



Annual Review 2011-12



People Place Prosperity

Our Vision

Our vision is for Hastings to be a place of connected, creative and sustainable communities that people are proud to be a part of.

Our Mission

Our mission is to identify and create opportunities for people to work together, improving the quality of local lives now and for the future.

Our Strategy

We aim to deliver this through the following areas of activity:

- Asset acquisition, protection and development
- Routes out of poverty and worklessness
- Community development and quality of life arts, culture, heritage and environment

This strategy is underpinned by:

A secure financial position, management team and governance

• Campaigning, lobbying and partnership working



January 2013

UES	1	NEW YEAR'S DAY
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HURS	31	



The Director's Report

Welcome to the 2011-12 annual review of the Hastings Trust. Once again it has been a fast paced and exciting year for us all, made possible by the talent and commitment of staff, volunteers and Trustees.

An important year for the Trust, we marked our 21st anniversary and saw this as a timely opportunity to carry out a full review of the organisation, thanks to funding from the Cabinet Office's Transition Funds. These funds enabled us to engage Nick Ewbank Associates to undertake this review which, amongst other things facilitated Trustees in the rearticulation of our vision, mission and strategy alongside a new logo, designed by Danny Grando, to refresh our image.

Transition Funds made a huge difference to the Trust over this year, making a valuable contribution to core costs, replacing public funding lost, and to ease the transition to a more sustainable funding position. The review has helped us to identify the steps we need to take to get there, but we are not there yet, and persistent economic instability with more public sector cuts and therefore increased demand for funds from Trusts and Foundations, will make the next twelve months a challenging one for us.

Our delivery over the past year has been focused very closely on tackling disadvantage and lack of opportunity with the continuation of our successful Lottery funded Community Enablers project. Our loans team has continued to support residents under financial pressure, distributing almost £250,000 in affordable loans. We have also continued to participate in EcoFab, with the exciting Ecofabulous event at Ore Adventure Playground in June 2011. We also welcomed Sally Lampitt as EcoFab co-ordinator following Carol's retirement.

In December we were delighted to hear that we had been awarded Social Action Funds for a one year volunteering

project. The main focus of Neighbourhood Enablers is to identify and support residents who have ideas for projects to improve and enhance the quality of life in their community.

These 'Neighbourhood Enablers' then recruit additional volunteers in order to achieve their aims, thereby creating unique solutions to local need. Training is provided to any individual on a project in addition to an accredited Level II Award that has been developed specifically to give further support around managing a project – the full report will appear in next year's review and updates can be found on our website.

We said goodbye to Oasis at the end of the year as the project transferred to full independence from the Trust – we are sad to see it go, but wish it all the success in the future. Well done to Jackie, Graham, Gaye and Lauren for their commitment and energy.

Pressing economic times, the reality of welfare reforms, and public sector funding cuts are impacting hard on the people of Hastings, and also on the organisations working to support local people. We recognise the challenges to come and we are committed to doing our utmost to secure the future of the Trust in order that we can continue to deliver services of value to local residents and continue to help to improve quality of life for all.

Thank you to all of those people with whom we work for making difficult times more enjoyable – without the energy and commitment of staff, volunteers, Trustees and partners the valuable work of the Trust would not be possible. We have come a long way in our 21 years and we look forward to the next 21 years.

Mel Bonney-Kane Executive Director.

February 2013

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THURS	14	ST. VALENTINE'S DAY
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THURS	28	





The Chairman's Report

This was the Trust's 21st birthday year, and we saw it as a year of transition. We expected times to get harder and they have: an economic climate in which, as funds become scarcer, the need for the Trust's work becomes more pressing. We had the benefit this year of a grant from the government's Transition Fund, the purpose of which was to enable us to re-examine our strategy and our operation, and underpin a new Business Plan. The consultancy undertaken by Nick Ewbank has led both to a new look at the Trust's public face, and to exciting ideas about how we might operate in the future.

