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BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY – Forthcoming Events
Wednesday **2nd September** Open Meeting Speaker, Mark Whitaker 's topic will be 'The Lost Woods of the Low Weald and Downs'. Venue: Cyprus Hall. Commences 7.45 pm, (doors open 7.15 pm) All welcome. Admission: BHHS members free, Visitors small fee.
Saturday **5th September** Flower and Produce Show**:** Cyprus Hall, 1.30 pm to 3.45 pm. Small admission. Come and enjoy some glorious autumn colours, along with refreshments, homemade cakes, plant and produce stalls.
www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com
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THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - DITCHLING & DISTRICT BRANCH HASSOCKS & KEYMER Remembrance 2026**.** Just a gentle reminder that if you require a Poppy Wreath for this year's Remembrance please let me know so that I can order this for you. Call me the Poppy Appeal Organiser, on **01273 845319**.
Margaret Bovill

KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB The Keymer Folk Dance Club starts its 77th season of dances on **7th September** to recorded, and this will be followed by the next club meeting on **21st September** when we welcome back Sally Course's band. Following last season's experiment with live music on the third Monday of each month, this will continue for this season.
All meetings start at 7.30 pm at the URC Church Hall, Keymer Road, BN6 8AB, and further details can be found at
www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk/ or email **keymerfdc@gmail.com**. *Sean Goddard*

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LAZY GARDENER As we move into September, many gardeners feel the urge to tidy everything away. Cutting back the last of the flowers, clearing stems, and 'putting the garden to bed'. But if you can resist that instinct, your garden will quietly reward you all winter long.
One of the simplest, laziest and most wildlife-friendly things you can do at this time of year is to leave your seedheads standing. Those fading flowers are far more than spent blooms: they're an essential winter food source for birds, especially goldfinches.
When we installed our prairie-style bed in 2023, we had no goldfinches visiting the garden, despite putting out nyjer seed on feeders for three years. Not a single one. But once the prairie plants matured and set seed, everything changed. That first winter, a small charm of four or five goldfinches began visiting every day, always mid-morning, always heading straight for the seedheads.
Last winter, that charm had grown to more than fifteen birds! All feeding directly from the plants. We don't even put feeders out anymore. We don't need to. The birds come anyway, for the seeds and berries the garden provides.
Leaving the seedheads standing until late March or early April gives birds a reliable food source through the hardest months. It also means you get to enjoy the beauty of frosted stems, silhouettes in low winter light, and the daily joy of watching birds fluttering through the garden.
And it's not just the birds who benefit. The hollow stems of many perennials provide excellent overwintering spots for insects, tiny refuges that help your garden's ecosystem bounce back strongly in spring.
So, this September, try doing less. Let the last flowers set seed. Leave the stems standing. Enjoy the textures, the movement, and the wildlife that arrives because of it.
Sometimes the laziest gardening is the most rewarding. *Helen*

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THE JACK AND JILL WINDMILLS SOCIETY has announced that public Open Days at Jill Windmill will recommence in August.

Jill Windmill, one of the pair of windmills at Clayton, has been closed to visitors for a period of 14 weeks whilst her exterior was cleaned, refurbished and painted as part of the Charity's rolling seven-year maintenance cycle. Charity Trustee and Founder Member, Simon Potter, said "All this work is carried out at the weekends by volunteers, some are Society members whilst others are local residents. We took the decision to close the Mill site firstly as that would permit Sunday working in the event of a wet or windy Saturday, and secondly as historically visitor numbers have been low when the mill was shrouded in scaffolding."

"A major challenge in scaffolding Jill Windmill is that the mill body is designed to sway in the wind, and as a result no part of the scaffold could touch the mill. The scaffolding structure therefore had to be not only free standing but also had to be suitably braced to withstand the high winds which are quite common atop the South Downs. Luckily Ackers Scaffolding, based at Albourne, who had done the job before were happy to once again take on this challenging design project."

Jill Windmill was originally built in Dyke Road, Brighton in 1821. As the town expanded, buildings began to encroach and to block her prevailing wind, so in 1852 she was moved to Clayton, where she continued commercial milling until 1906. After years of neglect, a restoration project began in 1979, and she was milling again in April 1986. The Jack And Jill Windmills Society now maintains her and, in addition to public open days, opens her for educational visits.

We Need Volunteers! Volunteers play an essential role in preserving this unique piece of local heritage for future generations. From carrying out routine maintenance and helping with restoration projects, to supporting our milling operations, every contribution helps keep Jill Windmill in working order and ensures its remarkable history continues to be shared.

There are many ways to get involved, whatever

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your interests, skills or experience. If you can spare a few hours on a Saturday, you can join our maintenance and milling teams, helping to care for the windmill and its machinery. On Sundays, during our Open Days, volunteers welcome visitors, lead tours, share the fascinating history of the windmill, serve refreshments in the teashop, and help create an enjoyable and memorable experience for everyone who visits.

Whether you volunteer regularly or can only offer occasional support, your time makes a genuine difference. By joining, you will help safeguard Jill Windmill as a working historic landmark, support community engagement, and ensure that future generations can continue to experience, learn from, and enjoy this treasured local icon.

Jill Windmill opens to visitors from 2 pm to 5 pm on Sunday 2nd August, and then on subsequent Sunday afternoons until the end of September.

Adam Winsor

NEW SINGING GROUP Mellow-dee, for anybody who simply likes to sing and just wants to come along and join in - all very friendly, relaxed and informal - every Thursday morning from 11 am till 1 pm at the Greyhound Inn, Keymer, and all absolutely free! Lovely songs and marvellous melodies. Everybody is very welcome. *Jerry*

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At the time of writing last month's article, we were unable to give full thanks to the local businesses, people and organisations who supported our summer fair in July, so we would like to take this opportunity to do so. We would like to thank Aroma Café, A Twine Butchers, Denise Norman, Edward Harte Solicitors, Elite Law, Hassocks Parish Council, Hawthorn Vets, Keymer Hall Care Home, Kingsland House Care Home, Marchants Estate Agents, Martlett Manor Care Home, Mid Sussex Flooring, Profiles, Physio Healthy, Proper Cycling & Coffee, QD Stationery, Tesco Burgess Hill, The Hassocks Hotel, The Macs Farm Sussex and The Sussex Grocer for their incredible generosity. Thank you!

We now know that we raised a staggering **£1774.57** for the centre!

This month we have the daughter of published author Robert H Dodd, Patricia Rykiel coming in on Thursday **3rd September** at 11am to give a talk about her father's own experience of the Vietnam War and about his published book 'Don't Break my Rice Bowl', which she helped co-write.

Whilst you're here, why not pop into our coffee shop for a slice of cake and a cuppa? We serve until around 3.30 pm on weekdays and 11.30 am on Saturdays. *We hope to see you soon!*

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HASSOCKS FIELD SOCIETY It seems hard to believe that we are now already into the month of September. The season of Autumn and Hassocks Field Society welcomes you back to their twice monthly meetings. The first meeting is on Monday **14th September** and is a talk by Lucy Taylor on The Millenium Seed Bank at Wakehurst. An interesting and fascinating topic when you know that there are 2.5 billion seeds stored there from over 40,000 species.This is followed on Monday **28th September** with a talk on Sussex Pond Puddings and Sussex Smokies by Kevin Newham - a lively and entertaining speaker.

The meetings are held at Adastra Hall and commence at 7.45 pm. There is a small entrance fee for both members and visitors which includes refreshments served during the break.

Please do come and have an enjoyable evening amongst friendly local people. All ages very welcome so hope to see you there.

