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We thank Dave Evans from Hurstpierpoint for this picture of Percy Bellingham and his horse taken around 1920's/30's at Hurst Farm.

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GIRLGUIDING SUSSEX CENTRAL AWARDS EVENING

Girlguiding Sussex Central county held their annual Awards Evening again at the South of England Showground, Ardingly on Tuesday 2nd July. Caroline Hitchcock, current Chair of Awards and Wendy Colson, County Commissioner welcomed members of the county, recipients' families and friends together with invited guests, who included: Mrs Caroline Nicholls, DL the Deputy Lieutenant of West Sussex; Jo Shiner, Chief Constable of Sussex Police; Gary Ball, Assistant Chief Fire Officer of West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service; various local mayors & councillors; Girlguiding ambassadors and the guest speaker, Laura Fitch, Watch Manager at West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service. For the first time the youngest members of the county, Rainbows, had been included, receiving their Gold Awards.

Over 100 young people & volunteers received, certificates and awards.

These included 14 Rainbows, 46 Brownies, 27 Guides & 1 Ranger from Burgess Hill, Crawley, East Grinstead, Haywards Heath, Horsham, Parkminster, South Down and Worth divisions, who received their Programme Gold Awards; the highest award given in each age group for completing all the appropriate clauses in their respective programmes.

Recognition was also given in various other categories; Charlotte Searle (Worth division) received both a Hero Award and her Gold Guide Award. The former was awarded to Charlotte because she helped encourage and support her guiding friend with badge work and challenges, selflessly thinking of her friend before herself, for her continued



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commitment to Girlguiding & being an inspiration to others.

Ruby Tharby & Kathryn Blake (Guides, Crawley & South Down divisions), received their Commonwealth Award; which is achieved by completing a variety of challenges associated with the Commonwealth. Both girls read their poems which was one of the clauses.

Freya Carpenter & Emily Kinahan (Horsham division), achieved their Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award.

Chloe Smith & Olivia Mansbridge (Worth division) received their Young Leadership certificates having recently qualified.

Katie Tyson (Leader, Crawley division) was presented with her Queen's Guide Award by County President, Clare Brittain. This is the highest award in Girlguiding and typically takes several years to complete with a number of sections and challenges to undertake, each containing multiple elements and including community action work, for which

Katie served a meal in a homeless shelter and undertook a Christmas charity shoebox appeal.

Long Service Awards for adult volunteers were presented to Diann Johnson (Leader Haywards Heath division) for 30 years, Helen Dowling (Leader, Crawley division) was presented with her 50 years long service award, an exceptional achievement by both volunteers.

Surprise presentations were made to five volunteers; Louise Anstey (Leader, Haywards Heath division), Karen Norris (Leader, Parkminster division) & Amanda Fisk (Leader, Haywards Heath division) who all received the Good Service Brooch, which is given in recognition of excellent service which has made a difference within Girlguiding Sussex Central. Diann Johnson & Vicky Cobb (Leaders, Haywards Heath division) were presented with the County Good Service Bar in recognition of continued outstanding commitment and contributions not only to local Girlguiding but in other roles within the county.

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Wendy concluded the evening by thanking Laura for her inspiring presentation. Laura had told the audience how she had always wanted to be a fire-fighter & although she initially failed, she never gave up on her dream. She explained how through hard work, determination & pushing the boundaries she finally achieved her ambition. Her advice was, have confidence to make decisions based on the information available and 'Just Do it' and prove 'Girls Can Do Anything.' Finally, Wendy thanked Caroline & her team for organising the event.

We're over 300,000 girls from 4 to 18 who come together to laugh, learn, explore and have adventures. We're over 70,000 volunteers who make guiding happen by giving our time, talents, enthusiasm and care for girls. We're 25,000 local groups having fun and exploring activities

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For further information go to www.girlguiding-sussexcentralcounty.com. *Janet Samuel*

HASSOCKS WI We enjoyed a number of musical interludes in July.

There was no official meeting in August, but we

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still managed to be very busy and sociable. Our main event was the Breast Cancer Now charity tea. As I am writing this before it happens, I will give you details of funds raised in a later Talk About. Bake Out in the village has kindly donated fruit scones, thank you very much. Wonderful cakes, brownies, shortbread etc.. Will have been made and given by our members thank you all. It is in memory of our dear member Judith who left us earlier this year, the choir will sing a short tribute to her during the afternoon.

September is busy too. We have a stall at the Craft Fair Age Concern on **7th September**, come along you may be able to buy Xmas gifts! We have also entered items for the South of England show at Ardingly **21st/22nd September**. Good luck.

September sees the return of our usual evening meeting. Monday **16th September** (3rd Monday in the month) Adastra Hall. Doors open 7.30 pm start 7.45 pm. It will be a talk about 'The Life of Marianne North (1830-1890)', a prolific Victorian biologist and botanical artist who travelled the world. There is a gallery dedicated to her paintings at Kew Gardens. Visitors are always welcome (donation) come along for an interesting evening and a slice of cake.

As ever we continue with our Craft Club 1st Monday in the month 2 pm Committee room. The choir on Tuesday evenings and hopefully another walk will be arranged during September.

In October we will have been running for 15 years, party time. *Gerry*

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HURST PLAYERS It seems that the film version of “The Father” starring Anthony Hopkins, released in 2021, affected many who saw it – one such person was Bob Sampson, who resolved to direct the stage version as and when it became available, and a suitable cast could be found.

This play is now the Hurst Players contribution to the 20th Anniversary of the Hurst Festival and will run from **16th to 21st September** at the Players Theatre, Hurstpierpoint from 7.30 pm each evening.

It is the English translation of “Le Pere”, an award-winning play by the French playwright Florian Zeller, premiered in 2012 in Paris. Our version is a translation by Christopher Hampton and Hurst Players’ Bob Sampson is delighted that the Players’ membership has recently expanded to enable a competitive auditioning process! “I have a great cast, who’ll do this full justice” said Bob as rehearsals got under way at the end of July.

Briefly, Andre, a persecuted man, refuses to tolerate his circumstances any longer – his favourite watch is stolen by an unnecessary

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“helper” while his scheming daughter, Anne, tries to remove him from his beloved flat. But is all as it seems? The Father is a darkly humorous and poignant tragi-comic mystery, offering an unsentimental and emotionally intense portrayal of the impact of dementia on family and friends. Tickets are now on sale through the Hurst Festival Box Office online – and personal bookings can now be made at the Theatre on Fridays and Saturdays from 10 am to 12 noon.

Anne Hopper

DITCHLING MORRIS are recruiting new dancers and musicians. Have you ever wanted to give Morris Dancing a go? Our practice season starts in Hassocks on Thursday **5th September** in the United Reformed Church Hall at 7.30 pm. The hall is very conveniently situated in the centre of Hassocks and only 2 minutes from Hassocks station.

Our fun and friendly mixed side dance in the Cotswold tradition to live music, so if you are interested in joining as a musician please also come along - we will be delighted to see you all!

Penny Worth

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BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

On Wednesday **4th September**, speaker Sarah Oldridge will be giving a talk, 'Marianne North; A remarkable Victorian flower painter' in the Cyprus Hall, commencing 7.45 pm. Admission: BHHS members free, Visitors small charge.

