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Your Editors: Joanna Lambe, Heidi Brown, Natalie Dalley & Nicola Botting

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COUNCILLORS SURGERY. Held in Hassocks Parish Centre. Sue Hatton(MSDC) & Kirsty Lord (WSCC) will not be holding a surgery in August. However, Sue can be contacted on 07821 351411 or email suehatton@midsussex.gov.uk Kirsty can be contacted on 07952 643623 or email kirsty.lord@westsussex.gov.uk

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Hassocks WI celebrated their 10th Birthday in May & members enjoyed a great party. They also won prizes for their entries at the South of England Show in June



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#### **LOCAL ACTIVITIES**

HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING FIRST RESPONDERS

Hurstpierpoint Methodist Church Hall Training Night - New members welcome

Thurs. 1st Aug. 7.30 pm VIVACE

Danny House, New Way Lane, Hurstpierpoint

Summer's Evening Concert - Tickets 07900 698751

www.oldlandwindmill.co.uk. Oldlands Lane, Hassocks

**Sat. 3rd Aug.** 5.45 pm

OLDLAND MILL Sun. 4th Aug. 2 - 5 pm

DITCHLING DOWNS WI

Tues. 6th Aug. 7 pm

HOLY COMMUNION Tues. 6th Aug. 1.30 pm

HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL GROUP

Wed. 7th Aug. 2 pm

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CLAYTON & KEYMER WOMENS SECTION Legion HO, Woodsland Road Thurs. 8th Aug. 3 pm

DITCHLING WI

Thurs. 8th Aug. 2.15 pm

AIR AMBULANCE

Sat. 10th Aug. 8.30 pm

Quiz and Cream Tea

Conducted by one of the local Church of England Clergy

The Guide HQ, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint

Sheila Rawling's Home Garden Party in aid of St Peters and St James' Hospice

Open Day

Garden Party

Ditchling Village Hall

Summer Social Evening

Age Concern, Hassocks

Gatwick Aviation Museum, Charlwood

Open Air Cinema - Back to the Future! Tickets aakssopenaircinema.eventbrite.co.uk



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HASSOCKS EVENING JAZZ Tues. 13th Aug. 8 pm

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DITCHLING HISTORY PROJECT

The White Horse Restaurant, Ditchling

**Wed. 14th Aug.** 2 - 5 pm

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HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING U3A

**Ditchling Village Hall** 

Fri. 16th Aug. 2 pm

Myths & Folklore of the South Downs - Len Brook

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Belmont Close, Hassocks

**Sun. 18th Aug.** 10 am – 12 pm

Any queries contact the Parish Office 01273 842714

DITCHLING VILLAGE ASSOCIATION Tues. 20th Aug. 9.45 - 11 am

Ditchling Village Hall Coffee Morning run by Ditchling WI

HASSOCKS VILLAGE MARKET

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HASSOCKS TOWNSWOMENS GUILD

Age Concern, Hassocks

Tues. 27th Aug. 2.30 pm

My Family & other Setbacks - Mel Rees

WOODLAND FLORA & FAUNA GROUP

**Hurstpierpoint Village Centre** 

Thurs 29th Aug. 7 pm

Climate Change & British Wildlife - Trevor Beebee

MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO

Fri. 2nd Aug. 7.30 pm

Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill Radio Night

Fri. 16th Aug. 7.30 pm Fri. 23rd Aug. 7.30 pm How I started in Amateur Radio - David Parker Radio Night & Table Top Sale

HURST VILLAGE CINEMA

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#### REGULAR ACTIVITIES

BURGESS HILL CHORAL SOCIETY United Reformed Church Hall, Junction Road, Burgess Hill Every Monday 8 - 10 pm new members welcome. See www.burgesshillchoralsociety.org.uk

BURGESS HILL & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB Mid Sussex Golf Club, Ditchling First Thursday of every month. 12 pm. Lunch and talk. Fred Reynolds 01444 236661

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HURST VILLAGE CINEMA For films and showing times visit hurstfilms.com

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MID SUSSEX CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP King Centre, Victoria Rd, Burgess Hill Every Fourth Wednesday of the month 2 - 4 pm. www.csrf.org.uk

The King's Centre, 33-35 Victoria Road, Burgess Hill RH15 9LR THE HARMONY CORPORATION Monday Evening 7.15 pm. Mid Sussex's new ladies a cappella chorus.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF THE SUSSEX VALE Mid Sussex Golf Club, Spatham Lane, Ditchling Every Monday 7.30 - 9.30 pm. www.rotary-sxvale.org.uk Secretary 07546 111996

VIVACE! Old Meeting House, Ditchling

**LOST AND FOUND** The following items have been handed babys muslin outside The Purple Carrot Cafe.



into us over the past few months. QD Stationery, 52 Keymer Road, Hassocks - Like us on Facebook for all the up to date found items. Items are only kept for 3 months.

Every Wednesday 7.30 - 9.30 pm. Mark Lambert 01273 842994

A pocket watch near the Cricket Pavilion in Adastra Park. A ladies watch found out-

side Sainsburys a few months ago. A bracelet found in Downsview Road, A bunch of keys with 2 key fobs in Grand Avenue, A childs dolly and toy pony outside the butchers, A

#### GRACE'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

Due to personal circumstances unfortunately I can't continue to organise and run the Christmas lunch at Hassocks United Reformed Church. I am appealing to anvone who would like to continue to run Grace's Annual Christmas Lunch.

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Sarah

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PLEASE PLEASE CAN ALL READERS READ THE FOLLOWING Whilst walking my dog I had a chat with my local farmer who is at the moment quite distressed by the thoughtlessness of dog walkers who may or may not be aware of their actions causing this distress. In the last three weeks he has lost a calf that ate a plastic bag containing dog poo which some thoughtless person had just tossed aside and the calf being curious and the bag being green ate it and choked, and in the last three days another calf ate the actual poo and died from the virus contained within it. Also the mother is going to be put down as she too has contracted the virus.