For further information please contact the secretary Beryl Varley on **01273 832351**. *Cathy*

OCTOBER 2026 DEADLINE IS 1ST SEPTEMBER 2026

HASSOCKS BOY TAKES ON TRIATHLON TO RAISE MONEY FOR CHILDREN IN MADAGASCAR Benny Green from Hassocks will do his first triathlon in August to raise money for impoverished kids in Madagascar.



The seven-year-old, who starts at Windmills School in September, learnt about their plight during lessons at Hassocks Infants and wanted to help. "I felt sad when I learnt about the kids in Madagascar," Benny said. "They don't deserve to be poor. I'll be happy if I can help them a bit."

Benny will do the Brighton Tri Club Children's Triathlon on 9th August, tackling a 25m swim, a 600m bike ride and a 600m run.

It will be his first triathlon, and being in the 8-10-year-old Novice category, he will be one of the youngest. But Benny is a competent swimmer, runner and cyclist so is confident of being able to complete the challenge. He is also a very keen footballer and has played for Hassocks Juniors since he was five.

Madagascar is one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world, where the level of primary school attendance is extremely low. Only the children of Haiti and Afghanistan are worse off.

Benny's family and the charity he is supporting – the Madagascar Development Fund (MDF), which delivers education, healthcare and water projects on the African island – would be very grateful if anyone would like to sponsor him. Friends of Hassocks Infants (FOHIS) has raised nearly £25,000 for the charity since 2015, helping to fund the construction of schools and water supply infrastructure.

If you would like to sponsor Benny, please follow this link to his fundraising page: **www.justgiving.com/page/benny-green-1**

For more information about the Madagascar Development Fund visit **www.maddevfund.com/**

Donations to the MDF are received and processed by Liverpool Charity and Voluntary Services, UK registered charity No 223485: **www.lcvs.org.uk/.** *Sam Green*

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MID SUSSEX CAMERA CLUB Are you a photographer wishing to develop your skills? You may be just starting in photography or a seasoned enthusiast. Wherever you are on your journey, we may be the supportive and inclusive club that will help you develop your interest (pun intended!). Our weekly Monday meetings feature presentations by external experts, competitions, workshops and social time.

In addition, we have groups specialising in smartphone photography, portraits and printing, and we provide support to members who are interested in applying for photographic distinctions.

All activities are optional, allowing members to participate in the programme's elements that interest them.

The club's new season begins on Monday **14th September** – we'll meet at the King's Centre in Burgess Hill as usual, beginning at 7.30 pm. Details of our activities and Programme can be found at **www.midsussexcamera.club** where you can also see examples of our images. You can come along to a meeting without commitment, to see if membership of our friendly club will suit you – we look forward to welcoming you!

David Waterhouse

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.

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BRIGHTON EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL (BREMF) will be presenting its new autumn programme soon, with many exciting workshops and concerts in September and October – a total 27 events! The theme this year is "Bringers of Dreams", featuring both well-established performers and exciting new talent. Most of the performances will take place over four weekends in October (please see next month's Talk About for more details). However, before the main festival starts BREMF is offering the following activities:-

Saturday **19th September**: The BREMF Polyphony Crawl – free short daytime performances of unaccompanied 16th/17th century choral works, taking place in 4 different venues in Brighton, Woodingdean and Rottingdean (from 11 am).

Sunday **20th September**: A daytime Choral Workshop exploring music from the Renaissance period in Florence.

Sunday **20th September**: The "Laboratory of Lullabies", an immersive event that invites families to connect through the timeless tradition of lullabies. This afternoon event, presented by an ensemble of local and international musicians, is suitable for young children, parents and grandparents!

Saturday **26th September**: A daytime Instrumental Workshop for players of Renaissance instruments, featuring music from Shakespeare's London and from St Mark's Basilica, Venice.

Sunday **27th September**: Two Baroque Dance Workshops (separate morning and afternoon sessions) that will explore the elegance and poise of baroque dance. No experience (but some degree of physical fitness) needed!

Thursday **1st October**: An early music evening Open Mic session – your opportunity to present a song or piece as an individual or group in an informal and friendly pub atmosphere.

The festival website **www.bremf.org.uk/whats-on** will tell you much more about these events and what's happening throughout the festival, and you can also pick up a brochure locally (there should be a stock at Hassocks station).

The BREMF events take place in a variety of venues in and around Brighton. The section on the BREMF website titled "Your Visit" gives general hints about coming to the different venues by train, bus or car see **www.bremf.org.uk/gettingthere**. Residents of Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint can use the weekend bus services to get easily to the daytime events.

If you've been to BREMF before you will know that the festival's events are very friendly and welcoming, and we look forward to seeing you there! You can book your tickets online via the website.

Mike Clemens

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

It will be a welcome back at our September meeting as we don't meet officially in August, but we enjoyed a WI Members only cream tea in the Green Room. Special thanks to Marie and the lovely team for all their help, you know who you are.

As it has been so hot and I am writing this well in advance, I still don't know if the Strollers have had their leisurely walk yet, hope so. The Craft Club, Book groups and I think the Choir continued.

Our September meeting will be a talk from Jane Green FRAS with a Tour of the Universe. Something different for October, fun and games with Shuffleboard.

Our Autumn Fayre is on Saturday **17th October**, raffle for 'Breast Cancer Now',

As usual visitors (donation) are welcome , come along there will be cake. *Gerry*

BEFRIENDED As September begins, we're delighted to welcome everyone back to a range of Befriended activities designed to bring people together, build friendships and help end loneliness and isolation across Mid Sussex.

Our Community Choir returns on Tuesday **8th September**, from 10 am to 12 pm at Gateway Baptist Church, Burgess Hill. We sing for joy and everyone is welcome.

Our popular Balance Class resumes on Wednesday **9th September**, from 2 pm to 3.30 pm, also at Gateway Baptist Church, Burgess Hill. These friendly sessions are a great way to improve strength, balance and confidence.

At the Befriended Hub, 20 South Street, Ditchling, our Café Neuro meets every Monday, from 10.30 am to 12 pm. Café Neuro offers a warm welcome, a listening ear and signposting for caregivers and those they support who are living with dementia and other neurocognitive disorders.

Why not also join us for our Befriended Fundraising Quiz Night on Thursday **24th September** at 7 pm at The Woolpack, Burgess Hill? Teams of 4 to 6 are welcome. To enter a team, please email **office@befriended.org**.

These are just a few of the many activities and events we offer throughout the week. To find out more, visit **www.befriended.org** or email **office@befriended.org**. We'd love to welcome you. *Sally*

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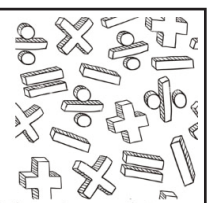
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42nd Annual Championships - All Competitors

HURSTPIERPOINT GYMNASTICS CLUB ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS Parents, friends and classmates enjoyed the spectacle of over a hundred entries in the Club's 42nd Annual Championships in July. The gymnasts chose which sections to enter, chose their own music and the choreographed their own routines. After months of practice, they then performed in a packed Village Centre for the honour of winning twenty trophies.

Overall, the age groups, honours were shared around the competitors with forty gymnasts gaining medals or trophies in the different categories.



For the gymnasts in Year 3 entering their first ever Championships, Anoushka Sokell won both the Floor and Pairs with Aimee Kenner.

In Year 4 Jessica Parsons retained the Floor title, with Milly Woolven winning the vault with a well executed handspring. The Pairs was won again by Sophie Wingrove and Amelie Gaule-Coleman.

In Year 5, Ruby Lewis retained her Floor title and added the Pairs with Amelie Lovell. The Vault was won by Martha Winters.

Year 6 saw a triple success with Xaviera D'Agostino winning the Floor, the Vault and the Pairs with Amelie Rose.