On Saturday **7th September**, the Society are staging their Autumn Show in the Cyprus Hall, 1.30 pm to 3.45 pm. Come and enjoy some glorious autumn colours, along with refreshments, homemade cakes, plant and produce stalls and a grand tombola. Info from www.burgesshillhorticulturalsociety.com or call **01444 245509**. *Flo*

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If you enjoy singing why not try Burgess Hill Choral Society (BHCS)? We sing glorious music, have an inspirational musical director in Michael Stefan Wood BEM and perform with a professional orchestra and soloists.

Frances, a BHCS member and Hassocks

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resident says "This is a fantastic choir. I've learnt pieces I could only ever dream of singing, from Mozart to Karl Jenkins, Bach to Brahms. We always have a large and appreciative audience and feel we've achieved something really special. In the choir, I've also made lifelong friends and always feel re-energised after an evening's rehearsal."

We are holding open rehearsals, free of charge, each Monday in September from **9th September** and welcome new members with no audition. You can be sure of a friendly reception.

For further information visit our website www.burgesshillchoral.org or our Facebook page. You may also wish to ring us on **07522 493966**. *Jane Leng*

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Since the start of 2024 our members have enjoyed a vast variety of walks covering both East and West Sussex from the south to the north. One intrepid walk leader even gave us the opportunity to visit Hayling Island in June.

Most weekends consist of 5 mile walks on Saturday. Sunday walkers enjoy longer walks of 8 to 10 miles, plus the very popular 'Figure of 8' walks which consist of 4/5 miles in the morning, with a stop for lunch at the starting point, and then a further 4/5 miles in the afternoon. Members choose whether to walk morning or afternoon or both.

News on a national scale has been welcomed by everyone who enjoys exercise and being out in the fresh air. To celebrate the coronation of His Majesty King Charles 111, the England Coast Path has been renamed the 'King Charles 111 England Coast Path'

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leaving a lasting legacy to be enjoyed by walkers around the entire English coastline. The path is being opened in sections but will, when completed, be the longest coastal path in the world at approximately 2,700 miles. This amazing new National Trail will take people through some of the finest landscapes in England connecting the many coastal towns, cities and ports which have shaped this island nation. It will link iconic places and heritage on the coast with the less well-known and will unlock some parts of our coast for the first time.

September has the usual varied selection of Sussex Pathfinders walks ranging from 4.5 miles at Ardingly on Sunday, **8th September** to 10 miles on the **22nd September** at Woodingdean with the promise of a couple of steep climbs. When a walk leader advertises 'steep climbs' you might be drawn to the challenge of trying to be first at the top!

For full details of our future walks from September to December 2024 visit - **www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk**
 No need to book, just turn up for a walk and introduce yourself to the leader.

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BEAVERS' KINDNESS ROCKS LAND IN

HASSOCKS Beautifully decorated pebbles are being discovered in and around a Sussex village. The embellished stones are the work of an art project by the First Hassocks Beavers along the lines of Kindness Rocks.

The viral trend started in the USA and sees people, commonly children, paint pebbles or cobbles and leave them for others to find and collect.

“We were delighted to donate the pebbles together with Tates of Sussex at South Downs Nurseries”, explains Clive Gravett from the

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Budding Foundation.”, explains Clive Gravett from the Budding Foundation charity. “We loved looking at the group’s pretty creations which can now be found hidden around the area for others to enjoy as well.”

Clive’s charity was formed in 2013 and raises funds to improve the lives of young people in the county as well as funding group gardening projects. To find out more visit:

www.thebuddingfoundation.co.uk.

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**HASSOCKS - RBL REMEMBRANCE
NOVEMBER 2024.** Hello Everyone. As you are aware there is still no RBL Branch in Hassocks.

As the Poppy Appeal Organiser for Ditchling & District Branch of RBL this is just a gentle reminder that if any of the Youth Organisations or Societies require Wreaths for Remembrance Sunday on **10th November, 2024**, could you please let me know as soon as possible so that I can order these for you. Call me on **01273 845319**. *Margaret Bovill*

DITCHLING'S ANNUAL 'APPLE DAY' celebration is almost here, Sunday **6th October**, 11 am to 4 pm.

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CHRISTMAS IS COMING! As the main summer holidays end and many people return to work, school, college or university, it's just possible to detect the scent of pine needles mingling with the nostalgic scents of new stationery and the shavings of new pencils. Yes, Christmas is not too far away.

It's never too early to start planning for the Christmas Season and this year, for the first time, St. Margaret's Church in Ditchling will be holding a Christmas Tree Festival on behalf of the Beacon Parish churches. A donation from the proceeds of the event will be made to the Dame Vera Lynn Children's Charity.

From Friday **6th December** to Sunday **8th December** inclusive, we're planning for the church to be filled with beautifully decorated Christmas trees, along with seasonal music and our unique life-sized nativity scene.

We're inviting everyone in our local communities to take part, so whether you run a business, a voluntary or community group, work

for a charity or are a local craftsperson, why not take this chance to tell people more about you and what you do by booking a slot for a tree? Whether you'd like to theme your tree or have a mix of colours and decorations, we'd love to have you join in.

Some slots have already been reserved but we have plenty of space available. For further details, please contact me at sherrian.guest@uwclub.net to find out how to be part of this lovely seasonal event.

Sherrian Guest

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 Facebook - Age Concern Hassocks.

We are very pleased to let you know that we raised a total of £1010.48 at our Summer Fair. We would like to thank everyone who contributed their help and time; to all those who donated items for the raffle and tombola; Paul, one of our members, for making and donating the wooden hedgehogs and hoopla game; and to everyone who came along and supported us on the day.

August has been another busy month here at the Centre with a morning trip to Jack & Jill Windmills to admire the view and an outing to Newbridge Garden Centre, Broadbridge Heath. We have several events and outings to look forward to this month – our first Craft Fair on Saturday **7th September**; a trip to The English Martyrs Church in Goring-by-Sea; a Fall Awareness Talk, Rummage Sale; and finally, Cake at the College - part of the Hurst Festival. Do pop into the Office or call one of our Team if you would like any further information.

We have noticed that quite a few Parents pop into our Charity Shop whilst waiting to pick up their children from School.

Our Coffee Shop is open to everyone until just

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after 3 pm Tuesday to Friday – you could stop off and have a Mad Dog coffee or a cup of tea whilst you wait. We have a sun-drenched patio and a bright, airy conservatory where you can come and pass the time. The Centre closes at 4 pm.

We are always happy to welcome new Members to our Day Centre where we serve a three-course freshly cooked lunch Monday to Friday and a bus Tuesday and Thursday, picking up from Hassocks, Hurstpierpoint and Ditchling. If you live outside our regular pick-up areas, please give us a ring and we will see if we can accommodate you.

Please ask the Office to book transport and/or lunch the day before or up to 10 am on the day you'd like to join us. The menu changes weekly and is on our website.

Our Charity Shop is open 9 am to 4 pm every weekday and 9 am to 12 pm on Saturdays. Donations are most welcome. While you are visiting the Charity Shop why not stop by for a drink and cake in our Coffee Shop – everyone welcome 9 am to 3 pm Monday to Friday.

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

All at Age Concern

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CROSSROADS GET A BRIGHTER FUTURE An historic horse trough will soon be blooming, bringing floral interest to a busy crossroads.

A donation of suitable plants to the Hassocks Community Organisation from nearby South Downs Nurseries will add a splash of colour at Stonepound crossroads.

“We love supporting local initiatives like this”, said Sarah Mead from the family-run nurseries in Brighton Road. “We look forward to seeing the area ablaze with natural beauty.”

Bob Kenhard collected the donation from the garden centre’s Alison Webb and his team are already busy preparing the area close to where a large Roman cemetery was discovered. A tollgate one stood near the site of the current crossroads of the A273 and B2116.

