

HEARING DIFFICULTIES

ACTION FOR DEAFNESS

(Previously West Sussex Deaf and Hard of Hearing Association)

Resource centre for specialised equipment eg phones, TV listening devices, alarm clocks, alerting devices. Advice and advocacy service; audiology service (referral by GP needed) and equipment loan service.

BRIGHTON, HOVE & WEST SUSSEX DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

A support group for the families of hearing impaired people aged 0 – 25, run by committee of parents. The group arranges trips and events for all the family.

BRITISH DEAF SPORTS COUNCIL

www.britishdeafsportsCouncil.org.uk

Aims to ensure that sports and leisure opportunities are available for deaf people in parity with their hearing contemporaries. Organise inter-club leagues, inter-regional tournaments and national championships which are held on a regular basis.

BT

0800 800150 Text 18001 0800 800150
www.btplc.com/inclusion

Publishes a free guide to telephone products and services for elderly and disabled people, available in large print, Braille or on audio cassette. A free Directory Enquiry Service is available for blind and disabled customers on 0800 5870195. A large range of equipment is available for people with disabilities, including loud bell units and inductive couplers.

DARBY AND JOAN CLUB

www.worthingdeafsocialclub.co.uk

A club for people with hearing difficulties offering entertainment and social contact. Meets at 291 Tarring Road, Worthing on the first and third Thursdays of the month between 12 noon and 4pm.

DEAFBLIND UK

www.deafblind.org.uk

Works with people who have a dual sensory loss in West Sussex and provides support, a visiting service, information about services and promotes awareness of deafblindness.

HARD OF HEARING CLUB - WORTHING

Weekly club for anybody involved with hearing loss. Information, entertainment, advice, outings and social activities. Regular newsletter. Transport help in Worthing area. Campaigns for better access for people with hearing impairment locally.

HEARING DOGS for DEAF PEOPLE

www.hearingdogs.org.uk



A national organisation that trains dogs to alert profoundly deaf and severely hard of hearing people to sounds such as doorbells, phones and fire alarms, as well as providing companionship and a sense of security.

HEARING CONCERN LINK

www.hearingconcernlink.org.uk

National charity dedicated to improving the quality of life for those who are hard of hearing. Its main objectives are to provide advice, information and support, promote communication access and raise public and professional awareness of the issues associated with hearing loss. Also provides holidays for deaf people accompanied by a lipspeaker.

LIP READING CLASS

This 30-week course run by Littlehampton Adult Education Office runs on term-time Mondays from 1.30pm – 3.30pm. Small, friendly group all with hearing loss. The group learn how much of our language is visible, how to cope better in all sorts of difficult situations and what equipment is available which might help. Standard fee £216.

NATIONAL DEAF CHILDRENS SOCIETY

www.ndcs.org.uk

Provides advice and information on all aspects of childhood deafness (age 0 – 25), including education, benefits, technology and equipment. Provides support with benefit claims, Disability Appeal Tribunals and special educational needs tribunals/appeals.

ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DEAF PEOPLE (RNID)

www.rnid.org.uk

Represents deaf and hard of hearing people in the UK. Offers a range of services and provides information and support on all aspects of deafness, hearing loss and tinnitus.

RNID COMMUNICATION SUPPORT UNIT

Central booking service for people who need sign language interpreters, lip speakers, note takers, speech to text and deafblind communicator, or video interpreting service. The video interpreting service is a low cost and easy to book service which requires access to a videophone or video conferencing equipment and an ISDN2 line or access to Broadband internet.

SENSE

www.sense.org.uk

Offers advice, help and information; supports families through a national network and local branches; runs a holiday programme; education, residential, respite and day services; communicator guides and one-to-one intervenor support; training and consultancy.

SOCIAL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Enquiry Line (voice/text): 0800 859929

Textphone: 01903 777613

A number of local clubs exist for people who have problems with their hearing. ICIS have details on the number shown above or email enquiries@icis-info4life.org.uk.