The Senior Floor was won by Emily Church, following up last year's win. The Vault was won by Emma Alcock. The Pairs was a closely run contest with Olivie Irie and Olivia Crichton coming out on top.

Walkovers, free cartwheels, splits and handspring vaults have now become the norm.

The Overall best gymnast titles were won by Xaviera D'Agostino (Junior) and Emma Alcock (Senior).

Over 30 different schools were represented from as far apart as Lewes, Brighton and Haywards Heath. Reservations are being taken for the Autumn term with new enquiries welcome. *Andrew Hair*



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NEWS FROM STONEYWISH - WATCH THE BIRDIE! Lollipop, my last surviving hen, lives in a pen behind the house, within sight of the kitchen window. She is a feisty, sparky kind of bird who always spurned the companionship of other hens, and she seems happy, ruling her roost, in undisputed command. Her diet of choice morsels, including little snacks of sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds and grapes, has got her to the grand age of 6 and a half, and though she has decided that laying eggs is a function now beneath her station, she brings us endless entertainment with her autocratic ways, her crowing to us softly when she wants to be let out in the morning, and occasionally strutting into the kitchen to let us know that she is keeping *us* under observation.

Throughout the nesting season, once the bird flu restrictions were over, our resident robins, dunnocks, pigeons and blackbirds, who were deemed beneath her notice, would join Lolly for breakfast and carry off whatever goodies they could filch for their nestlings. The blackbirds became particularly addicted to Lolly's grapes and would lie in wait behind a lemon balm bush to steal as many as possible. Both parents became regular visitors and as their chicks grew, so did their demands.

In time, the male blackbird dispensed with visiting Lolly's pen and came directly to our back door, which is a stable door and made his presence known by perching there and chirruping whenever the top was open. I would obediently toss out a grape and he would grab it and fly off with it to his nest. If I was slow in responding he would grow impatient and one day I found him trotting up the hall in a bid to help himself. On another occasion he took to the wing in our kitchen and flew round it three times before resuming his post on the doorstep. To feel the breeze of his wings on my face and to experience this moment of extraordinary audacity or trust was something unforgettable. One day soon after this, he turned up with two offspring and from that moment his boldness increased. His mate had disappeared and we began to fear that

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she had somehow come to grief. However, undaunted, the male bird undertook to raise his young alone. He would take his grapes a safe distance, then break them open and feed the contents to his clamourous family. He worked from dawn to dusk – a long shift in June! And he cost us a mint in grapes, but we were so fascinated and felt so privileged to witness his labours, we never begrudged him.

On a momentous day in July, both baby blackbirds discovered simultaneously that they could take hold of a grape and peck a hole in it by themselves, yet still they assumed that they would have to be fed, which led to a comical situation when one of them was begging for food while holding a grape in its beak. Neither baby nor father could get any food *in* while this obstacle was blocking the way! Thereafter the tables began to turn. The juveniles became progressively more confident and independent and the father discovered to his discomfort that they were watching him in order to steal any food he found for himself. He would stealthily take his share and fly away, with them in noisy pursuit. The proud songster of early summer became a poor, exhausted creature whose feathers were moulting, till he looked a shabby ghost of himself.

Today he has mustered the strength to send his insolent offspring packing but he has no voice left, and he now appears sporadically like a beggar on the doorstep, or skulks in the shade of nearby ferns, hoping that we will take pity and throw him a treat. Flying seems an effort and he scuttles away with any offering and consumes it out of sight. This must be the low point of his year.

When the new feathers come, I hope he will recover his jauntiness, for there is a feast of juicy blackberries waiting for him at the bottom of the garden and the rowan berries are looking ripe. While the ground is too hard for worm-digging, I hope these fruits will sustain him till the weather breaks. Thus, we all exploit one another. Lolly has trained us to minister to her needs, the robin and dunnock spar over who will have her

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leftovers when her back is turned. The blackbird plays on my sympathy with unfailing success. Distracted by their antics I get behind with everything I am supposed to be doing but I steal their story as my subject for this month's article, so we are all quits at last. Perhaps it is the hardship of the drought which has brought us all together. One reads accounts of birds becoming desperate and 'tame' during snow-bound winters in the past. If the situation brings trust and compassion – a sense of us all being 'in it' together - that is surely a significant thing and teaches something rather beautiful about our mutual dependence. We need one another for joy, if for nothing else and soon the robins will be singing their autumn song and the wheel of the year will add a new twist to this yarn.

Last night there was a full moon, cocooned in light like a celestial lemon posset. This moon is, according to Jessica Prentice in her book *'Full Moon Feast'*, what was known in 16th Century England as the Wort Moon. Herbs, or 'worts', (the Anglo-Saxon name) are at their aromatic peak at this time of year and the air in the garden is loaded with their scent of an evening. I am reminded how, despite all the tales of destruction and woe which fill the media, Nature sustains and supports itself under the most trying circumstances. Thus, overnight, the plants here are nourished by moisture released into the soil by the surrounding trees, and the full moon must be raising water from deep underground for communal use.

How is it that the blackberries are the largest and most lustrous I have seen, without a drop of rain for months? And the bindweed is an unfailing green and offers sweet shade to weaker plants? And ash tree saplings find the strength to double their height? Wild things have access to survival pathways through their connection to a greater whole and they have deep lessons to teach. For us humans, 'watching the birdie' can be so much more than mere entertainment or an exercise in feeling good. Watching the give-and-take that is fundamental to all life, can show us the root of what we really are and how we fit into the pattern of existence, for all opportunists, (and humans are opportunists *par excellence*), are bound, in the end, to give back whatever they receive.

Nature's *potlatch,* or gift-giving has no end, but is conditional upon a reciprocal response. Selfishness will not be tolerated. As Masanobu Fukuoka, the '*One Straw Revolution*' farmer, observed, and I paraphrase: "When you drive Nature out of the front door, she invariably comes round the back with a pitch fork." We are required to give back unreservedly and then the cycle of in and out, of gratitude and generosity, becomes a kind of breathing, sustaining all life. 'Phew!' I hear Lollipop say, 'Has she finished yet? I thought she would have brought me my tea by now!' Well yes, I have finished for now.

By the time you read this, we will be on to the Harvest Moon and the first delights of Autumn. But I wish you the last delights of Summer first!

Rosemary

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BURGESS HILL FLOWER CLUB **2nd September** Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill RH15 8DX. 2 to 4pm.

Join us to watch a trained demonstrator create several beautiful flower arrangements. Raffle to win one of the arrangements. Refreshments. All welcome. Phone **01444 871886** or email **burgesshillflowerclub@gmail.com** *Laura*

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HASSOCKS GOES GOLD!

September already & Hassocks Goes Gold is in full swing!
It's all about raising awareness and funds for research into Childhood Cancer this month, in memory of Pearl BartlettBundy - resident of Hassocks until her untimely passing in 2017 aged only 10. Her fund #PearlPower is held with The Children & Young People's Cancer Association and focuses on finding kinder and more effective treatments for childhood cancers that have the worst outcomes. We've already funded six amazing research funds which are showing excellent progress – join in the Golden fun this September and help us do more!

https://justgiving.com/page/hgg2026

WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER?

