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A THOUSAND AND ONE YEARS OF BOWLING HISTORY South Eastern Counties Centennial Tournament on Saturday 29th July Hurstpierpoint Bowling Club hosted the South Eastern Counties Centennial Tournament.

This tournament was for all clubs from Sussex and the surrounding counties who were 100 years old in 2023 (or in the case of Adastra 101 years old).

The competing clubs were; Adastra – Hassocks, Castle Green – Guildford, Dartford Invicta, East Preston & Kingston, Fleet Social, Hailsham, Hurstpierpoint, Milton Park – Portsmouth, Pembroke Gardens – Portsmouth and Raynes Park.

The ten teams were drawn into two leagues of 5 with each team playing each other in the league. The two league winners were Raynes Park and Hailsham who were unbeaten in the respective leagues.

With two unbeaten teams playing each other the final it was always going to be close game, and an extra end looked to be on the cards. However, in the end Raynes Park just edged it.

Strictly Come Dancing stars Joe Suggs and Diane Buswell presented the trophies to the winners Raynes Park and runners up Hailsham.

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THE BEACON PARISH OF DITCHLING, STREAT & WESTMESTON As the holiday season comes to an end for many people and everyday routines begin again, we're praying that the past months of summer will have given everyone the opportunity for rest and refreshment, as well as activity and fun.

We're praying for the start of the new term at St. Margaret's school: all the children arriving for their first ever day at school, those moving to their new classes, for those who left in July to move onto another school and for all the staff, governors and ancillary staff and Gary, our youth worker, that this new academic year will be a blessed time for everyone.

On **3rd and 10th September**, our regular Morning Worship will be at St. Margaret's at 10 am - A warm welcome to all.

Also on the **10th September** if you enjoy drinking tea, eating cake, chatting with friends and singing some of our best loved hymns and songs (and who doesn't?), we'd love to see you at St. Martin's, Westmeston at 3.30 pm that afternoon. On Sunday **17th September** our Morning Worship will be at Streat Church at 10 am. Do join us.

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Sunday **24th September** sees us back in St. Margaret's at 10 am for one of our popular and lively all age family services. Always a joyous occasion! Let's see how many generations we can gather together.

As you can see, we have plenty happening on September Sundays, but we also have a peaceful, reflective service of Holy Communion every Wednesday at 10 am at St. Margaret's church.

While on Wednesday **6th September** in St. Margaret's Church we have another SING! session at 6 pm. We enjoyed having some visitors from Hurstpierpoint in July and everyone is very welcome to come and learn some new songs and revisit old favourites.

As you've read, we've got a busy month ahead in the Beacon Parish and here's another date for your diary. Our Harvest Festival will on Sunday **1st October** at a beautifully decorated St. Martin's Church, Westmeston at 10 am. Do join us. Please check our website **www.beaconparish.co.uk** for any alterations to the above.

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I WISH TO RECORD MY SINCERE THANKS to everyone who came to my aid on 26th July when I fell off my bike and fractured my hip. Special thanks to everyone at QD Stationery and to the lady who took me home by car. I so appreciate all the kindness shown to me.

Chris Daughton

HHDu3a MONTHLY MEETING Sheila Willis, at July's HHDu3a meeting, 'Who Dun The Whodunit's?', focussed on our preoccupation with murder mysteries, in print, on screen and on stage, where 'The Mousetrap' has been running since 1952. The genre is ever flexible. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes is constantly reinvented in the cinema and on television. Many TV stories are set in contemporary times, but Foyle was pursuing criminals throughout World War Two and Sam Tyler was a time traveller, whisked back thirty years to track down a killer.

There was some history too, how 'Cluedo' first appeared as 'Murders' played in bomb shelters during the blitz, and that the Chinese discovered fingerprints in the thirteenth century. Other insights included Edgar Allan Poe being, in 'The Murder in the Rue Morgue', the first writer to drop clues into the narrative while 'Arabian Night Tales' was the original mystery story as Scheherazade saves herself from her murderous emperor husband by telling her tales over a thousand and one nights and ending each one with a cliff hanger.

It was an altogether fascinating and enjoyable talk

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Jeremy Weinstein

MEMORIAL GARDEN AT ST. COSMAS & ST. DAMIAN CHURCH, KEYMER Many of you will already have seen that the east bank of the Memorial Garden has now been cleared of Green Alkanet. Our thanks must go to the unnamed volunteer who kindly did this work. These plants grow prolifically with a long tap root and clearing them is never easy.

However, going forward we would like to replant this area with low growing and low maintenance evergreen shrubs, and some perennials that would again be low maintenance but would provide a colourful display during the year.

If you have any suitable plants/shrubs that you may be dividing this autumn or would otherwise like to donate to us, would you kindly send me a text on **07801 635067** so that we can have a planned replanting of this highly visible area. Thank you in advance and I look forward to having lots of plants to fill this bank.

David Clark

THE VISUALLY - IMPAIRED GROUP badly need another helper. We meet fortnightly on a Wednesday from 10.30 am to 2 pm at Clayton Church Hall, Underhill Lane.

If you are interested, please contact me on **01444 450947**. *Dorothy Lazenby*

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GRANTS TOTALLING £40,000 HAVE BEEN AWARDED TO A RANGE OF DITCHLING ORGANISATIONS as the Turner-Dumbrell Foundation marks the 40th anniversary of its inauguration.

In addition to £20,000 backing for the revamp of the recreation ground, which was announced earlier this year, at its AGM in July the trustees of the charity agreed to make grants totalling £20,000 to:

Beacon Parish for upkeep and maintenance of St Margaret's churchyard. FPTA of Ditchling Primary School towards two projects. The Monday Group for annual fixed costs of footpath maintenance. Ditchling Scouts Group for activity days. Oldland Mill for equipment. Westmeston Jubilee Pathway for refurbishment work. Ditchling Cricket Club for equipment and

The Ditchling Society for a film celebrating Ditchling's history.

The grants are funded by rental income from the charity's land and property holdings. Land owned by the Turner-Dumbrell Foundation comprises Lodge Hill and the neighbouring Bowries Fields as well as the site of the Community Orchard, and it also owns the workshops as you head north out of

the village.

The foundation was set up in 1983 by Dr Richard Turner, who was left North End Farm, including Lodge Hill and adjoining land, by Mary Dumbrell. Her wish was that it should be used for the public benefit.

Lodge Hill is maintained as private grazing land with permission to the general public to walk and exercise there on 364 days of the year. This is in accordance with Dr Turner's belief that exercise in a green environment contributes to the prevention of heart disease. The workshops were converted from redundant farm buildings of North End Farm with the purpose of providing space for local people engaged in arts or craft work or who are in business for the first time.

The foundation invites applications for grants every March and the trustees decide on the outcome at their annual general meeting in the summer.

If you would like to find out more about the Turner-Dumbrell Foundation there is additional information on the website, www.turner-dumbrell.org.uk or you can contact the secretary by email at secretary@turner-dumbrell.org.uk.

