

## SEEFA Member Briefing September 2015

We thought SEEFA members might appreciate a short written briefing. Further information is available from any member of the SEEFA Executive Group or you could have a look on the SEEFA website at [www.SEEFA.org.uk](http://www.SEEFA.org.uk).

1. **SEEFA Convention.** You are invited to SEEFA's Convention: *Shaping Our Own Future: Activism in Later Life* which will take place on 2 November in Whitehall. A number of special guests have confirmed their attendance. David Brindle will Chair the event.
2. **SEEFA Policy Panel on Later Life and Ageing.** The last Policy Panel in June looked at what we can do to support our ageing assets. Yet again we highlighted the need for a positive portrayal of later life, for valuing our enormous contribution and for an end to age related disadvantage across all sectors. These themes have been picked up at national level and will also be addressed at the SEEFA Convention. You can see all the Policy Panel key issues papers on the SEEFA website.
3. **Digital Inclusion.** Following the Symposium earlier this year an Action Group has been set up to pursue issues raised. Current strands of work include: 1) with support from Loughborough University we are working with Barclays and BT on their community hubs and 2) with support from Brighton University we are looking at influencing designers of digital products. We continually raise the issue of digital inclusion wherever we can with policy makers and industry, at conferences and events and through the Age Action Alliance.
4. **Communicating across the South East.** SEEFA wants to know how effectively we are communicating across the South East via Older People's Forums and other local groups. We'll be conducting a survey to estimate our reach and would be grateful for information and support to extend our links.
5. **National links.** Our national links are extensive. SEEFA's representative on the UK Advisory Forum on Ageing (UKAFA) is Jean Gaston Parry. SEEFA has the opportunity here to meet Ministers and raise later life issues, including key issues from Policy Panels. Further information about UKAFA is to be found on: [www.gov.uk/government/groups/uk-advisory-forum-on-ageing](http://www.gov.uk/government/groups/uk-advisory-forum-on-ageing). Recognising there is strength in numbers, the English Forum Chairs come together to work jointly and offer assistance and advice to policy makers on later life matters. Peter is part of this Forum and Marjory is their Independent Chair. We have been actively pursuing positive working relationships with both the Centre for Ageing Better (and Lord Filkin has been encouraging) and the Local Government Association, who published their report: *'Ageing: the Silver Lining'* in June: [www.local.gov.uk/publications/-journal\\_content/56/.../PUBLICATION](http://www.local.gov.uk/publications/-journal_content/56/.../PUBLICATION). We contributed to the significant NIACE Midlife Career Review Project: [www.niace.org.uk/our-resources/work-and-careers/mid-life-career-review](http://www.niace.org.uk/our-resources/work-and-careers/mid-life-career-review). In addition to all of the above, we are active members of the Age Action Alliance and have representation on most AAA Working Groups.

*SEEFA appreciates all your help and support!*

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**SEEFA is the South East England Forum on Ageing. Find out more at [www.seefa.org.uk](http://www.seefa.org.uk)  
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