Trevor Butler

JAZZ Lunch with The New Muskat Ramblers Come to the Hassocks Pub Function Room on the second Tuesday in January, April, June, August, September and November for great food, great jazz and great company.

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

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

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

Chris Lambe

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THE WINDMILLS JUNIOR SCHOOL -

Our school choir have worked hard on their latest singing endeavour—singing through the decades. Together they thought of the biggest, greatest, most popular songs from the 70s onwards and then started to sing them. Some worked, some didn't and they tried and tried again until they selected the final running list for the big performance. The children were brilliant; they practised hard and performed with amazing enthusiasm.

Huge congratulations to our netball teams who were nominated and won the **Child of Sussex awards**. Chantelle, their netball coach was so impressed with the team work and dedication of the netball teams this year that she felt they needed the recognition that they deserved. We are so proud of you all. You showed all our school values and certainly persevered by practising twice a day to do so well.

It's the end of an era as we say goodbye and good luck as our Year 6 children move on to secondary school. They have had a busy end to their time at The Windmills, taking part in in a STEM workshop making boats out of polystyrene, hot glue, batteries, a fan and a

motor. They voted on whose boat was the favourite based on appearance, and then took part in a sailing race to see whose boat was the fastest. They have also wowed their families and friends with their fantastic production of 'Porridge'. The children and Year 6 team put so much time and effort into the performance; we are proud of each and every one of them. They now get to enjoy their last days with us having fun at their leaver parties and assemblies.

And finally, to everyone who has donated to our library project in any way – THANK YOU!



These are just a small sample of the books that have been purchased through your donations. The library is going to be amazing!

'on behalf of The Windmills'



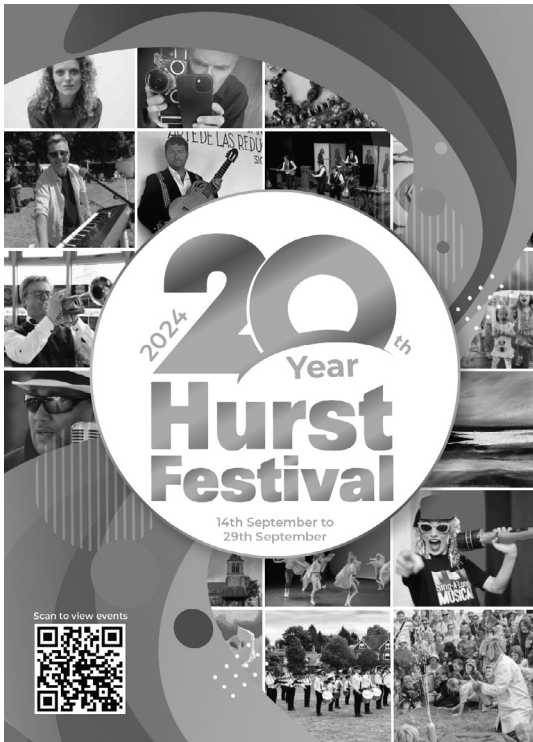
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HURST FESTIVAL BROCHURE'S for its 20th year have been distributed around our communities and the box office online is open! 10,000 brochures are delivered each year by hand by the amazing band of volunteers that make this fabulous community event happen. You can buy tickets at www.hurstfestival.org and also in person on a Friday or Saturday from 11am – 12 noon

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from Friday 19th July at Players Theatre Box Office in Hurstpierpoint High Street. Super Sunday on the South Avenue Recreation Ground returns on Sunday **15th September** from 12 pm to 6 pm with free entertainment and free bouncy castles and assault course for children and free workshops for all the family. Plus, Live music from Breeze In and the Skalatans, Burgess Hill Marching Band, gym displays and a fun and fantastic theatre and science performance from Silly Science – there is lots of free entertainment for the whole family with local food stalls, crafts and charity stalls and the Hurst Festival Bar, we are all set to have a great, FREE! Community Day. As a registered Charity, Hurst Festival relies on our brilliant team of volunteers – if you wish to help out during Hurst Festival or before, please contact us at admin@hurstfestival.org.

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HASSOCKS GOES GOLD



WHAT A WONDERFUL RESPONSE TO THE HASSOCKS GOES GOLD POSTER COMPETITION THIS YEAR!



The 2024 theme of Gold Dragons has really captured the imagination of our local artists! Don't miss all 157 entries displayed in the month-long Parklands Road Street Exhibition in September. The winners and runners-up listed below are all be featured on the shiny Gold poster available to buy from QD, the Hassocks Market and door-to-door from our wonderful volunteers – do let me know if you'd like to help out on your street!

Pre-School Winner: Nell Milton, with Runner-Up: Rocco Gratton

Hassocks Infants Winner: Quentin Browning, with Runners-Up: Max Leighton Griffiths & Theeran Mohanaraj, and Special Mention to Ivy Woodbridge

Windmills Junior Winner: Luna Woodbridge, with Runners-Up: Maisie May Smith & Theo Emmett Bloomfield

Downlands Winner: Taylor Radmall, with Runners-Up: Erin Poat & Dexter Carmichael
Adult Winner: Kelly Woodbridge

Events on in September include: 🐉 The Parklands Road Art Exhibition – on all month. Come and see the wonderful dragon art poster competition entries from all ages, displayed in the windows of the residents of Parklands Road

🐉 Saturday 7th September – 2 pm to 3.30 pm - Rockin' Paul Going Gold – a selection of Rock'n'Roll, Rockabilly, Country & R&B hits performed outside 34 Fir Tree Way – bring a chair or blanket to sit on the lawn!

🐉 also on Saturday 7th September – 2 pm to 2.45 pm – Parent & Child Yoga class from CJ Yoga at Profiles Health & Beauty. Contact cjyoga@yahoo.co.uk to book.

🐉 The Golden Gala: Friday the 27th September is the annual Golden Gala – a fabulous, themed Quiz Night including Live Jazz, pudding auction & raffle at The Hassocks Pub. Teams of 8 people.

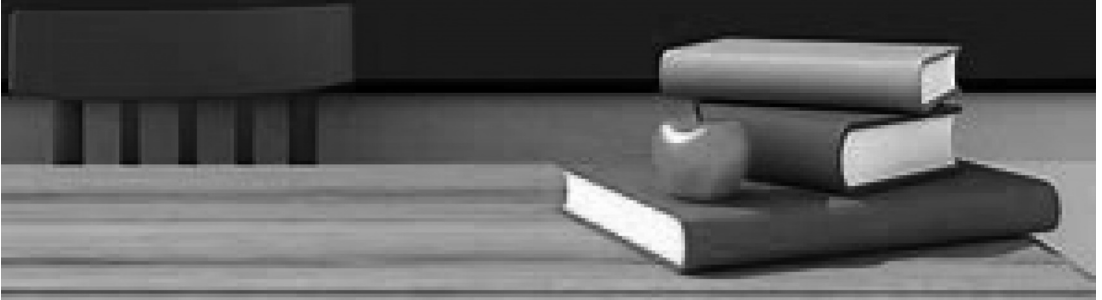
🐉 Follow HassocksGoesGold on Facebook or Instagram: Join in the fun! Keep up with the various GOLD events and bid on the other auction prizes!