There are so many people who think they are virtuous because they collect their dog's waste and then throw the bags into bushes or to one side. Please think very carefully as to the effect it will have on cattle in the field. Make sure you take the bag with you and dispose of them safely in order to ensure that no other calves or their mothers are going to die due to a seconds thoughtless moment and also to be sure to collect it not just leave it in the field.

Most people are responsible owners but some don't realise the dangers so please – Be Aware Of Your Actions. M. Thorpe





#### At Westmeston Parish Hall nr Ditchling

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THE ACORNS NURSERY As our summer Holiday Fun programme draws to a close, our thoughts turn to September and the start of the new term.

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Our Lindfield and Westmeston forest school nurseries work in partnership to offer the best possible outcomes for your child. 'My child has had the most wonderful experiences at The Acorns and I feel so lucky,' said one of our parents with a child going off to school.

If your child loves the outdoors, do come and see us in action! Telephone 01444 455081.

Stay and play sessions for young children with their parents/childminder on Mondays at 10 am. Sessions for home-educated children on Tuesdays and Fridays at Westmeston near Ditchling.

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Janet Irwin

**RANGERS** (formerly called senior section), is for girls aged 14-25yrs. It's part of girlguiding. We are looking for volunteers to co-lead or be a unit helper. We meet every fortnight 7.30 – 9 pm in Hassocks. For more information email: southdownranger1@gmail.com.

Catherine



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AGE CONCERN - Dale Avenue, Hassocks, 01273 844461. Office hours between 9 am and 3.45 pm www.achassocks.co.uk email: enquiries@achassocks.co.uk Follow us on Facebook Age Concern Hassocks. We have our own Charity Shop.

I Pad and Phone lessons held on Tuesday mornings from 9.30 until 11 am (Not school holidays).

Well Balanced Community Falls Prevention Service, in partnership with Mid Sussex Wellbeing and Active House Solutions are holding Balance classes here every Wednesday afternoon. Please call **01444 477191** to book your place.

Hearing Aid Maintenance checks/batteries are held here by Action for Deafness on the first Tuesday of each month 9.30 am, but only that day per month – NHS only – just turn up and a waiting system is in place. On other days we do not hold batteries here, you do need to contact your supplier for these.

We have Scrabble, German Scrabble Art, Canasta, Mahjong, Knit and Natter and Craft sessions held here – new members always welcome please do come in and ask us in the office or take a look at our website. We regularly arrange in house entertainment and outings too.

Our Charity Shop is being extended! Building work has now started! Please do be aware that our car park will

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be very restricted whilst this is going, but we are open for business as usual for refreshments, lunches, activities and the shop is staying open as much as we can! Please do try and park carefully and only in the marked bays. We do apologise for the inconvenience whilst the work is being carried out.

Age Concern

NEWS FROM STONEYWISH This month, alas, there is no time for me to take my customary nature ramble. It is also rather hot for doing anything but sitting in the shade with beakers of iced lemonade! We have been experimenting with traditional summer drinks: lemon and nutmeg fizzy, fermented with yoghurt whey, which sparkles like champagne after a few days, and Haymaker's Refresher, made with homemade oat water. Our English labourers took medicine bottles full of cold tea, stopped with corks and greaseproof paper, to revive them in the fields. Perfect recycling!

These summer days are heaven for our campers who get the full benefit of the long evenings. For them there is time to listen to the birds at dawn and watch the bats at dusk and be still and notice the miniature worlds of butterfly and grasshopper, while letting life at large happen round them. They have all the benefits of haymaking... without the backache! Rosemary

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A CLIMATE CHANGE & WILDLIFE TALK BY TREVOR BEEBEE The Woodland, Flora & Fauna Group, a local volunteer organisation dedicated to protecting local countryside and wildlife, invite you to a talk by the author and emeritus professor of evolution, behaviour & environment, Trevor Beebee.

It will take place on Thursday, **29th August** at 7 pm in the Main Hall of Hurstpierpoint Village Centre, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint, BN6 9UY.

The talk entitled 'Climate Change & British Wildlife' provides a factual review of the changes that are occurring to our natural environment and the effect it is having on our wildlife populations. It will immediately follow a brief introduction by The Woodland, Flora & Fauna Group.

Trevor Beebee has published several books and more than 200 scientific papers and articles on ecology, conservation and genetics of specific wildlife populations. Our climate is changing and this is having a tremendous effect on British ecosystems. He examines the changes so far to our plant, fungi and animal species and reveals how wildlife populations are being impacted by the

warming climate. It is a talk that will be of extreme interest to all nature lovers concerned about the well-being of our natural environment. He is a busy person so we are very pleased that he has found time to speak to us. We strive to organise eminent speakers to improve our knowledge so please join us to make the most of this opportunity.

Entry is free (although we do ask for contributions to support our work with a voluntary retiring collection) and all are welcome. There is a car park opposite the building.

Michael Nailard

CHARITY SHOP DONATION WHOOPSIE By any chance did you buy a patchwork skirt recently from a charity shop in Hassocks? If so, it was lovingly made by me and donated to a charity shop by mistake. I would like to buy it back please. Should you see someone wearing it (it has some large maroon squares and some Liberty fabric at the front) please email ed@villagemagazines.co.uk

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### WHATS BEEN HAPPENING AT SOUTH DOWNS NURSERIES IN HASSOCKS



Dylan Jackson with Sally Hughes and Simon Rennie

It was prizes-all-round for six lucky winners in a local competition celebrating National Children's Gardening Week at a family-run Sussex business.

We celebrated the national event in style with a special Colouring Competition and fun Gardening Quiz.

Budding young gardeners were invited to enter the free competitions on visits made to the centre. The quiz conRemovals

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sisted of eight plant and gardening-related questions, the answers to which could be found on clues hidden around the garden centre. The colouring competition asked entrants to colour in a special gardening picture, and post their entry in the box when finished.

