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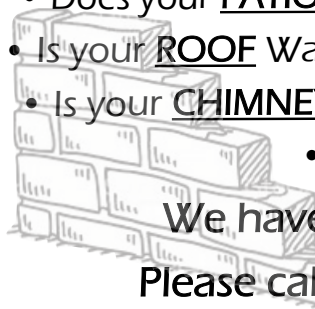
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Your Editors: Joanna Lambe, Heidi Brown & Natalie Dalley

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*We thank Michael Alford of Stoneywish for this picture of Ditchling Fair in 1952. Don't forget Fair Day this year is 15th June.*

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Our Summer Fair is being held on Saturday **29th June**. Come along and see what we have on offer – there's fun for all the family.

Our Coffee Shop will be open and serving fresh food and homemade cakes. There will be various stalls, a Raffle, a Tombola and lots more. Keep an eye out for the posters! May at the Centre included our second Rummage sale – details of how we did will be in the next Talk About Issue. We also visited One Garden Brighton for a day trip which was enjoyed by all.

Hassocks Market is held in our car park on the 4th Saturday every month (date varies in December). Our Coffee Shop and Charity Shop open from 8.45 am till 12 noon. As well as being able to enjoy a drink, cake, or a bacon/sausage/veggie sausage bap in our

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Our Charity Shop is open 9 am to 4 pm every weekday and 9 am to 12 pm Saturdays. Donations are most welcome. While you are visiting the Charity Shop why not stop by for a hot drink and cake in our Coffee Shop, open 9 am to 3 pm weekdays and 9 am to 11.45 am Saturdays.

Feel free to pop in and see what we have to offer. We look forward to seeing you.

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# THE LATE MRS JUDY JENNER



It was with great sadness that we heard of Judy's passing and our sympathy is sent to her much loved husband Rod and all the family. Judy was a devoted mother and grandmother.

Judy joined us at Friends and Neighbours Concert Party in 2007 but was well known before that as our local post lady hence the photograph of her in one of our productions as 'Postman Pat and his black and white cat'. She was a very popular member and was always ready and willing to 'give her all' be it for comedy or more serious items to entertain our audiences.

Judy's terrific courage that she showed during her later years will always be admired and her friendly 'hullo' will be sadly missed in our Communities.

Sleep tight Judy - we have some lovely memories of many happy times together.

*Dorrie and the former members of Friends and Neighbours.*

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**PAUL BOWLEY** It is with a heavy heart that I announce my retirement on Friday 22nd June from the business I have loved for over 45 years.

I first started in the funeral business at the age of 20 for W A Stringer & Son in Brighton in 1980 making solid oak and elm coffins, in 1990 I held the position of Funeral Director for Frank Davey in Hurstpierpoint and in 1999 opened Bowley Funeral Service in Hassocks.

Since being at Frank Davey in Hurstpierpoint and opening Bowley Funeral Service, in Hassocks I have had the honour and privilege to have looked after the loved ones of over 5500 families.

I would like to thank all those families that have put their trust, faith and support in me and my staff.

Bowley Funeral Service will carry on as an Independent Funeral Service with Eric Williams as the Funeral Director, Berit Hoad who has been with Bowley's for 8 years and Alison Powell who took over from Sharon Saunders earlier this year.

It has been a pleasure and an honour to have been your local funeral director.

*Paul Bowley*

## HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL – COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME 2024/25.

Hassocks Parish Council is pleased to announce that it is now inviting applications for grants to assist local community groups or for projects and activities that will benefit local residents. Applications will be considered twice yearly in September and February, with the deadline for submission being **31st August** to be considered by Council in September, and **31st January** for consideration in February 2025.

Full details can be found on the Parish Council's website – [www.hassocks-pc.gov.uk](http://www.hassocks-pc.gov.uk) or for further information please contact the Parish Council Office on **01273 842714** or email [info@hassocks-pc.gov.uk](mailto:info@hassocks-pc.gov.uk).

*Ian Cumberworth*

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**LETS DANCE** In February, Let's Dance! (Hassocks) took to the stage at the New Bury Theatre, Hurst College, to perform their bi annual show for charity - 'Let's Dance & Feel Good'

This year, all the proceeds went to the wonderful St Barnabas Hospice.

A whopping £5600 was raised over 3 shows. All of the dancers, helpers, chaperones and teachers were utterly thrilled with the amount - as were St. Barnabas!

Robin, the principal of Let's Dance and the pupils began raising money for charity in their first show in 1989-many of the dancers still performing with the School to date! This latest amount donated to St Barnabas brings the total of monies raised over the years for charity to an incredible excess of £90,000!

A huge thank you to everyone who went along and supported the dancers. Plus, a special mention to all of the wonderful shops and businesses on Hassocks High-

street for their sponsorship of the show programme!

Let's Dance! (Hassocks) offers classes to ages 3yrs-adult in Ballet, tap and modern. The majority of the classes are held at Studio at No.6, conveniently situated next to Dancewear on The Move. You can email [sallyann@letsdancehassocks.co.uk](mailto:sallyann@letsdancehassocks.co.uk) for more information.

*Sally-Ann*



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Regular volunteer maintenance sessions at the Mill occur on Tuesdays and Fridays but there are also opportunities for work sessions on some Saturdays. While we welcome people with metalwork and woodworking skills, these are not essential. The work varies, and if you can't attend regularly there are opportunities to help with summer painting projects. We are also looking for help with events and administration. In particular, we would welcome someone to drive the recruitment of new volunteers and help administer our

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induction and training programmes. The Trust is also looking for additional dry off-site storage. If you have unused garage or barn space we could use, please contact the Trust.

If you are interested in Oldland Mill, becoming involved, or helping in any capacity please contact the Trust through our website, [www.oldlandwindmill.org.uk](http://www.oldlandwindmill.org.uk). Mill volunteers are frequently at the site on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, if you are passing and we are not milling, they would be very happy to talk to you.

*Steve Waite*

**KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB** The Keymer Folk Dance Club has only two more sessions before we break for the Summer. We meet on Monday **3rd June** for our annual summer outdoor dance at The Barn on Ditchling Village Green. This meeting starts at 7 pm to make the most of the summer sun. Our last meeting will be on Monday **17th June** at the URC Church Hall, Hassocks starting at 7.30.

We restart on Monday 2nd September, as usual at the URC Church Hall 7.30 pm.  
[www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk/](http://www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk/)

*Sean Goddard*



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**TOM DUFTY 29.1.1942 - 19.3.2024** For over forty years a resident of Ditchling and very active member of the village community - died on 19th March. In some of the messages the family received after Tom's death, he was humorously referred to as the 'Mayor of Ditchling' and 'Mr. Ditchling.' These epithets came from Tom being involved in many local clubs, societies and campaigns over the years. Amongst many other things he was: Chair of the Ditchling Society and the village hall, a bellringer at St. Margaret's, one of the original Boxing Day mummers troupe (playing St. George), one of the founders of Chesterton's (the grocery store that used to be where The Green Welly is now) and the Wine Society, an active member of the Ditchling Players (both acting and directing),

and the Ditchling Fair Master (waking everyone across the village with a big bell and a loud voice on fair day). Tom also campaigned vigorously for traffic calming measures in the village and for Ditchling to be included in the South Downs National Park. In his later years he helped produce the neighbourhood plan for the village. He was an important member of the Ditchling History Project and wrote two walking tour guides to the village which are still in print: 'Ditchling in Detail' and 'Walk Around Ditchling Village'. Tom's funeral was held at St Margaret's church on 9th April, and he is buried in the churchyard there. He was loved by many in the village and by his family – Pauline, Richard, Phil and Ros, and his seven grandchildren. Rest in peace Mr. Ditchling.  
*Richard Duffy*



*We thank the late George Jenner for this picture of Hassocks & Clayton Home Guard in 1942.*

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**HASSOCKS WI** Meet 3rd Monday in the month at Adastra Hall Doors open 7.30 pm Evening starts 7.45 pm.