Secretary

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DITCHLING HISTORY PROJECT This autum Ditchling History Project collaborates with Ditchling Museum of Art and Craft as it marks 10 years since the reopening of the museum founded in 1985 by Hilary and Joanna Bourne. An exhibition 'Double Weave: Bourne and Allen's Modernist Textiles' will focus on Hilary Bourne's professional life as weaver with her partner Barbara Allen. Ditchling History project's contribution will concentrate on her on early and later life in Ditchling with a guided walk titled 'Hilary's Ditchling' taking place on Sunday 24th September at 11 am and 3 pm. The walk is approximately 2 miles mostly on pavements with short stretches on footpath or bridleway. It will take you back to the village where Hilary and Joanna grew up more than a century ago returning several decades later to care for their mother, save the former village school from development and create the first Ditchling Museum. The walk is free, but places will be limited, and booking is essential from www.ditchlingmuseumartcraft.org.uk.

The following month, the Friends of Ditchling Museum of Art & Craft host an evening talk by Ditch-

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ling History Project on Thursday 26th October at 'A Beginning and a Returning' features both Hilary's early life in the village and the remarkable story of the founding of the original Ditchling Museum.

The talk is in the DMAC Learning Space starting at 7 pm with drinks from 6.30 pm, free to Friends and DHP members and a small charge for nonmembers. Booking essential from rspryde@icloud.com or 07771 715048.

Janet Cragg

TREFOIL GUILD A lovely evening spent playing games was held on 16th August in a member's garden. Lots of fun and cake was enjoyed by all! **20th September** is our Movie Night. This is part of the Trefoil Guild 80th Anniversary Challenge. A Ghost Walk at Lewes with a fish and chips supper is being planned for 18th October.

We meet at the Guide Hall, Semley Road at 7.45 for 8 pm.on the 3rd Wednesday in the month. For more information call 07546 495433. Visitors welcome.

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HASSOCKS GOES GOLD POSTER **COMPETITION** Over 140 entries of Golden

Teddy Bears for the Poster Competition! It was very hard to choose the winners with so many gorgeous drawings, but here are the judges final

results for 2023: Pre-School Winner: Annie Lydon, Hassocks Infants - Winner: Evelyn Mc-Cormack. Windmills Junior Winner: Maisie Smith.

Downlands Winner: Lilv Smith. Adult Winner: Helena Lowpetch. Special Teddy Award: Erin Poat. Runners-Up: Ivy Woodbridge (Infants); Ella Johnstone & Luna Wood-

bridge (Windmills); Ruby Arm-Hughes strong Laura (Downlands).

The final poster featuring the winning artwork is available for just £1 from OD Stationery throughout September. All proceeds from the poster sales this year will be going to help Teddy & the Big C - so make sure you get one to display in your window!

You can see all of the beautiful entries in the wonderful Parklands Road Street Exhibition during the whole month of September and there

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is so much more to look forward to as well.... The ever-popular Gold Daily Auction is on every day in September! There is still time to donate a prize or voucher from home or business

> but there are already lots of bargains to be bid for too!

10 am to 4 pm on Sunday 10th **September** is the Golden Trail Day of Stalls, check out the interactive MAP of stalls on Facebook and bag a bargain! It's free to have a stall and there is still time to be added to the Trail Map just contact Rachel for details (see below).

> If that wasn't enough there's also the end of the month Golden Gala Extravaganza on Friday the 29th September!

Details of all events will be on Facebook and

www.justgiving.com/page/hgg2023 and you Rachel contact via can

hassocksGoesGold@gmail.com

Here's to a Golden month of awareness and Rachel fundraising for Childhood Cancer.

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NEWS FROM STONEYWISH Everyone is talking about water. There is too much. There is too little. It is too dirty. It is too expensive. It gets into all the wrong places and is missing from all the right places. It is the blind workhorse of industry, driving the turbines to create electricity and cooling the monstrous furnaces and data centres which gobble up that electricity to provide for the needs of modern culture. We think of water as one of our 'utilities'. Its function is to provide amenities: grow crops, irrigate gardens, cleanse our homes and bodies, and carry unmentionable things conveniently out of sight. Only when things go wrong do we feel that the system is broken. Somebody must be to blame. We appoint ever-increasing armies of experts to make our use of water more efficient, more reliable, more economic. more pleasurable... Oh, and of course, more eco-friendly. Will this stave off the next wave of floods, droughts, rising seas and wildfires around the world? Possibly not. I have a feeling we, the public, are mesmerised by and involuntarily complicit in entering this vortex of doom. But it was not always this way with water. Go back to the ancient writings of any culture, or to the elders of indigenous societies and you find something quite different. In the past, water was seen as a mystery, inspiring reverence and awe. Rivers were living, sacred entities. Think of the Ganges, the Nile, even Old Father Thames. Across Europe, springs and wells were once under the protection of local gods or guardian spirits and, until the

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Reformation, were popularly believed to have magical and healing properties. In Protestant England, these objects of 'superstition' came under attack as the country was brutally divested of most of its pagan customs. The majority of England's 'holy' wells, which had continued to be revered under the patronage of local saints, were blocked up and destroyed, and others, that survived the onslaught, were later obliterated by landscape improvers. Water became a 'feature': a plaything for the wealthy; an obstacle to engineers, and a slave to the ever-growing demands of an urban population. Sources became resources. Gradually, the legendary abundance of the land began to diminish and industrial farming methods ushered in a continuing pattern of decline. Nature seemed less able to do her part without artificial help of one kind or another. We know where this is leading. Yet amidst the dissenting babble of scientists, politicians, industrialists, and even (sometimes) the greenest of eco-warriors, there is there is a silent and significant consensus. They all seem to believe the answer is *more* control, better systems, better efficiency, better capacity to feed the 'hungry ghosts' of the global community'. This too means demolishing whatever is useful or stands in the way, regardless of whether it is a mountain, a river, or one of the last stands of old-growth forest. We will be able to make it good. One day. We will resuscitate the DNA of all those creatures and plants consigned to oblivion. Forget resurrection. We have recycling!



Would you be interested hearing about the Mayan Culture or about Louise May Allcott, the childrens' author or even about Street Art in the city?

Then join us in Henfield Village Hall at 2.30pm on Monday 11th September or on the second Monday of every month and enjoy coffee/tea and biscuits and a chat after the lecture.



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I'd like to put a different case: for water per se in all its magical complexity and for the unseen miracles which it performs. Many of the holy wells of England were famed for their power to cure blindness. We could do with them now, because now, more than ever before, we need to be able to see things straight. I have been reading the essays of Viktor Schauberger, an Austrian forester and engineer who pioneered revolutionary ways of looking at water in the 1930s. Falling foul of the Nazis, he was almost murdered in a lunatic asylum, before being forced to work on missile development at the end of the war. But Schauberger had a horror of the military. His vision was of a world in which humans could live harmoniously with one another and with their natural environment. Years before Lovelock evolved his Gaia theory. Schauberger expressed his own belief that the Earth was a living organism, which pulsated and 'breathed'. Water, he said, was its lifeblood; trees, the intermediaries between earth and heaven, conducting vital energies back and forth. But it was the water hidden underground which defied the forces of entropy and made future evolution possible. Rain, falling on the coolness of the forest floor. sank into the earth until it was warmed by geothermal energies and rose to the surface once more. There it emerged, energised and enriched, in life-giving springs. Little wonder these waters had curative powers! The new-born water brought nutrients to trees and plants, before being released into the air. But water was also returned to the soil via roots in a subtle counter-flow. This could only happen in a complex eco-system where shade permitted the springs to rise. When forests were cleared, the springs dried up – the water table fell. (Medieval holy springs were placed under stone structures to keep them running cool). Destruction of primal forests, said Viktor, would spell ecological disaster. Again, years ahead of his time, he accurately predicted the effects of global warming. Nobody listened to him then. But perhaps we need to do so now. Through observing and copying the water pathways of nature, he believed mankind could find a way out of its difficulties. Watching trout leaping waterfalls in his native moutains, he discovered that they were riding on powerful anti-gravitational forces, generated



