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We thank Dave Barnes of Hassocks for this picture of Orion Cinema which once stood where the Orion Parade Shops are now.

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HASSOCKS GOES GOLD POSTER COMPETITION
The deadline for entries to the Hassocks Goes Gold poster competition is nearly here - Friday 5th July! It's not too late to download a free entry form from the Hassocks Goes Gold Facebook page or to pick one up from QD Stationery on the high street. All welcome to enter with fabulous prizes and inclusion on the Hassocks Goes Gold poster for the winners! Plus, all entries will be included in the annual Parklands Road Art Gallery.

Sponsorship for a Giant Gold Bow for the September Golden Trail 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 minimum donation is required visit the JustGiving page www.justgiving.com/page/HGG2024 or email HassocksGoesGold@gmail.com with your dedication or any enquiries.

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.

Rachel

Kevin Jerrey Interior & Exterior Decorating Over 30 years experience • Advanced City & Guilds 01273 844213



TEDDY UPDATE We know that lots of people have been asking after Teddy, which is really lovely, so wanted to give a little update about how he is doing.

Teddy's most recent scans came back showing he is still clear of cancer, and he and his dad headed out to the US at the end of May for his second visit.

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He's back home now and looking forward to his 5th birthday, which is an incredible milestone to achieve after he was diagnosed just weeks after he turned 3.

His next visit to the US will be in August, and we are so grateful to all who worked so hard last year to help us fundraise and get to this position.

Kat

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND – PARISH COMMUNITY STREET PARTY

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

Activities for all ages: games, craft, a county 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 too.

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. Hannah Wurtz

Deadline for the August issue is the 1st July

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We thank Dave Evans for this photo of the Harris Brothers from 2010

ST. LAWRENCE FAIR is almost upon us. We look forward to seeing you over the weekend on South Avenue Recreation Ground.

Friday **5th July** Teddy Bears Picnic - 12.30 pm to 2.30 pm. Come along to enjoy a magic show, cake decorating and a craft activity, a carousel ride and an ice lolly. Small contribution required.

Junior Disco - 6 pm to 7.15 pm. Discounted Pre-book tickets from Fabulous Floors also available on the door - includes a snack and unlimited water/squash.

Hurst Band Night – 6 pm to 10.30 pm, live music, Hurst BAR' point and food by Vil-

lage Pizza Kitchen and Hurst Butchers - a great evenings entertainment.

Saturday 6th July 12noon - 5.30 pm. Come along, support the procession, cheer on the fun run, visit the stalls and street food market (lots of good food to sample), have a drink from Hurst'BAR'-point or tea tent, watch the arena performances, enjoy Harris' Funfair and take part in the competitions. Party games in the arena for younger children, Trolley dash, Tug of War and Chuck the Re-Usable Welly.

Finally, if you're able to support the fair financially in any way, it's easy - simply scan the QR code on any of the fair posters or the front of the programme to be taken directly to Paypal to make a donation.

Thank you so much in advance – here's to a great Fair Weekend - we look forward to seeing you there! The St. Lawrence Village Fair Committee

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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.

Well, I hear the May meeting, 'Pre-loved fashion show with Humanity at Heart' was a huge success. I was on holiday so missed it. Thank you Marie and the models, and thank you Ann and your team from Humanity at Heart for collecting the items and to your trustee for letting us know how the funds raised by the shop support various schemes in Romania. The photos on the WI website are great.

By the time you read this we will have enjoyed our June meeting hearing from Burgess Hill Musical Theatre Company with a preview of their upcoming show' Half a Sixpence'.

There was also a literary lunch on Saturday 29th June, full details are in WSN newsletter. We will enjoy more music of a different sort at our July meeting 'Music of the Paraguayan Harp' with Sheila. A talk and demonstration





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of her love for and dexterity with the haunting instrument. There will be appropriate snacks too, to enhance the evening. And, gosh, where has the year gone? As you know we do not meet in August, but there will be a picnic in the park. We may also arrange some other events so read your emails nearer the time. Come along, all are welcome (donation).

Quick note: Craft club will run **5th August** 2 pm. *Gerry*

THE KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB has had a very successful year. The English Folk Dance and Song Society's Gold Badge Award to our Chair and longstanding member Sean Goddard, and the celebration in March was the highlight.

On each first, third and fifth Mondays between September and June, members meet for an evening of folk dancing, chat and exercise.

Club meetings start again at 7.30 pm on **2nd September**, at the URC Church Hall, Keymer Road, Hassocks. As usual, the clubs website will contain all the details:

www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk

Sean Goddard

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MSDC'S PLAY DAYS IN ADASTRA PARK – free event Come along to Adastra Park on 30th July 1 to 3 pm.

Hassocks Parish Council is very pleased to be welcoming the brilliant Mid Sussex District Council's Play Days to Adastra Park again this year.

The Play Days on Tour is a free event for families aimed at under 10's. The activities include: DJ Workshops, Circus Skills, Golf Course, Magician Tomfoolery, Flamenco Dance, Arts & Crafts with Poponin, Maggie's Music Bus, Sussex Green Living's eco arts, Trail around the park, Football, Lost Woods Project, MSDC Waste & Recycling Games and free fruit from the Co-Op - no need to book just turn up and have fun.

More information can be found about the other 9 Play Days on Tour by visiting www.midsussex.gov.uk/playdays

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HASSOCKS CROOUET 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, Hassocks (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 email to tony.m.bright@gmail.com or visit our Website

www.hassockscroquetclub.net for more information. *Tony Bright*



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SUSSEX PATHFINDERS At the time of typing (the end of May) our group leaders have still been struggling to rearrange walks due to flooded foot paths.

When enthusiastic gardeners are given warnings by the Met Office that the summer will be hot and dry do they buy plants to cope with such eventualities. This year we are already aware of wet weather being forecast for the next few months and I wonder if gardeners are now looking for plants that thrive in damp conditions.

Whatever the weather walkers know the massive health benefits derived from regular walking and the exhilaration felt from exercising outside.

The beautiful gardens of Nyemans at Handcross are well documented and Sussex Pathfinders 5 mile walk on Saturday, **13th July** starts in the National Trust car park at 10.45 am.

By contrast, the following week **20th July** we will be on a 6 mile seaside walk, starting at 10

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am at Seaford. There is usually easy parking at the Martello Tower at the eastern end of the seafront and the walk goes via Seaford Head, Cuckmere estuary and Exceat Bridge.

