# Age Concern Heathfield and District Latest Updates

# November 2021

## Exciting News.....

It is so lovely to be able to report lots of good news- we have had a very busy few months, as you will see from the articles in this news sheet.

All our services are open and running again and as everything gradually gets back to being a little more normal, our services are getting busier and busier.

We held our AGM meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> October and I am delighted to report that the following people were reelected:

Dawn Brock and Alan Hale - Co- Chairmen Elizabeth Keating - Secretary

Executive Team Members: Ken Jarvis , Peter Brock, Annabel Williams and Julie Langdon

The hard work of our Executive Team, the Trustees and all our drivers and minibus escorts ensures that our services are run to the highest of standards and that we meet our legal requirements - a huge commitment made all the more amazing by the fact that everyone involved are all Volunteers!

As this year is drawing to an end, we can look forward to a brighter new year ahead. A very big thank you to each of you for all your unfailing support, kind words and generous donations – it makes our roles as volunteers so worthwhile.

We are always keen to try and find new and innovative ways of supporting our clients and welcome any ideas or thoughts you may have about things you would like us to do – please get in touch and let us know.

Meanwhile, as this will be the last news sheet this year, we would like to take the opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.

#### Dawn Brock & Alan Hale - Co Chairmen



Heathfield and District Reg. Charity No: 205665 All Christmas items made and sold by members of the Men's Shed – to place an order please phone (01435) **866960** Snowmen £5, reindeer £10, trees £6 and £8



Thank you Horam PC !

We are delighted to announce the arrival of our brand new minibus! This new addition to our fleet will provide a more luxurious ride, is equipped with heating and air conditioning throughout, and is fully accessible. We shall be using this bus for our longer journeys and trips out which we hope will make things much more comfortable for you.

The very generous donation, given to us by Horam Parish Council towards the funding of this bus, has enabled us to replace our oldest bus earlier than anticipated and training for our drivers is well underway. The new minibus will be out and about on the roads for all our trips from November onwards.



Our minibus service is available for anyone living in the TN21 postcode area to use, as long as you are over 60 years of age or are registered disabled. We operate a range of regular journeys each week to the local lunch clubs and for shopping trips to Heathfield High Street and the Co Op. We also have our popular programme of trips to different places each month- we try to provide something for everyone!

Our buses can also be booked by homes or social clubs to provide transport for their own outings.

For further information or to book a place on the bus, please telephone (01435) **866960** 



**Christmas Closure** Please note our last day of service will be Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December. We will then be closed and all our services will reopen on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022.



#### **Spring Trips Programme**

We always welcome suggestions or new ideas of places you would like to visit, so please let us know if it is not on the list below:

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – Middle Farm, Firle farm shop, gift shop and café 10.00-2.30pm

Friday 21st January 2022- Afternoon Tea at The Orangery, Ashburnham Place, Battle 1.30-5.00pm

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – Middle Farm, Firle-Farm shop, gift shop and café 10.00-2.30pm



Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – Afternoon Tea at The Orangery, Ashburnham Place, Battle 1.30-5.00pm

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February – Fish and Chip Lunch at Harry Ramsdens, Eastbourne 11.00am – 3.00pm

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February - Fish and Chip Lunch at Harry Ramsdens, Eastbourne 11.00am – 3.00pm

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February – Garden Centre, Lewes, 10.30-2.30pm

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February – Garden Centre, Lewes, 10.30-2.30pm

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March Hilliers Garden Centre, Stone Cross, 10.30-2.30pm

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March -The Stable Tearooms, Heaven Farm, 1.30-5.00pm

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March - Hilliers Garden Centre, Stone Cross 10.30-2.30pm



Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March -The Stable Tearooms, Heaven Farm 1.30-5.00pm

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April - Dunelm Mill and Morrisons 10.00-2.30pm

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April - Afternoon Tea at Holy Cross Priory 1.30-4.30pm

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April - Afternoon tea at Holy Cross Priory 1.30-4.30pm

Friday 29th April - Dunelm Mill and Morrisons 10.00-2.30pm

We are happy to accommodate walkers and folding wheelchairs on the minibus – please let us know when booking that you need to bring one with you.

We would suggest a £5 donation for the transport for these trips, your choice of food and drink will be extra.

For more information or to book a place on any of these trips, please ring: (01435) 866960

Key:



Involves some walking



Not suitable for walkers





### Grand opening....

The sun shone and the outside shelter, mainly erected to provide cover in the event of rain, provided much needed shade. As well as the Shedders themselves and partners, guests included volunteer drivers from Age Concern, Huw Merriman MP, Amanda Hamblin (one of the Deputy Lieutenants of Sussex), Patrick Coffey, Vice Chairman of Heathfield and Waldron Parish Council, and representatives from neighbouring Sheds at Uckfield and Mavfield.

When not eating the delicious food prepared and served by a small army of willing helpers, guests could look around the facilities, watch demonstrations of wood turning buy some of the items made by members or just make the most of an enjoyable social occasion.

Roger Daltrey was very interested in and impressed by the Shed itself and the facilities available, and spoke passionately and knowledgeably about the Men's Shed movement and its benefits,

complimenting all connected with the Heathfield Shed for bringing it to fruition,

before cutting the celebratory cake and ribbon to declare the Shed officially open.

If you would like to know more about the Men's Shed, please phone Nic Stenhouse on: 07850 992059

#### **Medical Car Service**



This friendly, personal, door to door

service, costs a third of the price of a commercial taxi, and represents great value for money. Our fixed charge system means that you will be advised of the cost of your journey when making a booking, and there will be no hidden extras!

Whilst we appreciate some appointments are issued at very short notice, we ask that wherever possible you let us know in plenty of time to give us the best chance of finding a driver for your journey- it is never too early to let us know!