The prize winners were as follows: Gardening Quiz – Dylan Jackson, aged eight from Hassocks; brothers Matthew and Daniel Rowland, aged seven and four of Goddards Green. Colouring Competition winner was 19 year-old Annie Lacey from Lindfield; and brothers Thomas and Evie Hunter, aged eight and six of Brighton.



In the Museum of Gardening with Clive Gravett.



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All prize winners received goody bags containing a game or activity, sweets, and family day tickets to the family business's tourist attraction, Paradise Park in Newhaven.

A class of students from Woodlands Meed school in Burgess Hill paid a visit to learn about different job roles in a garden centre.

The group of 13 young people were given a tour and received a short talk from a member of each department about what their jobs entail, from the back offices to the warehouse, plants and the main shopfloor.

They also had a brief tour of the Museum of Gardening with curator and Budding Foundation founder, Clive Gravett.

Parklands Allotments in Hassocks, who are taking part in this year's National Open Garden Scheme, received trays of bedding plants. The allotments took part in the Hassocks Village Garden Trail and held a stall to raise money for the National Open Garden Scheme, which

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Emma Mitten and her daughter collecting donated plants from Steph Ellett at South Downs Nurseries

helps many different charities throughout the year. Emma Mitten, from Parklands Allotments went along with her daughter to collect the plants.

Rebecca Houghton-Knapp

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**THE WINDMILLS SCHOOL** How quickly a school year flies past - by the time this edition of Talk About is distributed, the children and staff will be in the middle of their summer break!

As we look back, there are so many exciting events to recall – some of which we have reported in previous editions. We felt now would be a good time to thank all of those who have helped the school in a voluntary capacity over the past year – members of our Governing Board, the FoWS committee members and class representatives, volunteers who come in to school to listen to children read and parents who have helped out on school trips and by providing transport to sporting events. Their help is always valued – and we would like to take this opportunity to say a huge 'thank you' to them all!

Apart from the statutory duties of the governors – it is always a pleasure to see them around school, when they might join us for special assemblies and to help with sports day. Again .... if you would be interested in becoming a member of the governing board, please contact us for more information.

The FoWS team have worked so hard to raise an enormous amount of money for the school. Through their efforts the children benefitted from some fantastic op-



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Guilds QUALIFIED we been possi-

portunities that otherwise would not have been possible. The fundraising activities themselves have been such fun for the children – the discos, the Easter raffle, 'Frozen Friday' ice lolly sales and the highlight of this fundraising year had to be the Bake Off! These are just a few of the activities organised by the committee. Events in school supported by FoWS include music, drumming, theatre and science workshops, and a visit by the author Liz Flanagan for World Book Day, to name but a few. They also help by providing much needed additional resources such as books and maths equipment.

The additional support provided by volunteers who spend a few hours each week working with children is such a great help to the children. They really enjoy the time spent working one-to-one – and the teachers can really see the difference this makes to the children. So another 'thank you' to our super team of helpers! If you have some time to spare and would like to join our team of volunteers to hear children read, practice their spellings or times tables, the school office would be delighted to hear from you.

We are now looking forward to welcoming our new year 3 children in September and to another school year at The Windmills!

Sue Bandy

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We meet at 3 pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month at our headquarters in Woodsland Road, Hassocks. We are a friendly group and visitors are very welcome.

For further information about our activities, please contact our Chairman, Jenny Budd on **07719 922326**.

On **8th August** we will be holding our annual Quiz & Cream Tea. A good chance to test our wits and socialise. The competition is 'Cup & Saucer'.

In a change to our advertised Beetle Drive in June, a Representative of NatWest came along to tell us about the campaign 'Friends Against Scams highlighting many ways of protecting yourself from fraud and scams which can range from postal, online, and even on your doorstep. For further information there are several websites: www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk and a government sponsored www.takefive-stopfraud.org.uk also Sussex Police Operation Signature protecting vulnerable victims of fraud, www.sussex.police.uk.

Our next Coffee Morning is on Saturday 7th September at Age Concern Hassocks, between 9.45 am and 11.45 am

Donations for stalls are always very welcome; raffle prizes, bric-a-brac, toiletries and cakes. Bring them on the day, or to the branch meeting. If not you can ring Jenny to arrange collection. We really appreciate all

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Liz Thomas

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HASSOCKS WI Our monthly meeting in June was quite an eye-opener for some of us, with a talk from Amy and Mark who are both local Magistrates. Being a Magistrate or Justice of the peace, is an unpaid role which anyone between the age of 18 and 70 can apply for if there are vacancies. It requires just 3 days of training, plus another 4 years as a silent listener and then around 20 days per year working. But, during those silent listening years, the 'wingers' (new magistrates) have equal rights to the other 2 magistrates when deciding the verdict. The hard part is being selected, which thankfully is a very rigorous procedure requiring a thorough character analysis. There was a little bit of role play involved which helped us all to understand courtroom procedures and added a bit of drama and fun to the evening. A big thank you to Amy for her many years of experience and wisdom and to her assistant Mark who is fairly new to

Also in June, Hilary, Jackie and I attended the 'Time is Now' lobby in London, where we met our MP, Nick Herbert, to voice our concerns over the current state of the planet. It was an extremely well organised day and went very smoothly thanks to Aanchal Mann and all her team. All the WI ladies from around the Uk met up for a pre-meet and talk by the Climate Team, refreshments and lunch were provided before we headed off for a photo shoot in Victoria Gardens and then on to our po-

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sition along the river to await our MP. It was a long hot day but we met with many like minded people, of all ages, who had turned up to be heard. Our lobby was poorly represented in the media, with another lobby upstaging us a wee bit, but around 193 MP's did turn out to speak to their constituents, including ours, and we have his word that we can continue to contact him with our concerns.

