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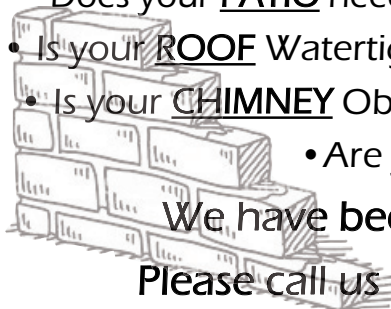
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*We thank Dave Evans for this picture of Hurst Carnival in 1929.
He believes that Mrs Sanderson is pictured in black in the middle can anyone confirm this?
Please email in ed@villagemagazines.co.uk.*

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FOR THE LATE JANET SHARMAN.... We were all sorry to hear of the passing of Janet who was a member of Friends and Neighbours Concert Party from our first year of entertaining in 1977 for our Queens Silver Jubilee.

Janet was a busy lady who loved her garden and was known for the many different herbs that she grew. Green fingered was Janet.

She will obviously be missed very much by church members and the Clergy at St Cosmas and St Damian in Keymer where she devoted a lot of her time.

In our concerts Janet gave us variety with entertaining monologues and one particular Joyce Grenfell story was told as a school mistress saying 'Don't do that George - Susie doesn't like it' Janet sounded so like Joyce Grenfell it was as if Joyce was actually on the stage - so amusing.

Janet made her own costumes to suit her solos and for one monologue she was dressed as a mermaid lying on a large stone on the seashore. She must have spent hours perfecting the image, and

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she looked gorgeous. One photograph showed Janet as 'Bob the B uilder!'

Janet was a devoted mother and grandmother and had extended family - to Dawn and family we

send our deepest sympathy.

Janet knew 'everyone' and will be sadly missed in our Community.

Thank you for lots of happy and unforgettable memories Janet. Sleep tight.

Dorrie and all ex Friends and Neighbours



HASSOCKS GOES GOLD WINE TASTING, 7.30 pm, 3rd October, Adastra Hall, Hassocks.



Following the sell-out success two years ago of the Hassocks Wine Tasting Event the next one will be in support of Hassocks Goes Gold, raising funds to support research into childhood and teenage

cancer. South Downs Cellars will guide guests through four different wines with nibbles included in the ticket price, and a raffle and auction will add to the fundraising fun of the evening. You can book however as many tickets you like which will be available online using the link: <https://buytickets.at/rathergoodevents/1679126>, or for cash sales from Proper Cafe in Hassocks. Please book early to guarantee your place! And if you don't drink, we would welcome helpers for the event so please contact me on amandajanafelix@outlook.com.

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ST LAWRENCE FAIR preparation is picking up pace for this year's Saint Lawrence fair - make sure you have the dates in your diary **4th/5th July** this year's theme is 'Happy Holidays'.

We're hoping to run some of our usual events, but this is where we need you and your groups, organisations and businesses to get involved.

29th June Dog Show in the Scout Hut starts at 11.30 am.

Procession - we'd love it if small groups could join the procession this year, children and adults alike; It's such a great traditional part of the fair and we'd like to have more of you involved. It is mostly a walking procession so come along, join in the fun and be part of the official opening of the fair. If you'd like to find out more, e-mail us at **slf.procession@gmail.com**.

Kids Disco - We're still looking for a few volunteers to spend a couple of hours on the Friday evening helping out with the kids disco - without this, it may not go ahead. Please get in touch at **stlawrence-fair@gmail.com**.

Tug of War - always popular, let's make it a real competition this year with a few more teams joining in. Get your team together and register your interest by dropping us an e-mail

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stlawrencefair@gmail.com. It would be great to have a couple of heats before the grand final, with the winning team taking on all the kids in the audience.

Stallholders there are still some slots available to book please get in touch at **stlawrencefair@gmail.com** we'd love to see you at the fair.

Lona MacDonald

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HASSOCKS GOES GOLD LET THE COMPETITIONS BEGIN!



Hassocks is set to dazzle once again as the village embraces the annual Hassocks Goes Gold competitions! Whether you're a keen gardener or a budding artist, there's a golden opportunity for everyone to shine.

Sunflower Competition: *Could Yours Be a Winner?*

Every year Hassocks' gardens Go Gold with beautiful sunflowers—could yours be a winner? If you reckon your sunflower is the Tallest or the Prettiest, you can enter by simply posting a photo on HassocksGoesGold facebook page or by emailing your photo to hgg@pearlpower.co.uk. Be sure to include the height if competing for *Tallest Sunflower*!

Thanks to the generous support of Matt from Maple Leaf Gardens, this year's winners will receive fantastic prizes. But don't wait too long—the deadline for

entries is **24th August!**

Poster Competition: *Finding Golden Goldfish*

Calling all artists!
Make your very own Golden Gold-

fish famous! Every entry will be

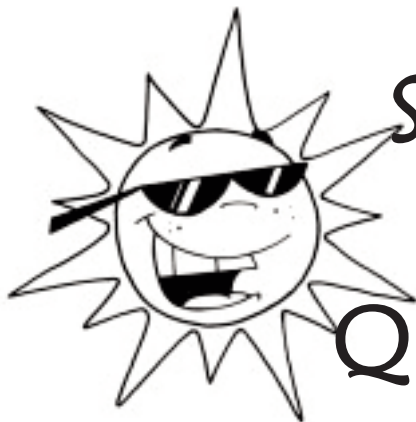
displayed in the *Parklands Road Art Gallery*, and the winning designs in each age category will feature on September's official HassocksGoesGold poster, as well as earn you some wonderful goldfish themed prizes too.

Want to get involved? Entry forms are free to download via the HassocksGoesGold Facebook page, available through local schools, or ready to collect from QD Stationery. Younger or less experienced artists can bring the entry form Goldfish to life with colouring in, whilst freehand entries are encouraged too! But hurry—submissions close **4th July!**

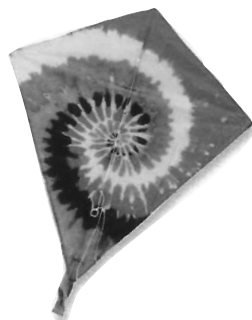
Whether you're growing GOLDEN sunflowers or painting GOLDfish, this year's HassocksGoesGold promises to be a celebration of the creativity of our wonderful community, and a whole lot of golden fun!

Rachel





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AN UPDATE ON TEDDY

We are delighted to share that our son Teddy is now 15 months off treatment for neuroblastoma, and his most recent scans show he is still cancer free!

I am sure many of you will remember Teddy from our fundraising campaign in 2023, when Hassocks and the surrounding villages banded together to help out family raise £270,000 to enrol him on a trial in the US. Teddy made three trips to Penn State Children's Heath in Hershey, Pennsylvania where he is under the care of the incredible Dr Sholler - a world-renowned expert in Teddy's cancer, and the pioneer of DFMO. We then received the brilliant news that DFMO is being made available in the UK! The plan will be for Teddy's care to stay under the guidance of Dr Sholler's team without having to travel back and forth to fill prescriptions.

Teddy himself is coming on leaps and bounds, and he can now often be seen whizzing around the village on his scooter. He still has a lot of physical difficulties to contend with, and a small army of specialists at various hospitals, but on the whole his life is a lot more normal than it was a year ago.

Our family continues to benefit hugely from a number of charities supporting children affected by cancer and other life-threatening illnesses, including Rainbow Trust and Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice. We are hoping that once the dust has settled in our lives - it's taking a while! - we will be

able to start an annual fundraising event in Hassocks to raise money and ensure they can support more families in the future.

