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We thank John Gargett for this photograph of Clayton (with Jack and Jill Windmills in the background) taken in 1904







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 Email ed@villagemagazines.co.uk (We do acknowledge each email personally) or send to QD Stationery 52 Keymer Road, Hassocks, West Sussex BN6 8AR. For more information call 01273 846978.

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

HASSOCKS WI Adastra Hall, Hassocks Mon. 21st Jan. 7.45 pm Resolutions HASSOCKS TOWNSWOMENS GUILD Age Concern, Hassocks Tues. 22nd Jan. 2.30 pm Diving to the Titanic - R Goldsmith HASSOCKS LUNCHTIME JAZZ Hassocks Hotel, Hassocks Tues. 22nd Jan. 11.30 am for 12 pm Trad Jazz and Lunch. Bookings only call 01273 842113. All welcome HASSOCKS AND HURSTPIERPOINT LABOUR BRANCH **Purple Carrot, Hassocks** Fri. 25th Jan. 2 - 3 pm Meet for a cuppa and a chat - A warm welcome to all HURSTPIERPOINT HISTORICAL SOCIETY **Guide Hut, Trinity Road** Fri. 25th Jan. 8 pm Sussex on the Rocks - Geology - Dr Geoffrey Mead. All welcome SUSSEX VALE ROTARY Email secretary@rotary-sxvale.org.uk Fri. 25th Jan. 7.30 pm Burns Night Supper at Mid Sussex Golf Club MID SUSSEX HEALTHCARE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP Hurstpierpoint Village Centre Sat. 26th Jan. 2.15 pm 'New Year New Things To Do ' - Mid Sx Older People's Council HASSOCKS VILLAGE MARKET **National Tyres Forecourt** Sat. 26th Jan. 9 am – 1 pm Local produce, bread, honey, cheese, wine, veg etc



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Sun. 27th Jan. 10 am doors open.	Meditation Group 10.10 to 10.30 am Divine Service at 11 am
HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL GROUP	The Guide HQ, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint
Wed. 6th Feb. 2 pm	Anglo Saxons History - Mak Norman
HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING FIRST RESPONDERS Hurstpierpoint Methodist Church Hall	
Thurs. 7th Feb. 7.30 pm	Training Night - New members welcome
HASSOCKS EVENING JAZZ	Hassocks Hotel, Hassocks
Tues. 12th Feb. 8 pm	Trad Jazz Evening. All welcome
HURSTPIERPOINT HORTICULTUR	RAL SOCIETY Hurstpierpoint Village Centre
Tues. 12th Feb. 7.45 pm	The Evolution of a Formal Garden to a Nature Reserve - Peter Lovett
HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING	U3A Adastra Hall, Hassocks
Fri. 15th Feb. 2 pm	Mad Jack Fuller - Geoff Hutchinson
HASSOCKS FIELD SOCIETY	Adastra Hall, Hassocks
Mon. 28th Jan. 7.45 pm	The Search for Wallaces Spider - Ray Hale. All welcome
Mon. 11th Feb. 7.45 pm	Extinct Bird Watching - Michael Blencowe. All welcome
HURST VILLAGE CINEMA	Hurstpierpoint Players Theatre
For films and showing times visit hurstfilm	ns.com
KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB	United Reformed Church Hall, Hassocks
Mon. 21st Jan. 7.30 - 9.30 pm	Caller Sean Goddard. All welcome
Mon. 4th Feb. 7.30 - 9.30 pm	Caller Bob Weddell. All welcome
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CLAYTON & KEYMER WOMENS SECTION Legion HQ, Woodsland Road	
Thurs. 14th Feb. 3 pm	My Favourite Cuddly Toy - Anisah Rani
Sat. 16th Feb. 9.45 - 11.45 am	Coffee Morning at Age Concern, Hassocks







THE CLAYTON & KEYMER BRANCH OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

We meet at 3 pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month at our headquarters in Woodsland Road, Hassocks. We are a friendly group and visitors are very welcome.

For further information about our activities, please contact our Chairman, Jenny Budd on **07719 922326**.

