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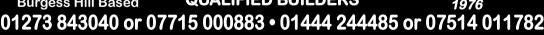




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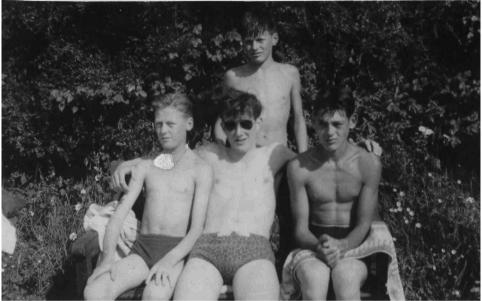
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We thank Dave Evans for this photo that was taken in 1953 at Stroods Motel Swimming Pool, Sayers Common. Back John Bundy, Colin Mansbridge, Mick Brown and Dave Evans (Me).



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BARRY NEWMAN GARDEN AND FENCING SERVICES No Job Too Small *est. 1984* 01273 845063

HASSOCKS VILLAGE MARKET has been located at the Age Concern car park, Dale Avenue, for over a year and its move has been hugely successful. The atmosphere is relaxed and friendly, there is more space and it is great to see people meeting and greeting as they shop. Our stall holders are small, local, artisan businesses and many have a loyal following from our regular shoppers. Some stalls are seasonal, some join us every month, but they are all excellent so do come along and support them – whatever the weather.

The market is helping form a monthly community hub with Age Concern's café offering an excellent range of drinks, homemade cakes and snacks. Meanwhile, the Repair Café operates within Age Concern on the same day as the market and the Hassocks Community Garden grows fruit and veg to share.

Hassocks Village Market dates for your



Please ring 07565 187009

2024 diary: 23rd March, 27th April, 25th May, 22nd June, 27th July, 24th August, 28th September, 26th October, 23rd November and 14th December (for your Christmas shopping!).

Email us at:

hassocksvillagemarket1@gmail.com or follow Hassocks Village Market (Facebook) and #hassocksvillagemarket (Instagram).

Amanda Felix

HURSTPIERPOINTHORTICUL-TURALSOCIETYSPRINGSHOWANDGARDENSALESaturday23rdMarchat 2.15 pm in Hurstpierpoint VillageHall.

Spring flowers, cookery, photography and Children's exhibits plus sale of garden plants, pots and tools. All welcome to exhibit - schedules from JanTons in the High Street. Raffle and tea and homemade cake. Auction at end of show. *Kathy Green*





LING, STREAT & WESTMESTON Our Sunday services during March will be as fol-

lows, all beginning at 10 am. Do join us. You'll be made very welcome.

3rd March - Morning Worship with Communion including Little Beacons for our young people, at St. Margaret's, Ditchling

10th March - Morning Worship with Communion including Little Beacons at Ditchling **17th March** - Morning Worship with Communion at Streat Church

Our Holy Week and Easter services start on **PALM SUNDAY**, **24th March.** The service begins at 9.45 am at the Vicarage, Charlton Gardens, Ditchling from where we process through the village to St Margaret's. Everyone is very welcome to join the procession or to go direct to church where the service will start once the procession arrives, at around 10 am.

On EASTER DAY, Sunday 31st March – our Easter Day Celebration at St. Margaret's will begin at 10 am and we hope will include newly hatched chicks and ducklings and our Easter Egg Hunt.

There will be other events happening during Holy Week so please check our website **admin@beaconparish.co.uk.**

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Wednesday @ 10 Holy Communion is held each Wednesday in St Margaret's at 10 am. Also, this month, our regular SING! session will be held at 6 pm on Wednesday **6th March** in St. Margaret's. Come along for this friendly and enjoyable session where we learn new worship songs and revisit some favourites.

Saturday **16th March** is the date for our popular **SOUPER SATURDAY** in St. Margaret's. Join us between noon and 2 pm for delicious home-made soup, bread and cakes. A great way to catch up with friends.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Sherrian Guest

HURST FESTIVAL are excited to announce a Fundraising Event on Saturday **18th May** at the Village Centre in Hurstpierpoint.

Help celebrate Hurst Festival's 20th Year for a night of 80's and 90's classics with all proceeds going to registered local charity Hurst Festival.

With a fully stocked Bar and DJ Daryn on the decks, let's party to help our beloved local charity continue to provide free community events.

Tickets are available in advance from **www.hurstfestival.org** on the door. *Kate*

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10K, 10 MILE, MARATHON, FAMILY & CHILDRENS RACES. THE MID SUSSEX MARATHON WEEKEND RETURNS FOR ITS 13TH YEAR.

The Mid Sussex Marathon Weekend is a popular annual sporting event which takes place over the Early May Bank Holiday weekend, **4th to 6th May**. This three-day Marathon exrunning are encouraged to participate, with Fun Runs and Mile races taking place daily before the main races. For those unable to attend the in-person event the Virtual Race is an

travaganza will once again bring communities of Mid Sussex together to run through the streets, trails and pathways in and around the towns of East Grinstead, Haywards Heath and Burgess Hill. Participants can



alternative option and can be undertaken between 20th April and 6th May 2024. Virtual participants can complete the challenge in their favourite location and at their own pace, whether walking, in а wheelchair. or pushing a buggy.

challenge themselves to complete an individual town race or complete the full marathon distance of 26.2 miles over the three days. Families, younger runners and those new to

OSTEOPATHY Emma Ross Registered Osteopath · Qualified since 1988 01273 843380 or 07860 470081 www.emma-ross-osteopathy.com 51 Kings Drive, Hassocks BN6 8DY Event Director, Simon Adby, from AHS Wellbeing said "We are excited to be once again organising The Mid Sussex Marathon Weekend, there's always such a great atmosphere.





With the choice of race distances, it's the perfect running event for new and seasoned runners, and the fun runs and mile races are an ideal opportunity for local families and younger runners to get involved."

Councillor Christopher Hobbs, Cabinet Member for Leisure and Customer Service said "I am delighted to see that the Mid Sussex Marathon weekend will be returning in 2024 for its 13th year. It is without a doubt a standout in our events calendar, drawing in not just the local community but also participants from far and wide." "With multiple opportunities to take part, I invite everyone to lace up their running shoes, gather friends and family, and be part of a great weekend. With a little something for everyone, regardless of abilities, I encourage all to jump in and embrace this fantastic community event."

Those who complete all three town races, the 26.2 marathon distance, will receive a Mid Sussex Marathon Weekend technical t-shirt and much coveted bespoke 3-part medal. Those who compete in a town race, Fun Run or Mile race will receive a medal and category prizes. It is advised to book town race races in advance as spaces cannot be guaranteed on the day.

To find out more about The Mid Sussex Marathon Weekend 2024, to enter a race, or



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to join this year's team of volunteer Marshals visit **www.midsussexmarathon.co.uk**.

The Mid Sussex Marathon Weekend takes place due to the generous support of partners including Places Leisure, East Grinstead Town Council, Haywards Heath Town Council, Burgess Hill Town Council, Mid Sussex District Council. As well as sponsors Roche Diagnostics and London Gatwick.

DAY 1: Saturday **4th May** East Grinstead Rugby Club, Saint Hill Road. 9.30 am Mid Sussex Fun Run. 10 am Mid Sussex Mile. 10.30 am 10 Mile Race.

DAY 2: Sunday **5th May** Victoria Park, South Road, Haywards Heath. 9.30 am Mid Sussex Fun Run. 10 am Mid Sussex Mile. 10.30am 10 Mile Race.

DAY 3: Monday **6th May** The Burgess Hill Academy, (Playing Field), Station Road. 9.30 am Mid Sussex Fun Run. 10 am Mid Sussex Mile. 10.30 am 10K Race.