by the cascades' whirlpools. Such natural force, he hoped, might provide the basis for alternative, life-enhancing forms of energy. He never realised his dream. Swindled out of the rights to his own research and inventions, he died a broken man. He feared that the world was heading for catastrophe. I still like to believe all is not lost. Perhaps, as civilisation goes spinning down this plughole, a rising current of inspiration will lift us up again. The world is not really someone else's problem. but our own. We could begin to envisage a better destiny. As the saying goes, 'less is more'. What would happen if, as a society, we stopped seeking consolations and distractions from outside, and turned around to find what resources lie within? i.e. Have less. Be more. Even see more? See the furnaces and the dying rivers and the open-cast mines behind each shiny, new, clean gadget. Yes. But then see miracles too - how a mere potato has three times the 'energy density' of a battery and how a smile can lift a heavy heart. Rather than accept the ever more desperate and lunatic and suggestions of those who would hold Nature hostage by force, we could take a gentler way. For Aboriginal people, culture means 'being like your place'. Perhaps we can take a lesson from humble potatoes and from the water round us to bring about a positive human evolution - become the energy we desire - sustainers rather than consumers. What miracles might not then unfold? Rosemarv

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ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET One of my favourite quotes from The Simpsons comes from Springfield's vet: "I love animals. I spend my life saving them and they can't thank me. Well, the parrots can." No animals are more famed for their ability to talk than parrots. Sure, their 'talking' is more mimicry than witty after-dinner conversation – a feathered echo chamber – but whether they're chanting 'pieces of eight' on a pirate's shoulder or swearing in front of Auntie Ethel, we humans have

been entertained by their backchat for centuries.

There are around 400 species of parrot on our planet. Their native range encompasses pretty much everywhere south of the Tropic of Cancer. For us Brits their beautiful plumage embodies the exotic, the mystery and excitement of faraway lands. So, imagine my surprise when I first saw a big green parrot flying around in Sussex.

The Rose-ringed (or Ringnecked) Parakeet looks ridiculously out of place amongst our comparatively drab Starlings, Wood Pigeons and Crows. With its garish green plumage and red beak, it stands out like a clown who has gate-crashed a funeral. And with that squawk – that incessant, demented squawk – there's no ignoring it.

South-east England's Parakeets are among the world's most

northerly parrot populations but how did they get here? Some believe they made their great escape from an East London film studio in 1951, after starring alongside Bogart and Hepburn in 'The African Queen'. Others claim that the Parakeets were set 'Stone Free' by Jimi Hendrix, who liberated them from their plastic cage in his girlfriend's London flat. I rather like the idea of American sixties icons being responsible for the spread

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of non-native species across the UK. Perhaps Sonny and Cher smuggled Grey Squirrels in through customs under their furry waistcoats, or a tousle-haired Bob Dylan secretly released some American Mink out of the stage door of the Albert Hall in '66.

The truth is, with tens of thousands of Parakeets being imported into the UK it was no surprise that a few slipped their chains and flew the coop. Since the end of the sixties these free spirits have been recreating the

Summer of Love across the capital. Forming feral colonies, the Parakeets have filled the air with their joyous, intolerable screeching and squawking; sounds that would make Hendrix and Dylan proud. And as for free love, their blatant fornicating in London's parks has led to a Parakeet population explosion. They were once established in the (sub)urban jungle of Brighton and lived in the trees of Hollingbury from 1977 until the mid-nineties. Surely it's only a matter of time before the Rose-ringed Parakeet moves into suburban Sussex.

Sussex Wildlife Trust is an independent charity caring for wildlife and habitats throughout Sussex. Founded in 1961, we have worked with local people for over half a century to make Sussex richer in wildlife.

We rely on the support of our members to help protect our rich

natural heritage. Please consider supporting our work. As a member you will be invited to join me on our regular wildlife walks and also enjoy free events, discounts on wildlife courses, *Wildlife* magazine and our Sussex guide book, *Discovering Wildlife*. It's easy to join online at sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join.

Michael Blencowe





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with special guest Angèle Veltmeijer on saxophone. Delicious food available from **Tiny Thai** and a selection of wines and beers at the bar.

Please book ahead if possible, so that we can be sure of being able to accommodate your party.

Tickets £15 from Ditchling Post Office or online at boatmancryptics.co.uk/live-music

DITCHLING HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

is delighted to welcome you to the Autumn Show 2023 at the Ditchling Village Hall on Sunday **10th September** 2 pm to 4 pm. Come along and join us to celebrate our village gardeners who will be entering their best Autumn flowers, floral displays, cooking, painting and photography. There are nine

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trophies to be won and rosettes for best in class. Ditchling village children have been invited to compete by showing their art and handicraft as well as a pot of herbs they have grown from seed. The Village Hall will be full of Autumn colour and the scent of flowers. Teas, coffees and home-made cakes will be served, and tickets will be available for Muriel's Raffle for a chance to win some lovely prizes. Small entry fee on the door (free for members of the Ditchling Horticultural Society). Please mark your diaries and help support this wonderful Village Show celebrating the best of village life.

Claire McQuillan

SUSSEX SEWING CLUB Come join us on Saturday 9th September, 10 am to 4 pm, at Westmeston Parish Hall. Sussex Sewing Club is a monthly get-together for people who love sewing. Bring your own project, your sewing machine, and spend the day working on your project in a relaxed environment, chatting all things sewing! For membership info please email sussexsewingclub@gmail.com for more information and the booking link.

Dianne

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Classes: Tuesday and Thursday mornings 9.15 am to 10.15 am.

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I have recently moved to the fabulous new Studio At No.6 in Hassocks having taught in Hurstpier-

point for a number of years.

I teach Vinyasa flow Yoga which is a series of asanas (postures) synchronised with the breath smoothly flowing from one asana to another focusing on alignment. A dynamic flow with modifications, suitable for all abilities. The class starts slowly, building up to standing flowing postures finishing with seated postures, breath work and relaxation.

Postures are repeated over the weeks, so the movements/style becomes familiar.

You will leave my classes with a sense of lightness, ease and relaxation. You will build strength, stamina, flexibility and balance. Yoga can help with anxiety, reduces stress, improves sleep, bolsters energy levels, helps with digestion, burns carbs & friendships are formed!

The classes are mixed ability and a range of ages, I have taught many beginners. I work on the basis that we are all individuals, no-one has the same body, every body has a different history and restrictions. No-one should feel excluded from Yoga. Yoga is for everyone and is a chance for self-exploration, growth and creating space in your body and mind in an ever-increasing demanding world. Come and try a free taster, message

info@rebeccayogayou.com for any queries or to



reserve your space.

Coming soon - YOGALATES - a fusion of Yoga and Pilates, contact me for further information.