So we have launched more concise and focused statements of our Vision and our Mission, distilled from discussions in which all the staff, trustees and volunteers took part. And to complement this, a new logo, designed by Danny Grando, which replaces the Trust's elegant but somewhat impersonal logo with a new aspirational and more human image.

Most significantly, the consultancy has mapped out a possible future for the Trust within the wider context of the voluntary sector. The proposal for a hub organisation builds on the Trust's existing aims of fostering partnerships by concentrating activities in a central shared venue. This creates an opportunity to draw in compatible organisations and to pool increasingly scarce resources; the concept is based on precedents established successfully in many other parts of the country. The goal is to maximise the Trust's existing strengths, to encourage innovation through creative links between diverse individuals and groups, and by providing the Trust with more effective and open workspace to help to secure our financial future.

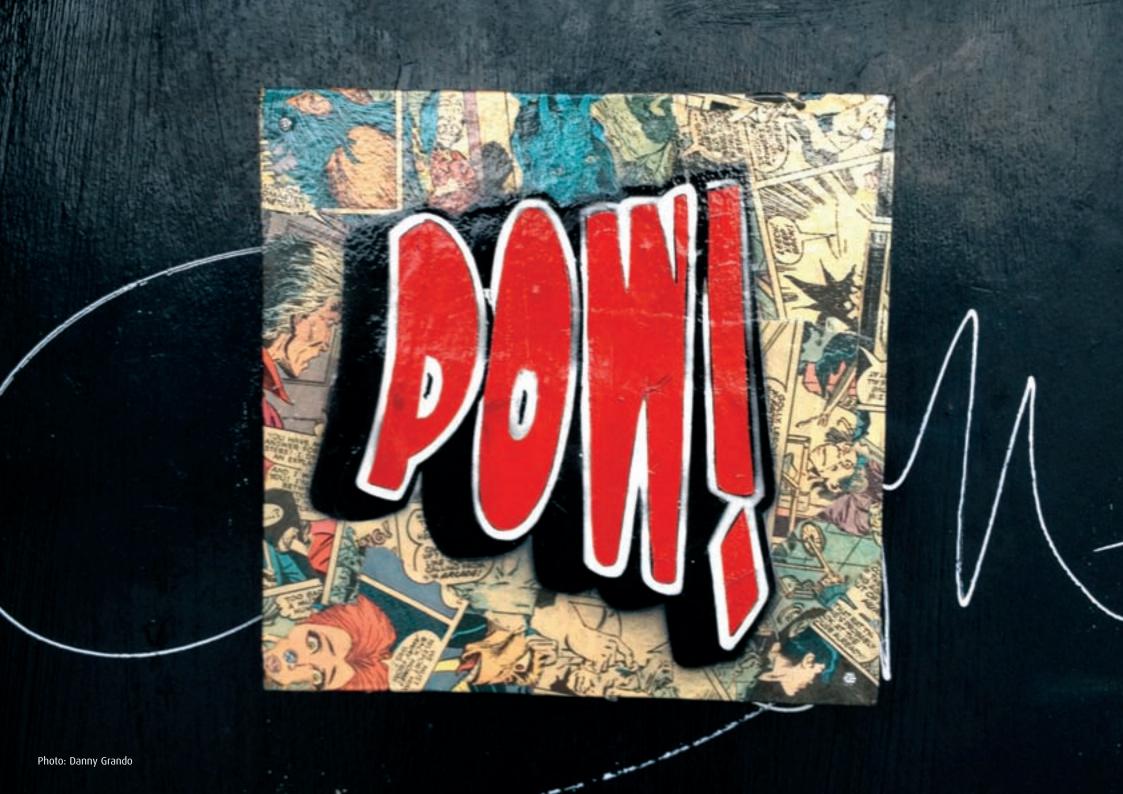
Alan Privett Chairman.



