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Your Editors: Joanna Lambe, Heidi Brown & Natalie Dalley

LAST DATE FOR COPY for the September 2024 ISSUE is 1st August 2024

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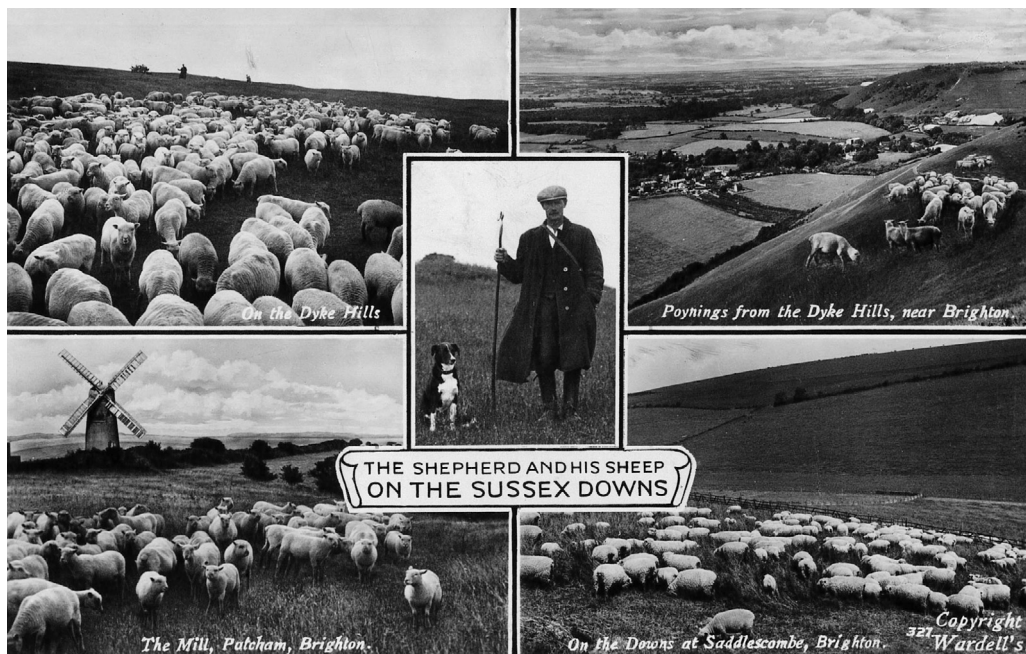

 

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HURST PLAYERS Hardly had "Daisy" finally "pulled it off" at the Players Theatre in Hurstpierpoint in the first week of July before the Players had begun work on a totally different but equally rewarding production of "The Father".

This is Hurst Players contribution to the 20th Anniversary of the Hurst Festival and will run from **16th to 21st September** at 7.30 pm each evening. It is the English translation of "Le Pere", an award-winning play by the French playwright Florian Zeller, premiered in 2012 in Paris. Our production, written by Christopher Hampton, is directed by Bob Sampson. Briefly, Andre, a persecuted man, refuses to tolerate his circumstances any longer – his favourite watch is stolen by an unnecessary "helper" while his scheming daughter, Anne, tries to remove him from his beloved flat. But is all as it seems? The Father is a darkly humorous and poignant tragi-comic mystery, offering an unsentimental and emotionally intense portrayal of the impact of dementia on

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family and friends.

Tickets will be on sale through the Hurst Festival Box Office later this summer. Keep checking Hurst Players website for full details: www.hurstplayers.org.co.uk

Anne Hopper

GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING **SAVE THE DATE!**

September climate hub - the life of our streams. Find out about how we can look after our streams, help support wildlife and mitigate flooding. Tuesday **3rd September** 7.30 pm Proper Cafe.

Party at the Patch! Come and help us celebrate the one-year anniversary of our relaunch as Greener Hassocks & Ditchling - food, talks and music at the community veg patch Saturday **28th September** from 3 to 7 pm. Details on how to book coming up in our newsletter and on website. If you would like to sign up for our newsletter please email us greenerhassocksditchling@gmail.com.

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MORE CELEBRATIONS FOR 1ST HAS-SOCKS GUIDE UNIT

1st Hassocks Guides were delighted to welcome a special guest to their meeting in June when Wendy Colson, Girlguiding Sussex Central's County Commissioner, presented seven Guides in the unit with some of Guiding's most distinguished badges and certificates.

Six Guides achieved their Gold Award having gained a full six Theme badges and completed a final personal challenge. Gaining Gold is a great achievement, one requiring huge application and commitment, and all six are to be congratulated on their success.

The seventh member of the unit to have her work recognised was Kathryn who secured the unit's first ever Commonwealth Award. Kathryn achieved Gold last summer and returned to the group this academic year to lead a patrol and to learn more about the rich history of Girlguiding in both the UK and in some of the 53 countries that make up the Commonwealth. Working towards this prestigious badge also required Kathryn to undertake service to her local community which she did supporting Hassocks' Childhelp. Thanks are extended to Chris and all the team there for this wonderful opportunity. As with our Gold award recipients, Kathryn's is another award requiring huge commitment and dedi-

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cation over a long period of time and her success is very well deserved.

All seven Guides' achievements were recognised again at the County's annual Awards Evening in July and the unit held a celebration pizza party at the end of term.

1st Hassocks Guides celebrated its 100th Birthday in February and the school year ended with these fabulous awards: it has been quite a year. It's great to see Guiding in Hassocks going from strength to strength and, having been with the unit for 28 years, we will truly miss our regular Thursday commitment but we leave knowing the unit is in good hands. We thank Beccy Gates for taking on the leadership from September and wish Beccy and her team all the very best as the unit enters its next phase of development.

Dawn Batchelor and Pennie Thomson

THE GROWING NETWORK IS GOING ON HOLIDAY!

We are a freely-giving community network that supports local people to grow and share food, with no one left out.

The Growing Network is taking a holiday in August. We will be back on Saturday **14th September** with plants and extra produce to share, along with gardening tips and cups of tea. We hope to see you then!

Catherine, Imke & Julie

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Facebook — **Age Concern Hassocks**

July was another busy month here at Age Concern. Our Members enjoyed trips to Birling Gap, a talk by Co-op Legal Services Estate Planning, our third Rummage Sale, a trip to Mayfield Lavender, Banstead and another musical delight from the Sundown Ukulele Band.

We are looking for a Volunteer Minibus Driver for our 13 seater bus for a Thursday on a regular basis from 1.30 pm. You would need a D1 licence. You will be accompanied by an Escort and be dropping our Members home after their lunch. Please drop in to the Centre or phone the above number if you are interested.

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 just after 3 pm Tuesday to Friday – you could stop off and have a Mad Dog coffee or a cup of tea whilst

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you wait. We have a sun-drenched patio and a bright, airy conservatory where you can come and pass the time. The Centre closes at 4 pm. We are always happy to welcome new Members to our Day Centre where we serve a three-course freshly cooked lunch Monday to Friday and we run a bus Tuesday and Thursday, picking up from Hassocks, Hurstpierpoint 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 10 am on the day you'd like to join us. The menu changes weekly and is on our website.

Our Charity Shop is open 9 am to 4 pm every weekday and 9 am 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.

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GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONS – 2024

Each year Hurstpierpoint Gymnastics Club recognise the achievements of their gymnasts and award gold and silver medals to the gymnasts who have passed more agilities than any others of their age group.

