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FARM CLOSE & STONEPOUND ROAD PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Residents of Farm Close and part of Stonepound Road joined together, to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, on Sunday 5th June 2022. This follows a similar event 10yrs ago for her Diamond Jubilee. After a damp start to the day the rain held off for our gathering. We had food, music and scones & tea.

Thank you to everyone for your support and kind donations. We have donated £108.50 each to Help the Heroes and St Peter & St James Hospice.

Tracey & Kevin Jerrey

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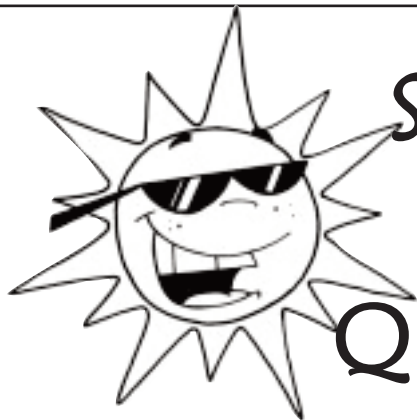


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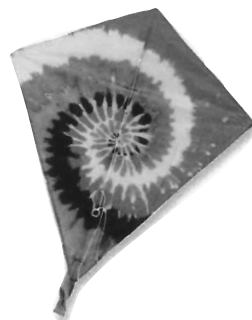
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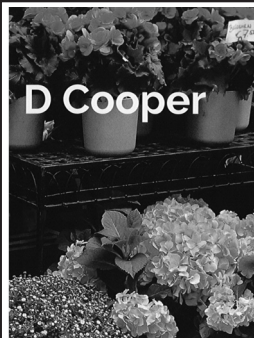
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can come and collect you on our bus to meet new people and have a nice lunch. Come and meet our kind and welcoming volunteers that run our dining room and coffee shop, they are here for you to chat to as well as meeting new people.

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DANNY Relax and enjoy an early evening of jazz, blues and contemporary songs with Julie Roberts, accompanied by Michael Hinton in the beautiful surroundings of Danny House, New Way Lane, Hurstpierpoint on Sunday **7th August** from 5 pm to 7 pm raising funds for NSPCC.

Tickets include a glass of wine available from Mishion Mackay, Hurstpierpoint.

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DITCHLING VILLAGE FAIR This fair was perfectly named, it was Joy and Jubilation all day, from 6 am when the Wizard and Witch awoke the village and congratulated the four village gems, to the end of the day when we were dancing in the rain at 11 pm.

It was a continuous party with so much going on! The bell ringers, the proclamation by Father David, the wonderful Morris Dancers in all that heat! The Jack and Jill race, thank you all for giving us so much laughter and fun with your wonderful costumes and the speed that most of you managed except for the skipping pair!

Of course, before the day even started, we had the magnificent scarecrows around the village. People used such amazing imagination and gave us so much pleasure when walking around the village so that we could vote for the best!

The village green was a hive of activity with all the societies and stall holders creating their wonderful stalls with bunting and all the beautiful produce, gifts and games. Harris's fair just along the road giving the children such fun. The barn provided the most wonderful cakes and teas, thank you so much to all of you that helped and organised this.

The afternoon started with the procession, how

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joyful it was with the horses leading and the children of the village following, our hard-working village gems and of course our friends from Ukraine. Once on the green the excitement began in the ring with our fantastic Master of Ceremonies, he manages to keep us all under control but makes everything so very exciting.

The chaos then began with the dog show, fancy dress, waggy tails, and the musical bales, Crufts had better watch out next year! Thank you all for taking part and for our wonderful judge, what a job she had!

The Maypole dancing brought us back in line, always so very traditional and pretty, thank you to the students of St. Margaret's School. Then the 'In Crowd', so very popular, the tickets go like hot cakes and how wonderful it was to see two young men as the last two contestants. We are very lucky to have this brilliant game provided for us every fair day, thank you.

Finishing off the afternoon was the tug of war with even a team of children taking part and then the Egg Tossing so lovely to see so many people enjoying this and luckily lots of dogs around to clean up the debris!

We then moved into the walled garden for our

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evening festivities starting with the Unreel Ceilidh Band with young children dancing with their parents and all still having such fun, then the Hoohah Party starts! How fantastic that was, superb music and dancing, the rain started about 10 pm but did it stop the dancing, of course not!

None of this wonderful day could happen without a huge amount of work from all the societies for their stalls, from so many people behind the scenes, the generous sponsors, from everyone who supported the fair and of course the people in the village who have volunteered to be part of the Fair Committee, they are fantastic!

I cannot thank everyone by name but a few that did so very much. James for organising the stalls, Aimee & Teresa for the social media, Mark for organising the procession, Bob who created the wonderful design and graphics for the programme, Melissa for keeping an eye on the finances, Sue for getting sponsors and the ads for the programme, Michael our mystical Wizard, Mal, our wonderful Master of Ceremonies, and last but not least our two brilliant Fair Chairs, Simon and Jack, what a brilliant team!

Thank you all so very much from the Ditchling Village Association and we look forward to seeing you on Saturday **15th June 2024**.

Catharine Robinson

TREFOIL GUILD On 15th June we enjoyed a walk around Ditchling led by one of our members. This was very interesting and we all learned a lot



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about the history of the village and some of the artists, sculptures and famous people that have lived here in the past.

Our 20th July our trip to Shoreham Lifeboat Station was cancelled so one of our members suggested playing Petanque in Burgess Hill.

Our August meeting will be a Fish and Chips supper.

We meet at the Guide Hall, Semley Road at 7.45 pm for 8pm on the 3rd Wednesday in the month. Visitors welcome. Call **07546 495433**. *Pam*

HASSOCKS TO GO GOLD FOR SEPTEMBER

Hassocks will be going Gold again for the whole month of September, to raise awareness of Childhood Cancer and to raise funds for vital research for better treatments.

This year's theme is Golden Bumblebees, full details will be online on the HassocksGoesGold facebook page and in local press.

Sponsoring a Giant Bow remains the same please book yours before Friday **12th August** – they can be dedicated to a friend, family, club or business and add a real sparkle to the village. Last year we had 131 bows in our Gold Trail round the village, it would be terrific to match or even beat that number for 2022.

