

# Forum News



September 2021

This copy of Forum News forms the notes of a meeting held by Zoom on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021.  
If you would like to know more about any of the items, please contact us at:  
mail@selseycommunityforum.uk.

- The meeting opened with a welcome to all participants.
- Arts Dream activities are starting again. Selsey Community Choir, the three Selsey Art groups, and Sing Your Heart Out started back this week.

Arts Dream present a new Radio Play on 9<sup>th</sup> October at St Peter's Church Hall, written by Gillian Plowman called "One Last Adventure" with eight favourite actors reading the parts. Sylvia Rota accompanies on piano. Performances are 3pm and 7pm. 50 tickets each performance and tickets are £8 each from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/artsdreamselsey](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/artsdreamselsey) or Brent Lodge Charity Bookshop, 8 New Parade, Selsey. See attached poster.

- It has been a successful summer for Youth Dream with just under 200 children attending activities over 6 weeks. Many of those children both here and the children from The Witterings have now moved up to The Academy and have already seen the Youth Worker there. There are 64 children currently being supported at The Bridge. There is a Youth Information Project Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> with other youth organisations and providers across the Manhood Peninsula where information and updates are shared. All the clubs are starting - Age Fusion and Sewing Club have had a very successful summer. Several lads they have helped over the last few months are starting college this week and doing really well.
- A Full meeting of the Town Council meeting tonight. District Councils have been alerted that they are likely to be asked to reduce funding in grants and local councils have been asked to reduce the amount of grants they can provide.
- Volunteer Action in Chichester are recruiting for A Volunteering Adviser who will be managing volunteers. A Volunteer Action Exhibition is being held on the 18<sup>th</sup> between 11am to 3pm. Thirty organisations are coming to chat to potential volunteers, and all people thinking about volunteering are welcome. Most of the staff are back in the office, although they are not all meeting face to face initially. They are taking things slowly and carefully and still wearing face masks in some situations around the building. There has been a new update from the National Council of Voluntary Organisations which says the Government may insist on wearing masks again depending on NHS hospitalisations, and how sensibly people behave going forward towards the winter months.
- The Shop in Selsey High Street is open for Coffee and Tea in the mornings and community groups in the afternoons and evenings. It started very quietly a few weeks ago but things are now picking up. The art displayed by local artists has been well received and enjoyed. On a Monday afternoon Shop Talk older Action meeting, Tuesday is a Carers Support meeting and Wednesday and on Thursday in October Leadership Workshops will commence for 6 weeks. Also starting is a new support group called "Hope in Dark Places".
- Selsey U3A which was started 9 years ago, are starting their activities again this month. Their monthly Open meetings recommences on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at the Selsey Centre. The first

meeting is for members to meet, socialise and have an afternoon tea together after a long break. Usually, the monthly meetings comprise of a speaker, quiz, raffle and tea / coffee is served. Speakers talk on a variety of subjects and the quiz is usually based on the speakers subject.

There are a variety of small groups which have started meeting again throughout the month and these provide an opportunity to learn new skills, and socialise. Groups range from Walking, Current Affairs, Skittles or learning a foreign language. Recently the National U3A rebranded after feedback suggesting the title was too off putting to some people. It is no longer called The University of the Third Age, just U3A and the motto is Learn, Laugh and Live. It's for people who are no longer in full time employment usually people aged 55+.

- The Tree Wardens are meeting again this month after a summer break. The main activity this winter will be restoring the hedge alongside the cycle track at East Beach Road. A lot of excavation has been happening at Denshare Road but will not interfere with area where trees have been planted, due to surveys being carried out before the tree planting took place earlier in the year.
- The Hidden Garden project at the Bridge has been going well over the summer. There has been a lot of help from local volunteers. The fresh produce which has been produced has been shared with local people and with people visiting the Tea Garden. There are a lot of plans to develop the site further this Winter and carry on developing new features on the site. Another project being developed is the Garden Share scheme in Selsey. People who have garden spaces and have previously grown fruit, vegetables and herbs in the past but are now unable to manage their garden and are willing to share their space with a family who would like to grow their own produce. If you know of a family who would like to be part of this scheme to grow their own fresh vegetables etc. or someone who has garden space, please contact Paul Sadler at The Hidden Garden who will endeavour to bring people together after usual checks have been made.

During a recent meeting with West Sussex Council, The Manhood Wildlife Group and Selsey Town Council, discussion took place about creating Wild Flower Verges along the highways between Selsey and Chichester on the main B2145 and some of the main roads in the town that link up with the main B2145. If anyone has a suggestion where wildflower verges could be created please let Paul Sadler know, as he is keeping a list of sites and grassland areas and sites to develop for pollinators by introducing and planting extra plugs of wild flowers. There will also be support for people to create wildflower meadows in their garden.