Visit our website www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk for full details of our new programme featuring weekend walks from July to December. No need to book, just turn up and introduce yourself to the leader. Always check the programme before starting out just in case unexpected changes have been made.

Diann Clarke

<u>DITCHLING SINGERS</u> meet on **14th & 28th July** from 4 pm to 6 pm. At Old Meeting House (2, The Twitten) in Ditchling.

These are our last sessions before our summer break. We would very much like some new members to join us when we reconvene in September. Hope to see you in September! New dates will be in a later Talkabout.

Erika Chapman



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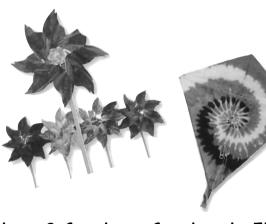
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THE BEACON PARISH OF DITCHLING, STREAT & WESTMESTON. Many thanks to everyone who supported 'Our Community in Flowers' held over the weekend of Ditchling Fair last month, by sponsoring, helping to create the beautiful displays in St. Margaret's, acting as stewards over the weekend and, of course, to all our visitors who made donations, which will be shared with St. Peter & St.

Our Sunday services of Morning Worship with Holy Communion will be held in Ditchling at 10 am on Sundays 7th, 14th and 28th July. There will be a Little Beacons session for younger visitors on the first two of these dates, while on the 28th July, the service will be an 'All Age Family Service.' On Sunday 21st July, the Morning Worship will be at Streat Church at 10 am. All these services will be followed by refreshments.

James Hospice.

Our short summer afternoon service this month will be at Westmeston on Sunday **14th July** at 3.30 pm beginning with tea and cakes. Do join us and why not bring along any visitors who are spending time with you this weekend?

Why not celebrate summer by joining us in Ditchling at 6 pm for SING! an enjoyable hour of singing some new worship songs and revisiting old favourites? We'd love to see you. Our Wednesday @ 10 service of Holy Com-

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munion continues each Wednesday in Ditchling.

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Sherrian Guest

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greenerhassocksditchling@gmail.com.

Beth



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AGE CONCERN Dale Avenue, Hassocks. 01273 844461 www.achassocks.co.uk.

Facebook - Age Concern Hassocks

Our Summer Fair was held on Saturday 29th June. There was fun for all the family with children's games, stalls, Raffle and much more. Our lovely Garden was the perfect spot to come and sit to enjoy a drink or something to eat from our Coffee Shop. We will let you know how much we raised in the next issue. We would like to thank everyone who came and supported us and the Volunteers who give up so much of their time to help make these events possible. If you are interested in joining the Volunteers who help to keep Age Concern Hassocks going, feel free to drop in to the Centre or phone the above number for more information. We held our second Rummage Sale on 11th May which was another great success. We raised a brilliant total of £271.90 which will be put to good use keeping our Centre open and accessible for Hassocks and the surrounding Villages. Our next Rummage Sale will be on Saturday 13th July 10 am until 12 pm.

We have noticed that quite a few Parents pop into

our Charity Shop whilst waiting to pick up their children from School. Our Coffee Shop is open to everyone until 3 pm Tuesday to Friday – you could stop off and have a Mad Dog coffee or a cup of tea whilst you wait. We have a sun-drenched patio and a bright, airy conservatory where you can come and pass the time.

We serve a three-course freshly cooked lunch Monday to Friday and we run a bus Tuesday and Thursday, picking up from Hassocks, Hurstpier-point and Ditchling. If you live outside our regular pick-up areas, please give us a ring and we will see if we can accommodate you. Please ask the Office to book transport and/or lunch the day before or up to 10am on the day you'd like to join us. The menu changes weekly and is on our website.

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

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

All at Age Concern

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PURPLE EMPEROR In any book on British butterflies, you'll find our 58 species segregated into social ranks: the common browns, the blue-collar blues, the working-class whites. But turn the page, past the lepidopteral lower-classes, and you'll find a butterfly so unique, so magnificently majestic, so breathtakingly beautiful that for centuries British naturalists have bowed before it. Draped in resplendent robes of iridescent amethyst, obsidian, and ermine the Purple Emperor has to be one of the most impressive animals on our island. In July the purple reign begins.

Aside from an alluring appearance, Emperors also possess that combination of rarity and elusiveness which has elevated them into an almost mythological figure: a butterfly bigfoot. How a large, shiny, purple butterfly manages to exist undetected in our countryside is down to an arboreal existence. Purple Emperors spend almost all their time on lofty thrones high above our woodlands. If we're lucky we may glimpse the glide of a wide-winged silhouette as we stare sorenecked and squinting at the Sycamore skyline.

Up there, in their canopy kingdom, Emperors compete in a power struggle for territory and males gather for summer tree-top tournaments. Their wings flash as they clash in acrobatic aerial jousting, and they spar and spiral high into the Sussex skies. The Emperor's ferocity and fearlessness in the defence of his realm are famous. Butterflies, bumblebees and other insects get a battering if they trespass and, incredibly, bemused birds (including Sparrowhawks, woodpeckers, gulls and herons) also receive a warning wingslap.

Emperors don't lower themselves to feast on flowers like other butterfly riffraff. The Emperor sups sugars by quaffing only the finest honeydew distilled by



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aphids in the treetops. Yet, in complete contrast to its aristocratic high life, the Emperor has some dirty habits which drag him down to the filthy forest floor. To get his majesty's mojo working he requires a midmorning meal of minerals, which he obtains by probing his proboscis into the most disgusting muck he can find. Dog poo, used nappies, dead animals, sweaty feet – nothing is too repugnant. It's like finding the King rummaging through the bins at the back of Tesco.

The female Empress does not have the shining sheen or horrid habits of the Emperor but she too descends to lower levels searching shady Sallows for a place to lay her eggs. Camouflaged caterpillars munch from August to June before giving rise to another distinguished (but disgusting) dynasty.

Recently, the Emperor has extended his empire eastwards. Once a butterfly of north-west Sussex it can now be found all across the north of the county and has been reported around Uckfield – there have even been rumoured sightings in the very heart of Brighton – so keep your eyes to the skies.

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.

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Michael Blencowe

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We thank Dave Evans for these two pictures - the first is of his Aunt Lucy Faccenda coming down the slide in Orchard Tea Gardens, Hassocks,



The second picture is of Antonio Faccenda, Dave's Grandad who ran the Ice Cream Parlour in The Orchard Tea Gardens in the 1930's.

