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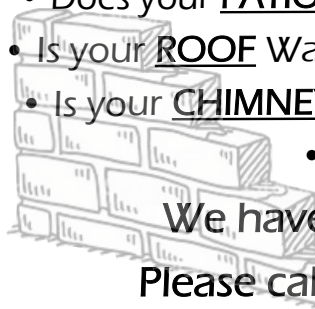
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*We thank Chris Skingsley (Mill Volunteer & Archivist) for this postcard of John White's shop in Ditchling High Street taken, we believe, at the time of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887. John White was the Miller at Oldland Mill in the latter part of the 19th century until his untimely death from a road accident at Stonepound in 1904. David Driver then took over with John's wife Sarah until the mill closed circa 1912.*

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**JILL ROGERS** We were all concerned to hear of the death of Jill Rogers who passed away in March. I first met her when she joined Hassocks Townswomen's Guild where she became our secretary and later our Treasurer, and as I was Chairman at the time, she was a great support to me. She was interested in many things and was a member of the U3a and the Horticulture Club, she was always an active member of The Church of St. John the Baptist, in Clayton where she performed many duties over the years. She was also a member of The British Fan Club and had a large collection of beautiful fans.

Jill was a qualified flower arranger and taught this subject for many years, so her death was a shock to the many people that she knew.

Jill leaves two sons who looked after her so well during the last few months of her life. Rest in Peace Jill among the flowers. *Sheila Southwell*

**THANK YOU** We would like to say thank you to Mr & Mrs Parrott who have been delivering your magazines in Bonnywood Road, Hassocks. Thank you for all your help. *Editors*

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**SHAME ON YOU!** I know of quite a few people here in Hassocks and local Communities who sadly lost a family member and/or friend during that long and dreadful 2nd world war and I have to say that I was very disappointed to see that so few shops and businesses here in Hassocks actually displayed a flag to recognise the important 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day.

Shame On You! *Name/address supplied*

**DOREEN, OF NEWLANDS CLOSE**, and Debbie, her daughter, wish to extend heartfelt thanks to all of the many people that sent Doreen best wishes following her Stroke, far too many to name, but you know who you are!

Fortunately, with fantastic, prompt help from neighbours, paramedics and The Royal Sussex stroke team, she has made a pretty good recovery.

Those of you who know her well will appreciate how difficult it has been making sure she hasn't overdone things and rested regularly! Doreen is so lucky to have such a fabulous network of friends around her, for which we are extremely grateful, this makes Keymer and Hassocks unique places to live.

Once again, Thank you for all the support and love shown *Doreen and Debbie xx*

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**HASSOCKS FC** The 2025/26 season is beginning as the players return to pre season training. We'll be competing at the highest level in Hassocks FC history and season tickets can be found on our social media if you're looking for a discount price. Throughout the summer we've completed the new floodlights, had extensive pitch maintenance, and the clubhouse has been updated. We want to thank the local "pitch side banner's club" as we've called them for their kind sponsorship. It is very generous of these local Hassocks high street shops to support us. We have so far been helped by Hassocks Eye-care, Hays Travel, Andy Twine Butchers, Hawthorn Vets, Hassocks Kebabs, Bennett Oakley, and Kipper Life. Also, More Than Tyres from Burgess Hill have supported. Much appreciated, and if any other local companies would like exposure at our club, we can promote you by calling us on **07843 762132**.

Here are the pre-season fixtures at The Hassocks Hotel Beacon ground in July, including the fabulous Ann John cup vs Burgess Hill which raises some great money for St Peter and St James' Hospice every year.

These are free entry: Saturday **12th July**, Home

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Saturday **19th July** Home to Burgess Hill at 3 pm.

Tuesday **22nd July**: Home to Arundel at 7.45 pm.

*Pat Harding*

**THE GROWING NETWORK** is travelling this month! We will be visiting the Goatgrid Agro-forestry project in Plumpton BN7 3AN on Saturday **19th July** 10.30 am to 12.30 pm.

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. Feel free to bring any seeds, seedlings or produce to share. Or just bring yourself!

*Catherine, Imke & Julie*

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

Our May meeting on Victorian etiquette involved teacups, straight backs, books on heads, lots of laughter, fan flashing and the wonderful impromptu singing from one of our members. Thank you Fran.

'Step back in Time' was the title of our June meeting where we trawled through the archives of the Evening Argus with Paul Green. I was also the delegate for our annual meeting where we discussed and voted on this year's resolution 'Bystanders can be Lifesavers' (Use of CPR and Defib equipment).

Also in June Greener Hassocks and Ditchling helped Hassocks WI with this citizen science project. Colin McFarlin spoke on recycling, plus results of water testing some streams in Hassocks as part of Great WaterBlitz with Earthwatch.

For July we embrace 'La Dolce Vita' before our August break. Come and join us (visitor donation) for a carefree evening.

No meeting in August but we will have our usual picnic in the park during the month.

Our Arty Group has several outings, and some of us are going to a theatre in London for 'Evita'.

The choir still meets and we run our afternoon Craft Club. Lots to do and enjoy.

The next Craft Club will be Monday 7th July 2 pm in the Committee Room, Adastra Hall. Enjoy the Summer.

*Gerry*

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**THE HURSTPIERPOINT NSPPC COMMITTEE** held a talk at Danny by the Dowager Lady Crabtree recently, including a delicious afternoon tea.

Her talk was labelled 'The Joys of Growing Old Disgracefully' and she was very entertaining. We got the impression that she could have spoken for longer and think our audience could have listened to her for longer. We even had a waiting list on the day for some unlucky people.

The total raised was £1380 which is a fantastic achievement. Thank you very much to everyone who supported us. Also, a very big thank you to everyone who made cakes, scones and meringues. Plus, to all those who helped make the afternoon such a success.

*Jo Marshall*

**CRAFT FAIR IN HURSTPIERPOINT** Heber Opera is holding its summer craft fair in the Village Centre on Saturday 19th July. There are still some spaces for stallholders and if you'd like one please get in touch by contacting Jenny Hawkes at [jenny@heberoopera.co.uk](mailto:jenny@heberoopera.co.uk) on 07770 962811. The fair is open to the public 10 am and 2 pm and we have delicious homemade refreshments - both savoury and sweet - available all day. See you there!

*Jenny Hawkes*

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# GIRLGUIDING SUSSEX CENTRAL CELEBRATES 400 YEARS OF VOLUNTEERING!

## GIRLGUIDING SUSSEX CENTRAL CELEBRATES 400 YEARS OF VOLUNTEERING!

On Sunday 11th May, Girlguiding Sussex Central hosted an afternoon tea to recognise and celebrate over 400 years of service of 8 of their members. The recipients came from across the county, and many have held multiple appointments during their time, each had volunteered for over 50 years. They were:- Heather Ansell, who volunteered in Henfield until recently, but now lives & guides in Leicestershire, amazingly she still manages to work remotely with Duke of Edinburgh participants in the county.

Helen Currington and Barbara Wyatt have both volunteered in Horsham. Helen was a Brownie leader before moving on to Guides and Rainbows, as well as becoming a division commissioner, Barbara held various appointments including Brownie leader, county Trefoil Guild Chair and treasurer for her division.

Helen Dowling, a region trainer & guide leader and Pauline Hyner, who currently is a Brownie leader & division commissioner but also has been the

county international coordinator are both from Crawley,

Burgess Hill leader, Pauline Richards has always volunteered with 5th Burgess Hill Guides, she has also been a district commissioner & is the treasurer for the Guide Hall in Burgess Hill.

Unfortunately, two recipients were unable to attend the actual event; Deborah Phillips who was county commissioner from 2011 to 2016 but also held leadership roles in Guides & Rangers in Hurstpierpoint, and also Dierdre Smith who is currently a Brownie leader at 1st West Hoathly Brownies, Worth division as well as being a county leadership mentor for new volunteers.

Family and friends were invited to join the celebration.

Caroline Hitchcock, Chair of the Award Committee said, 'our county is delighted & privileged to recognise these ladies. Their amazing loyalty and dedication have ensured many girls have been able to enjoy the benefits of Girlguiding.'



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Wendy Colson, county Commissioner, commented, 'I am so pleased to be able to award these special Girlguiding badges. Although some of the recipients have already received their badges and certificates, our county wanted to show their appreciation for the many years of volunteering at so many levels. Their commitment and passion for guiding, together with encouragement and enthusiasm shown to so many girls and indeed fellow leaders is why our young people are able to take on new challenges, have incredible opportunities and help all girls know they can do anything but most importantly they made sure they had fun!'