April was subs renewal time and welcoming visitors who have now become members. Thank you so much, you are all valued. This year we have given everyone a membership booklet detailing all our extra groups and activities which take place aside from the monthly meeting. Lots to enjoy, come along we have a good variety and everyone is welcome. Make new friends. The yearly programme was given out. Copies of the WSN monthly magazine are available for all too, just pick up a copy. It gives details of WI events being held in the wider area.

Some of us recently enjoyed a day in Worthing, where we heard from a puppeteer who worked on 'Joey' in 'Warhorse'. And the history of the RNLI which celebrates 200 years of dedication to saving lives at sea. In May there is a day out in East Grinstead with talks from Jane Green, Astronomer and Stephanie Smart from the House of Embroidered Paper.

June is the WI AGM at the Albert Hall when the resolutions will be discussed and adopted. The May meeting is a 'Pre-loved Fashion Show with Humanity at Heart'. We will hear about the work of the charity. The clothes will be modelled by some of our lovely members and there will be an accessories table (cash) during the evening. Our June meeting is entitled 'Musical theatre comes to Hassocks'. The history of this thriving society will be told. After refreshments we will have a pre-view of their next production and the opportunity to purchase tickets.

Our Arty Group outing was to Chichester, for a guided tour of Pallant House learning about its chequered history before its current use as the well known art gallery. There was time to visit the John Craxton exhibition plus a quick dash to view the tapestry in the Cathedral which is too big to be hung in the gallery. All very exhilarating and colourful. Lunch was good too. Their next planned outing is to Bexhill, De La Warr Pavilion. If you are interested full contact details are in the membership booklet. Finally, the Walkie Talkie Group enjoyed a walk in sunshine. Perhaps summer is finally on the horizon but whatever the weather visitors are assured of a friendly evening at Adastra Hall (donation).

Gerry

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June will be another busy and varied month in the parish. Do come and join us on any (or all) of the following dates. Whether you live locally or are visiting the parish, you'll be made very welcome.

On Sunday **2nd June** Morning Worship with Holy Communion and Little Beacons will be held in St. Margaret's at 10 am. On Wednesday **5th June**, as well as our usual Wednesday @ 10 service of Holy Communion, we'll be gathering for our popular SING! session at 6 pm also in St. Margaret's.

There will be a wreath laying ceremony to mark the 80th Anniversary of D-Day at Ditchling's war memorial at 10.45 am on Thursday **6th June** and a D-Day Anniversary Service with Holy Communion at 10 am on Sunday **9th June** in St. Margaret's. Later that day, at 3.30 pm, we'll be gathering to enjoy some delicious cakes and great

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"Our Community in Flowers" takes place in St. Margaret's on **15th and 16th June** (See article elsewhere in this issue) and Morning Worship with Holy Communion will be held at 10 am on Sunday **16th June** in St. Margaret's so a great opportunity to see the flowers before, during and after the service!

Sunday **23rd June** sees our Morning Worship service moving to Westmeston Church at 10 am. and for the final Sunday in such a busy month, we'll be back at St. Margaret's for 10 am on Sunday **30th June**.

As always, do check our website for any alterations [www.beaconparish.co.uk](http://www.beaconparish.co.uk)

*Sherrian Guest*

## WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANK

**YOU** to Sophie Jupp and her family who have been delivering your magazines in Sayers Common for the last 4 years. Thank you for all your help.

*Editors*

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**NEWS FROM STONEYWISH** The cherry blossoms are fading, but I have found new fascinations in Japan, so having extended my 'flying carpet' visit for another month. This time I have set off in the footsteps of the 17th century poet Basho, travelling forest and mountain paths, up and down the country, looking for ancient shrines. I am walking the old ways, described in books before the advent of tarmac and electricity pylons and tourist guides, and I suppose what I am really looking for is a way of looking which is not our usual Western way of looking, and the discovery of a world which is not to be acquired, or packaged in tourist photos and information guides, and which cannot be archived for later, a world which belongs uniquely to the here and now. This sounds like a contradiction in terms, surely. How can one hope to find that which defies definition - in a book? Basho's travels are confided in prose and verse. Here he is, teetering along a perilous mountainside, perched high on an overloaded donkey and terrified that every jolt will pitch him headlong into the ravine. That's the prose version, written down by lamplight once he reaches the safety of a lodging-house. The poem inspired by the same experience, is not an account, but a conjuration: *'Onto a bridge/suspended over a precipice/clings an ivy vine,/body and soul together.'* This is something approaching a riddle and in order to crack open its store of meanings one has to leave the safe ground of what can be measured and defined and swing out over the void. Such words are alchemical. Shamanic. They change

things. They themselves become a bridge spanning the dizzying space between one mind and another, one culture and another, one world and another. They use a very ancient way of teaching obliquely, by *opening* the eyes. In other words, they say, forget data and facts and lists and simply stand where you are and *see* for yourself. There is an old Chinese saying: *"Don't tie your shoes in the melon patch. Don't straighten your hat under a pear tree."* i.e. someone will think you are stealing. All students are thieves, stealing the fruit of their teachers' wisdom and then wearing it as their own. To frustrate this 'false' learning, great masters and poets have always taught in parables and riddles which can only be interpreted in moments of sympathetic enlightenment - Reason alone will never do it. As a shameless melon thief, I have been plundering books all my life, ransacking their hidden shrines for wisdom. But many of these books simply silt up the mind with old melon rinds and pips. What one really needs is to let go of the 'safety' of authority and swing out after authenticity. Suspended beyond reach of received certainties, one can then be open to direct experience. And from there the world looks a very different place. The clogged mind begins to clear its blockage of acquired prejudices and fears. The white noise or mental static which bombards the busy brain, subsides and one can begin to slow down - hear bird-song - note the green things in Nature which exist in a different dimension - a haven which, despite all that is perpetrated against them, remains their

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native sanctuary home and which should, by rights, belong to us too. The traditional Shinto shrines of Japan, as I understand it, celebrate the source of all life as Great Nature, and the elements of Nature, as *genii loci*, 'spirits of the place'. These may be trees, rocks, streams, animals - all and any, sparks of the original splendour - and include us too, since we are kindred from the same source. To connect with the 'spirit of the place' is to find a connection with our own being's well-spring. And if this sounds like Wordsworth, in one of his rapturous moments, that is because he is essentially saying the same thing. And now at last I understand why, when I was a volunteer at Dove Cottage, (Wordsworth's first home in Grasmere), I saw wave after wave of Japanese tourists arrive to pay homage to a man they 'understood' and who appeared to see the world as from one of their own sacred places. For what it is worth, here is what I managed to smuggle out of the melon patch regarding Japanese shrines. They mostly stand in their own sanctuary grounds of forest and garden, meditative spaces where time is allowed to flow at its own pace. There will be a symbolic gate through which one passes from the empirical secular world outside to



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the hidden world within. Even important shrines are often simple and ancient in design, resembling old rice granaries, with heavy thatched roofs and distinctive supporting beams. An imposing approach through avenues of great trees and flights of steps, may culminate in a small, dark, and sparsely furnished building whose inner space is tolerant of other beliefs - and resonant with something undeclared - a mystery. And to awaken the imagination and *sense* this, is to hear, without needing to set foot there, the drip-drip of rain from the eaves, the drumming of a nearby woodpecker, the rustle of moonlit pine branches. This world is also the world at our own back door at home, if only we can find it. There are 'spirits of the place' here too, not only at the National Trust. How beautiful to stop and let this sanctuary world embrace us, transport us, without our having to manage it, tame it, define it. How beautiful to find that other people can be approached with the same reverence and respect - that they also have their own mysterious interiors which share kinship with our own. With the best of motives, we hardly begin to recognise the violence of our intentions towards our world until we let them drop for a moment, or until

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Great Nature strikes us with a thunder-clap of wonder. A poet would call it 'vision'. So, though Wordsworth, like yours truly, never went to Japan, his heart was already there. He can have the last word:

*"My heart leaps up when I behold  
A rainbow in the sky:  
So was it when my life began;  
So is now I am a man;  
So be it when I shall grow old,  
Or let me die!  
The Child is father of the Man  
And I could wish my days to be  
Bound each to each in natural piety."*  
Rosemary Pavey

**DITCHLING FAIR** is truly one of the highlights of village life. A biennial event, 2024 will mark 712 years of celebration; and this year we're more excited than ever! Our theme is "Rogues, Raves and Razzmatazz", so all ages come along (it's free) on **15th June**, dress up, join in! Events include the Jack and Jill race, Tug of war, Dog show, the 'in crowd' quiz, a procession through the village, Ditchling Morris Dancing, the Unreel Ceilidh band, over 40 local stalls, a great food truck area, tea and cakes, and a big party on the village green to end the night!