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HURST FESTIVAL is a 2-week Arts festival in Hurstpierpoint and Sayers Common and returns in September for its 20th year! To celebrate this milestone, we are bringing back all your favourite performers in a 'Best Of Hurst Festival' including Herbie Flowers, Richard Durrant, Lucy Goddard and Stephen Grant and Anckorn & Dolavich. As always, we have the ever-popular Hurst Open Studies, Live Band nights, Jazz, Opera, Poetry, Soirees, Children and Family Shows, Cinema, Hurst Players, Talks, Wellbeing, Walks and Tours and much more! Stephen Grant returns to compere the traditional Friday Night Comedy and brings us superstar Marcus Brigstocke plus the fabulous new and up and coming comedians from the Comedy Circuit.

We have three large Saturday night events for your pleasure. The first Saturday, **14th September** is the amazing Richard Removals

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Durrant for you in the Holy Trinity Church. The second Saturday, 21st September, we are pleased to announce that The Counterfeit Beatles will be in the Church and on the last Saturday 28th September we have a fabulous Elton John Experience bringing a full-on party to the Village!

We will be bringing you our mini festival: 'Super Sunday' on Sunday 15th September filling South Avenue Recreation Ground with stalls, theatre, a fully stocked bar, live music and family entertainment.

As a registered Charity, Hurst Festival relies on our brilliant team of volunteers – if you wish to help out during Hurst Festival or before, please contact us at

admin@hurstfestival.org.

We are also looking to fill a paid position this year to help with the Bars. If you have a van or large car and are up for being our crew, please also email us! HF Team

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DITCHLING VILLAGE ORCHARD The Orchard is doing very well and this Spring has had lots of enthusiastic help from our Ditchling St. Margarets Forest School. 66 children from Years 1,2 and 3 visited with their teacher Mrs Evans, teaching assistants and parent helpers all working to make this a fun outdoor and lively We did weeding, feeding and experience. mulching trees, measuring the orchard (for the new layout plan), made solitary bee homes, renovated the bug hotel, learned about different flora and fauna that we need in the orchard. worked out what habitats they like best, tried to get our heads round food chains, and ended with the Year 1s seeing how far a frog can jump (roughly 10 times its length) in comparison to their own jumping abilities and how a frog starts out as a mass of frogspawn.

We have a maintenance morning every first Sunday in the month, April to October, 9.30 am - 11.30 am. Do drop by to find out what we do. We welcome helpers of all abilities and none and stop for a chat and a cuppa about 11am. On **7th July** Maintenance Morning we have Julie Middleton from

SussexNatureRecovery.org.uk who will be visiting us at Boddington's Lane around 10.30 am to tell us about the Local Nature Recovery Strategies being run by East and West Sussex which is part of a new statutory requirement under the Environment Act and intended to

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engage local people in helping to identify priorities for nature's recovery. Do come along with your ideas about what you think is

.important and hear what Julie has to say If you'd like to keep up with our news, you can sign up for our monthly newsletter via the email below and/or visit our Ditchling Village Orchard facebook page.

Apple Day 2024: A date for your diaries. This year Ditchling's Apple Day takes place on Ditchling village green on Sunday 6th October 11 am to 4 pm. Bring your apples for juicing and enjoy the day with all sorts of activities and stalls, bar, food, cuppas and cakes. We'd welcome help with all sorts of activities on this day, as well as donations of cakes and bakes (labelled as to ingredients) so please consider giving us some of your time. If you'd like to run a stall let us know via the email below.

We also need help with the following, can you offer us some of your time:

Social Media person: We struggle with social media and know there are many of you for whom it holds no challenges, so we'd love you to help us with this.

Engagement in the Orchard - This role primarily covers things like being involved with the planning and coordination of Forest School visits. In the past we have also run various popular workshops eg scything, a bat walk, a moth breakfast and a couple of Wassails - anything re-

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ally to do with orchards, biodiversity and the countryside. We have access to funds or can apply for grants to help pay experts to run the workshops but need someone able to coordinate it all. This can be as minimal or as full a role as you want and we'll be happy to offer lots of support and guidance. Apple Day Cakes and Cuppas coordinator: Many many thanks to Hilary who has done this very successfully for some years. People are very generous in donating cakes for us to sell and in volunteering their time to serve teas and coffees. It just needs coordination and we'll be happy to offer support for the first

Someone to join our Strimming Team: This involves cutting the paths once or twice a month over the summer, plus joining in a joint effort to cut back all the grass once a year. Many thanks to Luke who has helped us since the orchard began but has now moved away from the village. We are now down to one volunteer so if 2 more people could offer to

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help you wouldn't have to do it very often. If you'd like to find out more about any of these roles, do contact us via the email below or directly message me on 07754 706198. ditchlingorchard@hkdtransition.org.uk.

Tae Chisholm

JAZZ Lunch with The New Muskat Ramblers Come to the Hassocks Pub Function Room on the second Tuesday in January, March, May, July, September and November., for great food, great jazz and great company. You will be entertained by The New Muskat Ramblers, Peter Leonard (Lead, Trumpet). Alan Cresswell (Clarinet), Rob Pearce (Trombone). Bill Stagg (Banjo), Andy Lawrence (String Bass) and Paul Norman (Drums).

Doors open 11.30 am, the Jazz starts at 12 pm, a set lunch is served during the performance and the Jazz finishes at around 2.45 pm.

Advance bookings only Jo **01444 235986** or **01444 235639**. *Chris Lambe*

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Visit our website: www.theoldflowerfield.co.uk. email: info@theoldflowerfield.co.uk or telephone 01273 835696 for details. **DENISE DEEGAN'S "DAISY PULLS IT**

OFF" – follows Hurst Players' smash hit The Lady in the Van into the Players' Theatre, Hurstpierpoint early in July – and Ian Amos returns to direct this West End hit from the late 1980s which he has now set in the 'fifties. Ian is an inventive director and perhaps you should be aware that he has decided 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!

If you hanker after schooldays long gone [even though they are likely to be the result of an over-active imagination and an addiction to the work of Angela Brazil] why not join us at the Players Theatre, 147 High Street, Hurstpierpoint from **2nd to 6th July** at 7.30 pm. Not everyone wants to book online so the opportunity to come along to the Theatre on Saturday 29th June - any time between 10 am to noon our friendly School Secretaries will be grateful to be distracted from organising interschool hockey tournaments and happy to pro-

vide you with a traditional ticket!

The modern, up to date online system is work-

ing well though, and if you prefer this, then go to the Players website: www.hurstplayers.org.uk where we can take your bookings for the five-night run.