Mid Sussex Marathon is managed by AHS Wellbeing and Places Leisure, supported by

Nice Work (a professional road running event company) on behalf of Mid Sussex District Council and the three Town Councils (East Grinstead, Haywards Heath and Burgess Hill). Julia Scott



WANTE

Garage to rent for a classic car Near to Keymer if possible Please contact Mick on 07780 924345



HASSOCKS WI We meet at Adastra Hall, 3rd Monday in the month . Doors open 7.30 pm evening starts 7.45 pm.

Our January meeting concentrated on the resolutions put forward by members which will be voted for at the National AGM in June. Marie gave a clear presentation on screen for each of the four resolutions which were discussed. Each WI member has one vote and these go forward to the Federation office. Thank you for your hard work Marie.

After reviving tea and cake Jen Improv comedian raised our spirits and made us laugh as we enjoyed playing with language. Who knew 'Whisky Chaser' could inspire such merriment with no involvement of alcohol.

We resumed our 'Extra Slice' activities and six of us enjoyed a January morning with 'Sarita Prints Joy' applying woodblock motifs to tea towel. A lovely morning. Thank you Sarah.

As well as our monthly evening meetings we have a variety of other groups which meet during the month. The Baby Station



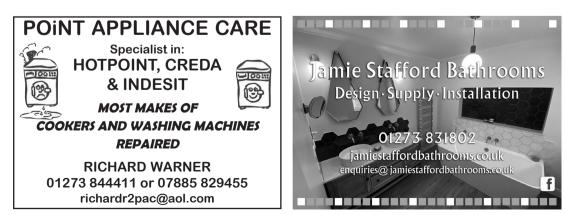
was one of the first groups to be set up and is still running. Our Choir 'Just Sing' started in 2009 and is still going strong. It is a friendly relaxed group of ladies and the choir practice evenings are full of laughter and fun. The Choir visits local care homes to spread the joy of singing together. It really welcomes new members - no auditions - no experience needed just sing. Contact Hassocks WI.

Full details of all the small groups are on our website **wihassocks.org.uk**. Or ask another member about the smaller groups at our next meeting, everyone is able to join whichever or all (!!) of them which are of special interest to you personally.

Don't forget the next Craft Club is Monday **4th March** 2 pm committee room Adastra Hall.

Our March evening meeting is 'Mad March Mix-Up' - Intrigued so am I. Come along for a cheerful evening, visitors are welcome (donation). We may have Easter eggs alongside our usual delicious cakes.

Gerry





BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL <u>SOCIETY</u> On Saturday 23rd March, Burgess Hill Horticultural Society are staging their Spring Show in the Cyprus Hall, 1.30 pm to 3.45 pm. Come and enjoy some glorious springtime scents and colours; along with refreshments, homemade cakes, plant and produce stalls.

On Wednesday **3rd April**, Fergus Garrett, Head Gardener at Great Dixter will be giving a talk, 'Succession Planting for a Long Season' in the Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill. Talk commences 7.45 pm, (doors open 7.15 pm). Admission: BHHS members free, small charge for visitors. Visit: **www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com** or phone **01444 245509**. *Flo Whitaker*

<u>DITCHLING SINGERS</u> Can anybody help Ditchling Singers find a new choirmaster/mistress? After many successful

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years this small friendly community choir – founded by local musicians Herbie Flowers and Michael Hinton – is looking for a replacement leader. We need someone who can play the piano and conduct us at the same time. This is a paid position not voluntary. We meet fortnightly on Sundays 4 pm to 6 pm. Currently we sing popular classics, songs from Musicals and much more but we also enjoy a challenge. I would be glad to hear any ideas, suggestions or answer any queries. Please contact Erika Chapman on **01273 845627** or **erikach@mac.com.** Erika

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Diann Clarke

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THE KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB has two meetings in March, on Monday the **4th and 18th**. March.

We meet at the URC Church all, and start at 7.30 pm. The New Year is an excellent time to start folk dancing, the Keymer Club is very friendly and as well as doing some light exercise, you'll meet new friends. Most dances are performed to a regular walking step, so providing you can tell left foot from your right, you'll be just fine.

In March the club will be holding a special event at the Adastra Hall. Sean Goddard, one of our long established members will be given the Gold Badge of the English Folk Dance and Song Society: an award given to special people who have researched and taught folk dancing for a longer period of time. The Copper Family



from Rottingdean will sing the Old Sussex Songs, and there will be a large Barn Dance. For more details about this event and the Keymer Folk Dance Club look at our website:

www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk/ Sean Goddard

<u>HURSTFOLK</u> The dates for HURSTfolk 2024 edition have been confirmed for **22nd to 24 November**.

Musicians who live in and around Hurstpierpoint can apply to perform by visiting **www.hurstfolk.org** and completing the relevant form.

We are also looking for venues, sponsors and volunteers. *Debbie Clare*

Articles for the April magazine can be emailed to info@villagemagazines.co.uk



A BIG BIRTHDAY DINNER KICKS OFF <u>1ST HASSOCKS GUIDE UNIT'S</u> <u>100TH YEAR CELEBRATIONS</u>



On Thursday 1st February, our Guide Unit celebrated its 100th birthday on the actual anniversary with a meal out. Senior Guide, Kathryn, opened the proceedings with a short speech recording thanks to Miss Gillet, the unit's first leader back in 1924, and picking out just a few of the many wonderful opportunities she and so many other girls have had over the past 100 years as a result of being a member of Girlguiding. Kathryn has been a Rainbow, a Brownie and a Guide and this term has

been taking a look back with the unit at the

history of Guiding in general, and 1st Hassocks Guides in particular, as part of the Commonwealth Badge which she has moved on to, having successfully achieved the prestigious Gold Award last July.

Years pass but some traditions never change: to a chorus of *Happy Birthday*, it fell to Kathryn to cut the beautiful, specially commissioned cake and, as birthdays usually mean presents, every guide received a keepsake to remind them of this memorable occasion.

Hundreds of *Talk About* readers will, at some stage in their life, have been a Rainbow, a Brownie or a Guide, meeting up at our lovely old Guide Hall. Two former members of 2nd Hassocks Brownies are back at their unit as Assistant Leaders: how's that for continuity?





We hope previous mem-

bers from all sections have some great memories of their time Guiding in Hassocks. We would love to hear from them during this very special year and, if they would like to come back and join our District Team, that would be absolutely fabulous.

Finally, a huge Thank You goes to every past and present leader and unit helper who has given generously of their time and talents to Girlguiding in Hassocks. It is so very much appreciated. A special mention must go to those who led or assisted with 1st Hassocks

Guides. Each and every one played a part in the fantastic journey which has ensured Miss Gillet's vision lives on today.

If you would be interested in becoming part of the Girlguiding Team- please email our Commissioner: **beaconguidingdc@gmail.com**. *Pennie and Dawn, Leaders 1st Hassocks*



DITCHLING-BASED CHARITY THE TURNER-DUMBRELL FOUNDA-TION has had a busy start to 2024 after agreeing a five-year plan to revitalise the ecology of its land on Lodge Hill and the neighbouring **Bowries** Fields. The Monday Group and volunteers organised by the South Downs National Park (SDNP) have already started the first steps in the plan by clearing much of the bracken and brambles that have been swamping the less vigorous plants on the hill.

Work has also started on rebuilding the derelict pole barn in Bowries Fields, which was destroyed by storms some years ago, with the frame already in place by the end of January. Once that is complete our tenant farmer will be able to reintroduce two or three cattle to Lodge Hill for the first time since before the Covidpandemic, and they should help to keep the bracken and brambles under control.