Simon

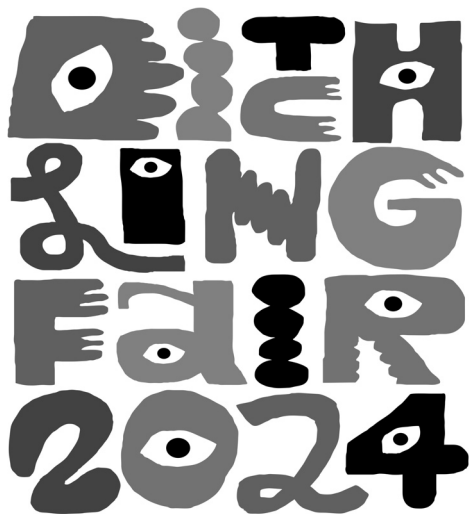
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**“OUR COMMUNITY IN FLOWERS”** at St Margaret’s Church, Ditchling. Open all day on Saturday **15th June** for the Ditchling Fair and Sunday **16th June**.

The flower displays are local, many using flowers from our own gardens and created by societies, businesses and individuals.

Free Entry. Donations welcomed in aid of St Peter’s & St James Hospice and the Beacon Parish. Whatever the weather, there will be the colour & scents of an English summer.

*Sherrian Guest*

**HASSOCKS CROQUET CLUB** Croquet is a sport for everyone. New members are welcome to join us. If you live locally and would like to learn how to play Croquet or are already an experienced player, why not join The Hassocks Croquet Club.

We are a friendly local club who play Croquet most weekdays in the daytime during the season (from April to October) at The St. James’s Montefiore Cricket Club, Keymer Road, Has-

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socks (On the right hand side of the Road from Hassocks to Ditchling - Look out for our Green Sign)

All equipment is provided by the Club. Basic training will be provided. New players are able to borrow the Club’s mallets.

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

*Tony Bright*

**HURST FESTIVAL** is celebrating it’s 20th year in 2024 and is looking for a Bar Manager for events in September to manage Hurst Festival Bars from Friday **13th – 29th September**.

If you are a Personal Licence holder and live near Hurstpierpoint, might this be you?

Hurst Festival organisers say: “We are looking for an organised person with a full driving licence – own van would be useful, or a hire van will be provided.

They would need to be able to lift, carry and manage bars at multiple events and pack down at finish. (Some events finish 11 pm!)”

Would you like to join this happy team to help run this 2-week Arts festival in our local community?

If so email **manager@hurstfestival.org** for more details.

*The Festival Team*

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**THE NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME**  
**HASSOCKS GARDEN TRAIL** will take place this year on Sunday **23rd June** between 1 pm and 5pm to raise funds for nursing and health charities including Marie Curie, Macmillan Cancer Support, Hospice UK and Support for Community Gardens. The 59 allotments at Parklands Road will be open together with a young garden around a newbuild at 5 Ewart Close, a large wildlife/cottage garden at Lodge House in Lodge Lane and a walled cottage garden at The Old Thatch, 15 Lodge Lane in the historic part of Keymer. Teas will be available at St Edward's Church in Lodge Lane in aid of Woodlands Mead College for students with special needs.

There is a combined entry fee and children are free.

For more information, please see the National Garden Scheme website at **ngs.org.uk**.

*Julie Latham*

**HURSTPIERPOINT HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY** usually meets on the last Friday of each month from September to May inclusive at 8 pm in the Guide HQ, Trinity Road. But please note the September meeting this year will be held on **4th October** to avoid clashing with Hurst Festival events.

At every meeting we have a guest speaker who is an expert on historical or geographical matters. For example, on **4th October** the speaker will be Dr Geoffrey Mead who will give an illustrated presentation on "The Coast at Work", which deals with the industries along the Sussex coast from Rye to Chichester Harbour.

We are a very friendly society, and we welcome new members. If you would like to know more, please telephone me on **01273 832280** or e-mail

**w.kent123@btinternet.com**.

*Bill Kent*

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The story in “And So It Is”- is the prequel to “And Now It Is”, written by local author Penelope Bennett, using her pen name of Penelope Kanaar.

The story follows the lives of a French widower, Ricard and an English widow Yvonne, from their first chance meeting at a railway station through several problematic years of their courtship. At times it seems as if the deep-seated jealousy, secrets and intransigence of Ricard threaten their relationship.

Yvonne depends greatly on her father’s integrity and support to guide her through her own personal problems intertwined with work affiliations. The demands of meeting the needs of both her own English family and her new French one, with the latter’s problems arising from both ancestral and more recent incidents, which extend to Australia, seem at time insurmountable. Is it really worth pursuing a dream under these circumstances?

There are lighter moments with new roles to encompass and extend, anniversaries to celebrate, positive outcomes, some mingled with sadness, as problems are resolved, old

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Both books, paperback and e-book, are published by Austin Macauley Publishers and available from **orders@austin-macauley.com**; Amazon; bookshops and libraries. Penelope is most grateful to Jo, Heidi and the team at QD Stationers for stocking the books from where copies are available.

*Penelope*

## SAVE THE DATE FOR AN AFTER-NOON SUPPORTING THE NSPCC

The Hurstpierpoint NSPCC committee are having an afternoon tea party with speaker Jenny Budd at Danny, Hurstpierpoint. She is going to tell us about her life when she was the housekeeper to King Hussein of Jordan. The afternoon will be from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm on Wednesday **3rd July**. For more information, please phone Belinda on **07860 736077**.

*Jonet Marshall*



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# HASSOCKS GOES GOLD 2024



## POSTER COMPETITION & GIANT BOWS

**HASSOCKS GOES GOLD POSTER COMPETITION** The deadline for entries to the Hassocks Goes Gold poster competition is Friday the **5th July!** Entries can be handed into our very own and ever helpful QD Stationery on the high street or to one of the schools. All welcome to enter (it's free!) including Adults – we want as many **GOLD DRAGONS** as possible!

In September winners from each age category will receive fabulous prizes and be featured on the Hassocks Goes GOLD poster! Plus, all entries will be included in the annual Parklands Road Art Gallery.

Sponsorship for a GIANT GOLD BOW for 2024 is now open! These solid gold wooden bows and ribbons can be dedicated to a friend, family, club, business, or in memory of someone a donation is required. Email **HassocksGoesGold@gmail.com** to book yours now so it's all ready to go up in the village for September when we turn Hassocks GOLD all over!

All money raised goes directly to #PearlPower - fighting Childhood Cancers with particularly poor outcomes via the CCLG (the Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group), the UK's largest children's cancer charity. **www.justgiving.com/page/HGG2024.**

*Rachel*

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We meet each month over a cup of tea to share seeds, seedlings and extra produce along with gardening tips and friendship. We'd love to meet you whether you're a veteran gardener or would-be grower of vegetables and if you'd like to find others to help you get started on your gardening journey. You don't even need to have your own garden, as there are some of us that like to collaborate by growing with others. Come along and see what we're up to and help yourself to the seedlings and seeds on offer.