Carol Purnell Chairs the Manhood Peninsula Partnership which is heavily involved with various environmental projects in terms of walking and cycling routes, concern for habitats and coastal areas and the issue of climate change and resilience.

- Selsey Community Forum runs about 40 occasions each month for social interactions. The Sunday Teas, are starting again on Sunday at East Beach, and the following Sunday will be the Methodist Church. From October St Wilfrid's Church and St Peters Church will also offer Sunday Teas. On the fifth Sunday will be a Concert at The Town Hall organised by Glenda Baum starting on 31<sup>st</sup> October. Monday morning a small group meets at the Venture Club for Tea and biscuits. The Venture Club transport people who are otherwise unable to get out to different activities throughout the week. Shop Talk is held on Monday afternoon, Movie Club is on the second Monday of the month, Wednesday morning the Friendship Group meet at The Methodist Hall and Thursday morning and afternoon we meet at The Tea Garden.
- The Selsey Employment Service has started with a newly appointed Employment Co-ordinator. Sue Bowcher started the service 8 weeks ago. Sue has been contacting support services and building up links on behalf of clients. Next step for the Employment Service has been approaching local businesses and finding out what vacancies there are for Employment or

Apprenticeships. Sue has also started using social media, Facebook and LinkedIn, to advertise any vacancies in Selsey.

- During the last eighteen months we have been running a local Poverty Forum and we have identified, Food Poverty and are pleased to say during the summer holidays 1600 food provisions were made for families and each Friday morning the Food Bank is open. On Tuesday afternoon, Selsey Pantry which is run by UK Harvest in partnership with East Beach Church and Selsey Community Forum, provides food near the end of date life. People can come along, make a donation and take what they need. We have had over 200 people visit during August and on those occasions, we have had people attending from Selsey Money Support who have been running as a debt and money advice service for fifteen months and have now helped 150 clients. They are at East Beach Church on a Tuesday afternoon to help people with advice if they need it when they come to collect emergency food. We noted the Poverty of Loneliness and the social interaction groups are helping to meet that need, the Poverty of Bereavement where we are supporting about fifty different people who have lost someone during lockdown due to the Pandemic.
- The Forum have just recruited and started two young people under The Kickstart Scheme. They have joined as members of staff are based at the Star Office in East Street. Currently they are involved with all the community groups which are co-ordinated from the Star Office, some small groups and larger groups' activities. They both have different skills in social media or design and utilising their skills and currently their gifts are being developed through training and underpinning their knowledge.
- The Care Shop is very busy with referrals for a wide variety of needs, from people of all ages. The people within the shop and staff are really well linked with the Primary Care Team, Secondary Care Teams and the Medical Practice and can deal with most difficult situations that arise. Help with loan equipment for people. Linking with interacting groups within Selsey for example Counselling Sessions and Food Vouchers. The Selsey Care Shop help people with housing problems, form filling for entitlement and benefit applications. The staff are now starting to organise the Christmas Community Lunch which everyone feels excited about as its going to be a face-to-face activity. Karen Pirks and Karen Halford have developed a Peer Support Training Programme which is being developed further and it will include some of the Leadership training sessions starting soon.

The High Sherriff of West Sussex, Neil Hart who has taken on the role in April this year, came to visit the staff in the Selsey Care Shop, and it was a good opportunity for the staff to meet him. He confirmed he would support and guide us if we needed him in any way and would have valuable contacts to tap into.

- East Beach Church hosts Selsey Community Forum Groups on Tuesdays and Dementia Group on Thursdays. In the New Year will be changing its name to Beacon Church Selsey. The car park is being resurfaced in October. The Pop-up Pantry has been an amazing success and being further developed with providing Tea and Coffee. The UK Harvest and Holiday Club was a success over the Summer and they hope to repeat this over Christmas period.

On Tuesday mornings at East Beach Church a new support group is starting called Say Aphasia for people whose speech has been affected by a stroke, or slowness of thought. The rules of the group are very simple – “Don't interrupt and Don't finish my sentences”. Tuesdays are going to be busy with other groups meeting such as Stroke Support Group, the Men's Breakfast Group, and Selsey Carers for people who have lost a partner.

St Peters Church also hosted activities during the Summer for children and young people and partnered with Kim at Youth Dream and provided lunches and it was a tremendous success.

St Wilfrid's Church and the Methodist Church are also partnering with Sunday Teas and supports local organisations with the use of their Church Halls.