On **14th February**, we will be welcoming Anisah Rani once again. This time 'My Favourite Cuddly Toy' is her topic. The Competition is for the 'Prettiest Scarf. Our next Coffee Morning is on Saturday **16th February** at Age Concern Hassocks between 9.45 am and 11.45 am.

All help and contributions are warmly welcomed. Your support is appreciated, and we hope to see you there.

Liz Thomas





<u>HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL GROUP</u> Guide HQ, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint from 2 pm - 4 pm on the 1st Wednesday of the month.

The first 2 meetings are free.

Do join us on the **6th February** where Mak Norman will be speaking to us on Anglo Saxon History - I understand he dresses the part!

On the **6th March** Ian Gledhill will be giving a talk with fully illustrated projected pictures on Art Deco the style that defined the jazz era & the golden age of prewar Hollywood musicals. Art Deco built a thousand cinemas (& the Hoover Factory) & is still influential today.

For more information please contact Dianne 01273 835284 or myself 07806 670359. We look forward to seeing you. Ann Tranter

MID SUSSEX HEALTH CARE PATIENT PAR-TICIPATION GROUP is holding an afternoon event on **26th January** at the Club Suite, Hurstpierpoint Village Centre, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint. The Mid Sussex Older People's Council will give an illustrated presentation titled 'New Year, New Things To Do'.

The event will be open from 2.15 pm, with the presentation at 2.30 pm followed by refreshments including cakes, tea and coffee. Please come along with your questions and suggestions. All welcome. Admission free but donations welcome. *Celia Lindsay*

HURSTPIERPOINT HORTICULTURAL SOCI-ETY will meet at 7.45 pm in the Club Suite of the Village Centre, Hurstpierpoint on Tuesday 12th February when Peter Lovett will give an illustrated talk entitled 'The Evolution Of A Formal Garden To A Nature Reserve'. All welcome. Kathy Green

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SHORT-EARED OWL - They came from the land of ice and snow. On soft, silent wings they came. Gliding over forests and skimming across the lowlands until the seemingly impassable dark sea stretched out ahead of them. But still they flew on.

The first signs of this Nordic invasion came in October. Observers stationed on the Norfolk coastline watched the first of them glide overhead. Another followed. Then another. Elsewhere along our eastern seaboard, more silent invaders were arriving.

Short-eared owls are scarce winter visitors to Sussex. Swiss ornithologist Paul Geroudet described them as 'nomads who camp where the table is laid'. This winter dozens of these wandering diners were reported in Sussex and small parliaments (the collective term for owls, pub quizzers) lingered around the meadows along the county's river valleys where they have tucked in to a bountiful rodent buffet.

In Sussex we have four breeding owl species. The most familiar will be the tawny owl - whose hoots and twitto-woos can be heard in our woodlands. The barn owl is that pale spectral spirit that may be glimpsed in the headlights along country lanes at night. The long-eared owl is our rarest, most elusive species. The little owl was introduced here in the 19th century. It eats worms. So when short-eared owls arrive it's an extra owl to get excited about. The meadows around the Ouse. Arun and Adur become popular destinations for owl watchers to observe these graceful daytime hunters.

And a hunting short-eared owl is a sight to behold. It's a large bird - with a one metre wingspan - but agile. It twists, weaves and glides low over the ground before dropping hard on its prey. Its 'short ears' are just feather tufts. Its bright yellow eyes are set in a face which

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seems fixed in a permanent impatient, angry expression.

I recently led a walk to see these owls and our group waited patiently on the Ouse banks. Our first sighting was high, distant and disappointing. But another hunting owl, seemingly oblivious to us, flew closer. And closer...and closer still. There is something eerie about the sound of seventeen people not breathing, but as the owl passed by we were stunned and as silent as its wingbeats. After hunting, the owls will gather and roost, no doubt dreaming of Northern Lights, lemmings and the long journey home.

Sussex Wildlife Trust is an independent charity caring for wildlife and habitats throughout Sussex. Founded in 1961, we have worked with local people for over half a century to make Sussex richer in wildlife.