For all the other latest news from Hassocks WI, please visit the website http://www.wihassocks.org.uk/. Remember that we meet every 3rd Monday of the month, except August and new ladies will always be warmly welcomed.

Julie Blackham

#### **DOWNSFEST 2019** Saturday 7th September

4 - 10 pm at Adastra Park. The summer festival season has come to Hassocks! Come and dance the evening away at our inaugural music festival, DownsFest 2019. Headlining Queen II, and featuring over 14 local performers from choirs, instrumentalists, soloists and bands over two stages playing a whole repertoire of music. The Hassocks are running the bar tent and festival food will be available from a variety of food vans. It will be raising money for St Peter & St James Hospice. Tickets are available on EventBrite, or pop in to QD Stationery or Adastra Deli in Keymer Road. Follow us on facebook.com/DownsFestHassocks. See you there!

Michelle Binks

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HURSTPIERPOINT & SAYERS COMMON TWINNING ASSOCIATION Programme for 2019. Association members were invited by the Twinning Committee in S Martin De Boscherville to a weekend in June to watch the Tall ships that visit Rouen every four years. Members had the opportunity to visit the ships in dock in Rouen and then later in the weekend to view the ships from the banks of the Seine as they sailed down river to their next destination. They were able to meet members of the Twinning Association in France and enjoy their hospitality.

There will also be a golf competition again this year. Any golfers out there please get in touch for more details.

We are looking for suggestions for events in Hurstpierpoint and Sussex that we could invite our French counterparts to as part of our programme for this year.

What we do - The Hurstpierpoint and Sayers Common Twinning Association is twinned with St Martin-de-Boscherville, a delightful village on the banks of the Seine just north of Rouen. St Martin is famous for its historic Abbey which has recently celebrated its 900th anniversary. Travel is normally on the Newhaven to Dieppe ferry followed by a pleasant 50 min drive to St Martin. Accommodation is with our hosts and we reciprocate by inviting our French friends to stay in our

homes. The Association organizes a variety of events for all ages. These events could have a sporting theme (golf, tennis, cycling, walking etc.) a cultural theme (art, concerts, visiting historical buildings, gardens etc.) or an educational theme (student exchanges, pen friends). They all involve much socialising and meeting new friends.

Get involved - We are always looking for new members and ideas. If you are interested in joining or finding out more please contact me on 01273 833195.

Mike Shute

OLDLAND MILL 4th August 2 pm to 5 pm. Please join us for our next Open Day, we are hopeful that all the volunteers hard work with the Sweep Refurbishment will be complete and the Mill will be displayed in full glory. Find out about how our own, low food mile, flour is produced on site. Refreshments, memorabilia and our flour are available to purchase. No vehicles allowed at the Mill. Please park in Grand Avenue near the Thatched Inn and either walk up Oldlands Lane or make use of the free minibus kindly provided by Hurstpierpoint College and Burgess Hill School for Girls. Further details on the website: www.oldland-windmill.co.uk. Many thanks for your continued support!

Rebecca Street

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#### BURGESS HILL MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBI-

**TION** Burgess Hill MRC will again be holding their popular annual exhibition on the **7th September** at Burgess Hill Girls. Last year was a tremendous success, setting a new record for attendance. We are hoping the recent TV series 'The Great Model Railway Challenge' will inspire new visitors to attend and see what we have to offer at a local level.

The 2019 programme will showcase our hobby and there will be something of appeal to a wide range of railway modelling interests. Up to 17 layouts are expected to attend and will cover the many aspects of railway modelling. All gauges will be represented from the small 'N' gauge (2mm/ft) to '0' gauge (7mm/ft). As usual, there will be ample trade support, society stands and the club's secondhand stall.

The popularity of 1950/1960's era is modelled by several of the visiting layouts together with a representation of the Southern Electric commuter land trains that used to serve our region. "Foxwell Lane" is a very modern Network Rail freight yard with appropriate

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diesels and wagons whilst "Eastbridge" is based on a large locomotive depot. For something different, "Borgo S.Paulo" has an Italian theme and is being exhibited for the first time by a club member.

Last year we had many young families attending and to encourage their interest in our hobby, we have 2 exhibits which will be 'hands on' where children can try out their skill in operating the trains. "Drive Thomas" is again with us together with our club layout "Kayden".

The exhibition is open from 10 am to 5 pm at the Burgess Hill Girls, Keymer Road, Burgess Hill RH15 0EG. Car parking and refreshments will be available. The venue is access friendly for persons of limited ability

Full details of the exhibition can be found on the club's website www.burgesshillmrc.org.uk.

Terry Horner

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ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS Hurstpierpoint Gymnastics Club's thirty-sixth Annual Championships filled the Village Centre with gymnasts, parents and friends. Over ninety gymnasts demonstrated their skills in their routines and vaulting as they competed for the trophies available. Thirty of the gymnasts were performing for the first time.

In the junior age groups, honours were shared around the competitors with eleven gymnasts winning the different s e c t i o n s . For all the Year 3s, it was their first Championships. Zoe

For all the Year 3s, it was their first Championships. Zoe Alden won the Floor, Molly Smith the Vault and Lily Standing and Poppy Hall the Pairs.

In Year 4 Imogen Holmes retained both her Solo title and her Pair title with Freya Thwaites, while Isla Paterson won the Vault with a handspring.

Isabel Faulkner retained the Year 5 Floor Solo and Pairs with new partner Grace Balcombe, while Emily Jane won the Vault in her first competition.

Evelyn Stainto pulled off a double in Year 6 – winning



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the floor & Vault trophies, while Elena Angelaki-King & Tilda Rayner won the Pairs. The 'Stan Brown Memorial' cup for the Junior All-round Champion was presented to Isabel Faulkner.