The foundation also launched its regeneration plan with an event at the village hall on 24th February. Local naturalist Michael

Karen Butterfill Mssch Mbcha CHIROPODY - PODIATRY

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Blencowe gave a presentation on the plans, and the event was supported by our partners and other groups enhancing our local environment including: The Monday Group, Ditchling Orchard Group, The Ditchling Society, Lost Woods; Ditchling History Group, Traditional Landscapes and Batcheller Monkhouse.

Meanwhile the foundation is preparing for its grant giving which takes place every summer and charities and other local groups with projects in the village are being invited to apply for funding by the end of April.

Applicants should be either a charity or group, based in the village or the immediate locality, which has a project that benefits the community; or be involved in the practice of preventive cardiology. Many recipients satisfy both criteria by being both local groups and encouraging residents to take part in activities and sports that help to keep their hearts healthy. Last year the foundation agreed to make grants totalling £40,000 including £20,000 backing for the revamp of the

IAN THOMPSON

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recreation ground, and with £20,000 distributed between: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, and

Ditchling Cricket Club for equipment.

If you would like to apply for a grant for your organisation there is more information at **www.turner-dumbrell.org.uk** or you can contact the secretary by email at **secretary@turner-dumbrell.org.uk**.

John Wood

HURST PLAYERS are now in intensive rehearsal for their first production of the 2024 season – it is "The Lady in the Van" a theatrically compelling but true story of how Alan Bennett, one of Britain's most successful writers ended up playing an unintentional host to a vagrant woman who parked her van in his drive from 1974 to 1989.



Julie Marshall BSc(Hons), HCPC Reg.

The Heeler Centre, Hassocks Tel: (01273) 843780



A "three-week visit" which lasted fifteen years.

The play is directed by Jacqui Figgins in her first production for Hurst Players. We wish her well, because while we work out the theatrical obstacles to presenting two vans, plus other motorised vehicles, on the tiny Players Theatre stage, Jacqui is already working with a large cast. For dramatic purposes this includes two "Alan Bennetts" [you'll have to come and see us] plus a variety of people intent on removing Miss Shepherd from his home – doctors, social workers and wellmeaning neighbours who are grateful she didn't choose their homes to "visit".

"The Lady in the Van" will run at the Players Theatre, Hurstpierpoint, from **5th March to 9th March** – starting at 7.30 pm. Tickets are on sale online now - go to the "what's on" section at **www.hurstplayers.org.uk**. But if you prefer to make a personal booking our Saturday morning Box Office at the Theatre will be staffed from 10 am to 12 noon from **10th February**. Anne Hopper

GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCH-LING CLIMATE CAFE Wednesday **13th March** 7.30 to 9 pm at Proper Coffee, Hassocks.

After our popular Climate Cafe in January, we are holding another on **13th March** and approximately every 6 weeks thereafter. A climate cafe is a safe, facilitated, community space to share thoughts, feelings and emotions around the climate and ecological crisis. Everyone is welcome, no booking needed but please arrive on time and if you would like to know more, please contact greenerhassocksditchling@gmail.com

Beth

This magazine is online visit www.villagemagazines.co.uk





HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL GROUP

We meet from 2 to 4 pm on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Guide HQ Hurstpierpoint. Annual membership is available, but visitors are welcome for a small fee. We usually have a speaker for about 1 hour and then it is time for tea, business & chat. Do come along to see us, you will be made most welcome.

Our next meeting, on **6th March**, is about English Wines with John Rose, where we may have a small tasting.

On the **3rd April** Jo Kearns will be telling us about the Players Theatre.

For more info Ann **01273 649023** or Dianne **01273 835284**. *Ann Tranter*

THE DITCHLING HORTICUL-TURAL SOCIETY is delighted to welcome you to the Spring Bulb Show 2024 at the Ditchling Village Hall on Saturday 23rd March, 2 to 4 pm. Come along and join us to celebrate our village gardeners who will be entering their best Spring flowers, floral displays, cooking, painting and photography. There are five trophies to be won and rosettes for best in class. Ditchling village children and our Horticultural Society members have been invited to compete showing their handicraft skills decorating a bunting triangle. This will be used to decorate future Horticultural

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Shows. The Village Hall will be full of Spring 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. Entry is 50p on the door (free for members of the Ditchling Horticultural Society). Members, please remember to have your entries into the Ditchling Post Office by the close of Wednesday **20th March**. Please mark your diaries and help support this wonderful Village Show celebrating the best of village life. *Judith Scott*

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February at Age Concern Hassocks included a much-enjoyed visit from the Sundown Ukelele Band and a visit to Lewes Depot Cinema for a screening of Singin' in the Rain – this is part of their Dementia-Friendly Accessible Screenings which is open to all but particularly suitable for those with Dementia and their Carers. We are hoping to visit again in June and August.

Do you work from home? Fancy a change of scenery? Come and enjoy a fresh bean coffee, a cup of tea or a hot chocolate and use our free Wi-Fi in the comfort of our warm and light Conservatory. It is available most days 9 am to 12 pm and 1.30 pm to 3 pm.

We serve a 3 course lunch Monday to Friday and run a bus Monday, Tuesday and Thurs-



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day, picking up from Hassocks, Hurstpierpoint and Ditchling. Please ask the Office to book transport and/or lunch the day before or up to 10 am on the day you'd like to join us. The menu changes weekly and is on our website.

Our Charity Shop is open 9 am to 4 pm every weekday and 9am to 12pm Saturdays. Donations are most welcome and if you are unsure about what we take, we work on the basis of "if you would buy it, we can sell it". While you are visiting the Charity Shop why not stop by for a hot drink and cake in our Coffee Shop, open 9 am to 3 pm weekdays and 9 am to 11.45 am Saturdays.

We are hoping to provide various trips, talks and musical entertainment throughout 2024. Come along and see what we have on offer. We look forward to seeing you.

All at Age Concern

WANTED 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 April Issue is **1st March**.

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NEIGHBOURLY CARE IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS Neighbourly Care is a charitable organisation founded in 2008 by councillor Anne Jones MBE. It is run entirely by volunteers and our aim is to make our community a better and more caring place. We do this by providing practical help to housebound or isolated older people, people who are sick or disabled, people who are lonely, parents with young children, or people in sudden crisis. We work within Burgess Hill, Hassocks, Keymer, Hurstpierpoint and district.

Our services include activities such as befriending (either through visiting or by phone), escorted shopping, shopping for the housebound, local transport, light help around the home, minor household repairs and small gardening jobs. All services are free, though donations are appreciated. Over the last year we have carried out 823 home visits, made 57 befriending phone calls and seen 90 different clients. We currently have 23 active volun-



teers.

We are currently keen to recruit more volunteers. The skills that volunteers require are friendliness, kindness, patience, enjoyment of other people's company, willingness to give some time and, ideally, the ability to drive, though this isn't essential. Some volunteers offer an hour a week; others volunteer several times a week. Some volunteers do driving only e.g. taking clients to hospital and doctors' appointments; other volunteers just shop for clients. Some volunteers wish only to do befriending, either through meeting for a cup of tea or via the phone.

We ask anyone interested in becoming a volunteer to contact us by phoning **07876 066 368** or by emailing **neighbourlycare@outlook.com** A committee member will then make contact to discuss the role. Anyone wishing to become a volunteer with Neighbourly Care will be asked to complete a DBS check, complete some paperwork and undertake a brief induction into how we help the community.

Our website is **www.neighbourlycare.co.uk** Chris Newton

HURST HASSOCKS & DITCHLING U3A is growing! We have nearly 400 members from our three villages, and surrounding areas. In January the HHDu3a 'Future Lives' group held their first open meeting. The talk, 'No such thing as a silly question... all you need to know about Power of Attorney' attracted many local people as well as members of the u3a; the speaker was local resident and award winning lawyer Fiona Dodd. Her concluding message was: it is possible to complete the documents oneself but if in doubt, consult a professional. But above all, delaying decisions about wills and the Power of Attorney may store up prob-Visit lems for the future. Marie Fraser www.u3asites.org.uk/HHD.