To book a Giant Bow, offer a prize for the Daily Auction, or if you have a fundraising event that you'd like included please contact me via **HassocksGoesGold@gmail.com**.

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Volunteers needed - The Trust is always seeking volunteers willing to become involved in a wide range of activities. These include administrative support, helping at fund raising events, or becoming part of our maintenance, flour production and milling teams. At the moment we are in desperate need of volunteers willing to join our publicity and fund-raising group. If you would like to, or are interested in helping or supporting Oldland Mill Trust in any capacity, please visit our website www.oldlandwindmill.org.uk or contact us via our email info@oldlandwindmill.org.uk.

We will be holding an Open Afternoon on Sunday

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The Mill will be run, weather permitting. Refreshments and Memorabilia will be available but no shuttle bus. Entry by donation www.oldlandwindmill.org.uk.

Stephen Waite & Juliet Strange

PYECOMBE VILLAGE FLOWER FESTIVAL 3rd and 4th September 10am to 4 pm.

The traditional Pyecombe Village Flower Festival will be held over these two days. The theme of this year's festival is, appropriately enough, "Happy and Glorious" and you can be sure of a colourful and imaginative array of fabulous displays. On Saturday, teas, coffees and cakes will be served along with delicious ploughman's lunches. Other attractions will include a selection of local crafts stalls and a village scarecrow competition. Pop in for a look or stay longer and pass the time in our lovely surroundings.

Cream teas will be served on Sunday afternoon and you can listen to live organ music in the church.

Tim Cullen



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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.

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

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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

STAR CINEMA You will be glad to hear that the Star Cinema will be hosting the following film nights at the Adastra Hall this year.....

Fridays 23rd September, 21st October, and 25th November. Films will be advised a little nearer the time - we just wanted to let you know prospective dates for your diaries!

Liz Edmunds



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We had a very enjoyable visit to Firle House on 20th June. It was a beautiful summer day, and the setting of Firle House (the seat of the Gage family since the 1500s), just below the Downs is perfect. Our Guide for the tour was that well known historian Dr Geoffrey Mead who was able to tell us all about the architecture of Firle and its wonderful collection of works of art, furniture, ceramics etc. We usually meet on the last Friday evening of each month, September to May inclusive, and our meetings usually take place in the in the Guide Hall next to Trinity Road car park - but please note that our next meeting will be held on Friday **7th October** in the Methodist Chapel in Cuckfield Road, Hurst at 7.45 pm. There will be a presentation called "The Titanic, One Man's Journey" by Rob Goldsmith, one of the few people who has actually diverged down to the Titanic.

Why not come and meet us on **23rd September**? We are currently seeking new members including a few who are willing to help us run our very friendly society. This doesn't involve a lot of work.



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reMEMber (the Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Society)

reMEMber is the Hurst/Hassocks-based charity that gives help and advice to people who have ME (also known as. Chronic Fatigue Syndrome) Our Newsletter and full information about ME and reMEMber can be found on our website - **www.remembercfs.org.uk** - or telephone **01273 831733** or e-mail **me_cfs@hotmail.com**.

The website will soon include our Summer issue which will have information about implementation of the NICE Guideline on CFS/ME, the launch of the report "Rethinking ME" at Westminster, Covid and ME, and interesting articles by our members who have CFS/ME.

We are planning a Zoom Conference with expert doctors in the Autumn. Watch out for details.

Janice Kent

Deadline for the September 2022 issue is 1st August 2022



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THE WINDMILLS JUNIOR School On the 15th June a team of nearly 70 children set out from The Windmills Junior School to take part in the local athletics area sports competition at Burgess Hill Academy. This was an extra special event as it hadn't taken place for the last two years due to the pandemic. It was amazing to take part in such a well organised community event that really celebrates sports and gives children the opportunity to compete in a range of different athletics disciplines and against so many other children. It is a complicated event. The track and field events run in parallel with children either being selected to enter in field or track events. This provides individuals with great opportunities to compete against their peers in specific events as well as trying to do their best to pick up points for the overall competition.

A huge thank you goes out to all that worked so hard to reinstating this incredible event. The children get so much out of taking part in it.

This was done in partnership with the sports department and The Burgess Hill Academy, Downlands and the Mid-Sussex Active team. Both secondary schools used their sports leaders to run all the different activ-

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ities (field and track). The sports helpers were just incredible. They were all given roles and events to run and really stepped up to this. We were extremely impressed by both schools sports leaders – they knew exactly what they were doing and were really supportive to the children and were great role models. They really made a positive difference to the children, encouraging them to try their best and supporting them through the activities.

Events like this do not happen without an extraordinary amount of work and we are incredibly grateful to all who went above and beyond to make this run incredibly smoothly and be such a positive participatory event.

The Windmills team did a great job on the day with children performing well to pick up points if they came in the top 4 of each event. We were very proud to win the overall competition and were so proud of the fantastic team spirit that was evident throughout the afternoon. It really wasn't until the presentations that we knew we were in contention for 1st place as we certainly had not been winning the majority of the events, but we had been consistently in the top 4 and that made the difference on the day.



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Well done to all those that competed and contributed to such a great event.

We also held our own internal sports competition – the below was written and published by two of our year 6 children:

On the 24th June, The Windmills sports afternoon was held. There was an amazing atmosphere, and such a wonderful way to spend the afternoon. The four house teams, Air, Earth, Fire and Water competed, each team doing an amazing job - not only with their races but cheering on their teammates as well.

The afternoon started off with the obstacle race - one of my favourite races to watch. Followed by the egg and spoon race and the year 6 tug of war. Earth won the girls' tug of war, and Water won the boys'. Other races included: sprinting, 200 metres, slow bike race and parent races. It ended with the relay races, which was the most intense.

During the previous few weeks, the children had been competing in their classes to be awarded scores for the field events. These scores were added to the scores gathered on the day. Every child in the school participated in all the field events and at least one if not two track events on the afternoon.

The atmosphere was fantastic. Each team had a chant they would sing and that was really entertaining. When people were racing, everyone would chant their name and even if they lost, they would still be clapped and cheered. The field was absolutely packed with parents and children.

