

# Inspiring GIVING

## WINTER 2017



Sussex  
Community  
Foundation  
INSPIRING LOCAL GIVING • MEETING LOCAL NEEDS

Dear supporter,

We came to the end of our tenth anniversary year in high spirits. The original idea for a community foundation in Sussex came from The Duke of Richmond and Gordon, back in 2006.

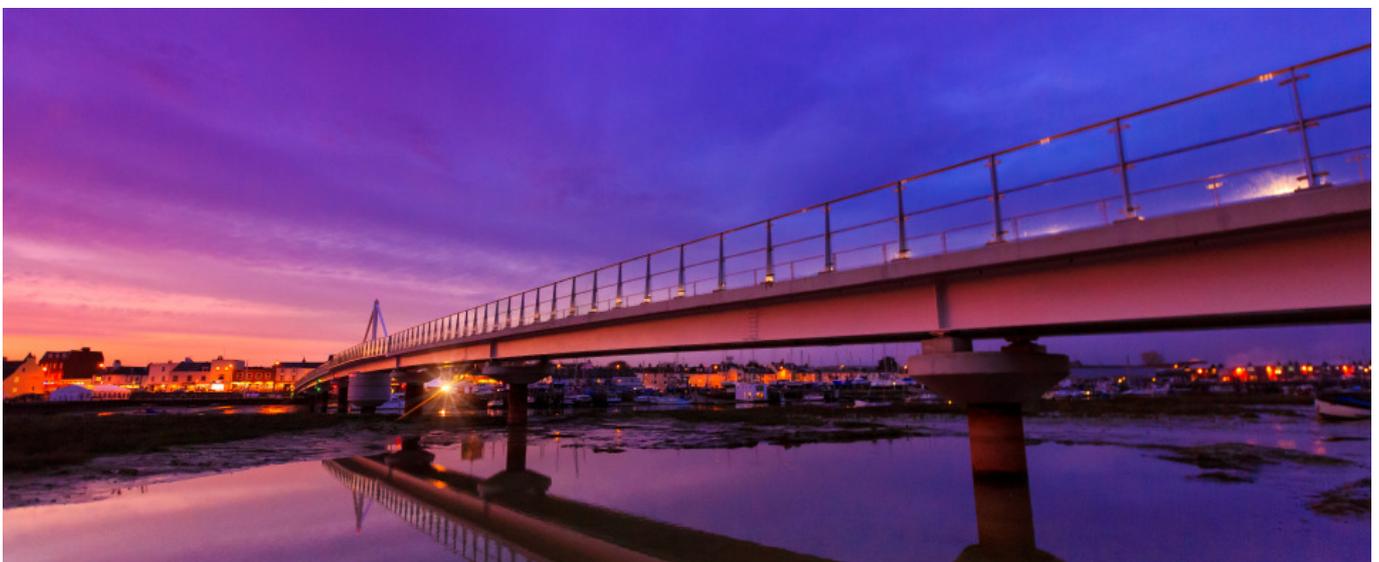
Since then, his idea has inspired many people to help their local community. His Grace and our original donors gave us a strong start and, in the first year, we were able to give £100,000 in grants. We have grown well and, since we started, we have given out over £10 million and built an endowment fund of £12 million. As the Foundation's first Chief Executive, I am very proud of our achievements but there is still a long way to go. Most importantly, our experience and our research has corroborated what the Duke said at the beginning - that Sussex is a great place to live, if you can afford it but there are many parts of the county that are disadvantaged. Now, more than ever, many people are really struggling to make ends meet.

This year, we launched our updated Sussex Uncovered report. Our first report, in 2013, gave a broad view of issues facing local communities across the entirety of Sussex. In this second report, we wanted to look in a more qualitative way to uncover what is going on at the

grassroots. Much else has changed and evolved too in the past three years. The Government's austerity policies have started to have a real impact on the lives of people in our communities and on the charities and community groups that support them. We asked a number of the groups that we have funded to tell us about the services they provide, how they are managing the new funding environment and their hopes for the future. Their views and experiences are reflected in the report.