Rehecca

ALL CALLING RUNNERS THE STEEPLECHASE IS BACK. Do you recall before covid, we had a run round the three churches in the Clayton with Keymer Parish. Well, we're planning to do it again, this time Saturday 9th **September** starting at 8.45 am from Clayton Recreation Ground but using a slightly different route. It will still be about 5 miles to go round the three churches, St. John the Baptist at Clayton, St. Francis of Assisi in Priory Road and St. Cosmas & St. Damian in Keymer.

There won't be any fences to vault over, just a stile or two and kissing gate to negotiate. The route will be a mixture of roads and tracks. Children under 16 are welcome but must run with an accompanying adult. Everyone takes part at their own risk.

It is the same day as the Ride and Stride event held by the Sussex Historic Churches Trust so we shall be asking all runners to make a donation to this worthy cause payable in cash on the day please. This is principally a fun event and not a race but we hope to have some refreshment available in Clayton Hall at the end.

If you are able to let me know that you plan to take part that would be very helpful, my number is 07801 635067, however you can always just turn up at the start.

I look forward to seeing lots of you taking part and happy running.

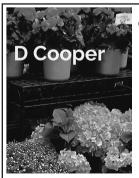
David Clark



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HURST RETHINK - The Youth Vision of a Sustainable Future Hurst Festival event.

What does the younger generation want the world to be like in 10 years time? Many are working on sustainable solutions in fashion, architecture, farming and retail. We know the world is changing rapidly - and that rapid change is indeed possible across all areas of human endeavour, so how might their work shape our future for the better? Join Hurst Rethink as we host a panel of local students discussing their vision as part of this year's Hurst Festival.

We are really excited to have Charlie Bevis: UK Ambassador Stop Ecocide International joining us this year to kick off the debate. Stop Ecocide International is a Global campaign to establish a law of 'ecocide' making large-scale systematic destruction of nature an international crime, giving nature the same right as humans in our legal systems. It's a really interesting concept and just one of many shifts that are taking place to help protect the environment from our most destructive forces.

Charlie will be joined by local students, each of whom will be sharing their thoughts about climate change, sustainability and the direction we are going.

As usual, the event will focus on exploring solutions. We hear a lot about the problems but finding innovative and creative ways to tackle these problems is of great relevance and interest to us and hopefully the wider community too.

So please join us for our annual debate and to hear more about the work we do in our local environment. The event takes place on Tuesday **26th September**, 7.30 pm at the New Inn

Hurst Rethink Bike Swarm - Join Hurst Rethink on our latest Bike Swarm on Saturday 23rd Septem-

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ber at 10.30 am. We will be promoting the 20's plenty campaign to make more of our local roads 20 mph. We will cycle from Trinity Road in Hurst to Hassocks Village Market where we will be joined by a sister bike swarm from Ditchling! If you're interested in safer cycling for school children and adults, come along and make your voice heard.

Charlotte

THE KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB kicks off its 74th season with a Barn Dance at the Keymer Church Hall on Sunday 3rd September starting at 2 pm. Dances will be called by the club's chairman, Sean Goddard and there will be a band playing the music. The Monday club meetings will start two weeks later Monday 18th September at the URC Church Hall starting at 7.30 pm. The club meets on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays.

Folk dancing has many benefits. It is a source of exercise; you will meet and make new friends many who live in the village and you will learn popular folk dances from the last 400 years.

More details can be found on the club's website www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk.

Sean Goddard

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THE HURST PLAYERS FESTIVAL PRODUC-TION is Art and will be staged 18-23rd September.

Art, written by Yasmina Reza in 1994, has enjoyed enduring world-wide success, attracting a host of well-respected actors at the top of their profession. Rehearsals are now well under way for this Players' production for the Hurst Festival. Jo Kearns, directing, writes "This is such an exciting time for cast and crew – the preparation and planning is a large part of the fun in staging plays. Previously unknown skills and surprise talents emerge within the team. We're having a ball!"

This celebrated play is enjoying a well-deserved resurgence currently, since the amateur rights became available. The play explores the relationship of three long-term friends, their similarities and differences, and their diverse reactions to the purchase of an expensive work of art.

It's funny, caustic and ultimately warm-hearted, but please be aware that there is some adult language. We are pleased to announce that this production has



PILATES

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been entered into the Brighton and Hove Arts Council Drama Awards 2023 and will welcome an adjudicator during the run of the play.

Tickets are available online at

www.hurstfestival.org or in person the Festival Box Office from 21st July Friday and Saturdays from 10 am until 12 noon.

Jo Kearns

OLDLAND MILL "FAMILY MILL DAY" 3rd

September. Have you ever wondered how flour is made? Come along on Sunday 3rd September and find out. Oldland Mill in Keymer will be open to visitors from 11 am to 4 pm, lots of activities will be taking place including tours of the mill. Enjoy a family day out with entertainment from puppet shows, singers, take part in children's games or have a bite to eat from one of the food stalls. We look forward to seeing you! Visit our website for more details and how to find us www.oldlandwindmill.org.uk

Face Painting Skills Needed - can you help?

Oldland Mill Trust is holding an open day at the Mill on Sunday **3rd September** with lots of activities taking place and would love to include face painting. Do you have face painting skills, and would you be willing to give up a couple of hours on that day? If you are interested or would like to find out more, please email **fundraising@oldlandwindmill.org.uk**

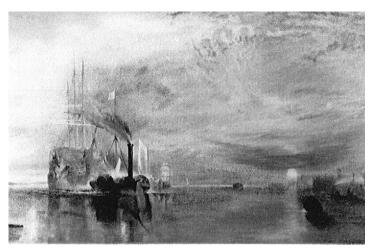
Karen

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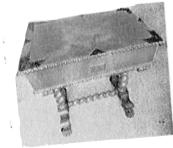
SOMETHING FOR NOTHING Hanging in the hallway outside my flat in a nearby retirement village is a big (4 ft by 3 ft) picture of the Fighting Temeraire. It is a copy of the one in pride of place in the National Gallery in Trafalgar Square behind Nelson's Column. It depicts the warship that saved Admiral Lord Nelson's beleaguered H.M.S. Victory at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. In fact, he died aboard. It was voted as "the nation's favourite painting" in a BBC 4 poll in 2005.

The current 20-pound note features, on the reverse, a profile of the painter J.M.W. Turner with this his masterpiece as the backdrop. As you will see my question is 'Shall I keep it there or replace it?

A little while ago I came across a skip full of rubbish and, being an 86 year old nosey parker, noticed what I thought to be one side of an elaborate picture frame. I did not have the strength to pull it out because of all the clutter on top of it. I went back the next day with a friend before the skip was due to be removed. What a surprise. The frame was the right size and even housed a wonderful and intriguing work of art. The signature on it was F.M. Bennett (1874 to 1952) a painter of historical scenes of the 16th to 18th centuries of which this interior tavern is but one.

I bought it home and researched its history with an experienced auctioneer. He explained that the print itself is of little value: it has been textured to resemble a real oil painting and on its own would only fetch tens of pounds. The frame however, though slightly damaged, would be worth about £400! (My executors please note). Anyway, I want it on my landing. A framing company wanted over £100 to put it right: so I did it myself and, in my opinion, it looks as good as new. It took only hours of patience. I now have the Fighting Temeraire on the landing, cut to size and fitting exactly over the Bennett Interior Tavern. It can easily be lifted on and off by an 86 year inquisitive old man and it cost me next to nothing.