After completing the British Gymnastics' Core Proficiency awards, the gymnasts move on to the Advanced Proficiency in Sports Acrobatic Pairs, the Floor & the Vault. Each scheme graduated from Bronze, through Silver to Gold.

The silver cup for the Top Infant was presented to Jessica Parsons. The Top Junior was Maya Muncaster, while the top Senior was Elsie Beveridge. The Top Boys were Lewys Habberfield and Connall Currie.

This year's full roll of honour is :- Year 1 – Summer Roland & Anoushka Sokell, Year 2 – Jessica Parsons and April Gordon, Year 3 – Eloise Jupp & Ruby Lewis, Year 4 – Diddie Smith & Olivia Sparks-Carolan, Year 5 – Maya Muncaster & Ida Martin Year 6 – Layla Whipp & Astrid Mitchell-Berglund, Year 7 – Grace Nicholls & Neve Brouder, Year 8 – Cleo Groman & Ruby Tom-

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sett, Year 9 – Imogen Holmes & Emma Alcock, Year 10 – Elsie Beveridge & Evi Campbell.

More details of the Club can be found at **www.hurstpierpointgym.co.uk**

There are vacancies in September for pre-school children who have passed their third birthday and for girls on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Any others interested should contact the Club to find the up-to-date position.

Andrew Hair



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2024 DITCHLING VILLAGE FAIR Well it started at 6 am with a bright sunny day, by 7.30 am the wind had increased along with the rain! By the time the morning fair started it was torrential and the wind was like a tornado, the gazebos that had been erected were now very nearly taking off! The Wizard and Witch managed to wake the village up prior to the deluge thank goodness. The peel of the Church bells could just be heard above the torrent, but the fair proclamation went ahead and the wonderful Village Gems were happy to stand out in the rain to accept our thanks for all their work they have done over the years.

Luckily what we had this year was the wonderful Flower Festival in the Church, it was absolutely amazing, thank you so much to everyone who helped with the organising and the arranging.

Unfortunately, the Morris Dancers had to postpone their performance and it was far too wet for the Jack and Jill race, both were held later so we were not disappointed. When you remember how hot it was two years ago, what a difference! Of course, before the day even started, we had

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the magnificent scarecrows around the village. People used such amazing imagination and gave us so much pleasure when walking around the village so that we could vote for the best By 11.30 am the rain and wind had subsided, thank goodness. The village green was beginning to take shape with all the societies and stall holders creating their wonderful stalls with bunting and all the beautiful produce, gifts and games.

Sadly, Harris's fair just along the road, that always gives the children such fun, had to close due to the strength of the wind. Over the afternoon the people in the barn provided the most wonderful sandwiches, cakes and teas, thank you so much to all of you that helped and organised this. The afternoon started with the procession, what a wonderful sight it was with so many horses leading and the children of the village following and our hard working village gems in the beautifully decorated carriage.

Once on the green the excitement began in the ring with our fantastic Master of Ceremonies, he manages to keep us all under control but makes everything so very exciting. The chaos then

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began with the dog show, fancy dress, waggy tails, and the musical bales, thank you to all the dogs for taking part, I hope you and your 'followers' really enjoyed yourselves! What a task our wonderful judge had.

The Maypole dancing brought us back in line, always so very traditional and pretty. Thank you to the students of St. Margaret's School, I hope it will be a lovely memory for you all to look back on.

The Tug of War always brings out the best in everyone! I thought there were only meant to be eight people in each team, but I seem to remember seeing masses of children pulling, what fun. Then the 'In Crowd', so very popular, the tickets go like hot cakes. We are very lucky to have this brilliant game provided for us every fair day, thank you.

Finishing off the afternoon on the green was the Egg Tossing, this really is such fun, all ages joining in and enjoying this and luckily lots of dogs around to clean up the debris! As the rain had stopped, we went back to West Street to enjoy the Jack and Jill race, thank you all so much for dressing up and taking part in this very important part of our fair. These wonderful activities are unique and help to make our fair so exceptional.

We then moved into the walled garden for our evening festivities starting with the Unreel Ceilidh Band with young children dancing with their parents and all still having such fun, then

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the Hoohah Party starts! How fantastic that was, superb music and dancing and the energy that everyone still had.

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

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

Thank you all so very much from the Ditchling Village Association and we look forward to seeing you on Saturday **20th June 2026**.

Catharine Robinson

**Next deadline date is 1st August
 for the September issue. Visit
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4SIGHT CLUB We are a 4Sight Club for the visually-impaired. We meet alternate Wednesdays from 10.30 am to 2 pm at Clayton Parish Hall in Underhill Lane.

We need another driver, also a 2nd cook (who could take turns).

Would you like to become a member - we are an elderly group? For any of the above please ring me on **01444 450947**. *Dorothy Lazenby*

HASSOCKS WI - meet 3rd Wednesday in the month . Doors open 7.30 pm, evening starts 7.45 pm.

In June we enjoyed a high energy preview of 'Half a Sixpence' from bhmts as well as hearing about the history of the company. There was a rush to buy tickets for the show which runs at the end of July.

I attended the Annual WI meeting at the Royal Albert Hall. 'Dental Health Matters' was voted in as our new campaign.

July was the 'Music of the Paraguayan Harp' with Sheila. It is the national instrument of

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the country, did you know this? I didn't. The Walky Talky group went to Tidemills on 29th July.

There's no official meeting in August, but lots of events coming up. A picnic in the park TBA. Monday **5th August**, a taster session of croquet with the club at The St James's Montefiore Cricket Club, Keymer Road, Hassocks, in the morning.

Craft Club will run 2 pm in the afternoon, phew busy day. A walk may be arranged and I hear the choir continues. Check your emails.

But most importantly make a date in your diary to come along for a 'Cancer Now' afternoon tea on Wednesday **7th August**. It will be held in the Green Room Adastra Hall from 2 pm . It is in memory of our dear member Judith who left us earlier this year. Hopefully, we can borrow one of her lovely red hats. It will be open to everyone in the village. Please support us, the amount raised will be published in the Talk About.

Gerry



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HURSTPIERPOINT OPEN GARDENS

Well, what a fabulous, sunny day it turned out to be. With your help the event raised an amazing £6,500 this year for the St Peter and St James Hospice! The gardens teemed with over 500 visitors and the plant stall and raffle were as busy as ever. Many visitors took the opportunity to enjoy a slice of delicious home-baked cake and a cuppa, whilst immersing themselves in the beautiful surroundings of the lovely gardens and relaxing to the chill-out vibes of the fabulous Crystal Clear band.

Once again, the Freeman Brothers limo was kept busy ferrying visitors from garden to garden, as was the Cycling Without Age trishaw and the Hurst College mini-bus.

There are so many people whose efforts go into making this annual event so successful.

We would like to dedicate this year's event to Jan Salter who founded Hurstpierpoint Open Gardens many years ago. Jan sadly died earlier this year and the team are proud to continue her legacy which brings so much pleasure to so many people.

Would you be able to help the team by opening your garden next year on the **8th June**? Please get in touch email address hurstpengardens@gmail.com if you would like to consider this and have a chat about what's involved.

They'd love to hear from you!

Thank You - To all of our wonderful visitors who contributed to the fantastic total of £6,500 raised for the hospice.