It's not too late to donate new items or services – please contact Rachel on hgg@pearlpower.co.uk to help raise funds or volunteer to help. All donations to www.justgiving.com/page/hgg2024

#PearlPower is a fund operated by the Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group in memory of Hassocks resident Pearl Dixie BartlettBundy. Registered charity in England and Wales (1182637) and Scotland (SC049948).
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HURSTPIERPOINT GYMNASTICS CLUB ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Gymnasts from the Club who chose to enter and demonstrated their skills in their routines and vaulting, performed in the Club 40th Annual Championships in July, watched by parents, friends and classmates. Overall, the age groups, honours were shared around the competitors with fifty gymnasts gaining medals or trophies in the different sections.

For all the gymnasts in Year 3, Sylvia Gent won the Floor, Olive Perkins the Vault, while Martha Winters & Eloise Jupp won their first ever Pairs competition.

In Year 4, Olivia Sparks-Carolan won both the Floor and Vault, with the Pairs won by Ruby Clemmans & Lyla Holland. Year 5 was a double success for Ida Martin, winning the Floor and the Pairs with Olivia Sparks-Carolan. The Vault was won by Phoebe Dare.

Isla Lovell won both the Floor and Vault in Year 6 with Layla Whipp & Phoebe Dare winning the Pairs. In the senior section Grace Nicholls won the Floor with Imogen Cox & Emily Church winning the Pairs. Backwards walkovers, free cartwheels, splits and handsprings have now become the norm.

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

There are currently vacancies in September in the Pre-school groups which meet Friday afternoons (minimum 3rd birthday) and in some of the school-age groups. Girls meet Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Andrew Hair

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STAR CINEMA The Star Cinema team welcome you back for the next film season, starting with ONE LIFE - the true story of Nicholas Winton, a British stockbroker and humanitarian who helped to arrange the escape of 669 children from Czechoslovakia in 1939. Starring Anthony Hopkins. Friday **20th September** at Adastra Hall. Doors open at 7 and the film starts at 7.30. Tickets on the door. Tea, coffee, wine, raffle. We look forward to seeing you.

Liz Edmunds

pieces from other composer's contemporary to Puccini and those who influenced his music or were influenced by him.

Full details can be found on the Hurst Festival website heberopera.co.uk, where you can book tickets online. Hurst Festival also has a box office in The Players Theatre in Hurstpierpoint - check the website or brochure for opening times).

Jenny Hawkes

HEBER OPERA AT HURST FESTIVAL

September is Hurst Festival month, and Heber Opera is performing on the festival's final day: **29th September** in Hurstpierpoint Village Centre, starting at 6pm. It is 100 years since his death, and in honour of the great master of opera Giacomo Puccini, the concert is entitled Puccini's World. The evening will feature many favourites (who doesn't like Nessun Dorma?) from the man himself along with

THE PARISH OF CLAYTON WITH KEYMER YOUTH CLUB is moving to new premises!

From **19th September** the youth club for school years 4-13 will be held at The Green Room at Adastra Hall on Thursday Evenings during term time from 5.30 pm to 7 pm.

All welcome for games and crafts and activities and social time in a safe environment with lots of opportunities.

First session of the new term is on Thursday **19th September** 5.30 pm to 7 pm.

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THE KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB starts its 75th year this September. Club nights are on the first, third and fifth Mondays, and there will be three meetings on **2nd, 16th and 30th September**, at the URC Church Hall, starting at 7.30 pm. The evenings are an excellent social events.

The club originally started in the Autumn of 1950, meeting in the Guide Hut in Parklands Road, before subsequently meeting at the older and then the new Adastra Hall. Currently we meet at the URC Church Hall.

More details can be found on the clubs website www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk.

Sean Goddard

THE BEACON PARISH OF DITCHLING, STREAT & WESTMESTON Our services for September should be as follows but do check our website www.beaconparish.co.uk/ for any updates. Everyone is welcome to all of our services so whether you live in the area or are visiting, we'd love to see you.

On Sundays **1st and 8th September** our services of Morning Worship with Holy Communion will be at St. Margaret's Ditchling at 10 am and will include fun and creativity for our 'Little Beacons'. In the afternoon on Sunday **8th September**, we'll be at Westmeston from 3.30 pm. Do come and join us as we meet with friends and enjoy some great hymn singing.

Sunday **15th September** sees us at St Margarets Church for Morning Worship with Holy Communion at 10 am and on Sunday **22nd September** the service will be at Ditchling.

Our popular all age Family Service with Holy Communion will be at Ditchling at 10 am on Sunday **29th September**.

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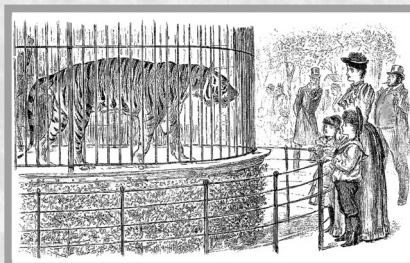
Wednesday @ 10, our mid-week service of Holy Communion, continues each week.

Please note that our SING! session will not be held this month.

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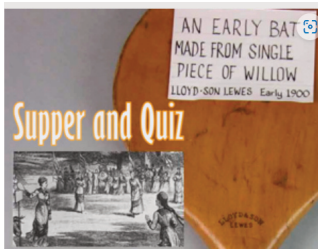
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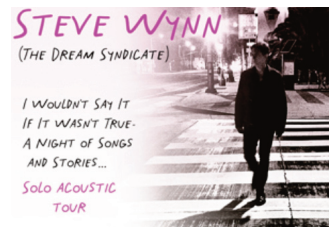
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VINTAGE TRACTORS SAFELY BACK FROM NORMANDY

On Thursday 27th June the port of Newhaven witnessed an extraordinary gathering of over 50 vintage and classic vehicles, comprising nearly 40 tractors supported by vintage cars and commercial vehicles, including one 94 year old steam lorry, waiting to board the midnight ferry to Dieppe.

These vehicles, plus their drivers and crews, were on their way to a racecourse near the town of Gournay-en-Bray in Normandy where a biennial show celebrating French farming and rural crafts was to be held.

This was however much more than just a jolly boys' and girls' outing to France as it was all part

of a well organised plan by the 'Chailey Classic & Vintage Tractor Club' to visit their French counterparts "Passion Tracteurs Collection" of Gournay-en-Bray, a town that is twinned with Hailsham in Sussex, after many months of preparation.

As the result of a meeting held in Gournay-en-Bray in 2018, a bond of friendship had grown between CCVTC members and the Normandy towns in the area that still remember, with grateful thanks, their liberation following the D-day landings in June 1944.

The group was organised into two separate convoys and the route from Dieppe took the vehicles through Neufchatel, thereafter, stopping for a formal lunch in the livestock market of Forges-Les-Eaux (twinned with Heathfield) where the group was formally greeted by the town's Mayor and dignitaries.

Following speeches and the exchange of gifts, the convoy moved off en mass with Police escort to its final destination. On arrival in Gournay-en-Bray, the British contingent drove through the town to cheers and flag waving and was received by the town's Mayor and his dignitaries. The reception included members of both Hailsham twinning and their French counterparts.

A minibus was sponsored and provided by owner and Director David Chewter of Parkers of Haywards Heath who drove himself with two colleagues, to ferry members and guests between

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the racecourse and the town throughout the weekend.

The event at the racecourse took place last weekend (29th/30th June) and focused on agricultural bygones and the importance of agriculture, a sentiment shared by Chailey Tractor Club.