On ALL Month:



- The Parklands Road Art Exhibition – on all month. Come and see the Golden bountiful harvest of Pineapple pictures! All the gold poster competition entries from all ages, displayed in the windows of the residents of Parklands Road

- Facebook Daily Auctions – Different new items & services each day on a 24-hour rolling auction. Bag a bargain and raise funds for Children's Cancer at the same time - New auctions start at 8 pm EVERY DAY! Open to ALL - many prizes suitable for posting in UK & abroad! [Donations of new prizes welcome!]

https://www.facebook.com/groups/hassocksgoesgold

- The Giant Gold Bow Trail – Enjoy finding all the Giant Gold Bows around the village, sponsored by businesses and families there is a whole trail to follow. Follow the Google Map here **https://tinyurl.com/TrailMap2026 or scan the QR Code.**

Hassocks Goes Gold TRAIL MAP

- Find the Gold Bike Challenge – Can you find the Golden bike hiding around the village? It will keep moving! If you find it post up with the hashtag **#IFoundTheGoldBike**

- Which is your favourite Golden Shop Window Display on the High Street? The competition is on between the shops with public voting opening at the end of the month…

- Check out Adastra Hall – lit up in gold for the whole of September!

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Specific Event Dates – plus more to come:

- Bank Holiday Monday **31st August** – Pie Bake Off Competition at The Greyhound Inn – 2 pm
- Saturday **5th September** 2 pm Rockin' Paul live in The Quadrant/Fir Tree Way – Live Rockabilly, Rock'n'Roll, Country & RnB
- Saturday **19th September** 8 pm MidSussex Music Hall at The Hassocks – The Vests Go Gold – live Britpop, rock & indie anthems!



- Friday **25th September** The Golden Gala – a fabulous, themed Quiz Night including Live Jazz, pudding auction & raffle at The Hassocks Pub. Teams of up to 8 people can be booked keep an eye on our Facebook page.
- Saturday **26th September** 9 am to 12pm – Hassocks Village Market – Soft Toy & Alcohol Tombolas!



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Wear a Gold Pin or Ribbon – available from QD and all of the village pubs.

Donate a Prize or Voucher for the September Daily Facebook Auction or the Golden Gala Raffle, or a bottle for the Village Market Booze Tombola.

Be a door-to-door poster seller for your street – a fun way to meet the neighbours, I will provide collection tin, posters and carry bag.

Follow HassocksGoesGold on Facebook or Instagram: Join in the fun! Keep up with the various GOLD events and bid on the other auction prizes!

Full details on all events on
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/hassocksgoesgold
and https://www.instagram.com/hassocksgoesgold
For info on any and all things Hassocks Goes Gold please contact me on
hgg@pearlpower.co.uk. *Rachel*

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IT'S TIME FOR A MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING AND YOU'RE INVITED Let's do whatever it takes to support people living with cancer. Come to the Bowls Club, Hurstpierpoint on Friday **25th September** from 10 am to 12 pm. Small admission includes Tea and coffee and cake. We've got a raffle, bottle bag tombola and a bric a brac stall. *Jonet Marshall*

HASSOCKS FC We're a month into the season now and the first team, U23's, U18's, and Ladies are all in full swing. After the relentless sun over the summer our pitch is now starting to improve. Apart from waiting on planning permission for the south field training pitch, the ground news is pretty quiet as we're happy with a lot of the work done in the past year. We hope the first team can challenge near the top of the table and it's a really tight division this year so we need all the support we can get to build the atmosphere. With the league play offs in sight and various cup competitions there's lots to look forward to in the next few months. Our away fixture to Guernsey is Sat 5th Dec (1:30pm) if anyone is planning a trip on the plane. If you've never been to one of our home games before, please give us a try and you'll see it's a friendly environment where you can bring your young family and walk around the picturesque ground with a team who puts a shift in for the village. We have a group of players who have made hundreds of appearances, and they really appreciate the support. If you arrive for the first time, they'll be plenty of parking onsite with food and drink facilities for young and old!

September home fixtures: Saturday **5th September** 1st vs Billingshurst 3 pm ko.

Saturday **19th September** 1st vs Midhurst 3 pm ko. *Pat Harding*

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 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, seeds and produce on offer.

Do call in and join us for a cup of tea, pick up some seeds and maybe even stay for a free hand massage...

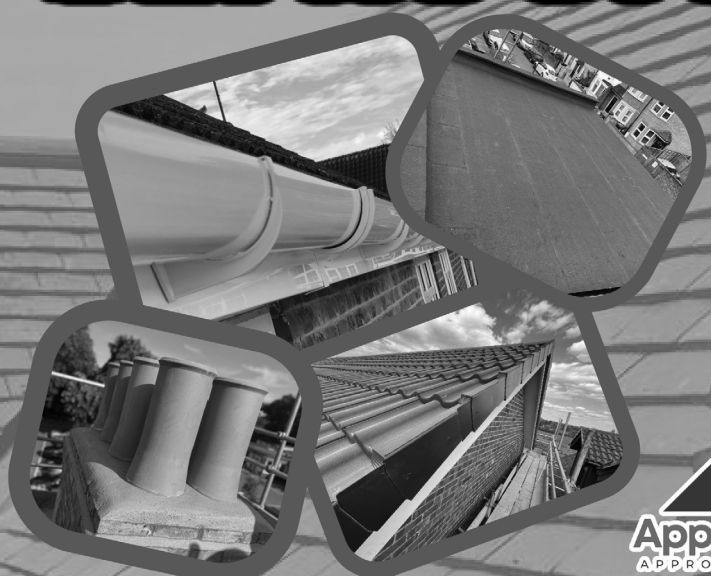
Saturday **19th September,** 10.30 am to 12 pm at Friends Meeting House, East Gardens, Ditchling BN6 8ST.

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

Feel free to bring any produce from the garden that you have in abundance. Or just bring yourself! *Catherine, Imke & Julie*

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Details of our activities can be found at our website **www.sussexharmonisers.org.uk** or from a person via an email to **visitors@sussexharmonisers.org.uk** – we look forward to hearing from you.

David Waterhouse

HEBER OPERA AUTUMN SHOW Heber Opera is staging two one act operas this autumn: Cavalleria Rusticana by Mascagni and the World Premiere of a brand new opera by local composer Ian Gledhill.

The King's New Clothes is a comedy, with Hassocks resident Steve Hawksley as the King and is stage directed by Ian himself. Simon Gray is musical director for both operas as well as stage director of Cavalleria Rusticana and we are supported by the Heber Opera Ensemble.

Heber Opera is your local opera company - our base is in Hurstpierpoint - and we hope you will come along to support us in this our 37th year. We always sing in English and perform in the round which offers an intimate and accessible entertainment.

Performance dates are: **3rd and 11th October** in Hurstpierpoint Village Centre, **4th October** in King Edward Hall, Lindfield and **10th October** at Church of the Good Shepherd in Dyke Road, Brighton. Tickets include a glass of wine and are available online from **ticketsource.co.uk/heberopera** or by calling **07867 975967** email: **jenny@heberopera.co.uk**. *Jenny Hawkes*

DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY Our next film, My Favourite Cake (15) will show on **3rd September**. Directors Maryam Moghadam and Behtash Sanaeeha. Persian (Farsi) with English subtitles. Run time 1 hour 37 minutes. Ditchling Village Hall. Doors open 7.30 pm Film showing 8 pm.

A note for your diary.

On **1st October** we will be showing the film classic Battleship Potemkin. Re-mastered in 2025 for its 100th anniversary. Celebrated film historian Dr. Frank Grey will give a short talk on the significance of the film as a cinematic icon. Q&A and refreshments.

To keep up to date with our film showings and special events please go to our website, **ditchlingfilm.org.uk**. We are on Instagram **@ditchlingfilmsoc** and X **@Ditchlingfilm**.