- Sports are starting again with the Golf Club and the Bowling Club as well as the Football clubs with their different age groups meeting for football practice and games. The Cricket Club are continuing their partnership with the Town Council to pursue the project for a new Clubhouse and Pavilion. The Cricket Club had three 12year olds playing in the team last Saturday, and its good to see younger people joining the team.
- Thanks to Apetito for delivering 30 to 40 meals for older people across Selsey every day.
- The Selsey Community Forum need to have a clear position about Covid Vaccinations. Now things are beginning to open and people are meeting up more SCF is taking the position to encourage everyone where possible to have as many Covid vaccinations that are available to them, and this will be publicised in the next newsletter. The booster vaccination for over 50's is also due to be rolled out and transport will need to be arranged for people without their own transport. It is being considered that the booster vaccinations may take place at the Sidlesham Memorial Hall and this will be confirmed in due course. The Medical Practice has been incredibly efficient with rolling out the Flu vaccination programme which has now started. They continue to face challenges with caring for 12,000 people and providing 6,000 appointments a month.

**Next Meeting** will continue via Zoom for the time being and will be on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 4.15pm

Enc Attachment Arts Dream Selsey Poster

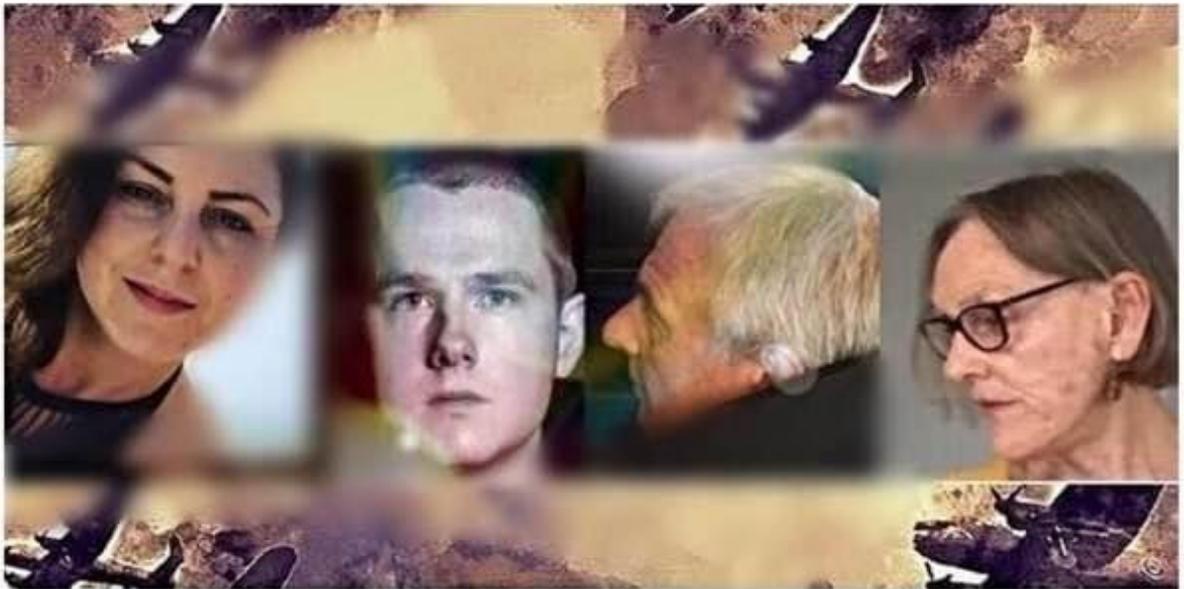


Arts Dream Selsey presents;

## ONE LAST ADVENTURE

A Radio Play written by award winning playwright Gillian Plowman, read by eight of our favourite actors, accompanied on the piano by Sylvia Rota, performed to a small intimate audience

*In the lockdown of Coronavirus 2020, and the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day Johnnie 96 and Rose 95 take us back to 1944 to the start of their relationship and the horrors of World War 11. They share their memories and experiences and prepare for one last adventure*



- St Peter's Hall Selsey 75 St Peter's Crescent PO20 ONA
- Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> of October performances at 3pm and 7pm
- 50 tickets each performance, with the reading lasting one hour
- Tickets available from Brent Lodge Charity Bookshop 8 New Parade Selsey and on line on [www.ticketsource.co.uk/artsdreamselsey](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/artsdreamselsey)
- Ticket price £8.00, cash and card accepted

Full details, and ADS Covid risk assessment on [www.artsdream2013selsey.weebly.com](http://www.artsdream2013selsey.weebly.com)