SUSSEX DEAF ASSOCIATION

www.sussexdeaf.co.uk

www.worthingdeafsocialclub.co.uk

Provides communication support, advocacy, assistance with benefit forms and runs social groups/outings. Provides Deaf Awareness Training and British Sign Language Level 1 courses. **Communication Club** on Tuesdays 7pm-10pm for people who are deaf or hearing impaired, learning sign language and or wishing to learn to communicate with deaf people. **A support group** for hard of hearing people on 1st Wednesday of each month from 10am-1pm. **Drop-in coffee morning** on Thursdays 10am-12am. **Thursday drop-in surgery** from 10am – 4pm. **Darby and Joan club** meets on the first and third Thursdays between 12 noon and 4pm. **Worthing Deaf Social Club** meets on the second and fourth Saturday from 5.30pm – 10pm. Venues are in the process of changing for the clubs, contact above number for details.

TYPE TALK, TEXTDIRECT AND RELAY ASSIST

www.typpetalk.org

Enables people with communication problems to make phone calls. Typetalk Relay Service operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is accessed by making calls through BT TextDirect. TextDirect converts ringing and busy tones into text messages that are displayed on the textphone. A prefix used before the number being called brings a Typetalk Relay Assistant into the call if required. Ringing the 18000 number will put callers in direct contact with the 999 emergency services. Typetalk is managed by RNID, TextDirect is provided by BT.

WEST SUSSEX COMMUNITY EQUIPMENT SERVICE

A service provided by Nottingham Rehab Supplies National Care on behalf of West Sussex County Council and NHS West Sussex. The service offers deliveries, collections, maintenance, repair and fitting of equipment by qualified staff. Does not accept requests directly from service users. Access by on-line referral through health or social service professionals. Equipment provided includes equipment for people with sensory impairments.

This information is extracted from the Worthing & District Carers Information Pack 2009, and is provided for information without liability or recommendation. Please contact us on 01903 536378 for a full printed copy.

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL (SENSORY SERVICES TEAM) 01903 745331

Central office for provision of services for adults with sensory impairments in West Sussex.
Telephone for general enquiries about the services, or issues relating to hearing, visual impairment, or dual sensory loss.

VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

4SIGHT

www.4sight-sussex.co.uk

Provides a wide range of services for people with visual impairment, including clubs, contact officers to help prevent isolation, equipment purchase and loan service, listening and information service, Talking News, audio library service and large-print crossword and Sudoku puzzles.

ACTION FOR BLIND PEOPLE

www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk

National charity for visually impaired people providing supported housing, holiday hotels, employment support, information and advice or welfare rights service. Has a grants scheme to help with holidays and assistive technology.

ALTERNATIVE VISION

Brighton-based self-help group for visually impaired adults from all over the country. Provide group holidays in hotels and hostels, and summer camps for people with visual impairment.

BLATCHINGTON COURT TRUST

www.blatchington-court.co.uk

The Trust aims to promote the education, including social and physical training and the employment of visually impaired young people under the age of 30, mainly, but not exclusively, from Sussex.

Offers a range of services, including counselling, liaising with and representation at meetings with the Local Educational Authorities, voluntary and statutory organisations, funding educational support aids for the home, including IT equipment and sensory equipment with ongoing support and training, assistance with the provision of leisure and social skills, help with the transition process from school to college, attendance with parents at school, review meetings, awareness training, benefit entitlement advice and appeals support and information about local and national services and facilities.

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CLUBS FOR PEOPLE WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

- **East Preston and Angmering** - Social club for visually impaired people who live in East Preston and Angmering. Have outings for tea and day trips. All members collected and returned to their homes.
- **Ferring** - Group for visually impaired people of all ages, fortnightly on Wednesdays at 2pm. Accessible transport is available if needed. The club can accommodate people with visual impairments who may also have other disabilities and the venue is wheelchair accessible.

- **Findon** - Social club for people with a visual impairment which meets and provides outings and entertainment. Meets 2nd Thursday of each month, 10.30am-12noon.
- **Lancing** - Coffee mornings held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of every month between 10am and 12noon. Transport can be arranged. Building on ground level, with wide doors, wheelchair access and parking facilities available.
- **Lancing Self-Help Group for the Blind and Partially Sighted** - Provides social and creative activities, and outings for visually impaired people. Club meets on Thursdays 10am – 3pm.
- **Littlehampton and District Visually Impaired Self Help Group** - Social club for people who are registered blind or partially sighted. All transport provided. Offers befriending, society, lunches and outings.
- **Littlehampton Social Club** - Social club for people who are blind or partially sighted. Meets 2nd and 4th Monday at 2pm. Provides outings and has entertainment, bingo and singers.
- **Southwick** - Coffee morning for people with visual impairment. Meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, venue is wheelchair accessible throughout

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**INTERNATIONAL
GLAUCOMA
ASSOCIATION**

www.glaucoma-association.com

The International Glaucoma Association (GLA) offers support and advice to glaucoma sufferers and their families.

