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Date: 11 July 2018

PRESS RELEASE

Enjoy seaside fun with Mid Sussex Play Days

Local children and their families are invited to come along and enjoy a free afternoon of fun and activities in Haywards Heath, Burgess Hill, East Grinstead and Hurstpierpoint at the start of August.

Mid Sussex District Council has organised a variety of rides, games and creative activities for local families to enjoy on 1, 2, 7 and 8 August to celebrate national Play Day 2018.

The theme this year is 'beside the seaside' and all the activities are inspired by the traditional British beach holiday. There will be donkey rides, Punch and Judy shows, a bouncy castle and a helter skelter. Children will be able to get their faces painted and race their friends using solar powered boats.

An arts tent will enable children to be creative and trained Circus performers will be on hand to show them how to juggle, hula-hoop, tightrope walk, and balance on stilts.

One of the biggest issues facing our coastline and the ocean right now is plastic pollution spoiling our beaches, polluting our drinking water and killing wildlife. We'll have a Plastic Beach game for children to play to help them learn more about how we can reduce plastic on our beaches.

Councillor Gary Marsh, Cabinet Member for Service Delivery said:

"Our Play Days are always tremendous fun for all the family and we have another great line-up of activities this year.



“Parents know that it’s not easy to keep the little ones entertained during the school holidays so it’s great that we are able provide free family activities at convenient locations across the District.”

Councillor Norman Webster, Cabinet Member for Community added:

“Our Play Days provide a wonderful opportunity for the local community to get together and enjoy a fun afternoon with friends, family and neighbours. All the activities are free so please come along on the day and join in the fun.”

The free Play Day events will be held at:

- Victoria Park in Haywards Heath from 11am until 3pm on Weds 1 August
- St John’s Park in Burgess Hill from 11am until 3pm on Thurs 2 August
- King George’s Field in East Grinstead from 11am until 3pm on Tues 7 August
- Court Bushes Recreation Ground in Hurstpierpoint from 11am until 3pm Weds 8 August

Funding has been provided by the Clarion Housing Group to enable us to host a Play Day event in Hurstpierpoint for the very first time. The money is part of the Clarion Futures project, an initiative that aims to make estates and neighbourhoods more attractive and vibrant places to live. The financial support provided by Clarion means the Play Day at Court Bushes Recreation Ground will feature free miniature train rides for children to enjoy, in addition to all the seaside themed events.

Play Day is a celebration of children’s right to play and a campaign to highlight the importance of play in children’s lives. The 2018 events have been organised by Mid Sussex District Council with support from Clarion Futures, Places For People Leisure, Burgess Hill Town Council, East Grinstead Town Council and Haywards Heath Town Council.

For more information contact Regina Choudhury, Mid Sussex District Community Development Officer on 01444 477495 or email communityservices@midsussex.gov.uk.

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