Pub is the Hub

Working together to strengthen local communities
How we are helping the Brewers Arms

Rebecca Elms took over the pub last October, after working for the past 20 years for the Harvester chain. Boarded up and not in use, the pub, built in 1599, needed a lot of work before it was ready to reopen.

Since starting work with us, and to Rebecca’s delight, the pub has got increasingly busier and is getting great reviews on Trip Advisor. Rebecca is working with us to make use of the pub’s quieter times to encourage people in the village to go out more and be a part of the local community in Herstmonceux. She is enthusiastic to get the pub’s services right for them and is currently piloting different initiatives to see what works and appeals to people. So far, the East Sussex Library and Information Service has put a small book loan collection in the pub and Rebecca is trialling a weekly 1940s lunch club.

“Taking over the pub and turning it into a successful rural country pub, has been a real adventure. It’s in the centre of the village, so we’ve tried to create a community space in the pub, with a warm and friendly atmosphere. We get quite a few people visiting who are housebound and it gives them the opportunity to be part of the community, by coming along to one of our regular events. I spoke to a carer the other day and the lady she looks after had travelled from Uckfield. They both really enjoyed the music and it was a nice trip out for them.”

Rebecca is excited to try out the other ideas that we have and feels confident that the possibilities for the pub are ever growing. Contact Rebecca to find out more: 01323 831653.

There are lots of other examples on the Pub is the Hub website and we have many ideas that we hope will inspire you to get involved:

**Food**
- Lunch club
- Meals on wheels
- Community café
- Internet café
- Take away food

**Shop**
- Delicatessen
- Farm shop
- Gift shop
- Butchers / fishmongers

**Activities**
- Computer training
- Cinema
- Theatre
- Games or quiz afternoons
- Reminiscence
- Exercise classes

**Services**
- Library
- Meeting room hire
- WiFi access
- Computer access
- Post office
- ATM and PayPoint
- Community centre
- Cashback and mobile top up
- Parcel services
- Recycling
- Heritage and history centre
- Tourist information
- Community bus travel

**Groups**
- Book club
- Youth club
- Computer club
- Support groups
- Baby and toddler groups

**Outdoor space**
- Campsite
- Community allotment
- Market garden
- Community playground
- Theatre events
- Cycling facilities

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**Wealden District Council**  
www.wealden.gov.uk
Contacts
Please get in touch if you are interested in working with us:

For advice about developing any of these ideas and potential funding
Anthony Miller, South East Regional Advisor
Pub is the Hub: 07774 228347 or millAnthony@googlemail.com

Information about Wealden District Council services and support
Zoe Clarke, Community and Regeneration Officer – Special Projects: 01323 443326 or zoe.clarke@wealden.gov.uk

Information about Adult Social Care and other East Sussex County Council services
Candice Miller, Policy Development Manager: 01273 481718 or candice.miller@eastsussex.gov.uk

East Sussex County Council Library and Information Service
Enquiries about book loans, books for book clubs, ‘ask the expert’ information sessions, reminiscence materials and computer training, contact Abigail Luthmann: 01273 335383 or abigail.luthmann@eastsussex.gov.uk

Lunch clubs and meals on wheels
If you are interested in setting up a lunch club or offering to deliver meals, Candice Miller from Adult Social Care can give advice and Anthony Miller from Pub is the Hub can put you in touch with pubs that are running clubs. Their contact details are above. You should also talk to any existing lunch clubs in your area and other local voluntary groups who may be able to help run or promote the club.

Information about a free award for healthier menu options
Robert Crouch, Eat Out, Eat Well, 01424 787341 or robert.crouch@rother.gov.uk

Information about becoming ‘dementia friendly’
Esther Watts, Alzheimer’s Society: 01403 276649 or 07850 215544 or esther.watts@alzheimers.org.uk

You can also see the website: www.dementiafriends.org.uk

Help with transport
If you think someone needs help with transport, visit the East Sussex County Council website: www.eastsussex.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/public/communitytransport/map.htm or contact:

Neil Maguire, Public Transport Services: 01273 482147 or neil.maguire@eastsussex.gov.uk
Gillian Laughlin, Client Transport Services: 01273 482584 or gillian.laughlin@eastsussex.gov.uk
North Wealden Community Transport Partnership Ltd: 01892 771332 or visit www.4weald.co.uk

Help with mobility and other support needs
If you think someone would benefit from support, contact Adult Social Care’s contact centre: 0345 6080191

For more information, please see the Support With Confidence scheme: eastsussex.gov.uk/supportwithconfidence

Advice about other sources of funding including lottery funding
East Sussex County Council External Funding Team: 01273 336616 or external.funding@eastsussex.gov.uk

Marketing suggestions
Here are some ideas to help you promote your new services to your community:
- Village noticeboards and posters or fliers in shops
- Parish council newsletters and website
- Local magazines
- Facebook and Twitter
- East Sussex 1Space
  See: www.eastsussex1space.co.uk
- East Sussex County Council community services directory for Adult Social Care staff. Contact Zareen Graves at zareen.graves@eastsussex.gov.uk

Groups to contact and work with
Having support from other local organisations can really help spread the word about your new services and general interest from local people. You could try approaching:
- Your local Parish Council
- Local voluntary or community groups
Getting more copies of this leaflet
You can get all our leaflets in large print, easy read format, in Braille, on audio tape or CD, or in other languages. Please phone Social Care Direct on 0345 60 80 191 (calls may be recorded). They are also available in PDF form, which you can download from our website at eastsussex.gov.uk

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