

# Rural News

Issue 138

Action *with* Communities in  Rural Kent

*Essential information on funding, training, events and much more for local councils, community halls and other groups!*

## The Innovation in Waste Prevention Fund

is an £800,000 scheme that will run for two years with grants being awarded in three phases. Funded by Defra as part of their [Waste Prevention Programme for England](#), the scheme aims to generate more action to prevent waste.

It specifically supports communities to take forward innovative waste prevention, re-use and repair activities in their local areas, working in partnership with local businesses, councils, charities and voluntary groups. The scheme can be used to help introduce a new business idea or to increase local re-use rates,.



Grants of up to £50,000 (minimum £5,000) are available to partnerships with the most innovative ideas.

Applications are open from two or more parties working together. They can be from existing partnerships or ones newly formed. You simply need to have an innovative idea to prevent waste, and be able to match the funding that you are seeking to secure. The next deadline for applications is September 1<sup>st</sup>.

For more information on this fund, click on the WRAP logo to go to the WRAP website at [www.wrap.org.uk/lwp](http://www.wrap.org.uk/lwp).



## Alive and Well?

"By 2032 the populations of 65-84 year olds and the over 85s are set to increase by 39% and 106% respectively ... If people can stay healthy for longer, they will remain engaged members of society." *The Kings Fund (2012)*.

**How do we bring about a community that cares about and for itself?**



The Care Act 2014 is emerging and Kent's Health and Well-being Strategy is under consultation. Local authorities will work with their communities to get the support that helps to keep people well and independent.

**What's happening in your community?**

**What would you like to happen in your community?**

Come and be inspired and share your knowledge and ideas. We promise a mix of local stories and insights from care providers, policy makers and commissioners. Why not bring a friend?

**Saturday 27. September 2014,  
10am – 3pm, Smarden Charter Hall**

**£10 per person**

To book a place or for further details contact  
[info@ruralkent.org.uk](mailto:info@ruralkent.org.uk) 01303 813790





The CEMEX Community Fund is funded by land-fill tax credits and donations from CEMEX UK. The Fund is run independently and supports projects which improve local community facilities and places of interest near CEMEX operations across the country.

To have a realistic chance of receiving funding, projects need to be within 3 miles of a CEMEX high impact site.

The next deadline for the receipt of Expressions of Interest is 15<sup>th</sup> September and grants of up to £15,000 are available. For more information go to [www.cemexcf.org.uk](http://www.cemexcf.org.uk).



## KCF Funding Update 2014

Comic Relief supports community groups running projects that are working towards increasing local services, building skills of local people, increasing community cohesion, and responding to local economic needs. Also sports projects that increase access to sport and exercise for people who face social exclusion and isolation. Each grant request must be at least 30% of the total project cost.

Grants from £1,000 - £10,000 are available and the next deadline for applications is 25<sup>th</sup> July. Find out more about this and other grant funds at [www.kentcf.org.uk](http://www.kentcf.org.uk).



# Bring Home the Harvest

[www.lovebritishfood.co.uk](http://www.lovebritishfood.co.uk)



supported by

# TESCO

To find out how you can take part in The British Food Fortnight, download promotional material, sign up for monthly updates on the latest British food news and for details of what is happening near you, see [www.lovebritishfood.co.uk](http://www.lovebritishfood.co.uk) or email [info@lovebritishfood.co.uk](mailto:info@lovebritishfood.co.uk).

# East Kent LEADER?



We at ACRK are heading a new partnership bidding to bring new EU rural development funds to East Kent

The partnership – East Kent Local Action Group (LAG) – will be submitting a bid to Defra by the 5<sup>th</sup> September, with a view to operating a LEADER programme (including a dedicated project grants scheme) from early 2015 until 2022.

At this stage we are seeking ideas to help shape the bid – in particular:

- types of activity that might need investment
- project ideas that exist already, but really need to find a funder.

The LEADER programme will have six priorities (set by Defra):

- Support for increasing farm productivity
- Support for micro and small enterprise & farm diversification
- Support for rural tourism
- Support for rural services
- Support for cultural & heritage activity
- Support for increasing forestry productivity

Whilst we have a lot of information on local need, constraints on the economy, published economic development strategies etc, we would really like to 'bring the bid alive' with partners' ideas for the types of project that could be supported.

We have a simple web-page for the partnership on our website and a discrete e-mail address to which ideas can be submitted ([EKLeader@ruralkent.org.uk](mailto:EKLeader@ruralkent.org.uk)). We are also on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/EastKentLAG](http://www.twitter.com/EastKentLAG)

Alongside meetings of a steering group (currently comprising reps from Kent Wildlife Trust, Produced in Kent, KALC, NFU, Why Farming Matters, Diocese of Canterbury, seven local authorities and ourselves, we will run a small number of workshops to help shape the bid.

If you have any questions, including on how else you can get involved or be part of the bid, email [keith.harrison@ruralkent.org.uk](mailto:keith.harrison@ruralkent.org.uk) or [carl.adams@ruralkent.org.uk](mailto:carl.adams@ruralkent.org.uk).