Anne Hopper

NSPCC AFTERNOON TEA AND TALK

Come & join us for Afternoon Tea and Talk by Jenny Budd about her time as housekeeper to



King Hussein of Jordan on Wednesday **3rd July** from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm at Danny House, New Way Lane, Hurstpierpoint.

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<u>DITCHLING DOWNS WI</u> May's talk was given by Pat Colledge who is a local member. She talked about 'The Hated Family of Tutankhamen'

The Ancient history of Egypt lasted for about 3,000 years. The Amarna period was the last thirty years. Akhenaten, his father, had altered many cultural aspects of the country, and changed the political capital from Memphis to his new city, Amarna, which had to be built in his chosen spot in the desert. When Amarna was finally finished, plague was brought in with new residents, and many people died. This was the final blow for the dynasty who had so fundamentally changed the heritage and culture of the country, putting people out of work and destroying the familiarity of their lives. This led to the royal downfall and their dynasty was destroyed deliberately with their names and their statues being erased and forbidden to be spoken of.

The irony of this is that King Tut was supposed to have gone into oblivion, but all the wonderful objects in his tomb have ensured his fame will live for ever. These artefacts were placed in his tomb to be lost for ever, along with his reign.

This very interesting and informative talk was followed by our AGM. All office holders were re-elected en masse and Alison White was also invited to join the committee.

Our next meeting will be the Summer Party on **2nd July.** Shea Rawlings and Susanne Pryde

Karen Butterfill Mssch Mbcha CHIROPODY - PODIATRY

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Sunday **14th July**, 2.45 pm at Adastra Hall, Hassocks. Tickets include refreshments. To Book email **gandstodaysussex**@**gmail.com**.

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THE WINDMILLS JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 3 have been learning about plants in their science lessons, discovering for themselves how to take care of them through lots of hands-on experiences; studying them, growing them and experimenting with what plants need to thrive. They planted their own seeds and patiently waited for them to grow. They conducted an experiment using food colouring to see how water travels through a plant. Water is absorbed into the root of a plant, and it then travels up the stem to the flower. They could literally see the ink moving up the stem; it was quite incredible.

Year 4 travelled to Butser Ancient Farm to



spend the day immersed in an Iron Age settlement nestled in the Hampshire countryside. They visited Celtic roundhouses and tried building wattle and daub walls, then explored a Roman villa with its hypocaust heating system and flushing toilets. One of the favourite activities was to make a wall using the Celtic method. First, crushing chalk and then creating a mixture called 'clunch' using their hands. It is thought that the reason early Celtic tribes were described as pale and ghostly was because the chalky clunch residue discoloured their skin and hair and made them white as a ghost.

Year 5 have been learning about the Prince Regent and the social structure of the population at the time. They were given the task of deciding what people's opinions of the Prince would have been. Despite his bad reputation, the children decided that some would have benefitted from his arrival in Brighton and would therefore look upon him favourably.

On 1st May some of our fantastic runners in Year 3 and 4 competed in a cross country race in Uckfield. They ran 1.1km against other schools in Mid Sussex. The boys competed against 134 and came 2nd! The girls competed against 109 runners and the team came 1st overall and they were awarded with a framed certificate. We are so proud of the children's dedication to running. They have been coming to our cross country club three times a week and their hard work has definitely paid off. The next day 94 children joined us to take part in the mini marathon. Lots of children put themselves forward for this fun event that had not been involved in our running club before and they all achieved the distance of running 1 mile, which was a first for some!

We took ten keen and eager Y4 children to a Tri Golf tournament in East Grinstead on the 8th May. This version of the game is similar to pitch and putt using plastic clubs and targets. There were eight activities that the children had to navigate their way around which tested the children's ability to putt and chip the ball accurately. We had a fantastic (and extremely hot) afternoon scoring 1057 points in total (around 300 more than second place!) which meant we came first out of the 15 schools that took part. This means that we progress again to the next round. It was brilliant to see how hard they worked, how well they supported each other and how thrilled they were to win. They were absolutely delighted with their gold medals.

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NEWS FROM STONEYWISH June seems to be the month of Garden Trails. They are happening all over the country and garden pilgrims eagerly anticipate following the inviting paths and delightful prospects which offer such unexpected perspectives on familiar landscapes. The art of gardening, (says I, whose garden is a riot of good intentions left to chance and therefore the antithesis of 'design') is to project an idyll – a vision of tranquillity, of naturalness, of dynamic creativity.

Monet painted with flowers as his palette in his famous garden at Giverny. Vita-Sackville West did something similar at Sissinghurst. At its most artificial, this can lapse into mere scene-painting and furniture arranging. At its best, it can transport one into a dream-world where the demands of life temporarily recede and the spirit can spread its wings. A garden holds the promise of sanctuary – for us and for as much of Nature as we are willing to allow in.

And it seems to me that the current passion for growing things, for immersing oneself in the beauty of public parks and gardens, or even amongst the aisles of a garden centre, speaks of a hunger for sanctuary, as something one can somehow capture and transport home. No matter that the slugs will have demolished every plant within days of planting. The dream persists. You go back next week and buy more. Or at least I do!

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The trade in garden dreams is very big business; the effort to realise the dream a big effort, fraught with setbacks and frustrations. How many dedicated gardeners can truly rest in their gardens, without spotting another thing that needs doing? Such a 'sanctuary' can be a busy, demanding place. One must not let the grass grow beneath one's feet. For true tranquillity perhaps it is better to withdraw to place which needs less maintenance; to step back from the role of dream-projectionist, or planet-organiser and clear the mind to hear what the land is saying.

There is a venerable tradition of poets and thinkers who have done just that over the centuries. While the affluent and the self-conscious built themselves palaces and pleasure grounds, those who tired of illusion turned heel on the 'world' and sought a deeper peace alone. Not that it was any easier then than now. The solitary visionaries of ancient China and Japan, left warring factions behind and embraced a stark simplicity in mountain huts, where their minds could be free as the swirling clouds in the ravines.