If you are interested, I would urge you to look up these wonderful charities to find out more about the vital work they do at

www.rainbowtrust.org.uk and
www.chestnut-tree-house.org.uk

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NEWS FROM STONEYWISH What a wonderful word 'crepuscular' is! If there were a verbal equivalent of wine-tasting, then 'crepuscular' would register as a deep, luscious, full-bodied, aromatic word. You can roll it round your mouth. Let tongue and lips sample its delights. There are hints of bird-song in it and the lingering fragrance of sun-warmed leaves and flowers. It mellows and develops a counterpoint of dusky tones – the waning warmth of day, the coolness of stars which creep in unannounced as the blue drains out of the sky... Dear Lord! you think, how long is she going to ramble on this? Well, there are some things in life which can only be savoured slowly. A good wine is one. And dusk is another. You cannot rush them. They will not be rushed. Both will deliver their deliciousness only when the senses are still and fully-focussed. And, by a miracle, this evening before May Day is warm enough for sitting outside without shivering. It is as yet too early for summer's 'biting things' to be abroad. Apple blossom glows in the gathering darkness and as the blackbirds and thrushes and wrens fall silent, a trio of nightingales start to sing down on the Black Swan Pond. Leastways, I think they are nightingales. I do not have the 'app' on my phone which will listen for me and give me a visual

graph of the melody. I have to confess I don't want one. I don't want anything to come between me and this moment – these bursts of rapturous sound, issuing from the cave of foliage around me. I don't want any data – or naturalist's jargon – not even the cultural thrill of lines from Keats – tidbits of Greek mythology – songs or sayings, though of course, now I have said that they all come busting in like a crowd of hooligans. Just now I am watching this bat dive through the apple tree before me, hot on the tail of some large insect. It's not a pipistrelle, for they are smaller and move so fast the eye can hardly follow them. This bat is bigger, slower. Does he catch his quarry? He is looping the loop, round and round above the tree and the pallor of the sky glimmers through his wings. A squabble breaks out between geese gathered on the Big Pond and their cries ripple out through the leaves. Up in the meadow a stray lamb cries and the mother answers. If I stay longer, will there be owls? The fox that checks the hen-run every night? Visitors, welcome and unwelcome, in this place I foolishly think of as 'mine'? Twilight is a time of transition. A whole world, normally hidden, comes to life. High above, a new moon with upturned horns slides into view like a Sami sledge, but the shadows down here start to press close about

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me. Suddenly I feel out of my element. Familiar birds have found sanctuary for the night – have fallen silent one by one and now something inside me is urging me to go indoors and seek the safety of lamp-light and all the familiar things with which I make myself feel important. Too much reality is an unsettling thing. I no longer feel significant in the dark. Recounting this moment tomorrow, I will be able to re-fashion it as I please, but the longer I sit here, the more I feel the world is trying to claim me and that makes me feel vulnerable in a quite alarming way. My narrow perspective is blown away. I am no longer distinct or special – a miracle of Darwinian evolution – a co-creator of the new digital universe. I am merely a rather blind and uncertain creature, stumbling up the garden path, hoping that I do not fall in the pond along the way! Later, I remember the words of Martin Prechtel:

“In the forest you’re the guest, not the trees. In your garden you’re the guest, not the gophers, aphids, squirrels or deer.” Also, this: “In real cultures, you’re a cell in the body of the land and all the living bodies of that land are the cells that make up your body.” Was that how Keats’s nightingale reminded him of Death? By inviting him to lose himself – his sense of identity, culture, purpose, in a rapturous sublima-

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tion? We progressive humans do not want to be *claimed* as kin by Nature. Nature is something we see as materially inferior – less permanent, less conscious than ourselves. At worst we assume the role of conquistadors towards her. At best we appoint ourselves as guardians. We have raised the barricades of science and theology and technology specifically to preserve the advantage in all dealings with this *idiot savant*. Of course, our hearts know that such impertinence will not do. Sooner or later, we *must* acknowledge we are not up to the job – Prechtel again: “Nature does not die when we kill Her off. We die when we kill off Nature.” Because we already *are* intrinsically part and parcel of the world which gave us life, any damage inflicted is inflicted first and foremost on ourselves. And dreaming of post-human immunity will not save us. Man and his machines may both be devoured by their own cannibalistic ambitions. But the point is that real bliss comes when we allow ourselves to feel small and lost in our familiar world. The strangeness is there on the doorstep, if only we take time to look. The beauty is waiting to speak to us if we can put down our distractions and listen. Twilight is magical because it is a crossing place. But one can feel disorientated and ready for adventure in any place. To cultivate the Art of Surrender is to discover such a place in one’s own heart and find that there are nightingales of one sort or another singing there all the time. As Prechtel says: “Magic is what happens every day.”

For this First of May the ‘may’ is in bloom – night air heavy with its scent. There are also the fragrant white flowers of woodruff. We steep the woodruff in glasses of white wine to make the old German drink *Maibowle*, which is to be drunk specifically on May Day. So, a toast to Spring Magic! Down with busyness and botheredness and trying to push the world round – and welcome sweet companionship and repose!

Rosemary

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AGE CONCERN Dale Avenue, Hassocks, 01273 844461 www.achassocks.co.uk Facebook – Age Concern Hassocks. June is set to be a fun month including an outing to the Bluebell Railway; we have Vicki from Avon visiting the centre with her goodies and the Sundown Ukulele Band will be entertaining us again.

If you have a D1 driving licence and spare time on your hands, please come and have a chat with us about becoming a volunteer driver. We need minibus drivers to drive regularly during the week, occasionally for outings or to provide holiday cover.

A gentleman called Justin Staveley very kindly ran the Copenhagen Marathon on 11th May to raise money for us and in memory of his grandfather Brian Staveley, who was a member of Age Concern Hassocks. We would like to thank him so much for his hard work and generosity. Although the race has been and gone you can still support him and us, by popping into the centre to donate.

Age Concern Summer Fair 5th July 10 am to 2 pm. Calling all crafters or traders! Would you like to book a table or two to sell your produce/goods? Our fairs are extremely popular and an important way to raise much needed funds for our charity, so please

contact Nina on the above number or email nina.hawes@achassocks.co.uk. On the day, come along and browse the stalls and treat yourself to a cream tea or a piece of cake. A raffle will be drawn on the day and tickets will be available to buy from the Age Concern Charity Shop from the 2nd of June. So put the date in your diary and support your local day centre!

Feel free to come in and see what we have to offer. We look forward to seeing you. *All at Age Concern.*

DITCHLING OPEN GARDENS TRAIL: Explore Beautiful Gardens opening in aid of St Peter and St James Hospice.

Ditchling, East Sussex – Discover nine lovely private gardens in Ditchling on Saturday, **21st June**, from 10.30 am to 4.30 pm. Visit new locations opening for the first time, including one in Westmeston. Enjoy a range of sizes, designs and planting styles, many created with wildlife in mind! There will be refreshments, plus art, crafts and plants to buy.

The trail begins at The Sandrock, 2 High St, Ditchling, BN6 8TA

Book via the Hospice website.

Marija Bichan

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Programme Of Events:- Dr Bike – bring your bike along for a quick health check with Dr Bike: - **3rd June** and **1st July**, 5.30 pm at Proper Cycling and Coffee. **5th July**, 2 pm at St Lawrence Fair, Hurstpierpoint.

3rd June 7.30 pm at Proper Cycling Launch evening – meet the organisers and find out what's coming up. Followed by a screening of the cycling film "Chasing the Sun".