The results were collected, and the winners an-

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nounced. It was very tight between Water and Earth (40 points apart) but in the end Water won! We were so proud. Thank you to all the adults and teachers who helped out and the parents that came to watch. Written by - Ginny and Henry S year 6 pupils.

PARISH OF KEYMER WITH CLAYTON

Hug in a mug! - A coffee (and cake!) morning for all held at St Cosmas and St Damian Church, Keymer every Monday at 10.30 am (excepting August Bank Holiday) and at Clayton Church Hall, Clayton every Tuesday at 10.30 am.

BBT (Bumps, Babies and Toddlers) - A group for play and chat held every Thursday in St. Francis Church Hall, Priory Road, Hassocks from 1 pm to 2.30 pm.

Family Fun Holiday Activities - Activities and crafts for you and your youngsters. Monday **1st August** at St Francis Church from 10 am to 12 pm – Painting Party!

Wednesday **3rd August** at St Francis Church from 10 am to 12 pm – Mythical Creatures!

Wednesday **31st August** at St Francis Church from 10 am – 12 pm – Teddy Bear's Picnic!

Gary Pickett

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VINTAGE TRACTOR CLUB VENTURES INTO FRANCE... Come the last week of June, Chailey Classic & Vintage Tractor Club travelled to France courtesy of DFDS ferries.

The venture started some three years ago pre-covid. Hailsham, East Sussex, is one of our last market towns twinned with Gournay-en-Bray in Normandie, some 48 miles south of Dieppe.

An exploratory trip with four tractors was the test run, with a larger contingent originally scheduled for two years ago but postponed due to the global pandemic.

Now that we're all back up and running, we were specifically invited to attend a huge tractor and vintage rally expected to achieve in excess of 5,000 people.

Sailing from Newhaven to Dieppe on 23rd June, the impressive convoy consisted of a steam traction engine followed by some sixteen vintage tractors and escort vehicles.

We were specifically invited by their French counterparts (Passion Tracteur Collection) and were received at Dieppe and escorted by the President and representatives of the French tractor club. A French TV crew followed the convoy all the way to Gournay-en-Bray.

We had been there before and brought gifts to the town Mayors as a gesture of goodwill and as a big thank you to the French 'pompiers' who have kindly offered to pro-



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vide water for the steamer.

Howard Venters, Chairman of the club, said "we are enormously proud as a club to have been invited to such a prestigious event with our counterparts in France. I also thank all those club members who supported the trip and those officers of the club who had given so much time and effort to ensure organisation and safe passage".

"Most wonderful people and so pleasing that the vintage heritage resonates with young and old across all countries. Perhaps there is an important message there to be learned about the importance of agriculture, sustainable food production, heritage and perhaps most importantly, goodwill to all".

The Saturday night hosted a communal 'banquet' where like-minded enthusiasts shared local French produce with that gifted by the English contingent comprising English beer, wine, cheese and cider - kindly donated by Harveys of Lewes, Longman Brewery, Bluebell Vineyards and High Weald Dairy.

An engraved English tankard was presented to each of the town Mayors of Neufchatel, Gaillefontaine and Gournay-en-Bray, as a gesture of goodwill and a thank you for the enormously warm hospitality received.

"Our thanks must also go to the Twinning Associations of both Hailsham and Gournay-en-Bray who have worked tirelessly to make this trip a reality", says Howard.

The members returned to Newhaven as a group on Monday 27th June.

Chailey Classic & Vintage Tractor Club was formed by a group of Sussex vintage tractor enthusiasts in 2017 with a desire to preserve the history of agriculture, early mechanisation and tractor heritage coupled with the desire to support local charity.

More info available at: Chailey Tractor Club Telephone **07971 792449**

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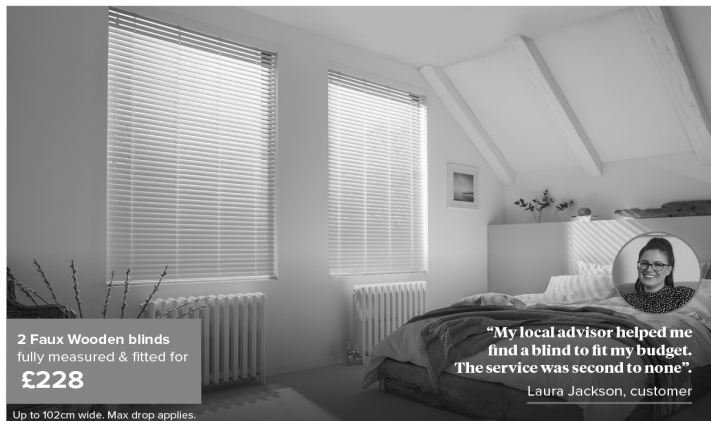
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ADASTRA BOWLING CLUB 1922 – 2022 The members of Adastras Bowling Club are certainly enjoying the Centenary Year events organised by the General Management Committee.

On Tuesday 21st June Adastras Bowling Club entertained a Sussex County Bowling Association (Gentlemen & Ladies) to a match in Adastras Park. Many of the County players travelled from far and wide across the county. They also paid compliments on the condition of the bowling green and the welcome they received on arrival. The afternoon was spent playing bowls in glorious sunshine and of course the Sussex County Bowlers were convincing winners, overall.

The after-match dinner was served in Adastras Village Hall and prepared by Munchies, Burgess Hill. The table floral decorations were amazing in the Adastras Bowling Club colours of blue and gold and designed by Mrs Jackie Heywood, the wife of one of the members.

The Friday Night League is certainly heating up with at least four teams in with a chance to win the trophy which is quite a large shield.

Mr. Roy Hockley will be organising Friday Hot Dog League when the Friday Night League is completed and as the title suggests Hot Dogs are

cooked for the members by Mr Bryan Booth and Mr. Barrie Sheffield after the games have finished and supplied by Andy Twine Keymer Road, Hassocks.

The season ends at the end of September, so you still have some time left if you wish to join Adastras Bowling Club. If you are interested in joining us then please contact the Secretary Mr Barrie Sheffield (**01273 843855**) for an application form.