The grass-thatched hut became a symbol of inner freedom and spiritual integrity in the literature of the Far East. The nature poems written there resemble the poems of early Celtic hermit monks in Ireland. Later, a log cabin would become the poet/philosopher's ferred retreat in the West. For the 19th century American,

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Henry Thoreau, a cabin at Walden Pond provided the

perfect place for contemplation and feeling at one with Nature. The writer Hermann Hesse, and thinkers, Jung and Heidegger also repaired at times to the mountains to reflect and practise simple living. Po Chü-i, writing in the 9th century, as lord of his tiny 10' square 'hall', wrote: "One night here and my body is at rest, two nights and my mind is content, and after three nights I'm in a state of utter calm and forgetfulness." Po's hut sat amidst the spectacular scenery of Mount K'uang Lu, replete with a water-lily pond, giant cypress trees and a waterfall, from which he laid bamboo pipes across his thatch, in order to enjoy the sound of dripping eaves. A couple of centuries later, the Japanese, Chomei, built himself a different 10' hut for his retirement on Mount Hino. This boasted the luxuries of a fern sleepingcouch, a dirt floor, a hanging shelf for books, space for a koto (for making music under the moon) and a bamboo verandah with a shelf for vases. Chomei says he gathered grass shoots and berries from the mountain for his food. He wove himself clothes from hemp and wisteria bark. He was also weaving a dream, a cocoon for the world-weary mind. All around the mountain were trails, covered in creepers, such as the 'woodpaths' Heidegger noted in his native Black Forest, which wound around and about, leading one 'up the garden path' to

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destinations one could not predict. In such a landscape a map is of no use intention is foiled and one must submit to wandering, wondering, which can be the path of revelation. Such mountain huts are not 'garden offices' or 'designer summer houses' which can be purchased. They are not dream hideaways in tourist brochures or lottery advertisements. They are corners of the mind where the noise of the world stops. The madder the world becomes, the sweeter their respite. They cost nothing. One cannot exhibit or rent them out. But from the quietness of their depths the harried soul can recover a sense of genuine belonging. The secret lies in becoming small – so small one could get lost in a window box. From there the mind's 'woodpaths' lead in every direction. The world gets bigger and bigger, more and more wondrous. Time stops. For us, in our gardens, this learning to be small can be the start of something truly momentous. For it is only when we are still and small that we can hear the sound of what the Japanese call 'koke musu', moss growing: the sound of the earth itself, breathing and manifesting its magical, creative evolution. "This threefold world of ours," says Chomei, "is a creation of the mind."

Quantum physicists today make the self-same observation, which hands us all a tremendous responsibility. What kind of reality will come from our current anxiety and the ever-madder pseudo-evolution of human will-to-power? We frighten ourselves and drive ourselves to ever-more extreme desperation in contemplating the awful things we do. But is another way possible? Could we not, even at this late hour, envisage and create a different outcome by finding a place of peace in which to think? Going to one's interior mountain hut is not an act of escapism or fantasy, but



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rather finding a place where the heart can remember its sovereignty and its capacity to find meaning in the humblest thing. Here needs are few; sharing is a greater joy than possessing, and time is a fabrication which can dissolve at any moment. Here one can experience the full spectrum of life's immensity, not confined by the narrow bandwidth of 'received' opinion.

Try it next time you are stuck on the motorway, or at the supermarket checkout. Next time it rains, forget the doomsters and the weather experts and listen for the 'toku-toku' music of raindrops that so enchanted Po-Chü-i. It has become the fashion to perceive the world by preference through the lens of a camera: infra-red for blue-tits' nests; super-high-definition for close-ups; wide-angle for panoramas; night-time for the moon, or the Northern Lights. Such 'enhanced' vision reveals the wonders of technology. But the eye loses the gift of gazing, of detaching from the immediate fixed focal length of a screen, to explore infinity. Not only is this a disaster for the health of our eyes. It is also a disaster for our ability to cherish and fully expand our natural capabilities, as earth-born beings. Camera addiction is another instance of the will-to-power, for seizing knowledge – seeing everything - gives the illusion of power. This activity is antithetical to moon-gazing. Moon-gazing can only be understood when practised from the precincts of the mind's mountain-hut and its gift is the magical

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gift of self-transformation.

Being earth-bound is not so bad. The earth speaks to us in its own invisible and life-promoting frequencies. When humans stopped sitting on the earth and sat themselves on chairs, they began to think that they were better than other humans. When they got on horses they thought they were better than animals. When they learned to fly, they thought they were gods. Now from space they want to direct the cosmos, thinking themselves above the gods. What they have lost on the way is incalculable. But the earth still calls us to evolve humbly in our own human capacity; to expand the horizons of our given inner intelligence; to pipe down and calm down and listen. And what better place to do this than in a garden? Or in any pocket of green space where Nature is busy following its own spontaneous evolution. The piglets, goslings, lambs, and baby guinea-fowl, the trees, flowers and unseen birds and insects at Stonevwish provide ample lessons in this art. And now, at this most beautiful time of the year, you can follow your own path round the Reserve or take a turn or two through the labyrinths of Ditchling's past in Michael's new museum. Why not come? We are open every day until the end of September 10 am till 5 pm. Campers can also experience the joys the countryside here at night. Moon, stars, bats and dawn chorus are all free!

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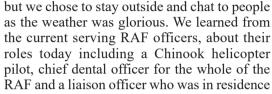
Buckingham Palace Event: Garden Party Colleagues for over 60 years, Ron Batchelor and Mike Evans, who both served as national servicemen in the Royal Airforce. Ron went to Tangmere and Germany working on direction

finding equipment both on the ground and in the air, and Mike served with Fighter Command at RAF Bentley Priory.

Through their national organisation for past serving personnel, they managed to secure invitations to attend the Palace Garden Party, hosted by HRH The Princess Royal, who is patron of the organisers The Not Forgotten Society.

Arriving at the palace gates we were amazed at the gathering crowd who were all staring at the attendees, particularly the colourful, even outrageous, hats worn by the ladies, had we come to the palace or

Ascot? After security and the showing of our invitations tea was available from the enormous marquee divided up by barrier ropes so you could queue in any one of the sections to get service, finger sandwiches, fancy cakes, tea, iced coffee and cold drinks were all available and we learned that you could go to the servers as many times as your conscience would allow. There was ample seating both inside and out,





followed a short ceremony, the band played the final salute, it was time to head back towards the palace gates where a large crowd had gathered. They were very respectful as we made our way through them and over to the Union Jack Club, for relative quiet and a good meal.

A thoroughly enjoyable day we felt privileged to have attended.