Postscript - At this time there was widespread poverty, and the oak remains of the Temeraire were collected for firewood, fencing and roofing. Carpenters selected and grabbed quality pieces to work with. There are examples in Balmoral Castle, the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich and even here where I live. A spectacular architect table which 'excited' the museum staff bears a cabinet maker's plaque confirming its authenticity.



Now the sunset's breezes shiver, and she's fading down the river, but in England's song forever, she's the fighting Temeraire.

Plaque from inside the Architect Table

Architect Table

Derek Moore

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HASSOCKS CROQUET CLUB Croquet is a sport for everyone. New members are welcome to join us. If you live locally and would like to learn how to play Croquet or are already an experienced player why not consider joining The Hassocks Croquet Club. We are a friendly local club who play Croquet most weekdays in the daytime during the season (from April to October) at The St. James's Montefiore Cricket Club, Keymer Road, Hassocks (On the right hand side of the Road from Hassocks to Ditchling - Look out for our Green Sign)

Basic training will be provided. New players are able to borrow the Club's mallets.

For further details please send an e mail to **tony.m.bright@gmail.com** or visit our Website **www.hassockscroquetclub.net** for more information.

Tony Bright

DO YOU OR YOUR CHILDREN TRAVEL BETWEEN DITCHLING AND HASSOCKS REGULARLY? Would you like to be able to do so safely on foot or bike? If so, please come and join our bike swarm 10.30am 23rd September meeting at Ditchling Primary School.

We will be cycling and walking en masse from the



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primary school to Hassocks, with marshals in place to ensure it is safe. Wear bright colours and bring bike horns and bells! We are carrying out the bike swarm to put pressure on East Sussex County Council to make it safer to reach Hassocks, with all its services, on bike and foot. A report from 2018 set out a number of options for improving the safety of the Keymer straight for cyclists and pedestrians but none of these have been pursued by the Council. Meanwhile the use of the road has increased. The swarm will coincide with another from Hurstpierpoint to Hassocks. We aim to get some press coverage and to get local councillors to attend.

THE GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY

OF SUSSEX presents "An Afternoon of Modified Rapture!" A concert by The Eastbourne Entertainers, providing music and humour from Gilbert and Sullivan and others.

Sunday **10th September** 2.45pm. Adastra Hall, Hassocks. Tickets include refreshments.

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THE WINDMILLS JUNIOR SCHOOL In year 3 Science this term, the focus has been on 'Growth to Grub!' We were incredibly fortunate that one of our local businesses, Tates 'South Downs Nurseries' very kindly donated an abundance of plants, seeds, compost and pots so that we could really get stuck into this topic! They planted seeds and watched with wonder as they grew into towering, sweet peas and 'not so dwarf' runner beans. Some had to be replanted outside in the school garden as the classrooms steadily transformed into a rainforest!

The children set up a series of fascinating investigations as real scientists, to find out what plants need to grow successfully and enjoyed making thoughtful predictions. They carefully dissected a

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selection of plants, noting how amazing our plant life is and how they gain nutrients. Thank you once again to Tates for enabling us to give the children lots of experience of growing, planting, and observing real plants.

Following on from our year 6 environmental challenge to develop an idea that could create a positive change in Hassocks, our students received a letter from Councillor Kirsty Lord who has shared all of their great ideas with fellow Councillors as a Year 6 Manifesto for Change. One of the ideas about rewilding Parklands Copse is already being explored by the council and the Hassocks Flood Action Group. This is a great example of citizenship in action! Additionally, HKD Transition are considering how they can support and take forward some of the ideas.

Our year 6 production club, technicians, stage hands and singers finished their time at The Windmills in style by putting on a brilliant end of term production; 'Star Warts: The Umpire Strikes Back'. The actors committed to joining an after school club, learned their lines and practised in their own time. Every year 6 child was invited to take part and all learned the songs. The team rallied round to support with the rehearsals and in making the props —what an amazing job they all did!

We wish our year 6 children every success and happiness for the future. We are sure each and every one of them will continue to do us proud.

'on behalf of The Windmills'

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DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY Welcome back to our monthly film showings in the Ditchling Village Hall.

On 7th September we're showing Aftersun (2022). I am going to go so far as to say this is an important film. Aftersun presents us with a rare and sensitive study of young fatherhood but is drawn by a deeply feminine view. Brilliantly written and directed by Charlotte Wells and brought to life by its principal actors. Aftersun won many awards, including a BAFTA for an Outstanding Debut for a British Director with outstanding performances by Frankie Corio and Paul Mescal who received a BAFTA nomination.

Set on a Turkish holiday resort back in the 90s a father takes his daughter away for a weeks holiday. Separated from Sophie's mother he wants to give her all that he can in his allocated time. His love for her and his pain is caught by the Sony camcorder that is passed from one to the other and its footage is left for Sophie to revisit when she herself becomes a parent.

(Certificate 12. Running time 98 minutes. English) As the first film in a new season we are making this a special event with surprise offerings of nibbles and drinks which may involve paper cocktail umbrellas (no promises).

In October we're having a special screening for dance and film fans; Pina, dance, dance, otherwise we are lost. A film for Pina Bausch by Wim Wenders.

In November we'll be showing The Farewell directed by Lulu Wang. A true crowd pleaser which won widespread acclaim.

DFS has an annual membership which runs from the time of joining and gives you free entry to 11 films. You can join anytime. Members receive a 20% discount for a film night meal at The Bull pub in Ditchling! (pre booked and showing annual membership cards). Guest entry is also available on the door.

The film society holds screenings on the first Thursday of the month at Ditchling Village Hall. Doors open at 7.30 pm and you can buy a glass of good wine before the showing at 8 pm. There is comfortable seating and there's plenty of parking next to the hall.

Go to our website ditchlingfilm.org.uk for membership news. Join our mailing list to keep up to date with our films each month and to hear of the new 2024 programme. Follow us on Instagram @ditchlingfilmsoc and tweet @Ditchlingfilm.

Hope to see you at the next film.

Kate on behalf of The Ditchling Film Society

<u>AUTUMN COFFEE MORNING</u> There will be a coffee morning on Saturday **30th September** from 10 am till 12 noon in the hall at Hassocks United Reformed Church to welcome in the Autumn!

There will be plenty of stalls to tempt you, such as Cakes, Plants, Gifts and Home-made Consumables, as well as a Tombola to try your luck with. Not to mention some lovely prizes to be won in our raffle.

This is for all the family so there will be a stall and some activities specifically for children so that age will not be a barrier to enjoyment!

So come and have a cuppa or a glass of squash with us and enjoy the stalls. We look forward to seeing you.

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ALBOURNE VILLAGE SHOW A group of Albourne residents have come together to resurrect the much-loved Albourne Village Show. This year the show runs from 12 noon to 10 pm on Saturday 16th September at the village green and welcomes people from our neighbouring villages.

The show includes plenty for families and grownups to enjoy. There will be live music and beer, a tug of war, kids disco, VR games, pizza, cake and a raffle.

Viv

THE GROWING NETWORK is community network that supports local people to grow and share food, with no one left out.

We meet each month over a cup of tea to share seeds, seedlings and extra produce along with gardening tips and friendship. We'd love to meet you whether you're a veteran gardener or would-be grower of vegetables and if you'd like to find others to help you get started. You don't even need to have a garden!