Saturday **15th June** from 10.30 am to 12 pm at Friends Meeting House, East Gardens, Ditchling BN6 8ST.

This is the Quaker Meeting House (not to be confused with the Old Meeting House in the Twitten).

Feel free to bring any seeds, seedlings or pro-

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duce to share. Or just bring yourself!

Thank you! *Catherine, Imke & Julie*

**NO MOW MAY – IT'S NOT OVER!** We'd love to see how your garden (or pot!) grew in May – and you can carry on doing your bit for nature in Let it Bloom June. Please send us photos of your nature friendly space to [green-erhassocksitchling@gmail.com](mailto:green-erhassocksitchling@gmail.com) and we'll feature the best garden meadows of Hassocks and Ditchling in our newsletter.

If you are ready to mow now, watch out for wildlife as you go and clear cuttings to promote more wildflower growth.

June climate hub event - Tuesday **4th June**, 7.30 pm, Proper Cycling Hassocks. We'll be talking about sharing resources, hearing how other villages have set up a 'library of things' and how it might work in Hassocks and Ditchling.

Pyecombe Golf Course Walk - Join us on Tuesday **2nd July** at Pyecombe Golf Course for an evening tour of the nature-friendly areas with greenkeeper Steve Milner. *Beth*



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**SWIFTS** These are uncertain times. Who knows where this planet is heading? But since the start of May I've been looking to the sky for a sign of reassurance: the return of the Sussex Swifts from Africa. Ted Hughes expressed it perfectly: "They've made it again / Which means the globe's still working, the Creation's / Still waking refreshed, our summer's / Still all to come."

Swifts may not look like much - they're basically two wings and a mouth - but it's hard to explain their abilities without making them sound supernatural. Swifts are all about flying. They feed, scream, and mate in the air and bathe in the rainclouds. At night they switch off half their brain,

switch on cruise control and fall asleep amongst the stars. If they had their way they would never come down. But there's one little flaw in their plan: eggs don't float. So, for just a few weeks of the year, they begrudgingly swap the open skies for a cramped nest under the eaves where they raise their young. The problem is in recent years most of these little gaps have been lost to renovations and modern architecture. The destruction of their homes is one of the reasons why Swift numbers have fallen. They are refugees on the wind.

They cruised into Sussex in May after a non-stop, long-haul flight from Africa; not that this trip bothered them. Swifts are all about flying. For me, the Swift is the only bird that takes pure, unadulterated pleasure in flying. Other birds fly out of necessity, but Swifts seem to fly for the joy of it, screaming with delight at the top of their little Swift lungs, a shrill cry that is forever associated with English summers.

By the time you read this, a new generation of Sussex Swifts, born in a roof cavity, have crawled to



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the nest entrance, and bravely launched themselves on their first flights. And what a first flight - they may not land again for two or three years! For these 'teenage' Swifts, the skies of Europe and Africa will be their playground. Nothing will tame them. Well, not until they meet a partner and decide to settle down in a roof of their own somewhere. But don't let this comfortable image of domestic bliss fool you - there's no taming these Wild Ones.

Sussex Wildlife Trust is a conservation charity for everyone who cares about nature in 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. Please consider joining us. Your membership will help us challenge decisions that threaten wildlife, care for more than 30 nature reserves, and inspire the next generation about the wonders of the natural world.

It's easy to join online at [sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join](http://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join).

*Michael Blencowe*

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## **THE WINDMILLS JUNIOR SCHOOL**

On Thursday 18th April our amazing year 6 netball team competed in the Netball Sussex Finals. They played 8 matches and were required to rotate positions every half time! This meant there was not much rest time, yet they played with such determination, drive and focus. Each one of them has made The Windmills so proud with the progress they have made with this sport. They have gone from strength to strength and this is due to their dedication and team work. They finished in an incredible 3rd position out of all the primary schools in Sussex; we are so proud of them!

This term we are working on a new exciting project to update our school library. This will involve redecoration, installation of some bespoke art, and also replacing the majority of our books. A school library should have 10-13

books per pupil and as we will only be keeping around 20% of our current book stock, we will be looking at purchasing around 4,000 books. This could cost the school in the region of £40,000 for the books alone.

As you can imagine, it is a massive task and a great expense to purchase the books needed, label and catalogue them into the system. Our PTA

are working hard to raise extra funds, but we are also reaching out to local businesses to see if they can support with our cause as this is a lot of money for the school to find. If you own

a business or know of any local businesses that would like to support with this fantastic community project (as a charitable project) please get in touch via the school office; we would be extremely grateful for any support. Businesses will be acknowledged in our newsletter and on display in a list of thank yous in the new library itself. We are passionate about making the library a fun, inspirational and exciting space for the children across the school to visit every week.

*'on behalf of The Windmills'*

## **BLOOMIN' MARVELLOUS PROJECTS FOR CHILDREN IN MID SUSSEX**

Over 150 children in Mid Sussex are busy growing plants this spring thanks to a local charity.

The Budding Foundation worked with Tates of Sussex, to help Windmills Junior School in Hassocks and the Tenth Haywards Heath Scouts. Both have been given all they need to raise flowers and vegetables.

South Downs Nurseries in Hassocks provided the compost, seeds and pots which will allow the junior school to complete their Growth to Grub project, and the Scouts to earn their Farming Badges.

Gardening projects are just one area supported by Clive Gravett and his charity. He created the Budding Foundation to improve the lives of young people, especially those who have suffered social deprivation, trauma or disability.

"We love funding educational courses and gardening projects for groups", says Clive. "And can't wait to hear how the children in Mid Sussex get on with their growing projects."

*Trevor Butler*





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## **SUSSEX PATHFINDERS RAMBLING CLUB**

Walking conditions have slightly improved and at the time of writing many of us are marvelling at the acres of bluebells on display in beautiful peaceful woodlands.

SPRC prints two programmes a year and June's edition is the last month available at present. All members are encouraged to submit their favourite walk whether it be close to home or further afield. Our group is renowned for offering around 100 walks a year throughout East and West Sussex for just a small subscription a year and considerably less if you decide to go paperless. However, please come on a walk, or two, before subscribing to ensure it's the right group for you.

June's programme has two unusual full day outings as follows – Saturday, **22nd June**. A 7 mile walk in London meeting at Osterley Underground Station at 11.30 am and visiting Norwood Green, Grand Union Canal and Hanwell. However, check for updates the week before the walk in case of transport issues.

Sunday, **30th June**. 'Figure of 8' walk consisting of 4.5 miles and 5.5 miles starting from Langstone Harbour, Hampshire. The first walk starts at 10.30 am followed by the second one at 13.30 pm. The two walks may be interchanged depending on tidal conditions on

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the day. Jean, our leader, has written that it's a long way for those coming from Sussex, but hopefully it will be summer and let's pretend we are on our holidays!

Other more local walks of varying distances this month. include starting points at Devil's Dyke, Barnes Green, Arundel, Amberley, Warninglid, Hurstpierpoint and Bignor Hill.

Full details of all walks can be viewed at <https://sussexpathfinders.org.uk>. *Diann*

**HONEY BEES** Very soon, hives of bees will be getting crowded, and the bees may decide half of them will leave- taking their queen - and look for a new home.

Yes A SWARM. They are not dangerous, just go indoors and enjoy the spectacle! Leave them to settle, call us and we will come and remove them - giving them a new safe home.

We don't charge (though you may get a 15 minute talk on how wonderful bees are whilst we wait for them to settle) I am teaching new people to keep bees so these swarms are a lovely way for them to begin their exciting hobby. Nature's gift. Thank you.

Contact me on **07792 551413** or **01825 722066** or Ken Isted **07970 635034** or **01273 842458**. *Heather McNiven*

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**... THINK GYM SLIPS, JOLLY HOCKEY STICKS, ADVENTURES AND SPIFFING GOOD FUN AS SCHOLARSHIP.**

Student Daisy joins traditional private school, Grangewood.