In the senior sections the battle for supremacy was between two girls. Emily Holmes won the Solo by one tenth of a mark, Jasmine Cross won the Solo and the Pairs with Milly Haward by the same margin, resulting in Jasmine winning the bragging rights as Overall Senior Champion.

The club meets in Hurstpierpoint Village Centre and has children from over 30 different schools as far apart as Lewes, Brighton and Haywards Heath. Further details can be obtained from the Club on 01273 832366 or on their web-site: www.hurstpierpointgym.co.uk There are currently vacancies in September in the Preschool groups which meet Friday afternoons (minimum 3rd birthday) and in the school-age groups. Boys meet Tuesdays, Girls meet Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Andrew Hair

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Hurstpierpoint Gymnastics Club 36th Annual Championships, All the competitors

HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING U3A On Tuesday 11th June I received an email from a Hassocks resident accusing members of Hurst, Hassocks & Ditchling U3A of causing a problem on the pavement at the end of Chancellor's Park that morning. Apparently, a large number of people were waiting to be picked up by a coach and did not make space for pedestrians and moth-

ers with buggies to pass. As the person responsible for organising our outings I can say with 100% certainly the HHD U3A was not responsible.

We are always mindful of other inhabitants of our villages and try to arrange for our coaches to avoid the very busy times. We have never picked up passengers at the location specified in this email.

\*Barbara Jupp\*\*



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#### SIT A WHILE AND ENJOY OUR WELL BEING GARDEN AT DOWNLANDS SCHOOL

There is nothing more relaxing that a moment in a beautiful garden. Our Well Being Garden – thanks to the hard work of Dr Karen van den Dolder and her team of budding gardeners – is a delight. The plants are stunning and the layout is worthy of a garden at the Chelsea or Hampton Court flower shows.

Two years ago Mrs van den Dolder and the students sat down and created a design for a Well Being Garden; a space that would be a sanctuary of peace and reflection. Yesterday we were delighted to welcome award-winning designer and TV presenter, Juliet Sargeant to officially open our garden.

Juliet delivered a lovely speech in which she asked us all to look at the ground below our feet and think about who had walked there before us, who had worked the land, what had happened to that land over time. She spoke about the benefits of working the land and the importance of being engaged with the environment.

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She then chatted to the students and was shown all areas of the garden.

Thank you to everyone who helped create the space - the students, their family and friends, local companies who donated time and expertise as well as materials, Mr Matthews, and of course Tesco's Bags of Help scheme who made it all possible.

Nicki Burston



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**DITCHLING WI** This month we celebrate 102 years since our WI was formed and we have continued in an unbroken run ever since so we gave ourselves a treat! We hired a very comfortable coach from RDH Coaches and went to Preston Manor in Brighton.

Earlier in the year we had had a very interesting talk on its history. It was a beautiful afternoon and we were shown a small video and then encouraged to wander upstairs, downstairs and, yes, in my lady's chamber! The opportunity was there to explore the gardens and the very interesting adjoining church. Following this the coach took us back to the Oaks Farm on Ditchling Common and we had a very lovely celebratory tea with home-made cakes and scones accompanied by pots of tea and fresh coffee. This tea is to be recommended not least because of its ample parking! From records we know how the first WI meeting was celebrated in Ditchling, very formal and not quite as much fun as we had; we even allowed some useful husbands to join us.

Our next meeting, on **8th August**, is our annual garden party in aid of St Peter and St James' Hospice to be held in our President's Garden.

Jean Morley

#### DANGEROUS PARKING IN DOWNS VIEW ROAD

The latest of numerous problems regarding parking could have been extremely serious. Inconsiderate parking meant that the refuse lorry could not leave the estate as the road was impassable near 11 Downs View Road. The driver phoned to try and get the car removed but we do not know

the outcome. Eventually about ten cars and vans were able to squeeze through after the lorry managed to reverse and park out of the way.

The worry for all residents of Downs View Road, Ockenden Way, Bonny Wood Road and Lagwood Close is what might the end result be if an ambulance or fire engine were unable to get through?

It seems that nothing is being done to follow up the costly and time-consuming consultation exercise that was conducted. Apparently WSCC were not consulted about this initiative so they do not agree with it! Meanwhile the above residents suffer inconvenience and possible danger until restrictions on all day and inconsiderate parking are imposed with the application of some yellow lines and a few signs. Commuter and holiday parking has now reached Lagwood Close and will soon be in Bonny Wood Road and Ockenden Way. Help!

Roy and Pat

HASSOCKS GOES GOLD September is Childhood Cancer Awareness month. Let's turn our village Gold for September 2019 and shine the light of awareness on Childhood Cancer. Awareness = Research = Survival. Wear gold clothes, display a poster, buy a ribbon, grow gold flowers, shine a gold light, make a gold window display, bake gold cakes... No idea is too big, too small, too crazy or to gold! Find out more on Facebook/HassocksGoesGold. Email hassocksoesgold@gmail.com. Part of the Glow Gold September campaign for Childhood Cancer Awareness.

Rachel BartlettBundy







#### **EUROPEAN EEL - ALTERNATING CURRENTS**

In August many of us migrate towards the sea; exchanging our familiar habitats for a few weeks in someplace sunnier and sandier. As we leave our county a mysterious creature, born in the dark depths of a distant ocean, is heading towards Sussex for a holiday of its own.

Let me take you 3500 miles west to the wide Sargasso Sea, an area of the North Atlantic known to superstitious seamen (and Barry Manilow fans) as The Bermuda Triangle. Today the once mythical Sargasso is infamous for being the North Atlantic's waste dump where surface currents deposit our non-degradable floating flotsam. But the Sargasso still holds one last mystery. Each year millions of transparent slithers, like a blizzard of tiny polythene leaves, rise from its depths. It's almost as if the seaweed and the spirits of sunken sailors have merged with the PVC and plastic to create the leptocephali; the larval stage of the European Eel. These see-through seafarers go with the flow and slowly drift across the North Atlantic on a three-year Gulf Stream cruise.