Nick for The Ditchling Film Society

HURSTPIERPOINT HISTORICAL & GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY. Tuesday **29th September** 7.30 pm. Talk on "The History & Natural History of the Ditchling Commons" This talk is about the history of these Commons and their vast range of flora and fauna. The speaker is Phil Cribb a Trustee of the Commons and a former Kew Garden Botanist. Location is The Players Theatre, Hurstpierpoint. Small charge for non-members. All welcome. For further details please email **hurst.hist.geog.soc@gmail.com.** *Jacky Simmons*

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SUSSEX CHORUS - CONCERTS

Sussex Chorus is a great choir to belong to under the baton of our friendly, professional conductor, Stephen Anthony Brown. Over the years the choir has flourished taking on new and challenging pieces of music to critical acclaim. We are always happy to welcome new members whether experienced or new to the world of choral singing and you can always be sure of a warm welcome.

On Sunday **1st November** we will be performing the *Fauré Requiem* at the beautiful Arundel Cathedral, with the opportunity to come and sing with us from 2 pm onwards and a performance at 5.30 pm**.** If you have previous experience of this piece and would like to join us at Arundel please register your interest on our website - **www.sussexchorus** - after **1st September**. If, however, you're new to the piece or want to refresh your memory we will be holding a workshop at St Andrew's Church, Burgess Hill on Saturday **12th September** from 10 am to 1 pm. Cost of the workshop will include Tea & Coffee on registration plus score hire, if required.

On Saturday, **7th November** we will performing both *Fauré's Requiem* together with *Bernstein's Chichester Psalms* at St Andrew's Church, Burgess Hill at 7.30 pm.

Finally, to get you into the festive spirit just a reminder that our Family Christmas Concert is being held at Cuckfield Baptist Church at 3 pm on the **5th December.**

We look forward to welcoming you to any or all of these concerts. *David Tettersell*

SUSSEX MICRO RC We race on road (flat track fast cars) and off road buggies (with jumps) at Ditchling Village Hall, (most) Monday nights from 6.30 pm to 9.30 pm.

Super friendly group, ages 6-60+. All abilities welcome, hire cars available.

For more information call **07818 033356** or via Facebook for more details. **www.facebook.com/share/g/1FC9YonGb6/?mibextid=wwXIfr**. *Charlie Grey*

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GIRL GUIDING SUSSEX CENTRAL COUNTY On Sunday 28th June, Girlguiding Sussex Central county continued its tradition of holding the annual Awards Presentation at the South of England Showground, Ardingly.

Before the morning presentations took place, Wendy Colson, County Commissioner, and Caroline Hitchcock, current Chair of Awards welcomed the younger members and their families to a magic show performed by Magic Ritchie. As expected, the Rainbows & Brownies thoroughly enjoyed the performance before receiving their Gold Awards from County Vice Presidents, Janet Samuel and Lisa Barden. Gold Awards are the highest programme awards available to each section and are given for completing all the appropriate clauses in their respective programmes. Gold Awards were given to Abigail, Aubree, Emilia and Libby from our local South Down division.

In the afternoon, in addition to family & friends, the county was delighted to welcome special invited guests, many of whom were kind enough to present awards. They included: Georgina, Duchess of Norfolk, representing Lady Emma Barnard, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex; Jo Shiner, Chief Constable of Sussex Police; Rev Richard Coldicott, Vicar of Hurstpierpoint, and his wife; Ann Macaulay, Girlguiding Sussex West County Commissioner; Peter Few, West Sussex Scouts; as well as various local mayors & councillors, Girlguiding ambassadors, and the guest speaker, Hannah Scholefield, local Vet and former Lower Beeding guide.

Over 100 young people & volunteers received certificates and awards over the course of the day, and there were a number of others who were unable to attend but were also recognised.

Recipients included 11 Rainbows, 38 Brownies, & 16 Guides from Burgess Hill, Crawley, East Grinstead, Haywards Heath, Horsham, Parkminster, South Down and Worth divisions, who received their Gold Awards

Recognition was also given in various other categories and Libby from 1st Hassocks Brownies (South Down division) received a Hero Award. Libby has raised more than £4,000 for the charity, Rays of Sunshine. During February half term she undertook an impressive 25 mile coastal walk from Littlehampton to Rottingdean to raise money for the wonderful charity, Rays of Sunshine. The charity has been supporting Libby's cousin, Bella, who had a liver transplant 4 weeks ago. Since the beginning of the year, Bella and her family have been staying in hospital, and Rays of Sunshine has brought much needed light and happiness during a very challenging time. Their ongoing support has been, and will continue to be, invaluable to Bella and her family.

Libby said "I really wanted to help my cousin, so we decided to walk a really long 25 miles! Sometimes my legs ached but I kept on going; through sunshine, mist, drizzle and cold. My fundraising will help many children and their families when they need sunshine in their lives. I am so proud of how we have helped Bella, our little warrior."

Wendy concluded the afternoon by thanking Hannah Scholefield for her presentation. Hannah had told the audience how the skills that she had learnt in guiding had supported her in the pursuit of her career as a vet. She commented that she felt learning to be part of a team & family had particularly helped her to perform her role as Clinical Director of her practice. *Janet Samuel*



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HURST FESTIVAL

Over the 2 weeks of the Festival **12th – 27th September.**

You will find a great programme happening across Hurstpierpoint venues large and small.

You can book onto walks, talks and workshops, enjoy exhibitions, comedy and theatre and lots of live music. This year we are thrilled to partner with Cuckfield Book Festival to bring you an evening with Author Zadie Smith.

There are the popular comedy nights on both Fridays, and big music shows each Saturday.

Join us at Super Sunday on **20th September** at the Recreation ground, a day for people to come together, have fun and be entertained.

The young people from Hurstpierpoint Gymnastics club will be sharing their talents by putting on a display. Throughout the day enjoy tunes from Mid Sussex Radio and live music from "Breeze In" a Hurstpierpoint-based band. Independent vendors will offer a wide range of activities, food and drinks alongside the fully stocked Hurst Festival bar.

Please take the time to browse our website **www.hurstfestival.org** to see whats is on offer: an exciting and varied programme, with great acts & talks, walks & workshops; film, theatre, exhibitions & lots of music. It really is going to be a fabulous Festival with lots of opportunities for you to join in…



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WHEN DID YOU LAST HAVE AN EYE HEALTH CHECK? National Eye Health Week Highlights the Importance of Regular Checks.

Regular eye health checks are important for detecting changes to the eyes, which may result in the prescribing of spectacles to protect and optimise our vision: however, checks are also vital in detecting signs of serious eye conditions, including glaucoma. Many conditions can be treated if found early enough, preventing unnecessary further damage to the eyes, and leading to better outcomes for vision protection and management. And of course, regular eye health checks can identify other issues such as diabetes or high blood pressure.

National Eye Health Week (NEHW) from **21-27 September** is the ideal time to make sure our checks are up to date. 4Sight Vision Support (4SVS) is once again proud to support NEHW: sight is the sense people fear losing the most, yet many of us don't know how to look after our eyes. National Eye Health Week aims to change all that with an awareness-raising campaign promoting good eye health for all, and highlighting how lifestyle choices like diet, exercise and screen time affect your vision and can help you make better decisions.

Why not book an appointment today if you haven't attended for a while, and encourage friends and family to do the same? And if you think you may have an issue with your eyes, act now, and don't risk leaving it too late. Eye health checks are free for certain people; the NHS website has all the eligibility criteria and information. For those living with sight loss, it is important to continue to attend regular checkups as further changes in the eyes can help make the best use of remaining vision and prevent any unnecessary further sight loss.

For further information on eye health, practical support and advice including shopping, reading food packaging or preparing meals, or help with accessing a local optician please contact 4SVS on **01243 828555** or email **enquiries@4sight.org.uk**. *Cathy Clark*

STATION GARAGE Hassocks 01273 844256

Proud sponsors of **ADASTRA BOWLING CLUB**

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DITCHLING'S ANNUAL 'APPLE DAY' celebration is almost here, Sunday **4th October**, 11 am to 4 pm.