Girlguiding Central geographically covers Mid Sussex, Crawley, East Grinstead and Horsham areas.

Girlguiding is the UK's largest youth organisation dedicated completely to girls

We're over 300,000 girls from 4 to 18 who come together to laugh, learn, explore and have adventures. We're over 70,000 volunteers, and 25,000 local groups having fun and exploring activities week in, week out.

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**DITCHLING PLAYERS** – November 2025 Production. We do hope that you managed to get along and see Murder in Play our Spring 2025 production. It was certainly good to see almost full houses each night and to hear the laughter from the audiences which all helps with the performance for the actors.

We're now looking forward to our November production and are pleased to welcome back Robert Tremayne and Vicky Williams who produced our successful production of A Christmas Carol last November. For this production we're looking to produce Cranford adapted by Martyn Coleman. Cranford is a small country market town and a community that runs on cooperation and gossip. At the very heart of this are the daughters of the former rector Miss Deborah Jenkyns and her sister Miss Matty. But domestic peace is constantly threatened in the form of financial disaster, imagined burglaries, tragic accidents, and the reappearance of long-lost relatives.

Auditions for this production are being held on Monday **14th July** at 7:30 pm at Ditchling Village Hall (Production Dates are 26th to 29th November). Everyone is welcome to the audition and further details can be found on either our website – [ditchlingplayers.org.uk](http://ditchlingplayers.org.uk) or on our Facebook page.

*David Tettersell*

### **DO YOU HAVE ISSUES OR QUESTIONS FOR LEWES DISTRICT COUNCIL?**

District Councillor Paul Mellor will be holding a surgery in the Lower Hall at Ditchling Village Hall on Saturday **12th July** between 11 am and 1 pm.

Drop-ins welcome or make an appointment via [paul.mellor@lewes.gov.uk](mailto:paul.mellor@lewes.gov.uk) *Paul Mellor*

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**MEMORABILIA REQUIRED FROM LOCAL RESIDENTS** 27th September is the 200th Anniversary of the opening of the Stockton and Darlington Railway and Railway 200 is the nationwide celebration marking 200 years of the modern railway.

Hassocks grew up around the station which opened in 1841, and Hassocks wouldn't be the village it is today without the station. In 1881 the 1841 station building was replaced by a grand Victorian station building. In 1972 this was replaced by a prefabricated modular structure which had a shelf life of 25 years.

In 2000 the Hassocks Rail Group was formed to campaign for a new station and in July 2013 the new station building was opened.

Hassocks Rail Group is celebrating the 200th anniversary of the railway on **27th September** by having a display in the Waiting Room at Hassocks Station of photos of Hassocks Station through the ages, people's memories of travelling by train, keepsake cards with pictures of the old and new stations and a potted history of the different stations to hand out, pictures for children to colour in and a model train set.

The Rail Group would be very interested to hear from any readers or their relatives who have special

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memories of travelling by train, possibly even by steam train, or have old pictures of the station which we could copy for the display. If this is something you could help with, please contact me the Rail Group Chair on [cc@hassockscommunity.org.uk](mailto:cc@hassockscommunity.org.uk) or **07769 601697**.  
*Catherine Cassidy*

**HHD u3a** the u3a's Monthly Meeting found us in Brighton in the 1830's. Local historian, Richard Ware, introduced us to Russian poet, Prince Pyotr Vyazemsky, visiting the resort to experience the medicinal qualities of sea bathing only to discover that the waves resembled 'a mad lion, furious, foaming at the mouth ... it knocks you sideways.' Finding his feet in Brighton was also tricky until he met other artistic figures like Lady Morgan, a much-admired pioneering Irish novelist. Pyotr attempted to learn English but complained that it was like 'threading beads with his tongue'. From his stay near the Star and Garter in Kings Road he visited the Royal Pavilion, the German Spa in Queens Park, Devils Dyke, where it rained, and further afield to Worthing and Arundel. There was a wry laugh when we heard how Pyotr admired the good quality of the roads.

Pyotr came to Brighton at a low time: four sons dying in infancy and many of his friends, like the famous poet Pushkin, also dying young. He lamented how 'I have survived much and outlived many.' But Richard, drawing on Pyotr's diaries, believes that the daily sea-bathing, the stimulation of fashionable society and the sight-seeing meant he left Brighton much happier than when he arrived. For more information about HHD u3a visit **hhd.u3asite.uk**.  
*Jeremy Weinstein*

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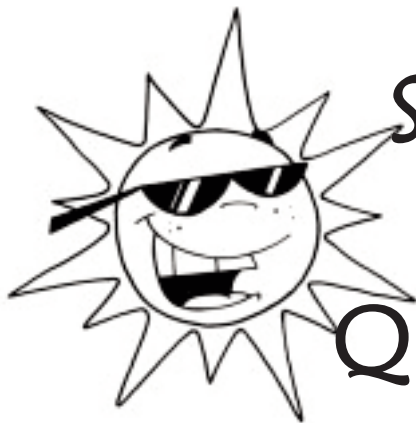
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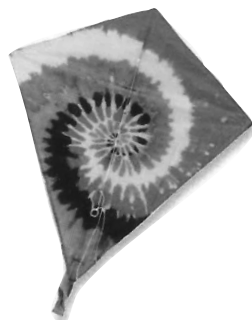
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## **"SYLVIA" - A COMEDY BY A R GURNEY**

Little does Greg know when he is followed home from the park by a stray dog just how dramatically this will affect his life. But his wife, Kate, is far from enamoured by the new arrival and the lively, streetwise mongrel fast becomes a bone of contention between them - with one member of the cast taking particular interest in the behaviour of local pooches out walking with their owners as she 'gets into character' as Sylvia!

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.

Online booking is open now - go to the Players website: [hurstplayers.org.uk](http://hurstplayers.org.uk) - check under "Sylvia" and choose your performance.

We know that many people like to visit the theatre and leave with a ticket in their hands, so as usual we'll be opening the Theatre Box Office for personal bookings on Saturday mornings between 10 am to 12 noon for the weekends preceding performances Saturdays 21st, 28th June and 5th and possibly 12th July.

For more information on this, and other activities

at the Players Theatre this summer, do check out our website: [hurstplayers.org.uk](http://hurstplayers.org.uk) where we have a monthly Calendar page. *Anne Hopper*

**BEFRIENDED** Our regular Befriended activities continue into July. Cafe Neuro 10.30 am to 12 pm on Mondays at Salvation Army in Burgess Hill offering support for those living with dementia and their carers. Community Choirs on Tuesdays 10 am to 12 pm at Burgess Hill Methodist Church and 2 pm to 3.30 pm at Holy Trinity Church in Hurstpierpoint, everyone is welcome to sing for joy. Balance exercise class 2 pm to 3.30 pm on Wednesdays at Burgess Hill Methodist Church, falls prevention exercise class for all abilities. Compassionate Conversations bereavement course for three weeks Thursdays **10th, 17th and 24th July** at 10.30 am in Burgess Hill and 7 pm in Hurstpierpoint, moving on in your journey through sharing your experience of loss.

Plus, our excellent afternoon tea parties at 3 pm to 5 pm on Sunday **6th July** at Gateway Baptist Church in Burgess Hill and on Sunday **20th July** at Court Bushes Community Hub in Hurstpierpoint with a warm welcome, sumptuous tea, quiz and live entertainment. Our term time activities finish on Friday **25th July** and take a break for August. We have a number of exciting special events planned for August. For more details of any of our activities please see our website [befriended.org](http://befriended.org) or contact us on [office@befriended.org](mailto:office@befriended.org) or **0300 7727703**. *Susan*

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**GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS** Hurstpierpoint Gymnastics Club will celebrate its forty-first Annual Championships in style with over 80 gymnasts vying for the honours on **Saturday 5th July**.

The competitions will be hotly contested with gymnasts divided into five different age group sections. Each age section will include Floor Solos, Acrobatic Pairs and Vaulting.

Over twenty of the gymnasts will be entering their first ever Championship competition.

Parents and friends are welcome to come and spectate.

The club meets in Hurstpierpoint Village Centre and has children from over 30 different schools as far apart as Lewes, Brighton and Haywards Heath. Further details can be obtained from the Club on **(01273 832366)** or on their website **[www.hurstpierpointgym.co.uk](http://www.hurstpierpointgym.co.uk)**

There are vacancies for all ages of girls and boys starting this, Autumn.