FRIENDLY AND WELCOMING WOODTURNERS CLUB FOR SUS-SEX, SURREY, HAMPSHIRE AND SURROUNDING AREAS. To promote, educate and encourage woodturning as a craft and an art form. Our monthly meetings, typically on the last Wednesday of each month, 7 to 10 pm. Beeding and Bramber Village Hall, BN44 3WN for demonstrations, competitions, practical evenings, informal chats, help and advice etc.

Also at each meeting, a shop with woodturning related supplies and timber, a raffle to cover meeting costs, free tea/coffee and biscuits. Members benefits also include use of a Toolbank and a Library of books and DVD's. We encourage members to bring items along to our Tools 'n' Turnings table, and to participate in our Chairman's Challenge (held at meetings when there is no



www.sbdevs.co.uk • stuart@sbdevs.co.uk

competition).

Potential new members welcome to come along to find out more. Complete novices to those with vast experience are welcome to join, very reasonable yearly subscriptions.

Noel is a member and a Hassocks resident and is quite happy to bring along anyone interested please call him **07801 729829**.

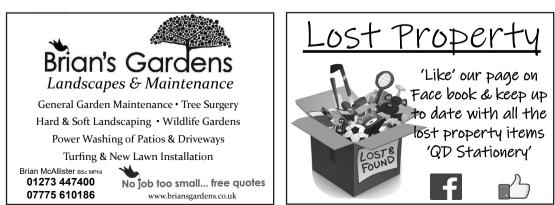
Please see our Facebook, Instagram or website for further information or contact

secretary@southdownswoodturners.com Wednesday 27th March 7 to 10 pm.

Member demonstration (in preparation for the May competition)

"From Log to Bowl" - Gordon Eaton takes us through the process of turning a bit of tree trunk to a finished bowl.

Wednesday **24**th **April** 7 to 10 pm. Our annual AGM, and a members demo with Barry Chidlow. *Anthony Trigg*



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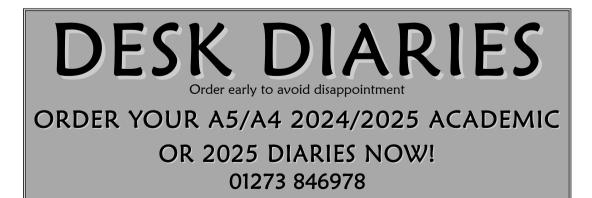
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NEWS FROM STONEYWISH The world is turning green again. It starts underfoot. With bristling spears of snowdrops, the frilly fronds of Queen Anne's Lace and a mass of weed seedlings which are grief to gardeners but a joyful return of friends to vegetable anarchists who like the prospect of a spring salad. Here are the first leaf-stars of cleavers, and cushions of shepherd's purse, then garlic mustard, dandelion and wild garlic's tight-whorled shoots. 'Green' is a tired and much-abused word these days. One could almost wish there was an alternative – emerald, say, which recaptures the idea that the sap of life is a treasure. Anyhow, especially at this time of year, the joy of greenness gets into one's head, and speaks directly without any political or moral agenda. Greenness simply IS. And it draws us to the frontier of a world we may even fear and dislike, but which we ignore at our cost. The resurgence of spring was characterised in medieval folk art as a Green Man: a foliate head, peering through clusters of acanthus or oak or hawthorn leaves. He turns up over and over again in church carvings, often with leaves issuing from his mouth and many an inn was dedicated to him. He makes an appearance in Morris celebrations as Jack-in-the-Green. He

MID SUSSEX FLOORING Carpets - Vinyl - Wood - Laminate We are a family run mobile flooring retailer with over 20 years experience. Offering a range of all types of flooring brought to you at your own home or business. For a Free Quote or Advice Call 01273 844739 or 07970 636160 www.midsussexflooring.co.uk sales@midsussexflooring.co.uk is the Green Giant in the Arthurian story of Gawain. He is Herne the Hunter and Robin Hood, green-clad guardians of the Forest. He brings fertility and the fruits of the hunt to be shared liberally with all. And he has older relatives too: the Wild Man of German mythology, another forest dweller, and the Greek god Pan, and our own familiar Santa Claus who was often depicted in a green before he was commercialised in red and whose pedigree, it is claimed by some, goes back 50,000 years. So, what is this pagan figure doing on the roof bosses and pediment decorations of Christian cathedrals and churches? Is it just that our love of Nature is so strong we could not leave its vegetal spirit out in the cold? This figure's gaze is often disquieting. His rituals evoke panic, death and sacrifice as well as abundance. Is he just a rustic anachronism? Or a New Age fetish? Or does he have something of real value to say?

Tucked away in Clayton churchyard is a group of graves which I like to think of as 'Poet's Corner'. There, within a few feet of one another, are memorials to three 'literary' people. First, dear old Primrose Prout, who for many years supplied the Talk About Magazine with uplifting nature poems about birds and butterflies and, yes, if my memory serves me right, primroses! A little behind her to the left is the grave of: 'Alan Ross/ writer, poet and editor', and only a few feet from him is a stone belonging to: 'William Anderson/ Poet died 2001' and this stone is furnished with a quotation which I think must come from one of his poems and which reads: "We are the notes of the song, not the singer." I have always felt moved and intrigued by these words and curious about the author and few weeks ago I was lucky enough to find out more about him. By chance, I came across one of his books at the house of a friend.



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It was the cover which first caught my eye, for it showed a painting of The Green Man, halfhidden in his thicket of leaves – a haunting. melancholy face, mysterious and rather beautiful. "Oh yes," said my friend, noting my interest, "That's by a local author. He lived somewhere near Oldlands Mill." We put together the fragments of what we knew about William Anderson and she kindly lent me the book, which is a gem. As I soon discovered, he was a deeply knowledgeable man and a gifted poet. He produced programmes for the BBC, not only on the Green Man 'myth', but on the rise of Gothic Architecture and the Holy Sites of Britain, working from meticulous research, but also with a poet's ability to cut to the quick of his material and reveal its inner worth. Writing with a guarded optimism in 1990, he felt that the Green Man had a message of hope and renewal for mankind. The science of ecology was reintroducing a spirit of respect for the environment and it seemed possible that mankind's ignorant, pell-mell abuse of the Earth might give way to gentler and more nurturing ways. Well, 1990 seems long ago now and that hope has rather faded. We are more acculturated these days to narratives of despair. Science alone has not been able to effect the longed-for change; has merely exacerbated the problems it set out to cure, for science - the logical, rational, analytical, left-brain aspect of man - turns out to be practically useless without the counter-balance of an intuitive, imaginative, visionary and

sympathetic capacity, the poetic gifts of the brain's right-hemisphere. As William Anderson points out, consciousness usefully passes messages back and forth from one side to the other, but it also has a role as guardian of a subtler perceptual realm. Is the Green Man the hidden face of this 'guardian'? A spirit of the Earth, but also the keeper of a visionary dimension which lies beyond? In the tradition of Islam there is a mysterious prophet named Khidr. He is known as the 'Green One'. In the Koran, he is said to be found at 'the junction of two rivers', but it turns out that Khidr himself *is* the junction. And that junction is a place of miracles. On one side of Khidr lies practicality, the literal sea of the law; on the other, the visionary ocean of the spirit. He is the gateway to 'imaginal' interworld, a liminal realm called Hurgalya, which lies between, or beyond the two. Hurgalya is an entire 'other' Earth, miraculously fashioned from a speck of clay no bigger than a sesame seed. Here, if he can only get in, the traveller will find beauties and treasures beyond compare. Here, the resurgent spirit of Nature is suffused with wisdom. This is the eternal Now - the only place where anyone can hope to taste the blessings of life to the full. Khidr's western incarnation, the Green Man, is a fugitive who watches from his foliate sanctuary. He speaks in riddles of leaves. He is the wild heart in all of us. watching as we career madly along, trampling on everything that matters. He has been watching us since the Middle Ages, when he



