

## 10. HEARING DIFFICULTIES

**Prefix any telephone number with 18001 for typetalk.**

### **British Tinnitus Association**

Advice and support for all sufferers from tinnitus.

National Freephone: 0800 018 0527 or local rate: 0845 4500 321

Minicom: 0114 258 5694

Website: [www.tinnitus.org.uk](http://www.tinnitus.org.uk) Email: [info@tinnitus.org.uk](mailto:info@tinnitus.org.uk)

### **BT Age & Disability Action**

Publishes a free guide to telephone products and services for elderly and disabled people. Available in print, braille or on audio cassette. A free Directory Enquiry Service is available for blind and disabled customers (Tel: 195).

Large range of equipment for people with disabilities, includes loud bell units, inductive couplers and extra receivers to listen with both ears.

Tel: 0800 800 150 Website: [www.btplc.com/age\\_disability/](http://www.btplc.com/age_disability/)

### **Deafblind UK**

A registered charity providing support and information to people with severe difficulties with sight and hearing, as well as their friends and family. Includes a 24hr helpline Tel: 0800 132320.

Website: [www.deafblind.org.uk](http://www.deafblind.org.uk)

### **Hearing Dogs for Deaf People**

A national organisation that trains dogs to alert deaf people to sounds which hearing people often take for granted, such as the alarm clock, doorbell and telephone.

Contact: Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, The Grange, Wycombe Road, Saunderton, Princes Risborough, Bucks, HP27 9NS. Tel: 01844 348100

Website: [www.hearingdogs.org.uk](http://www.hearingdogs.org.uk) Email: [info@hearingdogs.org.uk](mailto:info@hearingdogs.org.uk)

### **Laburnham Centre Deaf and Hard of Hearing Club**

Mondays 7pm-9pm The Laburnham Centre, Lyon Street, Bognor Regis.

Contact George Doughty Tel: (18 001) typetalk 01243 827185.

### **National Deaf Childrens Society – South East**

An organisation for deaf children (0-25 years) and their families, providing information support and social activities.

Local Contact Tel: 07717 223362 or National Freephone Helpline: 0808 800 8880

Email: [helpline@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:helpline@ndcs.org.uk) Website: [www.ndcs.org.uk](http://www.ndcs.org.uk)

### **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.

Tel: 020 7296 8064 (voice) or Text: 020 7296 8065

## **RNID Information Line**

Provides information on all aspects of hearing difficulties including information on employment, legislation, equipment and benefits.

Helpline Tel: 0808 808 0123 (voice), Text: 0808 808 9000, Fax: 020 7296 8199,

Also has a Tinnitus Helpline Tel: 0808 808 6666

Website: [www.rnib.org.uk](http://www.rnib.org.uk) Email: [information@rnid.org.uk](mailto:information@rnid.org.uk)

## **Social Services**

Social Services Help Desk provides advice and information and details of equipment for loan to people with a hearing impairment. Through the Help Desks you can contact the specialist deaf services workers; see *Chapter 1, Advice and Information* for phone numbers.

## **Sussex Deaf Association – West Sussex**

Provides advice, information, social groups, sign language classes, home visits, interpreting services and training for deaf/blind people in Sussex. Coffee morning Thursday 10am -12pm, communications club Tuesday 7pm-10pm, computer course Thursday evenings, a forthcoming deaf/blind coffee morning and a drop-in surgery on Thursdays 10am-4pm at 291 Tarring Road, Worthing, BN11 5JG.

Tel/Text/Fax: 01903 506416 Mobile/SMS: Teena 07958 655127

Website: [www.sussexdeaf.co.uk](http://www.sussexdeaf.co.uk) Email: [teena@sussexdeaf.com](mailto:teena@sussexdeaf.com)

## **Typetalk / Text Users Rebate Scheme**

Typetalk is a national telephone relay service, funded by British Telecom and run by the RNID where users can have their Textphone conversations relayed directly to hearing customers, and the spoken reply returned as text. Text Users Rebate Scheme (TURS) can help deaf/speech impaired people over six years old (who have text phones) with paying the bill.

Contact: RNID Typetalk, Customer Services Dept, FREEPOST, Liverpool, L3 5BR

General enquiries text users Tel: 0800 500 888

General enquiries voice users Tel: 0800 7311 888

Mon-Fri 8am-8pm, Sat-Sun 9am-5pm

Email: [helpline@rnid-typetalk.org.uk](mailto:helpline@rnid-typetalk.org.uk) Website: [www.rnid-typetalk.org.uk](http://www.rnid-typetalk.org.uk)

## **Voluntary Hearing Aid Unit**

Provides a basic maintenance service, for those in the Selsey area, of NHS (behind the ear) hearing-aids. The service is available at The Seal Medical Centre, High street, Selsey, PO20 0QG, on a drop-in basis (no appointment needed), on the first and third Thursday of each month (2pm-4pm).

Contact: The Health Centre, St Peter's Crescent, Selsey. Tel: 01243 608202

## **West Sussex Deaf and Hard of Hearing Association**

Provides information, advice and services to people living in the West Sussex area.

**Resource Centre** - 5a Hazel Grove, Haywards Heath, RH16 2PH. All are welcome.

The Association has its own magazine which is available on request by calling: 01444 415582 (voice), 01444 415593 (minicom), or 01444 415587 (fax)