This month we are meeting on Saturday 9th September 10.30 am to 12 pm at the Friends

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Meeting House in East Gardens, Ditchling BN6 8ST.

This is the Quaker Meeting House (not to be confused with the Old Meeting House in the Twitten). Feel free to bring any seeds, seedlings or produce to share. Or just bring yourself!

For further information please contact julie@simpleayurveda.co.uk.

Julie Ulbricht & Kate Sherman

BURGESS HILL CHORAL SOCIETY If you

enjoy singing and fancy a new challenge this autumn why not try Burgess Hill Choral Society? We sing glorious music, have an inspirational musical director in Michael Stefan Wood BEM and perform with a professional orchestra and soloists.

We are holding open rehearsals, free of charge, on Monday, 11th September as well as Monday 18th September and welcome new members with no audition. You can be sure of a friendly reception. For further information visit our website www.burgesshillchoral.org or our Facebook page. You may also wish to ring us on 07522 493966.

Jane Leng

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DITCHLING MORRIS are recruiting new dancers and musicians. Have you ever wanted to give morris dancing a go? Our practice season starts in Hassocks on Thursday 7th September in the United Reformed Church hall at 7.30pm. The hall is very conveniently situated in the centre of Hassocks and only 2 minutes from Hassocks station. Our fun and friendly mixed side dance in the Cotswold tradition to live music, so if you are interested in joining as a musician please also come along - we will be delighted to see you all!

Penny Worth

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT LIVES IN THE STREAM WHICH FLOWS

THROUGH HASSOCKS? For a number of years, a small but dedicated team of volunteers has been collecting stream samples from different locations around the village, and keeping detailed records of what they find. The group looks for insects such as damselflies, mayflies, caddis and beetles, as well as freshwater shrimp, snails, mussels, limpets and leeches. The results give an indication of the health of our stream, both before and after it passes through Hassocks. The Herrings Stream is a chalk stream – one of only around 200 in the world, most of which are found in Southern England. Our friendly group is currently seeking more volunteers to help with this

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activity. We meet every three months on a weekday morning, for just a couple of hours, in the months of January, April, July and October. No previous experience is needed, only an interest in nature. If you think you might like to help us on a regular or occasional basis, please email markhassocks@gmail.com.

Mark Lambert

THE MONDAY MEETING We are a group of older residents who meet together on the third Monday each month (except August) at 2 pm in the Unitarian Chapel, The Twitten, Ditchling. This meeting instigated by Jill Clutterbuck and her late husband; Brian has been taking place for many years but had to cease when the Covid outbreak began. However, three months ago, Jill decided that the time had come to restart it. I am delighted to report that it has proved very successful with an average of 21 people attending.

We have a speaker, and this is followed by the social get together, we provide tea and cakes and an opportunity to get to know other people and make friends. All are welcome, there is no charge but there is a plate for donations towards running costs, but it is voluntary.

We ended this Summer with a talk and a tea party at The Nutmeg Tree which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

We are looking forward to our next meeting on **18th September** when it is hoped to have the Police who will be speaking about the various scams which are taking place and advising the action to be taken if approached.

We look forward to seeing you.

Mary Holman

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SUSSEX PATHFINDERS RAMBLING CLUB

Do you enjoy country walking? Would you like to discover some new walks, and find like-minded people to walk with?

SPRC are an independent club with over 200 members who share a common interest in walking for pleasure in both East and West Sussex and sometimes beyond. Normally there is a 5-6 mile walk on Saturdays and a full day walk of 9-11 miles on Sundays. Generally, members make their own way to and from the meeting point.

If this appeals to you, just turn up on a walk and introduce yourself to the walk leader. You should wear suitable clothing and footwear for the season. The following two walks start quite close to Hassocks and Keymer but for weekly short and long walks go to the Sussex Pathfinders website www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk for full details. Sunday, **10th September**. Meet Scaynes Hill, 10 am. 11 miles through parkland, farmland, village and woodland with chance to see a steam train. Sunday, 1st October Meet Ditchling, 2 pm. 5 miles via Stocks Farm and Westmeston.

Diann

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HEBER OPERA is back on stage with The Tales of Hoffmann in September. This is a fanciful opera where Hoffmann (who was actually a real person) tells the story of some of his doomed love affairs whilst succumbing to the effects of drink. All sung in English and performed in the round with singers and audience within touching distance. Performances are:

Saturday 23rd September at 7.30 pm at King Edward Hall, Lindfield. Sunday **24th September** at 6 pm at Steyning Centre, Steyning. Saturday 30th **September** at 7.30 pm at Uckfield Civic Centre, Uckfield and

Sunday 1st October at 6 pm at Hurstpierpoint Village Centre, Hurstpierpoint.

Tickets sale www.ticketsource.co.uk/heberopera or by calling 07340 251875. There will also be tickets on the door, but it is always best to book ahead so as not to be disappointed, or to check Ticketsource for availability before you arrive - and yes, you can now pay by card on the door! ienny@heberopera.co.uk for more information on Heber Opera. Jenny Hawkes

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We thank Michael Strafford of Hassocks for sending in this picture the Minibus that has been named after Dame Vera Lynn that will serve the local community she cared about. Pictured are Virginia Lewis Jones (Dame Vera's daughter in the centre) along with her cousins Rosalind and Christine.

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HASSOCKS WI - Meet 3rd Monday in the month at Adastra Hall doors open 7.30 pm start 7.45 pm. Beware fake news. We are warned about it and in writing up our July meeting for Hassocks WI, I fell into the trap. Sadly our speaker had to cancel at short notice. Once again, our committee quickly rallied round and we had a fun love bug drive and general knowledge quiz evening, fortified with lots of delicious cake, yum.

There was no official meeting in August but we enjoyed the following - Craft Club making cushions for breast cancer charity. WI Federation Quiz at Turners Hill. Picnic in the Park and have a go evening at Adastra Bowls Club Whew!

Emails were sent giving full details.

Our September evening is about Madagascan hats and crafts. Craft Club on **4th September** at 2 pm - Art. Our October evening is entitled - 'Goblins, Ghouls and things that go bump in the night '. Visitors are welcome at our meetings (donation), you are assured of a warm welcome. *Gerry*

HURSTPIERPOINT HORTICULTURAL SO-CIETY AUTUMN SHOW 2.15pm Saturday 16th September in Hurstpierpoint Village Centre

Flowers, fruit, vegetables, cookery, photography and children's exhibits. Tea and home-made cake Raffle and auction at end of show. Exhibiting is free and open to all. Pick up a schedule from Janton newsagents in Hurst High Street or email hhs1886@btinternet.com. Kathy Green

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Look out for our logo. It represents the green open space of the Downs, the free flying butterflies and the distant turquoise of the sea. *Marie Fraser*

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STAR CINEMA - Friday 29th September. The first film of the season at the Adastra hall is The Fabelmans - a semi-autobiographical story loosely based on Steven Spielberg's adolescence and first years as a filmmaker. The plot is told through an original story of the fictional Sammy Fabelman, a young aspiring filmmaker who explores how the power of films can help him see the truth about his dysfunctional family and those around him.

Doors open at 7 pm and the film starts at 7.30. Tickets are available on the door. Wine/tea/coffee/raffle. Please note the new hearing loop system has been installed in the main hall. It is advised that those who are hard of hearing sit towards the edge of the room as the loop aerial runs around the edge of the building itself. Hopefully this should make a great difference to those who are hearing impaired.