We rely on the support of our members to help protect our rich natural heritage. Please consider supporting our work. As a member you will be invited to join Michael Blencowe on our regular wildlife walks and also enjoy free events, discounts on wildlife courses, Wildlife magazine and our Sussex guide book, Discovering Wildlife. It's easy to join online at www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join or over the phone on 01273 497532. Michael Blencowe

HISTORICAL & GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY next meeting is on Friday 25th January at 8 pm in the The Guide Hall, Trinity Road Car Park, Hurstpierpoint. Speaker Dr Geoffrey Mead will give a talk entitled 'Sussex on the Rocks – the geology of the county'

Admission is free to members, non-members and members of other Historical Societies welcome for a small entrance fee. Amanda Geel







HASSOCKS WI What a lovely productive evening we had at our November meeting, with ladies producing Christmas crafts, although it has to be said, there was as much chatting as working going on. Many of the craft items were sold on our stall at Light Up Hassocks, along with the usual delicious cakes and produce. What



a fantastic evening that was. It was lovely to see so many people coming to our stall, and we completely sold out of everything. Our WI ladies were also responsible for the judging of the best dressed Christmas window competition. The windows looked really festive, and with so many wonderful entries this year we had some hard decisions to make.

This month the fun of the festive season is over, and on **21st January** we're back to business - the business of discussing the resolutions for 2019. The resolutions stem from the concerns of our members, and all suggestions put forward are whittled down to a shortlist of 6. These are debated in every WI, and every member has a vote to decide which resolution will form the basis for the next national campaign. Just in case we get too serious, there will be light-hearted entertainment to follow.

Hopefully, this will be the start of another exciting year of WI activities. Why don't you come and join us? Adastra Hall. 7.45 pm. 3rd Monday in the month. Check out our website **wihassocks.org.uk** for further information.

Maureen Dodd







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Let's start at the beginning. Perhaps you need new doors or a tall oven or an eye level fridge or new worktops. Perhaps some things need repositioning and some appliances need replacing. There are many different reasons people want to re-arrange their kitchens.

The first thing we do is come and give you some sensible intelligent design ideas. How can we change/sort/move around or replace the minimum elements of your kitchen to give you a refurbished kitchen that really works?

We do not try to sell you lots of new cabinets. We come and discuss how we can transform your existing kitchen with the minimum of fuss and expense.

Yes, we have a fantastic range of doors and worktops and sinks and taps and appliances and that is important but we are building our reputation on service and attention to detail.

So firstly, we simply come and discuss what you want or need. You will have your own thoughts. You may have lived with some real irritations but can't see a way to sort them out. We can add a professional designers eye. You might well be pleasantly surprised how inventive we can be at resolving difficult kitchen problems. We will do some sketches and scribble some plans and discuss costings and budgets. Then we will leave you with these ideas and let you mull them over at your leisure. There is absolutely no pressure. We are not sales people; we are kitchen designers, cabinet makers and kitchen installers offering an exceptional service to the local community at a sensible price.

If you like the ideas then we invite you over to the showrooms at Ditchling [just off the beacon road] to discuss your plans a bit further.

Then we come back on site and have another chat...then we will do a neat intelligible plan and a proper quote. Everything is done in a quiet and leisurely manner. We will never pester you. We will try to work within your budget.

We organise everything like the plumbing, gas fitting, moving a radiator or a new power point or making good an old wall right down to the painting and decorating.

When we arrive on the specified day we carefully remove all the contents of each cupboard and place the contents in a plastic storage box which we label. Then we complete the work. At the end of the refurbishment we put everything back in the cupboards...under your supervision. We clean and tidy as we go along. Our kitchen installers wear outside shoes outside and inside work slippers in your house. We try as best as we can to minimise the disruption, dust and the mess. All old doors and worktops are immediately removed. The kitchen doorway is sealed off by a new plastic doorway to keep the dust from the rest of the house.

When we're finished we clean everything from top to bottom and make it sparkle.

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TO VIEW OUR WEBSITE PLEASE ENTER - kitchencarousel.co.uk - in your address bar (If you just Google our website you will only end up with loads of internet rubbish and other adverts.)

But the best thing to do is call our chief designer and arrange a free design visit.

His name is Stephen Hamilton. His tel no is: 07565 722055

Please note our extensive showrooms in Ditchling are only open by appointment!