David Reader

Offered:

Were I somehow conscious
prior to my conception.
And should I then remain
when my atoms have dispersed.
Could I of that brief life's moments
gather a perception.

And see it in the landscape of eternity unrehearsed?

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NEWS FROM STONEYWISH A month or so ago, I picked up a fascinating little book about the history of our local Commons. There were useful dates in it and maps outlining the former extent of the land and thinking that this would be useful for an article one day, I put my purchase in a special place. Of course, that was a fatal thing to do. It seems that all memory of the 'special place' has vanished and after hunting high and low, here I am, on the deadline day for 'News from Stoneywish', having to 'wing it' unaided. But why an interest in Commons? Commons these days are mostly dog-walking facilities where a few wildlife enthusiasts count adders and butterflies and erect information boards. A mere hundred years ago they were wild expanses containing gypsy camps and tumbledown cottages where folk carried on a handful of specialised trades: charcoal-burning, broom-making, turf-cutting, coppicing, herb gathering, brick-making... Susan Falkner, in her delightful memoir, recalls the freedom of a childhood spent playing and exploring on the wildlife-abundant Ditchling Common, while her father, Hilary Pepler, printed books on his hand-press close by. As Reeve, he had the unenviable task of chasing the local grazers for their commoners' fees. Michael's family owned the right to graze 7 and a half cows on the Common and these animals were walked to their pasture up Common

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Lane, while the farm children ran ahead, closing the garden gates of the houses in North End in case the cows wandered through. Go back another century or two and the size of the Common was greater still. Ditchling and Chailey, linked by Middle Common, adjoined St. John's Common in Burgess Hill, with Clayton Common flanking the villages to the West. These formed part of the last trackless wastes of Britain: rough land, too poor for crops, with unmetalled coach roads linking isolated wayside inns, the haunt of smugglers and robbers, and, as Jacob's Post in Ditchling attests, adorned with cautionary gibbets. Earlier still, such places furnished the Civil War with its battlegrounds and held memories of the legendary wildwood which once covered the country. Roman outposts were sparks of civilisation in a vastness where wolves and wild boar roamed free. As progress marched on, the wild retreated. Divide and rule has been the conqueror's best tactic. The assumption of a right to control has seen the countryside parcelled up into lots for sale at an ever-increasing rate. But what is interesting is that each wave of 'enclosure', has had a corresponding effect on the ecology of the human landscape too. The land, which is still, by the way, imbued with the magical ability to reweave webs of furze, stonechat, mayfly, adder and oak, given half a chance, is but one half of the picture.

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(We have had gorse and reeds spring up eagerly on the sandy ridges of Stoneywish, ghosts of former, pre-agricultural times.) The hidden side of this picture is that the domination of Nature has been accompanied by a simultaneous conquest or process of 'enclosure' of the human condition. Our ancient ancestors had a different relation to Nature's Life Force – neither conquistador, nor rapist, nor care assistant. They were not perfect and they were not free in our sense of the word and perhaps they were never physically very comfortable. They also, regrettably, indulged in human sacrifice, (which each succeeding generation seems to have perpetuated one way or another). But they had a connection to their cosmos in a way that we do not. What they lacked in scientific data they knew by heart – each creature, each tree was a physical phenomenon, but also had a mythopoeic existence as part of a cultural commonwealth – so the significance of things played out for them in multiple dimensions. A herb was food, maybe, and medicine, and a delight for the senses, and a link with the planet that governed it, for as all



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the old herbals reveal, each plant offered a specific pathway to the energies of the stars, and thereby to a wealth of legend. Trees had their own calendar in Celtic lore and their own alphabet. Flowers carried emotional messages. (Think of Shakespeare: "There's rosemary, that's for remembrance.") The creatures of the forest were also sacred truth-bearers. We could hardly imagine life steeped in the depth and richness of this inheritance – of living among the Living. As history has unfolded, power-hungry rulers and 'educators' have annexed more and more of it, splicing off areas, debarring areas, demonizing areas, till only the odd poem catches echoes of it, and who passes on poems these days? In his foreword to *The White Goddess*, Robert Graves puts the case more plainly: "'Nowadays' is a civilisation in which the prime emblems of poetry are dishonoured. In which the serpent, lion and eagle belong to the circus-tent; ox, salmon and boar to the cannery; racehorse and greyhound to the betting ring; and the sacred grove to the saw-mill. In which the Moon is despised as a burned-out satellite of the Earth and woman reckoned

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as 'auxilliary State personnel'. In which money will buy almost anything but truth, and almost anyone but the truth-possessed poet." In our lonely world of numbers and fearful predictions we live with dwindling belief in anything but the increasingly mad decrees of the power-brokers who act in our name. But to reverse this process, extend and restore the human commons, might be the one life-enriching, world-changing endeavour left open to us. As the visionary writer and agro-ecologist Pierre Rabhi noted, we too have been 'enclosed'. We live our lives in boxes, from the incubator to the coffin. We make our homes in boxes, work in boxes, travel in boxes. Our minds are absorbed by 'the box'! William Wordsworth, and Blake before him, saw 'enclosure' as a fatal condition, for man and land alike. I am sorry I lost the book with the maps and dates in it. I could have written a perfectly acceptable article about local history...

Instead, a call to action! What would happen if people reclaimed their common-land birthright, like the 'Diggers' of the 17th century? Not as eco-activists in a literal sense, but as individuals determined to see the world as a joined-up place to *live* in, rather than a plot to perish in. Is it possible for mankind to choose an alternative to the world as Real Estate and the plasticised monotony of Disney? And if so where might such a revolution begin? The answer must be in the heart-mind, of course, for this is where 'enclosure' began and there is nowhere else that is truly ours, or more astonishingly able to make vital connections. There are stonechats and lizards and gorse flowers sleeping in our souls, too, just waiting to return. And then, what miracles might not follow?

Rosemary Alford

ALL THE RIGHT NOTES I am delighted to be able to announce that, following my successful cardiac surgery in June, All the Right Notes will be returning on Wednesday **7th September** at 7.30 pm at the URC in Keymer Road, Hassocks. All are welcome to come along for a free taster session: we're

a community choir open to all ages and all experiences of singing.