The Star team look forward to welcoming you.

Liz Edmunds

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~~~ WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER ~~~

Clubs. Societies & Groups please let us have your programmes and/or events to PUBLISH FREE in this section. Email ed@villagemagazines.co.uk or send to QD Stationery 52 Keymer Road, Hassocks. West Sussex BN6 8AR. For more information call 01273 846978.

~~~WEEKLY MEETINGS~~~

BBT - Hassocks (Bumps, Babies and Toddlers) -St Francis Church, Priory Road, Hassocks. Thursdays 1 to 2.30 pm. A group for play and chat.

HASSOCKS FOOD BANK - Powell House (next.) to United Reformed Church), Hassocks, 10 am to 12 noon. Monday and Fridays. Donations can be dropped to Bella and Megs, Mansell McTaggart & Budgens.

KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB 1st, 3rd & 5th Mondays URC Church Hall, Hassocks 7.30 pm -9.30 pm. No partner needed - just come along. www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk.

HUG IN A MUG - St Cosmas and St Damian Church, Keymer. Monday 10.30 am (excl. Aug th) and at St Johns Church, Clayton. Tuesdays 10.30 am.

SUSSEX FLY DRESSERS GUILD Clayton Village Hall, Thursdays 7 - 9 pm. Beginners to Advanced sussexflydressersguild.org.uk.

THE BEACON PARISH - Services of Morning Worship 10 am at St Margarets, Ditchling at 10 am on 3rd, 10th & 24th Sept and at Streat Church on 17th Sept.

Chatting, eating & singing at St Martins, Westmeston 10th Sept 3.30pm.

Holy Communion on Wednesdays at 10 am at St Margarets Church, Ditchling.

Always check www.beaconparish.co.uk.

TOAST CLUB - Powell House (next to United Reformed Church) Hassocks. Mondays (term time only) 3 to 5 pm. for School Years 7 to 11. Pool, table football, uno, Wii Console and toast.

UKRAINIAN FAMILIES COFFEE MORNING -Guide Hut, Hurstpierpoint. Thursdays 10.45 am -12.45 pm followed by English lessons at 1 pm YOUTH GROUP - St Francis Church, Priory Road. Thursday 5 pm - 6.30 pm School Years 4 to 6.7

pm - 8.30 pm School Years 7 to 13. (Term time only). Lead activities and free time - pool, table football, board games etc.

DITCHLING YODAH YOUTH GROUP - Open to those young people in school year 6 – 11 we meet at The Emmanuel Centre 24 South Street, Ditchling on a Tuesday evening 6.30 pm to 8 pm.

We have pool, table tennis, games consoles and lots of activities.

BABY & TODDLER GROUP - A group for play and chat with coffee & cake. Held every Thursday in The Emmanuel Centre South Street Ditchling from 10 am to 11.30 am term time.

COFFEE & CHAT - Emmanuel Centre, South Street, Ditchling. Thursday mornings from 10 am - 11.30 am.

IRISH SET DANCING (Not River Dance!) The Hassocks Pub. Station Approach East. Hassocks. Most Mondays 7-10 pm. Phone 07802 847234 for more info. First session free.

~~~EVENTS~~~

2nd HURST VILLAGE MARKET, New Inn, Hurstpierpoint 10 am to 1 pm. Sussex Products and Gifts.

3rd OLDLAND WINDMILL Oldlands Lane, Keymer, 11 am - 4 pm. 'Event Day' - for all the family. All welcome.

3rd HASSOCKS PHILOSOPHICAL FORUM Purple Carrot Cafe, Hassocks 2 pm. All welcome.

3rd KEYMER FOLK Keymer Church Hall, 2 pm. Barn Dance with caller Sean Goddard and a live band. You dont need a partner - just come along. www.kevmerfolkdanceclub.co.uk.

4th HASSOCKS WI Adastra Hall, Hassocks 2 pm. Craft Club - Art. Visitors welcome.

5th DITCHLING DOWNS WI Ditchling Village Hall 7 pm. 'One Man's Journey - A presentation on diving to the Titanic' Rob Goldsmith.

DID YOU KNOW ??

You can now read the Hassocks Talk About online? www.villagemagazines.co.uk

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COME AND HAVE A BROWSE.

6th THE BEACON PARISH St Margarets Church, Ditchling, 6 pm. Sing! your heart out or maybe just come & listen.

7th DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY Ditchling Village Hall 7.30 pm. Film - Aftersun.

7th MEMORY MOMENTS CAFE Court Bushes Community Centre, Willow Way, Hurstpierpoint 2 pm - 4 pm. Know Dementia, Education, Advice & Support. To book call 01273 494300.

8th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Millfield Suite, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.45 pm. www.msars.org.uk. 'Radio Discussion Evening'

9th SUSSEX SEWING CLUB Westmeston Parish Hall 10 am - 4 pm. Like minded makers spend the day doing a hobby they love. To book sussexsewingclub@gmail.com.

9th THE GROWING NETWORK Friends Meeting House, East Gardens, Ditchling, 10.30 am - 12 pm. Feel free to bring any seeds or plants to share or gardening books/tools you don't need. Children welcome too.

9th CLAYTON WITH KEYMER PARISH Clayton Rec 8.45 am. Steeplechase is Back - 5 mile run visiting all three churches. All welcome call 07801 635067

10th HASSOCKS GOES GOLD 10 am - 4 pm Golden Trail Day of Stalls all over Hassocks see article.

10th DITCHLING SINGERS Keymer Church Hall 4 - 6 pm. New singers most welcome.

10th THE GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY OF SUSSEX Adastra Hall, Hassocks 2.45 pm. 'An afternoon of Modified Rapture!. Tickets gandstodaysussex@gmail.com.

10th SUSSEX PATH FINDERS meet at Scaynes Hill at 10 am. 11 mile walk through parkland, farmland, village and woodland with a chance to see a steam train. Visit sussexpathfinders.org.uk for more infomation.

10th DITCHLING HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Ditchling Village Hall, 2 - 4 pm. Autumn Show. All welcome.

11th HASSOCKS FIELD SOCIETY Adastra Hall. Hassocks, 7.45 pm. 'Wey & Arun Canal Trust' Richard Shenton

11th THE GROUP The Railway Pub, Station Road, Burgess Hill. 7.30 pm. A club for the over 55 unattached. www.thegroup.org.uk.

12th LUNCHTIME JAZZ AT THE HASSOCKS Has-socks Hotel, doors open 11.45 am for 12 pm. A set Lunch included in the entrance fee. Call 01444 235986 to book.

13th BRAIN WAVES CHOIR Adastra Hall. Hassocks, 11 am. For people of all ages with any neurological condition. Book a place 01273 494300. 16th ALBOURNE VILLAGE SHOW Albourne Village Green 12 - 10 pm. Family fun day out.

16th HURSTPIERPOINT HORTICULTURAL SO-CIETY Hurstpierpoint Village Centre, 2.15 pm. 'Autumn Show', Teas, cakes, raffle and produce auction. Schedules from Jan Ton News.

