

## E-bulletin December 9th 2008

### E-bulletin (1) VCS nominations (2) Carer's bonus (3) Southwater news item (4) Gardening for elderly/disabled (5) Mince pies at Lavinia House

Dear members,

#### NB

*Following our recent communication that the telephone line was down at Lavinia House, just to update you that service has now been restored to **HACVS**. Also, in order to resolve the situation the internet was cut off today from 10:09 and this has also now been restored except for historical emails. Therefore, my apologies if I have not as yet responded to any emails you may have sent recently prior to 10:09 on Tuesday 09.12.08. Hopefully these will come through at some juncture. Many thanks for your understanding –*

- 1 Attached is a job description from Jaqui Ball for a VCS lead person on the Compact Implementation Group. She would be grateful if you could circulate it as widely as possible, and if possible encourage likely candidates to consider putting themselves forward.
- 2 Imelda Redmond, Chief Executive of Carers UK, writes:

There has been an announcement that carers will get a £60 bonus; this is on top of the usual £10 Christmas Bonus they receive. The increase will be paid automatically in the New Year to all those who qualify. The Chancellor announced that pensioners would get a bonus but it has become clear that this also applies to carers in receipt of Carer's Allowance and some other benefits. Full details are on [our website more...](#) This announcement is welcome as it will go some way towards meeting the additional costs that carers face with high food and fuel bills this winter. It shows that the Chancellor recognises that carers are a group in need of extra help, along with pensioners and those with disabilities. Carers UK continues to campaign for radical and lasting changes to carers' benefits. This extra payment doesn't solve the many problems with Carer's Allowance, but it will help carers struggling to make ends meet during the current economic crisis.
- 3 Southwater's strong community spirit featured on TV: please find attached a news item from Horsham District Council. The attached aerial photo shows Southwater's new £25 million village centre, completed two years ago. Another photo (4675) shows BBC TV South's Briony Leyland about to interview Cllr Liz Kitchen, Leader of Horsham District Council. The third photo shows BBC TV South's Briony Leyland interviewing Stephen Chapman (with beard and scarf) and Ian Howard.
- 4 This may be of interest to you and/or family/friends.  
<http://www.gardeningfordisabledtrust.org.uk/>
- 5 You are invited to join CHAT at Age Concern 3-5pm, Lavinia House, Dukes Square, Horsham on Thursday 11th December for mulled wine or juice and mince pies. There will be festive music from some young musicians and the chance to find out more about CHAT. For more information or to find out about their next course which is starting in January 09 please call 07970 994886 or email [office@cognitivehelpandtherapy.org](mailto:office@cognitivehelpandtherapy.org). If

you know anyone who might be interested in finding out about the January course or carers' group - please pass this invite on. CHAT, the cognitive help and therapy group, is for people with early-mid stage dementia or cognitive impairment.

Many thanks –  
Janet

Attachments

[VCS Job Description](#)

[Southwater press release](#)

[Southwater Pictures 1](#)

[Southwater pictures 2](#)

[Southwater pictures 3](#)

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