



Chair's Report for the ESF AGM 2018

Dear Members

April 2018 has been a very special landmark for ESF which has been celebrating its tenth Anniversary! with a Tea party Celebration, a retrospective look at ESF's achievements and acknowledging those who through their commitment and support have helped to make this happen, followed by a Magic Show with the wonderful Marco!



This last year ESF has continued to communicate to its members information about issues which are relevant to them at local, regional or national levels.

This information has been given via our seasonal quarterly Newsletters, our monthly e-newsletters and via our regularly updated website which also provides a number of useful links. My thanks and gratitude go to Steve, Colin and Ian for all their hard work and dedication to make this possible.

As Chair, I have been delighted to be invited to attend a number of meetings where consultation took place and we were able on your behalf to put across some of the feedback and views we get from members.

Some of our Committee members have continued to attend regular meetings of the **East Sussex Seniors Association** focussing on various aspects affecting the over 50s 'daily life and care in the County.

Networking has been an important aspect of our work last year and on behalf of the Eastbourne Seniors forum I have attended the following meetings:

- ❖ Bi-monthly ESSA meetings (also attended by Des, our Treasurer) networking with other forums in the County
- ❖ Older people's Day Events meetings

- ❖ A Scams Awareness workshop run by the Safer East Sussex Team
- ❖ An NHS meeting with Representatives of two Clinical Commissioning Groups
- ❖ An NHS Planning and Partnership Workshop: the focus was to establish a new County-wide Partnership programme for the Planning of Health and Care in East Sussex.
- ❖ A Diabetes Care Discussion Workshop
- ❖ The One You East Sussex Stakeholder Group Launch with the opportunity for self-referral from anyone who has health concerns
- ❖ Shaping Health and Care Meeting in Eastbourne/Hailsham and Seaford with focus on understanding the integration of services
- ❖ A meeting with a representative from Demelza
- ❖ The 3VA AGM
- ❖ A Low Vision Day run by the Blind Society
- ❖ Visits to and contacts with Care Homes
- ❖ And I have also made presentations about informing local groups about the work ESF does.
- ❖ We have worked closely with our supportive Locality Link worker to extend further our networking opportunities.

We held a number of Open Meetings which include:

- A talk from a Dietitian from Arthritis Action
- A half-day at the Langney Shopping Centre
- A half-day at the Arndale Centre
- A Coffee morning at St Catherine's School
- A Scams workshop and Talk from the Safer East Sussex Team
- A talk by a representative of the East Sussex Better Together about the changes in health and social Care over the last two years and the services provided.

Our biggest event was our OPD Event: **The Good Life Show** which took place at the International Lawn Tennis Centre in September 2017 as the Winter Gardens venue is being refurbished. The Show was very well attended by over 700 visitors and 43 exhibitors. We are very grateful to the wonderful team at the ILTC for their help and support with the event. However, many people felt that the lack of space and the heat made it more difficult for people to get around comfortably. Hopefully the new venue this year will address these comments.

My thanks go to all who were involved with the preparation, organisation and running of the event.

This 2018 **Good Life Show** will be held at **the View Hotel** on Thursday 27th September.

There have been a few Committee changes.

I would like to give my warm thanks to Pam Edwards for her years of service on the ESF Committee. Although she is stepping down from the Committee she is keen to continue supporting ESF whenever she can.

We are delighted to have welcomed onboard our Committee four new members Stephanie, our Secretary, Julie, Mike and Judy.

I would like to give my warm thanks to all Committee members and supporters for their contributions to ESF over this last year.

On behalf of the Committee, I would also like to give big thanks to Colin who has stepped down from the production of the e-newsletter but will continue to serve as Membership Secretary. We are appreciative of his involvement, time and contribution to ESF and the excellent way in which he researched and presented always up to date and relevant information not forgetting humour in the mix.

On a personal note, I would like to express my special thanks to Des who has also stood in as Vice Chair, for his guidance and support throughout the year.

Our membership stands currently at 1312.

Nadine Harris

Chair ESF

June 2018