To each of the gardeners who work so hard to get their gardens ready for viewing and then are on hand to welcome and help the visitors. To the "back room" teams who pour the tea, cut the cake and take the entrance and raffle money. To Freeman Brothers for their generous sponsorship – including printing, help on the day and loan of the limo and driver. To Cycling Without Age for their trishaw and driver. To Hurst College for loan of a minibus and driver. To all the amazing bakers for their hard work and resulting delicious donations. To all the lovely gardeners who donated plants. To all the nurseries and garden centres that donated plants: Garden Sage, Peter Eastwood Plants Nursery, Rushfields Plant Centre and Swains Farm Shop. To Crystal Clear band for providing lovely live music all afternoon. To our kind raffle prize contributors: Apple Mint Florist; Borde Hill Gardens, Haywards Heath; Columbines Health & Beauty; Freeman Brothers Funeral Directors; Fuel Coffee; Hobbs; The Hop Tub; Hurst Butchers; Hurst Players; Hurst Village Cinema; Hurstpierpoint Co-op; Maison B; Morleys Bistro; The New Inn; No.7 Coffee Shop; Pierpoint Pet Supplies; Pitfield Barn - Cut Flower Farm & Studio; Woolovers, Burgess Hill.

Pru Heron

STAR CINEMA The popular film nights begin again in September - so you may wish to note the dates for your diaries for the rest of 2024.

20th September, 18th October, 15th November, 13th December. The Star team look forward to welcoming you.

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THE WINDMILLS JUNIOR SCHOOL

June has been an incredibly busy month with lots of educational visits with three year groups visiting Brighton. Year 6 were researching for their project on protecting the environment and learning about plastic waste in our seas by visiting the Sealife centre. They took the opportunity to make new friends in the aquarium!

Another group of Year 6 children spent the day in Hove experiencing the excitement of T20 cricket.

Year 3 went on a Geography field trip and used their map reading skills to navigate their way to the Pavilion Gardens and then to the beach to undertake a travel survey. They took a trip up the i360 so that they could get a birds-eye-view of the town and compare it to Clayton village.

Year 5 visited the Pavilion to find out more about Prince Regent to inform their history learning this term.

In addition to all of these brilliant learning opportunities we have also attended 7 different sporting events including the Area Sports Athletics competition where we took 75 children to participate in one of our favourite sporting events of the year. We were delighted to win the year 3&4 and year 5&6 trophies.



posters drawn by the children in their windows to see if we could raise funds to buy new books. See how many you can spot around the village. We are extremely grateful for all the support we have received from our community.

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The following week all the children took part in our Sports Day. There was such a great atmosphere of support for each other and we all had so much fun. Things are moving ahead with our exciting library project. We took a group of children into the village to ask shop keepers to put

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A SPECIAL TALK ON BARN OWLS BY DAVID RAMSDEN, MBE

The Woodland, Flora & Fauna Group, a volunteer organisation dedicated to protecting local countryside and wildlife, invite you to a special talk by the renowned author and leading authority on barn owls, David Ramsden, MBE from the Barn Owl Trust.

It will take place on Thursday **29th August** at 7.30 pm in the Main Hall at Hurstpierpoint Village Centre, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint, BN6 9UY.

David Ramsden is one of the leading representatives of the nationally acclaimed owl conservation organisation, the Barn Owl Trust. His talk entitled 'Restoring the Balance' will provide an insight into the world of one of the most beautiful protected species, the barn owl, and the efforts his organisation makes to ensure their ongoing survival.

The Barn Owl Trust has been an inspiration to many local organisations across the country, including The Woodland, Flora & Fauna Group,

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and their guidance in helping us to increase the barn owl population of Mid Sussex has been invaluable. Come and hear all about this wonderful species directly from one of Great Britain's leading experts and benefit from his considerable knowledge and expertise.

These opportunities do not come very often so please join us to hear his talk. It will immediately follow a brief introduction by The Woodland, Flora & Fauna Group, the organisers of the evening, who use these events with distinguished speakers, to generate any voluntary donations people can spare to support their nature conservation work around Mid Sussex. The natural world is struggling to survive and needs all the help it can get, so any help received is invaluable.

Entry is free and all are welcome. There is a car park opposite the building. *Michael Nailard*

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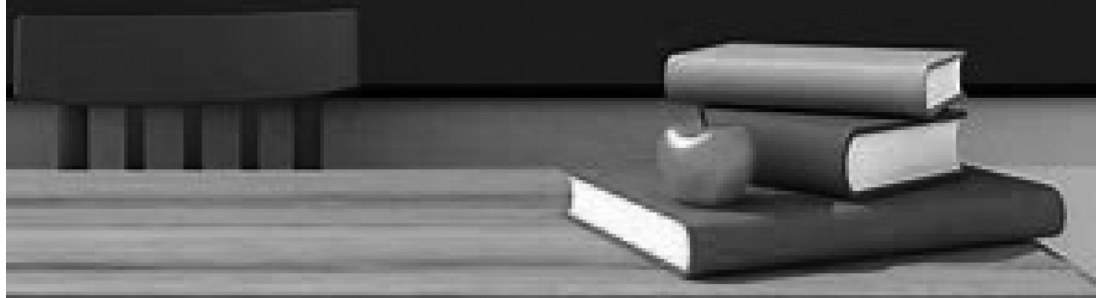
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NEIGHBOURLY CARE IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

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

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

We are currently keen to recruit more volunteers. The skills that volunteers require are friendliness, kindness, patience, enjoyment of other people's company, willingness to give some time and, ideally, the ability to drive, though this isn't essential. Some volunteers offer an hour a week; others volunteer several

times a week. Some volunteers do driving only e.g. taking clients to hospital and doctors' appointments; other volunteers just shop for clients. Some volunteers wish only to do befriending, either through meeting for a cup of tea or via the phone.

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

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

Chris Newton

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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 September Issue is **1st August**.
Ed

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SUSSEX PATHFINDERS WALKING

GROUP Many aspects of the media, with their relentless reporting on horrific happenings, have stopped many gentle nature lovers from exploring, by themselves, the delightful area surrounding us in this wonderful leafy green part of Sussex. Walking as part of a group ensures your safety but rest assured, you don't have to be sociable and chat if you don't want to. In fact, chat may only happen if we gather at gates and stiles, or at the beginning and end of a walk, as many prefer to listen out for unusual bird song.

Our latest programme of walks for August lists seven in West Sussex and one in East Sussex. The latter is a 5 mile walk on Saturday, **17th August** starting at 10 am, with minor hills and easy walking alongside the Cuckmere River in the Seven Sisters Country Park. Our leader will be Martin.

To the west of West Sussex lies Tillington situated between Petworth and Midhurst and this is where our 5+5 mile 'Figure of 8' walk meets on Sunday, **11th August**. The walk within Petworth Park will start at 10.30 am and encompass fields, lanes and woodland paths. The afternoon walk, starting at 1.30 pm, includes a visit to Lodsworth church. Rest assured, Jean, the leader for the day will be very familiar with the history of the church. There is a choice of a five mile walk, either am or pm, or enjoy both walks with a stop for lunch.

Full details of meeting points, and all our walks, are on our website - **<https://sussexpathfinders.gov.uk>** No need to book, or pay, just turn up and introduce yourself to the leader.