Upon reaching Britain's coastal waters their appearance changes. They are now wriggling transparent tubes with black eyes; 'glass eels'. Riding the Rother,



Ouse, Cuckmere, Arun and Adur they swim upstream. In these brackish waters their bodies darken; a tidal tan. They are now elvers. They finally make it to their Sussex holiday homes, exchanging saltwater for freshwater in the myriad of streams and brooks that feed our county's rivers. Yellow-bellied and small-eyed these are vellow eels and will holiday here for around 15 to 30 years. But, as with all holidays, the day comes when you have to return home. In the depths of the eel's mind a primeval urge is awakened. The Sargasso is calling. Their bodies harden, their eyes widen, their stomachs shrivel and yellow eels become silver eels and start their epic journey home. Nothing gets in their way. Land, traditionally an inconvenient barrier for a fish, does not stop them. On dark, wet nights the silver eels crawl out of the water, slithering snake-like across fields and back into the river system.

They'll pass Rye, Shoreham, Exceat, Newhaven and Littlehampton and head out over the great Atlantic Shelf and into darkness. Here's where the silver eels vanish. Exactly where they go and how they get there is unknown. Yet each year the Sargasso will mysteriously spawn a new cloud of transparent tourists hellbent on holidaying in Sussex by the Sea.

Michael Blencowe



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HASSOCKS TOWNWOMEN'S GUILD Our June meeting was held at our usual venue the Pauline Thaw Centre and our speaker for the afternoon was Jane Muddle whose title of the talk was 'Secrets of Madagascar'. Jane's interest in Madagascar was inspired after attending a charity fashion show where beautiful Madagascan made raffia bags and hats were being modelled. This led to her visiting the island on several occasions where she described it as being an island of many contrasts situated in the Indian Ocean. Latterly colonised by the French, a type of French is still spoken along with sixty seven different dialects. The population stands at around twenty five million, with an average of six children per family.

The natural features of the island contrast quite starkly dependent on the various locations and is home to thirteen thousand different species of plant, which includes the raffia palm tree – very important for their economy. Travelling by road is made difficult as there are no tarmac roads although it does boast a small airline. The children's education is free up to the age of eleven after which there is a charge, much beyond the reach of many parents of this relatively poor island. It is mainly in their beautiful handcrafting skills which allows them earning power as demonstrated in the lovely products which Jane brought to our meeting.

The meeting ended with refreshments and the usual quiz and raffle. If you would like any information on Town-



women's Guild meetings, please telephone Mrs Sheila Southwell on **01273 841106**, or just come along to try us out. We meet the fourth Tuesday of every month at 2.30 pm and meetings last for about two hours.

Avril Williams

#### BUY TICKETS FOR OPEN AIR CINEMA IN SUR-REY THIS AUGUST FOR LOCAL AIR AMBU-

**LANCE!** Air Ambulance Kent Surrey Sussex is proud to be hosting an Open Air Cinema, in association with Gatwick Airport, where they will screen the 1.21 gigawatt blockbuster, Back to the Future!

The 80's pop culture classic will be shown on a huge screen in the grounds of Gatwick Aviation Museum, in Charlwood (Surrey), on Saturday **10th August**. Gates will open at 5 pm, with Back to the Future starting at around 8.30pm after the sun sets.

Tickets for this exclusive event and admission includes entry into the Aviation Museum, live music and the opportunity to see the Air Ambulance up close – subject to emergencies.

This event has been organised by Air Ambulance Kent Surrey Sussex in association with Gatwick Airport. All proceeds will go towards the life-saving work of the Air Ambulance.

Tickets are on sale now and are available to buy at **aakssopenaircinema.eventbrite.co.uk** (advanced booking is required). Get yours today! *Lauren Simmons* 

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#### MEN'S HEALTH: NATIONAL CYCLE TO WORK

**DAY** This year, on **8th August**, National Cycle to Work Day, the UK's biggest cycle commuting event, is encouraging thousands of enthusiastic riders to hit the streets to celebrate everyday cycling.

Cycling has seen an increase in popularity over the last few years with great local events like the Velo South and triathlons across the county. Cycling is a fun and effective form of exercise, but some worry that pressure from a bicycle saddle can cause urinary, sexual, prostate problems and can even increase your risk of prostate cancer. Although some clinical studies show that side effects of bicycle riding in men can include genital numbness and in rare cases infertility, impotence, blood in the urine, inflammation of the prostate, and elevated PSA levels, do the pros of an active lifestyle outweigh the risks?

As a keen cyclist, Simon Woodhams, Consultant Urologist joined his colleagues last year to raise over £30,000 for local urology services, taking part in their own version of the cancelled Velo South.

He explains, The prostate-specific antigen, or PSA, test is the current gold standard for identifying prostate cancer. Although studies are mixed about the effects of cycling on the PSA test, a few have linked bicycle riding to temporary elevated PSA levels, which could lead to a false screening. If you are concerned about the possibility and have an upcoming PSA test, you may consider

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avoiding cycling before blood sampling. Regular bicycle riding does not cause prostate cancer, and it may even reduce your risk of developing it.

If you have a chronic prostate problem that's provoked by using a conventional seat, you can switch to a recumbent seat. 'Noseless' bicycle saddles can reduce numbness, pressure and genital discomfort in male cyclists. A traditional bike saddle puts 25% to 40% of your body's weight on the nerves and blood vessels down there, but a no-nose saddle shifts that weight toward the sit bones. A lack of exercise and eating a high-fat diet are two risk factors for developing prostate cancer that you can control. Other risk factors include your age, race, genetics and family history.

Men who get the most exercise have a lower incidence of prostate cancer when compared with men who get little or no exercise. Exercising on most days of the week can help you lower your risk of developing prostate cancer. Bicycle riding is an excellent form of exercise and will not increase your risk of prostate cancer. Other ways to reduce your risk of prostate cancer are staying at a healthy weight and eating a well-balanced, healthy diet that includes plenty of fruits, vegetables and whole-grain foods.'