*Andrew Hair*

### **JAZZ LUNCH WITH THE NEW MUSKAT**

**RAMBLERS** Come to the Hassocks Pub Function Room on the second Tuesday in January, March, May, July, September and November for great food, great jazz and great company.

You will be entertained by The New Muskat Ramblers, Peter Leonard (Lead, Trumpet). Alan Cresswell (Clarinet), Rob Pearce (Trombone). Bill Stagg (Banjo), Andy Lawrence (String Bass) and Paul Norman (Drums).

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

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

*Chris Lambe*

### **OLDLAND WINDMILL IS SEEKING A NEW CHAIR OF TRUSTEES**

Local charity Oldland Mill is looking for a new Chair to join its Trustee Board. This much-loved local landmark has been restored over the last 20 years by a dedicated team of volunteers. It is now milling again and open for the public to visit at its regular events throughout the summer. If you have experience of working with a charity, or charring meetings, and are interested in joining an enthusiastic group of volunteers to preserve this historic building, please contact Andrew Mackay to find out more on **01273 844323**, email **[andrewmackay@gmail.com](mailto:andrewmackay@gmail.com)**.

The AGM will be held on Wednesday **9th July** at Adastra Hall, Hassocks starting at 7.30 pm. All welcome.

*Judy Pointing*

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### LOCAL WEST SUSSEX CONSULTANT UROLOGISTS TO CYCLE FROM LONDON TO AMSTERDAM FOR CHARITY CHALLENGE

**WEST SUSSEX, UK** Two Consultant Urological Surgeons from West Sussex geared up for an epic endurance challenge as they cycled from London to Amsterdam over three days to raise vital funds for *The Urology Foundation (TUF)*.

Mr. William Britnell and Mr. Barnaby Chappell represented their local NHS Trust as part of Bike4TUF 2025, a signature fundraising event uniting members of the urology community. This year's challenge saw participants depart on Thursday 5th June from Central London, travelling through Dunkirk and Renesse, and finishing in Amsterdam on 7th June.

The ride aims to raise awareness and funds to support research, training, and education in urology – a field that affects millions of patients across the UK.

Supporters can donate to Mr. Chappell and Mr. Britnell's fundraising page via the following link [www.justgiving.com/page/barnaby-chappell-2](http://www.justgiving.com/page/barnaby-chappell-2)

#### **About The Urology Foundation (TUF):**

The Urology Foundation is the only UK charity dedicated to improving the nation's urological health through cutting-edge research, education, and training

of medical professionals.

*Janet Francis*



### BLOOMS MARKED A SUSSEX VILLAGE'S VE DAY ANNIVERSARY THANKS TO LOCAL DONATION

Colourful plantings marked the VE Day anniversary in Hassocks last week thanks to hard work by village volunteers and a donation from the local garden centre.

The blooms in Adastra Park came from nearby South Downs Nurseries whose Rebecca Houghton-Knapp was invited to see the result of the planting team's efforts and install a dedication stake.

"A heartfelt thank you to Allan Nicholls, Colin Day and the wonderful Adastra Park volunteers for creating such a touching VE Day tribute at Adastra Park in Hassocks", said Ben Tate, director at the family-run garden centre.

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"We were proud to support this display by donating the flowers for the floral 'VE'; a moving reminder of the bravery and sacrifice that shaped our history", he added.

The plants will blossom during the growing season and provide a lasting memory of the sacrifices of those who fought for our country.

*Trevor Butler*

### SPROTTS ELEEMOSYNARY CHARITY

This small, Ditchling, charity was founded in 1897 to assist anyone, in need of support, living in the parish of Ditchling.

Each year a small amount of funding is available to be distributed to those who need support. Please contact [sprotts.charity@gmail.com](mailto:sprotts.charity@gmail.com) if you feel in need of help.

All applications will be considered by the trustees in the strictest confidence.

*Dorothy Porter*

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FRI. 25TH JULY - 5PM

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### HASSOCKS GARDENERS INCREASINGLY ASKING HOW TO COPE WITH DROUGHT, SAYS FAMILY-RUN BUSINESS

With the prospect of a dry summer in store for the county, and one water company boss touring the TV studios to tell us to save water, what can gardeners do to protect their plants and lawns this summer?

One family-run garden centre in Hassocks says it's being increasingly asked for help from those desperate to know, without any sign of significant rain in the forecast.

Historically, our region been more vulnerable due to lower rainfall levels and higher population densities, but having seen the driest March in 69 years, and April receiving barely half its usual rainfall, hosepipe restrictions this summer must now be a real possibility", explains horticulturalist Hazel Still from South Downs Nurseries on the Brighton Road.

"Resorting to a hosepipe for the garden can use over a thousand litres of water and cost more than £1.50 per hour. That's the equivalent to a family of four's use across two days", adds Hazel. "Using less water takes pressure off vital water supplies while saving money. But how to keep gardens green and beautiful in dry weather without increas-

ing water consumption? That's the question increasing numbers of our customers are asking", Hazel says.

Trained staff at Tates garden centres offer a range of advice, not least that when it does rain the need to collect rainwater; it's free and plants prefer it to tap water. Water butts are ideal here, not just for homes but sheds, garages and greenhouses as well. Plants are also happy with so-called grey water, so consider if you can reuse water from hand washing, washing up, cleaning vegetables, cooking and alike; not forgetting the water running while you are waiting for the shower to get hot.

Make the best use of the water you have by using it early in the morning or late in the evening so that it does not evaporate. Gel crystals can be mixed with the soil in hanging baskets and containers to help retain moisture. Group plant containers together and move them to a shadier spot so they don't dry out so quickly.

Mulch is used by professional growers to both reduce moisture loss and suppress weeds. Cover domestic borders and pots after watering with organic matter, gravel or weed membrane.

Lawns turn brown in hot, dry weather but it's best not to water it unless it's newly-sown. Avoid stressing it by close mowing. When the rain returns the grass should recover quickly.

A top-tip is to water plant roots and not the foliage by directing water at the soil around the stems. Prioritise your water: plants in pots need to be watered more than those in the ground. Newly-planted perennials, shrubs and trees need regular watering

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through their first season. Soak well: a bucketful of water once a week will penetrate deeper and draw the roots down, making them more drought resistant.

"It's about working with nature, not against it, to keep our gardens thriving while protecting precious water supplies," says Benjamin Tate, director of Tates of Sussex garden centres. "With a prolonged dry spell upon us, as gardeners we can play a vital role in water conservation. Simple steps like watering early or late, using mulch to retain moisture, and collecting rainwater can make a real difference".

Both advice and helpful products are available from South Downs Nurseries in Hassocks, Newhaven's Paradise Park, Old Barn at Dial Post near Horsham and Portslade's Mayberry Garden Centre.

*Trevor Butler*

## ST LAWRENCE FAIR - 'HAPPY HOLIDAYS'

**4th and 5th July** - we hope you're looking forward to it as much as we are. There will be lots going on in the lead up to and over fair weekend.

New for this year - Lego on The Ledge: can you spot the Lego creations and find the hidden phrase? In association with Brighton Bricks with the help of St Lawrence School children; entry forms from our website and the library.

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The Dog Show, sponsored by Heath Vets, at the Scout HQ on Sunday 29th June at 11.30 am.

Friday **4th July** - Teddy Bears Picnic, 12.30 pm to 2.30 pm. Junior Disco, 5.30 pm to 6.45 pm, Hurst Band Night, 6 pm to 10.30 pm.

Saturday **5th July** - Fair Day! St Lawrence Fair Fun Run with a choice of the challenging 8.6 km course, taking in Wolstonbury Hill, or the flatter 3 km course through the grounds of Danny House. Both are circular routes and are starting at the front of the fair procession at 1.30 pm on the village green. Prizes for the first three places, male and female, for both courses, under 16s can only take part in the short course). Advance online booking only, until the night before visit [www.stlawrencefair.co.uk](http://www.stlawrencefair.co.uk). Changing facilities and toilets available (sorry, no showers).

Tug Of War: A crowd favourite, it's your chance to get a team together whether representing your workplace, a pub, club or just rounding up a team of mates email [stlawrencefair@gmail.com](mailto:stlawrencefair@gmail.com) to register.

There are still some stall holder slots available, to book email [stlawrencefair.stalls@gmail.com](mailto:stlawrencefair.stalls@gmail.com).