On the Saturday evening, the French tractor club PTC provided a communal evening meal for all involved and throughout the weekend English and French produce was exchanged in equal measure. CCVTC, thanks to its local sponsors, Harveys and Longman Breweries, Bluebell Vineyard, Southdown Cider and High Weald Dairy, took across fine English beer, sparkling and still wine, cider and cheese, all of which went down very well with the French.

The weekend was well attended by many from the Normandy farming community, celebrated its history, featuring demonstrations of some of the oldest methods of farming. Normandy remains a very significant area for agriculture and the British presence contributed to a collection of some 500 vintage and classic tractors and associated machinery.

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The British lines had its own marquee and significant area, British machines and living vans were displayed accordingly and to the delight of many, a narrow-gauge steam railway was set up and operated by its own dedicated team of steam enthusiasts. Similarly, a 1930s Sentinel steam lorry made regular circuits of the site complete with its payload of younger CCVTC members to the tunes of an accordion that provided music throughout the weekend.

Club Chairman, Howard Venters, told us "It was heartening to see the absolute camaraderie not only within our own group but with our French colleagues. Clearly the history and celebration of vintage and classic machines are as important to the French as they are to us and there is a clear mutual understanding of the importance of rural affairs, communities and food production. I think it is fair to say that our presence contributed significantly to the event, everybody was friendly and respectful, and the demographic profile of our Club's attendance spanned older and younger members. In fact, our youngest member has only just celebrated her first birthday."

Report and pictures by David Vaughan

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ALBOURNE'S VILLAGE SHOW IS BACK ON SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER - BIGGER AND BETTER

Albourne's Village Show is back and confirmed for Saturday **7th September**. This family-friendly event is bigger than ever with food, drink and entertainment for adults and kids, and a range of competitions to enter. The show returns for its second year in its new form, and brings a number of popular competitions. Last year's popular Dog Show returns. New for this year is the Flower Show, with categories including best vase with a single flower, best jam, best cake and funniest vegetable. The new Photography Show invites entries of Albourne Scenery, Albourne Wildlife, Albourne Pets and Village Life.

Also new for this year will be a bar from Hurstpierpoint's The Hop Tub, a range of kids' activities and more food options. VR Games for the kids will return, as well as the infamous raffle where you can win a (toy) tractor. Bands



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include Stone Dark Night, The Kites and The Stanmer Band, alongside an Open Mic slot. And if you want to sell something crafty, then get in touch to book a craft stall.

The show is now a Community Interest Company, which means that profits from the event will either be used to support the show in future years or will be given to local charities to support Albourne and the surrounding area. Local companies such as Sweeptech, Avtrade, Ernest Doe, Wild In Art, Make Real, Albourne CE School and Hurstpierpoint College are all supporting the event, with many others providing raffle prizes.

Albourne Village Show runs 12 pm to 10 pm at Albourne Recreational Ground visit: www.facebook.com/AlbourneShow.

Albourne Village Show history - The Albourne Village Show was an annual Autumn event that attracted people from surrounding villages and towns. It started as a traditional Summer Fete with a flower, produce and craft show at its heart, complete with apple pressing and a barbecue from Clive Miller butchers. The event grew into a family event with brands, a dog show, steam engines, vintage vehicles and children's entertainment. The committee was no longer able to continue the event, with the original event running in 2018. A group of Albourne residents brought the show back in 2023, and then applied for Community Interest Company status in 2024.

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NEWS FROM STONEYWISH On one of the hottest days of the year I found myself in the Tropical Glasshouse at Kew Gardens. The first impression is one of diving into a limpid underwater world. Pressing in upon all sides are the fantastic forms of palm fronds, creepers, aerial roots and flowers as bright as parakeets or birds of paradise. The air smells green. Tendrils and buds emit encrypted messages, intelligible only to one another, but perceptible to humans as a vibrancy, an exuberance of life. Everything is thriving and thrusting forth as if determined to provide living proof of an expanding universe. Only animal life is lacking to complete the illusion. But it would be easy enough to imagine tree frogs and monkeys amongst the foliage, just as, with a little more effort one could conjure up the Victorian visitors who first promenaded through this 'jungle' on their Sunday afternoons. Just past the Victoria Gate stands a red-brick gallery, built to house the paintings of the intrepid artist/explorer Marianne North. A wealthy heiress, long inspired by the exotic plants at Kew, Miss North defied 19th century convention and set off for the farthest corners of the globe in search of botanical treasures. While her contemporaries devoted themselves to *collecting* plants, she *painted* them in situ, setting up her easel in the forest to produce over a thousand exquisitely detailed landscapes and plant studies. The paintings at Kew are displayed as she directed, jammed together, frame to frame, like panels in a lacquered cabinet and cover every inch of wall from dado rail to ceiling. The effect is quite overwhelming and creates a sensory shock very much like the shock of entering the Tropical Glasshouse. Wherever you look, there are the same extraordinary forms, the same vivid colours – a realisation that here is more than can be coherently absorbed and codified, though scientists do use them as data reference for research. The juxtaposition of so many different perspectives sets up cross-resonances, which, like the encrypted messages of the plants themselves, are best felt, however, rather than read. When Reason is confounded in this way, something rather miraculous can happen art does not merely depict life but *assumes* it and conveys its living dynamic, straight to the heart. Science is busy identifying and tracking the secret communication systems which exist in the botanic world. Whether by hormone and pheromone signals, or exchanges of nutrients, or electrical stimuli, or some other as yet undreamt of 'invisible ink', we know that messages are conveyed and that the air, soil and water are humming with them. We ourselves unwittingly partake in this traffic and respond to it at a vibrational level. Occasionally, intuitive feelings over-

whelm us when we are in Nature and we realise with a start that there *are* more than we know, and that we already know more than we can comfortably acknowledge. Beyond the piecemeal filing systems of the analytical mind, lies an ocean which defies reduction – a whole, greater than any sum of its parts. Let's call it vitality – or *viriditas* – (Hildegard of Bingen's word) – a force which heals and brings all things into harmony. You can feel it in wild places and in human relations where trust is automatic. To step from a manmade environment into the wild is to feel a sudden surge of energy as the volume of this bio-intelligence increases a hundredfold. The ability to detect it may be counted as a sixth sense, and perhaps the most important of them all, which I will call the gift of imagination. Children are born with it. Watch a child talking to a daisy, and it is immediately plain that that they can hear what the daisy says back! Thus William Blake could say:

"The tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the eyes of others only a green thing that stands in the way. Some see nature all ridicule and deformity... some scarce see nature at all. But to the eyes of the man of imagination, nature is imagination itself."

We not only belong to the cosmos, we are worlds unto ourselves. Our own bodies are, quite unknown to ourselves, buzzing with internal communications: neural/electrical, bacterial, hormonal, chemical... gut talking to brain, brain replying to heart, fat (via leptin) talking to just about everything. Each one of us is a veritable Tower of Babel, and our cells carry on independent conversations with everything imaginable in our environment, quietly knitting us into existence as evolutionary beings. Do we understand even a fraction of it? No. Do we need to trust it? Most certainly, yes!

According to Martín Prechtel, the Tzutujil people of Guatemala have a beautiful way of describing this 'belonging' through the unfolding evolution of the child in the womb. Every child, they believe, passes through four layers of creation before incarnating as Earth Fruit in physical form and each of these processes is overseen by a pair of ancient Deities, known as Old Man and Old Woman, who summon the bodily elements into existence through a series of magical incantations. The first layer of creation is fiery, and here are forged the bones, the heart and the gall-bladder of the baby. The second layer, flesh, comes from the earth, because earth gives life to plants and plants feed flesh. The third, providing liquid for blood, nerves and all the watery functions of the body, draws on rivers, seas, mists, springs, lakes and rainstorms, while the fourth brings vision and

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breath from the spirit of the wind and of air-breathing animals.