PS Walking Wins – Improve your mental and physical health with a walk.
Diann

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We love to get out and welcome our community to attend our upcoming events, allowing us to meet those that are supporting us daily. We are delighted to be bringing back Heli Hike in Sussex this year on Saturday **5th October**, Cowdray Park, Midhurst. We would be so grateful if you could help us spread the

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word in your community magazine. Last year we had 200 walkers supporting our life-saving work and we hope to welcome more this year! New to this year, we are also holding a Heli Fun day alongside our Hike, where you can meet our emergency crew, helicopter, along with other emergency services too. Which we are very excited to share with you all.

Katie Rose

DITCHLING PLAYERS – PLAY READING ON 8th AUGUST The Players would like to invite you to an open Play reading to be held at Ditchling Village Hall on Thursday **8th August 7.15 pm** for a 7.30 pm start.

If you haven't been to one of these before it's pretty much as it says on the can, an opportunity for people to come along and read a play. Acting skills are not necessary and you won't be asked up on to the stage and although you're encouraged to take part it's not compulsory.

For this reading we've selected 'Our Town' by Thornton Wilder. The play has been described as "the greatest American play ever written" and presents the fictional American town of Grover's Corners between 1901 and 1913 through the everyday lives of its citizens. Scripts will be provided on the night and refreshments will also be available.

Prior notice of attendance is not necessary but would be helpful.

For further details please contact **membership@ditchlingplayers.org.uk**.

We look forward to welcoming you.

David Tetttersell



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DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY We're taking a summer break and our next film will be in the Autumn.

On **8th September** we're showing *The Eight Mountains* (12A).

A rich, beautiful, and inexpressibly sad film about the friendship between two men who were best childhood friends growing up in the Italian mountains. As grown men they're unite to build a shack in the valley which will be their special place. It is set in the Italian alpine valley of Aosta with breathtaking photography as the two men try to talk about their feelings, rekindle their friendship and deal with the difficult past.

(2022). 147 minutes. Italian, English subtitles. Directors Felix Van Groeningen and Charlotte Vandermeersch.

Films usually show 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 is available with guest entry available on the door.

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

MSDC'S PLAY DAYS IN COURT

BUSHES HURSTPIERPOINT – free event

Come along to Court Bushes Hurstpierpoint on **13th August** 1 to 3 pm.

The Play Days on Tour is a free event for families aimed at under 10's. The activities include: DJ Neel – Music & DJ Workshops, Circus Allstars – circus skills, Tomfoolery the Magician, Poponin creating badges, Maggie's Music Bus, Tiny Tekkers – multi sports and games, Liz with her Nature Trails, Henna Art with Amisha, MSDC Waste Team with recycling games, Action in Rural Sussex Lost Woods Project – activities, Sussex Green Living – Float & Woodland Theatre - Eco Art, Kiddie Capers Nursery – Messy Play, First Aid and Training.

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

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FINLEY'S TOUCH

I just wanted to say a big thank you to all the local businesses that supported our fun day for Finley's Touch on 22nd June.

We raised £2,436 which will help so many children and their families Thank you to The Hassocks Hotel and Chris Lambe, QD Stationery, Posh Threads Boutique Ltd, The Tasty Crust Home of The Afternoon Tea, Hassocks Pet Centre, Brighton Bouncy Castles, Sinclair & Jones Building Contractors Ltd, Ben Watson, JRH Roofing Ltd, Profiles Health and Beauty, Friars Oak Pub, Katy Jobbins-Bate, Fishers Farm Park, Drusillas Park, Rok Barber Shop, Hive Hair Salon, Tates of Sussex Garden Centres, The Magic Circle, Washbrooks Farm, DJS Window Magic, Natasha Ruffle, Annielouisa Howes, Fiona Lambe, Vanessa Balloqui, Sarah Gray, Josh Greenhalgh, WTMA Martial Arts Haywards Heath, John Lean, Ridgeview Wine, Louisa Vaughan, Dene Funnell, Ben Woodward & musicians, Nick Watson, Ruby's Bakery Ltd.

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The GIANT GOLD BOW TRAIL. Hassocks

THE GIANT GOLD BOW TRAIL will be up for the whole month of September turning our lovely village GOLD and raising awareness of Children's Cancer. It's a stunning sight and one you can have your very own piece of! The deadline for sponsoring a GIANT GOLD BOW for HassocksGoesGold 2024 is Monday **12th August**.

These solid GOLD wooden bows and ribbons can be dedicated to a friend, family, club, business, or in memory of someone for a minimum donation of £25, which can be made at www.justgiving.com/page/HGG2024 - What will yours say?

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.

Jamie & I recently had a video call with one of the researchers leading a project to develop new treatments for children's brain cancer at Great Ormond Street. This is one of two pro-



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jects that #PearlPower is helping to fund via the CCLG. It was really fascinating to hear about Dr Donovan's work and the promising results from the related clinical trials. All this fundraising really does have direct effects on the life chances for children with cancer. Thank you for your support of HassocksGoesGold!

Rachel

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.

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Gaynor Waterman

MID SUSSEX RAMBLERS 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**.

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HORSE CHESTNUT Far, far away in the south-east corner of Europe, the Balkan Mountains tower over the landscape. Their valleys were once home to the fearsome Thracian tribes, who made empires tremble when they rode screaming into battle on their wild horses. But even more ancient battles were being fought deep in these majestic mountains.

Here in the Balkans, there grew a strange and mighty tree. Its huge seeds were encased in spiky armour and its leaves were like giant hands which cast shade all around. But this tree had been cursed. Each year a plague of tiny moths would attack the tree, their caterpillars would burrow inside every leaf. Green leaves turned to brown, leaving the tree apparently lifeless and defeated. Yet each year the tree would return with renewed green vigour, and each year the moths would attack with the same resolve. And so, for centuries the tree and the moth remained trapped in the Balkan Mountains, locked in their epic, age-old battle.

Then one day men came from the west, discovered this magnificent tree, gathered its seeds and planted them in their world. And so it was that the branches and the empire of the Horse Chestnut spread across Europe's parks and gardens. People admired it and reclined in the shade of its broad palmate leaves. Schoolboys used its seeds to fight their own play-

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ground battles. The conker tree had conquered the continent. Here in this new world the curse of the moth had been lifted and the Horse Chestnut flourished.

Meanwhile, the tree's nemesis, not a particularly strong flyer, remained imprisoned in the remote valleys of the Balkan Mountains for centuries, more myth than moth. Then, one day, the modern world arrived. Construction workers building roads through the mountains were unwittingly building the perfect means for the moth to escape and spread. Now all it needed was a lift. So, the moth stuck out its six thumbs and hitched a ride.

Incredibly, the moth, just 5mm long, was able to disperse by grabbing on to passing vehicles. And so, like the ferocious Thracian tribes, the moth rode into battle. Screaming along highways, motorways,

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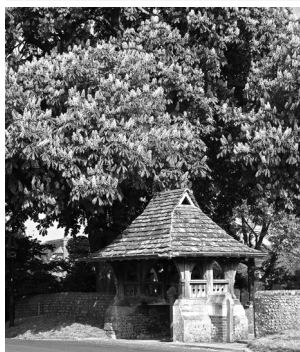
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and autobahns on Volvos, Citroens, Fiats and Fords. The ancient battle spilled out from the Balkans as the moth was chauffeur driven to every Horse Chestnut tree in Europe. The Horse Chestnut Leaf Miner moth was first discovered, identified

and named in Greece in 1984. Twenty years later, in 2004, an innocent motorist pulled off the A27 in to the University of Sussex car park, unaware they had brought a sinister stowaway into Sussex. Since then, every Horse Chestnut in Sussex has been moth-eaten. Look to the leaves and you'll see the great Balkan battle raging right on your doorstep. 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.