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PEMBURY HOUSE SNOWDROP AND HELLEBORE GARDEN. OPEN FOR PRE-**BOOKED VISITS** Pembury House, Ditchling Road, Clayton. BN6 9PH "The perfect woodland garden". Visitor quote 2018.

Fed up with the winter weather! Why not visit our snowdrop and hellebore garden?

Our Spring Garden will be open for the National Garden Scheme caring and nursing charities for visitors to enjoy. Pre-booking only. The garden can be visited from mid-February to mid-March 2019 (dates on our website).

Individuals and groups are welcome to pre-book. The modest fee includes entry, coffee and cake and garden tour if required.

All proceeds from the garden visits go to the NGS caring and nursing charities.

There have been lots of changes in the garden over the last 18 months but the weather is much the same. So please please wear warm clothes and sensible sturdy shoes.

Website for details. www.pemburyhouse.co.uk

Parking available at the house. The garden can be reached by bus to the Jack and Jill Pub and from Hassocks station on foot along the Cinder Path (public footpath).

We do hope that you will get in touch and make an appointment to visit our garden.

Nick & Jane Baker

HASSOCKS MUSIC FESTIVAL A dear friend came to me and said she wanted to put on a Proms in the Park and asked for my help and so was born a new initiative: Hassocks Music Festival. The proposed date for your diaries is Saturday 7th September and hopefully to be hosted by Downlands Community School. It will be an open air concert as a revival of Proms in the Park which last happened in Hassocks in 2009! The concept is to bring a variety of music under one stage such as pop, rock, classical and opera. Hassocks Community Organisation, HCO, have kindly offered their support. The organisation of this event is very much in the early stages but looking to provide further information early 2019. Ultimately we will be raising funds for St Peter and St James Hospice. Should anyone like to get involved please contact me, Michelle Binks, on 07505 123149.

Michelle Binks





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BURGESS HILL RESIDENTS BREN-DA, PAT & JEAN MET WITH PAUL YOUNG FROM BRIGHTON BASED CHARITY OFF THE FENCE AT SOUTH DOWNS NURSERIES IN HASSOCKS LAST WEEK They, along with many other customers of the Brighton Road outlet have been busy knitting woolly hats, scarves and gloves for the homeless living on the streets of Brighton & Hove.

Brenda, Pat & Jean asked to meet Paul, the charity founder, to find out more about the work he does with some of the most vulnerable in our society. Paul explained that there are currently more than 3,000 homeless in Brighton & Hove, although the number actually living on the street is much lower. He added that his team were busy this week with the changeover to military sleeping bags, designed to keep people warm as temperatures plummet to

freezing. The much needed hats and scarves were due to be on the street by 6pm the same evening they were fashioned.

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information, please visit: **www.offthefence.org.uk**. If you'd like to donate hats, scarves or warm socks, please drop them off to the collection point in The Barn Coffee Shop & Restaurant at South Downs Nurseries in Hassocks. Sarah Mead

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DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY We have two films in February with the first on Thursday, **7th February** entitled The Heiresses. Chela and Chiquita, both from wealthy families, have been together for over 30 years but recently their financial situation has worsened forcing them to begin selling off their inherited possessions. When their debts lead to Chiquita being imprisoned for fraud, Chela is forced to face a new reality. Driving for the first time in years, she starts to provide a local taxi service to wealthy elderly ladies. Chela then encounters the much younger, sensual Angy, forging a fresh and exciting new connection. As a result Chela begins to break out of her shell and engage with the world embarking on her own personal intimate revolution.

Director: Marcelo Martinessi Spanish 2018 95 minutes, 15 Cert.

Our second film on Thursday, **21st February** will be Lady Macbeth a compelling psychological drama based on the short story, Lady Macbeth of the Mtsensk District by Nikolai Leskov. In 19th Century rural England, Katherine has been married off to Alexander, the morose and sexually inadequate son of a wealthy mine owner called Boris, who rules the roost. Trapped in this loveless marriage to a man twice her age, Katherine begins a passionate affair with Sebastian, a much younger, truculent worker on the family estate.



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The affair unleashes in Katherine a force inside her so powerful that she will stop at nothing to get what she wants.

Director: William Oldroyd English 2016 89 minutes. 15 Cert.