March 2013

FRI	1	ST DAVID'S DAY
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WED	20	BRITISH SUMMERTIME BEGINS
THURS	21	
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SUN	24	PALM SUNDAY
MON	25	
TUES	26	
WED	27	
THURS	28	
FRI	29	GOOD FRIDAY
SAT	30	
SUN	31	EASTER SUNDAY





The Hastings Trust Resource Centre

The number of recorded visits to the Trust's Resource Centre during the Review period of April 2011 to March 2012 was 8643 - around 16% higher than last year and a new record.

The Centre confirmed itself as a community hub with a reputation for friendliness and effectiveness with a steady increase in the use of already existing services: Community Enablers offered weekly careers advice on Thursdays and at the Monday Club; the latest job vacancies were on display with free job searches on the web; Innovative Finance received hundreds of enquiries about loans; and colour printing and internet access were (and are) very competitively priced. A new Friday computer club was created and run by Gail Lalljee, an enterprising new volunteer (now a member of staff). In addition there were the Hastings and Rother Credit Union weekly collections with the opportunity to find out more about how the Credit Union works. There were 113 recorded meetings in the meeting room on the first floor.

Resource Centre Staff

Over the Review period the Centre continued to have outstanding volunteers. It was also able to recruit young employees with enormous potential starting out their working life through the L-earn project. In turn the Centre provided them with experience, training opportunities and confidence - ideal for those seeking future work. Equally important, the Centre maintained its role as an opportunity for retired people to donate their skills to the community.

"Fantastic information have passed exchange have pasself" exchange on information myself"

"Job advice, career advice and a warm friendly welcome" Trust think Hastings
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April 2013

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Building on Success – A learning Community

As ever, learning was happening all around and in a whole range of ways.

Statutory funding cuts were a concern but, through collaborative working, the Trust was able to secure resources for innovative community-led projects with embedded training and development.

Over 20 different courses were on offer and there was something for everyone with high overall satisfaction levels. Courses covered Successful Bid Writing, Customer Care, Project Management, PTLLS, Book Keeping, Team Building, Contact Management, Money Management and more.

The Vocational and Lifeskills Partnership project with Horizons CIC, Fellowship of St Nicholas and Hastings Furniture Service continued to support those most excluded from learning and work with increasing number of learners involved in curriculum planning. Hastings Trust joined other Hasting & Rother Adult Community Learning forum members to meet with Government Minister of State, John Hayes MP to present the Forum as a working model and argue for sustained funding for the area.

L-earn

Young people aged 16-18 finding it difficult to get work and training were employed and trained part-time with HFS (Hastings Furniture Service), Finding Futures and Hastings Trust. Their achievements won this ESCC funded pilot support from local MPs.

Heather Smith Training and Development Co-ordinator.



May 2013

WED	1	
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MON	27	SPRING BANK HOLIDAY
TUES	28	
WED	29	
THURS	30	
FRI	31	





Innovative Finance

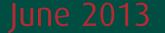
Innovative Finance is the Trust's Community Development Finance Institution. Originally funded by a mix of Barclays and public regeneration funding, we were able to start granting loans for Social Enterprises. Thanks to funds through the DWP Growth Fund, we developed the scheme to offer small crisis loans to those individuals who are unable to obtain finance through the normal banking channels - the monies were used to assist with securing accommodation and purchasing white goods, etc. 2011-12 was our first year of independence from external funding, and the Trust now sees Innovative Finance as part of its mainstream core delivery. During the Review period we received 910 applications, 506 of which were agreed, the total amount lent was £231,785.33.

Financially, it has been a very difficult year for many and this has kept us busy. Our 'drop-in' sessions, where prospective clients can make and discuss their applications, continued to be lively. We also maintained our close working relationship with Citizens Advice 1066 Money Advice Service, Hastings and Rother Credit Union and HARC.

Rhonda Ellard CDFI Credit Controller.







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SUN	16	FATHER'S DAY
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FRI	21	LONGEST DAY OF THE YEAR
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Oasis Community Project – East Hastings

In April 2012 Oasis achieved full charitable status and independence from the Hastings Trust.

