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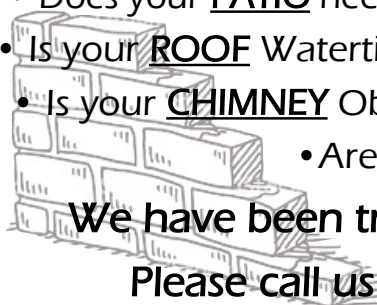
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We thank Dave Packham for this photo of Hurstpierpoint Football Club from 1950

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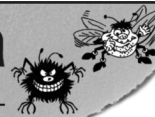
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LOCAL ACTIVITIES

MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO

Fri. 23rd Aug. 7.30 pm

HASSOCKS VILLAGE MARKET

Sat. 24th Aug. 9 am - 1 pm

AD~ASTRA BEACON OF LIGHT SPIRITUAL CENTRE

Sun. 25th Aug. 10 am doors open.

HASSOCKS TOWNSWOMENS GUILD

Tues. 27th Aug. 2.30 pm

WOODLAND FLORA & FAUNA GROUP

Thurs 29th Aug. 7 pm

OLDLAND MILL www.oldlandwindmill.co.uk

Sun. 1st Sept. 11 am - 5 pm

HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL GROUP

Wed. 4th Sept. 2 pm

HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING FIRST RESPONDERS

Thurs. 5th Sept. 7.30 pm

DOWNSFEST

Sat. 7th Sept. 12 - 10 pm.

BURGESS HILL MODEL RAILWAY www.burgesshillmrc.org.uk

Sat. 7th Sept. 10 am - 5 pm

HASSOCKS FIELD SOCIETY

Mon. 9th Sept. 7.45 pm

HASSOCKS EVENING JAZZ

Tues. 10th Sept. 8 pm

MID SUSSEX ASSOCIATION NATIONAL TRUST

Thurs. 12th Sept. 2.30 pm

Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill

Radio Night & Table Top Sale

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Adastra Hall, Hassocks

Meditation Group 10.10 to 10.30 am Divine Service at 11 am

Age Concern, Hassocks

My Family & other Setbacks - Mel Rees

Hurstpierpoint Village Centre

Climate Change & British Wildlife - Trevor Beebee

Oldlands Lane, Hassocks

History and Heritage Open Day

The Guide HQ, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint

Photo Quiz

Hurstpierpoint Methodist Church Hall

Training Night - New members welcome

Adastra Park, Hassocks

Queen II plus many local bands. Tickets from QD Stationery

Burgess Hill Girls School

Annual Exhibition

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HURSTPIERPOINT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Sat. 14th Sept. 2.15 pm

HASSOCKS WI

Mon. 16th Sept. 7.45 pm

STAR CINEMA

Fri. 20th Sept. 7 pm

RBL CLAYTON & KEYMER WOMENS SECTION

Sat. 7th Sept. 9.45 - 11.45 pm

Thurs. 12th Sept. 3 pm

KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB

Mon. 2nd Sept. 7.30 - 9.30 pm

Mon. 16th Sept. 7.30 - 9.30 pm

ST COSMAS & ST DAMIAN CHURCH

20th - 21st Sept. 10 am - 4 pm Flower Festival. Plus Concert by Julie Roberts & Michael Hinton see article

WOLSTONBURY WI

Tues. 20th Aug. 7.45 pm

Tues. 17th Sept. 7.45 pm The Tale of the Gamekeeper's Daughter (Life in Service at Holmstead Manor) Joy Madgwick

HURSTPIERPOINT PLAYERS

17th - 21st Sept. 8 pm

The Glass Menagerie - Tennessee Williams. Tickets from the box office

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A visit to Highdown Gardens with guide - Jo Hooper

Players Theatre, Hurstpierpoint

Hurstpierpoint Players Theatre

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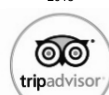


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enquiries@achassocks.co.uk, Follow us on Facebook
Age Concern Hassocks. We have our own Charity Shop.
Volunteering – Have you got time on your hands and would you like to help us out? We are looking for a Bus Escort to help our members on and off the bus, preferably every other Tuesday morning from 9.15 to 11.15 am. Also for holiday cover when some of our Volunteers are away. Please do get in touch and come and have a chat with us in the office.

Knitting Squares – For now we are putting this on hold, and starting it up again from October. We have an abundance of squares and my one volunteer who kindly sews them all together is overloaded! If you are happy to keep knitting squares please carry on but if you are able to sew your squares together into a reasonable sized blanket we would be very grateful. Squares and blankets can be dropped into the centre in October and we will be passing them onto the Salvation Army. Thank you to everyone who is helping us with this - it is giving lots of members great satisfaction in producing the blankets and giving them something to do.

