

united
EASEBOURNE



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The front cover photograph of the War Memorial was taken by
Christine Deadman. See article on Page 13

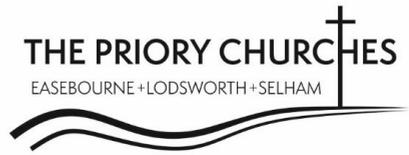
The editors welcome contributions from readers, as well as your comments
and suggestions. The deadline for the December/January issue is Monday
16 November. easebourne.united@gmail.com or Tel 816542

Letter from the Vicar

Dear Friends

It is with great sadness that I have to let folks know in our villages that, due to Covid, we are unable to hold our normal services through the seasons of Remembrance, Advent and Christmas. As churches, we have always enjoyed throwing our doors open to the wider community to help us remember and celebrate. I suspect we had all hoped that this awful pandemic would be over by Christmas – but that is looking less likely by the day. In all three of our churches to allow social distancing, numbers are very limited. At present we require our congregations to let us know that they are attending, especially so that we can keep a track of who has been, meeting government requirements for Track and Trace.

But what I can assure people of, is that your churches will meet and undertake the tasks of remembering, worshipping and praying for our communities, country and world across this important time of year. We can also offer good quality recorded services available on our website. *[Go to the website listed below and find the recorded services at the bottom of the home page.]*



Being church at the heart of village life is a real honour and privilege. As church families we take seriously our role serving the life of our parishes and offering prayer and quiet space at the heart of local life. We feel deeply saddened that we cannot be to the wider community the church that we have always been and will be again in the future.

We are working hard to make sure that the Tree of Hope will have lights on it, as a symbol of light and peace – once again, without the usual service of lighting the tree. We will stand in silence with the nation on Remembrance Sunday and Armistice day, to remember our fallen. And through Advent and Christmas we will, through prayer and worship reflect God's light into our world.

As I write this letter, new tighter restrictions are being imposed in our country. We pray for all affected by this awful pandemic and offer our prayers to God for an end to this difficult time.

Rev Derek Welsman

**VISIT OUR BENEFICE WEBSITE:
www.thepriorychurches.co.uk**

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Other Sundays 10.30am Holy Eucharist
Wednesdays 10.00am Holy Eucharist

*Coffee is served in Church
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on most Sundays.*

*(Not during
lockdown!)*

Morning Prayer: 8.30am most weekday mornings except Wednesday & Friday

SERVICES AT ST PETER'S LODSWORTH

Second Sundays 9.00am Family Service
Fourth Sundays 9.00am Sung Communion
First Sundays 6.00pm Evensong

SERVICES AT ST JAMES SELHAM

1st & 3rd Sundays
8.30am Holy Communion

**During continued lockdown please check the churches' website
for updates on the times of services.**

Vicar: Revd Derek Welsman, Northgate, Dodsley Grove 812655
Easebourne GU29 9BE Email: derekwelsman@btinternet.com

Churchwarden: Mrs Alison Davis, Merrydown, Bepton 816642
Midhurst GU29 0LZ. Email: alitdavis@gmail.com

Churchwarden: Mr Roger Sked, 3 Fox Rd, Easebourne GU29 9BH
Email: rsked@btinternet.com 814948

Parish Administrator/PCC Secretary:
Mrs Liz Bounton, 1 Bourne Way, Midhurst GU29 9HZ
E-mail: stmaryseasebourne@hotmail.co.uk 816405

PCC Treasurer & Gift Aid Secretary
Mr Eric Bounton, 1 Bourne Way, Midhurst GU29 9HZ
E-mail: e.bounton@btinternet.com 816405

Organist & Choirmistress
Mrs Mary Knight 812783
Practice on Fridays 6.00pm (not during lockdown)

200 Club Margaret & Mike Wharton 810474
E-mail: mike@mwassociates.eu.com

Women's Fellowship
Mrs Ann Harfield 813810

Bellringers Joanne Blackwell 01798 860883
(ring on alternate Thursdays from 7.30 – 9.00pm)