Women's ride – relaxed social ride, approx. 15 miles, led by two British Cycling qualified "Breeze" ride leaders. Depart **8th June**, 10 am, Proper Café Hassocks. Max 12 riders so sign up quickly at:

<https://www.letsride.co.uk/rides/hassocks-bike-fest>
Mid-summer road ride – 40 mile social road ride at relaxed pace, led by a Cycling UK ride leader, with lunch stop. Max 12 riders. **22nd June**, 10 am, Proper Café Briefing for the Kidical Mass ride – for riders, parents and stewards. **1st July**, 7.30 pm, Proper Cycling and Café

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Find out more and sign up at: <https://www.greenerhassocksditchling.org.uk/onyourbike>

Andy Hansen

BEE SWARMS We have had an horrendous winter with many bees not surviving, so every swarm is precious to us, Very soon, surviving hives of bees will be getting crowded, and the bees may decide half of them will leave- taking their queen - and look for a new home. Yes A SWARM. They are not dangerous, just go indoors and enjoy the spectacle!

Leave them to settle, call us and we will come and remove them - giving them a new safe home. We don't charge (though you may get a 15 minute talk on how wonderful bees are whilst we wait for them to settle)

I am teaching new people to keep bees so these swarms are a lovely way for them to begin their exciting hobby. Nature's gift.

Please keep a note of these numbers, and thank you, Hassocks.

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Ken Isted **07970 635034** or **01273 842458**.

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BRINGING NEW LIFE TO OLD - REPAIR CAFE HASSOCKS

One of the many rewarding aspects of volunteering with the repair café is when people come in with something that they can't fix and go away with something they can use. Sometimes we're repairing items that have a story or sentimental value – perhaps it belonged to your mother or grandmother, or it's a toy you had as a child and want your grandchildren to enjoy. Sometimes it's something as simple as the lid of your favourite saucepan!

Our amazing repairers can work on many household items, including:

Mechanical and electrical — vacuums, toasters, kettles, radios, lamps, clocks.

We can PAT test electrical items to be sure they are safe to use.

Wood — picture frames, chairs or tables with wobbly legs.

Garden tools — replace handles for forks or spades, repairing cords for hedge trimmers, lawnmowers.

Treasured objects that need to be delicately glued like statues, toys.

Textiles — repair or replace zips, sew up seams, holes or tears, replace buttons.

Sharpening — knives, scissors, garden tools

In partnership with Spire IT we can also help with laptops, phones and tablets that are not working as they should.

We're at Age Concern on Dale Avenue every fourth Saturday (village market day) except August and December. Bring items for repair between 9.30 am and 11.30 am and we'll see what we can do. Items must be clean, and if a part is needed you need to pay for it. Not everything is repairable: sometimes we can't get spare parts or can't even open the item for repair, but last year we successfully fixed over 70% of items we worked on.

We're a free service but welcome small donations to help cover our costs (room rental, insurance etc).

Are you good at fixing things? We welcome new people to join our friendly team of repairers. It's rewarding to bring new life to things, and people are very appreciative. It's also an enjoyable social experience, chatting with people, enjoying tea and cake, and being a valued part of the community.

Contact us via email
repaircafe@hkdtransition.org.uk, phone **01273 040110**, Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/repaircafehassocks>.

Juliet Merrifield

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

We meet each month over a cup of tea to share seeds, seedlings and extra produce along with gardening tips and friendship. We'd love to meet you whether you're a veteran gardener or would-be grower of vegetables and if you'd like to find others to help you get started on your gardening journey. You don't even need to have your own garden, as there are some of us that like to collaborate by growing with others. Come along and see what we're up to and help yourself to the seedlings and seeds on offer. Saturday **28th June** 10.30 am to 12 pm, Friends Meeting House, East Gardens, Ditchling BN6 8ST. This is the Quaker Meeting House (not to be confused with the Old Meeting House in the Twitten) Feel free to bring any seeds, seedlings or produce to share. Or just bring yourself! Warm wishes.

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HASSOCKS WI Meet 3rd Monday in the month at Adastra Hall. Doors open 7.30 pm start 7.45 pm. Freedom leisure gym goers came up trumps (should I write that ?) donating 148 pairs of knickers. Hassocks WI donated half to Safe in Sussex domestic abuse charity (www.safeinsussex.co.uk) in Haywards Heath and the remaining half to Days for Girls (www.daysforgirls.org) I met the organiser in Horsham.

Our April meeting Qigong was greatly enjoyed by members and visitors, thank you Ali. Which reminds me thank you to everyone who renewed their subs.

We will keep trying to give you an interesting, fun and educational view of life from Hassocks WI.

In May we experience Victorian times with David Allen and 'Manners Please', straight backs and strict etiquette. Visitors welcome (donation) come along. Our June meeting is with Paul Green 'Step Back in Time' viewing Sussex memorabilia and hearing stories from The Evening Argus archive from C19 century.

We also found time to make poppy wreaths to decorate the new plinths in Adastra memorial garden showing the panels removed from the Royal British Legion and being re-dedicated on VE Day. Thank you Shirley.

Water testing citizen science took place, five streams

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were tested in Hassocks, with help from Beth and Kat from Greener Hassocks and Ditchling. For results see www.earthwatch.org.uk.

There is an Extra Slice Tuesday **17th June** Committee room 2 pm to 4 pm Colin McFarlin on recycling and more information about the water testing for Earth Watch.

Craft club is Monday **2nd June** 2-4 pm committee room. So don't be lonely come along enjoy company and delicious cake.

Gerry

KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB There will be three meetings of the Keymer Folk Dance Club in June.

On Monday **2nd June**, the club will have its annual dance on Ditchling Village Green. For this evening, we welcome our dancing friends from other local clubs, followed by a supper of shared food. As we are dancing outside, dancing starts at 7 pm. We then round off the dancing season with meetings on the **16th and 30th June** at the URC Church Hall, both starting at 7.30 pm.

We restart the 2025/26 season on Monday **1st September**.

More details can be found at <https://keymerfolk.danceclub.co.uk> or email keymerfdc@gmail.com

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SWARD WARDENS: THE INCREDIBLE ROLE OF DUNG BEETLES

There's a subject we're not great at talking about in the UK; poo. However, there's a group of creatures that are far more celebratory of the topic, with their diet testament to their appreciation. Aptly named, dung beetles eat poo. And they are amazing.

You are likely to conjure the image of *Helicocpris*, giant dung beetle species which reside in Africa and Asia, manoeuvring huge droppings kindly deposited by some of the Earth's spectacular megafauna. Although these beetles don't match the size of the one that rolled a football into the 2010 World Cup opening ceremony, they are hefty for a beetle, reaching lengths of up to 7 cm.

Our dung beetles are more diminutive, but no less vital. The UK is home to around 60 species, which are split into three groups: Aphodiines, or the 'dwellers', sized 3 - 13mm who live directly in dung, *Onthophagus*, at 4 - 11 mm; 'tunnellers' who tunnel up to a metre below the dung, pulling down small amounts to lay their eggs in, and the largest 'tunnellers' at 8 - 26 mm, the *Geotrupes*.

Mostly, they consume dung of herbivores and omnivores. The ultimate recyclers, dung beetles are ecosystem engineers, meaning they modify their environment to provide services to other species with whom they share the ecosystem. In the case of dung beetles, this is a poop removal service.

Not only do they improve grazing pasture by clearing grasslands of waste, but they also recycle vital nutrients, keeping soil healthy. Tunnelling aerates the soil and prevents compaction, which in turn mitigates against flooding. Whilst this waste processing

keeps down the population of flies, the beetles also remove parasites living in the dung. The beetles are, in turn, prey to others, such as birds, bats and Hedgehogs. It's all rather harmonious and, as nature does best, it's a perfectly symbiotic relationship.

Yet, like most of our native wildlife, dung beetles are in trouble. Largely this is due to modifications in agricultural practices; changes in land-use and an increase of pesticides, whether this be directly onto fields or via livestock ingested worming medicines. These chemicals disrupt the brilliantly balanced natural process, especially when used large scale and preventatively. Landowners can support dung beetle populations by reducing pesticides; more dung beetles mean fewer parasites, so by protecting these species a free service is being retained.