Denise Deegan's "Daisy Pulls it off" – follows the Players' smash hit The Lady in the Van and rehearsals for this summer production in early July are now well under way.

Ian Amos returns to direct this **2nd – 6th July** production – and if you're interested it's worth noting that all schoolgirls will be played by adult women – of any age – and all teachers and other adults, both male and female will be played by men!

It will certainly be interesting, engrossing and great fun! But, of course, not confusing – providing you don't allow the remarkable maturity of some of the young ladies attending Grangewood School to distract you!

The new term opens on **2nd July** and continues daily through to **6th July** - promptly at 7.30 pm.

Tickets are now available from the website [www.hurstplayers.org](http://www.hurstplayers.org) – but if you prefer to buy in person we shall open the Box Office on Saturdays: **16th, 23rd and 30th June** – from 10 am to 12 noon.

If you hanker after schooldays long gone [even though they are likely to be the result of an over-imagination] why not join us at the Theatre, 147 High Street, Hurstpierpoint from **2nd to 6th July**.  
*Anne Hopper*

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND – PARISH COMMUNITY STREET PARTY 2024**

Everyone is invited to join us on Saturday, **13th July** in and around St. Francis Church, Priory Road, Hassocks, from 12 pm to 3 pm.

Activities for all ages: games, craft, a bouncy castle, a toddler and baby area, raffle, face painting – to name but a few.

Food: a BBQ, ice cream van, cakes and cream teas.

Entertainment: Please come along, meet the wider neighbours and have a fun afternoon.

We look forward to welcoming you there!

The event is free. Donations on the day will cover costs, with any remaining funds split between the Church's Community work and Finches, a local children's charity.

*Your Parish.*

**CHARITY FUN DAY AT THE HAS-SOCKS PUB FOR FINLEY'S TOUCH**

on Saturday **22nd June** from 12 noon to 4.30 pm.

70ft inflatable obstacle course, bouncy castle, silent auction provided by local businesses, live music, street food vendors, stalls and games.

Finley's Touch is a Childrens Cancer Charity based in Haywards Heath – supporting kids and families all over the UK. They supported Teddy and his family too.

We are hoping to have a Fun Dog show too but look out for posters nearer the date.

*Sam*

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### NEWS FROM BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

On Wednesday **5th June**, Steve Millam will be talking about 'New Ideas for the Fruit and Vegetable Garden' in the Cyprus Hall. Talk commences 7.45 pm, (doors open 7.15 pm). Admission: BHHS members free, Visitors small fee.

On Saturday **29th June**, the Summer Show will be taking place in the Cyprus Hall, 1.30 pm to 3.45 pm. Come along and enjoy some glorious scents and colours, along with refreshments, homemade cakes, plant and produce stalls. Small admission fee. Info: [www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com](http://www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com) or call **01444 245509**.

*Flo*

### THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

- Ditchling & District Branch: This year marks the 80th Anniversaries of momentous battles of WW2. The roads to freedom were opened with hard fought battles, from the beaches of Normandy to the forests and hills of India, where the Allied nations came together in unprecedented collaboration.

This was the case with the D-Day landings on 6th June 1944, the largest seaborne invasion in history and along with the associated airborne operations, it marked the beginning of the liberation of France. An Allied force from no less than 13 countries established a foothold but at great human cost. The ensuing Battle of Normandy was to cost tens of thousands of lives as it repulsed the occupying German forces eastward.

Please come and join us at Ditchling War Memorial to Commemorate on Thursday **6th June** together with HM Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex, Mr Andrew Blackman, our Branch President, Mrs Virginia Lewis-Jones, Vice President, Mrs Juliet Olsworth-Peter, Branch Chair, Mrs Catharine Robinson, and other members of the Branch Committee will gather at the Ditchling War Memorial at 10.45 am for the 80th Commemoration of D-Day to begin at 11 am. We Will Remember Them. For more information, please contact me on **01273 845319**. *Margaret Bovill*

HEBER OPERA CRAFT FAIR Still a few stalls available for the Heber Opera craft fair in Hurstpierpoint Village Centre on **27th July**. Table will be provided. The fair is open to the public 10 am to 2 pm. To book a table contact [jen.hawkes@btinternet.com](mailto:jen.hawkes@btinternet.com).

*Jenny Hawkes*

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**HEBER OPERA CRAFT FAIR** is in Hurstpierpoint Village Centre on Saturday **27th July**. Lots of lovely things to browse and buy on a (hopefully) sunny Saturday. The fair is open from 10 am to 2 pm and there are lots of home-made refreshments, sweet and savoury, to eat in with a cuppa or take away. Still a few stalls available at the time of writing and if you're interested in having one, please get in touch with me, [jen.hawkes@btinternet.com](mailto:jen.hawkes@btinternet.com) or **07770 962811**.

*Jenny Hawkes*

### **BRIGHTON CONSORT RETURNS TO HURSTPIERPOINT**

Following their acclaimed performance in Hurstpierpoint in January, Brighton Consort will be presenting another concert in Holy Trinity Church this month. Their programme is entitled "Prima le parole: La Bella Italia in words and music". The Italian language is known as 'the singers' language' and sometimes considered to be 'The Language of Love'. Many leading composers of the 16th century lived and worked in Renaissance Italy and spoke Italian. The concert title is a quote from Claudio Monteverdi and translates as 'The words come first'. This concert will feature beautiful, lyrical music either sung in Italian or inspired by all things Italian, interspersed with

readings about music, beauty, and la bella vita! The event will take place on Sunday **23rd June** at 4 pm. If you can't make that date there is also a chance to hear the same music in St Paul's Church, West St., Brighton on the previous evening at 7 pm.

For programme details visit [www.brightonconsort.org.uk/next-concert](http://www.brightonconsort.org.uk/next-concert). Tickets can be purchased on the website or you can ring **01273 833746** or buy tickets on the door. *Mike Clemens*



**CLAYTON FESTIVAL 22nd & 23rd June** at St John the Baptist Church, Clayton Our annual Clayton Festival is fast approaching, and this year, we're adding an art exhibition into the mix at our lovely Saxon church. Three of our local artists – Will Spankie, Beccy Bloomfield and Sue Thomson – will be exhibiting their unique response to nature and the environment. And, following the success of last year's plant sale, our local resident horticultural experts will be on hand at Clayton Village Hall, to help you select just the right plants for your garden.

There will also be refreshments and home-made cakes served in Clayton Village Hall. Do come and join us: 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday **22nd June** and 12 pm to 4 pm on Sunday **23rd June**. All money raised will go towards the upkeep of our rather special and ancient church which is listed in The Domesday Book. *Jo Gottschalk*