Thank you to all at Downlands School for providing our members with a lunch on Friday 19th June. They all had a lovely time and enjoyed it very much. Recently we organised a trip to Windsor Castle and were very lucky

that the sun shone all day and we also visited the Farm Shop there with a few purchases made!

I Pad and Phone lessons held on Tuesday mornings from 9.30 until 11 am (not school holidays).

Well Balanced Community Falls Prevention Service, in partnership with Mid Sussex Wellbeing and Active House Solutions are holding Balance classes here every Wednesday afternoon. Please call 01444 477191 to book your place.

Hearing Aid Maintenance checks/batteries are held here by Action for Deafness on the first Tuesday of each month at 9.30 am, but only that day per month – NHS Only – just turn up and a waiting system is in place. On other days we do not hold batteries here, you do need to contact your supplier for these.

We have Scrabble, German Scrabble, Art, Canasta, Mahjong, Knit and Natter and Craft sessions held here – new members always welcome please do come in and ask us in the office or take a look at our website. We regularly arrange in house entertainment and outings too.

Our Charity Shop is being extended! Building work has now started! Please do be aware that our car park will be very restricted whilst this is going on, but we are open for business as usual for refreshments, lunches, activities and the shop is staying open as much as we can! Please do try and park carefully and only in the marked bays. We do apologise for the inconvenience whilst the work is being carried out.

Kirsty Hunnisett

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THE GLASS MENAGERIE by Tennessee Williams,
The Players Theatre, High Street, Hurstpierpoint from
17th to 21st September at 8 pm.

Delighted to be directing his first Festival production,
long-serving member of the Hurstpierpoint Players
Bob Sampson has started work with his cast of four to
bring this 'memory play' by America's renowned
dramatist to the Players Theatre this autumn.

The play, said to be based on Williams' own early life,
is set in post depression America. It features the
Wingfield family and is narrated by Tom, who lives in
genteel poverty with his ambitious mother, Amanda
and disabled sister Laura. Amanda is a faded, tragic
remnant of Southern gentility who lives in relative but
unacknowledged poverty in a drab St. Louis apartment,
striving to give direction and meaning to her own life
and those of her children.

Tom, who narrates the play, is driven to distraction by
his mother's ambitions, seeks escape in alcohol and the
movies while Laura lives in her own world – she is dis-
abled and this, intensified by Amanda's anxiety to see
her married, has driven the young woman into a world
where her collection of glass animals provides her only
friendships – a world about to be challenged by the
arrival of Jim, a 'gentleman caller'.

"The Glass Menagerie" established Tennessee
Williams as a dramatist of note and the Hurstpierpoint



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Players are pleased to offer this production as part of
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Tickets are on sale now at the Festival Box Office.
After the Festival the theatre will go dark for the much-
needed refurbishment of the auditorium to take place.
We hope to raise another £5000 towards this and are
holding The Big Push Summer Raffle with fabulous
prizes donated by local businesses. Look out for mem-
bers who will be selling tickets - your theatre needs
you!

Anne Hopper

HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL CLUB Many thanks
to Colin Trumble, Chair of HPP & Downs Ward of
MSDC, who came along in July and told us about the
work of the District Council. He also explained the dif-
ferent responsibilities of the County, District & Parish
Councils. A most informative and enjoyable afternoon.
Our next meeting is on Wednesday **4th September**
where we will have a Quiz, discuss the programme for
next year and have a general social afternoon. Do come
& join us.

We meet at The Guide HG, Trinity Road,
Hurstpierpoint from 2 to 4 pm on the first Wednesday
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For more information contact Dianne **01273 835284** or
myself **07806 670359**.

Ann Tranter



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MAKE TIME FOR MACMILLAN! Friday 27th September. Coffee Morning 10 am to 12 Noon, at the Bowls Club, South Avenue, Hurstpierpoint.

Once again a small group of friends are holding a coffee morning to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. The Bowls Club are kindly letting us use their club house.

We would love to see all our friends and loyal supporters again this year.

For those people who were not able to join us last year, we would be so pleased to see you this time. There will always be a friendly and welcoming greeting for everyone.

With your help, we can build on our past successes and make a large contribution to this very worthy cause.

We will have Bric-a-Brac, Toys and Books on sale plus a raffle and tombola.

As always there will be a selection of irresistible cakes!

Entrance to include coffee/tea and cake.

