

## **Here's a hot TOPIC for older people in Southbourne**

A NEW mobile information service offering advice and support to older residents in West Sussex will be in Southbourne on Friday July 30.

The Older People's Information Centre (TOPIC) will be at Age Concern, New Road, between 11am-2pm to provide information and advice on a range of issues that affect older people, including:

- Pensions and benefits.
- Keeping warm.
- Home fire safety.
- Health and wellbeing.
- Local groups and activities.
- Days out.
- Support for carers, practical help and much more.

Advice and support will be available from West Sussex County Council Fire and Rescue Service, the Pension Services, Chichester District Older People's Partnership, Disability & Carers Service, Chichester Community Partnership Team and Action in Rural Sussex.

TOPIC was devised by Derek Covill, a Community Fire Protection Advisor with West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service.

He said: "The thinking behind TOPIC is that the Fire and Rescue Service and other agencies can ensure help and information is reaching those people in more rural locations who may not normally have such easy access to it because of transport or disability.

Peter Evans, County Council Cabinet Member for Public Protection, said: "I would encourage carers, nurses, health visitors or any group that regularly visit or care for older or disabled people to come along so they can hear more about the services available. Where appropriate individual appointments to visit people in their home can be made."

No appointment is necessary and free refreshments will be provided.

Further information can be obtained from Derek on 07921 291170

Ends...