Finally, in the fifth creation, the child is given its identity. A child thus embodies the evolution of the earth itself and is consecrated to its care. The thread which binds every atom of the child to its environment conveys the messages necessary for survival from the external elements of which it is composed for the whole of its life. Imagine that! No feeling lost and lonely on a doomed and insentient rock. When a forest is felled, or a field is bull-dozed, it is not merely the biota which is lost, but all the vital things that that integrated world has to say. And until we can once more feel, like our Highland Mayan cousins, that our lungs are trees, and our hearts are birds and that we have rivers flowing inside us, perhaps we will never be able to receive the teachings these things hold for us. Perhaps the best we will be able to do is to create glass-house illusions and painterly illusions, while our society gets on with the serious business of global destruction. Suppose it turns out that the final frontier is actually our own interior landscape and the dreams by which the world claims kinship with us? Could we better deserve the privilege of being human? Kew is a miracle, but it is only a beginning – and it points us towards a magical intimation of how the world could be if only imagination was given a chance.

Rosemary

DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY Hello! It's September! Time flies and film nights are back. To celebrate our return and yours, we are planning complimentary cocktails to get you in the mood for our film set in the beautiful Italian Alps. Quality Italian wines will also be for sale.

On **8th September** we're showing *The Eight Mountains* (12A). A rich, beautiful, and inexpressibly sad

film about the friendship between two men who were best childhood friends growing up in the Italian mountains. As grown men they unite to build a shack in the valley which will be their special place. It is set in the Italian alpine valley of Aosta with breathtaking photography as the two men try to talk about their feelings, rekindle their friendship and deal with the difficult past.

(2022). 147 mins. Italian, English subtitles. Directors Felix Van Groeningen and Charlotte Vandermeersch.

On **3rd October** we have a film based this time in the French Alps; *Anatomy of a Fall*, (2023). Palme d'or winner, directed by Justine Triet.

Films usually show on the first Thursday of the month at Ditchling Village Hall. Doors open at 7.30 pm and you can buy a glass of good wine before the show which starts at 8 pm. Annual membership is available and guest entry on the door.

There's plenty of parking next to the village hall. For full information go to their website ditchlingfilm.org.uk. Follow them on Instagram [@ditchlingfilmsoc](https://www.instagram.com/ditchlingfilmsoc) and Tweet [@Ditchlingfilm](https://twitter.com/Ditchlingfilm).

Kate

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HASSOCKS TWINNING ASSOCIATION
TRIP TO WALD-MICHELBACH 5th – 7th
July 2024.

A group of us from the Hassocks Twinning Association spent a splendid weekend recently in Wald-Michelbach, our twin town in Germany.

We arrived at Frankfurt Airport at four o'clock on the Friday afternoon where we were kindly met by the minibus and driven, via Weinheim to collect two of our party, to Wald-Michelbach.

A delightful spread of typical regional dishes had been prepared for us at a local restaurant on Friday night where we were warmly welcomed by the Mayor, Sascha Weber. It was a great opportunity to mingle with the host families and members of the local community where a mixture of German, English and wine helped the conversation flow along well!

Saturday saw us walking up the Tromm, a local hiking spot with wonderful views over the surrounding countryside, and a visit to a newly installed viewing platform from where you could see for many miles. Fortunately for us all just as the rain spread in, we were taken to a local restaurant nearby for a tasty lunch. The afternoon gave us some free time with our

families, before a splendid evening of fun and musical entertainment which marked the start of the Heimat Fest for the local community. Beer, wine and music flowed all evening with many talented musicians of all ages performing in the centre of Wald-Michelbach. A truly enjoyable evening of fun and entertainment.

On Sunday morning, after a welcome drink from the Mayor, we joined a walking tour of Wald-Michelbach which was very informative and gave us a real insight into the local region and the history of the area. A big part of the Heimatfest is the 2km parade through the town centre on Sunday afternoon formed by 50 floats from the local area. We joined the German Twinning Association in the parade and frantically waved our German, French and English flags along the way.

We all enjoyed our fantastic stay in Germany with such warm, friendly and welcoming friends from Wald-Michelbach. If you would like to find out more about the Hassocks Twinning Association and join in the fun of meeting like-minded people and visiting France and Germany, please contact me stephaniewhite@btinternet.com

Stephanie White



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GRANTS TOTTALLING £20,000 HAVE BEEN AWARDED TO A RANGE OF DITCHLING ORGANISATIONS BY THE TURNER-DUMBRELL FOUNDATION.

At its AGM the trustees of the charity agreed to make grants to:

Beacon Parish for both upkeep and maintenance of St Margaret's churchyard and renovation of a tapestry designed and woven by the renowned Ditchling weaver Hilary Bourne. FPTA of Ditchling Primary School towards playspace resurfacing.

The Monday Group for annual fixed costs of footpath maintenance. Ditchling Scouts Group for activity days. Oldland Mill for a timber survey. The Inter-village Sports Day for equipment. Ditchling Cricket Club for equipment and Ditchling Pavilion for improvements.

The grants are funded by rental income from the charity's land and property holdings. Land owned by the Turner-Dumbrell Foundation comprises Lodge Hill and the neighbouring Bowries Fields as well as the site of the Community Orchard, and it also owns the workshops as you head north out of the village. Meanwhile the Foundation has been making progress on its project to revitalise the ecology of Lodge Hill. Cattle have been reintroduced after a six-year absence and together with work by the Monday Group and volunteers from the South Downs National Park will help to control the bracken, which was threatening to overwhelm less vigorous plants on the site. Work to eradicate bamboo, which has invaded part of site, is scheduled to be carried out in September, and the foundation apologies in advance if this causes any disruption on Boddingtons Lane.

Further proposals to plant more native trees to fill out the copse at the bottom of the hill, and to introduce more ponds to help with drainage, are also under consideration.

Engagement with residents has also been stepped up with children from St Margaret's School visiting the hill with more visits being planned for the next academic year. In addition the foundation has funded free guided nature walks led by local naturalist Michael Blencowe, highlighting the birdlife and butterflies to be seen there. It is also hoped a bat walk, which had to be postponed in the spring, can be rearranged for later in the year.

A vivid illustration of the Foundation's commitment to the environment has also been resplendent alongside its workshops in North End. Careful nurturing of the verge enabled more than 60 pyramidal and bee orchids to put on a great display through June and into July.

If you would like to find out more about the Turner-Dumbrell Foundation there is additional information on the website,

www.turner-dumbrell.org.uk or contact secretary@turner-dumbrell.org.uk.

John Wood

GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING

Tuesday **3rd September** climate hub monthly event 'the life of our streams' - waterways are vital ecosystems but, in our villages, can leave us vulnerable to flooding especially as extreme weather events are on the increase with climate change. Come along and hear from local experts on how sustainable flood mitigation and find out about the amazing creatures that live below the surface. 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm Proper Cycling and Coffee, Hassocks. Free event no need to book. Party at the Patch! Come and help us celebrate our one-year anniversary as Greener Hassocks & Ditchling. Saturday **28th September** 3rd to 7 pm at the Hassocks Community Veg Patch (behind Age Concern) . Music, crafts, storytelling, refreshments and more. No need to book, we will be collecting donations at the door. Look out for posters and our newsletter for more details.