LOOK SUSSEX

www.looksussex.co.uk

Look Sussex is a local charity supporting families in East and West Sussex who have a child with a visual impairment.

LOOK UP WEBSITE

www.lookupinfo.org

Look Up is an information service about eye care and vision for people with learning disabilities.

**MACULAR DISEASE SOCIETY
- WORTHING**

www.macular-disease.org

Support for people with Macular Degeneration in the Worthing area. This support comes via the National Macular Disease Society which provides information, a newsletter (print or tape) and an annual conference to all affiliated groups. Support Group meets on the 1st Friday of the month 10.30am to 12 noon.

MOON LITERACY WEBSITE

www.moonliteracy.org.uk

Moon allows people who are blind or partially sighted to read by touch. It is particularly suitable for people who lose their sight later in life, or for people who may have a less keen sense of touch as the characters are fairly large and over half the letters bear a strong resemblance to the print equivalent.

OPTICIAN - EYES AT HOME

www.eyesathome.co.uk

Home visiting optician for the whole of West Sussex. Provides NHS and private consultation services. Free eye tests if entitled under NHS domiciliary services. Full frame and lens range with personal delivery and warranty. Details of other home visiting opticians are available from ICIS 0800 859929.

PARTIALLY SIGHTED SOCIETY

www.partsight.org.uk

This organisation aims to help people with a visual impairment by providing information, advice and useful equipment.

ROYAL LONDON SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND – ADULT SUPPORT SERVICES

www.rlsb.org.uk

Helps visually impaired people gain employment, retain employment and progress their chosen careers. Provides support tailored to the needs of disabled employees, including specialist equipment advice and loan, job coaching, visual impairment awareness training and help with Access to Work applications.

RNIB – ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND

www.rnib.org.uk

Practical support, information and advice to people of all ages with a sight problem. Includes **Chip and Signature** cards for those unable to use Chip and Pin, **Talking Books** and **Welfare Rights Service**. Provides a one-to-one service for visually impaired people on vocational guidance, work preparation, retention of employment and work based assessments. Carries out Access to Work Assessments.

Also runs the **RNIB National Library Service**, a comprehensive range of books and accessible information for adults and children with sight loss in a range of formats including Talking Books (unabridged audio on DAISY CD), braille, moon and giant print (24 pt type).

ROUNABOUT TALKING NEWSPAPER FOR THE BLIND

Roundabout Talking Newspaper is a free weekly local news and magazine service for people with visual impairments in Horsham, Pulborough, Billingshurst, and Storrington areas. Includes items from West Sussex County Times and magazine items such as recipes, interviews, poems, quizzes, local interest visits, etc. Tape machines for loan for this service.

SENSE

www.sense.org.uk

Offers advice, help and information; supports families through a national network and local branches; runs a holiday programme; education, residential, respite and day services; communicator guides and one-to-one intervenor support; training and consultancy.

STORRINGTON BLIND CLUB

Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 2pm – 4pm. Recreational activities, tea provided, talks, summer outings etc. Transport usually available, but cannot be promised. Covers Pulborough, West Chiltington, Ashington, Storrington and Thakeham. Affiliated to 4sight.

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WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL (SENSORY SERVICES TEAM)

01903 745331

Central office for provision of services for adults with sensory impairments in West Sussex. Telephone for general enquiries about the services, or issues relating to hearing, visual impairment, or dual sensory loss.

WORTHING SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

www.wsftb.org.uk

Aims to help, advise and improve the quality of life for people with significant sight loss within the Borough of Worthing. Is the contact for the Active Vision Group for younger visually impaired people, and for Talking Book, Voice of Progress and West Sussex County Council. Also provides handicrafts, socials, outings, holidays, advice and a sympathetic ear. Transport to and from classes can be arranged. Home visiting service offers support and friendship to people with a visual impairment who live alone. Home visitors can also give practical assistance, eg obtaining information on benefits or accessing local services.

Has a resource room for information, advice and purchase of visual aid equipment and a colour Aladdin Video Magnifier available for use by anyone. Can supply, on loan, a wide range of equipment. **Areas covered: Worthing only.**