The Procession is open to local groups of any age, to enter email [slf.procession@gmail.com](mailto:slf.procession@gmail.com).

*Lona McDonald*

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## GET READY FOR GOLD!



There's still time to enter the Hassocks Goes Gold poster competition with your GOLDFISH drawings as the deadline is Friday the 4th of July...

Draw your very own GOLDFISH or colour in the pre-printed one on the entry form.... It's completely free to enter and in September the winners from each age category will receive fabulous prizes and be featured on the Hassocks Goes Gold poster! Plus, ALL entries will be included in the annual Parklands Road Art Gallery. Pick up a free entry forms from QD Stationers or download one from the Hassocks Goes Gold facebook page!

As in previous years, the

GIANT GOLD BOW Trail will be up for the whole month of September too, 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 2025 is Tuesday the **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/hhg2025](http://www.justgiving.com/page/hhg2025) - What would you like yours to 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. *Rachel*

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**NEWS FROM STONEYWISH** This week's exclusive...

Have you noticed how things which are for sale are always getting better? Not only better, but faster too, smarter, greener, sexier? And as luck would have it, they are always on special offer. But hurry! Stocks are limited and this may be your last chance to buy before the object of your dreams vanishes forever. Conversely, by an extraordinary coincidence, the thing you have just bought turns out to be rather shoddy, incomplete, less reliable, and more expensive than other versions on the market. What's more, it turns out that everyone else has already bought one and probably ditched it for a newer model. As for the world around you, well, we all know that that is going to the dogs... It is the best of times and the worst of times, to crib a phrase. The longing for the newest and best in life can give a new twist to the word 'consumption'. We become not just consumers, but consumptives too, eaten by desire. Gadgets, holidays, food, even garden plants and wildlife documentaries cater to this desire, promising novelty, technical enhancement, super-saturation of the senses. Whether it is the latest car, or a trip to the Andes, or a virtual en-

counter with a whale, it will give you a ticket to heaven for a price.

Fortunately for business, one is always left wanting more, planning the next holiday, looking for a new phone... When it comes to wildlife, the age-old temptation to become a trophy-hunter is difficult to resist. David Attenborough comes to the rescue, bringing us the rarest, last-one-on-the-shelf shots of our world's vanishing flora and fauna. And in the Age of Surveillance, we can all 'bag' things on camera and access expert knowledge about them from the internet's supermind. Yet somehow the thrill still needs to be renewed. Can a remoter valley be found, or a rarer orchid? Perhaps a drone can probe where the human eye cannot. Or perhaps we need an electron-microscope? The more we discover, the faster the world around us declines. It is a race against time to log everything before it is gone. If only we re-double our efforts, learn more, record more, collect and analyse more, perhaps solutions can be found? After a lifetime of book-learning and pursuing knowledge, I am no longer sure. I don't at all regret it but I do see it in a different light. Knowledge presents us with a mental image of what we see: that is a lime tree, good for bees; that is a red squirrel, endangered; that is *Fallopia Japionica*, the dreaded Japanese knotweed, an outlawed invasive which must be extirpated by law. Our phones can make us all experts in an instant now and to know about something, to name it, to understand its structure and function better than the thing itself can possibly do, confers power over it – the power of life and death. How, then, is it possible that with all the goodwill in the world and all this knowledge and passionate interest, insect populations, bird populations, rain forests are still crashing round us? How is it that while our bathrooms get cleaner, our rivers get dirtier? That we are so busy seeking the pristine wilderness,

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there is nowhere pristine left? Is it ignorance? Is it criminal neglect? Should we educate ourselves more? Should we blame others? Or is the answer simpler, more radical yet? Could we change the habit of ten thousand lifetimes, stop craving possession and control of the world and simply look and see? Suppose we then discovered that the ordinary, common or garden things beneath our noses were more astonishing than we could have possibly believed? Would it release us from addiction to this new-improved, longer-lasting, fresher-tasting dream of life? Instead of living in a world of that is, what would it be like to enter a world of this is... where the moment was sufficient to itself? Or rather to re-enter it as this, surely, is the world we all knew before we were 'educated'. In this world the ordinary is phenomenal. A daisy is a miracle. A pigeon as fascinating as a hoopoe. Snails, blackberries, dandelion clocks carry patterns of beauty which can stop the heart. Can we learn to cherish these dirt-cheap things before they too are driven onto the endangered list like frogs and turtle-doves before them? Can we cherish them not for any material benefit they bring us, but out of wonder and a sense of kinship? For we are all fragments of life on this tiny planet. All are connected by a hidden intelligence, but the human species now has the technical capacity to violate that connection at every level. Alienation brings us fear - insecurity. We turn to the seemingly more secure, more reliable world of machines for comfort. But machines train us to behave and think in ever-more mechanistic ways. They have no connection to Life

with a capital 'L' where a grand party is in progress. Artificial Intelligence is not intelligent. It is merely the apotheosis of knowledge and computation ensuring that very few humans are at the party. The party is happening everywhere that mechanistic thinking is not happening. Trading humanity for a Transhuman dream is the ultimate admission that we have lost touch. Subjecting the natural world to scientific experimentation, attempting to force it to cooperate on our terms is an abuse which may one day be recognised with horror. As always, the poets were there before us. To live, as William Blake wrote, 'in eternity's sunrise' is to let every moment be a once-in-a-lifetime, first and last experience in which everything is revealed in its pristine state. From this comes respect and love. To be still, to make space for 'otherness', for not knowing-it-all, establishing superiority, whether in the world at large, or in the back garden, may be the best, the only hope for Man and Nature, both.

As special offers go, there will never be a better. Grab it now before it is too late! *Rosemary*

**FAMILY-FRIENDLY BIKE RIDE WITH STEWARDS – LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER!** Kidical Mass is a family-friendly bike ride, with stewards – and it's coming to Hassocks and Ditchling!

It's happening on **12 July!** You can still register on Eventbrite, but hurry, places are filling up fast: **Kidical Mass family bike ride in Hassocks and Ditchling Tickets, Sat, Jul 12, 2025 at 1:30 PM | Eventbrite**" *Andy Hansen*

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### **THE BEACON PARISH OF DITCHLING, STREAT & WESTMESTON**

Our first event of the month means raising our voices in a lovely, so-  
ciable SING! session in which we learn some new  
worship songs and revisit old favourites. Do join  
us at 6 pm in St. Margaret's, Ditchling.

Our service on Sundays **6th and 13th July** at 10  
am in St. Margaret's will both be Morning Worship  
with Holy Communion and will also include Little  
Beacons activities: a really popular session for our  
younger visitors.

On Sunday **20th July**, our service moves to Streat  
Church at 10 am for Morning Worship with Holy  
Communion. In the afternoon we welcome Coro  
Nuovo for Evensong at 4 pm in St. Margaret's  
Ditchling. See separate article for full details.

Our final Sunday service of the month, on **27th  
July** will be an All Age Family Service at 10 am in  
St. Margaret's.

Our mid-week Wednesday @ 10 services of Holy  
Communion continue each week.

We look forward to welcoming everyone, whether  
regulars or visitors, to any of our services and  
events.

Please check our website  
**[www.beaconparish.co.uk](http://www.beaconparish.co.uk)** for any changes to the  
above and to watch recordings of past services: a  
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this month!

*Sherrian Guest*

**HASSOCKS CROQUET CLUB** Croquet is a  
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quet 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

All equipment is provided by the Club. New play-  
ers 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  
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site **[www.hassockscroquetclub.net](http://www.hassockscroquetclub.net)** for more in-  
formation.  
*Tony Bright*



**SUMMER READING CHALLENGE** Every  
year, the Summer Reading Challenge runs in li-  
braries across the country to encourage primary  
school children to keep reading over the holidays.  
We are excited to share that this year's theme is  
Story Garden, inspiring a love of reading, nature  
and exploring the outdoors. It will be launching in  
all 36 libraries across West Sussex on Saturday **12th  
July** and running until Saturday **13th September**.  
Children aged 4-11 will be asked to read books and  
complete reading challenges to collect stickers and  
will receive a special medal and certificate for com-  
pleting their challenge. We also have the mini chal-  
lenge for those aged under 4 years.

There'll be lots of fun activities and events happen-  
ing throughout the summer too, so look out for more  
information in libraries and on our website.

We are also looking for volunteers aged 14+ to help  
us deliver the 2025 Summer Reading Challenge in  
libraries. You will help families sign up to the chal-  
lenge online, chat with children about the books  
they have read, hand out rewards and encourage  
children to keep reading.