For more details check out our website **www.alltherightnoteschoir.com** and put the date for our Christmas concert in your diary - Wednesday **7th December** (which doesn't clash with the football!).

Paul Simpson

HASSOCKS FOOD BANK - Held at the Powell House next door to the United Reform Church in Hassocks from 10 am to 12 pm every Monday and Friday.

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Gary Pickett

YOUNG IVOR JONES FROM HASSOCKS HAS WON A SUMMER QUIZ AT HIS LOCAL GARDEN CENTRE

The five-year-old followed gardening clues around South Downs Nurseries and correctly answered all the questions on his form.

He collected his prize of activities and crafts from Genevieve at the family-run store in Brighton Road. We had tremendous interest in our family quiz, so many congratulations to Ivor for winning his prize which we hope he will enjoy.

Rebecca Houghton-Knapp



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KNOW DEMENTIA - Whats on! On Wednesday **3rd, 17th and 31st August** Brain Waves Choir from 11 am to 12 pm at Adastra Hall, Hassocks. A community choir for anyone with any neurological condition, including Parkinson's, MS, MND, ABI, Dementia and Stroke. Bringing people together in fun and harmony.

On Thursday **4th August** from 2 pm to 4 pm, Memory Moments Café in Hurstpierpoint at Court Bushes Community Centre. For people with memory problems and a family member/care partner. Join us for an informal café with music, games, dance, crafts and much more.

On Thursday **18th August from 2 to 4pm**, Memory Moments Café in Hassocks at Adastra Hall.

For people with memory problems and a family member/care partner. Join us for an informal café with music, games, dance, crafts and much more. For information or to book a place please call Know Dementia on **01273 494300** or email info@knowdementia.co.uk.

Natalie Bouckaert

HEBER OPERA is staging its first full production since the pandemic cancelled everything in 2020. Box office for Martha, by Friedrich Von Flotow opens on **15th August** for performances in Steyning (**1st October**), Uckfield (**2nd October**) and Hurstpierpoint (**8th October**).

Tickets can be purchased (not before **15th August**) by calling **07340 251875** or online at ticket-source.co.uk/heberopera.

This lively opera (subtitled The Fair at Richmond) is sung in English and is light-hearted and fun.

Heber Opera is a self-funding group, based in Hurstpierpoint, whose speciality is in the round productions that bring opera to community spaces and halls.

To join the Heber Opera mailing list and hear about shows, concerts and other events, send an email to Jen.hawkes@btinternet.com.

Jenny Hawkes

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HELLO! A BIG THANK YOU AND AU

REVOIR to the QD team and readers of the magazine whose friendly support we have valued so much over so many years.

Please follow our blog on our website from now on....

The Acorns final Summer Fun programme for 2 - 11 year olds at Westmeston Parish Hall near Ditchling starts on **25th July** and finishes on **19th August**.

Lots of fun for everyone! Please see the video on our website.

Have you booked your place yet? Full days/half days.

In September, The Acorns Nursery and Forest School team will relocate to Lindfield opening a new nursery which will work in tandem with our sister nursery school already well established in Denmans Lane Lindfield.

Janet Irwin, the teacher owner, will continue to offer an outdoor programme for both nursery age children and older children being home-educated or deferring entry to school. With a 'can do' attitude, and mixed age group, the children thrive, developing independence skills and confidence and a wonderful sense



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Janet Irwin

HASSOCKS TOWNSWOMAN'S GUILD

At our June meeting we were entertained by John Henty who told us about his association with Spike Milligan and played some extracts from The Goon Show.

At our July meeting we will be having a talk all about the intrepid Victorian artist Marianne North who travelled the world, in heavy clothes, and in stifling heat, to find floral subjects to paint.

Our August meeting will be our jubilee celebration when everyone hopefully will wear a hat, decorated in red, white and blue, and there will be a repeat of jubilee table display which won the Fillis Cup in May.

Our summer outing was to Camellia Botnar garden centre where members enjoyed a cream tea.

Our meetings are always the fourth Tuesday in the month at Age Concern Centre at 2.30 pm.

Sheila Southwell



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GRASS SNAKE “Go wild in the country, where snakes in the grass are absolutely free.” I can still remember Annabella Lwin, of new-wave pop group Bow Wow Wow, singing those words on Top of the Pops back in 1982: a clarion call for early eighties urbanites to get out into the wild.

Annabella was ecologically correct. There are indeed free snakes out there, a fact that still thrills me each time I encounter one slithering through Sussex. As a child I thought snakes were exotic creatures, which hung off African jungle branches in Johnny Weissmuller Tarzan movies to convey a vague sense of something sinister. But there’s nothing sinister about the Grass Snake; the commonest of Britain’s three native snake species. Mesmerising eyes, gorgeous sleek scales of olive-green and a series of stripes along their flanks. For a cold-blooded reptile they sure look hot. A key identification feature is that yellow collar encircling the back of their head. Grass Snakes have been rather short-changed when it comes to their name; they’re much better at swimming than they are at sitting in the grass (a bit like Johnny Weissmuller, who performed better in the water than he did on dry land). You’ll find Grass Snakes gliding through wet ditches and dykes or even in your garden pond as they hunt for their favourite food: frogs and toads.

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when their snakeskin suits become too tight, they slip out of them to reveal a larger, shiny set of scales underneath. They undertake several costume changes each year and can grow to an impressive size – two or three feet is typical but there are rumours of six-foot long monsters out there. Of course they’re nothing to be scared of. If threatened they either pretend to be dead, hiss a lot or, according to my reptile book, “release a pungent, foul-smelling substance from their anal gland.”

In July the female Grass Snakes excavate a chamber in a mound of decaying vegetation – a compost heap is perfect. Inside, she lays 5-20 leathery eggs and the heap’s heat and humidity cooks them to perfection. Set your egg timer for ten weeks and you’ll return to find pencil-sized baby snakes emerging into the world.

I guess not everyone followed Bow Wow Wow’s advice back in 1982 because when leading my wildlife walks I’m always amazed at how many adults have never seen a snake in Britain. But it’s never too late to go wild in the country.