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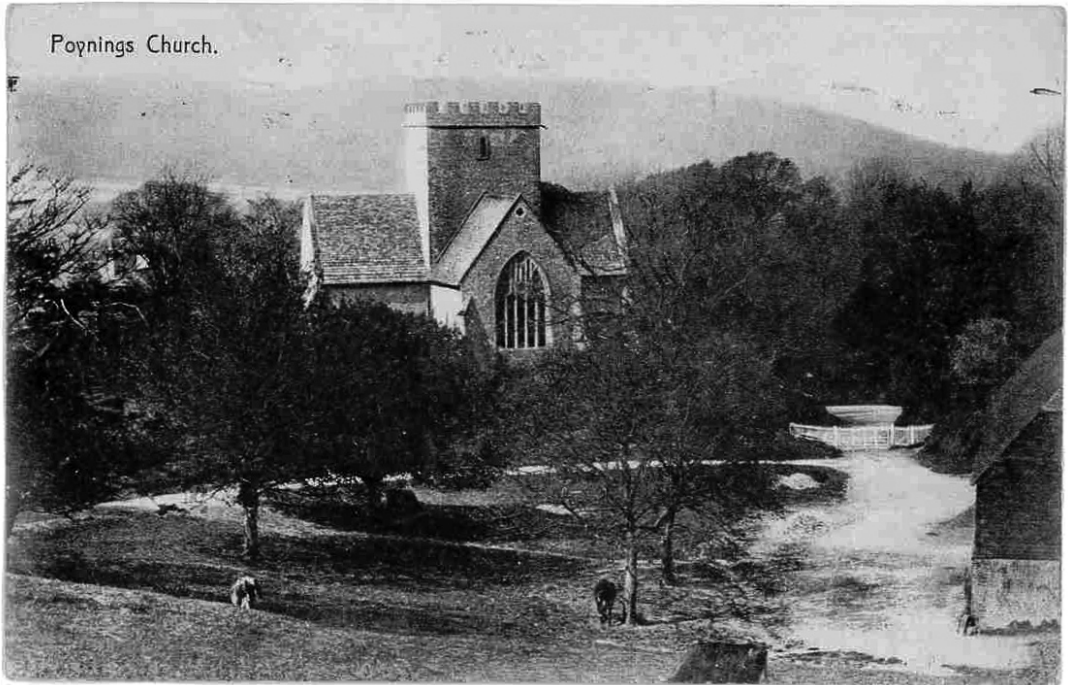
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*We thank Dave Evans of Hurstpierpoint for this postcard of  
Poynings Church which was postmarked 6th October 1905*

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## **4SIGHT VISION SUPPORT ACHIEVES RNIB VISIBLY BETTER EMPLOYER QUALITY STANDARD**

4Sight Vision Support is delighted to have recently achieved The Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) Visibly Better Employer Certification and is encouraging other organisations across West Sussex to consider attaining this Quality Standard. It is designed to support employers in assessing their recruitment and retention practices, and provide the practical tools required for an accessible environment for people with sight loss. As a result, organisations will widen the talent pool available, increasing their employee diversity by attracting and retaining more blind and partially sighted talent into their workforce.

A YouGov poll commissioned by the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Eye Health and Visual Impairment, and funded by Thomas Pocklington Trust, revealed that 48% of businesses do not have accessible recruitment processes and a shocking 25% of employers said they would not be willing to make workplace adaptations to employ a blind or partially sighted person – despite this being a legal requirement. The polling also found many misconceptions and myths about visually impaired people's ability to work.

Kirstie Thomas, CEO at 4Sight Vision Support commented, "We are delighted to have achieved this quality standard which recognises the benefits of having an inclusive and diverse workforce. We would encourage businesses and other organisations across the county to find out more about achieving it for themselves."

The Certification scheme is free, and on completion, employers will be able to assure others by displaying the RNIB Visibly Better Employer Certification logo. If your own organisation or employer might be interested in learning more about the scheme, please visit [www.rnib.org.uk/living-with-sight-loss/equality-and-employment/employers/visibly-better-employer-quality-standard](http://www.rnib.org.uk/living-with-sight-loss/equality-and-employment/employers/visibly-better-employer-quality-standard) or email [enquiries@4sight.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@4sight.org.uk) or call 01243 828555.

It is estimated that there are over 2 million people living with sight loss in the UK, and over 36,200 people living with sight loss or low vision in West

Sussex (RNIB Sight Loss Data 2023).



4Sight Vision Support is a registered charity founded in 1921. For over 100 years the team has been providing face-to-face specialist advice and support to over 3,161 people living with sight loss in West Sussex each year. 4Sight Vision Support also supports parents, carers and other family members whose lives are impacted by sight loss. It works across West Sussex and all of its services are free. Its holistic and person-centred approach ensures that a diagnosis of sight loss is not a one-way road to loss of independence and reduced health and wellbeing outcomes. It delivers outreach services in urban

and rural settings, social support, emotional support and advocacy, provides daily living aids and accessible technology, transport, as well as eye health information, including preventative information to help people retain and preserve their sight. 4Sight Vision Support achieves this with a small, highly skilled and dedicated team, and with the support of around 200 volunteers.

Further Information - Please contact Julie Branson, Fundraising Manager [julie.branson@4sight.org.uk](mailto:julie.branson@4sight.org.uk) or 01243 828555; or myself the Fundraising Volunteer [fundraisingvolunteer@4sight.org.uk](mailto:fundraisingvolunteer@4sight.org.uk).

*Cathy Clark*

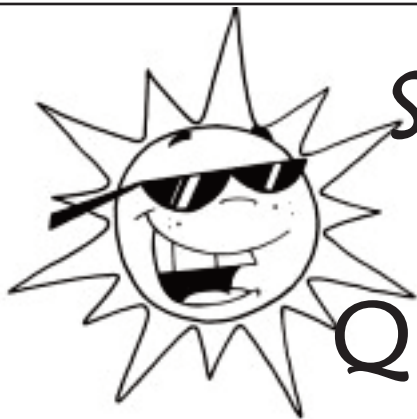
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**DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY** On **6th June**, Ditchling Film Society are showing *Past Lives* (2023). A heart-melting romantic and sad movie. On **4th July** is the night for *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* (2023)

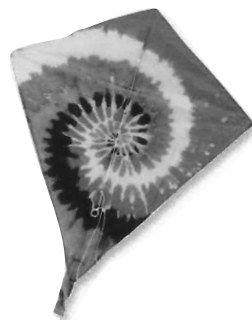
Annual membership for the Ditchling Film Society runs from the time of joining and gives you free entry to 11 films and any extra "Special Events". You can join anytime. Guest entry is also available on the door. New offer! Under 25s can buy guest tickets for a reduced rate. BBFC legal age restrictions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

The films are shown on the first Thursday of the month at Ditchling Village Hall, Doors open at 7.30 pm and you can buy a glass of good wine before the show which starts at 8 pm. There's plenty of parking next to the village hall.

For full information go to their website [ditchling-film.org.uk](http://ditchling-film.org.uk). Follow them on Instagram @ditchlingfilmsoc and Tweet @Ditchlingfilm. *Kate*



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# What's On in June

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

## Regular Events

**BEACON PARISH JUNE SERVICES** Morning Worship with Holy Communion 10 am St Margarets, Ditchling on **2nd** (inc. Little Beacons), **9th** (D-Day Anniversary Service) **16th** & **30th** and at Westmeston Church on **23rd**. Afternoon Service at 3.30 pm at Streat Church on **9th** with refreshments and great hymn singing.

Wednesday@10 (am) Holy Communion weekly at St Margarets Church, Ditchling. Coffee, Chat & Play Thursday mornings in the Emmanuel Centre South Street Ditchling from 10 am. Always check [www.beacon-parish.co.uk](http://www.beacon-parish.co.uk).

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

**DITCHLING MORRIS** - Practise Thursday at United reformed Church Hall at 7.30 pm. Pop in if you feel like joining.

**DITCHLING YOUTH GROUP** - Open to those young people in school year 6-11 we meet at The Emmanuel Centre 24 South Street, Ditchling on a Tuesday evening 6.30 to 8 pm. Pool, table tennis, games consoles & lots of activities finishing with circle time and prayers

**HEARTS OF SUSSEX BRIDGE CLUB** - Mondays online and Tuesdays Age Concern Hassocks. See [www.hsobcbridgeclub.co.uk](http://www.hsobcbridgeclub.co.uk)

**HUG IN A MUG** - A coffee (and cake!) morning for all. Held at St Cosmas and St Damian Church Hall, Keymer every Monday at 10.30 am and at Clayton Church Hall, Clayton every Tuesday at 10.30 am.

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

**MID SUSSEX SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP.** Meet every Tuesday Evening, 7.30 pm, Main Hall Hurstpierpoint Village Centre. Anyone is welcome, no previous knowledge is necessary just a willingness to have fun. Please visit [www.msscd.org.uk](http://www.msscd.org.uk) for more details. (We do not meet in July or August)

**SUSSEX FLY DRESSERS GUILD** Clayton Village Hall, Thursdays 7 - 9 pm. Beginners to Advanced [sussexflydressersguild.org.uk](http://sussexflydressersguild.org.uk).