Find out more about the Summer Reading Chal-  
lenging on the West Sussex Libraries website:  
**<https://arena.westsussex.gov.uk/src>**.

*Linda Warwick*



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**NEW HAWTHORN VETS BRANCH  
OPENS 8TH JULY** We are thrilled to announce that our new Hawthorn Vets Branch in Hassocks will officially open on Tuesday, 8th July!

The transformation of the site is now complete, and it's been an exciting period of activity. We've been truly overwhelmed by the incredible support and warm welcome we've already received from the Hassocks community. We are genuinely looking forward to meeting all the wonderful pets and their owners in the area.

Our dedicated team of vets based in Hassocks will include James, Alex, and Lucy. They bring a wealth of experience and expertise and are all proud residents of the local community. You might even spot them around the village with their beloved pets: James walking his gorgeous Border Terrier, Freddie; Alex with his faithful Collie, Bella; or Lucy with her cherished Dachshund, Finley. They will, of course, be supported by our fantastic nursing and reception team.

To celebrate our opening, for the first four weeks, every client who books and attends an appointment will be entered into our weekly prize draw. Each week, one lucky pet will win a year's free subscription to our health plan, a prize worth over £250! Don't miss this opportunity to book your pet's appointment.

We also warmly invite you to pop into the new practice anytime to have a look around and enjoy a coffee with us. Our team is always happy to chat

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about all things pet-related!

We can't wait to welcome you and your furry friends to Hawthorn Vets in Hassocks.

*Jonathan Underwood Practice Owner*

**THE BEACON PARISH AND FRIENDS OF  
DITCHLING** are proud to stage a family fun afternoon (in 40's style!) in honour of the 80th Anniversary of VJ Day.

We honour our Veterans from this period in World War 2, which finally finished with Japan's surrender on August 15 1945.

Many of our local service personnel fought on after the war in Europe had finished, in Asia, until Emperor Hirohito surrendered following the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

We will be providing picnic lunches on the green, served from the barn, a bar, live Forties music of the time

(There will be many tunes that our own local songstress and National Treasure Vera Lynn made popular world wide!), and a commemorative collection of art and photos, writings and film of the time in St Margaret's Church.

Our message for the event is one of respect for our brave veterans and our hopes for World peace today.

Please join us! Bring a blanket! ( And maybe an umbrella!) Come early to find a space.

Donations are welcomed for the exhibition and picnics will be reasonably priced.

*Heather Evans*



### Opening Hours

Monday - Saturday  
9.00am - 5.30pm

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[emma@thegardenroomshassocks.co.uk](mailto:emma@thegardenroomshassocks.co.uk)





**TALKS AT DITCHLING QUAKER** On Sunday **20th July** an introductory talk by Greener Hassocks and Ditchling, from 12 pm until 1 pm. This will follow our usual Sunday Meeting for Worship from 10.30 am to 11.30 am, when we seek communion with the divine together, mainly in silence.

Sunday **3rd August**, 4 pm, Marie Louise Mukeshimana from Rwanda will be talking about her healing and reconciliation work with individuals, groups and families there.

Everyone welcome to both these events. Quaker Meeting House, East Gardens, Ditchling, BN6 8ST. Further information from **ditchlingquaker-correspondent@gmail.com**. *Janet Shimmin*



**SCHOOL ALLOTMENT GROWS THANKS TO GENEROUS DONATION**

A mid Sussex village school's allotment has been boosted with help from a Sussex-wide charity and Hassocks Garden centre.

Ditchling primary school has been given vegetable plants and herbs for the children to plant and care for in their allotment area. The gift from the Budding Foundation also included some water plants for a pond they have created in an old ceramic sink. Collecting the items from nearby South Downs Nurseries in Hassocks, teaching assistant and Forest School Leader, Louise Cole, said the staff were

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very helpful and the children were offered a tour of the on-site gardening museum.

The Budding Foundation was formed in 2013 by Clive Gravett and has already funded over 20 requests this year for young people's outdoor gardening projects in partnership with Bates of Sussex Garden centres.

"From toddlers to teenagers, based at nurseries, primaries, secondary schools and colleges across Sussex, we work to improve the lives of young people by funding educational courses and gardening projects", says Clive.

The charity's work is eagerly supported by the family-run garden centres. "We're proud to support the fantastic work of The Budding Foundation, a local charity making a real difference to young people in Sussex", said director Benjamin Tate.

*Trevor Butler*

**EVENSONG IS BACK** We would like to notify the community and readers that Evensong is back at St Margaret's Church, Ditchling on our Saint's day on **20th July**.

The Reverend Michael Maine (known as the singing organist in the Netherlands!) and most recently Vicar at Holy Trinity Cuckfield, and currently supporting St Margaret's in its Interregnum, will be playing the organ. Music Director for the chorus will be David Moore, who is a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists. David teaches at The London Oratory School and Coloma Convent Girls' School and is Organist at St Mary's Beddington.

*Heather Evans*

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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.

We need your help! Can you answer the following questions; On the bridleways you use...

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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 ?

To find the answers go to the ! Find out more about us on. [www.midsussexbridleways.org.uk](http://www.midsussexbridleways.org.uk).

*Jacqui Manley*

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*We thank Pam Worthington-Williams for the following letter:-*

Dear Editor, with regard to the photograph of Hurst Carnival in the June issue of Talk About, I showed it to my mother, Mrs Peggy Clark. She is nearly 95 and was born in Hurst, and she recognised the lady in black in the centre of the photo. She was actually Mrs Sandles, not Sanderson, and she lived in Sayers Common. She was only about 4 feet tall, having very short arms and legs, and when my mother knew her in the mid 1930s she had a cottage east of the A23 and kept ducks and chicken. Although my mother lived in Hurst, she used to visit her gran, Mrs Burtenshaw, in Sayers Common and they used to cross over the A23 and walk over to Mrs Sandles cottage and buy eggs. My mother particularly remembers this as she was allowed to feed the ducks.



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**THE WINDMILLS JUNIOR SCHOOL** On Tuesday 7th May, we had the fantastic opportunity to take part in the West Sussex Big Sing. Choir members from Years 3 and 4 were invited to join this exciting event, which is one of many 'Big Sings' held across the county. These events offer a unique chance for primary school children to take part in a half-day singing workshop, led by a highly skilled vocal coach and joined by choirs from other schools. The experience not only helps pupils learn new songs and develop their musical confidence, but also encourages



teamwork and a sense of belonging to a wider musical community.

This year's Mini Marathon was a resounding success, with 150 children lacing up their running shoes and taking part in this

exciting event. We were so impressed that so many children took part. We met nice and early prior to the school day to carry out our marathon. Each child had to do 2 laps to complete the Mid Sussex mile (1.6k) but some choose to do an additional lap and push themselves a bit more,

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showing impressive endurance. The event was a true celebration of energy, community, and healthy habits.

At the end of last month, 10 children from year 4 took part in the annual tri-golf tournament. Tri-golf uses plastic clubs and hard foam balls rather than the traditional equipment but requires the



same level of skill. The children tried really hard to accumulate as many points as they could from the various putting and chipping activities and we're pleased to say that that we came first out of

the 15 schools that took part. We now look forward to representing Mid Sussex in the School Games final later this term.

Year 4 trekked to the wonderful living museum at Butser Farm. Guided by their expert historians and archaeologists, we were given a taste of life in Britain from the Bronze age up to the Roman era, with plenty of memorable hands-on experiences including making Roman jewellery and an archaeological dig! *'on behalf of The Windmills'*

**Deadline for the August 2025  
Issue is 1st July 2025**



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### **UNDER-FIVES WITH MOTOR LEARNING IMPAIRMENTS WILL RECEIVE VITAL PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICES THANKS TO SUSSEX FREEMASONS**

Over 80 children with cerebral palsy, chromosome abnormalities and rare genetic disorders across the Southeast of England will receive life-changing physiotherapy services thanks to a generous grant from Sussex Freemasons to the Dame Vera Lynn Children's Charity (DVLCC).

The £60,000 grant will help to fund the salary cost of an additional paediatric physiotherapist. DVLCC works with children with cerebral palsy, rare genetic disorders and chromosome abnormalities, all of whom have physical impairments resulting in global developmental delays. Through their bespoke therapy services, the charity supports these children to develop basic life skills such as sitting, standing, self-feeding, walking and communicating their needs.