Please keep the date and do come along.

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DOWNSFEST 2019 Saturday 7th September at Adastral Park, Hassocks from 12 to 10 pm. Tickets on sale now. Headlining Queen II, showcasing a host of local talent Black Hurricane, Overdrive, Stone Dark Night, Mockingbird, Sussex Soul Singers, The Kraken Wakes, Charlotte Griggs, The Thing of the Swamp, The Blackbirds, Hullabaloo, Grace Jago, Karen Rash and Nicola Grunberg, Bean and The Boys, Mike Reinstein, Downsfest Youth Choir, Cold Bones, Just Sing, Nathan Reeve.

Tickets from www.evenbrite.co.uk, Adastral Deli and QD Stationery. Raising funds for St Peter and St James Hospice.

Michelle Binks

HURSTPIERPOINT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AUTUMN SHOW will be held at 2.15 pm on Saturday **14th September** in Hurstpierpoint Village Hall. All the bounty of Autumn flowers, fruit and vegetables plus photography, cookery and children's sections.

Exhibiting is free and open to all. Home-made cake and tea, raffle and auction at end of show.

Schedules available from Gibsons in Hurstpierpoint High Street.

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HASSOCKS WI Ian Gledhill never fails to entertain, amuse and inform, and he certainly didn't disappoint when he came to talk to us about 'Oh! I Do Like To Be Beside The Seaside'. Ian gave special emphasis to Brighton, Worthing and Bognor from the time in the 1700s when the sea was to be endured rather than enjoyed, through the medical benefits of sea water promulgated by Dr Russell and the Prince Regent making Brighton fashionable, to Eric Gill's saucy postcards, Mods and Rockers riots, and Butlin's at Bognor as an antidote to seaside landladies. We rather envied King Alphonso his extravagant bathing hut, and felt that we would have been amongst those refined Regency visitors to Brighton who made use of the lending library in the Old Steine and danced in the Assembly Rooms at the Old Ship Hotel.



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Ian nicely put us in the mood for choc ices and decorating sun hats to complete our summery evening. We also admired the stunning scarecrow, made by Shirley, which won 2nd prize at the Ardingly Summer Show. Such talent and creativity!

We don't have a meeting in August, so our next meeting is on **16th September** when we will be trying some gentle exercise, Paracise. No meeting doesn't mean we're doing nothing though. Some members had a boat trip around Shoreham Harbour on a glorious summer day. Hilary, Gerry and Maureen attended a thought-provoking conference on plastic pollution in the oceans. Many hands made light work of stuffing and sewing cushions for ladies who have had breast surgery. Rottingdean was the venue for a visit to St Margaret's Church to admire the Burne-Jones windows, and The Grange for a textile exhibition. Several teams have entered the WI regional quiz - competition will be hot! As usual, other groups will be meeting to walk, sing, write and read. The advantage of these activities is that meeting in smaller groups makes it easier to get to know people, and there are so many lovely ladies in WI. Come and join us!

Maureen Dodd

**ST COSMAS AND ST DAMIAN CHURCH
FLOWER FESTIVAL** on **Friday 20th and Saturday 21st September** 10 am to 4 pm.

Friday 20th 'Concert of the Seasons' by Julie Roberts and Michael Hinton in the Church at 7.30 pm. Tickets include interval refreshments and are available from Hassocks Hardware.

Juliet Strange

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September 2019
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HURSTPIERPOINT OPEN STUDIOS Please come and visit the Hurst Open Houses. Local artists will be showcasing work in their own homes. **14th/15th and 21/22nd September** 11am - 5pm. We really look forward to welcoming you.

Claire

NEWS FROM STONEYWISH Sitting by the Black Swan Pond, I am about to take a 'journey into the interior'. The phrase conjures up images of primal jungle, and there is a palpable sense that Nature has reclaimed this place for her own. A breeze worries the treetops, but down here the vegetation is still, and the air is heavy with summer scents. Just over there a wren raps out a staccato warning. It has been doing so for some time but the sound has now embedded itself in my consciousness. Perhaps there are two birds calling. Perhaps there is a cat about, though the robins and blackbirds are quiet. The urgent rat-tat-tat, like a communication in morse, seems to demand a response and I go to investigate. There is no sign of a cat, but a small brown object hurtles out of the tangle of branches and alights on the fence before me, beginning a comical bobbing dance, turning on its pin-shaft legs and whirring like a grasshopper. It is a new-fledged wren, taking stock of his world. Perception narrows to this tiny point and I am rooted there as long as he continues undisturbed. Oh for a camera now! But to 'capture' this moment would be to flatten it and lose its essence. This is something far more precious. As I watch, my sensibility expands, takes in the tangle of leaves, not as a tangle now,