Lots of fun, food, cakes, bar, stalls, music, smoothie bike, and of course the famous welly wanging competition.

As ever, bring your own or foraged apples and we will juice them using our scruncher and juices (please remember to bring your containers to take your juice away!)

If you can bring a cake, or help on the day please email d**itchlingorchard@hkdtransition.org.uk**

Jane

DDWI Our 2026 Summer Party went ahead in glorious evening sunshine and in the lovely setting of the Ditchling village green. We all enjoyed a few hours of delicious, home-made food, lots of wine, and - most important of all – good company with great conversation and endless laughter. A perfect way to spend time!

Our September meeting will feature a talk by Jackie Lucas on 'Lasting Power of Attorney' – a subject that we all need to understand and get to grips with.

As always - our monthly meetings take place on the first Tuesday of the month in Ditchling Village Hall. We love to welcome visitors and new members to our group and to our regular meetings and trips - if you're interested, please email **gmtennant.ddwi@yahoo.com**

Alison White

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL is looking for volunteers to help us support this year's Remembrance Sunday commemorations on **8th November**. We are seeking people to assist with marshalling the parade and providing other support to help the day run smoothly and safely. Last year around 100 people attended, and with wider community involvement this year, we expect a larger gathering. Remembrance Sunday is an important opportunity for our community to come together, reflect and consider all those affected by war and conflict. If you can help, please contact Louise Coles at **office@hassocks-pc.gov.uk.** *Alastair Lichten*

HASSOCKS CROQUET CLUB Croquet is a sport for everyone. New members are welcome to join us. If you 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

All equipment is provided by the Club. New players are able to borrow the Club's mallets (without charge). Basic training will be provided. We operate a series of separate weekly Free Training Sessions on Thursday Mornings @ 10.30 am for anybody who wants to learn to play Croquet (or at an alternative time to be mutually arranged) - 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 **tony.m.bright@gmail.com** *Tony Bright*

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SUSSEX PATHFINDERS RAMBLING CLUB 'The best laid plans of mice and men' as the saying goes certainly applied to Judy our leader for the walk on Saturday, 13th June. However, she is an experienced leader and with help from other members all was not lost. Here is her report "It was unfortunate that my last walk for Pathfinders hit the worst of all problems for a leader – the nominated car park at Ditchling Common Country Park, closed for resurfacing back in May, was still closed in the middle of June! But thanks to Chris for saving the day, firstly by amending all the online literature in the hope of alerting everyone to the change of meeting point. Easy enough for me to await those walkers who had received the message by Wivelsfield Recreation Ground, but one member had to wait near the single-lane road restriction and hope to spot potential walkers and redirect them. Thank you so very much.

In the end 12 other walkers found me and we set off only 15 minutes late. We first appreciated the shade of West Wood as we headed south, then took to Ditchling Common proper, crossing to more open ground in unaccustomed sunshine! We braved a small herd of young cattle more frightened of us than we were of them, but we found the correct footpath and headed for Great Ote Hall.

Great Ote Hall was clearly in full wedding mode, one field full of parked cars and another set up for glamping. It is such a shame that this very beautiful C16th timbered hall is not visible among the trees unless you are invited through to see it from the garden.

We crossed the fields to the gates of Lunces Hall, again hidden from view by trees, and walked east past the old school house to Wivelsfield church. Old Wivelsfield goes back a long way and is very hidden away and delightfully quiet but today the street outside the church was full of happy wedding guests awaiting the bride, so we could not take a look inside.

The last place of note we passed on our return to the recreation ground was the Ote Hall Chapel built in 1798 by the Countess of Huntingdon, then resident in Great Ote Hall, for her new non-conformist group Connexion."

Thank you Judy for leading Sussex Pathfinders on a very enjoyable walk in perfect weather.

We have two more walks arranged in the local area for September. No need to book just turn up and introduce yourself to the leader.

5th September starting at 10.30 am Ditchling.

12th September starting at 9.30 am Horsted Keynes.

Full details of these walks, together with our programme for the rest of the year, can be seen on our website **www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk**.

Diann

STAR CINEMA is back with a new season of films at the Adastra hall, starting on Friday **18th September** with Song Sung Blue, starring Hugh Jackman and Kate Hudson as two down-on-their-luck performers who form a Neil Diamond tribute band.

Doors open at 7 pm for a 7.30 pm start. Tickets are available on the door. Tea. coffee, wine, and the usual popular raffle.

The Star Team look forward to welcoming you.

Liz Edmunds

Useful Information

OUT OF HOURS CHEMIST
Either **Day Lewis** or **Boots** in Hassocks.
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Open to anyone in need of support. Held in Powell House (next to United Reformed Church), Hassocks, 10am to 12noon, every Friday.
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Hurstpierpoint Surgery
The Health Centre, Trinity Road BN6 9UO
Ditchling Surgery
Lewes Road, BN6 8TT

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DITCHLING, STREAT & WESTMESTON

Ditchling Village Hall Lewes Road
Ditchling Church West Street
Streat Church Streat Lane
Westmeston Church and Westmeston Village Hall Lewes Road

HURSTPIERPOINT

Village Centre Library Entrance, Trinity Road
Cricket Pavilion Cuckfield Road
St Lawrence School Cuckfield Road
Flat 40 High Street
St Peter & St James Distribution Centre Albourne Road
Court Bushes Community Hub Willow Way
Hurst College Chalkers Lane

SAYERS COMMON

Sayers Common Community Shop London Road
North Star Garage London Road
The Woodlands Reeds Lane

PYECOMBE

Pyecombe Golf Club Brighton Road

HASSOCKS & KEYMER

Adastra Hall Keymer Road
Adastra Bowling Club Adastra Park (North Field)
Age Concern Dale Avenue
Freedom Leisure Centre Dale Avenue
DMH Stallard Keymer Road
Downlands School Dale Avenue
Friars Oak London Road
Graystone Referral Centre 38 Keymer Road
Hassocks Dental Surgery 54a Keymer Road
Hassocks Health Centre Windmill Avenue
Hassocks Infant School Chancellors Park
Keymer & Hassocks Sports & Social Club Adastra Park
Oldland Windmill Oldlands Lane
Hassocks Railway Station, Outside Ticket Office
South Downs Garden Centre Brighton Road
Thatched Inn Grand Avenue
Weald Lawn Tennis & Squash Club South Bank
Windmills Junior School Dale Avenue

Local Clubs

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

BEFRIENDED 20 South Street, Ditchling. Support those living with dementia, their carers and loved ones. Email: office@befriended.org.
Mondays - Cafe Neuro 10.30 am - 12 pm (except Bank Holidays) and Balance Exercise Class 2 - 3.30 pm with Steph (term time only)
Tuesdays - Community Choir 2 pm - 3.30 pm, no need to sing well, just come along. (term time only)
Wednesdays - Befriended bITs & PCs 10 am - 12 pm helping you with your tech problems.
Thursdays is Bereavement Support Day. Bereavement Cafe 10 am - 11.30 am is on the first Thursday of the month. Board Games are on first & third Thursday from 2 to 4 pm. Craft and Chat on second and fourth afternoons 2 to 4 pm and Compassionate Conversations Course every Thursday except the first.
When the flag outside is flying your always welcome to drop in.

DITCHLING MORRIS - Practice Thursdays 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 COMMUNITY RUNNERS local, free, volunteer run, community running group meets outside the Sports & Social Club in Adastra Park on Mondays 6 pm, Wednesdays 7 pm and Fridays 9.15 am. Distances to suit everyone 3k to 10k as well as a walk and periodically, a couch to 5k group. Do join us or look at our Facebook page.