The charity currently supports 83 children per week at their centre in Chailey, East Sussex. Physiotherapy/conductive education is a key service which helps children build their physical strength. With the addition of a new physiotherapist to the team, DVLCC can now look to double the number of children supported across the next year, ensuring that as many children as possible have access to their bespoke therapy services.

The funding will make a significant difference in the lives of these children and their families. The charity's new paediatric physiotherapist will provide specialised assistance to children, in the form of individualised therapy programmes to develop physical abilities such as balance, coordination and strength. By unlocking their physical potential, this life-changing support can enable them to reach milestones their parents were once told were out of reach.

One in 400 children born each year are diagnosed with cerebral palsy, often caused by bleeding on

the brain, lack of oxygen at birth or infections caught during pregnancy. This can lead to significant developmental delays, with a large proportion of children not reaching traditional development milestones. For many of the children supported by DVLCC, their cerebral palsy diagnosis comes with a range of other conditions, including visual and hearing impairments, speech and language difficulties and issues with eating, drinking and respiration. NHS guidelines demonstrate that the earlier children can access the necessary support, the better their long-term outcomes will be. For some of these children, early intervention can be the difference between taking their first steps or spending a lifetime in a wheelchair. Through their physiotherapy service, DVLCC are supporting families to

overcome huge hurdles in their child's development.

The grant from Sussex Freemasons to the Dame Vera Lynn Charity comes through the Masonic Charitable Foundation, which is funded by Freemasons, their families and friends, from across England and Wales.

Glenys Creese, CEO of Dame Vera Lynn Children's Charity, said:

"We're extremely grateful to Sussex Freemasons for their generous grant. Being able to expand our team with a new paediatric physiotherapist

means that we can support even more children with motor learning impairments in the coming year. Our team work tirelessly to provide children and their families with the best possible support and a grant like this can transform the lives of children under our care."

Sussex Freemasons said:

"We're very pleased we've been able to help the Dame Vera Lynn Children's Charity with their hugely important programme helping children with cerebral palsy and other disorders. The work they do will help children develop basic movement and communication skills that parents have often been told were impossible for their child. The results can be literally life changing."

*Molly Devine*







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### AN EXCITING NEW PROJECT FROM HASOCKS COMMUNITY ORGANISATION

Hassocks Community Organisation (HCO) is pleased to launch HYPE! (Hassocks Youth Project Events) fun and educational activities for local youths and children.

In association with local groups and organisations, HYPE! will offer interactive workshops in and around Hassocks that would cover a variety of interests and hobbies such as bike maintenance, drama, personal styling, guided bike rides, music, and sports.

To start off with, we are pleased to inspire youths to learn, practice and create a drama piece over the course of three morning workshops during the summer holidays.

On **11th, 12th and 13th August** between 10 am and 1 pm at Hassocks United Reform Church, tweens and teens will have the chance to develop method acting techniques and improvisation skills through engaging drama games and character development.

Guided by Tim Rowland of Drama Collective, all are welcome to nurture their creative thinking skills, let loose and play around with different personalities to create a truly fun and memorable experience.

Furthermore, by learning the fundamentals of acting, participants of all abilities will be able to flex their imagination and develop pride in their own capabilities while nourishing these key life-skills: Improve confidence and self-respect, enhance communication, vocabulary and public speaking abilities, boost concentration and focus, establish empathy through teamwork.

Workshop participants will be able to demonstrate the skills that they've learnt and developed at the end of the final workshop on Wednesday, **13th August**. Plus, all who participate in all three workshop sessions will receive a Certificate for Completion of the HYPE! Holiday Drama Workshop 2025.

To create a unique didactic experience for between 12 to 20 participants, no previous experience is necessary and this inclusive activity welcomes anyone with a learning age between 9 and 14.

We anticipate that places for this activity will be snapped up quickly, so be sure to book a place fast

via the "Hassocks Community Organisation" page on TicketSource at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/hassocks-community-organisation](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/hassocks-community-organisation)

If you'd like to get involved with any of our youth events contact Erika Woodhurst-Trueman via [enquiries@hassockscommunity.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hassockscommunity.org.uk).

*Becky Rowland*



### AGE CONCERN Dale Avenue, Hassocks, 01273 844461 [www.achassocks.co.uk](http://www.achassocks.co.uk) Facebook – Age Concern Hassocks.

Things are heating up at Age Concern Hassocks this July! It is of course our annual Age Concern Summer Fair on **5th July** from 10 am to 2 pm, so please come along, browse the stalls and treat yourself to a bacon roll or a piece of cake.

Our local Rock Choir will be here from 10.30 am until 11 am to sing and a raffle will be drawn on the day - tickets will be available to buy from the Age Concern Charity Shop from the 2nd June. So please put the date in your diary and support your local day centre!

Hassocks Ladies Singers are returning to the centre to perform for us on Thursday **3rd July** and following that we are organising an outing to The Little Cottage Tea Rooms in Glynde.

Our marathon champion, Justin Staveley, visited the centre to present us with his cheque. Justin raised £550 on Justin Giving for Age Concern Hassocks and our members contributed £65 to the fundraising pot. Well done Justin!

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

*All at Age Concern.*



## THE VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

### AT THE FIVE BELLS AT CHAILEY

on Monday 5th May, was a great success despite the slightly inclement weather. Over 150 people along with 40 vintage vehicles attended the event, many of those in period dress.

There were speeches by the local Sussex regiment, local vicar, pub landlord and Howard Venters – Chairman of the Chailey Classic & Vintage Tractor Club.

Churchill's victory speech was played out as a reminder of what occurred on this day 80 years ago. It was a very moving moment.

Our local MP, Mimms Davies attended and presented awards for best dressed, best cake and best vintage vehicle.

*Liz Venters*



**OF OWLS, LARKS AND HEDGEHOGS** I've always been a night owl. I'm writing this as my creativity kicks in; unhelpfully that's usually around 9 pm. I spent my childhood howling in resistance at those who dared tell me it was bedtime. I would read until 3 am and be virtually dragged from my bed for school in the morning.

Despite what my mother says, it's a real thing. We are genetically predisposed to different chronotypes associated with our circadian rhythm. There are owls (those who wake and sleep later), larks (those who wake and sleep earlier) and ambivalent (those who are more adaptable to sleep pattern changes).

I used to long to wake up earlier and make the best of the day. Especially as a keen birder it would be advantageous. If I ever do it's glorious. The air is different in early morning. There's so much light, so much time. But there are perks to the night too. It's quiet; everyone else is asleep. It's peaceful and less distracting. And the best bit, of course, is watching nocturnal animals.

I live with another owl. Together, we slink about the local nature reserve at dusk. Hushed tones to fit in. Eyes adjusting to the perceived blackness. There is rarely anyone else around. The damp smell of the

reedbeds seems stronger than in the day. The gravel and parched grass crunch louder underfoot. The world feels bigger somehow, yet more tranquil.

We detect dancing bats who whizz past our faces, saving us from nibbling evening midges. We walk directly past Rabbits on meadow buffets, who barely look up to note us. We take in pre-roosting bird calls; Reed Warbler, Song Thrush, Blackbird, Robin, and skyward silhouettes of those returning for the night; gulls, corvids, a Peregrine. A Fox on patrol stops to watch us with an air of disdain; 'It's my turn now'. Once we're out of the reserve we stop at the usual spot, at the usual time, and wait. Then we see it. Squat legs, busy snout and about 5,000 spines scuttle across the car park and along the kerbside dandelions. The Hedgehog crosses the road; it's not busy but it's still a risky game, and I once flagged down a startled mini-bus driver to allow for safe hog passage. The Hedgehog continues along a footpath, and through a fence hole cut by kind urban wildlife heroes.

These sightings feel like treats to which few of us are party. I've not only accepted my nighttime owl form; I completely embrace it. Just don't ask me to make plans before midday.