Michael Blencowe

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DITCHLING DOWNS WI Our meeting in June was about Chailey heritage. We had a most interesting and excellent talk given by a very dedicated volunteer at Chailey Heritage, Joy Dyson.

It was founded in 1903 by Grace Kimmins for children with physical disabilities and was the first school in the country to be built for such purposes. Initially she brought 7 children from the east end of London down and it was known as the Heritage and Craft School and Hospital for crippled children. Initially it was for children suffering the aftermath of TB, Polio and Rickets. Later Thalidomide children were also included.

The education is funded by the local authority and the last OFSTED inspection was 'Outstanding'. A high percentage of children are non verbal and the children have minimum of 1 to 1 support. Chailey offers an enormous range of activities - riding is particularly beneficial. It really is a very special place and it was very clear that Joy was very passionate about all that is achieved there. *Suzanne*

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NEWS FROM STONEYWISH The other day I came across a phrase by the philosopher/scientist, Rupert Sheldrake, which has stuck in my mind ever since. It runs: "Nature is memory". How do seedlings know which forms their leaves should take? How do young cuckoos navigate their way to Africa? What is that inexplicable thing, innate wisdom? Oh, easy! I hear you say. DNA, of course. That answers everything. But even when we have captured DNA and decoded it and snipped it and spliced it and patented it and reaped the profits, the mystery still remains.

How do identical twins start out with identical genes and then express them quite differently? How does a hybrid plant suddenly rediscover its original blueprint and revert to its wild form? And if there is such a thing as latent memory in all living things, what does that memory consist of and how can we find the key to it?

In an age when losing one's memory is a universal fear, and when the natural world seems to be unravelling around us, the idea of an embedded, or indelible wisdom offers a welcome grain of comfort. The form of DNA spirals, embodying the patterns of growth and evolution which occur throughout the universe. Our modern DNA, I read, is practically identical to that of our earliest ancestors, though we consider ourselves to have evolved into something vastly superior.

In fact, some people believe we are evolving so fast we will soon be able to dispense with Nature altogether and continue as partial robots or 'transhumans' thanks to technological enhancement. At the same time, many others view this prospect with dismay and feel that they are being held hostage in a grotesque dream. One thing that genetic inheritance naturally defines is a species-appropriate lifestyle.

All around us Nature is doing its thing. Thrushes sing thrush songs. Bees collect nectar. Fish swim.

Unless they have to adapt to challenges in their environment, they seem pretty much content to be what they are. Only progressive humankind is dissatisfied to the point of pushing beyond all physical limitations.

In the new Anthropocene, we find ourselves strangers to the world which gave us life. Is it possible that despite Satnav and GPS, we have somehow lost our way? Did our magnificent brains somehow outstrip our prehistoric DNA in the drive to be all, know all, control all? We know there is something not quite right with society today. Have we forgotten who we are and what we are really capable of?

Certainly, it is hard to believe that evolution intended us, as a species, to be on the brink of self-extinction, plagued with chronic illness, anxiety and rage. Paleontologists tell us that our hunter-gatherer ancestors suffered less stress than us, ate a better diet, worked a fraction of the time, and had a bone density which indicated superb physical fitness. If not trodden on by a mastodon, or clubbed by his wife, a primal caveman could live healthily into his seventies without need of a dentist and was able to withstand extremes of cold which would make us moderns simply die at the thought.

Do we have the secrets of such resilience, buried in our DNA today? And what would happen if, instead of violating our planet in the pursuit of total domination and self-satisfaction, we set about rediscovering what it really means to be human – belonging to Earth? According to my dictionary of Indo-European language roots, the following English words come from a single precursor, '*dhghem*', meaning 'earth': hominid, homo, bonhomie, human, humane, humble, humility, humus, homage, and many more. The form '*(dh)ghm-on-*' means 'earthling', from 'earth' + 'man' and gives rise to another ancient word, '*guma*' for man, which in modern English becomes 'groom', as in

'bride-groom'. What would it be like to recover this original blueprint for existence - to return to our species-appropriate gift of adapting and evolving as true social animals, being grooms who take care of earth and one another? Would we find life more rewarding with simpler technology? (The '*techne*' of the Ancient Greeks meant skill – *human* dexterity – rather than reliance on machines – *forgetting* how to do things)? Would we do better looking for small solutions?

We put this to the test at Stoneywish last week with a piece of experimental archaeology. One of my neighbours had the brilliant idea of firing some pottery in a clamp-kiln in one of our fields, using Bronze Age technology. She had been on a course where this was done successfully and was keen to try it again. She knew another potter who would join in and she very kindly invited me to make some pots with her to go in the kiln. On the appointed day I arrived to find that the site had been meticulously prepared. Michael had provided earth for external insulation. A hearth had been cleared. There were stacks of carefully selected kindling and firing wood, sticks for a wigwam structure, wilted dock leaves to thatch any gaps and short logs to create a 'raft' or platform to support the pots as they baked. Amongst the pots were four exquisite 'fertility' figurines which my neighbour's friend had made - a tribute of love to our 'earthling' heritage. All proceeded in an orderly and methodical way. The wood and kindling were carefully stacked, and the tinder 'authentically' lit with sparks from a flint and striker. The fire flamed and died down to ashen coals. Charcoal was added. Notes and photographs were taken... Then a worm of doubt crept in. Were these embers really hot enough to bake clay? Would the charcoal catch? Would it be better to err on the side of caution and add a little more wood, and then fan the fire to be properly sure? At this point the ancient ghosts of Spatham Field must have begun to grin to themselves. We were no longer safe and impartial scientists; we were on an adventure, relying, as all true pioneers do, on hope and intuition. We had set off into uncertain territory and the rest need hardly be told. By now the embers were *fierce*. Time, we thought, to complete the job as quickly as possible. On would go the raft and the pots, then up would

go the wigwam of sticks, the blanket of dock leaves, and the soil to seal the whole. After that, all that would be needed was a little careful tending and patience until the next day when the kiln, having cooled down, could be dismantled.

Of course, fate had decided otherwise. The heat we had created was so intense that the raft began to smoulder as soon as the pots were stacked and before we could complete the wigwam, the whole thing went up. A diminutive inferno, two feet high! We were suddenly transformed from detached researchers into primal beings, hopping up and down, stamping out the sparks that wriggled in the grass, cowering from the heat and wondering whether our eyebrows would survive! Fire ripped through the structure and before the blackened rafters fell, the pots inside began to explode. One after another they burst sending hot sherds flying. Our aspirations went up in the smoke. The experiment had turned into a disaster and there was a sense of grief, especially for the little Venus figurines, which had been crafted with such love. Yet at the same time I felt that something exhilarating and wonderful had occurred.