HASSOCKS CROQUET CLUB We play most weekdays in the daytime from April to October. All levels of experience welcome. More info email tony.m.bright@gmail.com

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

HASSOCKS WI LADIES CHOIR meet Tuesdays (except 2nd in the month) 7.30 pm at St Francis Church, Priory Road, Hassocks . All welcome.

HASSOCKS YOUTH GROUP The Green Room, Adastra Hall, Hassocks. Thursdays 5.30 - 7 pm School Years 4 - 13 (Term time). 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 BABIES & TODDLERS- 9 - 10.15 am every Monday (Term-time), Keymer Church Hall, For parents, carers or grandparents who look after children. Cake, coffee, toys and games.

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.

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 information.

KEYMER BADMINTON CLUB - A friendly ladies club which meet Thursdays at 7 pm at Keymer Church Hall. Info call Denise 01273 967774.

MELLOW-DEE For anybody who simply likes to sing and just wants to come along and join in - all very welcome and free. Every Thursday 11 am to 1 pm at The Greyhound In , Keymer.

MID SUSSEX RAMBLERS We offer a varied programme of walks for the new and experienced throughout the year to suit all ages and abilities. More info phone Sue Blandford 01403 255654 www.midsussexramblers.org.uk

MID SUSSEX SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP. Tuesdays 7.30 pm, 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. (excluding July or August)

SUSSEX MICRO RC We race on road (flat track fast cars) and off road buggies (with jumps) at Ditchling Village Hall, (most) Monday nights 6.30 -9.30 pm. Super friendly group, ages 6-60+. All abilities welcome, hire cars available. 07818 033356 or via Facebook for more details. https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1FC9YonGb6/?mibextid=wwXIfr.

SUSSEX FLY DRESSERS GUILD Hurstpierpoint Village Centre, Thursdays 7 - 8 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.

Please email **ed@villagemagazines.co.uk** to be listed here.

Whats On in September

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.**

For **HASSOCKS GOES GOLD EVENTS** on **31st August, 5th, 19th**, **25th** & **26th September** please see centre pages

1st DITCHLING DOWNS WI Ditchling Village Hall, 7 pm. Lasting Power of Attorney' Jackie Lucas . Visitors welcome.

2nd HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL GROUP Guide HQ, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint 2 - 4 pm 'Family Support Work' Martin AntonLloyd. Visitors welcome call 07806 670359.

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

2nd MID SUSSEX 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.

2nd BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.15 pm. 'The Lost Woods of the Low Weald' Mark Whitaker. All welcome visitors a small fee. www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com.

2nd BURGESS HILL FLOWER CLUB Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 2 pm. Watch a demonstrator create several beautiful flower arrangements. Raffle and refreshments. More info call 01444 871886.

3rd DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY Ditchling Village Hall 7.30 pm. Film - 'My Favourite Cake' . Tickets on the door - see article.

4th MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL Hassocks Hotel, Station Approach East, doors 7.30 pm Horsebath. Tickets www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk

5th SUSSEX PATHFINDERS Ditchling 10.30 am Visit www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk for more info.

5th BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 1.30 - 3.45 pm. 'Flower and Produce Show. Stalls, tombola, refreshments etc. All welcome. www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com.

5th 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.

5th HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB The Hassocks Hotel Beacon Ground, Brighton Road, Hassocks KO 3 pm. (Mens) The Robins take on Billingshurst. Bar and Food available. Free entry to kids 16 and under. Please check socials for any changes.

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

6th OLDLAND MILL Oldlands Lane, Keymer 11 - 4 pm. Special Event Open Day.

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

7th GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING Proper Coffee, Hassocks 7.30 pm. Monthly meet up. All welcome.

8th MID SUSSEX 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.

8th HASSOCKS JAZZ LUNCH Hassocks Hotel, Station Approach East, doors 11.45 am Start 12 pm. Muskrat Ramblers Great Food, Great Jazz & Great Company. A set lunch included in the entrance fee. Pop in or call QD Stationery on 01273 846978 to book.

8th GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING Hassocks Hotel 7.30 - 9.30 pm. Climate Hub Meet-up 'Eat the Planet Well' Dave Coulson. All welcome.

9th DITCHLING HISTORY PROJECT White Horse, Ditchling 2 pm. Monthly meet drop in all welcome.

9th POYNINGS POLICE BEAT SURGERY Rushfields Plant Centre, Poynings 11.30 am - 12.30 pm. Come along to get crime prevention & advice on neighbourhood issues.

10th HURSTPIERPOINT POLICE BEAT SURGERY Court Bushes Rec Ground, Willow Way, Hurstpierpoint 9.30 - 10.15 am. Come along to get crime prevention & advice on neighbourhood issues.

10th HASSOCKS POLICE BEAT SURGERY South Downs Garden Centre, Hassocks 11.30 am - 12.30 pm. Come along to get crime prevention & advice on neighbourhood issues.

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

11th JAZZ ETC Ditchling Village Hall 7.30 pm. 'Lucy Pickering's Court'. See article. Tickets Ditchling Post Office.

11th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. 'Talk by Berni'. Refreshments available. All welcome.

12th SUSSEX PATHFINDERS Horsted Keynes 9.30 am. www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk for more info.

12th CHURCHES TOGETHER URC Hassocks 9.30 am. Messy Church - breakfast, crafts, games and story. All welcome.
12th HURSTPIERPOINT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Hurstpierpoint Village Centre 2.15 pm. 'Autumn Show'. Schedules from Rhubarb. Refreshments, raffle and auction at the end. All welcome, email hhs1886@btinternet.com.
13th DITCHLING HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Ditchling Village Hall, 2 - 4 pm. Autumn Show. Refreshments and raffle. Visitors welcome. More info www.ditchlinghortsoc.co.uk.
14th THE GROUP The Railway Pub, Station Road, Burgess Hill. 7.30 pm. A club for the over 55 unattached for more info www.thegroup.org.uk.
14th HASSOCKS FIELD SOCIETY Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 7.45 pm. 'The Millenium Seed Bank at Wakehurst' Lucy Taylor. All welcome. See article for more details
16th MID SUSSEX 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 01444 450248.
16th TREFOIL GUILD Guide Hall, Semley Road 7.45 pm. Visitors welcome. See article.
17th CLAYTON AND WINDMILLS PROBUS Pyecombe Golf Club. A club for retired & semi retired professional business people. To book call 07976 794237 or email clivelambert75@gmail.com.
17th CENTRAL SUSSEX PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP Triangle Leisure Centre, Burgess Hill 10.30 am - 12.30 pm. Monthly meeting all welcome to come for a chat and advise.
17th DITCHLING VILLAGE ASSOCIATION Ditchling Village Hall 10 - 11.30 am. Coffee Morning run by FPTA. All welcome.
18th STAR CINEMA Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 7 pm. Film - Song Sung Blue. Tea, coffee, wine and raffle. Tickets available on the door all welcome.
18th VOICEM'ALE The Greyhound Keymer 7.30 pm. Ladies and Gentlemen 'Singing for fun'. Everybody is very welcome its all very informal, friendly and relaxing - and great fun.
19th MENS BREAKFAST The Greyhound, Keymer 10 am. For a social cooked breakfast. All welcome to book email alexbaxter66@yahoo.co.uk.
19th 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 - All welcome.
19th HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB The Hassocks Hotel Beacon Ground, Brighton Road, Hassocks KO 3 pm. (Mens) The Robins take on Midhurst. Bar and Food available. Free entry to kids 16 and under. Please check socials for any changes.
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.
21st HASSOCKS WI Adastra Hall, Hassocks 7.30 pm. 'A Tour of the Universe' Jane Green. Visitors welcome.
22nd MID SUSSEX SCOTTISH DANCERS Hurstpierpoint Village Centre 7.30 - 10 pm Festival Ceilidh with the Unreel Ceilidh Band. Bar available. Tickets www.hurstfestival.org.
24th LIBERAL DEMOCRATS SURGERY HASSOCKS Parish Office Committee Room 11 am - 12 pm. Parish Councillor and District Councillors for Hassocks. No appointment necessary.
24th BEFRIENDED The Woolpack, Burgess Hill 7 pm. Quiz Fundraiser. Teams of 4 to 6 welcome. See article for details. More info www.befriended.org.