Oasis has been a continual presence in the Ore Valley since 1997 delivering individual support to residents, a range of well organised activities, a Befriending Scheme, opportunities to increase skills and in its 15 years, has been an organisation that has brought the community together.

During the spring and summer of 2012, we were closely involved in organising the Ore Valley Festival with other organisations. As the day drew nearer, the bunting came out, the banners went up and all the months of planning was culminated in a fabulously hot day that brought residents out to see what goes on in the community.

During the year, Oasis Community Project carried out questionnaires, researching what courses and activities local residents would be interested in and this year we have provided Reminiscence sessions – delivered by our staff and some sessions in partnership with Amicus Housing, group lunches at Broomgrove Community Centre (with lunches provided by Sandown School), afternoon quizzes, craft group, cooking on a budget (in partnership with the fruit and veg project), family history sessions, taster sessions for older

residents to learn how to use a computer and outings (in partnership with Hastings Voluntary Action). All activities aim to improve the quality of life for local residents, develop skills and improve prospects into paid work while bringing members of the community together.

Since becoming independent, the staff and Trustees have worked hard to provide an uninterrupted service during the period of transition. The result was a swell in membership numbers, an increase in the numbers of residents attending activities and a survey carried out to gather views of residents so we could continue to improve our services and extend our provision. We were delighted, post-independence, to have been nominated and win 'Highly commended' in the category of 'Best Community Project' at the Hastings Achievers Awards.

Jackie Gaunt Co-ordinator.





July 2013

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Community Enablers – Reaching Communities

Funded by the Big Lottery's Reaching Communities fund, our project connects local residents, voluntary groups and employers to build community capacity, confidence and aspiration. Project workers are supported by L-earn employees, volunteers and members of our user group in helping to shape and deliver the work and we welcome partners and new ideas.

Employability Hastings Marshals

Community Enablers worked with MSL Projects and Sussex Coast College Hastings and other partners in a new initiative to recruit and train up volunteer marshals for Stade Saturdays and other local events over the coming year.

Visionary Soap Company – A Fair Trade Enterprise

Hastings Trust sourced volunteers to assist with all areas of production. Avanta are currently a key referral partner.

Arts/Culture

Reminiscence writing workshops

During the year of Dickens' bi-centenary year celebrations at Hastings Museum

Junkanoo, Inspire and F-ish Writers

Supporting community funding bids and hosting the local F-ish writers group every Thursday.

Heritage and Environment Old Roar Ghvll

Sourcing volunteers to help with a more accessible pathway extension for this local nature site.

Old St Helens Church Dig

Joining in the Easter Community Dig of one of the oldest surviving buildings in Hastings.

Community Learning

Support for funding and promoting accredited community research, counselling and teaching courses for local residents and voluntary sector representatives.

What people say about Community Enablers

"Helped me to get to college"

"My confidence has improved greatly..."

"Would you believe...
I used my First Aid training
3 times just out and
about"

athway

"Can help me find
"Can help me find
"Can help me find
there
employment...There are
things out there
more than I knew"

"My voluntary

placement was fantastic.

I really enjoyed it and it led

employed in community"



THURS FRI SAT 3 SUN 4 5 MON **TUES** 6 7 WED **THURS** 8 FRI 9 SAT 10 SUN 11 12 MON 13 **TUES** WED 14 THUR 15 16 FRI 17 SAT 18 SUN MON 19 20 **TUES** 21 WED 22 **THURS** FRI 23 SAT 24 SUN 25 MON SUMMER BANK HOLIDAY **TUES** 27 WED 28 29 **THURS** FRI 30

31

SAT

August 2013



Eco-retrofit, Ecofab and Skills2Build

After a two year pilot project we heard in March 2011 that our application for a three-year Interreg 1Va project had been successful. This funds us to organise Pathway to Construction, a yearly event promoting eco and heritage construction skills in partnership with French organisations from the Basse Normandy region. We will also be helping to develop eco-construction and renewable energy training courses with the French groups and local partners The Bridge Community Centre, HBC, Sussex Coast College Hastings and the Low Carbon Trust Brighton.