The films will be shown in Ditchling Village Hall. The films start at 8 pm. Doors open at 7.30 pm. Free coffee, tea and biscuits are available and wine can be purchased by the glass beforehand. There is ample free parking behind the hall. Guests and temporary members are welcome - a fee is payable at the door.

Rowena Cager and Melanie Samuel

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS At the time of this magazine going to print our Christmas show has still to take place so news on that next month.

We, at Friends and Neighbours, are all finding it difficult to come to terms with the fact that rehearsals are no longer needed at present but we are still keeping everything crossed that a 'pianist' will come along as a New Year present so that we may keep 'variety' alive in our Communities.

Meanwhile there will be details next month re our March Lunch event and we now send our best wishes to you all for a Happy and Healthy 2019.

From us all at Friends and Neighbours

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CROHN'S DISEASE RESEARCH A Christmas card I received from CICRA (Crohn's in Childhood Research Association) wishes you all a Happy and Healthy 2019 and thanks you for the support given to them during 2018. I have sent a cheque for £900 being monies raised mainly from the successful concert in June and also from the collecting boxes that Kevin Thorne, the butcher in Market Place, Burgess Hill keeps for CICRA. I thank Kevin and his staff for their help and, of course his kind customers, too.

My thanks, too, to our own butcher here in Hassocks, Andy Twine who also houses a collecting box on his counter just waiting for the odd change to come its way. Thank you everyone.

I cannot believe that I am having to tell you that there will be no 'Variety Show' in June this year due to my problems. I am sure you can imagine how bitterly disappointed I am as the shows have not only raised a lot of money over the years but it also kept the serious illness of Crohn's Disease to the fore in our local communities. It goes without saying that I always thoroughly enjoyed producing them and I hope you had enjoyment, too from the concert evenings.

If anyone wishes to donate to CICRA or would be willing to house a collecting tin please ring me on



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01273 845291 - I will be pleased to speak to you. I have to thank everyone for their generosity over the years which has raised over $\pounds 83,000$ to date and I shall be doing my best to keep that total improving. I wish you all a Healthy and Happy 2019.

Dorrie

DITCHLING SINGERS Why not start the New Year by joining a friendly choir? If you enjoy singing popular songs why not give the Ditchling Singers a try? No auditions and the first session is free. We rehearse on alternative Sundays.

Our January dates are Sunday **6th January** from 4 to 6 pm, in the Old Meeting House in Ditchling, and Sunday **20th January** from 4 to 6 pm at Keymer Church Hall. Just come along or contact Julie on **01273 844818** or Christine on **01273 846098**.

Julie and Christine





AWARDS SUCCESS This term Hurstpierpoint Gymnastics Club has presented a record 175 British Gymnastics Awards. Each award is the result of coaching gymnasts in the performance of ten skills from the nationwide proficiency award scheme. Each gymnast is tested by our team of coaches and then the end of term sees the presentation of the awards gained.

Well done to all the gymnasts and coaches in this achievement. Mid Sussex District Council are thanked for funding this term's awards.

Junior & Senior gymnasts will now be turning their attention to the 20th Arts Competition, creating sports acrobatic group sixes, ribbon or beam pairs and hoop solo routines. Just like the awards, entry to the competition is free with gymnasts themselves choosing which parts of the competition to enter.

If there are any children who think they would like to try Gymnastics, at the time of writing, the Club has vacancies in January for girls on Wednesdays and Thursdays, for Junior age boys on Tuesdays and Preschool girls on Friday afternoons. There are short waiting lists for pre-school boys and Infant / Key Stage One boys.

Please contact the Club for the up-to-date position. Further information and the link to emails is on the website **www.hurstpierpointgym.co.uk**

Andrew Hair





AGE CONCERN - Dale Avenue, Hassocks. 01273 844461. Office hours between 9 am and 3.45 pm

www.achassocks.co.uk email:enquiries@achassocks.co.uk. Follow us on Facebook Age Concern Hassocks. We have our own Charity Shop – Do pop in and take a look.

Happy New Year to you all!

Hearing Aid Maintenance checks on Tuesday **5th February** at 9.30 am – NHS Only – just turn up and a waiting system is in place. Chiropody and Hairdressing appointments available Monday to Friday please call to book your appointment.