For more information visit www.westsussexurology.co.uk

Janet Francis

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**HURSTPIERPOINT OPEN GARDENS** A break in 2018 seemed to have been just what was needed for local gardeners and the team as this year, attendance and takings broke all records.

We were overwhelmed with the generosity of local businesses and residents contributing the likes of wonderful plants and home-baked cakes. Both ran out, just at the right time and contributed to the amazing takings. Not surprising when you saw the vendors multitasking to keep up with the queues throughout the afternoon.

The 9 gardeners who opened their gates couldn't have more different offerings so there was something for everyone – cottage gardens, roses, majestic topiary, edible plants, wild gardens, hens, a tulip tree (which came into bloom on the very day) and, not forgetting veg plots. We couldn't have done it without transport being available – kindly provided by Hurst College, Freemans and Cycling without Age. In fact, the event attracted so many more people than expected, that we ran short of transport.... we apologise to those who had to wait this year and we will make sure there's plenty for next year.

The weather was perfect – neither too hot or cold. Events like this bring out the best in the village and we really hope that any newcomers and long-term resi-

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dents enjoyed the afternoon, bumped into neighbours – old and new and enjoyed a cup of tea and chat in one of the gardens (in the case of Langton Lane - with relaxing live music to enjoy while you rested your feet). The grand total raised from all this activity was a record £8,502.71. On top of this, two of our members work for Legal and General who generously added a further £1,000 to the total so it was with huge pleasure that we donated £9,500 to our much deserving hospice – St. Peter and St. James. The Government contributes less than 17% of the £2.6 million the hospice needs to run for a year so they need every penny and have asked us to thank everyone involved.

There are too many contributors, to thank individually here but credits are shown on our Facebook page, Hurstpierpoint Open Gardens and our website www.hurstpierpointopengardens.org.uk.

If you are thinking of opening your garden, you can phone me, Prue Heron, on **01273 835064** or **07769 904724**.

Prue Heron

## Deadline for September Talk About Monday 5th August



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**HURST FESTIVAL 2019 - BOOK NOW!** Booking has just opened for Hurst Festival 2019. Go to **www.hurstfestival.org** and plan your September entertainment. If you prefer the personal touch, the Box Office will be open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 9.30 am – 1 pm at the Players Theatre.

From foot stomping Rough Chowder to a Tea Dance and everything in between. Go on a Pig Walk with Hamish, watch The Glass Menagerie at the theatre, enjoy the Brighton Cello Quartet or learn about Living Plastic Free. Take the kids to the Musical Theatre Workshops or Capture the Flag or watch The Ensonglopedia of Animals. Visit the Artist's Studios, buy all your toxin free Green cleaning products or listen to a talk on Lawn Mowing and why it's one man's obsession!

Join the Murder Mystery evening or Bugaloo Stu and his Musical Bingo.

Whatever you do, don't miss out. There are so many brilliant things to do in just 2 weeks, so block out the diary and book now!

Kate Cowan

**DITCHLING DOWNS WI** Our speaker for the evening was a local historian, Paul Green on the subject of "Murders and Misdemeanors". He told us that in the past Brighton has been described as the murder capital of England, and he told us about several crimes by famous murderers in Sussex in the 19th century and early 20th century. We were treated to gory stories of people being strangled and bodies being chopped up, often transported in trunks and wheelbarrows. One of the most

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notorious was the story of Celia Holloway, murdered by her husband John. We were then invited to become members of a jury, so we could discuss various gruesome cases, ask questions and decide for ourselves whether the accused was guilty or not. In spite of the macabre subject matter, the talk and discussion were generally light-hearted.

Our September meeting is a talk by Michael Winn Jones on the subject "Colour me Gorgeous". It will be held as usual at the Old Meeting House, The Twitten, Ditchling at 7 for 7.30 pm on Tuesday **3rd September**. Visitors welcome.

Sally Willis

<u>DITCHLING SINGERS</u> We have no rehearsals in August but are looking forward to sing together again in September. We will keep you posted with dates and venues.

If you might like to join us to sing popular songs, you will be given a warm welcome, just come along or contact Julie on 01273 844818 or Christine on 01273 846098.

Julie & Christine

HEBER OPERA CRAFT FAIR will be held in Hurstpierpoint Village Centre on Saturday 19th October. There are stalls available contact Bethan Jackson bjackson1501@icloud.com or 07990 514428 if you are interested in taking a space. Tables are provided and there will be homemade refreshments available all day.

Jenny Letton

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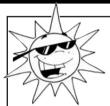
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We thank Peter Grossman for this photograph of the entrance to The Orchard Tea Rooms
- what is now Grand Avenue.



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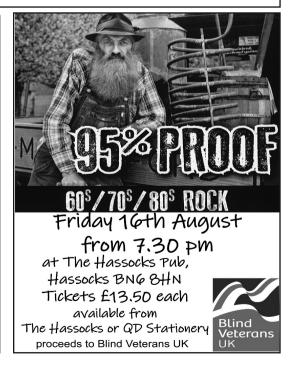
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ARE YOU MAN ENOUGH 1 in every 2 men will have a health problem with their prostate at some stage of their lives.

It could be an infection, enlargement or cancer, 1 in every 8 men will develop prostate cancer and those of African-Caribbean origin and those with a family history of the disease are 2 to 3 times more at risk.

PSA stands for Prostate Specific Antigen, it is a simple blood test that measures the amount of antigen, produced by the prostate, entering the blood. It is not a direct test for cancer, a moderately raised reading can be an indicator of a prostate problem, a high reading should trigger further tests to determine if there is a need for any treatment.