Always fascinated by fire, I found myself swept up in a surge of Promethean excitement. I *loved* the pots exploding so dramatically to teach us a lesson, as though they too were vibrant, *alive*. Then, as the flames subsided once more, a new miracle unfolded. There, beneath the ribs of the fallen roof, like forms from a miniature Pompeii, the bones of the pots began to emerge from their pyre. There lay one of the figurines, a black Madonna now, sleeping on her bed of ash. Here, miraculously complete, was a tiny thumb-pot, which had been hastily fashioned, like a dough-boy, from the last 'nob' of clay. Later it transpired that *all* the Venuses had survived! But though I have to caution you, in the interests of health and safety NOT to try this experiment at home, it brought us a taste of a richer, grander, more immediate and fulfilling reality.

We had learned something about ourselves and the deep history which is our hidden inheritance. The whole experience felt like a gift from the very elders we had reached out to touch, who, wiser and more skilful than us by far, had been intrigued by our endeavours and had smiled kindly on us in the end. Will we try it again? You bet! *Rosemary*

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THIS IS THE 4TH MID SUSSEX MUSIC & ALE FESTIVAL AT MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL AT THE HASSECKS

It takes place on the **24th and 25th August** and doors are 2 pm to 11 pm each day. Tickets available at www.thehassecks.co.uk.

Here are the incredible artists that have been confirmed thus far. Every one of these acts have been carefully curated for a boutique festival that is close to our Mid Sussex Music Hall and Brighthelmstone Promotions heart. Ashley Campbell / Campbell / Jensen (USA/ UK) - You have asked and we have delivered. Many of our followers have asked when Campbell/Jensen are back at the hall. Well, the lovely pair and sublime musicians are back. Great to host true friends of Brighthelmstone in the hall for the 3rd time.

Ashley Campbell and Thor Jensen form a unique meeting of musical genres as the duo Campbell/Jensen. With Ashley coming from the world of country and Americana and Thor having a diverse background from rock to gypsy jazz, they create a fresh sound as a duo. Ashley Campbell, daughter of country legend Glen Campbell began her career playing in her father's band on several world tours and has found success as a solo artist in the country music scene; most notably with her debut single "Remembering" which she wrote for her father. Her original music has taken her all over the world, from China to Japan, to the mainstage at London's O2 Arena to opening for Kris Kristofferson and the Bellamy Brothers. She has also been spotlighted for her banjo playing with Rascal Flatts in the music video for their hit single "Banjo".

Thor Jensen, a virtuoso guitarist and songwriter from New York has travelled many different roads. From touring the world with Hazmat Modine, playing Americana with Quiet Life opening for the likes of Dr. Dog, Portugal. The Man and Shovels and Rope, then onto joining the Stephane Wrembel Band, playing the music of Django Reinhardt, performing at Carnegie Hall and all over the world, all the while immersing himself in New York's jazz scene. Ashley and Thor started Campbell/Jensen in late 2021 and have been playing music together ever since. Both being strong instrumen-

talists in addition to the combination of Thor's deep baritone and Ashley's clear as a bell vocals, together they make a one of a kind blend. Their debut album "Turtle Cottage" is out now!

Trevor Moss & Hannah-Lou (Hastings - UK) A very welcome return from hiatus. We are glad to have them back on a first show at our festival. Is it a comeback show? No matter what, we are happy to host them.

Trevor Moss & Hannah-Lou - have released five critically-acclaimed studio albums, on seminal labels such as Loose Music, Big Life and Heavenly, working with producers such as Ethan Johns, Dan Carey, Richard Causon and James Dring. They have toured Tin Tabernacles, Village Halls, by Canal Boat, and with the likes of Tori Amos, Jools Holland, Damon Albarn, Ron Sexsmith, Beth Orton, Loudon Wainwright, The Magic Numbers and more, and played main stages at Glastonbury, Secret Garden Party, Green Man and every stage from The Royal Albert Hall to the Warsaw Congress to the Greek Theatre.

Dylan Earl - (Arkansas - USA) Another friend of Brighthelmstone and we are mighty thrilled to host this wonderful chap. His voice is truly something else.

"Among the artists rising up from the fertile twang-fields of Northwest Arkansas, Dylan Earl might just make the music that goes down smoothest...On I Saw the Arkansas, he's got road-weary ramblers, raucous honky-tonkers, stone-washed Southern soul, and timeless tear-in-my-beer ballads, all done with impressive nuance and attention to detail." - Bandcamp Daily

"I Saw the Arkansas offers more in the way of atmosphere than definitive statements, as Earl establishes a signature sound defined by his remarkable voice and his band's easy chemistry. Pedal steel guitar and swelling piano rolls combine compellingly with his rich, deep baritone." - Deborah Crooks, Holler Country

"The nine-track release - containing much melancholy - takes a classic country sound and Dylan's baritone voice, and matches them with modern lyrics and sentiments. As someone who has heard the previous releases, this

reviewer had expectations for the new album, which were met - and more. Dylan's old-school country voice is on point from the first note." - Claire Stones, PNC Magazine

Ags Connolly (Oxford UK) - Our lucky mascot and so good, that he is coming back for the third consecutive year. We don't repeat performers, but Ags is an exception.

"...Few contemporary singers can move by just the sound of their voice alone. A New Master who sounds like an Old Master." - Jack Watkins, Country Music People

A traditional country artist from Oxfordshire, England, Ags Connolly is widely considered to be one of the best singer-songwriters in the genre ever to emerge from the UK - but that doesn't tell the whole story...

Ags' songs have been recognised and lauded by artists and country music fans in the US, Canada and beyond since his debut album *How About Now* emerged in 2014. The influential US review site *Saving Country Music* heralded his arrival on the scene, saying "Ags Connolly deserves to be considered right beside his Stateside counterparts as one of the carriers of the country music holy ghost".

Three more highly acclaimed albums have followed, each of which emulated his first in being named *Album Of The Month* by *Country Music People* magazine - the longest-running country music publication in the world - who have described Ags as "an English Willie Nelson" and "the best singer-songwriter in the country field that this country has ever turned out". His third album, *Wrong Again*, was named *Album Of The Year* at the 2020 UK Country Music Awards.

Ags' fourth studio album *Siempre* took the glimmers of Texas border sounds heard on his previous records and merged them with Tejano music and barroom waltzes while also accommodating his honky tonk and singer-songwriter roots. "It's best described as a Texas music album", Ags explained. "Texas-style country is my favourite, and it takes many forms. I wanted to celebrate them all." *Siempre* was released in June 2023.

A constant presence on the UK, Ireland and European touring and festival circuit - appearing regularly in the Netherlands, Germany and Scandinavia - Ags has shared stages with country music icons such as Rosanne Cash, Dale Watson and Jim Lauderdale. He has also opened shows for a newer batch of stars, including every date of Charley Crockett's major European tour in 2023. Ags continues to build a reputation as an uncompromising country traditionalist in the UK and beyond. In an era when the pop and rock incarnations of country music are enjoying a surge in popularity, Ags continues to de-

fend the last outpost of the genre's traditional roots.

Chris Acker (New Orleans - USA) - This is one of those artists, that you will say I saw him here first. We cannot wait to see Chris Acker bring his wonderful observational songs to life live.