Beth



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NATIONAL EYE HEALTH WEEK
HIGHLIGHTS IMPORTANCE OF REG-
ULAR EYE HEALTH CHECKS

From **23rd to 29th September** it's National Eye Health Week, and 4Sight Vision Support (4SVS) is proud to support this initiative which encourages people to look after their eyes and have regular eye health checks. This year, the theme is 'Vision Really Matters', and 4SVS will be raising awareness and providing information about accessing eye health checks and promoting good eye health in our daily lives.

Regular eye health checks can detect early signs of conditions, including glaucoma, which can be treated if found soon enough. In addition, during an eye health check, other health conditions such as diabetes or high blood pressure may be detected.

Those living with sight loss should continue to do so as checking for further changes in the eyes can help make the best use of remaining vision and prevent any unnecessary further sight loss.

4SVS will also be out and about during the week, and encourage as many people as possible to stop by for a chat with its specialist team members:

Haywards Heath, Orchard Shopping Centre, Tuesday **24th September**, 10 am to 4 pm.

Anyone is welcome to contact the charity if they would like to learn more about what to look out for/signs, practical support and advice, or help with accessing a local optician.

For further information contact 4Sight Vision Support on **01243 838001**,

email fundraising@4Sight.org.uk

or visit www.4sight.org.uk. *Cathy Clark*



The image shows 4SVS's Julie having an eye health check with Tom from Walsh Opticians, Bognor Regis.

CALL OUT TO THOSE WHO CAN KNIT
OR CROCHET!

Every year for the past five years Gary Pickett and his team of wonderful knitters have created hundreds of angels and stars to be hung around the village for children and adults to take home and enjoy. Sadly, some of those knitters have since passed away and with Gary changing job roles, he is unable to organise the event. Would you be able to join us in continuing this lovely tradition. If so patterns for the stars and angels can be collected from either Age Concern or by emailing angelshassocks@gmail.com. We have until the end of November to make as many as possible.

We currently have a weekly knitting group meeting at Tea Thyme cafe on Fridays between 10 am and 12 noon. This is a chance to meet others making the stars and angels and ask any questions.

If you are on Facebook please join us at Hassocks Angels.

Emily Andrews and Sarah Boghurst

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.**

Regular Events

BEACON PARISH AUGUST SERVICES

Morning Worship with Holy Communion 10 am St Margarets, Ditchling on **1st, 8th September** (both inc. Little Beacons), **15th, 22nd September** and all age family service on **29th September.**

8th September 'Hymns Singing' 3.30 pm at Westmeston.

Wednesday@10 (am) Holy Communion weekly at St Margarets Church, Ditchling.

Always check www.beaconparish.co.uk.

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

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

DITCHLING YOUTH GROUP - Open to those young people in school year 6-11 we meet at The Emmanuel Centre 24 South Street, Ditchling on a Tuesday evening 6.30 to 8 pm.

Pool, table tennis, games consoles & lots of activities finishing with circle time and prayers

HEARTS OF SUSSEX BRIDGE CLUB - Mondays online and Tuesdays Age Concern Hassocks. See www.hsobcbridgeclub.co.uk

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

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. Begin-

ners are very welcome, no need to bring a partner. Your first session is free call 07802 847234 for more info.

THE KEYMER FOLK DANCE CLUB starts it 75th year this September. Club nights are on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays at the URC Church Hall, 7.30 pm.

More details can be found on the clubs website: www.keymerfolkdanceclub.co.uk

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

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

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

Daily Events

1st DITCHLING VILLAGE ORCHARD Boddingtons Lane, Ditchling. 9.30 am - 11.30 pm. 'Maintenance morning' Have a chat.

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

1st OLDLAND MILL Oldlands Lane, Keymer 11 am - 4 pm. Open Day. All welcome.

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

3rd DITCHLING DOWNS WI Ditchling Village Hall 7 pm. 'Anne of Cleves' Helen Poole.

3rd GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING Proper, Hassocks 7.30 - 9.30 pm. 'Life of our streams'. All welcome. See article.

4th HURST MONTHLY SOCIAL GROUP Guide HQ, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint 2 - 4 pm Richard Foot with his guide dog Gene. Visitors welcome call 01273 649023.

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

4th BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill doors open 7.45 pm. 'Marianne North; A remarkable Victorian flower painter' Sarah Oldridge. www.burgesshillhorticultural.society.com. All welcome.

5th MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL The Hassocks Pub, Station Approach East 7.30 pm. 'Carson McHone' For more info and tickets www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk.

5th BEFRIENDED Court Bushes, Hurstpierpoint 10 am - 12 pm. Bereavement Cafe - A safe place to chat about grief loss & share stories about loved ones. More info office@befriended.org

7th AGE CONCERN HASSOCKS Dale Avenue 10 am - 12 pm. Craft Fair.

7th BURGESS HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill doors open 1.30 pm - 3.45 pm. 'Autumn Show'. See article. www.burgesshillhorticultural.society.com. All welcome.

7th ALBOURNE VILLAGE SHOW Albourne Rec 12 - 10 pm A great day out visit see article for more info.

7th HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB The Beacon Ground, Brighton Road, Hassocks KO 3 pm. (Mens) The Robins take on Peacehaven & Telscombe. Bar and Food available. Free entry to kids 16 and under.

7th HASSOCKS GOES GOLD 34 Fir Tree Way, Hassocks 2 - 3.30 pm. Rocking Paul Going Gold. Selection Rock'n'Roll, Rockabilly, Country & R&B. See article.

8th SUSSEX PATHFINDERS Ardingly 10.30 am & 1.45 pm. 4.5 miles + 4.5 miles. 'Figure of 8' For more info visit. www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk.

8th DITCHLING FILM SOCIETY Ditchling Village Hall 7.30 pm. 'The Eight Mountains'. Tickets available on the door

8th DITCHLING SINGERS Old Meeting House, Ditchling 4 - 6 pm. New start after Summer Break. New singers most welcome to come along and join us.

8th MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL The Hassocks Pub, Station Approach East 5 pm. 'Peter and the Test Tube Babies' For more info and tickets www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk.

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

9th HASSOCKS FIELD SOCIETY Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 7.45 pm. 'History and Work of Sussex Wildlife Trust' Huw Morgan.

10th MUSKRAT RAMBLERS, Hassocks Hotel, Station Approach East, doors 11.45 am Start 12 pm. Great Food, Great Jazz & Great Company. A set lunch included in the entrance fee. Call 01444 235986 or 01444 235639 to book.

13th MID SUSSEX AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Millfield Suite, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill 7.30 pm. www.midsussexars.org.uk. '(Almost) Death in Paradise: Pirates and Rum' Neil Sadler a retired police officer. All welcome.

14th - 29th HURST FESTIVAL Please visit www.hurstfestival.org for all events and how to book.

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

14th CHURCH FUNDRAISER 4 Friars Close, Hassocks 10 am - 4 pm. Garage Sale fundraiser for Clayton Church Gardens.

14th HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB The Beacon Ground, Brighton Road, Hassocks KO 3 pm. (Mens) The Robins take on Horsham YMCA. Bar and Food available. Free entry to kids 16 and under.

14th SUSSEX SEWING CLUB Westmeston Parish Hall 10 am - 4 pm. Like minded makers spend the day doing a hobby they love. To book sussexsewingclub@gmail.com.

14th HURSTPIERPOINT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Hurstpierpoint Village Centre 2.15 pm. 'Autumn Show'. More info hhs1886@bt-internet.com.