We owe a lot to our dung beetles and must protect them. They're a critical part of our ecosystem, yet many of us don't know they exist here or appreciate their unglamorous and thankless work. To be frank, without them we would be up to our knees in poo. Metaphorically and literally. *Kerry Williams*

BEFRIENDED Our regular Befriended activities continue throughout June, with our weekly Community Choir on Tuesday afternoons at Holy Trinity Church in Hurstpierpoint. Come along at 2 pm to singing along to well known songs, hits from the musicals and favourite hymns. We break for tea and cake and a chance to get to know one another.

Our monthly afternoon tea party will be at the Court Bushes Community Hub in Hurstpierpoint at 3pm on Sunday **22nd June**. Our tea parties are normally on the third Sunday of the month, but not this month! *Susan*

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DITCHLING MORRIS – Celebrating 40 years the dance season is well underway, kicked off by dancing the sun up on a glorious May Day morning. We have lots more events coming up that we hope you will support. This year as part of our anniversary celebrations we are planning a big event for the Summer Solstice, Saturday **21st June**. Ditchling Morris will be running a workshop for the pupils of St Margaret's Primary School during the afternoon. There is an open invitation to 'Bring your Own Picnic' and join us on Ditchling Village Green from 6 pm. (Bring a garden chair too!) Afterwards Ditchling Morris will dance before heading up Lodge Hill, where we will dance again, and then cross over Lodge Hill Lane to watch the sun go down in the west. We do hope you will come and join our celebrations!

We'd also like to add here a little background about the history and origins of morris dancing. Dating back to the 1400s, morris dancing has long been a vibrant part of English culture. The name "Morris" originates from "Moresque" or "Moorish," reflecting its early roots in the elaborate dance forms of the Spanish Royal Court. When England held Aquitaine, this captivating dance found its way to the English Royal Court, becoming a prestigious form of entertainment by Tudor times. Stately homes often boasted their own Morris "Sides," with dancers adorned in splendid costumes, jingling leg bells, and flourishing richly decorated hankies to entertain their guests. Over time, Morris dancing spread throughout the provinces, blending with local music and dance traditions. Today, there are four main regional styles: the Cotswold style from stately home villages, the Welsh and English Border style, East Anglian Molly dancing, and the North-West Step and Clog dancing, influenced by the industrial heritage of spinning and weaving machines.

Ditchling Morris

DITCHLING MUMMERS On Thursday 10th April representatives of Ditchling Mummies and Ditchling Morris presented a cheque for £4,000 to St. Peter and St. James Hospice, raised from their 2024 Boxing Day event.

We are very pleased to be able to continue our support for the Hospice, which has now spanned seventeen years.

This year's mummies play will be our 40th consecutive performance and we have always been ably supported by Ditchling Morris, who are celebrating their 40th anniversary this year.

We would like to thank all of our supporters who come to watch us and donate so generously, as well as Harveys Brewery and the White Horse Inn, Ditchling for their continued support.

Finally, thanks to Ditchling Museum of Art and Craft for allowing us to stage the play in their car park.

Glynis Riddle



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VOLUNTEERS' WEEK WITH 4SIGHT VISION SUPPORT

Volunteers' Week is an annual UK-wide campaign held from the first Monday in June to celebrate and recognise the contributions of volunteers. This initiative has been running for over 40 years, providing organisations and communities a platform to thank current and past volunteers for their invaluable efforts.

4Sight Vision Support (4SVS) has over 200 volunteers and simply couldn't function without them – Volunteers' Week from 2nd to 8th June is a chance to recognise the fantastic contribution they make to its vital work supporting those living with sight loss across West Sussex. It's also an opportunity to publicise how its Volunteers contribute, and to encourage anyone, from any background, to consider volunteering with them in the future.

There are many ways in which you, family and friends can help: 4SVS has 'Ongoing Volunteers' who commit to a regular role in assisting at the various Club it runs, helping out at its Centres, helping in the Head Office, fundraising, and driving. 'Flexible volunteers' have roles including packing the client Newsletter, managing and collecting collection boxes, and supporting fundraising events and activities.

There are also roles for 'Micro-Volunteers': knitting Easter and Christmas novelties to sell in local

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schools and other venues, recycling a wide range of items to help fundraise, and putting up event posters.

Claire has been a Micro-Volunteer since 2021, she says, "I really enjoy knitting and its very rewarding making little novelties to help support such a good cause. I also recycle various items – including those which would otherwise go to landfill. I've also encouraged my place of work to collect stamps and ink cartridges for recycling too."

Currently 4SVS have particular need of drivers for the Mid Sussex walking group; people to pack newsletters; people to empty/site collection boxes and put up posters in their area. To find out more, call 4Sight Vision Support on 01243 828555 or email enquiries@4sight.org.uk Further details, including items for recycling can be found at www.4Sight.org.uk

Details about Volunteers' Week can be found at www.volunteersweek.org

Cathy Clark

The image shows Volunteer Claire busy knitting Easter novelties



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HURSTPIERPOINT OPEN GARDENS LOCATIONS ANNOUNCED (1 pm to 5.30 pm - 8TH June).

The Hurstpierpoint Open Gardens team has just released the locations of the gardens for this year. The selection promises to offer something for everyone and all within walking distance of the High Street and Trinity Road Car Park. (BN6 9SJ) and Brown Twins Road Car Park (BN6 9XT)

Small entrance fee (to cover all gardens - free for 14 years and under). This covers entry to all the gardens - please pay at the first garden you visit, and you will be given a stamped programme which includes all garden details and a map. Just show this on entry to subsequent gardens to show you have paid. It would be greatly appreciated if you could bring the exact money. (There is a cashpoint outside the Co-op in the High Street if needed).

Website www.hurstpierpointopengardens.co.uk and Facebook pages

(Hurstpierpoint Open Gardens) will be regularly updated before the event and posters will be displayed at strategic locations throughout Ditchling, Hassocks and Hurst.

Each garden will be marked by balloons at the entrance:- 21 Trinity Road, BN6 9UY. 10 Park Close, BN6 9XA. 3 Whites Close (off Idenhurst) BN6 9XX. 64 Cuckfield Road, BN6 9SB. 118 Cuckfield Road, BN6 9RZ. 115 Western Road, BN6 9SY. The Allotments, Albourne Road, BN6 9NR. The Bell Tower, 1 Pakyns Court, Albourne Road, BN6 9ET. 3 Pakyns Court, Albourne Road, BN6 9ET. 1 Holly Mews, High Street, BN6 9PW.

We'll be serving teas at the Bowls Club on the recreation ground, just off South Avenue, and refreshments (and more teas) in some of the gardens on the trail.

All proceeds will go to our local Hospice - St. Peter and St. James.

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THE BEACON PARISH OF DITCHLING, STREAT & WESTMESTON

Details for our services and events during June are given below. Please note that St. Margaret's, Ditchling is closed during the week for building work, except for occasional Sunday services throughout June. Please check our website <https://www.beaconparish.co.uk/> for any updates. Thank you.

Our services of Morning Worship with Holy Communion on Sundays **1st June** and **8th June** will take place in St. Margaret's but there will be no Little Beacons sessions for the youngsters at this month's services.

Sunday **1st June** sees one of our afternoon teas, followed by songs and hymns, to be held at Streat Church at 3.30 pm. Do join us for a chance to meet with old friends and make new ones.

If you enjoy singing, why not join us for our monthly SING! session - this month in the Emmanuel Centre, South Street Ditchling - at 6 pm on Wednesday **4th June**.

On Sunday **15th June** we'll be at St. Martins, Church Westmeston for Morning Worship with Holy Communion at 10 am.