"In a genre full of tall tales and marketable lies, Chris Acker crafts candid songs- weaving his wit and his woes into a body of work that exposes the stale plight of the American Songster to the honest, and sometimes hilarious, light of day" - Nick Shoulders

Tapes For Diane (Brighton - UK) - Balancing the dreamy line between dusk and dawn 'Tapes for Diane' spin a sound evocative of sixties sultry noir and cinematic country.

Classic song-writing re-imagined through a contemporary lens of observation.

Raw, unfiltered delivery alongside unforgettable shimmering guitar lines. Captivating, mesmerising and utterly compelling live.

Ian Roland (Hassocks - UK) - Appearing at this year's Mid Sussex Music & Ale Festival as a trio, with Dave Coomber on bass and James Chapman on drums, Ian Roland has supported acts such as Martin Simpson, The Black Feathers, Stick In The Wheel, TV Smith, Robb Johnson, Boo Hewerdine, Robert Vincent, Chris Helme, Joshua Ray Walker and 10cc's Graham Gouldman.

"absolutely superb" BBC Radio Kent

"captivating, classy and high-quality" HURSTFolk Festival

"quality roots music" FATEA

The Equatorial Group (Eastbourne - UK) - It's long overdue that we host this exceptional band.

Hailing from Eastbourne on England's Sussex coast, The Equatorial Group is formed of five old friends from very differing musical backgrounds. This musical tug-of-war has succeeded in "merging American roots music with timeless pop." (De Krenten uit de Pop.)

In the Equatorial Group (Eastbourne - UK) - Some listeners hear the shadows of Neil Young or the colours of Fleetwood Mac, and with five part harmonies, pedal steel guitar, and soaring improvisations they create "delicate soundscapes delivered with restrained panache."

(Lonesome Highway)

Described as "among the tastemakers within British and American roots-pop" the live experience of this much loved local band continues to be a popular draw.

The Self Help Group: Out local lucky charms. Hassocks very own Self Help Group are back to charm you all, with unique and captivating songs.

"Absolutely Wonderful" Bob Harris, BBC Radio 2

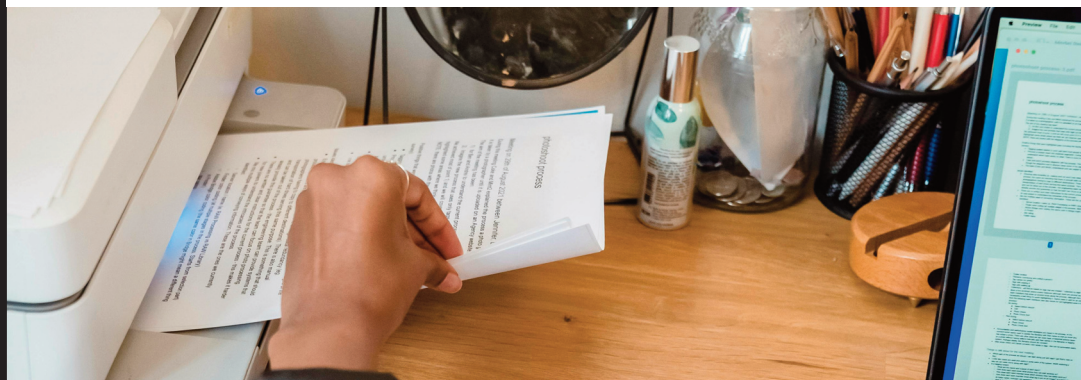
"Glistening, melodic song infused with wood bark and traditional lore" Drunken Werewolf

Jim Brighthelmstone Promotions

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**THE BEACON PARISH OF DITCHLING,
STREAT & WESTMESTON** Our Sunday
services for August will be as follows.

On Sundays **4th and 11th August**: join us at
St. Margaret's Ditchling at 10 am for Morning
Worship with Holy Communion. Youngsters
can enjoy a Little Beacons session on both of
these dates.

Also, on the **11th August** why not join us for
'Hymns and Pimms!' at Streat Church from
3.30 pm. A lovely event to bring family,
friends and visitors to.

On Sunday **18th August** we'll be at West-
meston at 10 am for Morning Worship with
Holy Communion.

Sunday **25th August** sees another of our pop-
ular All Age Family Services at Ditchling
starting at 10 am.

Our mid-week service of Holy Community
'Wednesday @ 10' takes place each Wednes-
day of the month at St. Margarets, Ditchling.
Our Sunday services are full of music and
song and, if you enjoy singing, why not join

us on Wednesday **7th August** in Ditchling at
6 pm for our informal SING! session? Come
and learn some new songs and enjoy some old
favourites.

We'd love to see you at any of our services.
You can also watch our Sunday services on-
line via the Beacon Parish website www.beaconparish.co.uk where you can also check for
any changes to the information given above.

Sherrian Guest

HORSE TROUGH AT STONEPOUND CROSS ROADS

I would like to say thank
you to whoever cleared and planted Florence
Darby's (1895) Horse Trough. It's a welcome
sight after so many years of being uncared for.
Thank you.

Shirley

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HALLS FOR HIRE

The Players Theatre, Hurstpierpoint- A meeting room for up to 10 people. If you need a larger space, the auditorium is available too. Please contact Pippa Sampson on 01273 833397 for further details or e-mail: enquiries@hurst-players.org.uk

Albourne Village Church - ring 07513 453679 or book online at www.albourneparishcouncil.co.uk for your business or pleasure bookings, some space is available for regular bookings.

Sayers Common Village Church Hall - ring Judy Miller on 01273 834640. Space available for regular clubs/bookings.

Sayers Common Village Hall - call Agatha Winters on 01273 833377 for bookings.

Hassocks United Church Hall Large and small halls for hire, with use of kitchen tel: 01273 831632

Hurst Scout H.Q. - has a hall and kitchen as well as a smaller meeting room. Ideal for parties, classes or meetings. Ring Heather Hush on 01273 831023 email: bookings@hurstpierpointscouts.co.uk. Please Note: 1st Hurst Scouts have a website for hall bookings where users can view the diary, check prices and download the booking forms – <https://www.hurstpierpointscouts.co.uk/hq-bookings>

Hurstpierpoint Village Centre - has three spaces for hire, a hall that seats up to 200, a conference room for up to 20 and the Club Suite for up to 40. The Club Suite is ideal for children's parties, offering its own kitchen and toilet facilities. The kitchen serving both the hall and conference room is also free of charge. Email office@hurstpierpoint-pc.gov.uk or www.hurstpierpoint-pc.gov.uk

Hurstpierpoint Guide HQ - Kitchen and carpeted hall and lovely enclosed garden call Judy Leech on 01273 833954.

Adastra Hall, in Hassocks is your community space and can be booked for parties, meetings and events. If you'd like to book, please take a look at our website www.adastrahall.com or email bookings@adastrahall.com.

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@hurstpierpoint-pc.gov.uk or visit www.hurstpierpoint-pc.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.

Emmanuel Centre South Street, Ditchling is a well-equipped venue with a hall which can seat 60 people. It has a large refurbished kitchen, two toilets and a grassed area to the rear. In front of the building is parking for eight cars. Email: admin@beaconparish.co.uk for further information

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

Useful Information

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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. 9am - 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 - 9pm, 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 - 6pm Fri.	54A Keymer Road Available during opening hours	01273 842987
Graystone Referral Centre	8.30am - 5.30pm Monday 8.00am - 5.30pm Tuesday - Friday On the wall in the covered alcove at the front of the building 24-hour access	38 Keymer Road Available during opening hours Adastra Park - south field Via Orchard Lane or Keymer Road	
Keymer & Hassocks Sports & Social Club	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 August

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

Regular Events

BEACON PARISH AUGUST SERVICES

Morning Worship with Holy Communion 10 am St Margarets, Ditchling on **4th & 11th August** (both inc. Little Beacons) & **25th August** (all age family service) and at Westmeston Church on **18th August.**

11th August 'Hymns and Pimms' 3.30 pm at Streat Church.