Sussex Wildlife Trust is an independent charity caring for wildlife and habitats throughout Sussex. Founded in 1961, we have worked with local people for over half a century to make Sussex richer in wildlife. We rely on the support of our members to help protect our rich natural heritage. Please consider supporting our work. As a member you will be invited to join Michael Blencowe on our regular wildlife walks and also enjoy free events, discounts on wildlife courses, Wildlife magazine and our Sussex guide book, Discovering Wildlife. It’s easy to join online at sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join. *Michael Blencowe*



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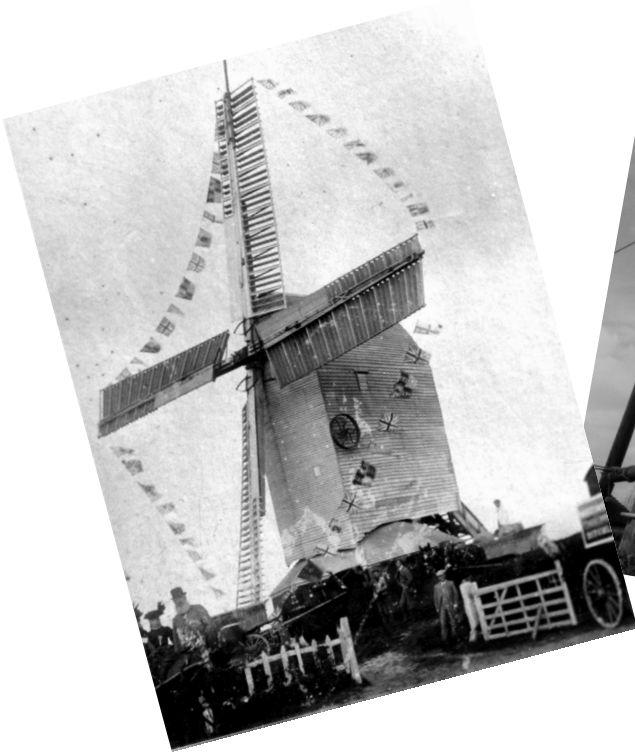
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OLDLAND WINDMILL was built in 1703 to provide stone ground flour to the two local villages of Keymer and Ditchling. The first photograph we have was taken when the mill was dressed to mark Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887. The Mill continued to work commercially until about 1912 when it was abandoned.

In 1980 the then Hassocks Amenity Association (HAA) obtained ownership of the mill and commenced restoration. By the early 1990s dismantling the mill was well underway to identify where repair work was needed (see the second image). This work was put in hand, and the original milling machinery restored and refitted. The first flour was ground in 2008 after a break of nearly 100 years! The opportunity of Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee was taken to replicate the much earlier 'dressing' as can be seen in the third image. May the mill never again suffer the indignity of being abandoned.

Fred



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4SIGHT VISION SUPPORT OFFER FREE

‘MAKE A WILL’ FUNDRAISER West Sussex charity 4Sight Vision Support has announced it will be running a Make a Will Fundraising Scheme in September this year. The success of its first Make a Will fundraiser held last September has meant the charity, in conjunction once again with Kreston Reeves, is inviting people to have their Wills or Lasting Powers of Attorney written (or Wills only, amended) for free, in return for a donation.

The scheme begins with a free session with an expert lawyer giving the group of participants the opportunity to talk and ask questions about different types of Wills, Inheritance Tax, Trusts in Wills, Codicils and Lasting Powers of Attorney. Later in the month any participants who wish to can then take part in the Make a Will scheme itself.

Making a Will is essential to ensure that your money and possessions will go to the people, places and charities that you care about. It is particularly important if you have dependent children and for recording your wishes with regard to pets and funeral plans and should ensure that the burden of taking care of your affairs is greatly lessened for family

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and friends. Lasting Powers of Attorney are also important in case you lose the capacity to make decisions for yourself.

4Sight Vision Support provides support and specialist information to blind and sight impaired residents throughout the county. It is delighted to be in partnership once more with Kreston Reeves, who provide expert legal and financial services to families and charities.

Last year the Scheme raised over £2000, and Fundraising Manager Julie Branson was delighted with the total achieved. “4Sight Vision Support would like to sincerely thank the staff at Kreston Reeves for donating their time for free once again this year. As a result, we hope to raise a substantial amount to help our work supporting those with sight loss across West Sussex.”

For details about taking part in the information session and/or Make a Will Scheme, call **01243 828555**, email fundraising@4sight.org.uk or visit www.4sight.org.uk. More about Kreston Reeves can be found at

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We thank Dave Evans for these pictures of Rose Cottages and the field opposite in Cuckfield Road, Hurstpierpoint. Pictured with the horse is Mr Voice who lived in Rose Cottages plus the horse riders his neighbours Phillis and Audrey. The horse was used for Mr Voices Green Grocery round and was stabled at the back of the Bakery in Western Road that was owned by Mr Williams and before that Mr Marshall.

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CORRECTION TO LAST MONTHS PHOTO:-

The photo of Tony Evans was in fact supplied by him and not his brother Dave. Sorry for this error.

Ed

DEADLINE DATE FOR
SEPTEMBER 2022 ISSUE
IS 1st AUGUST 2022



HURSTPIERPOINT GYMNASTICS CLUB - ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS Over eighty gymnasts chose to enter and demonstrated their skills in their routines and vaulting as they competed for the trophies available. Hurstpierpoint Gymnastics Club's thirty-eighth Annual Championships were held during regular class sessions, watched by all their classmates.

In the junior age groups, honours were shared around the competitors with forty-two gymnasts gaining medals or trophies in the different sections.

For all the Year 3s in their Gracie Allen-Laverty won both the Floor and the Vault, while Matilda Dhanda and Phoebe Dare won their first ever Pairs competition.

In Year 4, Isabella Phillips won the Floor, Faye Gotsinas the Vault and Gracie Smith and Zoe Tyler the Pairs.

Year 5 was a double success for Grace Nicholls – winning both Floor and Vault with a routine packed with difficulty and a handspring vault. Alicia Aitken and Jessica Jones took the Pairs title.