first got up into the church roof. And perhaps what bothers us about being lost, (i.e. not in charge) in Nature, is precisely the possibility that the face we shall meet amongst the leaves is our own hidden self, and that the ecstatic realms where that self is at home might disabuse us of our pragmatic certainties. Alas, most days we are too big to fit into Hurgalya. We talk too much to bother with the secret language of leaves and we cannot find the treasure we are looking for because we are standing on it. Surely, it is time to slow down! Stoneywish opens for the next season on 22nd March and Michael's newly refurbished Museum, located in the Visitor Centre, will be open every day featuring local history in a wealth of pictures and memorabilia. The Giant Bunny Hunt will run throughout the Easter Holidays with chocolate prizes for intrepid hunters. Please see our advert for details. But wherever you go, this Easter, may you also find stillness, beauty and the miracle of hidden worlds around you. Then the magic of spring can really begin...

Rosemary

ASIAN HORNET May I ask everyone to be very aware of a new insect that has come from China initially, and now in Europe. It is already attacking hives and people in Jersey and a few have been seen in the UK. This hornet is not our European hornet (like a huge wasp, with red legs - noisy but usually timid).

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The new Asian hornet is brown and has ONLY 1 YELLOW STRIPE near its tail end. It has YELLOW legs and is slightly smaller than the European. But is nasty, can be aggressive and will destroy bee hives.

If you happen to see one, PLEASE DON'T KILL IT but trap it under a glass (so we can try to trace the nest it came from), then ring Ken Isted **01273 842458**, Heather McNiven **01825 722066** or Manek Dubash **07762 312592** or Notify the Great British Non-Native Species Secretariat (NNSS) immediately. This is becoming an emergency that bee keepers do not need. Neither do you. Thank you, Hassocks. *Heather McNiven*



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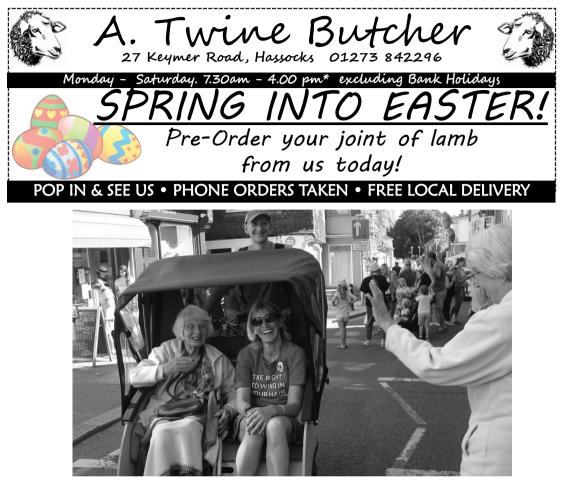


Our new website is now up and running! THEHASSOCKS.CO.UK

You can now see 'What's On' at the pub Whether it's what the Street Food is for that week or what Sports, Comedy or Music Events we have coming up (You can also book your tickets for the Comedy & Music Events) Pop on the website and have a look.



from 8.30pm



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! If you like a chat and like seeing what's new in Hurst, Hassocks and Albourne join us to learn how to cycle our Trishaws slowly.

Volunteers help older local residents get out in the fresh air, make new friends, do something different and feel the wind in their hair! Email **bridget@cyclingwithoutage.org.uk** to find out more. Bridget Hamilton





HURSTPIERPOINT HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY will be hosting two meetings in March.

On Friday **15th March** at 7.15 pm there will be a talk by Ian Marchant, the author of "One Fine Day" which includes farming around Hurstpierpoint in the 1700s.

This talk will take place at Danny House by kind permission of Mr Richard Burrows. Visitors are welcome.

On Friday **22nd March** at 8 pm our regular monthly meeting will be held at the Guide HQ (next to Trinity Road Car Park). Mrs Jo Kearns will talk about the history of Hurstpierpoint's Little Theatre. New members and visitors are welcome.

For more information about these events, or our Society please contact me, Bill Kent (President), **01273 832280**, e-mail



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LOOKING FOR A SPORT THAT IN-VOLVES SKILL, TACTICS, TEAM-WORK? Lawn Bowls is that and more! At Hurstpierpoint Bowls club, a lively social atmosphere in a roomy clubhouse compliments our activities on the green.

Our friendly coaches and members will make your introductory sessions great fun and show you why it is a sport included in the Commonwealth Games since 1930.

Free tuition. Six weeks free membership. Equipment supplied on loan (you just need your own flat soled trainers).

Taster sessions on Wednesday **17th April** at 6.30 pm and Saturday **April 20th April** at 10.30 am.

Contact me, Sarah Salisbury on **01273 834356** for more info; or just turn up at the clubhouse on South Avenue Hurstpierpoint. *Sarah Salisbury*



w.kent123@btinternet.com.William Kent



NEWS FROM OLDLAND MILL Dispite the succession of named storms, with their high winds and gales, during this year's storm season, Oldland Mill have escaped damage. Before each storm the Mill is rotated to ensure that it is facing into the wind (known as winding) and storm anchors are deployed. A careful watch is kept on the weather forecast particularly wind direction; any change will require the mill to be rotated. In strong winds an unwinded mill, can easily be blown over. While Oldand Mill has not been damaged, unfortunately Jack Mill has not been so lucky. During the Storm Henk at the start of the year, the fantail wheel structure sustained extensive damage, demonstrating the strength of storm Henk and importance of being able to wind a mill.

The storms have brought some benefits. Wind strengths were so light and fickle last summer, that we were rarely able to mill, and our stocks of flour became depleted. This year winds have been much stronger. In just two days at the end of January, our intrepid milling team, were able to replenish our stocks. The wind strength was sufficient, to run the sweeps at 8 - 10 revolutions a minute. Excellent for milling. In two milling sessions the team was able to mill 298 kg in some 4½ hr. These ses-

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sions also provided excellent experience for our trainee volunteer millers. Thanks, must also go to our ever hard working packing team, who have risen to the occasion, to bag and pack our flour ready for sale.

If you would like to be involved in the operation and conservation of this important historic piece of industrial and agricultural architecture Oldland Mill Trust would be happy to hear from you. The trust is always seeking new volunteers and people willing to become trustees. We are particularly interested in recruiting a Volunteer Recruitment Officer. This is a new voluntary post. We need someone to drive the recruitment of new volunteers and to help with the administration needed to run our induction, training programmes and to help maintain our different teams.

If you are interested in Oldland Mill or becoming involved in any capacity please contact the Trust through our website, www.oldlandwindmill.org.uk.

Mill volunteers are frequently at the site on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, if you are passing and we are not milling, they would be very happy to talk to you about the mill and becoming involved.

Stephen Waite





THE GROWING NETWORK We Are A Freely-Giving 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 on your gardening journey. You don't even need to have your own garden, as there are some of us that like to collaborate by growing with others.

This month we will have seedlings to share and we hope to be joined again by volunteers from a Touch of Gentleness who will be offering free hand massages!

Saturday 16th March 10.30 am to 12 pm.

Friends Meeting House, 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. Thank you! Julie, Catherine and Imke

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SINGERS NEEDED For more than 20 years the Vivace! Choir based in Ditchling has been putting on concerts around Sussex to raise money for a wide range of good causes. The repertoire runs from Baroque to Rock, classical to comical, the common denominator being that we sing the music that we enjoy and which seems to please our audiences.