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but rather, as something spacious and inviting, as a tiny bird might see it, offering an infinite complexity of footholds and galleries and cathedral-like domed spaces for exploration. The background blur of sounds, untangle themselves and now I can hear the grasshopper rattle of other voices too. There are four of them altogether. A whole nestful of youngsters, hopping warily from branch to branch, while the parents, hidden from view, offer covering fire with their hullabaloo. Ah, now I understand what is going on. The enigma has been solved. But something else has happened too and I beat a retreat to reflect. This month's history morning takes place on Friday **30th August**. As seems only fitting for a summer holiday event, we are off to the coast, with *Beside the Sea: An 18th Century Tourist* visits Littlehampton and Brighton. An authority in the field, our speaker, David Dawson, invites us into the antiquarian book-lover's 'back room' to turn the pages of a real collector's item. Here is the record of a fortnight's trip to Sussex, nearly 250 years ago. By 1780 Brighton had entered its early years as the leading South Coast resort, whilst westwards, at Littlehampton, attempts were being made to become, if not its rival, certainly an alternative (and quieter) choice. Our holidaymaker's fascinating and rare book, describing both places – sometimes in unexpected detail – is believed to be the first contemporary printed account of a seaside holiday. Don't miss this one. You will never see these familiar places the same again. The talk begins at 10.30 at the Visitor Centre in Spatham Lane. Talks are accompanied by an exhibition of



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images from the Stoneywish archive and followed by fresh-baked cake and fresh-brewed coffee, all included in the ticket price. Enjoy a relaxing chat in the garden (weather permitting) while we top up your empty cups! To reserve a seat please phone **01273 843498**. Full details of all talks are on the website: www.stoneywish.com.

Now, regarding jungles. Our linear minds like to have things tidy. Daisies here. Lupins there. Clumps of colour. Everything behind its respective fence. This way we can enjoy a sense of control. A jungle may be fine in faraway places – the Amazon, say. But not here. Not unless, it is a designated place, with an information board and a proper viewing platform provided. What we do not realise is that the wilderness is actually inside us, in the teeming masses of bacteria which outnumber our body cells 10 to 1 and keep us alive; in the water we drink – yes – even chlorinated water! In the air we breathe; the rain that waters our gardens. Every attempt we make to ‘capture’ and contain the wildness merely disconnects us from the worldwide web of life to which we naturally belong. If we would find a solution to the ills we inflict on the world, I cannot help thinking a change of mindset must come first. Let’s put away our cameras, textbooks, databases... and just look. And not just look but open and enlarge our senses to seek the miraculous patterns and messages encoded in the humblest forms of life. Let’s be captivated. Let’s ask which really needs to be saved. Is it Nature? Or is it ourselves? In this jungle by the Black Swan Pond is a web of noxious weeds: nettles, scotch

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thistles, teasels and hogweed with lesser species threaded in between. Of all the plants here, it is the dreaded hogweed which provides the sweetest feast and insects of all kinds crowd on the flowers: certain bees, hoverflies, bee flies, wasps, myriad flies – a chequered moth no bigger than an apple pip – a harmless wood wasp and countless soldier beetles with their russet wings. On a green seed-head sits a green cricket. All day long. All are in communication with one another, with the scents and chemical messages in the air, with the dragon-flies hawking overhead... I could count the species, tag them, analyse them. Would that help the world? Would it help me? Truly? I am drawn back to the words of one of our visionary poets: the great anti-Newtonian, anti-reductionist, William Blake. To read him is to take, with him, a miraculous ‘journey into the interior’: “Seest thou the little winged fly, smaller than a grain of sand?/It has a heart like thee; a brain open to heaven and hell./Withinside wondrous and expansive, its gates are not closed.” A microscope will not help one see it. This ‘withinside’ world is visible only to young children, and to those who can, belatedly, ‘unclose’ their gates of perception. But what a wealth is there! Suddenly, no one is alone. Everything is speaking, vibrating with information. A mere thumbnail becomes a wilderness. And the realisation dawns that Nature is not a state or an external thing to be saved, but ‘Human Existence’ itself. Unless we wake up to that soon, I am afraid, our only journey will be down the pan.

Rosemary



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THINK FIRST, SHOP HURST AND SUPPORT LOCAL!

By the time that this edition of Village Voice is distributed the Hurst Road will be closed at Stonepound Crossroads until the beginning of September, with further disruption until the beginning of November and potentially longer.