Sunday **22nd June** sees us back at St. Margaret's Ditchling for Morning Worship with Holy Communion at 10 am.

Sunday **29th June** will be one of our popular All Age Family Services with Holy Communion at St. Margaret's starting at 10 am.

Our mid week Wednesday @ 10 Communion services will take place at The Emmanuel Centre, South Street, Ditchling throughout June.

Everyone is very welcome to join any of our services and events.

Sherrian Guest

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EX FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS. For VE Day..... Reading and listening to the proposed Commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of V.E. Day has brought back memories of some very special evenings at the Adastral Hall when our audiences joined all on stage for an evening of songs etc. as we remembered various war time anniversaries over the years.

Songs were sung with real feeling as we usually ended the evenings with 'There'll always be an England' and 'Land of Hope and Glory' which almost lifted the roof of the hall and certainly brought many a tear to the eye.

Obviously, Dame Vera Lynn's 'never-to-be-forgotten' music was featured during the programmes in song, dance, poems etc as the stage and costumes of red, white and blue marked the occasion.

It was so rewarding to see our audiences enjoying the opportunity of coming together as a Community to honour important anniversaries such as this V.E. Day of 2025.

Dorrie



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THE MID SUSSEX BRIDLEWAY GROUP is a small voluntary dedicated team that has been established since 1978 centred in Mid Sussex we cover much of East and West Sussex, an area which includes over 140 miles of bridleways.

At a Local Level we have a strong network of members who have detailed knowledge of the Bridleways they use, and the problems associated with them.

At a regional level we represent users of bridleways in discussions with Councils and other organisations.

At a national level we are affiliated with the British Horse Society, Bridleways and Byways Trust and the Open Spaces Society.

Can you answer the following questions: On the bridleways you use Is the surface in good condition? Are the trees and hedges cut back? Are the gates easy to use? If there's a problem, what do you do? Do you just put up with it? Who do you contact?

In fact, it is the job of the County Council to maintain most Bridleways and Byways, but budgets are very limited. The Councils need to be told about problems and help to solve them. This is where we can all help.

Our members do many works behind the scenes to ensure that our Bridleways are protected from being neglected, destroyed, closed or overlooked due to ever increasing budget restrictions and we welcome feedback and support from anyone who uses these paths whether it's on horseback, bicycle or on foot to report and campaign to ensure that Bridleways across the Mid Sussex area are maintained.

For example, reporting a broken gate or a surface that is eroded or has become unusable due to flooding. Perhaps joining a work party team to cut back overgrown hedges. Put it simply, the more members we have the more effective we can be. If you join us and do nothing else, you will still be helping yourself and others. But better still join us and take an active part in protecting your rights. We need your

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Jacqui Manley

HURST PLAYERS - "SYLVIA" - A COMEDY BY A R GURNEY.

Little does Greg know when he is followed home from the park by a stray dog just how dramatically this is about to affect his life. His wife, Kate, is far from enamoured by the new arrival and the lively, streetwise mongrel fast becomes a bone of contention between them.

Described after initial performances in New York as a love triangle with a very big difference, "Sylvia" has moments of both hilarity and sadness – perhaps best described as a comedy for adults, touching as it does on themes of jealousy, fidelity and the male mid-life crisis.

A funny, profound and touching play, not to be missed by dog lovers and dog tolerators alike – "Sylvia" will be presented nightly from Tuesday 8th to Saturday 12th July at Hurst Players' Theatre at 147 High Street, Hurstpierpoint – starting at 7.30 pm – with tickets available from early June online at the Players' website: hurstplayers.org.uk.

The Theatre Box Office will also open for personal bookings on Saturday mornings between 10 am to 12 noon for the weekends preceding performances on Saturdays 21st, 28th June and 5th July.

For more information on this, and other activities at the Players Theatre this summer, do check out our website: hurstplayers.org.uk.

Anne Hopper

CRAFT FAIR in Hurstpierpoint.

Heber Opera is hosting its next craft fair in Hurstpierpoint Village Centre on Saturday 19th July. The fair is open to the public 10 am to 2 pm and there are lots of homemade cakes and savouries to enjoy. Some stalls (with table provided) are still available if you are a crafter and would like to join us. Contact Jenny Hawkes on jenny@heberopera.co.uk or 07770 962811.

Jenny Hawkes



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THE WINDMILLS JUNIOR SCHOOL In our school assembly on 22nd April we learnt about Earth Day. Earth Day is an annual, international event held on 22nd April. Its aim is to raise awareness for our planet and the environmental challenges it faces. We talked about biodiversity and the impact human activity is having on the planet, ways to reduce our energy use and about different types of renewable energy, and how we can all make a personal pledge to help protect the environment, for example to reduce, reuse and recycle.

On 29th April we celebrated International Dance Day. The organisers of International Dance Day choose a host city each year, which holds a huge celebration featuring dance performances, educational projects, presentations and student showcases. Smaller dance events are also held around the world to celebrate all the global dance forms. We talked about different types of dance and the types of skills that are involved in dance. Six groups of children in year 5 performed short sequences to the rest of the school to inspire others to dance and we finished off with a mini dance-off!

As part of the Mid Sussex Marathon Weekend, on Thursday 1st May 2025 we invited the children to take part in our own mini marathon 1 mile challenge, along with other schools around the country.

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Ditchling Common, Hassocks West Sussex, BN6 8SG

We had a great turn out for this challenge which took place on our field before school; well done to all that took part!

Building on the success of our recent participation in the 'Biggest Ever Football Session' for girls, we have decided to run this every month. This is a nationwide celebration, highlighting the importance of inductivity in sports, showing pupils that girls belong in football.
'on behalf of The Windmills'

CLAYTON FLOWER FESTIVAL, 21st – 22nd June @ St John the Baptist Church.

At Clayton Flower Festival this year, we're adding a musical performance into the mix on Saturday night (7.30 pm) at our lovely Saxon church. And following the huge success of last year's plant sale, our local resident horticultural experts will be on hand to help you select just the right plants for your garden.

There will be refreshments and home-made cakes served in Clayton Village Hall: 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday **21st June** and 12 pm – 4 pm on Sunday **22nd June**. All money raised will go towards the upkeep of our rather special and ancient church which is listed in The Domesday Book. There will also be Sung Evensong @ 5 pm on Sunday evening.

Jo Gottschalk

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HE DITCHLING BEACON AND COMMONS CHARITY

are holding walks this summer led by two of our Trustees both with longstanding careers at Kew Gardens. Dr. Phillip Cribb, plant and Orchid specialist and Oliver Whaley, a naturalist and environmental scientist specialising in plant conservation. They will explain what's special about the rich biodiversity on the common land and the management required to preserve these special places. Saturday **7th June** - Ditchling Common walk Led by Phillip Cribb and Oliver Whaley Meet at 11 am at the Ditchling Common Country Park car park. Saturday **12th July** - Ditchling Beacon walk Led by Phillip Cribb and Oliver Whaley Meet at 11 am at the Underhill Lane car park at the bottom of the Beacon ie at the junction of Beacon Road and Underhill Lane.

Please note the car park is in a poor state and we would advise that you consider car sharing where possible and if parking in the car park, to take great care not to damage your car. There are few or no parking places on Underhill Lane (east or west) so wherever you park do so considerately.

To register your interest please email us on info@ditchlingbeaconandcommons.org.uk.

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FAMILY QUIZ CURRY AND PUDDING AUC- TION

on Saturday **5th July** at The Hassocks Pub. Family friendly questions Teams of up to 6 adults but can have teams of 8 if two or more children join the team.

This is a Fundraiser for the Lewes Select U13s Girls Football trip to the Gothia Cup in Sweden which Pippa and Isobel Greenhalgh from Hassocks are a part of.