14th THE GROWING NETWORK Friends Meeting House, East Gardens, Ditchling 10.30 am - 12 pm. Feel free to bring any seeds or plants to share or gardening books/tools you don't need. Children welcome too.

15th HURST FESTIVAL South Avenue Rec, Hurstpierpoint. 12 - 6 pm. 'Super Sunday' See article for more info.

15th PARISH OF CLAYTON WITH KEYMER Meeting Room, Keymer Church Hall. 9.45 - 10.45 am. Storytime Creative - Stories from the Bible and the heart and respond with your own pictures or creative writing. Bring an adult. More info 01273 845964.

16th - 21st HURST PLAYERS Players Theatre, Hurstpierpoint various performances. 'Le Pere' part of the Hurst Festival. See article.

16th HASSOCKS WI Adastra Hall, Hassocks 7.30 pm. The Life of MarianneNorth (1830 - 1890) Visitors welcome.

17th DITCHLING VILLAGE ASSOCIATION Ditchling Village Hall 9.45 - 11 am. Coffee Morning run by FPTA. All welcome.

19th WOMENS BREAKFAST The Greyhound, Keymer 10 am. For a social cooked breakfast. All welcome to book email tamarajanebaxter@yahoo.co.uk.

20th STAR CINEMA Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 7 pm. Film - 'One Life'. See article for more info. Tickets available on the door.

21st MENS BREAKFAST The Greyhound, Keymer 10 am. For a social cooked breakfast. All welcome to book email alexbaxter66@yahoo.co.uk.

21st MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL The Hassocks Pub, Station Approach East 2 pm. 'Beautiful Ones' For more info and tickets www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk.

22nd DITCHLING SINGERS Old Meeting House, Ditchling 4 - 6 pm. New singers most welcome to come along and join us.

22nd SUSSEX PATHFINDERS Woodingdean 10 am. 10 miles. Walk with some steep climbs for more info visit. www.sussexpathfinders.org.uk.

23rd HASSOCKS FIELD SOCIETY Adastra Hall, Hassocks, 7.45 pm. 'Amberley Museum from chalk pits to film set'.

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

24th POLICE BEAT SURGERY South Downs Garden Centre, Hassocks 2.30 - 4 pm. Come along to get crime prevention and advice on neighbourhood issues.

24th MID SUSSEX MUSIC HALL The Hassocks Pub, Station Approach East 7.30 pm. 'Steve Wynn' (The Dream Syndicate) For more information and tickets www.brighthelmstonepromotions.co.uk.

25th SOUTH DOWNS WOODTURNERS Beeding and Bramber Village Hall 7 - 10 pm. 'Something with a lid' Chris Grace. All welcome. www.southdownswoodturners.com

26th BEREAVEMENT WELL-BEING GROUP Clayton Wood, Natural Burial Ground, Brighton Road, Clayton 10 am - 12 noon. Come and meet others who understand what you are going through. www.berereavementcare.uk.

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

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

27th HURST, HASSOCKS & DITCHLING U3A Ditchling Village Hall 2 pm. 'A Race to South Pole - and the Sussex Connection' Michael Smith. Small entrance fee. Refreshments inc.

27th HASSOCKS GOES GOLD Hassocks Pub, Hassocks. The Golden Gala - See article.

28th GREENER HASSOCKS & DITCHLING Hassocks Community Veg Patch behind Age Concern, Hassocks 3 - 7 pm. Music, crafts, storytelling, refreshments and more. All welcome.

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

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

29th GILBERT & SULLIVAN Adastra Hall, Hassocks 2.45 pm. 'The Zoo' (Concert version) Tickets include refreshments to book email gandstodaysussex@gmail.com.

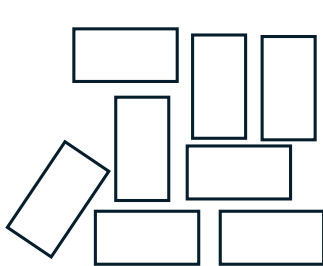
29th HEBER OPERA Hurstpierpoint Village Centre 6 pm 'Puccini's World' part of the Hurst Festival events - see article.

Is your planning in place to
unlock its potential?

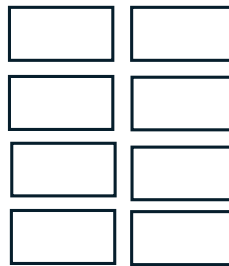
Giles Turner, Chartered
Financial Planner and
Hassocks Resident.



When considering your finances would you describe yourself as
an investor or a collector?



Collector



Investor

If you have gathered various savings, investments and pensions
over the years, how confident do you feel that these are aligned
with your goals? Do you have a strategy to enable your money to
give you the life you want?

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explore the whole of the market – there are no restrictions. How
would it feel to know that you were on the right path?

After providing clients with financial advice for nearly 20
years I am now about to embark on a new chapter.

My contact details will be available in the next edition.

David J Stevens

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STEVE'S BACK PAGE GOSSIP

I suppose the question I'm asked the most is do I know what's going on across the road with regards to that monumental eyesore National Tyres? The answer to that question is not a clue! I was told by the owners they wanted to connect with the residents of Hassocks so that everyone was happy with the eventual outcome. I respected their honesty with that but on 18th May they decided to fence it off and stop local business people from using the useful space as a much needed parking area under the guise that a specialist company was coming in to remove the low grade asbestos roof which never happened and probably never will. If anything is going to happen it will be complete demolition, but as there is no obvious planning application on the horizon, that could be some time off. In the meantime, we have weeds growing up all over the forecourt not to mention ivy working its way through the fence making it look like an abandoned detention centre, at least when it had cars parked on it they hid a lot of the eyesores which are now clearly visible along with the atrocious fence. I'm sorry to say that if that's their idea of keeping the residents Hassocks sweet so they can build the shops or flats they so dearly want without us local lot objecting then they've failed miserably.

As concreting over Hassocks seems to be the new national sport, I as a shopkeeper should be welcoming it because it may provide new customers, personally I'd prefer the old Hassocks back. I remember it 51 years ago it was beautiful, but even with the birth rate down it appears we need more and more houses mostly to house the exodus from the London area. Most young couples I talk to have to look outside the Hassocks area because everything here is so expensive. The powers that be continually talk about affordable housing which can easily be built up North but not down here in the South, it's impossible, the average property price nationally is now nearly £300,000 and you'll be lucky to find a cowshed for that price around here. I don't know how the planned retirement village opposite the park is coming along, I suppose retired people like living together in one big complex so they can swap stories about how they made their money and discuss the maintenance charges they have to pay for the privilege of living there.

51 years that's how long we've been here, and 51 years married as of 1st September. I can't believe another year has gone since I last announced that, but we are still here, only just. Mind you, it was touch and go there for a while, but sense and Nola prevailed - she was amazing - like glue she held everything together. I'm ok if I can see and talk to the person but if it all has to be done by email then I'm useless just the mention of the word 'Landlord' and I retract into my shell - not great I know but it's a mental thing, mind you they knew what they wanted. No negotiation was going to change that, but she had a jolly good go! and this from a woman who suffers from acid reflux and has to virtually live on peanut butter sandwiches, occasionally she'll celebrate with a tuna sandwich but new rent brings tightening of the belt.

It's amazing what you have to learn to live with as you get older, I know it sounds selfish but I'm very glad it's not me, on the rare occasion I do get indigestion then god bless Gaviscon! But to live with it nearly all the time - No thanks. As for the NHS - hopeless. Thank you for everything it means a lot. Steve

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