Our experience as a grant maker shows that wherever there is disadvantage there are local charities and volunteers who give their time, energy and commitment to help change people's lives. The beauty of the Foundation is that we help our donors to reach these small local groups working at the heart of a community making a long term difference to local needs. This is about people and communities solving their own problems. Thank you to all who have supported us in so many ways over all these years. Please keep on doing that as we head into our second decade.

Kevin Richmond, Chief Executive,  
Sussex Community Foundation



We held a number of events to mark our tenth anniversary last year.

## MICHELHAM PRIORY

The High Sheriff of East Sussex, Mr Michael Foster DL (pictured here with his wife Rosemary and Anne Moore-Bick, left), welcomed 100 guests from across East Sussex to the beautiful and historic Michelham Priory in September. Thank you to speakers Howard Wardle from Eastbourne Foodbank and Jackie Wilkes of Lewes and Seaford CAB who were able to tell guests the difference our funding has made to the people they support.



## Goodwood House

Our founder, The Duke of Richmond and Gordon, welcomed our guests to his beautiful home just before Christmas. His Grace spoke about his pride that the Foundation has achieved so much in ten years and his hopes for the next ten years. We want to thank him for all his continued support. Pictured here are guests David and Caroline Nicholls (left) and Michael and Lilian Holdsworth.



## The Amex Foundation

At our tenth anniversary annual meeting in November, The Amex Foundation, the financial services company's global philanthropy programme, gave its annual local awards. They were presented by Ivan Mainprize, Vice President, American Express, pictured here with representatives from the recipient organisations. "American Express has a long history of supporting the local community in the UK and across Sussex," said Mr Mainprize. "There is a real culture of giving and volunteering across the business, which can be seen in the support our employees give to our volunteer programmes and through their own fundraising efforts. Our partnership with Sussex Community Foundation ensures that the American Express grants are awarded to deserving charities that make a real difference to the lives of the people they work with throughout Sussex."



## Gatwick Fund

The launch of the new Gatwick Foundation Fund was held at St Mary's House in Bramber on 1st December marking a partnership between Gatwick Airport, Sussex Community Foundation and our sister foundations in Kent and Surrey which will oversee £300,000 worth of annual grants for worthy causes. Funding will be used to promote employment, training and skills, alongside support for families, the elderly and young people across the three counties. As the world's busiest single runway airport, Gatwick plays a key role in the South East and the Gatwick Foundation Fund is designed to support important causes across the region.

## Arthur Green awards

The Mayor of Brighton and Hove, Cllr Pete West, hosted a reception at the Mayor's Parlour at Brighton Town Hall, where Brighton philanthropist and long-time Foundation supporter, Arthur Green, presented his latest awards to local charities and community groups from the Arthur and Doreen Green Fund. Mr Green has lived in Hove for a number of years and is now well into his retirement. In 2008, Arthur's wife, Doreen, died from cancer. With the legacy he had inherited, he set up the Arthur and Doreen Green Fund.

One of the groups funded was the Secret Garden which lies in the area of ground behind St Leonard's Church in Hove. This wild ground has been transformed into a productive and welcoming garden for the local community, growing vegetables and with a pond, shed and beehives, all maintained by volunteers.



## SUSSEX UNCOVERED 2: BRIDGING THE GAP

We launched our updated **Sussex Uncovered** report at our annual meeting held, courtesy of American Express, at the American Express Community Stadium in Falmer in November.

The report showed that child poverty is still shockingly high, three years after the charity's first report in 2013. In addition, there is huge disparity between different parts of Sussex. In one area of Hastings, child poverty is running at over 75% (Baird ward, Hastings, 75.5%), whereas in Lindfield, Mid Sussex, less than 1% (0.90%) of children live in poverty. Speakers at the launch included Imran Hussain, Director of Policy, Rights and Advocacy at the Child Poverty Action Group, pictured here, and Jessica Britton, Chief Operating Officer at NHS Hastings & Rother CCG and NHS Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford CCG, pictured below.