Bookings in advance only please email

qdstationery@gmail.com or call **07711 045239**.

Jo

IT'S NOT TOO LATE! To buy tickets for the Vivace! Summer Concert to be held at Danny House, Hurstpierpoint for an evening of music for everyone on **4th June**. Doors at 7 pm and tickets from janepem@hotmail.co.uk or by calling **07853 142894**.

And we are still recruiting new singers, so if you think you might be interested, why not come along to the concert to hear how we sound? Or email us at info@vivacechoirsussex.org.uk.

Richard Ware

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HASSOCKS FC As we prepare for life in the Isthmian league after promotion, work around the ground has been improving. Our new LED lights have arrived, the pitch has had some extensive work, and the clubhouse is having a mini refurb. All of this is to provide a better matchday experience for our village to enjoy a semi-professional standard of football at a reasonable price.

Our back field is continuing to have surveys completed which we will send to planning for permission for training/youth match pitches. We are now doing season tickets, which can be found on our socials.

If anyone ever has any questions/enquiries about fixtures, sponsorship, improvements at the club please call/text me **07843762132** and I can give you an answer.

Our pre-season starts in July and our first home friendly will be mid-July, with the season starting in August.

We are grateful to Chris Lambe at the Hassocks Hotel Pub for continuing to sponsor the stadium for season 2025/26.

Pat Harding

DID YOU KNOW ??

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www.villagemagazines.co.uk



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PETE THE POND BUILDS A POND! There was great excitement at the Patch at the end of March when Pete the Pond came to help create a beautiful wildlife pond. We dug, filled and planted a pond that will be a haven for frogs, newts and invertebrates and encourage other wildlife to the garden. Pete also helped the children build a hibernaculum to give wildlife a protected space to live. A huge thank you to Pete and his team for your time and expertise and for inspiring us with your love of ponds and nature. And thanks also to everyone who came along to help. Do come and visit the pond and see what moves in!

Kat Wood

ST. LAWRENCE FAIR The Bowls Green will be open to children and adults on Saturday **5th July**. Come and give it a try.

Sarah Salisbury

BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Open Meeting: Wednesday **4th June**. Speaker Sue Goodsall's topic will be 'Growing Flowers to Show Flowers'. Sue will explain how to produce high quality plants. She will also demonstrate the techniques involved in staging exhibits on the show bench that will (hopefully!) result in prize-winning blooms. Venue: Cyprus Hall, commences 7.45 pm, (doors open 7.15 pm). Admission: BHHS members free, Visitors: small charge.

Flower and Produce Show: Saturday **28th June**. The Society will be staging their Summer Show in the Cyprus Hall, 1.30 pm – 3.45 pm. Come and enjoy

some glorious summertime scents and colours, along with refreshments, homemade cakes, plant and produce stalls and tombola. Admission: small charge.

Info: www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com
01444 245509. *Flo*

DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY - WIDOW CLIQUOT (2023) Special event on **5th June**. Film directed by Thomas Napper. 90 minutes. English.

Multi award winning film Widow Clicquot tells the tale of Barbe-Nicole Ponsardin Clicquot who defied French vintner patriarchy and survived all manner of social obstructions to create one of the world's finest champagnes. Underpinning the movie is a love story told in flashbacks, framed within a period conventionality of subtle charm and tastefulness. But what prevails in the film is a fascinating tale of the evolution of a celebrated drink renowned today for its own, subtle charm and tastefulness.

For our June special event we will be hosting a presentation by Esther Dawson from Ridgeview Vineyard. She will be talking about the vision and development that has created Ridgeview as a very successful business. There will be free tastings and Ridgeview wine will be on offer for sale.

3rd July. The Old Oak (2023) 113 minutes.

For more info on our film showings and special events, please visit ditchlingfilm.org.uk. Ditchling Village Hall, Doors open at 7.30 pm refreshments available. Show starts at 8 pm. Guest entry available. See you in June.

Kate

WILLOW WAY/BLACKTHORNS - We are looking for volunteers to deliver this free village magazine which has been delivered to you for more than 28 years.

We will drop the magazines to you and generally you will have a week to deliver.

If this is something you think you can help us with please contact Heidi on **01273 846978** or email ed@villagemagazines.co.uk.

Ed

*Deadline for the July 2025
issue is 1st June 2025*

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We thank Frances Gilbert of Hassocks for this photo of Brighton Running Club circa 1930's

SEEDLING SWAP AND STREAM INVERTEBRATE SPOTTING - HAS SOCKS COMMUNITY VEG PATCH EVENT

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Hassocks Community Veg Patch on Saturday 26th. We had a fantastic morning in the sunshine surrounded by blossom, enjoying chatting with visitors who came to swap or pick up seedlings, take a look at our new pond, or just sit and enjoy the beautiful space. Lots of work on the veg patch was achieved too.

We were joined by Hassocks Stream Watch volunteers who showed us the life of our local streams, and it was fascinating! We spotted freshwater shrimps, mayfly, stonefly, cased caddis (always a favourite), damselfly nymph, and leeches! There was a lot of excitement amongst children and adults alike as we tried to get a closer look at

the invertebrates on spoons and using magnifying glasses 🍷. And all this right beside the wonderful Village Market and Repair Cafe. A big thank you to Age Concern for being the heart of a welcoming hub of community activity.

Kat Wood

HURSTPIERPOINT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW

2.15 pm Saturday 21st June, Hurstpierpoint Village Centre. Summer flowers, vegetables, fruit, cookery, handicraft, photography and children's section.

All welcome to exhibit. Full information in our schedule available from Rhubarb greengrocers in Hurst High Street or email hhs1886@btinternet.com.

Home-made cake and tea, raffle and end of show auction.

Kathy Green

Useful Information

OUT OF HOURS CHEMIST

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

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PARISH COUNCILS

Hassocks

01273 842714

www.hassocks-pc.gov.uk

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, Ditchling Church, Streat Church and Westmeston Church

HASSOCKS & KEYMER

Railway Station, Outside Ticket Office

Adastra Hall, Keymer Road

Adastra Bowling Club, Adastra Park (North Field)

Age Concern, Dale Avenue

Freedom Leisure Centre, Downlands School, Dale Avenue

Hassocks Dental Surgery, 54a Keymer Road

Graystone Referral Centre, 38 Keymer Road

Keymer & Hassocks Sports & Social Club, Adastra Park (South Field)

Hassocks Health Centre, Windmill Avenue

Oldland Windmill, Oldlands Lane, Keymer

Thatched Inn, Grand Avenue

Weald Lawn Tennis & Squash Club, South Bank

South Downs Garden Centre, Brighton Road

Whats On in June

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

For more information call **01273 846978.**

Regular Clubs Meets

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

BEFIENDED COMMUNITY CHOIR - Tuesdays (term-time) 2 - 4 pm, Holy Trinity Church, Hurstpierpoint. All welcome to sing for joy. More info www.befriended.org.

BEFIENDED CAFE NEURO Salvation Army Hall, Cyprus Road, Burgess Hill Mondays 10.30 am - 12 pm. - Support those living with dementia, their carers and loved ones. More info email office@befriended.org.

DITCHLING MORRIS - Practice Thursday at United Reformed Church Hall at 7.30 pm. Pop in if you feel like joining.

GREYHOUND MORRIS Practice every Tuesday at Keymer Church Hall, 7 pm. We welcome new members of all abilities both musical and dancing, see you there.

HASSOCKS TABLE TENNIS CLUB - Monday/Tuesday 2 - 4 pm at Adastra Hall. Roll up to play.

HASSOCKS YOUTH GROUP The Green Room, Adastra Hall, Hassocks. Thursdays 5.30 - 7 pm School Years 4 - 13 (Term time only). All welcome for games, crafts and activities and social time.