Like any choir we need to recruit new singers from time to time. Indeed, we have had some success recently in replenishing our sopranos and altos, but we have struggled to find new tenors and basses. One of each would be enough – and it could be YOU. The main requirement is that you can follow the music and can hold your own part while singing in harmony with other voices.

Rehearsals are held each Wednesday at 7.30 pm in the Old Meeting House on the Twitten in the middle of Ditchling, not far from the Village Hall Car Park and The Bull.

If you are interested, you could: email us at **info@vivacechoirsussex.org.uk** or just come along to a Wednesday evening rehearsal or come and hear us at our next concert! It's on **20th April** at St John The Evangelist Church, Lower Church Road, Burgess Hill, RH15 9AA at 3.30 pm with tickets available at the door. *Richard*

The Old Flower Field

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Visit our website: www.theoldflowerfield.co.uk. email: info@theoldflowerfield.co.uk or telephone 01273 835696 for details.

THE WINDMILLS JUNIOR SCHOOL

On 19th January we took 158 children to take part in The Young Voices concert at the 02, a magical event involving over 7800 children! It was everything we had hoped for and more. The children were just incredible and absolutely loved it. The memories created are extremely special. To perform at

a concert, at the 02. with musicians and singers and such a large choir-wow! January has also been a busy month for sports. Our crosscountry finalists competed in the next stage of the crosscountry competition. They did such a great job and ran so fast. Many made signifi-

cant gains on their place in the previous race and this race was even harder and involved running up a very steep hill, three times! Nine of our runners qualified for the next round in March! Huge congratulations to them and everyone who approached this challenge with courage and determination.

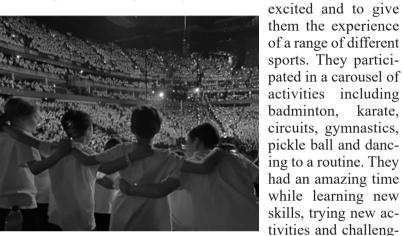
13 of our year 5s took part in a Bee Netball tournament at Burgess Hill Girls School. Bee Netball is different to traditional netball in that each player has to move positions every match and has to come off the pitch for one game in three. This means that each player has to be good in all positions. A real challenge! Our players did us proud and played incredibly well against different schools in the area.

On 16th January, we attended a Mid-Sussex basketball tournament against nine other schools and it's safe to say we were all a little surprised at what a successful afternoon

we had! Not only did we go on to win the tournament, but we will also go on to represent the school in a Sussex-wide tournament. Everyone performed to the best of their ability and we are really proud.

We also took 12 children to a Get Active event at The Triangle. This is a great event put on by Mid-Sussex Active to get children

karate.



ing themselves.

In lower school, Year 3 have been looking at the Greek myth. Theseus and the Minotaur. The children were amazed at the courage and bravery of Theseus. They became news reporters and interviewed Theseus himself to find out more about his perilous journey to defeat the minotaur. The Year 4 children have been learning all about the digestive system. Building on their knowledge of teeth, the children have learnt about the journey food goes on and about the vital role different organs play in transporting our food through the human body, absorbing important nutrients, and removing waste. The children drew a body outline and mapped out where they thought the different organs were. It was very interesting to see how their understanding evolved from the beginning to the end of the lesson!

'on behalf of The Windmills'

MARCH ARTS COMPETITION

Over twenty years ago Hurstpierpoint Gymnastics Club started an Arts competition in Championships on the **6th July**. Our Club offers regular classes at affordable

which over fifty gymnasts performed. This year sees the 23rd Arts Competition which will now showcase over a hundred gymnasts performing routine with ribbons, hoops, on the beam and in Sports Acrobatic Sixes. The competition will be held in Hurstpierpoint Village Centre in the morning of the 16th March. The gymnasts will be competing for



A typical 'Six' balance from the 2023 competition

the twelve silver trophies and scores of medals. Spectating for parents & friends is free.

The following opportunity for the gymnasts to compete will be the Club's 36th Annual

<u>DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY</u> This months film is not to be missed; Return to Seoul is showing on the **7th March**. An absorbing and emotional film about adoption, loneliness, a search for identity and the meaning of existence.

Film night on **4th April** brings together Colin Farrell and Brendan Gleeson in The Banshees of Inisherin

Tragedy and comedy are paired in this end-offriendship movie which is at times funny, horrifying and heartbreaking.

Annual membership for the Ditchling Film Society runs from the time of joining and gives you free entry to 11 films and any extra "Special Events". You can join anytime. Guest entry is also available on the door. New offer! Under 25s can buy guest tickets too. BBFC legal age restrictions still apply.

The films show on the first Thursday of the month at Ditchling Village Hall, 18 Lewes Road, Ditchling, Hassocks, East Sussex. costs with fully trained coaches, free awards each term, two free entry competitions each year and subsidised

clothing. Forty years ago, the Club was started with just twenty girls, now it has over 300 boys and girls, starting from just 3 years old. There are currently spaces to join with no waiting lists.

Boys and girls meet on Tuesdays, girls on

Wednesdays and Thursdays, with Pre-schoolers on Fridays.

If you want to join visit the website **hurstpierpointgym.co.uk** and follow the link to an email enquiry. *Andrew*

Doors open at 7.30 pm and you can buy a glass of good wine before the show which starts at 8 pm. There's plenty of parking next to the village hall.

For full info visit **ditchlingfilm.org.uk**. Follow them Instagram **@ditchlingfilmsoc** and Tweet **@Ditchlingfilm**.

Ditchling Film Society

CLAYTON MILLS RESIDENTS ASSO-CIATION There is now a Facebook page for the above group. I am compiling a list of properties who have or are experiencing problems such as damp, condensation, mould, cracks in walls, poor insulation, leaking roofs, leaking false chimneys etc. If anyone on the estate has had or is having any of these problems. please email me at plwadsworth@aol.com and/or make a comment on the FB page. Dates of problems as well as pictures would be very useful too. Many thanks. Penny Wadworth

Useful Information

OUT OF HOURS CHEMIST

Either Day Lewis or Boots in Hassocks. Mon. to Fri. 5.30pm - 6pm. Sun. 10am - 4pm covered by Boots Burgess Hill Bank Holidays Please see chemist doors. Urgent prescriptions call Sussex Police 0845 6070999

LIBRARIES

Hurstpierpoint - 01273 832609 Hassocks - 01273 842779 Mon., Tues., Wed., Sat. 9am - 1pm & Thurs., Fri. 1 - 5pm

HASSOCKS FOOD BANK

Open to anyone in need of support. Held in Powell House (next to United Reformed Church), Hassocks. 10am to 12noon. Every Monday and Friday, Drop donations to Bella and Megs. Mansell McTaggart & Budgens in Hassocks

NEAREST HOUSEHOLD WASTE **RECYCLING CENTRE**

WEST SUSSEX Fairbridge Way, Burgess Hill, RH15 8AR. From 12th February you will need to book a visit via www.westsussex.gov.uk 01243 642106.