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Court Bushes Community Hub, Willow Way, Hurstpierpoint, BN6 9TH

This building has a large function room and club lounge. For booking enquiries, please contact the Parish Council office on 01273 833264. email: office@hurstpierpointpc.gov.uk or visit www.hurstpierpointpc.gov.uk

Ditchling Village Hall - attractive, well equipped and versatile venue, comprising large main hall with stage, smaller hall and kitchen. Suitable for a diverse range of occasions and activities such as parties, plays, weddings, exercise classes and certain indoor sports. See website www.ditchlingvillagehall.uk for full details and pricing. Email the booking secretary on bookings@ditchlingvillagehall.uk for enquiries.

Clayton With Keymer has three church halls and serveries available across the parish. Please visit the website for details www.claytonwithkeymer.org.uk

TO ADVERTISE YOUR HALL FOR HIRE E-MAIL US ON

INFO@VILLAGEMAGAZINES.CO.UK



PREE DURING THE WEEK? Join the Hurst, Hassocks & Ditchling u3a. We are a thriving local self-help organisa-

tion with around 60 interest groups, most of which are free to attend. There is a small annual for membership. Visit fee www.u3asites.org.uk/hhd/welcome for more information and to download the application form. We currently have two Wine Appreciation groups and would like to form a third! Therefore - we need you...! Wine tastings are informal, with each member taking a turn to introduce the wines to be tasted. The object is to widen our knowledge by exploring wines from the different countries, regions and vineyards of the world, the different grape varieties and the different blends - and how wine can complement different foods. We meet monthly in members' homes and taste a number of wines. there are thousands of different wines produced around the world and after three years we haven't yet repeated the same one twice! Marie Fraser

VIVACE! SINGS FOR THE CLOCK (AND STILL NEEDS NEW SINGERS!) On 13th July the Ditchling-based Vivace! Choir will be crossing Ditchling Common to sing at the beautiful old church at Wivelsfield in aid of muchneeded repairs to the church clock and chimes. For more than 20 years the Choir has been putting on concerts like this around Sussex to raise money for a wide range of good causes.

As usual we will perform a wide range of music from popular classics to songs from the shows. And once again we are on the lookout for additional tenors and basses, so if you live locally, enjoy singing, can follow the music and can hold your own part while singing in harmony with others, this could be your opportunity to check us out.

The church is on Church Lane, Wivelsfield, RH17 7RD, the concert begins at 7 pm and tickets, may be bought via **01444 458465** or **sue1901@talktalk.net**.

If you are interested in a try-out with the choir, but cannot make it to the Wivelsfield concert you could email us at

info@vivacechoirsussex.org.uk or just come along to one of our rehearsals which are held at the Old Meeting House in Ditchling at 7.30 pm each Wednesday.

Richard Ware

DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY Hello! Here's a quick reminder of what the Ditchling Film Society is about. The Society has a great committee of 12 people with varying tastes and interests. Together we select 11 films a year. The committee discussions are often lively and we can have very different views on the same film! It's a process that helps us put together a programme that will please surprise or challenge our members and friends. When there is a discussion before and after the film we all feel we're doing the right thing. It's a social as well as a film showing.

The films are usually 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.

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 and Members can take advantage on film night of a 20% discount at the The Bull in Ditchling! (pre booked and showing annual membership cards).

We also have a library of DVDs of films shown over the years available for members to borrow. Guest entry is also available on the door.

The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry on 11th July (Due to the Village Hall being used for Polling)

Starring Jim Broadbent as Harold Fry and Penelope Wilton as Maureen. Based on the novel by Rachel Joyce. (2023, 93 mins. English. Director Hettie Macdonald)

The films show at the Ditchling Village Hall, 18 Lewes Road, Ditchling, Hassocks, East Sussex. There's plenty of parking next to the village hall. For full information go to their website ditchlingfilm.org.uk. Follow them on Instagram @ditchlingfilmsoc and Tweet @Ditchlingfilm.

Kate Odonnell



Clive Gravett donates a wheelbarrow to Tom Heather, Chair of Burgess Hill's Southway Junior School

THE BUDDING FOUNDATION The start of the summer show season across the county has meant extra work for a Sussex charity which works to support young people in need to improve their quality of life. Formed in 2013 by Clive Gravett, The Budding Foundation has been working with Tates Garden Centres to help a raft of local

.groups by supporting their seasonal events Donating funds, plants and even a wheelbarrow to bolster the fundraising efforts of five community fairs this month.

From the infant school in Hassocks, Southway Junior School in Burgess Hill and the open gardens scheme in Ditchling to Cycall Adapted Cycling in Worthing and a community street party in Hassocks village, it's been an incredibly busy period.

"Summer arrives and we pull out all the stops to help as many groups as we can", says Clive Gravett. Funds raised at the various events will help local schools, neighbourhood charities including Finches respite care for disabled young adults in Burgess Hill and St Peter and St James Hospice at Chailey.

"We wish all the events every success and sunshine, and are delighted to be able to support them with help from our friends at South Downs Nurseries in Hassocks", adds Clive. More details about the charity, and how to support their work from

www.thebuddingfoundation.co.uk

Trevor Butler

IRISH SET DANCING We meet Monday Evenings at the Emmanuel Centre, 20 South Street, Ditchling, BN6 8UQ from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm.

Come and join us for some fun and active dancing (not Riverdance).

We are an informal and friendly group! Beginners are very welcome, no need to bring a partner. Your first session is free!

Phone **07802 847234** for more information.

Celia Emmott

WANTED

If you have any old photos, poems, recipes, stories, events or anything of interest you would like included please email us at

ed@villagemagazines.co.uk or send it to QD Stationery, 52 Keymer Road, Hassocks, West Sussex BN6 8AR. Deadline for the August Issue is 1st July

QD STATIONERY - 01273 846978

52 Keymer Road, Hassocks

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Cartridges, Cartridge Recycling, Helium Balloons, Party Poppers
& Streamers. Toys, Craft Items, Activity Sets, Colouring Books,
Puzzle Books, Paints, Party Bag Fillers and more..

COME AND HAVE A BROWSE.

The Keymer and Hassocks Football Club has won Division 5 South League! Champions!



A huge shout out to The Hassocks Pub for being our number one cheerleader throughout this journey and a special heartfelt thanks goes to Chris Lambe who played an instrumental role in helping us realise this triumph! Your support has been truly remarkable.