HEARTS OF SUSSEX BRIDGE CLUB - Monday online and Tuesdays at Age Concern Hassocks. More info visit www.hsobcbridgeclub.co.uk

HUG IN A MUG - A coffee (and cake!) morning for all. Monday 10.30 - 12 pm at Keymer Church Hall and at Clayton Church Hall, every Tuesday at 10.30 am to 12 pm.

HUG IN A MUG MUMS, DADS & CARERS - 8.45 - 10.30 am every Monday, Keymer Church Hall, For parents, carers or grandparents who look after children. Cake, coffee, toys and games. **IRISH SET DANCING** The Emmanuel Centre, Ditchling 7.15 - 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 call 07802 847234 for more info.

KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB 2nd June Annual dance Ditchling Village Green 7 pm. 16th and 30th June 7.30 pm URC Church Hall, Keymer Road, Hassocks. See article for more details. www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk

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

HASSOCKS TABLE TENNIS Mon & Thurs 2 - 4 pm Adastra Hall. Roll up to play.

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

VISUALLY-IMPAIRED CLUB We meet alternate Wednesdays from 10.30 am to 2 pm at Clayton Parish Hall in Underhill Lane. If you are interested, please ring me on **01444 450947.**

WHIST DRIVE - Our friendly club meets at Age Concern, Hassocks every Thursdays at 6.45 pm. More info 01273 843390.

Church Services

BEACON PARISH SERVICES JUNE Morning Worship with Holy Communion 10 am St Margarets, Ditchling on **1st, 8th, 22nd** and **29th** (All age family service) and **15th** at St Martins, Westmeston. **1st** Streat Church 3.30 pm afternoon teas, songs and hymns. **4th** Emmanuel Centre 6 pm. Sing! your heart out or maybe just come & listen. Wednesday @10 will be temporarily at The Emmanuel Centre, South Street, Ditchling.

QUAKER MEETING FOR WORSHIP. 10.30 am Sundays, Ditchling Friends Meeting House. Also 2nd & 4th Sundays at 10.30 am, at The Yews, 55 Boltro Road, Haywards Heath. All are welcome for peaceful worship and coffee.

1st Workshop on planning in later life 11.45 am - 1 pm.

Our magazine "Friendly News" is available at Ditchling PO www.ditchlingquakers.org.uk

Dated Events

1st HASSOCKS PHILOSOPHICAL FORUM Purple Carrot Cafe, Hassocks 2 pm. All welcome.

1st DITCHLING ORCHARD Boddingtons Lane, Ditchling 10 am - 12 noon Orchard Maintenance Morning. All ages welcome.

1st OLDLAND MILL Oldlands Lane, Keymer 2 pm - 5 pm. Open Afternoon.

2nd HASSOCKS WI Adastra Hall, Hassocks 2 pm. Craft Club. Visitors welcome.

2nd MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL The Hassocks Hotel, Station Approach, Hassocks 7.30 pm. 'JP Harris' Tickets www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk.

3rd GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING Proper Coffee, Hassocks 5.30 pm. On Your Bike event 'Bring your bike along for a quick health check with Dr Bike'. See article.

3rd DITCHLING DOWNS WI Ditchling Village Hall, 7 pm. 'Confessions of a Ballet Teacher' Louise Rylie.

3rd GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING Proper Coffee, Hassocks 7.30 pm. On Your Bike Launch Night with a screening of the cycling film 'Chasing the Sun'. See article for more information.

4th BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.15 pm. www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com. 'Growing Flowers to Show Flowers' Sue Good-sall. All welcome.

4th UKES OF HASSOCKS Proper Cycling & Coffee 7.30 pm. Monthly community jam session, play and sing along, beginners welcome. All welcome.

4th VIVACE Danny House, Hurstpierpoint 7 pm. Summer Concert a evening of Music for everyone. See article for tickets.

4th MEMORY CAFE Adastra Hall, Hassocks 10.30 am - 12.30 pm. These sessions are for anyone with memory problems, dementia and their family member or carer. More info call 01444 450248.

5th DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY Ditchling Village Hall 7.30 pm. 'Widow Cliquot' plus presentation from Ridgeview Wines. Tickets available on the door - see article.

5th MEMORY CAFE Court Bushes, Hurstpierpoint 2 - 4 pm. These sessions are for anyone with memory problems, dementia and their family member or carer. More info call 01444 450248.

6th JAZZ ETC Ditchling Village Hall 7.30 pm. One World Jazz Orchestra. Tickets Ditchling Post Office.

7th DITCHLING BEACON AND COMMONS CHARITY Ditchling Common Country Park 11 am. Ditchling Common Walk led by Phillip Cribb and Oliver Whaley. To register see article.

7th COELIAC GROUP South Downs Garden Centre, Brighton Road, Hassocks 9 am - 11am. 'Brunch and Chat'. All welcome.

7th PROPER COFFEE, Hassocks 7 - 10 pm 'Dusty Shelf DJ Night' Free Entry.

8th GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING Proper Coffee, Hassocks 10 am. On Your Bike event Womens 15 mile led by Breeze riders. See article to sign up.

8th HURSTPIERPOINT OPEN GARDENS Various venues. 1 - 5.30 pm. Teas available at The Bowls Club. See article for venues and info. Raising funds for St Peter & St James Hospice.

9th THE GROUP The Railway Pub, Station Road, Burgess Hill. 7.30 pm. A club for the over 55 unattached. www.thegroup.org.uk.

10th MEMORY CAFE Court Bushes, Hurstpierpoint 2 - 4 pm. These sessions are for anyone with memory problems, dementia and their family member or carer. More info call 01444 450248.

11th DITCHLING HISTORY PROJECT White Horse, Ditchling 2 pm. Drop in all welcome.

13th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Jack and Jill Windmill Car Park 7pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. Birthday Celebrations. All welcome.

13th BURGESS HILL HERITAGE & HISTORY ASSOC. Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. Talk on Windmills in Sussex. All welcome.

14th CHURCHES TOGETHER URC Hassocks 9.30 am. Messy Church - breakfast, crafts, games and story. All welcome.

14th 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.

14th MENS BREAKFAST The Greyhound, Keymer 10 am. For a social cooked breakfast. All welcome to book email alexbaxter66@yahoo.co.uk.

15th 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.

16th HASSOCKS WI Adastra Hall, Hassocks 7.30 pm. 'Step Back in Time' Sussex Memorabilia and Evening Argus Archive - Paul Green. Visitors welcome.

17th HASSOCKS WI Adastra Hall, Hassocks 2 - 4 pm. 'Recycling and more information about water testing for Earth Watch' Colin McFarlin. Visitors welcome.

18th MEMORY CAFE Adastra Hall, Hassocks 10.30 am - 12.30 pm. These sessions are for anyone with memory problems, dementia and their family member or carer. More info call 01444 450248.

19th DITCHLING VILLAGE ASSOCIATION Ditchling Village Hall 10 - 11.30 am. Coffee Morning. All welcome.

20th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Cyprus Hall Car Park, Burgess Hill 7.15 pm.

www.midsussexars.org.uk. 'Direction Finding' Refreshments available. All welcome.

21st WOMENS BREAKFAST The Greyhound, Keymer 10 am. For a social cooked breakfast. All welcome to book email mo.delaine@btinternet.com.

21st/22nd ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, Clayton Sat 10 am - 4 pm, Sun 12 - 4 pm Flower Festival in the Church and homemade cakes, refreshments & plants sale and expert on hand in the Village Hall.

21st SUSSEX CHORUS St Andrew's Church, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm 'Pirates of Penzance' Gilbert and Sullivan. Tickets 01444 412579. www.sussexchorus.org.

21st ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, Clayton 7.30 pm Musical evening part of the Flower Festival.