This came to all of us with little warning. By now it will be affecting all residents in one way or another; getting to the station, attending appointments, hopping on the bus, going to work, not to mention those that live on the roads that are officially or unofficially part of the diversions. For the shops and businesses this is likely to mean less passing trade, and lower daily takings.

It's clear that the work needs to be done, and as traders we want to be upbeat about the Summer. We're working hard as a group to introduce new programs and fun offerings while this work is going on, creating even more reasons for you to visit the High Street, which is still very much open for business. We are so grateful for the support we receive from you all, day in and out, without which many of us wouldn't still be operating. For the next month or so could we dare ask for that one

extra purchase a week? An additional glass of wine, an extra coffee, another bouquet of flowers, a gift for a loved one, that new dress that you don't really need, a pre-holiday makeover, not forgetting a vintage mirror or two.

And think, it's going to be far more pleasant taking a trip up to the village; less traffic and fumes, safer pavements, a better chance of parking, and dare I say no road rage! Back to bygone times!

And whilst we know that so many of you already do, can we ask you to - Think First, Shop Hurst and support Local!

Lindsay Thompson

WEST SUSSEX BRIDGE CLUB Bridge is a mind sport for everyone and is a great way to meet new people and form lasting friendships. We run 5 sessions per week and new members are always welcome. Courses for beginners and improvers start in September. For more information call Ed Barter on **01444 257029** or visit our website **www.westsussexbc.co.uk**.

Vincent L'Estrange



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HASSOCKS OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE SPACE

It has been a long journey! It started with a Year 11 trip to watch 'Romeo & Juliet' at the Brighton Open Air Theatre a few years ago. Headteacher, Mr Wignall returned to school inspired to create something similar here at Downlands. The vision to create a performance and social space for the students at Downlands was born. We were delighted to officially open HOPS this week!

Many thanks to everyone who has made our vision a reality. We would especially like to thank everyone who has sponsored a seat or a sleeper in the amphitheatre and the people who contributed to our crowd fundraising campaign. Other large donations came from the following organisations: The Garfield Weston Foundation, The Hassocks Parish Council, The Downlands School Association, The Southover Manor Trust and West Sussex County Council.

We are especially grateful to landscape architect Nick Dexter who turned our vision into a brilliant design, Nigel Bowcock, Ross Jackson and the team at Acre Landscapes who took Nick's design and turned it into our wonderful amphitheatre, HOPS.

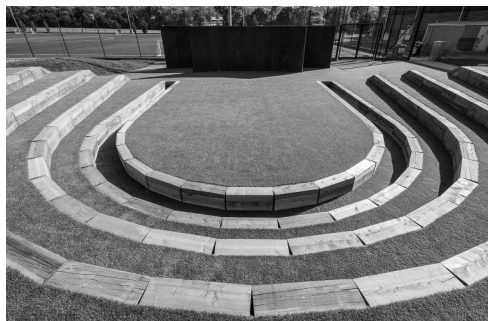
The amphitheatre was officially opened by our Chair of Governors Mrs Di Hunt. We were delighted to welcome Brain Fruit straight from the Brighton Fringe who performed "Bear North" as well Miss Rebecca Milford, mezzo soprano who performed among others

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"I Feel Pretty" and "Summertime" - perfect. We were especially pleased to welcome back Lana Mae Garrett, who has just left Downlands and who read two of her beautiful poems. Our fantastic students performed too - with the Downlands Strings Group playing for guests as they arrived and the Downlands Choir singing to round off a perfect afternoon with the stunning South Downs as a backdrop.

If you would like to sponsor a seat, a sleeper or a VIP sleeper in the front row please contact us at school. Likewise if you are interested in renting the space, please contact Sue Jones, Business Manager.

Thank you to local photographer, Paul Noble, who donated his services for the afternoon - the stunning photographs are his."

Nicki Burston



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ARE YOU MAN ENOUGH 1 in every 2 men will have a health problem with their prostate at some stage of their lives.

It could be an infection, enlargement or cancer. 1 in every 8 men will develop prostate cancer and those of African-Caribbean origin and those with a family history of the disease are 2 to 3 times more at risk.

PSA stands for Prostate Specific Antigen, it is a simple blood test that measures the amount of antigen, produced by the prostate, entering the blood. It is not a direct test for cancer, a moderately raised reading can be an indicator of a prostate problem, a high reading should trigger further tests to determine if there is a need for any treatment.

