

12 HEARING DIFFICULTIES

BT

www.btplc.com/age_disability

Publishes a free guide to telephone products and services for elderly and disabled people, available in large print, Braille or on audio cassette. A free Directory Enquiry Service is available for blind and disabled customers. A large range of equipment is available for people with disabilities, including loud bell units and inductive couplers.

COMMUNICATION CLUB

Welcomes everyone with a connection to hearing loss, whether deaf, hard of hearing, stage 1 and stage 2 signers and people taking courses. Meets every Tuesday, 7pm - 10pm, at 291 Tarring Road, Worthing.

DARBY AND JOAN CLUB

www.worthingdeafsocialclub.co.uk

A club for people with hearing difficulties offering entertainment and social contact. Meets in Worthing on the first and third Thursdays of the month between 12 noon and 4pm.

DEAFBLIND UK

www.deafblind.org.uk

Works with people who have a dual sensory loss in West Sussex and provides support, a visiting service, information about services and promotes awareness of deafblindness. Currently clubs are run in Worthing and Chichester offering social contact and information.

HARD OF HEARING CLUB - WORTHING

Weekly club for anyone with hearing impairment or loss & carers. Meets Mon, 7.30-9pm, in Worthing (not August or public holidays). Information, entertainment, advice, outings and social activities. Regular newsletter. Transport help in Worthing area. Campaigns for better access for people with hearing impairment locally .

HEARING DOGS for DEAF PEOPLE

www.hearing-dogs.co.uk

A national organisation that trains dogs to alert deaf people to sounds such as doorbells, phones and fire alarms, as well as providing companionship and a sense of security.



LIP READING CLASS

littlehampton.a.e.c@westsussex.gov.uk

Small, friendly group all with hearing loss. The group learn how much of our language is visible, how to cope better in all sorts of difficult situations and what equipment is available which might help. Classes on Wednesday afternoons & Thursday mornings term-time 10am-12noon.

NATIONAL DEAF CHILDRENS SOCIETY

www.ndcs.org.uk

Provides advice and information on all aspects of childhood deafness, including education, benefits, technology and equipment. Provides support with benefit claims, Disability Appeal Tribunals and special educational needs tribunals/appeals.

RNID

www.rnid.org.uk

RNID is the largest charity representing the 9 million deaf and hard of hearing people in the UK. Services include information, awareness training, campaigning, residential care, communication services, employment services, telephone relay service (Typetalk), Tinnitus Helpline.

RNID COMMUNICATION SUPPORT UNIT

Offers a central booking service for people who need sign language interpreters, lip speakers, note takers, speech to text, deafblind communicator, or video interpreting service.

SOCIAL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

A number of local clubs exist for people who have problems with their hearing. ICIS have details.

SUSSEX DEAF ASSOCIATION

www.sussexdeaf.co.uk

Provides communication support, advocacy, assistance with benefit forms and runs social groups/outings. Provides Deaf Awareness Training and British Sign Language Level 1 courses. **Communication Club** on Tuesdays 7pm-10pm for people who are deaf or hearing impaired, learning sign language and or wishing to learn to communicate with deaf people. Drop-in coffee morning on Mondays 10am-12am. A support group for hard of hearing people on 1st Wednesday of each month from 10am-1pm.

TYPE TALK, TEXTDIRECT AND RELAY ASSIST

www.typetalk.org

A number of different systems are available to help people with hearing difficulties contact other people by phone. For more information contact the number above or access their website.

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL (SOCIAL CARE)

There are specialist staff employed by West Sussex County Council (Social Care) to provide information and help to people with a hearing impairment. Initially contact your local Help Desk.

The Association works with deaf, hard of hearing and deaf/blind people, to provide a means for people to express their views, by helping to set up sign language and lip reading classes, to provide information and advice, to find out what needs people have, to improve the quality of services and to help develop new services. A resource centre is open weekday mornings in Worthing.