EAST SUSSEX Ham Lane, Lewes, BN7 3PS 9am to 4pm daily www.eastsussex.gov.uk 0845 355 0550

PARISH COUNCILS

Hassocks - 01273 842714 www.hassockspc.net. Mon, Tues, Thurs 10am - 2pm, Fri 10am - 12pm. Hurstpierpoint & Savers Common 01273 833264

www.hurstpierpoint-pc.gov.uk Mon.- Fri. 9.30am - 1pm. Ditchling - 01273 844733 www.ditchling-pc.gov.uk

DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS

are at the following locations in the parish. In an emergency please dial 999 to access them: **HURSTPIERPOINT & SAYERS COMMON**

Savers Common Community Shop. London Road. Savers Common

Village Centre Library Entrance, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint, 40 High Street, Hurstpierpoint

Bowling Club. South Avenue. Hurstpierpoint

Court Bushes Community Hub, Willow Way, Hurstpierpoint

Fairfield Recreation Ground, Cuckfield Road, Hurstpierpoint

DITCHLING, STREAT & WESTMESTON

Ditchling Village Hall,

Streat Church and Westneston Church

Hassocks - Defibrillator Locations

Location	Opening nours	Address	Telephone
Railway Station	Outside the ticket office area 24-hour access	Keymer Road	
Adastra Bowling Club	1 – 8 pm Mon, Wed & Fri 10 – 8 pm Tue, Thurs, Sat & Sunday Bowling season only - late April to late September	Adastra Park – north field Via Orchard Lane or Keymer Road	
Age Concern	9am – 4pm Mon to Fri. 9 am -12 noon Saturday. Closed Sunday.	Dale Avenue Located at entrance, available during opening times	01273 844461
Freedom Leisure Centre (at Downlands Community School campus, Dale Avenue)	7am - 9 pm, Monday to Friday 8.30am - Apm Saturday 9am - 3pm Sunday 9am - 3pm Bank Holiday (unless otherwise stated)	Downlands Community School Dale Avenue Located at entrance lobby of Leisure Centre – available during opening hours	01273 841348
Hassocks Dental Surgery	9am – 6pm Mon, Tue, Thurs. 8.45am – 4pm Wed 9am – 5pm Fri.	54A Keymer Road Available during opening hours	01273 842987
Graystone Referral Centre	8.30am – 5.30pm Monday 8.00am – 5.30pm Tuesday - Friday	38 Keymer Road Available during opening hours	
Keymer & Hassocks Sports & Social Club	On the wall in the covered alcove at the front of the building 24-hour access	Adastra Park – south field Via Orchard Lane or Keymer Road	
Age Concern Hassocks	9am - 4pm, Monday to Friday 9am – 12pm Saturday	Dale Avenue Available during opening hours	01273 844461
Hassocks Health Centre	8.30am - 6pm, Monday to Friday	Windmill Avenue Available during opening hours	01273 834388
Thatched Inn	Outside the front of the pub 24-hour access	Grand Avenue	01273 842946
Weald Lawn Tennis And Squash Rackets Club	9am - 9pm Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm Saturday - Sunday	South Bank Available during opening hours	01273 844283
South Downs Garden Centre	8am - 6pm Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm Sunday	Brighton Road Available during opening hours	01273 845232

What's On in March

Clubs, Societies & Groups please let us have your programmes and/or events to <u>PUBLISH FREE</u> 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.

Regular Events

THE BEACON PARISH MARCH- Services of Morning Worship (family services) 10 am at St Margarets, Ditchling at 10 am on 3rd and 10th and at Streat Church on 17th.

Palm Sunday, 24th 9.45 am the Procession starts at The Vicarage, Charlton Gardens, Ditchling to St Margarets Church for the service at 10 am. See article for more info.

Easter Day 31st 10 am Celebration Service and egg hunt at St Margarets - see article.

Holy Communion on Wednesdays at 10 am at St Margarets Church, Ditchling with a special Ash Wednesday service on **7th**.

Coffee, Chat & Play Thursday mornings in the Emmanuel Centre South Street Ditchling from 10 am. Always check www.beaconparish.co.uk.

16-25 GROUP - Christian social group for those aged 16 – 25 we will be going out and socialising together once a month on the first Saturday of each month our next meeting is Saturday **2nd March** please check out our website for more information www.claytonwithKeymer.org.uk

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

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

DITCHLING MORRIS - We practise Thursday evenings in United reformed Church Hall on Thursdays at 7.30 pm. Pop in if you feel like joining.

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.

Pool, table tennis, games consoles and lots of activities finishing with circle time and prayers

HEARTS OF SUSSEX BRIDGE CLUB -Tuesdays at Age Concern Hassocks as well as Mondays online. For details see www.hsobcbridgeclub.co.uk or email hsobcadmin@hsobridgeclub.co.uk

HUG IN A MUG - A coffee (and cake!) morning for all. Held at St Cosmas and St Damian Church Hall, Keymer every Monday at 10.30 am and at Clayton Church Hall, Clayton every Tuesday at 10.30 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. SUSSEX FLY DRESSERS GUILD Clayton Village Hall, Thursdays 7 - 9 pm. Beginners to Advanced sussexflydressersguild.org.uk.

TOAST CLUB - Powell House (next to United Re- formed 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 MORN-ING - Guide Hut, Hurstpierpoint. Thursdays 10.45 am - 12.45 pm followed by English lessons at 1 pm

YOUTH GROUP at St Francis Church, Priory Road, Hassocks. 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, games consol etc.

Daily Events

8th Feb - 8th March PEMBURY HOUSE, Ditchling Road, Clayton 10.30 am - 12.30 pm & 2 pm - 3.30 pm Garden open part of the National Garden Scheme. For tickets www.pemburyhouse.co.uk

2nd 16-25 GROUP Christian social group for those aged 16 – 25. 'Mini Golf' for more information www.claytonwithkeymer.org.uk

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

4th HASSOCKS WI Adastra Hall, Hassocks 2 pm. Craft Club. Visitors welcome. **4th** KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB URC Hall, Hassocks, www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk. All welcome no partner needed.

5th - 9th HURST PLAYERS Old Meeting House, Ditchling 7.30 pm various performances. 'The Lady in the Van' tickets www.hurstplayers.org.uk **6th** DITCHLING DOWNS WI Ditchling Village Hall 7 pm. 'Without Reserve - A Look behind the Scenes of the Antique Trade' Janice Ramsey.

6th BRAIN WAVES CHOIR Sports Pavilion, Adastra Park, Hassocks 11 am. For people of all ages with any neurological condition. Book a place 01273 494300.

6th HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL CLUB Guide Hall, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint 2 - 4 pm 'English Wines with John Rose. All welcome.

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 - 'Return to Seoul' cert 15.

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 SO-CIETY Millfield Suite, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. 'Nag and Natter Night'. All welcome.

9th HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB The Beacon Ground, Brighton Road, Hassocks KO 3 pm. (Mens) The Robins take on Eastbourne United. Bar and Food available. Free entry to kids 16 and under.

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.

10th HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB The Beacon Ground, Brighton Road, Hassocks KO 2 pm. (Womens) The Robins take on Bromley. Bar and Food available. Free entry to kids 16 and under. **11th** HASSOCKS FIELD SOCIETY Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 7.45 pm. 'Marianne North a remarkable Victorian flower painter' Sarah Oldridge.

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

12th MUSKRAT RAMBLERS, Hassocks Hotel, Station Approach East, doors open 11.45 am for 12 pm start. Great Food, Great Jazz & Great Company. A set lunch included in the entrance fee. Call 01444 235986 or 01444 235639 to book.

12th HURSTPIERPOINT HORTICUL-TURAL SOCIETY Hurstpierpoint Village Centre 7.45 pm. 'An illustrated talk by Alex the Curator of Highdown Gardens.'

13th GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCH-LING Proper Coffee Shop, Hassocks 7.30 to 9 pm. Climate Cafe. See article.

13th MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL The Hassocks Pub, Station Approach East 7.30 pm. Johnny Dowd. For more info and tickets www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk.

15th HURSTPIERPOINT HISTORICAL & GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY Danny House Hurstpierpoint 7.15 pm 'One Fine Day - farming around Hurstpierpoint in the 1700s' Ian Marchant. All welcome.