16 - 30th HURST FESTIVAL Open Studios, Guided Trails, Dinki Disco, Childrens activities, Music, Super Sunday family activities, Theatre, Films, Funny That Comedy, Talks, Q&A Sessions, Drama, Kitchen Pop-Up, please visit www.hurstfestival.org/events for full listings.

18th - 23rd HURST PLAYERS Players Theatre, Hurstpierpoint, various performances. Festival Production - Art written by Yasmina Reza. Tickets from www.hurstfestival.org/events.

18th HASSOCKS WI Adastra Hall, Hassocks 7.30 pm. Come & learn about Madagascan Hats & Crafts. Visitors welcome.

18th THE MONDAY MEETING Unitarian Chapel, The Twitten, Ditchling 2 pm. The Police speaking about scams. All welcome.

19th DITCHLING VILLAGE ASSOCIATION Ditchling Village Hall 9.45 - 11 am. Coffee morning hosted by Ditchling Primary FPTA. All welcome.

20th HASSOCKS TREFOIL GUILD Guide Hall, Semley Road, Hassocks, 7.45 pm. Movie Night. Visitors welcome.

21st MEMORY MOMENTS CAFE Adastra Hall, Hassocks 10.30 am - 12.30 pm. Know Dementia, Education, Advice & Support. To book call 01273 494300.

22nd MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Millfield Suite, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.45 pm. www.msars.org.uk. 'On Air Evening'

23rd BIKE SWAM Ditchling Primary School, 10.30 am. Cycling and Walking on mass to Hassocks to put pressure on East Sussex County Council to make it easier to reach Hassocks.

23rd HURST RETHINK BIKE SWAM 10.30 am. Cycling from Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint to Hassocks. To make it safer for children and adults cycling to Hassocks.

23rd HASSOCKS VILLAGE MARKET Age Concern Car Park, 9 am - 1 pm. Local produce, bread, honey, cheese, wine, veg etc.

23rd MESSY CHURCH URC Church 9.30 am. Meet for breakfast and crafts with a story.

23rd REPAIR CAFE Age Concern Centre, Hassocks, 9.30 -11.30 am. Bring items for repair more info call 01273 040110 or www.hkdtransition.org.uk.

24th DITCHLING HISTORY PROJECT Ditchling Museum 11 am and 3 pm. Guided Walk 'Hilary's Ditchling' 2 mile walk.

24th DITCHLING SINGERS Old Meeting House, Ditchling 4 - 6 pm. New singers most welcome.

25th CAMEO Keymer Church Hall 2 pm - 4 pm. Come and enjoy an enjoyable afternoon over a cup of tea.

25th HASSOCKS FIELD SOCIETY Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 7.45 pm. 'The History & Work of the Chailey Heritage Foundation'.

26th HURST RETHINK New Inn, Hurstpierpoint 7.30 pm. Talk - The Youth Vision of a Sustainable Future Hurst Festival Event. See article for more info

27th BRAIN WAVES CHOIR Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 11 am. For people of all ages with any neurological condition. Book a place 01273 494300.
28th LIBERAL DEMOCRATS SURGERY HASSOCKS Parish Council Offices Committee Room 11 am - 12 pm. Kirsty Lord, Sue Hatton, Kristian

11 am - 12 pm. Kirsty Lord, Sue Hatton, Kristian Berggreen & Chris Hobbs. No appointment necessary.

osaiy.

29th HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING U3A Court Bushes, Hurstpierpoint, 2 pm. 'Alfred Russell Wallace, the Man who lived in Darwin's Shadow' Ray Hale. All welcome.

29th HASSOCKS GOES GOLD Hassocks Hotel. Golden Gala Extravaganza details on www.justgiving.com/page/hgg2023.

29th STAR CINEMA Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 7 pm. Film - The Fabelmans. Tickets available on the door.

30th UNITED REFORMED CHURCH Hassocks 10 am - 12 pm. Coffee Morning to welcome in the Autumn. Cakes, gifts, plants and more.

30th JAZZ ETC Ditchling Village Hall, 7.30 pm. 'Autumn Leaves Edition' Aneesa Chaudhry & K2 singing Blues, Jazz Classics and Asian Fusion. Tickets Ditchling Post Office.

<u>WANTED</u> If you have any old photos, poems, recipes, stories, events or anything of interest you would like included please email us at **ed@villagemagazines.co.uk** or send it to QD Stationery, 52 Keymer Road, Hassocks, West Sussex BN6 8AR. Deadline for the October Issue is 1st September

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STEVE'S BACK PAGE GOSSIP

When I spoke to National Tyres Head Office a month ago, they said the lease for their Hassocks branch didn't run out until October so it was a bit early to comment on its future. However, on 21st August I heard someone from across the road shout "I've got a text", that was a text from head office informing the staff they had got a weeks' notice, the site would cease trading on the 28th July. A bit harsh I thought only a weeks' notice, but talking to someone from Boots one of its branches up north closed last week and they'd only known the week before. So, a weeks' notice seems to be the new norm. Then, on the 3rd August a sign van arrived and removed all the signs from the exterior so we must now assume that it will be demolished to make way for a new development and that can only mean a block of flats. Personally, I'd like to have seen it made into a nice parking area, we lack proper parking facilities in this village half the spaces in the free car park are taken up by other local residents or people leaving their cars to get the train to work. We are surrounded by all these new housing developments, but not a single change to our infrastructure, it's all about making money, there's no respect for our wildlife or air quality and certainly not about global warming. Even with all this rain we still had a hose pipe ban because there is a shortage of water to supply all the new houses and they want

I see that there are three houses for sale in John Saxby Place, I suspect they know a block of flats is about to overlook them or it could be that They are just fed up with all the congestion and want to get out?

Just when you think things can't get any madder, I caught a group of kids with a box of matches trying to set fire to the grass outside the

front of my shop, a bucket of water soon put paid to that, but come on I know kids get bored in the summer holidays, but that was a bit extreme even for Hassocks. And people are falling over themselves to move out of London to live here don't they know we have grass arsonists

Thinking back that would not have happened 50 years ago that leads me nicely into the fact that on 1st September we will not only be celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary but also 50 years here at the pet shop. We've seen a lot of shops come and go in that time and huge changes to the village and surrounding areas. I think one of the first people to come into the shop was a gentleman called Mr Franklin he always carried a big bag of sweets with him and every shop he went to he'd offer them a sweet. He liked feeding the wild birds and lived in one of the roads off Downsview Road he was just one of the hundreds of wonderful people I got to know over 50 years. Sadly a lot of them are no longer with us but the memories are.

are no longer with us but the memories are.

It does seem that with all the cats and dogs being abandoned and ending up in rescue centres adopting one would be a fairly easy affair, but that isn't always the case. Just lately I've had several customers, who to me would be ideal, but just found the process unacceptable and ended up going out and buying a dog which just defeats the whole point of trying to find homes for the homeless animals. Battersea Dogs Home say they can no longer afford to do home visits, but normally can find the right pet when people visit looking to re-home, at the moment they have a large number of black cats and dogs which need nice new homes, old people particularly are discriminated against because of their age it does seem that once you hit 70 you are too old to look after or care for a rescue animal.

Steve's shopping trolley helping you to help us we hope.

Gerty Guinea Pig 12.5kg £24.50 - Russell Rabbit 12.5kg £20.00 - Excel Rabbit 10kg £24.00 - Excel Guinea Pig Original 10kg £25.00

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