

Welcome to Our April Members Bulletin.

Places:

Ore Valley

As we told you in our last members bulletin, we are having to vacate the Ore Valley Power station site, home to the BUD, (bottom up development team), and site of many community building events.

Over the last 2 and a half years we have been gathering things we thought may be useful for our future building plans. This move is an opportunity to spring clean, and pass on what we don't need to others. Lots of people are taking pallets for all kinds of interesting building projects. There is also good soil, bricks, and all kinds of gardening bits and bobs for the taking:

Get involved!

The site is open Wednesdays and Saturdays 10-2 until 26 April.

You are welcome to come along and see what we have and perhaps take something away with you, just find Dan, our site steward and he can tell you what's what. (please bear in mind that these times are subject to change at short notice, Heart of Hastings is a small and very busy organisation, somethings things happen).

Although we are leaving, we are not giving up our aims to build affordable, community led housing for the benefit of local people, whether in the Ore Valley or another suitable site. Hastings Borough Council have kindly agreed to store our shipping containers for a few months while we find a new home- watch this space!

White Rock

Many of you will have walked past 39 Cambridge Road, Hastings (just opposite ESK), and perhaps noticed building work going on outside. Heart of Hastings purchased "39c" with a mixture of grants and loans from our very own [Investors Collective](#) to be transformed into affordable, community led housing. So far, 3 tenants have moved in, and our final tenant should move in early May.

Projects:

Organisation Workshop in the Observer Building (OW in the OB)

The Organisation Workshop in the Observer building starts on 29 April. We are only the second organisation to bring OW to the UK and we are excited to have welcomed [Ivan Labra](#), OW veteran to Hastings to be the director of the OW in the OB.

The OW will have 40 participants, all recruited locally for their motivation and desire to effect positive change in their own lives.

You can find out more [about our OW on our website](#).

Locality Event- The Power of Community

Heart of Hastings are delighted to be hosting a [Locality Members networking event](#) on 9 May.

Heart of Hastings have been members of Locality for over 2 years. Locality support community groups through:

“Peer learning and connection through the [membership network](#)

[Resources](#) for local people to get involved & create change in their community

Specialist [advice and support](#)

[Campaigning](#) to create a better operating environment for community organisations”

Get involved!

We have 3 spaces available for members, if you would like a space, please email shelley@heartofhastings.org.uk

People:

We are always looking for ways to involve you, our members, and are excited to share this opportunity with you:

Heart of Hastings Member Research

Over the next 8 weeks, Bec Lester, who is an anthropology student at UCL will be doing an in-depth research study on Heart of Hastings as part of a project looking at the impact of CLTs on local communities. As part of this, she's hoping to speak to as many Heart of Hastings members as possible to understand why you got involved and to hear your opinion on the work Heart of Hastings does.

Get involved!

The research would involve an informal interview over tea or coffee lasting about 1 hour, at some point in the next 8 weeks (before 14 June). Please give her a call, text or email directly if you're interested in taking part or would like to know more information: Email: rebecca.lester.18@ucl.ac.uk

Mobile: 07958 326 560

How can you support us:

- [Buy a share:](#)
- Contact us to offer a skill or service you think we could benefit from
- Talk about us- tell your friends and family what we are all about, if you need to ask a question, get in touch