Summer Sargent continued her winning streak coming first in the Year 6 Floor and Vault. The Pairs was won by a new pairing of Zoe Alden and Emilie Lennard.

The top points score was by Summer Sargent, enabling her to win the 'Stan Brown Memorial' cup for the Junior All-round Champion.

In the senior section Chloe Wright enjoyed an excellent competition, winning the Floor Solo and Vault trophies and then combining with Bea West to narrowly win the Pairs competition. Backwards walkovers, free cartwheels, splits and handsprings almost became the norm. The Senior All-round Champion trophy was comfortably won by Chloe.

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 website **www.hurstpierpointgym.co.uk**

There are currently vacancies in September in the Pre-school groups which meet Friday afternoons (minimum 3rd birthday) and in some of the school-age groups. Boys and Girls meet Tuesdays, Girls also meet Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Andrew Hair

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HURSTPIERPOINT OPEN GARDENS was another resounding success - maybe even more so because it had been absent for two years and visitors were keen to get back into the swing and enjoy this popular event. The sun came out just in time for the opening in the afternoon and the village was absolutely packed with visitors carrying locally grown plant bargains from the plant stall and scrutinising their programmes to decide on the best route. Freeman Brothers, our sponsors, provided a chauffeured limo and Cycling Without Age were kept busy pedalling 2 trishaws to give lifts to weary walkers.

The generous contributors to this wonderful event are too many to mention here individually but include: local businesses who displayed flyers, donated raffle prizes and plants; the stallholders who helped attract even more visitors with their variety of offerings and gave donations; the talented bakers who produced some amazing cakes; all the visitors who attended and made the event buzz and, of course, the hard-working and lovely gardeners and their helpers who prepared their gardens and then gave a warm welcome to everyone on the day.

And now the most important part - together, in 2022, Hurstpierpoint Open Gardens' participants raised a massive, much-needed £7,215 for our local St. Peter and St. James' Hospice! Thank you everyone involved.

For more photos and individual 'thanks' - www.hurstpierpointpengardens.co.uk or Facebook page Hurstpierpoint Open Gardens.

See you next year! Don't forget to let us know if you would like to open your garden in 2023, please contact Jo Kaddish on **07743 596068**.

I went to the jubilee celebrations at St Francis Church on Saturday 2nd July and wanted to put a

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thank you in the magazine:

Thank you to all the people who made Saturday such a success, I went with my daughter and grandchildren and was very impressed by all the games etc for the children, the food was lovely and so many salads as well as cakes & cream teas in the church.

Everyone had obviously worked really hard to make it the fabulous afternoon it was, it was very much appreciated, thank you again.

Name and address supplied

THE BEACON PARISH OF DITCHLING, STREAT & WESTMESTON Do come and join us for SING! on Wednesday **3rd August** in St. Margaret's Ditchling at 6 p.m. We'll be learning some new songs and revisiting some old favourites: a really joy filled time.

Morning Worship with Communion will take place at 10 am at St. Margaret's on Sundays **7th, 14th and 28th August**.

On Sunday **21st August** the service will be at St. Martins, Westmeston at 10 am.

There will be an Afternoon Service at Streat Church on Sunday **14th August** - please check our website for details www.beaconparish.co.uk.

Wednesday @ 10 am services of Holy Communion will be held in St. Margaret's each Wednesday.

We look forward to welcoming you. Why not bring along any summer visitors you have staying?

Sherrian Guest

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HURST BOWLS CLUB

The Bowls Club celebrated the Queens Jubilee with a 6 rink match in Red, White and Blue followed by a Jubilee Supper. *Keith J*

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APPLE DAY, Ditchling Village Green. Sunday
2nd October. 11 am to 4 pm.

Apple Day will take place on the village green with its usual offerings. Bring your apples (and containers) to be pressed, enjoy the bar, hot drinks, food and cakes. See all the stalls and try the activities, experience the smoothie making bike, learn about hedgehogs. Start practising your welly wanging skills, the competition is fierce.

If you can bring buns, cakes or biscuits for us to sell in the Barn we'll be so grateful. If you'd like to run a stall, let us know. If you can help on the day we'd love to meet you.

We are fundraising to buy an apple scruncher to help with the apple pressing and to cover our costs. More details on Apple Day in the September issue. More information

ditchlingorchard@hkdtransition.org.uk.

Tae Chisholm

HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL GROUP will meet on **3rd August** at 2 pm for a members only Garden Party.

Ann

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HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING U3A, will meet on **26th August** at Adastra Hall at 2 pm when William (Bill) Avenell's talk is entitled "What's in a View". Aspects of various Sussex views. Guests welcome.

Penny Beeby

WEEKLY COFFEE MORNING FOR UKRAINIAN FAMILIES in Hurstpierpoint at the Guide Hut on Thursday at 10.45 am to 12.45 pm. There are English lessons that follow on at 1 pm. Drinks and Sandwiches will be provided.

Penny Rogers

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.
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~~~ WHAT'S ON IN AUGUST ~~~

Clubs, Societies & Groups please let us have your programmes and/or events to **PUBLISH FREE** in this section. Email ed@villagemagazines.co.uk

or send to **QD Stationery 52 Keymer Road, Hassocks, West Sussex BN6 8AR.**

For more information call **01273 846978.**

WEEKLY MEETING

UKRAINIAN FAMILIES COFFEE MORNING Guide Hut, Hurstpierpoint, Thursdays 10.45 am - 12.45 pm followed by English lessons at 1 pm.

HUG IN A MUG St Comas and St Damian Church, Keymer, Monday 10.30 am (excl. Aug 29th).

HUG IN A MUG St Johns Church, Clayton, Tuesdays 10.30 am.

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

HASSOCKS FOOD BANK, Powell House next to United Reformed Church, Hassocks. 10 am to 12 noon. Monday and Fridays.

EVENTS

1st FAMILY FUN HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES St Francis Church 10 am to 12 noon. Painting Party!

3rd ST MARGARET'S CHURCH Ditchling, 10 am. Morning Worship & Holy Communion.

3rd BRAIN WAVES CHOIR Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 11 am. For people of all ages with any neurological condition. Book a place 01273 494300.