*Kerry Williams*

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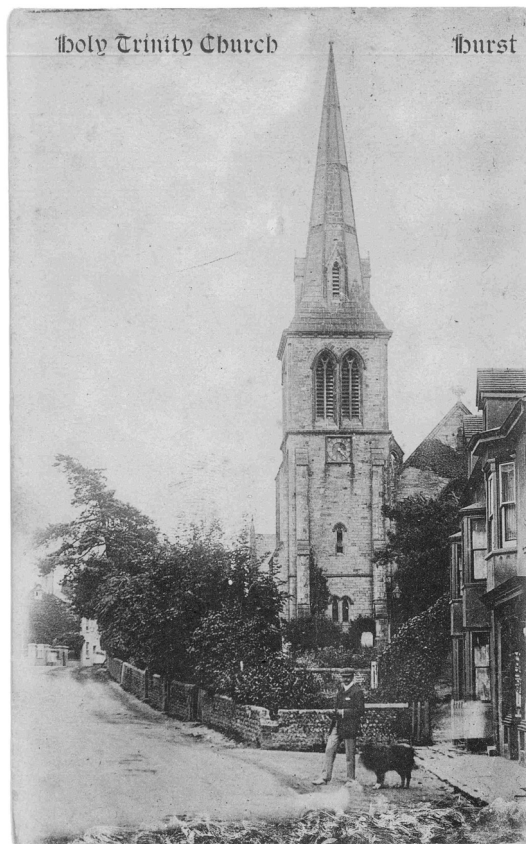
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*We thank Dave Evans for this post card of Holy Trinity Church, Hurstpierpoint which is post marked 17th September 1910*

**THE DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY - THE OLD OAK** (2023) Directed by Ken Loach. 113 minutes. English. Showing on **3rd July**.

A tale of Syrian refugees and asylum seekers set in the summer of 2016, just after the Brexit vote. The Old Oak centres on a pub in the northeast, in a community that's fallen on hard times after 30 years of decline.

The pub is the only remaining public space where people can meet in a once thriving area. When Syrian refugees are housed nearby, the pub becomes contested territory. Ebla Mari, herself from the Golan Heights, plays Yara, who strikes up an unlikely friendship with landlord TJ Ballantyne (played by Dave Turner). Together, they search for ways to help these two communities better understand each other. In true Loach style, the film shines a light on British inequality and injustice.

Loach has announced that at 87 this will be his last film.

The Film Society will be taking a summer break. It will be back on **4th September** with a documentary film 'Wilding' based on Isabella Tree's best-selling book which tells the story of the Knepp Estate.

For more information on our film showings and special events, please go to our website, **[ditchlingfilm.org.uk](http://ditchlingfilm.org.uk)**. There you can join our mailing list and also recommend your favourite or unrecognised film gems for our future showings. We are on Instagram **@ditchlingfimsoc** and Tweet **@Ditchlingfilm**.

Ditchling Village Hall, doors open at 7.30 pm and you can buy a glass of good wine or enjoy complementary tea and coffee before the show which starts at 8 pm.

Pay on the door or yearly membership available (includes 20% discount on pre-booked meals and drinks at The Bull Pub on film night!!) Cards are accepted.

*Kate*

**DRAMA COLLECTIVE PRESENTS A SUMMER TRIPLE BILL** Saturday, 12th July at 2 pm at All Saints Centre, Friars Walk, Lewes, BN7 2LE.

For tickets visit **[www.ticketsource.co.uk/lewes-drama-collective](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/lewes-drama-collective)**.

The Lewes and Hassocks based Drama Collective groups are excited to return to the All Saints Centre this summer.

Our junior, teen and adult cast members are set to perform a selection of one act plays.

Carpe Diem is set in a retirement home where three characters discover hope and lives worth living.

Aesop's Fables offers a collection of wise tales with six traditional short stories and a prologue that will surely give audience members the giggles.

Dexter and Winter's Detective Agency is a fast-paced madcap whodunnit with a raft of hilarious characters that will also give audience members pause for thought.

Refreshments available.

*Becky Rowland*

**THE 4SIGHT** lunch club for the blind & visually impaired meets fortnightly on a Wednesday at Clayton Church Hall. Transport is provided.

If you would like to come, or if you would like to be a helper (male or female) please contact on **01444 450947**.

*Dorothy Lazenby*

# Whats On in July

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

## Regular Clubs Meets

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

**BEFRIENDED COMMUNITY CHOIR** - Tuesdays (term-time) 2 - 4 pm, Holy Trinity Church, Hurstpierpoint. All welcome to sing for joy. More info [www.befriended.org](http://www.befriended.org).

**BEFRIENDED 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](mailto: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/Thursday 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](http://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.

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

**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](http://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 JULY** Morning Worship with Holy Communion 10 am St Margarets, Ditchling on **6th & 13th** both inc Little Beacons & **27th** (All age family service). On **20th** it will be at Streat Church at 10 am. **20th** Coro Nuovo for Evensong at St Margarets Church 4 pm. Wednesday @10 services of communion at St Margarets Church.



**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.

**20th** after meeting of worship an introductory talk by Greener Hassocks and Ditchling from 12 - 1 pm.

Our magazine "Friendly News" is available at Ditchling PO [www.ditchlingquakers.org.uk](http://www.ditchlingquakers.org.uk)

## Dated Events

**1st GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING** Proper Coffee, Hassocks 7.30 pm. Briefing for Kidical Mass Ride in Hassocks and Ditchling see article to register. All welcome.

**1st DITCHLING DOWNS WI** Party Time

**2nd UKES OF HASSOCKS** Proper Cycling & Coffee 7.30 pm. Monthly community jam session, play and sing along, beginners welcome. All welcome.

**2nd AGE UK 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.

**3rd DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY** Ditchling Village Hall 7.30 pm. Film - 'The Old Oak'. Tickets available on the door - see article.

**3rd BEFRIENDED CAFE** Court Bushes, Hurstpierpoint 10 am - 12 pm. A safe place to chat about grief loss, and share stories about your loved ones. More info [www.befriended.org](http://www.befriended.org).

**3rd AGE CONCERN HASSOCKS** Dale Avenue. Hassocks. Hassocks Ladies Singers will be performing.

**4th/5th ST LAWRENCE FAIR** Hurstpierpoint various events Main Fair 1 pm on Saturday in South Avenue. Please see article for more info

**4th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY** Cyprus Hall Car Park, Burgess Hill 7.15 pm. [www.midsussexars.org.uk](http://www.midsussexars.org.uk). 'Direction Finding Evening'. All welcome.

**5th AGE CONCERN HASSOCKS** Dale Avenue. Hassocks, 10 am - 2 pm. Summer Fair. Stalls, raffle and refreshments.

**5th HASSOCKS HOTEL QUIZ** Station Approach East, Hassocks 7 pm. Quiz and Curry and pudding auction night. Advance bookings only call 07711 045239.

**5th HURSTPIERPOINT GYM CLUB** Hurstpierpoint Village Centre 41st Annual Championship. See article.

**6th GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING** Community Veg Patch behind Age Concern, Dale Ave, Hassocks 2 - 5.30 pm. Seedling sale. All welcome.

**6th DITCHLING ORCHARD** Boddingtons Lane, Ditchling 10 am - 12 noon Orchard Maintenance Morning. All ages welcome.

**6th OLDLAND MILL** Oldlands Lane, Keymer 2 pm - 5 pm. Open Afternoon.

**7th HASSOCKS WI** Adastra Hall, Hassocks 2 pm. Craft Club. Visitors welcome.

**8th - 12th HURST PLAYERS** Players Theatre, High Street, Hurstpierpoint 7.30 pm Various performances of Sylvia - a comedy by A.R. Gurney. tickets [www.hurstplayers.org.uk](http://www.hurstplayers.org.uk).

**8th MUSKRAT RAMBLERS**, Hassocks Hotel, Station Approach East, doors 11.30 am Start 12 pm. Great Food, Great Jazz & Great Company. A set lunch included in the entrance fee. Call 01444 235986 or 01444 235639 to book.

**8th AGE UK 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.

**9th OLDLAND MILL** Adastra Hall, Hassocks 7.30 pm. AGM all welcome.

**9th DITCHLING HISTORY PROJECT** White Horse, Ditchling 2 pm. Drop in all welcome.

**10th WOMENS BREAKFAST** The Greyhound, Keymer 10 am. For a social cooked breakfast. All welcome to book email [mo.delaine@btinternet.com](mailto:mo.delaine@btinternet.com).

**11th BURGESS HILL HISTORY GROUP** Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. Events from Sussex History, Illustrated by Folk Music of the County plus live performance from Mike & Reina James Reinstein. All welcome.

**11th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY** Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. [www.midsussexars.org.uk](http://www.midsussexars.org.uk). 'Nag & Natter Evening' Refreshments available. All welcome.

**12th GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING** 2 - 4 pm. Kidical Mass Ride in Hassocks and Ditchling see article to register. All welcome.