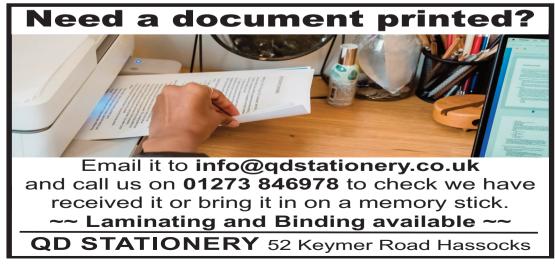
To our amazing team, this victory is a testament to our hard work, perseverance and team work. Together, we've achieved greatness! let's celebrate this remarkable achievement and look forward to even more success in the future!

Laurentiu Plm

Laurentiu Plm

CAN YOU HELP? We are looking for volunteers to deliver your village free magazine which has been delivered to you for more than 27 years in the Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks, Ditchling and surrounding areas. Do you think you have any spare time to deliver to either Priory Road, Abbots Close in Hassocks, College Lane, Wolstonbury Close, Lynton Close, High Street, Willow Way, Blackthorns, Trinity Road in Hurstpierpoint and Albourne. Give us a call on 01273 846978 or email info@villagemagazines.co.uk.

Ed



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. Or drop donations to Mansell McTaggart and The Sussex Grocer in Hassocks

TENNIS COURT HIRE

Adastra Park, Hassocks Book www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/AdastraPark

NEAREST HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE WEST SUSSEX

01243 642106.

Fairbridge Way, Burgess Hill, RH15 8AR. To book a visit via www.westsussex.gov.uk

EAST SUSSEX 0845 355 0550

Ham Lane, Lewes, BN7 3PS 9am to 4pm daily www.eastsussex.gov.uk

PARISH COUNCILS Hassocks 01273 842714

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

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

www.ditchling-pc.gov.uk

DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS

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

HURSTPIERPOINT & SAYERS COMMON

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

Whats On in July

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.

Regular Events

BEACON PARISH JULY SERVICES

Morning Worship with Holy Communion 10 am St Margarets, Ditchling on **7th & 14th** (both inc. Little Beacons) & **28th** (all age family service) and at Streat Church on **21st**.

Afternoon Service at 3.30 pm at Westmeston Church on **14th** with refreshments.

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.beaconparish.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

HUG IN A MUG - A coffee (and cake!) morning for all.

St Cosmas and St Damian Church Hall, Keymer every Monday at 10.30 am Clayton Church Hall, Clayton every Tuesday at 10.30 am.

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

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

TOAST CLUB - Powell House (next to United 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

2nd - 6th HURST PLAYERS Players Theatre, Hurstpierpoint, various performances. Denise Deegan's 'Daisy Pulls it off'. Tickets from www.hurstplayers.org.uk.

2nd GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING Pyecombe Golf Course. Evening guided walk - see article for more details. All welcome.

2nd DITCHLING DOWNS WI Venue to be advised 7 pm. Summer Party

3rd UKES OF HASSOCKS Proper Cycling & Coffee 7.30 pm. Monthly community jam session, play and sing along, beginners welcome. All welcome.

3rd NSPCC Danny House, New Way Lane, Hurstpierpoint 2.30 - 4.30 pm. Afternoon Tea and 'House Keeper to King Hussein of Jordan' Jenny Budd. Tickets 07860 736077.

3rd HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL GROUP Guide HQ, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint 2 - 4 pm 1.30 pm Fish and Chips (pre-ordered), AGM & Quiz. Visitors welcome call 01273 649023.

4th BEFRIENDED Court Bushes, Hurstpierpoint 10 am - 12 pm. Bereavement Cafe - A safe place to chat about grief loss & share stories about loved ones. More info office@befriended.org

5th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Cyprus Hall Car Park, Burgess Hill 7.15 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. 'Direction Night'. All welcome.

5th ST LAWRENCE FAIR South Avenue Rec. 12.30 - 2.30 pm. Teddy Bears Picnic - magician, cake decorating and crafts. See article. **5th** ST LAWRENCE FAIR South Avenue Rec. 6 pm - 7.15 pm. Junior Disco. Adv, tickets from Fabulous Floors or on the door. See article.

5th ST LAWRENCE FAIR South Avenue Rec. 6 pm - 10.30 pm. Hurst Live Band Night. See article.

6th ST LAWRENCE FAIR South Avenue Rec. 12 pm - 5.30 pm. Fair Day See article.

7th OLDLAND MILL Oldlands Lane, Keymer 2 - 5 pm. Open afternoon. All welcome.

7th HASSOCKS PHILOSOPHICAL FORUM Purple Carrot Cafe, Hassocks 2 pm. All welcome.

7th DITCHLING VILLAGE ORCHARD Boddingtons Lane, Ditchling. 9.30 am - 11.30 pm. 'Maintenance morning with special guest Julie Middleton from Sussex Nature Recovery. See article for more info.

8th THE GROUP The Railway Pub, Station Road, Burgess Hill. 7.30 pm. A club for the over 55 unattached. www.thegroup.org.uk.

9th MUSKRAT RAMBLERS, Hassocks Hotel, Station Approach East, doors 11.45 am Start 12 pm. Great Food, Great Jazz & Great Company. A set lunch included in the entrance fee. Call 01444 235986 or 01444 235639 to book.

11th DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY Ditchling Village Hall 7.30 pm. 'The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry'. Tickets available on the door 12th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Millfield Suite, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. Talk 'HF Noise Reduction with home ideas' Gwyn Griffiths G3ZIL All welcome.

13th VIVACE Wivelsfield Church 7 pm. 'Sings for the Clock'. Tickets 01444 458465.

13th CHURCHES TOGETHER URC Hassocks 9.30 am. Messy Church - breakfast, crafts, games and story. All welcome.

13th KEYMER WITH CLAYTON PARISH St Francis Church, Priory Road, Hassocks 12 - 3 pm. Parish Street Party for everyone bbq, toddler area, games, craft - see article.

13th 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.

13th SUSSEX PATHFINDERS Nymans, Handcross National Trust Car Park 10.45 am. 5 mile, country lane, fields and woodlands walk. www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk for more information.

13th AGE CONCERN HASSOCKS Dale Avenue 10 am - 12 pm. Rummage Sale.

14th THE BEACON PARISH St Margarets Church, Ditchling, 6 pm. Sing! your heart out or maybe just come & listen.

14th GILBERT & SULLIVAN Adastra Hall, Hassocks 2.45 pm. HMS Pinafore from Scratch. Tickets include refreshments to book email gandstodaysussex@gmail.com.

14th DITCHLING SINGERS Old Meeting House, Ditchling 4 - 6 pm. New singers most welcome to come along and join us.