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

**YOUTH GROUP AT ST FRANCIS CHURCH,** Priory Road, Hassocks. Thursday 5-6.30 pm School Years 4 to 6 & 7 pm-8.30 pm School Years 7 to 13. (Term time only). Lead activities and free time - pool, table football, board games, games consol etc.

## Daily Events

**1st SUSSEX PATHFINDERS** Devils Dyke 10 am. 6.5 mile walk, visit [www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk](http://www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk) for more info.

**1st COELIAC GROUP** South Downs Garden Centre, Brighton Road, Hassocks 9 am - 11am. 'Brunch and Chat'. All welcome.

**2nd DITCHLING SINGERS** Old Meeting House, Ditchling 4 - 6 pm. New singers most welcome to come along and join us singing Burt Bacharach with our new choirmaster.

**2nd OLDLAND MILL** Oldlands Lane, Keymer 2 - 5 pm. Open afternoon. All welcome.

**2nd HAS SOCKS PHILOSOPHICAL FORUM** Purple Carrot Cafe, Hassocks 2 pm. All welcome.

**3rd KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB** Ditchling Village Green 7 pm. [www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk](http://www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk) for more info. 'Summer Outdoor Dance' All welcome.

**4th GREENER HAS SOCKS & DITCHLING** Proper Coffee Shop, Hassocks 7.30 pm. 'Climate Hub Event'. Sharing resources - see article. All welcome.

**4th DITCHLING DOWNS WI** Ditchling Village Hall 7 pm. Chailey Heritage - Joy Dyson.

**5th BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY** Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill doors open 7.15 pm. [www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com](http://www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com). 'New Ideas for the Fruit and Vegetable Garden'. All welcome.

**5th HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL GROUP** Guide HQ, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint 2 - 4 pm 'Your Local Pharmacy & what it can offer you' Paul & Sam. Visitors welcome call 01273 649023.

**5th THE BEACON PARISH** St Margarets Church, Ditchling, 6 pm. Sing! your heart out or maybe just come & listen.

**5th UKES OF HAS SOCKS** Proper Cycling & Coffee 7.30 pm. Monthly community jam session, play and sing along, beginners welcome. All welcome.

**6th BEFRIENDED** Court Bushes, Hurstpierpoint 10 am - 12 pm. Bereavement Cafe - A safe place to chat about grief loss and share stories about your loved ones. More info [office@befriended.org](mailto:office@befriended.org)

**6th ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - DITCHLING** meet at the War Memorial 10.45 am. '80th Anniversaries of momentous battles of WW2' please join us with HM Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex Mr Andrew Blackman. See article for info.

**6th DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY** Ditchling Village Hall 7.30 pm. 'Past Lives'. Tickets available on the door.

**8th WOMENS BREAKFAST** The Greyhound, Keymer 10 am. For a social cooked breakfast. All welcome to book email [tamarajanebaxter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tamarajanebaxter@yahoo.co.uk).

**8th HAS SOCKS INFANT SCHOOL**, Keymer Road, Hassocks 1 - 4 pm. Summer Fair. All welcome.

**8th CHURCHES TOGETHER URC** Hassocks 9.30 am. Messy Church - breakfast, crafts, games and story. All welcome.

**8th SUSSEX SEWING CLUB** Westmeston Parish Hall 10 am - 4 pm. Like minded makers spend the day doing a hobby they love. To book [sussexsewingclub@gmail.com](mailto:sussexsewingclub@gmail.com).

**10th THE GROUP** The Railway Pub, Station Road, Burgess Hill. 7.30 pm. A club for the over 55 unattached. [www.thegroup.org.uk](http://www.thegroup.org.uk).

**10th POLICE BEAT SURGERY** Southdowns Garden Centre, Hassocks 11 am - 12.30 pm. Come along to get crime prevention and advice on neighbourhood issues.

**14th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY** Millfield Suite, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. [www.midsussexars.org.uk](http://www.midsussexars.org.uk). 'Nag & Natter Night'. All welcome.

**15th DITCHLING FAIR** Ditchling Village Green. Road Closed from 8 am. 'Rogues, Raves & Razzmatazz' For all ages its free. Jack and Jill Race, Dog Show, Tug of War, Procession, stalls and more see article.

**15th ALBOURNE PRIMARY SCHOOL** Albourne 12 - 3 pm. 'Summer Fair' tombola, games, food, bouncy castle. All welcome.

**15th THE GROWING NETWORK** Friends Meeting House, East Gardens, Ditchling 10.30 am - 12 pm. Feel free to bring any seeds or plants to share or gardening books/tools you don't need. Children welcome too.

**15th/16th THE BEACON PARISH** St Margarets Church, Ditchling, Open all day. 'Our Community in Flowers'. Flower displays from locals. St Peters & St James fundraiser

**16th DITCHLING SINGERS** Old Meeting House, Ditchling 4 - 6 pm. New members always warmly welcomed.

**16th PARISH OF CLAYTON WITH KEYMER** Meeting Room, Keymer Church Hall. 9.45 - 10.45 am. Storytime Creative - Stories from the Bible and the heart and respond with your own pictures or creative writing. Bring an adult. More info 01273 845964.

**17th HAS SOCKS WI** Adastra Hall, Hassocks 7.30 pm. 'Music Theatre comes to Hassocks'. See article. Visitors welcome.



**17th** KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB URC Hall, Hassocks 7.30 pm. [www.keymerfolkdance-club.co.uk](http://www.keymerfolkdance-club.co.uk). All welcome no partner needed.

**18th** DITCHLING VILLAGE ASSOCIATION Ditchling Village Hall 9.45 - 11 am. Ditchling Parish Council. All welcome.

**21st** MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Jack and Jill Windmill Car Park 7 pm. [www.midsussexars.org.uk](http://www.midsussexars.org.uk). 'Birthday' then to the Jack and Jill Pub after'. All welcome.

**22nd** SUSSEX CHORUS Adastra Park, Hassocks 7.30 pm St Andrew's Church, Burgess Hill. 'Puccini - Messa di Gloria' & 'Bizet - Te Deum'. Tickets 01444 412579. [www.sussex-chorus.org](http://www.sussex-chorus.org)

**22nd** MENS BREAKFAST The Greyhound, Keymer 10 am. For a social cooked breakfast. All welcome to book email [alexbaxter66@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alexbaxter66@yahoo.co.uk).

**22nd** HASSOCKS PUB CHARITY FUN DAY Station Approach East, Hassocks 12 - 4.30 pm. 'Annual Fun Day in aid of Finleys Touch' 70ft Obstacle Course, stalls, street food, raffle & possible dog show. See posters or [www.thehassocks.co.uk](http://www.thehassocks.co.uk) for more info.

**22nd** REPAIR CAFE Age Concern Centre, Hassocks, 9.30 - 11.30 am. Bring items for repair more info call 01273 040110 or [www.hkdtransition.org.uk](http://www.hkdtransition.org.uk).

**22nd** HASSOCKS VILLAGE MARKET Age Concern Car Park, 9 am - 1 pm. Local produce, bread, honey, cheese, wine, veg etc.

**22nd/23rd** CLAYTON FESTIVAL St John Baptist Church and Village Hall, Clayton. Sat 10 am - 4 pm, Sun 12 - 4 pm. 'Annual Clayton Festival' Art Exhibition, Plants sale, refreshments & homemade cakes. See article.

**21st** DITCHLING BEACON AND COMMON Ditchling Beacon CP 11 am 'Ditchling Beacon Walk' guided by Oliver Whaley. All welcome.

**23rd** SUSSEX PATHFINDERS Hurstpierpoint Trinity Road Car Park 2 pm. 5.5 mile visit [www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk](http://www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk) for more info.

**23rd** MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY St Johns Park, Burgess Hill 10 am - 3 pm. [www.midsussexars.org.uk](http://www.midsussexars.org.uk). 'Burgess Hill Town Day'. All welcome.