**12th CHURCHES TOGETHER** URC Hassocks 9.30 am. Messy Church - breakfast, crafts, games and story. All welcome.

**12th COUNCILLOR SURGERIES DITCHLING** Lower Hall, Ditchling Village Hall 11 am - 1 pm Meet with Councillor Paul Mellor to discuss any matters.

**12th DITCHLING BEACON AND COMMONS CHARITY** Underhill Lane Car Park bottom of the Beacon 11 am . Ditchling Beacon walk led by Phillip Cribb and Oliver Whaley. To register [info@ditchlingbeaconandcommons.org.uk](mailto:info@ditchlingbeaconandcommons.org.uk)

**12th SUSSEX SEWING CLUB** Westmeston Parish Hall 10 am - 4 pm. Like minded makers spend the day doing a hobby they love. To book [sussexsewingclub@gmail.com](mailto:sussexsewingclub@gmail.com).

**12th HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB** The Hassocks Hotel Beacon Ground, Brighton Road, Hassocks KO 3 pm. (Mens) The Robins take on Barking. Bar and Food available. Free entry to all.

**14th THE GROUP** The Railway Pub, Station Road, Burgess Hill. 7.30 pm. A club for the over 55 unattached. [www.thegroup.org.uk](http://www.thegroup.org.uk).

**16th AGE UK 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.

**18th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY** The Bull, Henfield 7 pm. [www.midsussexars.org.uk](http://www.midsussexars.org.uk). 'Skittles and Pizza Evening'

**28th THE GROWING NETWORK** Goatgrid Agroforestry Project, Plumpton 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Feel free to bring any seeds or plants to share or gardening books/tools you don't need. See article for more info.

**19th MENS BREAKFAST** The Greyhound, Keymer 10 am. For a social cooked breakfast. All welcome to book email [alexbaxter66@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alexbaxter66@yahoo.co.uk).

**19th HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB** The Hassocks Hotel Beacon Ground, Brighton Road, Hassocks KO 3 pm. (Mens) The Robins take on Burgess Hill. Bar and Food available. Free entry to all.

**19th POLICE BEAT SURGERY** South Downs Garden Centre, Hassocks 10.30 am - 12 pm. Come along to get crime prevention and advice on neighbourhood issues.

**19th HEBER OPERA** Hurstpierpoint Village Centre 10 am - 2 pm. Craft Fair - stalls and refreshments.

**20th 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](http://www.befriended.org).

**20th PARISH OF CLAYTON WITH KEYMER**, Meeting Room, Keymer Church Hall. 9.45 - 10.45 am. Storytime Creative - Stories from the Bible and the heart and respond with your own pictures or creative writing. Bring an adult. More info 01273 845964.

**21st HASSOCKS WI** Adastra Hall, Hassocks 7.30 pm. 'La Dolce Vita'. Visitors welcome.

**22nd HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB** The Hassocks Hotel Beacon Ground, Brighton Road, Hassocks KO 7.45 pm. (Mens) The Robins take on Arundel. Bar and Food available. Free entry to all.

**24th LIBERAL DEMOCRATS SURGERY** HAS-SOCKS Parish Council Offices Committee Room 11 am - 12 pm. Sue Hatton, Kristian Berggreen & Chris Hobbs. No appointment necessary.

**25th HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING U3A** Court Bushes, Hurstpierpoint 2 pm. 'A History of Sport in Sussex, from the Amazing to the Bizarre' Matthew Homewood. Small entrance fee. Refreshments inc.

**25th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY** Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. [www.midsussexars.org.uk](http://www.midsussexars.org.uk). 'Nag & Natter Evening' Refreshments available. All welcome.

**26th HASSOCKS VILLAGE MARKET** Age Concern Car Park, 9 am - 1 pm. Local produce, bread, honey, cheese, wine, veg etc.

**26th REPAIR CAFE** Age Concern Centre, Hassocks, 9.30 -11.30 am. Bring items for repair more info call 01273 040110 or [www.hkdtransition.org.uk](http://www.hkdtransition.org.uk).

**28th CAMEO** Keymer Church Hall 2 pm - 4 pm. Open to all - come and enjoy an enjoyable afternoon over a cup of tea.

**30th SOUTH DOWNS WOODTURNERS** Upper Beeding Village Hall, 7pm Demo evening with Tiny Turner (Emma Cook). Visitors welcome.

**31st 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](http://www.bereavementcare.uk).



## What does a Financial Adviser do?

Last month I wrote that if you want to get good at something you need to practice, and that if you are only going to do something once, like retiring, working with an expert can lead to better outcomes.

Studies show that people that employ a Financial Advisor, on average, end up better off compared to those that don't take advice, but what does a financial adviser actually do?

Financial advice offers tailored guidance to help individuals make informed decisions about their money. A financial adviser can help you clarify your goals, whether it's saving for retirement, protecting your family's future, or creating a legacy. They provide expert insight on tax efficiency, investment strategies, pensions, and insurance options. By creating a personalised financial plan, an adviser helps you stay on track and adjust to life changes or market shifts. Ultimately, financial advice can increase confidence, reduce stress, and improve long-term financial outcomes, ensuring you make the most of your resources and secure greater peace of mind.

Choosing a Financial Advisor is an important decision, if you would like to find out more, please get in touch.

**“The path to the financial future  
you desire starts with the plans  
that you make today.”**



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*Please note that the value of your investment, along with any income derived from it, can go down as well as up and you may not get back the full amount you invested. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.*

# David J Stevens

Property Maintenance

Feel free to contact me  
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## STEVE'S BACK PAGE GOSSIP

I don't expect a lot of you would have noticed the garages to let sign at the back of what was Budgens. This block of about 20 garages have been there for over 50 years and are the home to an assortment of small businesses and individuals who need an extra bit of storage. Well once again the big boys who call themselves property agents have decided to strangle out as many of those poor occupants as they can by increasing the rents on these poorly maintained garages by a whopping 70%. Now of course a lot of people can't afford them, so they are giving them up which means lots of empty garages with no money coming in for the owners which serves them right.

Going out of the village for a mile or so you'll come across the Jack and Jill pub a very popular place which has been there for as long as I can remember. We used to go there a lot when we first arrived in Hassocks all those years ago, they had a lot of animals there and I knew Mr and Mrs Harman very well. I think it's still in the family, however if you fancy having your own pub with accommodation it's now on the market, it's a big place with a lot of land, with a massive car park and gardens. I bet there's someone reading this thinking I wouldn't mind having a go at this, it'll be hard work, but I might take a punt.

Next, coming back to the village it's a great shame to see the closing of the Purple Carrot Café, I'm not privy to the reasons but I can only assume that there wasn't enough footfall anymore to make it financially viable. The overheads small businesses have got these days you need a fair bit of that just to pay the bills without it we will all go the same way.

I'll just say a quick hello to the new owners of the Adastral Café I hope you'll do well, you've got a good pedigree to ensure bums on seats.

It's sad to hear that Joanna's hairdressers on the parade in Keymer has closed, they've wisely decided not to renew their lease when it ends this year and are going mobile so all their customers can all still be catered for. Joanna's opened around 1961 and was one of Keymer Parades first occupants, it was owned by husband and wife. Now I'm going to try a memory test here, I'm pretty sure their names were McCloud Smith, they had a small farm in Spatham Lane. Mr. Smith or 'Smithy' as he was known always seemed to wear a red lumberjack style jacket, he used to buy all his farm feed from us. He was an old school farmer and an absolute joy to know, sadly Mrs Smith had MS. Mr Smith died first but Mrs Smith would still get her carer to drive her to us to buy the animal food. Such loyalty from two wonderful people who although long gone, still exist in my memory.

I've notice Ditchling has quite a lot of houses up for sale at the moment, it could be just coincidence or are people just getting fed up with all the through traffic created by all the new houses in Burgess Hill and Haywards Heath? Traffic snarl ups are horrendous, made worse by some peoples inability to be able to drive properly, it's a car you're driving dear not a bus and sadly it's only going to get worse.

Get ready to standby for chaos because from the 5th July for 9 weeks EXTENSIVE DRAINAGE UPGRADING will take place along the whole of Keymer Road to Stonepound which will mean TRAFFIC HELL. If you use this route, regularly bring some board games with you because you may be stuck for some time. Can't imagine what it's going to be like for the shops – please support us where you can please.

I have tried to get in touch with the owners of National Tyres building for a comment on the outcome of the planning order but I'm getting no response.

Please remember to drop in old newspapers and carrier bags for us to re-use, we just want to do our bit - my carbon footprint must be nearly nil - love Steve.

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