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24th BEREAVEMENT WELL-BEING GROUP Clayton Wood, Natural Burial Ground, Brighton Road, Clayton 10 am - 12 noon. Come and meet others who understand what you are going through. www.bereavementcare.uk.

25th HURSTPIERPOINT BOWLS CLUB South Avenue 10 am - 12 pm. Macmillan Coffee Morning. All welcome Small admission includes tea, coffee and cake.

25th HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING U3A CAdastra Hall, Court Bushes, Hurstpierpoint 2 pm. 'Special Operations Executive (SOE), Churchill's Secret Army' Gilly Halcrow. Small entrance fee. Refreshments inc.

25th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. 'Social 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.

26th GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING Age Concern Veg Patch, Dale Avenue 9 am - 1 pm. Meet the ream. All welcome.

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

28th HASSOCKS FIELD SOCIETY Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 7.45 pm. 'Sussex Pond Puddings and Sussex Smokies' Kevin Newham. All welcome. See article for more details

29th MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL Hassocks Hotel, Station Approach East, doors 7.30 pm. Dar Williams. Tickets www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk

29th HURSTPIERPOINT HISTORICAL & GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY Players Theatre, Hurstpierpoint 7.30 pm. The History and Natural History of the Ditchling Commons' Phil Cribb. See article for more info.

30th SOUTH DOWNS WOODTURNERS Upper Beeding Village Hall, Afternoon workshop and evening demo with Kevin Hutson. Visitors welcome. www.southdownswoodturners.com

CHURCH SERVICES

DITCHLING UNITARIANS The Old Meeting House, The Twitten, Ditchling. Sunday Services at 11 am www.ditchlingunitarians.org.uk.

HASSOCKS UNITED REFORMED CHURCH Evening service 'Worship & Praise' at 6 pm on 3rd Sunday in the month. All welcome.

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

QUAKER MID-WEEK EVENING MEETING FOR WORSHIP IN HASSOCKS, has moved to 7-7.30 pm on the first Thursday of the month, to allow more people to come along after work. Everyone welcome to join us, seeking connectedness and communion with the divine. Refreshments and discussion afterwards. Details from ditchlingquakerclerk@gmail.com. Janet Shimmin

ST EDWARD'S RC CHURCH Lodge Lane, Keymer. Saturday evening Vigil Mass at 5 pm and Tuesday Mass at 9.30 am weekly.

ST GEORGES CHURCH Ditchling Common. Sunday Mass at 11 am and Monday, Thursday, Friday Mass at 10 am weekly.

THE BEACON PARISH OF DITCHLING, STREAT & WESTMESTON THE BEACON PARISH OF DITCHLING, STREAT & WESTMESTON Sunday 6th, 13th, 27th Services of Morning Worship with Holy Communion in Ditchling at 10 am. Sunday 20th Harvest Festival Service will be in Westmeston at 10 am. Little Beacons takes place on the first two Sundays in Ditchling during the service. Weekly Wednesday@10 Holy Communion and SING 2nd at 5 pm in Ditchling.
Everyone is welcome to all our services but please always check our website www.beaconparish.co.uk for any changes or contact Tessa on admin@beaconparish.co.uk.

THE PARISH OF CLAYTON WITH KEYMER Our usual pattern of Worship for Sunday services is 8 am 1662 Book of Common Prayer Eucharist st at Keymer. 9.45 am Mass at Keymer
9.45 am Service at St Francis and 11.15 am Holy Communion at Clayton.
For other information see our website **www.clayton-withkeymer.org.uk -** Fr Alex

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GILES TURNER
FINANCIAL PLANNING

Have you ever considered the question...

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"Enough" isn't simply a number. It depends entirely on the life you want to lead — the holidays you hope to take, the time you want to spend with family, the causes you'd like to support, the legacy you may wish to leave. Without a clear picture of what your money is actually *for*, even a large sum can feel uncertain, and a modest one can feel liberating.

In the busyness of daily life, it's easy to lose sight of this bigger picture. We can spend years accumulating wealth without ever pausing to ask what it's meant to achieve.

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I specialise in helping people plan for and navigate retirement well. If you'd like to talk through how your assets could work more effectively to support the life you want, I'd be glad to hear from you.

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STEVE'S BACK PAGE GOSSIP

It does seem a long time ago now that I got excited about a small white envelope with the words 'House of Commons' written on it when it arrived in the midday post. My brain went into overdrive, but that was short-lived when I discovered it was a standard letter sent out to all the businesses in Hassocks to ask if they would consider housing a Post Office in their premises. As I've already said a pet shop isn't a very suitable place, but apparently two shops have applied for licenses. It was no great shock to hear it was Orion News and Hassocks Food and Wine. I'm assuming either one will adopt the same strategy as Morrisons and have it next to the till area rather than put it in a separate part of the shop, that to me would make sense. If that were the case, then Hassocks Food and Wine do have a large area behind his counter/till but it'll be the Post Office Licensing Authority that will have the final decision after they have inspected both premises.

Meanwhile, although David retired a few weeks ago his wife Claire will carry on running Ditching Post Office. To help the public they have extended their opening hours, all of which you will find online, but let's not forget that very special lady Maureen who looked after us for all those years at Hassocks Post Office. I know you will join me in wishing them both a very happy retirement.

I'm not sure if I was surprised or not to hear the planning inspectorate has turned down the application for shops and flats on the old National Tyres site and it wasn't just that it was too high, there were a lot of other reasons. He deemed it unsuitable for the middle of the village, so I have been trying to contact the owners to find out if there is a Plan B or is it literally back to the drawing board.

It's amazing, isn't it? How quickly things can change, I'm sat here writing about Morrisons closing and in walks a gentleman who wants to take over the premises as another convenience store called I think 'Best One'. He apparently has other stores around the county and would be happy to house the Post Office as well. Trouble is you have to wait for legal wheels to turn and that takes time and once the Post Office makes a decision on where they are happy for it to be, then that's where it will stay.

I was sad to hear about the closing down of the pet shop in Hurstpierpoint. Trouble is in this economic climate your takings go down mainly due to online shopping, whilst all your overheads go up. It doesn't take much of a mathematician to work out what the outcome will be, all of us specialist shops are already starting to get a bit thin on the ground. We as a nation are a bit obsessed with making the rich richer whilst all the small people fall by the wayside, but I'm sure you will all join me in wishing them a very happy retirement.

I've been asked if I know or have heard anything about the houses being built on the land opposite The Thatched Inn, the answer is no. I've seen no evidence, I would say it's just a rumour so please don't worry about it - if anything I'd worry about the other 250 houses they want to build next on the Ockley Park estate, that's just crazy where's all the water going to come from for a start?

If you get a chance this summer holiday sit down with the kids or without them if it's easier and watch on prime an animated film called the 'Wild Robot' you will see why I loved it so much and I'm sure you will too. Steve

HASSOCKS PET CENTRE, KEYMER ROAD, HASSOCKS 01273 842392