Without screening, around 47,000 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer each year. It is now the leading cancer found in men. Around 11,800 men die of this disease annually, one every 45 minutes. Caught in the early stages, cure rates are dramatically improved with over 80% success. General symptoms of problems with the prostate are frequent need to urinate especially at night; bursting to urinate, slow flow, difficult, painful; stop/start and dribbling, or blood in the urine.

The charity PCaSO (Prostate Cancer Support Organisation) in partnership with Burgess Hill District Lions are offering free PSA testing for men aged between 45 and 80 on **12th October** at the Triangle Leisure Centre, Triangle Way, Burgess Hill RH15 8WA. We are also testing in East Grinstead on **23rd November**.

It is essential to book an appointment time - this can be done online at www.psatesting.org/burgess-hill or for booking enquiries phone **0845 650 2555**.

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BURGESS HILL CHORAL SOCIETY We have spaces for new singers for our Autumn season. We're a choir of about 80 members led by dynamic and inspiring Musical Director Michael Stefan Wood BEM. Mike brings a high level of professional skill and musical knowledge to rehearsals which are enjoyable and result in high standards. We present two concerts a year, at Christmas and in the Spring, working with professional soloists and orchestra. For our Autumn 2019 season we are delighted to be singing Bach's 'Christmas Oratorio.' We're a friendly and vibrant choir and welcome experienced singers as well as those who haven't sung for a while. Why not come along and try a rehearsal before deciding to join us? There is no joining audition. Rehearsals are held on Monday evenings from 7.45pm to 10pm at the United Reformed Church hall, Junction Road, Burgess Hill, RH15 0JS. The new season begins on Monday **9th September**. For more information, please contact us via our website: www.burgesshill-choralsociety.org.uk, phone **07522 493966** or visit our Facebook page.

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HURST FESTIVAL 2019 - BOOK NOW! Booking has just opened for Hurst Festival 2019. Go to www.hurstfestival.org and plan your September entertainment. If you prefer the personal touch, the Box Office will be open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 9.30 am – 1 pm at the Players Theatre.

From foot stomping Rough Chowder to a Tea Dance and everything in between. Go on a Pig Walk with Hamish, watch The Glass Menagerie at the theatre, enjoy the Brighton Cello Quartet or learn about Living Plastic Free. Take the kids to the Musical Theatre Workshops or Capture the Flag or watch The Ensonglopedia of Animals. Visit the Artist's Studios, buy all your toxin free Green cleaning products or listen to a talk on Lawn Mowing and why it's one man's obsession!

Join the Murder Mystery evening or Bugaloo Stu and his Musical Bingo.

Whatever you do, don't miss out. There are so many brilliant things to do in just 2 weeks, so block out the diary and book now!

Kate Cowan

STAR CINEMA The Star Cinema will be back on **20th September** with the popular film Stan And Ollie (PG). Doors open at 7 pm and the film starts at 7 30 pm. Tickets are available on the door. Wine, tea, coffee, soft drinks available. Raffle with great prizes.

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Hope to see you there.

In Stan and Ollie, legendary screen comedians Stan Laurel (Steve Coogan) and Oliver Hardy (John C. Reilly) are filming their great comedy Way Out West in 1937. Despite their huge success, both are short on money, due to the miserly contracts that Hal Roach (Danny Huston) has them under. Stan tries to argue for better treatment but fails. Years later, in 1953, the now ageing comics are on their own and have embarked upon a stage tour of the United Kingdom and Ireland, hoping to secure funding for a new Robin Hood movie. At first their shows are small and poorly attended, but with a little publicity, the crowds grow. The pair's beloved wives, Lucy (Shirley Henderson) and Ida (Nina Arianda) join them. But the funding for the movie falls through, and the old friends get into a big fight over a long-simmering grudge. Will this be the end of Laurel & Hardy?

Liz Edmunds

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FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS We met together to finalise the disbanding of Friends and Neighbours and to discuss the question of the monies in our bank. It has always been necessary to keep a fair amount in hand for the advance payment of hiring the Adastra for our shows and also our weekly rehearsals at Keymer Church Hall - neither cheap these days!

We all agreed that £500 be given to each of the following:- The Burgess Hill and District Lions who have supported us many times to enable us to give reasonable donations to our chosen charities. To St Peters and St James Hospice who have cared for several of our past members of the group and also to 'Light up Hassocks' towards future expenses here in Hassocks. Our final parting gift to our Communities will be to repair and repaint 'Bunty's' seat outside the Hassocks Health Centre which we donated in 2006 in her memory.

The extra cost of "repair" thanks to the sad and mindless person/persons who knifed a fair chunk out of one of the arms. Did you enjoy doing that?