Pathway to Construction in 2011, named Ecofabluous, was on 18th June at The Old Coachworks, Ore Valley in Hastings. Over 2000 people enjoyed music, stalls, energy advice and demonstrations of all things green. Everyone had the chance

to enter their own picture or model of a renewed Hastings pier with a special competition for Local schools to build models of their vision from recycled materials. There was strawbale building, den building, junk modelling, bricklaying, plastering plus discussion and debate.

Supporting and participating organisations included: Osborne Energy, EcoFab, Interreg 1Va, Pathway to Construction, In2play, Hastings Borough Council, Sussex Coast College Hastings, the Bridge Centre and Community Enablers.

Following Carol Bigg's retirement we recruited Sally Lampitt as co-ordinator, who will continue to drive the project forward.

Carol Biggs EcoFab Co-ordinator.



September 2013

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The Hastings Trust, 21 Years of Achievement

October 2013 TUES WED **THURS** 3 FRI SUN MON TUES WED 9 **THURS** 10 FRI 11 12 SAT SUN 13 MON 14 TUES 15 16 WED **THURS** 17 FRI 18 19 SAT SUN 20 21 MON 22 TUES WED 23 **THURS** 24 FRI 25 26 SAT

BRITISH SUMMER TIME ENDS

SUN

MON

TUES

WED

THURS

28 29

30

31

HALLOWEEN





The Hastings Trust, 21 Years of Achievement

Former Chairman Stephen Hinton receives the Investor in People Award ▼ Bridge Centre café. from Michael Foster 2001. The Resource Centre was opened by Maureen Lipman on 26th March 1998. Bridge Centre redeveloped 2004 – now independent. Bridge Centre under construction. Construction of Linton Road Arches training centre 2007. Cambridge Gardens an eco-retrofitted Victorian house finished 2011. St Mary Magdalen churchyard refurbishment begun 2002. * Hastings Trust

November 2013

FRI	1	
SAT	2	
SUN	3	
MON	4	
TUES	5	GUY FAWKES DAY
WED	6	
THURS	7	HASTINGS TRUST AGM
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SUN	10	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
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WED	27	
THURS	28	
FRI	29	
SAT	30	ST ANDREW'S DAY



Statistics: Measured Outputs for 2011-2012

Volunteer Resource Centre hours • • • Trustee hours • • • • 765 Job searches in Resource Centre • • • • Training hours for staff and volunteers • • 202.5 Courses taken • • 8643 Resource Centre visits • • 113 Meeting room recorded meetings • • 910 Innovative Finance Loan applications • • 506 Innovative Finance Loan applications agreed • • • Innovative Finance total lent • • • • 2000 Ecofabuous visitors approximately • • • Individuals into accredited training • • • • People more skilled, active and able to help their community • • • • Community groups supported • • • • • Employability support • • • • 778,426 Into employment • • • • • Total incoming Resources for the regeneration of Hastings • •

X Hastings Trust

December 2013

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THURS	19	
FRI	20	
	21	SHORTEST DAY OF THE YEAR
SUN	22	
SAT SUN MON TUES	23	
	24	CHRISTMAS EVE
WED	25	CHRISTMAS DAY
THURS	26	BOXING DAY
FRI	27	
SAT SUN	28	
SUN	29	
MON	30	
TUES	31	NEW YEAR'S EVE