Do you know someone that could benefit from coming along to our centre? Lunch is served every week day and we serve refreshments each morning. To join us for lunch please give us a call to book a place. We can also help with transport in and around Hassocks if you require a lift. Our Mini bus is driven by volunteer drivers who are assisted by an escort. New members are always welcome.

We have a Reflexologist who will be coming here on Friday mornings, please do call the office for pricing information and to book an appointment.

Our Charity Shop is open every day and also Saturday mornings, we now take credit, debit and contactless cards for payment!

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PUBLICITY OPPORTUNITIES AT OLDLAND

WINDMILL 2018 was another very successful year for Oldland Mill. Despite the major task of refurbishing two sweeps during the summer of 2018 and the interruption this caused in the regular milling activities, a lot of milling was carried out in advance of the refurbishment to build up a stock of flour for sale. This enabled us to maintain the supply to our regular outlets. After rehanging the sweeps, we again focussed on milling to replenish our stock of flour in the Autumn so as not to disappoint all our many customers.

As we always anticipated, running a working windmill is very different to restoring a windmill, but we have created a milling team of volunteers who enjoy the excitement - and challenge – of controlling the windmill. There is very great satisfaction in standing inside the windmill as she grinds away, swaying slightly to the rhythmic rotation of the wind shaft as fine white flour pulses out from the spout. But to ensure that the mill runs reliably and safely we need to attract a steady income to cover the regular maintenance and insurance costs.

Our Promotion and Fund-raising Team look after all aspects of publicity including designing and printing



the A4 posters on display in the village before open days, designing and printing various mill leaflets and cards of all descriptions for sale in aid of mill funds, and ensuring that notice of our events appear in the local press. The team also explore opportunities to sell more flour and raise funds by other means. The team meets every two to three months and the meetings (which are informal and good fun!) rarely last more than one and a half hours. We have recently lost a couple of regular team members and are looking for replacements. We're particularly interested in attracting some more volunteers who are social media savvy and interested in working with our Web Master to ensure that our website remains current.

If this opportunity appeals to you or you would like more information, please contact me Fred Maillardet on **01273 842342**. Similarly, if you know of somebody who might be interested, please ask them to get in touch with me. 2019 will be another exciting year for Oldland Windmill with the second pair of sweeps being refurbished. Why not become a part of the team?

Fred Maillardet









Bob Mitchell with Dick Goodman

HURSTPIERPOINT BOWLING CLUB celebrated the end of their season with a very successful dinner and presentation evening at the Singing Hills Golf Club. The event was sold out with 86 members attending. The evening's master of ceremonies Tony Lank, the clubs new vice chairman introduced the retiring chairman Bob Mitchell who presented the chairman's special award to Dick Goodman for his wonderful



efforts behind the clubs new bar. Bob mentioned several members who had also helped the club in so many ways.

Bob was also presented with a gift following his retirement as Chairman.

The presentation of the clubs competitions then took

place with several new winners collecting their awards. The presentations came to a close with the ladies and men's champions receiving their cups from President Chris Barnden, Dervn Mitchell winning for the first time and myself taking the men's cup for a second time. Keith Jackson

Val Cox & Barbara Awcock Finalists in The Ladies Yardstick.







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DITCHLING HISTORY PROJECT has been kindly loaned the above picture by Michael Alford. It is of 'Old Harry', also perhaps known as Blackie, when he was living in a tarpaulin and scrap metal shack in the woods adjoining Shirleys in 1958.

The residents, whose houses were being built at this time, were so concerned about Harry that they clubbed together and bought him a caravan. It is thought he remained there for the rest of his life. The only clues we have about him is that he may have had family on the Beacon Road at one time and his family name may have been Blackman or similar. He was an intelligent man and it is thought he may have been a bookbinder by trade.

We would love to hear from anyone who might have more information. Please contact DHP either by calling Roma Leon on 01273 843113 or via email at history.project@btinternet.com Penny Worth



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MESSAGE FROM SUSSEX POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER, KATY BOURNE – SUSSEX POLICE FUNDING 2018-2022 Sussex Police have started the biggest intake of new police officers for over a decade. This has been made possible by the increase in police precept of an average £12 for a band D property, and the PCC releasing £17 million from reserves. It means that over the next four years, Sussex will have 200 more police officers on the frontline than it does today.

