PEOPLE'S DAY EVENT 2019



Once again we held our Older People's Day event at Seaford Community Cinema. Though the weather was terrible, wind and rain, we welcomed over 80 people to watch "Fisherman's Friends". The volunteers at the Cinema provided us with refreshments before the show started and then we all settled down to watch a very enjoyable film. The story was based on truth, with a bit of poetic licence, and told of a group of Port Isaac fishermen who sang for fun in their local village and how they were discovered by a record company employee. Despite opposition and derision from his employers they were a huge success which has continued until today. As with films today there had to be a death but it was handled very well and didn't spoil the enjoyment of the film. Thank you to all those who came and supported your forum. Your committee have decided that we will go back to the Cinema this year, no date yet and no choice of film but all the information will be in the Older People's Day booklet which will be available in August.

PENSION CREDIT

Exactly what is Pension Credit? Well, according to AgeUK, it is a benefit for pensioners which is not being claimed by **1,200,000 (1.2 million) Pensioners** who are entitled to receive a few pounds extra to their income! This means that, according to our rough calculation, amongst our total East Sussex Seniors Association membership, there could be up to **1,000 pensioners** who could be receiving this benefit, but are not claiming it. Are **you** one of them?

There is a pamphlet which explains everything (if you get this Newsletter by email, then please download this pamphlet at https://independent-age-assets.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2019-04/Advice-Guide-Pension-Credit_0.pdf, or you can telephone Freephone 0800 319 6789 if you would prefer a hard copy. Each forum will receive the latest copy of this leaflet when they are reprinted in April and we will be posting a copy with our next newsletter.

The pamphlet gives you a Freephone number to phone and a list of details you will need to make a claim. It's as easy as that, **so, go on, have a go!**

What you may not realise is that if you get only £1 per week extra, having this benefit opens many other doors to other savings. For instance, most Councils give a reduction in Council Tax (possibly worth many hundreds of pounds), or an increase in Housing Benefit, plus dental treatment is free and from next year, when the rest of us have to pay for our TV Licence fee, if you are over 75 then yours will continue to be free.

So, what's stopping you? It's very simple, **so, go on, have a go!**

We would also love to hear from you that you have been successful. Letting us know by phoning 01323 490958 would give us a great deal of satisfaction to know that this message has been successful and the knowledge that many more of our members are getting what they are **entitled to.**

SO, GO ON, HAVE A GO!

Power Networks.

Power-cuts don't happen very often these days, but if there's a power-cut, have you ever wondered how some people would cope? UK Power Networks own and run the electricity cables in most of our region and fix power-cuts. They deliver the electricity which you buy through your choice of supplier. They provide a free priority service for anyone who might face extra difficulty in the event of a power-cut, including households with an elderly person, young children, someone less mobile or someone with a health condition.

By registering with UK Power Networks' Priority Services Register you will be given a priority 24-hour phone number for communication, receive extra information and regular updates during any power-cut. In the event of a longer power-cut you could receive hot food, hot drinks and hot water, mobile phone charging and more. Those who rely on power to run medical equipment, such as dialysis or breathing apparatus, would also receive additional help.

More information can be found online at www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/power-cut/priority-services-register. It's quick and free to register by completing a short questionnaire. If you have family or friends who meet the criteria you can register on their behalf if they are happy for you to do so. Please note that the majority of our members live in the area served by UK Power Networks (London, East and South East). However, a few do not, and it will be made clear to you in the online registration process if this is the case, and a link will be given to who your regional network operator is, so you can apply to join their Priority Services Register.

Neighbourhood Watch urges everybody who is eligible to sign up to UK Power Networks Priority Services Register, to ensure that they receive free extra help in the event of a power-cut

This message is being sent to you by Sussex Neighbourhood Watch .

Funding for Seaford Seniors Forum

As you probably are aware our funding has largely come from East Sussex County Council (ESCC) and The Clinical Care Commission (CCG): unfortunately the CCG has stopped funding us and we have no knowledge yet of any grant from ESCC for 2020/2021.

It would be appreciated if you are on email and are prepared to take our correspondence that way. I do issue occasional letters to our email members about the latest scams.

A newsletter mail-out, not including printing cost is around £500.

Currently ESCC pays for the postage for the Older People's Day booklet, we send a hard copy to every member.

Should you be making or changing your will perhaps you would consider a small donation to the forum please.

Thank you

Roy Neeve

Membership secretary

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Outing

Would you like to join us on a day trip to Arlington Bluebell Walk on April 22nd? Due to the wet weather we have been having it is expected there will be a good display this year. All of the walks are graded as to difficulty and I am sure there will be one that is available for all abilities.

There is a café on site with a good selection of food.

If you would like to join us please call me on 490958 to reserve your seat on the coach as soon as possible.

Lin Neeve Secretary