On a brighter side, we thank you all once again for your support and generosity over the 41 years that we have been entertaining - life is certainly not the same for us now and - we are going to miss you!

We are so very sad to disband but, as the saying goes, "all good things come to an end".

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CENTRE STAGE DRAMA GROUP The new year begins for Centre Stage on **7th September**, firstly in the Players Theatre (in the High Street), then in another venue for a few weeks before being some of the first to use the theatre after its massive new refurbishment. Children have the opportunity to enjoy drama in a purpose built theatre and in due course to perform there, not to mention being able to learn about the more technical side (lighting etc) if they feel so inclined. This group has been running for about forty years now and has several children whose own parents came when they themselves were young.

This is not a singing and dancing drama group, rather one which concentrates on giving the children an opportunity to develop their imagination and grow in self-confidence whilst having fun and also exploring topics relating to modern life. The emphasis is on enjoyment. There is also a chance to take part in the annual Hurst Players pantomime if they so wish and also any who would like to take the LAMDA drama exams are able to do this under the guidance of professional drama teachers.

There are spaces now available from September, so sign up now! Contact Jacqui or Deborah on info@centrestagetheatregroup.net

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

On the **12th September**, one of our members, Margaret Taylor, will be talking to us about 'The Scilly Isles'.

The competition is for 'The Prettiest Pill Pot'.

A recent speaker from the 'Service by Emergency Rider' told us about the various voluntary services they provide by motor cycle courier. Besides ferrying blood they also deliver scans, x-rays and even breast milk for premature babies. Donor materials, organs etc., are transported by car. A really interesting and informative talk, delivered remarkably well, since he was in considerable pain after a road accident on the way to us. We later heard he had broken his collar bone. We wish him a speedy recovery. Our next Coffee Morning is on Saturday **7th September** at Age Concern Hassocks, between 9.45 and 11.45 am.

Donations for stalls are always very welcome; raffle prizes, bric-a-brac, toiletries and cakes. If needed please ring Jenny to arrange collection. All funds raised go towards our benevolent funds. Thank you so much for your support, we look forward to seeing you there.

Liz Thomas

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OLDLAND WINDMILL, KEYMER - HISTORY AND HERITAGE DAY - Sunday 1st September 11 am to 5 pm.

At Britain's Oldest Regularly Working Windmill we are preparing for our 'History and Heritage' Day.

There will be displays of heritage wheats and village life in bygone times by the U3A Local History Group. For children there will be a quiz, games, Punch and Judy and the famous Animal School. Ice creams, homemade cakes and a BBQ will be available. No vehicles allowed at the Mill. Please park in Grand Avenue, Hassocks, near The Thatched Inn and either walk up Oldlands Lane or make use of the complimentary minibus found opposite The Thatched Inn. Entry by voluntary donation. Further information is available at **www.oldlandwindmill.co.uk** The Event Afternoon comes at the end of another great effort by our team of volunteers to refurbish the second pair of sweeps in two years. The Mill has continued to be open to the public for Open Afternoons during the refurbishment, with the two unaffected sweeps turning under wind power much to the excitement of many visitors, young and old. Our milling team even managed to produce flour using only the two operational sweeps, showing just how efficient these traditional windmills were!

We look forward to welcoming you to the Mill.

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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.

We leave you with a bunch of flowers and a brand new looking kitchen with a twenty year guarantee.

If that sounds like the sort of service you are looking for then please give us a ring.

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!

Thanks for taking the time to read this.



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EUROPEAN EEL - ALTERNATING CURRENTS

In August many of us migrate towards the sea; exchanging our familiar habitats for a few weeks in someplace sunnier and sandier. As we leave our county a mysterious creature, born in the dark depths of a distant ocean, is heading towards Sussex for a holiday of its own.

Let me take you 3500 miles west to the wide Sargasso Sea, an area of the North Atlantic known to superstitious seamen (and Barry Manilow fans) as The Bermuda Triangle. Today the once mythical Sargasso is infamous for being the North Atlantic's waste dump where surface currents deposit our non-degradable floating flotsam. But the Sargasso still holds one last mystery. Each year millions of transparent slithers, like a blizzard of tiny polythene leaves, rise from its depths. It's almost as if the seaweed and the spirits of sunken sailors have merged with the PVC and plastic to create the leptocephali; the larval stage of the European Eel. These see-through seafarers go with the flow and slowly drift across the North Atlantic on a three-year Gulf Stream cruise.