Like the first report, **Sussex Uncovered 2: Bridging the Gap** shows that there is serious deprivation in Sussex, comparable to the most deprived inner city areas and that the costs of living in a rural community are substantially higher than for town-dwellers. Around 25% of Sussex people (outside Brighton & Hove) live in rural areas and those living on low incomes there can face multiple disadvantages.

### Key findings

- The worst child poverty in Sussex is now in Baird ward in Hastings where 75.5% of children live in poverty. In our last report, the figure for Tressell ward in Hastings was the highest (67%).
- Hastings and Brighton & Hove still have levels of overall deprivation above the national average. Hastings is the most deprived overall and ranks 20th out of 326 districts in England. It was ranked 20th last time, indicating that its relative deprivation remains unchanged.
- The average salary of those employed in Sussex remains the lowest in the South East at £28,752. It is below both the South East and England averages. The three districts in Sussex with the highest employment incomes are Mid Sussex, Horsham and Wealden. In our last report, Chichester came third.



You can download the report here [www.sussexgiving.org.uk/sussexuncovered2](http://www.sussexgiving.org.uk/sussexuncovered2)

You can also download pdfs of the data we used, in the same place.

## News in brief

### LAST ROUND

Since our last newsletter, we have given over £1 million in grants to charities, community groups, CICs (and some individuals) in Sussex.

One of those groups was Managing Bipolar CIC. Bipolar disorder is a chronic mental health condition and the NHS is really struggling to provide much, if any service. Across Hastings, Eastbourne, Newhaven and Peacehaven, there are over 2,500 people with a diagnosis of bipolar disorder. East Sussex County Council is no longer funding the group, due to cuts imposed on them. This £5,000 grant will help meet the costs of administrative support for the organisation. Pictured here is founder Tim Wood.



**For more information about our upcoming deadlines and the funds open for applications, visit [www.sussexgiving.org.uk/apply](http://www.sussexgiving.org.uk/apply)**

### Goodbyes and hellos

We are saying goodbye with great sadness to Programmes Manager Laura Williams and Grants Administrator Paula Blezard who are moving on to pastures new. Thank you both for everything you've done for the Foundation – you will be missed!

We also say a fond farewell to our Chairman, David Allam, who hands over the reins to Keith Hollis who became our new Chairman in November. Also trustees who come to the end of their tenure are Liz Bennett and Neil Hart – thank you for all you have done – and welcome aboard to Patricia Woolgar, Denise Patterson, Colin Field, Nicky Glover and Rodney Buse, a clutch of new trustees this year.

## FRIENDS

### The difference we make.

The impact of a charity's work is often hard to illustrate. This is especially true for a charity such as Sussex Community Foundation where it is clear to see the impact our grant-making makes but less easy to evaluate the impact of us as an organisation. This infographic shows the impact of our collective grant-making over the last year.

You can help support our work by becoming a Friend of Sussex Community Foundation.

### Friends of Sussex Community Foundation

The Friends scheme enables Sussex people to support their community foundation to continue to give out grants to those who need them the most. For a donation of £40 a month, you can help keep us on track to give an astonishing £2 million to the community this year. As you will have read above, these grants help groups to address local need. They are effective and, like us, make a great difference with small amounts of money. The Foundation has come a long way in ten years and with your support we can do even more.

**Please consider joining the Friends' scheme by visiting [www.sussexgiving.org.uk/friends](http://www.sussexgiving.org.uk/friends) or phoning us on 01273 409440.**

## THE DIFFERENCE WE MAKE

### Our grants and their areas of impact (%)



We were very sorry to learn of the death of Mrs Margaret Johnson, DL, in November. Mrs Johnson was Chairman of West Sussex County Council from 2001-2008 and represented Lindfield and High Weald from 1981-2009, serving her communities for an impressive 28 years.

Margaret was also a trustee of Sussex Community Foundation between 2008-2012 and a great supporter of ours. We valued her support, advice, knowledge and good-humour and will miss her greatly.



**Sussex Community Foundation** raises funds for and gives grants to smaller charities and community groups across East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton & Hove. We make it easy for Sussex people to give money to local causes close to their hearts and ensure that those donations reach the people that need them. Our endowment fund enables our donors to benefit Sussex people for generations to come.

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