Wednesday@10 (am) Holy Communion weekly at St Margarets Church, Ditchling. 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, Has-

socks. Most Mondays 7-10 pm. call 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 5.30 - 7 pm School Years 4 and upwards (Term time only). Lead activities and free time - pool, table football, board games, games console etc.

Daily Events

1st 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

2nd MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Cyprus Hall Car Park, Burgess Hill 7.15 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. 'Direction Finding Evening'. All welcome.

4th COELIAC GROUP South Downs Garden Centre, Brighton Road, Hassocks 9 am - 11am. 'Brunch and Chat'. All welcome.

4th OLDLAND MILL Oldlands Lane, Keymer 2 - 5 pm. Open afternoon. All welcome.

4th HASSOCKS PHILOSOPHICAL FORUM Purple Carrot Cafe, Hassocks 2 pm. All welcome.

4th DITCHLING VILLAGE ORCHARD Bodingtons Lane, Ditchling. 9.30 am - 11.30 pm. 'Maintenance morning' come and have a chat.

5th HAS SOCKS WI Adastra Hall, Hassocks 2 pm. Craft Club. Visitors welcome.

7th HAS SOCKS WI Adastra Hall, Green Room, Hassocks 2 pm. 'Cancer Now' afternoon tea in memory of our dear friend Judith. Open to the whole village.

7th THE BEACON PARISH St Margarets Church, Ditchling, 6 pm. Sing! your heart out or maybe just come & listen.

7th UKES OF HAS SOCKS Proper Cycling & Coffee 7.30 pm. Monthly community jam session, play and sing along, beginners welcome. All welcome.

8th DITCHLING PLAYERS Ditchling Village Hall 7.15 pm. Open Play Reading 'Our Town' by Thornton Wilder. Open to all. See article.

9th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Millfield Suite, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. Talk 'Explanation on Baluns & Traps' Phil G4UDU. All welcome.

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

10th CHURCHES TOGETHER URC Hassocks 9.30 am. Messy Church - breakfast, crafts, games and story. All welcome.

11th SUSSEX PATHFINDERS Petworth Park 10 am & 1.30 pm. 5+5 miles 'Figure of 8' - Fields, lanes and woodland paths. For more info visit. www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk.

12th THE GROUP The Railway Pub, Station Road, Burgess Hill. 7.30 pm. A club for the over 55 unattached. www.thegroup.org.uk.

13th MSDC PLAY DAYS Court Bushes, Hurstpierpoint 1 - 3 pm. Free event aimed at the under 10's, DJ workshop, Magician Tomfoolery, games & crafts see article for more info.

17th SUSSEX PATHFINDERS Seven Sisters Country Park Car Park 10 am. 5 mile, easy walking with minor hills alongside the Cuck-

mere River in the Seven Sisters. www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk for more information.

18th 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.

19th POLICE BEAT SURGERY South Downs Garden Centre, Hassocks 11 am - 12.30 pm. Come along to get crime prevention and advice on neighbourhood issues.

23rd MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Millfield Suite, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. Making Balun or Trap'. All welcome.

24th HAS SOCKS VILLAGE MARKET Age Concern Car Park, 9 am - 1 pm. Local produce, bread, honey, cheese, wine, veg etc.

28th MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL The Hassocks Pub, Station Approach East Mid Sussex Music & Ale Festival' For more information and tickets www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk.

29th 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.beravementcare.uk.

28th SOUTH DOWNS WOODTURNERS Beeding and Bramber Village Hall 7 - 10 pm. 'Hands on evening - 3 lathes set up' visit www.southdownswoodturners.com All welcome.

28th MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL The Hassocks Pub, Station Approach East 7.30 pm. Beth Nielsen Chapman. For more information and tickets www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk.

29th WOODLAND FLORA & FAUNA GROUP Hurstpierpoint Village Centre, 7.30 pm. 'Restoring the Balance' David Ramsden. Free Entry. See article for more details.

30th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Millfield Suite, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. 'Testing your Balun or Trap'. All welcome.

Have you ever pondered on the question “Do I have enough?”

Can you really answer that question without taking a step before that to ask, “What’s the money for in the first place?”

Only then can you truly define what “enough” is.

Don’t lose sight of the big picture in the busyness of daily life.

True financial planning is about helping people use their money to make a life instead of using their life to make money, as money isn’t the most precious commodity of our existence... time is?

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

Thank you ever so much for all the love and kindness you have showed us since I wrote about this incredible traumatic situation we found ourselves in with the ending of our current five year lease and having no Security of Tenure which was lost by our legal representative. We did as so many of you suggested to get some recompence, but that was eaten up by the legal process. So basically, they got away with it, and we're left after 51 years with the prospect of being closed down and thrown out. We were at an all-time low when I wrote the last Talk About, just imagine getting a call telling you you've got a month to get out of your property because of a legal mistake, everything must go and be totally empty. Imagine how you'd feel. Devastation is a good word to start with not to mention anger at being let down by people you're meant to trust to protect you.

When the Talk About hit the streets, you made us feel very special and wanted. You lifted our spirits and gave us hope that had disappeared from our lives. A couple of days after the Talk About came out that familiar ping on Nola's phone bought news from the property managing agents, the Landlords were prepared to offer us a new five year lease but at a take it or leave it offer of a new annual rent of £35,000. We were paying £27,000 per year, a rise of £8,000 a year. The euphoria of getting a new lease soon turned to shock at the seismic increase. My first thought was, are they getting Hassocks and Harrod's confused? My second reaction was why are rich people so greedy, we've got nothing, they've got a lot, but always seem to want more. Maybe the powers that be can do something about it, then you'd have a lot fewer empty shops and businesses. As history shows the rich will always get richer, off the back of the poor, who always get poorer, and it will never change, no matter what political party is in power.

I'd like to take a moment to thank several elderly ladies who phoned me to commiserate and offer help, there'd been customers in their younger days when they had pets and now their age made it difficult to have any sort of pet. I can freely admit they reduced me to tears, the love and kindness they showed me was enough, but they also wanted to help financially which I'm sorry I cannot accept. I understand people want to help, but I want to work and earn the money I need by being a retailer that's what I do. We offer such a large diversity of goods here and if we haven't got it, we'll do our best to get it, and if we can match the price of the bigger boys to keep you coming through our door then we'll do that too. I will chase every penny to pay this new rent and stay here. I know it's a hill to climb but with your support we can do it and if you really want to help me and haven't got any pets then I'll let you put a few pennies in the cat's donation box, everything that goes in there helps the cats with all their needs food, vets etc. I love you all, you've been amazing and so have all the hugs. You cannot know how much they have helped, let's hope life can now get back to some sort of normality. I live in hope.

Steve.

HASSOCKS PET CENTRE, KEYMER ROAD, HASSOCKS 01273 842392