Without screening, around 47,000 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer each year. It is now the leading cancer found in men. Around 11,800 men die of this disease annually, one every 45 minutes. Caught in the early stages, cure rates are dramatically improved with over 80% success. General symptoms of problems with the prostate are frequent need to urinate especially at night; bursting to urinate, slow flow, difficult, painful; stop/start and dribbling, or blood in the urine.

The charity PCaSO (Prostate Cancer Support Organisation) in partnership with Burgess Hill District Lions



are offering free PSA testing for men aged between 45 and 80 on 12th October at the Triangle Leisure Centre, Triangle Way, Burgess Hill RH15 8WA. We are also testing in East Grinstead on 23rd November.

It is essential to book an appointment time - this can be done online at www.psatesting.org/burgess-hill or for booking enquiries phone **0845** 650 2555.

Tony Parris

HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL GROUP In June Tanis Faulks from Sussex Living Magazine came to see us. It was good to learn about how and when it started and all the work that goes into production. I recently used the free voucher in the magazine to go to Hickstead - most enjoyable. Thank you Sussex Living & Tanis.

Our next meeting is 7th August - Garden Party. Do come & join us for what are enjoyable, informative & social afternoons.

We meet at The Guide HO, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint from 2-4 pm on the first Wednesday of each

For more information please contact Dianne 01273 835284 or myself 07806 670359.

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Now! We could talk about the amazing range of replacement doors that we have on display at our Ditchling showrooms or the wonderful solid oak dovetailed drawers that we make but we are going to start by describing something more mundane.

Let's start at the beginning. Perhaps you need new doors or a tall oven or an eye level fridge or new worktops. Perhaps some things need repositioning and some appliances need replacing. There are many different reasons people want to re-arrange their kitchens.

The first thing we do is come and give you some sensible intelligent design ideas. How can we change/sort/move around or replace the minimum elements of your kitchen to give you a refurbished kitchen that really works?

We do not try to sell you lots of new cabinets. We come and discuss how we can transform your existing kitchen with the minimum of fuss and expense.

Yes, we have a fantastic range of doors and worktops and sinks and taps and appliances and that is important but we are building our reputation on service and attention to detail.

So firstly, we simply come and discuss what you want or need. You will have your own thoughts. You may have lived with some real irritations but can't see a way to sort them out. We can add a professional designers eye. You might well be pleasantly surprised how inventive we can be at resolving difficult kitchen problems. We will do some sketches and scribble some plans and discuss costings and budgets. Then we will leave you with these ideas and let you mull them over at your leisure. There is absolutely no pressure. We are not sales people; we are kitchen designers, cabinet makers and kitchen installers offering an exceptional service to the local community at a sensible price.

If you like the ideas then we invite you over to the showrooms at Ditchling [just off the beacon road] to discuss your plans a bit further.

Then we come back on site and have another chat...then we will do a neat intelligible plan and a proper quote. Everything is done in a quiet and leisurely manner. We will never pester you. We will try to work within your budget.

We organise everything like the plumbing, gas fitting, moving a radiator or a new power point or making good an old wall right down to the painting and decorating.

When we arrive on the specified day we carefully remove all the contents of each cupboard and place the contents in a plastic storage box which we label. Then we complete the work. At the end of the refurbishment we put everything back in the cupboards...under your supervision. We clean and tidy as we go along. Our kitchen installers wear outside shoes outside and inside work slippers in your house. We try as best as we can to minimise the disruption, dust and the mess. All old doors and worktops are immediately removed. The kitchen doorway is sealed off by a new plastic doorway to keep the dust from the rest of the house.

When we're finished we clean everything from top to bottom and make it sparkle.

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**TO VIEW OUR WEBSITE PLEASE ENTER - kitchencarousel.co.uk - in your address bar** (If you just Google our website you will only end up with loads of internet rubbish and other adverts.)

But the best thing to do is call our chief designer and arrange a free design visit.

His name is Stephen Hamilton. His tel no is: 07565 722055

Please note our extensive showrooms in Ditchling are only open by appointment!

Thanks for taking the time to read this.

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Well here I am again, I'm still here and it looks like a new lease has been agreed with a rental of £26,500 per annum, pretty terrifying isn't it but it's only a 5 year lease not the usual 10 years we've been used to for the last 46 years. So if the retail market really does get a lot worse and people continue to abandon the high street at least at the end of the 5 years I can say enough is enough and go and do something else that doesn't involve the millstone of a property with massive rent and rates and a public that prefers giving their money to massive corporate businesses that are effectively destroying the planet because they have far more power than any government I know.

Anyway back to my manic life, I had a call from a very distressed lady who had hit a deer with her car which was thrashing around in the middle of the road with scrious injuries. This happened on the road from Burgess Hill to Haywards Heath so it took a little longer to get to her but really I'm pretty powerless to do anything but comfort the lady and try to help. But an injured deer thrashing about trying to get up can be very dangerous. Luckily, if that is what you call it, this one must have also had internal injuries and after a rasping gasp passed away. I then almost gave myself nema trying to lift the body into the back of the ear, no one else wanted to touch it - people are strange. Anyway, while I was on the stretch of road I noticed a board which effectively said "You see this beautiful green field surrounded by wonderful wood and we're going to destroy it all and build hundreds of houses for people and cars emitting more toxic fumes in to the atmosphere and we don't give a damn." Tragically this destruction of our trees and wild life habitats is being repeated all over our beautiful County of Sussex, I expect you know that particular field I'm talking about it's almost as being repeated all over our beautiful County of Sussex, I expect you know that particular field I'm talking about it's almost as being repeated all over our

Ok that's it I'd better go or it'll be too small to read. Please don't forget if there is anybody who can help with that brick wall out the front of the shop I'd be eternally grateful.

Thank you to all my customers who keep us going without you I won't be here so please keep shopping locally when you can.

Love to you all Steve, the cats and Lobo the fox we will hopefully be back next month xx

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