Financial Report

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2012 £	Total 2011 £
Incoming resources	_	_	-	_
Incoming resources from generated funds				
Voluntary income	210	42,923	43,133	69,622
Activities for generating funds - rental income	90,345	-	90,345	83,319
	90,555	42,923	133,478	152,941
Incoming resources from charitable activities				
Regeneration of the Borough of Hastings	-	599,466	599,466	898,326
Innovative Finance	-	45,482	45,482	120,556
Total incoming resources	90,555	687,871	778,426	1,171,823
Resources expended				
Costs of generating funds				
Fundraising costs	5,863	4,484	10,347	10,171
Finance costs	26,529	-	26,529	22,567
	32,392	4,484	36,876	32,738
Charitable activities				
Regeneration of the Borough of Hastings	181,090	502,360	683,450	618,368
Innovative Finance	-	54,824	54,824	51,251
Total charitable expenditure	181,090	557,184	738,274	669,619
Governance costs	8,500	-	8,500	15,270
Total resources expended	221,982	561,668	783,650	717,627
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers	(131,427)	126,203	(5,224)	454,196
Gross transfers between funds	17,514	(17,514)	-	-
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources	(113,913)	108,689	(5,224)	454,196
Other recognised gains and losses				
Gain on investment assets	-	-	-	37,000
Net movement in funds	(113,913)	108,689	(5,224)	491,196
Fund balances at 1 April 2011	318,935	506,116	825,051	333,855
Fund balances at 31 March 2012	205,022	614,805	819,827	825,051

All income and gains for the period are recognised above. All of the charity's activities are classified as continuing.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.



Opinion on accounts

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2012 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Emphasis of matter - Going Concern

In forming our opinion on the financial statements, which is not qualified, we have considered the adequacy of the disclosure made in note 1 to the financial statements concerning the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. Given the uncertainty over future income streams, reliance upon external borrowings and the challenging economic climate indicates the existence of a material uncertainty which may cast doubt about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The financial statements do not include the adjustments that would result if the charity was unable to continue as a going concern. Our opinion is not qualified in respect of this matter.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006 In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made: or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Mr Mark Cummins FCCA

for and on behalf of Russell New Limited Statutory Auditors The Courtyard Shoreham Road Upper Beeding Steyning West Sussex BN44 3TN

Our Major Partners & Trustees

Amicus-Horizon

Baxi

Big Lottery Fund

The Bridge Community Enterprise Ltd

British Heart Foundation

Castle Ward Forum

CDFA

Claremont Studios Coastal Currents

Community Fruit and Veg Project

Citizens Advice 1066

DC Cleaning

East Sussex County Council

Ecofab

Energise Hastings

Emmaus

Fellowship of St Nicholas

F-ISH Creative Trust

Furniture Now

Gaby Hardwicke

Gensing and Central St Leonards

Community Forum

GRETA, Normandy

Hastings and Bexhill Economic Alliance

Hastings and Rother Credit Union

Hastings and St Leonards Excellence Cluster

Hastings and Rother Primary Care Trust

Hastings Advice and Representation Centre

Hastings Arts Forum

Hastings Borough Council

Hastings Community Network

Hastings Adult Community Learning Forum

Hastings Furniture Service

Hastings Pier and White Rock Trust

Hastings Voluntary Action

Hastings Youth Council

Horizons Community Learning CIC

Isabel Blackman Foundation

lob Centre Plus Kenward Pullen **Lets Do Business Group**

Locality

Low Carbon Trust, Brighton

Mencap

Nick Ewbank Associates

Ore Valley Forum

Ore Valley Action

Ore Village Community Land Trust

Parchment Trust

Project Artworks

Pathway to Construction

Respond Youth Academy

Rother Voluntary Action

Russell New

Rye Partnership

Scope

Social Investment Business

Sussex Coast College, Hastings

Timothy Jemison Associates

Tivoli Auto Services

Tomorrows People Trust

University Centre Hastings

Visionary Soap Company

WAVE Co-operative

White Rock and America Ground

Business Group

White Rock Hotel

WRVS

Xtrax

Richard Beeching

Esther Brown

Alex Francis

Christine Francis

Susan Heath

John Hodges

Dean Morrison

Maureen Nelson

Alan Privett



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