# Community Rural retailer of 2014

We are pleased to announce that this year we will be reinstating the Community Rural retailer of the year competition. We have had some great entries in previous years and we hope for even more this time. The idea of this competition is to raise the profile of the village shop, post office or farm shop both to the local community that they serve and at county and regional level.

We have included a nomination form in this issue of Rural News as we hope you will be inspired to print it and go along to your local shop and together with the retailer, fill the entry form in and return it to us here. We often find that many retailers are either too busy or too shy to enter competitions and we are hoping that your input will change this.

We have also attached a poster to publicize the competition. We would be most grateful if you could print the poster and display it in the Village Hall and on community notice boards.

Community Rural Retailer is not about being the biggest or smartest retailer but about being part of the community, so we want to know about the unique products and services, local produce, great customer service and the part they play in supporting their local community. That could be as simple as taking the time to take an interest and have a chat with the older customers from right through to raising funds for a community group in the village! Indeed anything which makes the shop a focal point for the community.

The closing date for nominations is the 31st August 2014. The applications will be reviewed by the judging panel and the 6 finalists will be announced by 1st October. Each of the finalists will receive a visit from the judges sometime in October and the winner will be announced in the first week of November.

The winner will receive prizes worth in excess of £2,000 (including a new website for their shop, courtesy of Web Dandy worth £1,500, an i - pad worth £450 courtesy of the Post Office & membership to Rural shops Alliance worth £250) plus of course the prestige of being Community Rural Retailer 2014

I hope we can have your help and co-operation to promote the work of local shops, farm shops and Post Offices as they play such an essential role in our rural communities.

**Sharon Davies**  
**Rural Retail Advisor**





# NEW EUROPEAN MONEY WILL HELP THE JOBLESS IN KENT

Almost £400,000 of EU grant funding is now available to support smaller charities and social enterprises that help people get back to work.

Action with Communities in Rural Kent will be managing the European Social Fund (ESF) Community Grants scheme across Kent and Medway until mid 2015, and awards of up to £15,000 will be available.

The Community Grant funds small organisations and community groups that have been in receipt of less than a total of £300,000 income over the last financial year and who have no more than 9 full-time equivalent staff.

- ESF Community Grants support a wide range of activities including:  
Initial help with basic skills
- Taster work experience, including voluntary work
- Training and advice
- Confidence building.

Priority will be given to projects that support:

- Lone parents
- Women
- People with health/disability issues
- Older people (50 years plus)
- People from ethnic minorities and diverse communities.

**The last deadline for applications will be at 1.00 pm on 1<sup>st</sup> September.**

## **NEW! Training for your organisation – Capacity Building**

Up to 10% of your total grant request can be for training costs, either related to the project that is the focus of this grant application or for broader issues around the long-term sustainability of your organisation. This could include fundraising, business development, social media, or anything that will build or organisation's capacity.

For more information and an application pack, contact [info@ruralkent.org.uk](mailto:info@ruralkent.org.uk) or ring 01303 813790 and speak to Kathy Bugden or Becky Williams.



## Grants for sport

Kent County Council distributes a number of grant funds that provide revenue and capital funding for sporting activities and clubs.

Find out more on the [Kent Sport website](#).





## Combined Members Grants

The amount of money available for Kent County Council (KCC) Member grants and the application process has changed. In 2014/15, each County Councillor (Member) has £25,000 to allocate for community grants and/or highway projects. The new scheme opens for applications in May.

Community Grants are available only to properly-constituted organisations (with a current bank account) for projects that benefit local communities. All projects must contribute to KCC's priorities and represent value for money. The grant is a one-off, discrete award. There is no funding for any future costs.

Who can apply? Voluntary and community groups; societies and charities; social enterprises; parish/town councils, public sector services etc. Applications from faith groups will be considered, but must demonstrate how the project will bring wider community benefit. Grants cannot be awarded to individuals or political party groups.

Check with your local Member or Community Engagement Officer if you are unsure if your group or organisation is eligible and to find out how to apply.

**Deadline:** The scheme opens in May 2014. Applications can be made until March 2015 or until the funding is spent, whichever comes first. **For more information:** <http://tinyurl.com/q83zjf3>

## More Details Required in Annual Reports?

The Charity Commission is consulting on a number of proposals for changes to the Annual Return for 2015.

At present, only charities with an income of more than £500,000 are required to provide more detailed financial information through the annual return. The regulator proposes to ask charities with an income of between £10,000 and £500,000, and all CIOs with an income under £500,000, to provide much more information.

The consultation document and instructions on how to make comments can be found on the [Charity Commission website](#).

The closing date for responses to this consultation is Tuesday 12 August 2014



## Diary Dates

### "Good Neighbours" Event

Saturday 27th September. 10.00 - 15.00  
Smarden Village Hall.  
Cost £10 per head (See front page)

### Trustee Training

Saturday 11th October. 10.00 - 12.30.  
Etchinghill Village Hall.

For more details of these events and to book places, please check the "Events" page of our website or contact us on the number or e-mail address below.

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