Upon reaching Britain's coastal waters their appearance changes. They are now wriggling transparent tubes with black eyes; 'glass eels'. Riding the

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Rother, Ouse, Cuckmere, Arun and Adur they swim upstream. In these brackish waters their bodies darken; a tidal tan. They are now elvers. They finally make it to their Sussex holiday homes, exchanging saltwater for freshwater in the myriad of streams and brooks that feed our county's rivers. Yellow-bellied and small-eyed these are yellow eels and will holiday here for around 15 to 30 years. But, as with all holidays, the day comes when you have to return home. In the depths of the eel's mind a primeval urge is awakened. The Sargasso is calling. Their bodies harden, their eyes widen, their stomachs shrivel and yellow eels become silver eels and start their epic journey home. Nothing gets in their way. Land, traditionally an inconvenient barrier for a fish, does not stop them. On dark, wet nights the silver eels crawl out of the water, slithering snake-like across fields and back into the river system.

They'll pass Rye, Shoreham, Exceat, Newhaven and Littlehampton and head out over the great Atlantic Shelf and into darkness. Here's where the silver eels vanish. Exactly where they go and how they get there is unknown. Yet each year the Sargasso will mysteriously spawn a new cloud of transparent tourists hell-bent on holidaying in Sussex by the Sea.

Michael Blencowe

Mr Wasp



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‘C’MON LET’S DANCE!’ In June Let’s Dance! (Hassocks) raised an amazing £3,400 for ‘The Little Princess Trust’.....a charity raising funds to provide natural hair wigs for children and young adults having lost their hair through cancer and other illnesses. Over three shows of ‘C’mon Let’s Dance!’ 175 pupils from 3 years old to adult danced to entertain the audiences as well as raising the amount above. Sally-Ann and I would like to say a huge thank you to

everyone involved....we had a lovely fun time whilst raising funds for the Trust!

This brings the amount raised for various children’s charities over the years by the School to in excess of £75,000!

The photographs show Harvey Pattenden and Ernie Wakeford holding the Presentation Cheque and three other pupils, Helen Preece, her daughter Robyn and Emily Benford accepting the cheque on behalf of the Trust all three having donated hair in the past.

Robin (Irene Bates)



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A BOWLING CLUB IS REAPING THE REWARDS OF A DONATION FROM A NEARBY GARDEN CENTRE AS BLOOMS BRIGHTEN THE LANDSCAPE AROUND THE GREENS.

Players at Hassocks Adastra Bowling Club are delighted with the plants which are now in full flower thanks to the family-run South Downs Nurseries.

"We were delighted to receive the photos from the bowlers and to see just how beautiful the plants are", said Sarah Mead from the Brighton Road business. "They have clearly tended them with care and the results are now being enjoyed by all who visit the club in Adastra park."

Trevor Butler



FLOWER FESTIVAL AT ST GILES' CHURCH, SHERMANBURY

A magnificent display staged by Henfield Flower Club on Saturday **14th** and Sunday **15th September** from 11 am to 4 pm. Admission by programme on the door, children under 15 free. Tea tent, car parking, toilet and other facilities.

Funds raised go towards cost of maintaining the fabric.

Richard Putman

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Ann Waterhouse

SHORT MATT BOWLS Adastra Hall, Hassocks on Tuesdays from 9.30 am to 12 noon and 1.30 pm to 4 pm. Small charge includes tea and biscuit. *Mr Johnson*

KEYMER AND HASOCKS OPEN GARDENS

2019 Thanks to the 9 open gardens. We had 300 visitors and raised £2454 for St Peter & St James Hospice".

Simon Amey

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**HURSTPIERPOINT & SAYERS COMMON
TWINNING ASSOCIATION** A golf competition has been arranged again this year that will take place in August. Any golfers out there please get in touch for more details.

A Football match between Hurstpierpoint and S Martin has been arranged to take place in France in August.

We are looking for suggestions for events in Hurstpierpoint and Sussex that we could invite our French counterparts to as part of our programme for this year.

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 involve much socialising and meeting new friends.

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Get involved - We are always looking for new members and ideas. If you are interested in joining or finding out more please contact me on **01273 833195**.

Mike Shute

We thank Peter and Margaret for the following letter:-
We would like to thank everyone who visited our garden in Woodsland Close on Sunday 7th July (all 169 of you) which was one of the 10 gardens open in aid of St Peter and St James's Hospice. We received so many nice comments, especially a lot about free cherries straight from the tree! But perhaps nicest of all from a dear lady leaving at close of the day who said 'I don't want to go home, I just want to stay here' Praise indeed!

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**.

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