16th THE BEACON PARISH St Margarets Church, Ditchling, 2 pm. Souper Saturday - homemade soup, bread and cakes.

16th HURSTPIERPOINT GYM CLUB Hurstpierpoint Village Centre. Arts Competition. See article.

16th 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. **16th** MENS BREAKFAST The Greyhound, Keymer 10 am. For a social cooked breakfast. All welcome to book email alexbaxter66@yahoo.co.uk.

18th HASSOCKS WI Adastra Hall, Hassocks 7.30 pm. Mad March Mix-up. Visitors welcome.

18th KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB URC Hall, Hassocks, www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk. All welcome no partner needed.

19th DITCHLING VILLAGE ASSOCIA-TION Ditchling Village Hall 9.45 - 11 am. Coffee morning hosted by Friends of Ditchling Museum. All welcome.

20th BRAIN WAVES CHOIR Sports Pavilion, Adastra Park, Hassocks, 11 am. For people of all ages with any neurological condition. Book a place 01273 494300.

21st POLICE BEAT SURGERY Southdowns Garden Centre, Hassocks 11 am -1 pm. Come along to get crime prevention and advice on neighbourhood issues.

21st MEMORY MOMENTS CAFE Sports Pavilion Adastra Park, Hassocks 10.30 am - 12.30 pm. Know Dementia, Education,

Advice & Support. To book call 01273 494300.

22nd HURSTPIERPOINT HISTORICAL & GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY Guide Hall, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint 8 pm 'Jo Kearns on the Hurstpierpoint Theatre. All welcome.

22nd MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Millfield Suite, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. 'AGM' All welcome.

22nd HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING U3A Adastra Hall, Hassocks 2 pm. 'Behind the Scenes on Centre Court' Alan Chalmers. All welcome, includes refreshments, small entrance fee. **22nd** STAR CINEMA Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 7 pm. Film - 'The Great Escaper'. Tickets available on the door. Refreshments available.

23rd BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill doors open 1.30 - 3.45 pm. 'Spring Show'. See article. All welcome. www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com

23rd HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING U3A Adastra Hall, Hassocks 10 am - 12 pm. 'Open Day'. All welcome, includes refreshments.

23rd SUSSEX CHORUS St Andrews Church, Burgess Hill RH15 OLG 7.30 pm. 'Claudio Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610 (Vespro della beata vergine). Tickets 01444 412579. www.sussexchorus.org

23rd HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB The Beacon Ground, Brighton Road, Hassocks KO 3 pm. (Mens) The Robins take on Crawley Down. Bar and Food available. Free entry to kids 16 and under.

23rd HURSTPIERPOINT HORTICUL-TURAL SOCIETY Hurstpierpoint Village Centre 2.15 pm. Spring Show. All welcome to exhibit schedules from JanTon News

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. **23rd** DITCHLING HORTICULTURAL SO-CIETY Ditchling Village Hall 2 pm to 4 pm. 'Spring Bulb Show'

23rd HASSOCKS VILLAGE MARKET Age Concern Car Park, 9 am - 1 pm. Local produce, bread, honey, cheese, wine, veg etc. 23rd CHURCHES TOGETHER URC Hassocks 9.30 am. Messy Church - breakfast, crafts, games and story. All welcome.

24th HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB The Beacon Ground, Brighton Road, Hassocks KO 2 pm. (Womens) The Robins take on Steyning Town.. Bar and Food available. Free entry to kids 16 and under.

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

25th HASSOCKS FIELD SOCIETY Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 7.45 pm. 'Birds of Paradise' Ray Hale

27th SOUTH DOWNS WOODTURNERS Beeding and Bramber Village Hall 7 - 10 pm. Member demonstration 'From Log to Bowl' Gordon Eaton. All welcome see article for more details.

28th LIBERAL DEMOCRATS SURGERY HASSOCKS Parish Council Offices Committee Room 11 am - 12 pm. Kirsty Lord, Sue Hatton, Kristian Berggreen & Chris Hobbs. No appointment necessary.

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Westmeston – (Glebe Cottages to the Church area) and part of Underhill Lane, 55 magazines

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Hassocks resident **Giles** Turner

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I am a Chartered Financial Planner with over 15 years' experience. I work with people like you to help them secure their financial future by putting the right plans in place today.



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STEVE'S BACK PAGE GOSSIP

How do you fancy owning your own Barber shop? Well, if you've got a spare £30,000 and know how to cut hair, the Barbers in Keymer is up for sale. It's always difficult selling a business these days because the money you're asking for the business is usually called goodwill. That usually means your books can show that you've got a steady stream of customers, but if you've only been trading for a short time then goodwill is hard to prove so, I would say the money asked is more likely for the fixtures and fittings. The problem with Keymer is the parking, you can never ever park in the layby, which is intended for customers visiting the shops. Nola is always buying stuff, not liking it, and returning it through Evri and on umpteen occasions tried to stop in Keymer to take it to the collection point at Keymer News but can never find anywhere to park even in Church Mead. So, she's very happy that Hassocks Post Office is now taking Evri parcels, as long as you've got a return label, which also means she can order more stuff to be sent back. It's bad news for Keymer News who must find it frustrating when your customers can't get to you. I've recently seen the plans for the proposed retirement homes, I'm not quite sure how old they think the people are who may buy them but for 40 homes they are providing 14 parking spaces the other 26 will no doubt park on the road outside the park. Blimey - it's all happening at our Barber shops at the moment. I have had a visit from the very popular demon Barber of Hassocks himself Russell Thatcher. He would like everyone to know he will be residing at the top of the village in Leahy's Barber shop for three or four days a week.

three or four days a week.

It was very sad to read about the passing of Edward Guinness he was very much a constant in my life when Tookie and I were working for Guinness. He liked the idea of relaunching the famous logo as a live bird instead of the cartoon one. All the other members of the family were not quite so keen, but that didn't matter because it was the advertising agency that pulled all the strings. In fact, it the family were not quite so keen, but that didn't matter because it was the advertising agency that pulled all the strings. In fact, it was Edward who came up with the idea of taking Guinness to the hospital when Princess Diana gave birth to William. He phoned me to ask if Tookie and I were up for it, he was a bit concerned that Tookie may not be able to cope with all the crowds and noise, but I said he'd be fine. An hour later Tookies limo arrived with his own driver Nestor, an extremely kind and patient man who knew all the shortcuts around London. As we approached St Mary's Hospital the cordon of Police moved to one side and slid open the barriers, they had been well briefed of our arrival. We pulled up in a side road just past the hospital entrance - all I could hear was the sound of clicking cameras and people shouting, I'm not sure who they thought was in that limo but when Nestor opened the door for us to get out, you could hear the expectation of the crowd thinking it was going to be someone very famous. Out gets what looked like Rod Hull with a baby Emu. It took a little while, but someone eventually shouted its Tookie. It was a long walk up the stops to the hospital entrance but Tookie loved it, all the screaming and shouting and the noise of cameras clicking, he'd often give me that sideways look as if to say this is fun dad - you must remember he just sat in my arms, he was never secured in any manner whatsoever, he was enjoying every moment. After Edward handed over the Guinness, we slowly descended the steps and the Police escorted us back to Tookies limo for the journey back to Hassocks. I saw Edward again at a Guinness banquet where Tookie and I were guests, Nola came as well with a big bag so we could collect lots of Guinness mementoes - might be worth something one day? Edward died on 29th December 2022 aged 98, didn't he do well. Thank you one and all for shopping locally and supporting your local shops. A reminder of my opening hours, 8 am til 7 pm, seven days a week, we're here when you ne

days a week, we're here when you need us. Steve

HASSOCKS PET CENTRE, KEYMER ROAD, HASSOCKS 01273 842392