**23rd** NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME various venues, 1 - 5 pm. 'Hassocks Garden Trail' Teas from St Edwards Church.

**23rd** BRIGHTON CONSORT Holy Trinity Church, Hurstpierpoint 4 pm. 'Prima le Parole: La Bella Italia in words and music' [www.brightonconsort.org.uk](http://www.brightonconsort.org.uk). Tickets 01273 833746.

**24th** CAMEO Keymer Church Hall 2 pm - 4 pm. Open to all - come and enjoy an enjoyable afternoon over a cup of tea.

**26th** SOUTH DOWNS WOODTURNERS Beeding and Bramber Village Hall 7 - 10 pm. Live IRD - Colwin Way. All welcome.

**27th** BEREAVEMENT WELL-BEING GROUP Clayton Wood, Natural Burial Ground, Brighton Road, Clayton 10 am - 12 noon. Come and meet others who understand what you are going through. [www.bereavement-care.uk](http://www.bereavement-care.uk).

**27th** MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL The Hassocks Pub, Station Approach East 7.30 pm. 'Tara Maclean'. For more info and tickets [www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk](http://www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk).

**27th** LIBERAL DEMOCRATS SURGERY HASSOCKS Parish Council Offices Committee Room 11 am - 12 pm. Kirsty Lord, Sue Hutton, Kristian Berggreen & Chris Hobbs. No appointment necessary.

**28th** MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Millfield Suite, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. [www.midsussexars.org.uk](http://www.midsussexars.org.uk). 'On Air Night'. All welcome.

**28th** HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING U3A Adastra Hall, Hassocks 2 pm. 'Juno Beach - A Story of D-Day' Simon Waterfield. Small entrance fee. Refreshments provided.

**29th** AGE CONCERN HASSOCKS Dale Avenue 10 am - 2 pm. Summer Fair.

**29th** BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill doors open 1.30 pm. [www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com](http://www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com). 'Summer Show'. All welcome.

**29th** POYNINGS COUNTRY FETE Rectory Garden. 2 - 4.30 pm. 'Annual Country Fete' games stalls and refreshments.

**29th** DOWNLANDS SUMMER FAIR Dale Avenue, Hassocks 12 - 4 pm. Summer Fair, Stalls, Craft Ales, BBQ, music and dance festival, dash fun run and more all welcome.

**30th** DITCHLING SINGERS Old Meeting House, Ditchling 4 - 6 pm. Just come along and sing you'll get a warm welcome.

## Useful Information

### OUT OF HOURS CHEMIST

Either **Day Lewis** or **Boots** in Hassocks.

Mon. to Fri. 5.30pm - 6pm.

Sun. 10am - 4pm covered by Boots Burgess Hill

**Bank Holidays** Please see chemist doors.

**Urgent prescriptions** call Sussex Police

**0845 6070999**

### LIBRARIES

**Hurstpierpoint - 01273 832609**

**Hassocks - 01273 842779**

Mon., Tues., Wed., Sat. 9am - 1pm

& Thurs., Fri. 1 - 5pm

### HASSOCKS FOOD BANK

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

### NEAREST HOUSEHOLD WASTE

#### RECYCLING CENTRE

**WEST SUSSEX** Fairbridge Way, Burgess Hill, RH15 8AR. From 12th February you will need to book a visit via [www.westsussex.gov.uk](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk)

**01243 642106.**

**EAST SUSSEX** Ham Lane, Lewes, BN7 3PS

9am to 4pm daily [www.eastsussex.gov.uk](http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk)

**0845 355 0550**

### PARISH COUNCILS

**Hassocks - 01273 842714**

[www.hassockspc.net](http://www.hassockspc.net).

Mon, Tues, Thurs 10am - 2pm, Fri 10am - 12pm.

**Hurstpierpoint & Sayers Common**

**01273 833264**

[www.hurstpierpoint-pc.gov.uk](http://www.hurstpierpoint-pc.gov.uk)

Mon.- Fri. 9.30am - 1pm.

**Ditchling - 01273 844733**

[www.ditchling-pc.gov.uk](http://www.ditchling-pc.gov.uk)

## DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS

are at the following locations in the parish. In an emergency please dial 999 to access them:

### **HURSTPIERPOINT & SAYERS COMMON**

**Sayers Common Community Shop**, London Road, Sayers Common

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

**Bowling Club**, South Avenue, Hurstpierpoint

**Court Bushes Community Hub**, Willow Way, Hurstpierpoint

**Fairfield Recreation Ground**, Cuckfield Road, Hurstpierpoint

### **DITCHLING, STREAT & WESTMESTON**

Ditchling Village Hall,

Streat Church and Westmeston Church

### Hassocks - Defibrillator Locations

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

Something  
New  
is  
**COMING  
SOON!**



**Giles Turner**  
Chartered Financial Planner  
and Hassocks Resident...

...after providing clients with financial advice  
for nearly 20 years I am now about to embark  
on a new chapter.

**MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

# David J Stevens

Property Maintenance

Feel free to contact me

07593 792418

djstevens1973@gmail.com

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## STEVE'S BACK PAGE GOSSIP

How many of you have heard of the Pingo Bus? Several of my customers use it and love it, but I've never heard of it. It sounds a great idea, it takes you to wherever you want to go for the price of a bus ticket. The shuttle buses they use are very clean with highly trained drivers to ensure your safety. I don't know how much taxis costs these days, but if the Pingo Bus can save you money then, it's worth looking into. I think you have to download the Pingo Ride app first, enter your details, then request a ride and apparently the bus will arrive very quickly - check it out and let me know how you get on with it.

It certainly all change in Hassocks at the moment. I hear Mr Bowley is following Sharon out the door and retiring. I didn't think he was that old, but I've been told he wants to hand the reins over to someone new. I suppose when you're dealing with dead people every day it must make you realise how short life can be and if you don't make the most of what time you've got left, then you may not get the chance again. Enjoy your retirement Mr B.

Bella and Megs has now changed hands and a young man called Oliver originally from New Zealand has now taken over. He's a qualified chef with very good credentials, he had his own place in Brighton, but found it was becoming overpopulated with cafes and eateries so decided to come to a place less overrun and Hassocks was his chosen destination. I think the new name is going to be Green Folk, he's obviously into providing good food at sensible prices so expect a lot of changes, there will be pizza evenings and more as well as the traditional cafe in the daytime.

Budgens has now stepped away from its Tesco's Partnership and decided to rebrand as 'The Sussex Grocer' with the introduction of Morrisons products. This will all be happening at the end of May with the store being closed for a few days to do the work.

As we all know Thatcher's Barbers changed scissors a while ago now and the new lady owners have decided it's time to let go of the Thatcher name and have a well-deserved rebrand. So, the new name is ROK Barber which is a play on their initials and that's it really. I think eventually they'd like to have a refit, but that will have to wait until a later date. In the meantime, if you didn't know, the word Barber comes from the Latin word Barba which means beard. Ancient civilizations believed that spirits entered people through the hair on their heads or faces, that only by cutting a person's hair could the evil spirits be eliminated. For this reason barbers who did the cutting were held in very high esteem. To celebrate their re branding on the 25th May they had a little party where Oliver also provided pizzas for everyone to sample - how great you can get your haircut and have a munch as well.

The day before on the 24th it's my birthday again. I've noticed as you get older, they come round even faster. This year I will be 72, but I'm still 'Rottin Tootin Shootin' (OK not so much of the shooting) but still no aches or pains, still don't need glasses and haven't had a cold or any type of flu for near on 20 years now. So, I have no intention of giving up or retiring, work is what keeps me young and healthy, as well as the love of all my beautiful animals, not to mention the wife. Happy birthday Steve and God bless CDP oil. Remember to support your local businesses. Love Steve xx

**HASSOCKS PET CENTRE, KEYMER ROAD, HASSOCKS 01273 842392**