21st POYNINGS FETE Rectory Gardens 2 - 4.30 pm. Fun for all the family - cream teas, Pimms, stalls and entertainment.

21st DITCHLING MORRIS Ditchling Village Green 6 pm. 'Summer Solstice' bring a picnic then head towards Lodge Hill and watch the sun go down. See article for more info.

21st HURSTPIERPOINT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Hurstpierpoint Village Centre 2.15 pm. 'Summer Show' schedule from Rhubarb Greengrocers. All welcome more info hhs1886@btinternet.com. See article.

21st DITCHLING OPEN GARDENS trail starts The Sandrocks, Ditchling 10.30 am - 4.30 pm In aid of St Peter and St James Hospice, book via their website. See article.

22nd BEFRIENDED Court Bushes, Hurstpierpoint 3 - 5 pm. Afternoon Tea Party with quizzes, celebrations, making friends, information, advice and great entertainment. More info www.befriended.org.

22nd POLICE BEAT SURGERY South Downs Garden Centre, Hassocks 10.30 am - 12 pm. Come along to get crime prevention and advice on neighbourhood issues.

22nd GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING Proper Coffee, Hassocks 10 am. On Your Bike event Mid Summer Road Ride 40 mile led by Cycling UK. See article to sign up.

22nd MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY St Johns Park, Burgess Hill 10.30 am -

3 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. Visit us at St Johns Park Summer Fayre.

22nd GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY Adastra Hall, Hassocks 2.45 pm. General Quiz with some G&S questions including a cream tea. To book email gandstodaysussex@gmail.com.

23rd CAMEO Keymer Church Hall 2 pm - 4 pm. Open to all - come and enjoy an enjoyable afternoon over a cup of tea.

25th SOUTH DOWNS WOODTURNERS Upper Beeding Village Hall, 7pm Demo evening with Mick Hanbury. Visitors welcome.

26th LIBERAL DEMOCRATS SURGERY HAS-SOCKS Parish Council Offices Committee Room 11 am - 12 pm. Sue Hatton, Kristian Berggreen & Chris Hobbs. No appointment necessary.

26th 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.

27th HURST, HASOCKS & DITCHLING U3A Court Bushes, Hurstpierpoint 2 pm. 'Lost and Found, Francis Crozier and the Franklin Expedition' Michael Smith. Small entrance fee. Refreshments inc.

HASSOCKS CROQUET CLUB Croquet is a gentle sport for everyone. New members are always 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) We play 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 Croquet Sign) - Free Parking is available

YOU ARE INVITED TO
THE BOOK LAUNCH OF
'Not Another Murder, Please!'
by
Joanna Hill
on Thursday 5th June
at 5.30 pm in The Rose Garden
at Danny House,
New Way Lane, Hurstpierpoint

27th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. 'Nag & Natter Evening' Refreshments available. All welcome.

27th MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL The Hassocks Hotel, Station Approach, Hassocks 8 pm. 'Dawn Landes' Tickets www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk.

28th HASOCKS VILLAGE MARKET Age Concern Car Park, 9 am - 1 pm. Local produce, bread, honey, cheese, wine, veg etc.

28th REPAIR CAFE Age Concern Centre, Hassocks, 9.30 -11.30 am. Bring items for repair more info call 01273 040110 or www.hkdtransition.org.uk.

28th THE GROWING NETWORK Friends Meeting House, Ditchling 10.30 am to 12 pm. Feel free to bring any seeds or plants to share or gardening books/tools you don't need.

28th BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 1.30 pm to 3.45 pm. 'Summer Show' All welcome. www.burges-shillhorticulturalsociety.com.

29th ST LAWRENCE FAIR Scout Hut, Hurstpierpoint 11.30 am. Fun Dog Show.

All equipment is provided by the Club. New players are able to borrow the Club's mallets. Basic training will be provided. New for this season we will be operating a series of separate weekly Free Training Sessions on Thursday Mornings @ 10.30 am for anybody who wants to learn to play Croquet - so you can learn to play "in the privacy of your own separate space"! - Please wear flat soled shoes - no heels. For further details please send an e mail to tony.m.bright@gmail.com or visit our Website www.hassockscroquetclub.net for more information.
Tony Bright

RETIREMENT We would like to say thank you and a happy retirement to Rosemary Goff who has been delivering your magazines in Downsview Road, Hassocks. Thank you for all your help.

Editors

STAR CINEMA We've come to the end of the current Friday film nights at the Adastra, and the Star Team would like to thank you for your support. The film nights have been well attended and hopefully enjoyed by all (apart from the odd technical hitch!). The next season begins Friday **19th September**, and we look forward to welcoming you as usual.

Liz Edmunds



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David J Stevens

Property Maintenance

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STEVE'S BACK PAGE GOSSIP

What a lovely bunch of people you are, so many of you have come in to see how I am after my Mitey ordeal. It was horrible, a bit like lying in a bath of ants and the bites take ages to stop itching. It's not something I'd wish on my worst enemy, if I had one, but I do wonder how they coped with this sort of thing in the olden days when drugs or antihistamine didn't exist or are all these biting insects a product of the 20th century. Now that so many insecticides which would have killed them have been banned they just breed and mutate without any fear of being wiped out. The only weapon in your arsenal is Permethrin which comes from a plant or dust which comes from the lava of volcanoes. I kid you not this is all that is legally available, personally I'd rather just nuke them. A lot of you won't know this but when a field in Ditchling came on the market a local family decided to buy it in order to stop it being bought by a possible developer. The field lies within the South Downs National Park and is situated next to the new car park in Ditchling. The understanding was, that a working party which has now been set up, would get together with other principal Ditchling organisations to raise funds and eventually pay the family back. Once that had been done the next step would be identifying what could be done with the land, to whom it would belong and how it will be financed and managed. I know a considerable amount of money has been raised but I don't know if the target for the full amount has been reached, that's something we can go into another time.

Now there is a chance someone could be making an effort to do exactly the same sort of thing by buying the field in Lodge Lane in order to stop the building of the mini estate planned for it. It could be a lot easier if just one person does it to secure the land which causes less complications in future. Once again, I'd let you know how this pans out.

Interesting rumour is that an American company not sure if it begins with a T or not has bought 100 of the houses on the Ockley Lane Estate to rent them out. It does seem rather a lot but with the large deposits needed and all the legal fees renting is all a lot of people can do. I suppose the best way to get details is to visit the site office but, in the meantime, let's just say 'Yanks a lot'.

It's good to see the Thatched Inn has had a makeover. You wouldn't believe the amount of people I get in my shop over the weekend who ask if there is a pub in walking distance where they can get a bite to eat. The Thatched looks the part with great views across the fields and now with the new owners James and Charlie to give it their unique stamp. I just know that these people who I recommend going there, will I ever see them again, thank me. I wonder if while they're there they notice that the brand new house built opposite, it's very nice but very modern not exactly in keeping with the surrounding architecture.

Can't believe it's another year has gone and it's my birthday again I'm now 73. My sister Susan who is 3 years older than me and her husband Peter retired to Cornwall, but during this last year Peter has developed dementia, it's not easy for her but when she phoned me to wish me happy birthday, she told me I was now at the age when I should start thinking about what songs I want played at my funeral. Not exactly the subject I was expecting my sister to talk about. I'm beginning to wonder if the circumstances she has found herself in is having an effect on her. Just for a bit of fun so far I've got, The Lone Ranger (William tell overture), Fox On The Run (Sweet), Rhythm Of Life (Sammy Davis Jr) and In My Defence (Freddie Mercury) how about What's New Pussycat? Hopefully see you next month. Steve

HASSOCKS PET CENTRE, KEYMER ROAD, HASSOCKS 01273 842392