15th HASSOCKS WI Adastra Hall, Hassocks 7.30 pm. 'Music of the Paraguayan Harp' with Sheila. Visitors welcome.

16th DITCHLING VILLAGE ASSOCIATION Ditchling Village Hall 9.45 - 11 am. Coffee Morning run by The Attic Club. All welcome. **18th** MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL The Hassocks Pub, Station Approach East 7.30 pm. 'Alan Fletcher (Band)'. For more info and tickets www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk.

19th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY The Bull Pub, London Road, Henfield BN5 9AD 7 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. 'Skittles Evening'. All welcome.

20th MENS BREAKFAST The Greyhound, Keymer 10 am. For a social cooked breakfast. All welcome to book email alexbaxter66@yahoo.co.uk.

20th SUSSEX PATHFINDERS Martello Tower, Seaford 10. am. 6 miles, seashore, cliffs and Downs walk. For more info visit www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk.

21st 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.

21st DITCHLING BEACON AND COMMONS Underhill Lane Car Park (Bottom) 11 am Guided Biodiversity walk led by Phillip Cribb. 25th 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.bereavementcare.uk.

25th LIBERAL DEMOCRATS SURGERY HASSOCKS Parish Council Offices Committee Room 11 am - 12 pm. Kirsty Lord, Sue Hatton, Kristian Berggreen & Chris Hobbs. No appointment necessary.

25th MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL The Hassocks Pub, Station Approach East 8 pm. 'Black Deer Live Gary Louris (of the Jayhawkes)'. For more info and tickets www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk.

25th WOMENS BREAKFAST The Greyhound, Keymer 10 am. For a social cooked breakfast. All welcome to book email tamarajanebaxter@yahoo.co.uk.

26th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Millfield Suite, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. Talk 'Royal Signals Museum' Geoff Budden G3WZP with donations to the museum. All welcome.

26th HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING U3A Adastra Hall, Hassocks 2 pm. 'Recycling in West Sussex' Colin McFarlin. Small entrance fee. Refreshments provided.

27th REPAIR CAFE Age Concern Centre, Hassocks, 9.30 -11.30 am. Bring items for repair more info call 01273 040110 or www.hkd-transition.org.uk.

27th HASSOCKS VILLAGE MARKET Age Concern Car Park, 9 am - 1 pm. Local produce, bread, honey, cheese, wine, veg etc.

27th HEBER OPERA Hurstpierpoint Village Centre 10 am - 2 pm. Craft Fair

28th DITCHLING SINGERS Old Meeting House, Ditchling 4 - 6 pm. New members always warmly welcomed.

29th CAMEO Keymer Church Hall 2 pm - 4 pm. Open to all - come and enjoy an enjoyable afternoon over a cup of tea.

30th MSDC PLAY DAYS Adastra Park, Hassocks 1 - 3 pm. Free event aimed at the under 10's, DJ workshop, Magician Tomfoolery, golf, football, crafts see article for more info.

31st SOUTH DOWNS WOODTURNERS Beeding and Bramber Village Hall 7 - 10 pm. The Wood Dude' Stephen Madden. All welcome.

<u>MID SUSSEX RAMBLERS</u> As the Ramblers' group for the Mid Sussex area we offer a varied programme of walks throughout the year to suit all ages and abilities. Our walks programme is available on our website: **www.midsussexramblers.co.uk** along with information about the group.

Walks are arranged on Tuesdays and weekends throughout the year and vary in length from 4-12 miles. During the summer there are short walks on Wednesday evenings, trial walks and leisurely nature walks.

New and experienced walkers are both very welcome and if you would like to try one of our walks please get in touch via the Contact Form on our website, email msrpublicity@gmail.com or telephone our Secretary and Publicity Officer, Sue Blandford, on 01403 255654.

As the 4th July sees the UK going to the polls once again many will be wondering what impact a potential change of government will have on their finances.

How will the markets react? What will the new tax landscape look like? How will this impact your future plans?

The answer to these questions is unknown, but it is important to remember that this has always been the case as the only certainty we have is that of constant change.

The role of a financial advisor is not to stick rigidly to a route set out on an outdated map, but instead to be a guide in an everchanging landscape.

Is your planning in place to unlock its potential?

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

In all the years I've been writing on the back page of the Talk About this is without a shadow of a doubt the hardest one I've had to do. You guys have always been very kind to me and said how much you enjoy what I write. Well, I'm going to tell you about this because you know what they say - A problem shared is a problem halved - I frankly need someone to talk to. Due to circumstances beyond my control, I lost my Landlords and Tenants Act protection, which now means I'm at the end of my lease and have no protection, so on the 9th of August my whole world could just collapse. That means no more Steve, nowhere to take the lost cats or dogs, no one to phone about foxes live or dead, nowhere to visit or sit with the cats and rabbits, just nowhere for anything. Just the thought of what to do with everything is sending me into an early grave and the huge financial logistics would scare even a big company never mind Nola and I. It is beyond belief; we'd be jobless with no income and utterly broke. I apologise to the customers who have asked if I'm alright and I've broken down, it's not very manly I know but I'm trying to be strong for Nola but I'm failing miserably.

I never thought that after 50 years here I'd be feeling like this. I don't know why they have this lease system which means you can lose everything and be on the streets, it's not fair and there's nothing you can do about it. Even if you could afford the best legal brains available there are no weapons in your arsenal to fight with, you are totally without hope because of one man. The other side of the coin is that they can come back to you and say OK we'll give you a new lease, but we want all this rent which you can't afford to pay anyway because you don't take huge amounts of money in the shop these days. I'm sorry to lumber all this on you but I hoped by talking about it I might be able to eat and sleep again. I know a lot of you love the shop and use it as best as you can but as people are always telling me - it's cheaper online and easier to park at Pets at Home. We try the best we can and I'm not being a total wimp, I am trying to carry on in the hope that something can be sorted out but who knows, it is in the lap of the gods or the landlords. On top of that some of my elderly cats are looking at them please don't leave me I don't think I can take anymore. It is true that as you get older it gets much harder to deal with trauma in your life.

Take care everyone and thanks for listening I take comfort from that I'm sure there are people out there that with a lot worse problems than mine although it doesn't feel like it but how do you stop shivering? Someone give me a hug.

Love Steve

P.S. Thought you might like some good news the proposed cycle lane - which meant removing the planters from outside the shop – has been cancelled and nothing new on National Tyres.

HASSOCKS PET CENTRE, KEYMER ROAD, HASSOCKS 01273 842392