Although residents are pleased to hear that local policing will be strengthened by these 200 extra officers, they are already indicating that they would like even more. That is why the PCC has opened a survey on her website to gauge potential support for raising more funding locally if the Government lifts the current cap on the police precept.

Please take a moment to make your views known on this link

https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=1540383 17338 You can find out more about funding for Sussex Police 2018-22 here: https://www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/about/transparency/sussex-police-funding-2018-22/

Mervin Dadd



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

Walks are arranged on Tuesdays and weekends throughout the year and vary in length from 4-12 miles. During the summer there are short walks on Wednesday evenings, whilst in the winter there are pub socials and a talks programme covering a wide range of subjects.

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

Jo Mitchell

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HURSTPIERPOINT & SAYERS COMMON TWINNING ASSOCIATION Programme for 2019 - The Committee are open to suggestions for this year's programme. If you have any suggestions please get in contact with me. A happy New Year to all our members.

What we do - The Hurstpierpoint and Sayers Common Twinning Association is twinned with St Martin-de-Boscherville, a delightful village on the banks of the Seine just north of Rouen. St Martin is famous for its historic Abbey which has recently celebrated its 900th anniversary. Travel is normally on the Newhaven to Dieppe ferry followed by a pleasant 50 min drive to St Martin. Accommodation is with our hosts and we reciprocate by inviting our French friends to stay in our homes. The Association organizes a variety of events for all ages. These events could have a sporting theme (golf, tennis, cycling, walking etc.) a cultural theme (art, concerts, visiting historical buildings, gardens etc.) or an educational theme (student exchanges, pen friends). They all



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involve much socialising and meeting new friends. Get involved - We are always looking for new members and ideas. If you are interested in joining or finding out more please contact me the Chairman on 01273 833195.

Mike Shute

Village Voice (established 1996) and Hassocks & Keymer Talk About (established 1976) inc. The Ditchling Dialogue (established 1984), are delivered to over 7,700 residential and business addresses. Our long established magazines cover Hurstpierpoint, Albourne, Goddards Green and Sayers Common; Hassocks, Keymer, Clayton, Pyecombe, Ditchling, and Westmeston respectively. For more information please call Q.D. Stationery on 01273 846978 or e-mail ad@villagemagazines.co.uk www.villagemagazines.co.uk

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Giving! The students at Downlands are very proud of their school uniform - from their black leather shoes to the bright red jumpers, they are instantly recognisable as Downlands students. But it was all change on Friday 2 November as we celebrated the birthday of Daisy Bushnell.

Daisy brought a smile to all our faces and one of her great loves was wearing crazy trainers - the brighter and more colourful the better. She was such a beautiful person - a real bright spark. Sadly, Daisy lost her battle with cancer last year but her spirit is very much with us. So, to celebrate what would have been her 15th birthday, students and staff alike donned their crazy trainers. They came in all shapes and colours - from just trendy to really wacky! In exchange for a £1 donation and for one day only, students and staff were allowed to wear their trainers to school.

It was not always a very elegant picture - some female staff in lovely dresses with their running shoes - but we raised a whopping £1060, which we are donating to the Chestnut Tree House Hospice.

The Downlands Christmas Tree Forest raised an additional £150 for the Chestnut Tree House Hospice. We celebrated Children in Need with a non-uniform day in exchange for £1 donation and raised £1348 (with an additional £337 gift aid). The students also dipped into







their pockets to raise money for SeeKenya who provide lifesaving eve care free of charge to those in need in Kenva. The Geography Department ran two

events; a cake sale and crazy glasses day raising over £150.

Just before Christmas each tutor group was asked to make a hamper that would be delivered to a family in need over the Christmas period. We were humbled by the beautiful hampers that were created and hope they brought pleasure to the recipients.

As this goes to print we are planning our Christmas Jumper Day for the end of term which students and staff at Downlands love and which raises a considerable donation for the St Peters and St James Hospice.

Thank you to everyone - the generosity of our students and their families change lives. Nicki Burston

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