3rd HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL GROUP 2 pm 'Garden Party for members only.

3rd THE BEACON PARISH St Margaret's Church Ditchling, 6 pm. Sing! Learn new songs and revisit old. All welcome.

3rd FAMILY FUN HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES St Francis Church 10 am to 12 noon. Mythical Creatures!

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

7th NSPCC Danny House, New Way Lane, Hurstpierpoint 5 pm. Early evening Jazz, Blues and contemporary songs with Julie Roberts and Michael Hinton. Tickets Mishon Mackay, Hurstpierpoint.

7th OLDLAND MILL Oldlands Lane, Hassocks 2 - 5 pm Open Afternoon. No shuttle bus operating.

7th ST MARGARET'S CHURCH Ditchling, 10 am. Morning Worship and Holy Communion.

9th JAZZ AT THE HASSOCKS Hassocks Hotel, 11.45 am. The New Muskat Ramblers entertain with a set Lunch included in the entrance fee. Call 01444 235986 to book.

10th ST MARGARET'S CHURCH Ditchling, 10 am. Morning Worship & Holy Communion.

12th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Millfield Suite Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.45 - 9.45 pm www.msars.org.uk.

14th ST MARGARET'S CHURCH Ditchling, 10 am. Morning Worship and Holy Communion.

14th STREAT CHURCH, Afternoon service please check www.beaconparish.co.uk for more info.

17th BRAIN WAVES CHOIR Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 11 am. For people of all ages with any neurological condition. Book a place 01273 494300.

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17th ST MARGARET'S CHURCH Ditchling, 10 am. Morning Worship & Holy Communion.

17th HASOCKS TREFOIL GUILD Guide Hut, Semley Road, Hassocks 7.45 pm. Fish and Chip Supper. Visitors welcome call 07546 495433.

18th MEMORY MOMENTS CAFE Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 2 - 4 pm. For people with memory problems & their families/carer. Games, talks, music and refreshments. To book call 01273 494300.

21st ST MARTINS CHURCH Westmeston, 10 am. Morning Worship and Holy Communion.

23rd HASOCKS TOWNSWOMENS GUILD Summer outing to Camellia Botnar.

24th ST MARGARET'S CHURCH Ditchling, 10 am. Morning Worship & Holy Communion.

26th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Millfield Suite Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.45 - 9.45 pm www.msars.org.uk.

26th HURST, HASOCKS & DITCHLING U3A Adastra Hall 2 pm. What's in a View - Bill Avenell. Guests welcome.

27th HASOCKS VILLAGE MARKET National Tyres Forecourt, 9 am - 1 pm. Local produce, bread, honey, cheese, wine, veg etc.

28th ST MARGARET'S CHURCH Ditchling, 10 am. Morning Worship and Holy Communion.



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31st ST MARGARET'S CHURCH Ditchling, 10 am. Morning Worship & Holy Communion.

31st BRAIN WAVES CHOIR Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 11 am. For people of all ages with any neurological condition. Book a place 01273 494300.

31st FAMILY FUN HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES St Francis Church 10 am to 12 noon. Teddy Bears Picnic!

CAN YOU HELP?

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STEVE'S BACK PAGE GOSSIP

A lot of speculation as to what the shop next to Marrum Trading is going to be now it's let. The floor has been divided into 3 sections which could be for sun beds but Glo further up the road the 'Posh End' of Hassocks has a fine array of them already, You'd be pushed to pay the rent from an income of a few sun beds, so let's assume they are desks where you can have your nails done. It's no secret a nail bar has been looking for a shop in Hassocks, so my money is on 'Nails Are Us', but I'm probably wrong.

My cats are amazing, we get people from far and wide to visit them, even more now that cats protection have stopped people visiting their rescue centres. Some people just want to be around cats mainly because they can't have any of their own for a variety of reasons. We have now teamed up with Aspens who provide support for people living with disabilities, complex needs and autism. They have people who benefit from being able to sit and relax with cats and we provide that service free of charge. So more young people now regularly visit the cats to just chill out and get covered in hair, but clearly enjoy the experience, because they keep on coming back. They are always accompanied by either a parent or volunteer from Aspens.

The one question I get asked more than any other, apart from how come with so many cats they all seemed to get on? - and just in case you didn't know a group or pack of cats is called Clowder - anyway, I'm always asked how come my cats fur is so soft, that's because I'm oil obsessive. I put it in everything mostly vegetable oil occasionally olive or fish oil, but in every single meal they have raw egg and a variety of vitamins and minerals and I have found that fleas are less likely to inhabit their coats - with the coat all silky they are a lot easier to groom and I always use a wide tooth comb, it doesn't pull and you're less likely to put them off. Most of mine love to be groomed, but I appreciate that it's not always the case. However, my cats have their picture taken every single day of every single week without fail so, they have to look their best, I'm just grateful that they can bring such joy too those not so fortunate mentally and physically, mind you it's 31 degrees out the back of my shop at the moment and what are my cats doing chasing butterflies and some other poor little winged creatures. The heat doesn't seem to bother them at all, unlike me who is definitely not a Lawrence of Arabia more like Sleepy out of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

This time of year I get a lot of phone calls about sick and injured birds and we are lucky enough to have a group of volunteers locally who are willing to help and do what they can to save a whole variety of wildlife, but now because of the latest strain of bird flu sadly any bird found injured or otherwise has to be put down. It's really heart breaking for all concerned. If you find an injured bird just take it to your local vet, do not take it into the surgery, inform the vet you have an injured bird in your car and they will come out and assess it. This is all you can do, however I picked up a baby seagull just recently, there were plenty of people out there willing to put it down, but rightly or wrongly I had a different idea. He didn't seem badly injured just exhausted and a bit thin, so why not give him a chance, so here he is Jonathan Livingstone Seagull looking a lot better and certainly not a bird flu candidate. Let's hope eventually he'll fly off into the wild blue yonder and survive in this rather turbulent world.

Before I go just a little bit more gossip, the now repossessed hairdressers which is next to the dancewear shop is quite likely to become some kind of dance studio, though it's not written in stone yet - watch this space. Stay cool, be cool, love Steve

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