Social Committee
Mrs Jan Harling 01798 342233

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or contact the editors by email—easebourne.united@gmail.com**

Visit the benefice website: www.thepriorychurches.co.uk

CHURCH DIARY FOR NOVEMBER 2020

Sunday 1	All Saints Day		
	8.30am	St James	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Family Service
	6.00pm	St Peter's	Evensong
Monday 2	7.00pm	St Mary's All Souls service	
Wednesday 4	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Sunday 8	Remembrance Sunday		
	9.00am	St Peter's	Remembrance Service
	10.30am	St Mary's	Remembrance Service
Wednesday 11	10.00am	St Mary's	Remembrance Service
Sunday 15	2nd Sunday before Advent		
	8.30am	St James	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Wednesday 18	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Sunday 22	Christ the King		
	9.00am	St Peter's	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Wednesday 25	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Sunday 29	1st Sunday of Advent		
	10.30am	St Mary's	United Service
DECEMBER			
Wednesday 2	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Sunday 6	2nd Sunday of Advent		
	8.30am	St James	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	St Peter's	Evensong

from The Social Gang

It is now some while since we had Afternoon Teas and UNO Lunches. You probably miss them as much as we do. However, as soon as we get permission to hold these events, we will be in touch with you all. Meanwhile, our very best wishes and love to you all, and we look forward to seeing you all again. Take care, especially as the weather gets colder.

The Social Gang (Gill, Gladys, Hilary, Tony, Jan, Jane B, Sue)

News from the Cowdray Estate

Jonathan Russell, CEO



COWDRAY

The 2020 polo season came to an end on 4th October some two weeks later than usual. Sadly the torrential rain resulted in the final day being cancelled which was disappointing for all. The season has been extraordinary for a number of reasons, including the uncertainty of when we would be able to start and the requirement to play behind closed doors, complicated by a highly visible and accessible location. However, given all the disruption we were delighted to have hosted 370 games, equating to approximately 80% of a normal season, condensed over an 18-week period.

The Gold Cup is arguably the most coveted trophy in international polo and this year it was hard to believe that we played to host to this global tournament which draws spectators from around the world. A new initiative this year was to live stream the games on a subscription service. This resulted in the tournament being viewed in

over 55 countries including Zambia, Ecuador and Angola. Watching the final on my laptop from the Estate Office, some 400m away from where it was being played, was a poignant reminder of the extraordinary period we have lived through. Whilst the pandemic has caused challenges and disruption to a number of the Estate's activities, the Golf Club has been largely unaffected having been the first business to re-open post lockdown. Golf as a sport has received a surge in interest from those looking for an accessible escape from lockdown restrictions. Whilst this has required careful management by the team to ensure all have had the opportunity to play, we have been delighted this month to be welcoming our 100th new member to the Club since May. It is wonderful to see so many new faces at the Club enjoying what we believe is a hidden gem.

It is challenging not to feel slightly despondent as we begin to feel the impact of the inevitable increase in restrictions on the Estate's activities which the team have worked hard to re-open during the summer. However we are all well prepared to face whatever challenges are coming in the next few months.





Poppy Collection 2020

I am sure that many of you will have seen on television that there is no house to house collection this year. I know that there are many of you are very loyal to "your" collector and always wait for him or her to call. I am very sad that the decision has been made but the Legion felt that the risk for the collectors is too great. A real shame as one of the Easebourne collectors whose name is in the record book I inherited from Miss Gayford (who started Conifers) was about to clock up her 46th year!



However the Cowdray Café and Shop, Easebourne Stores, the BP Garage and The White Horse have kindly agreed to have boxes by their tills. There will be displayed on the boxes a QR code so that donations can be made via your mobile. (I know a bit of a challenge to others of my generation who like me still struggle with that kind of thing!) I am so aware that last year the very generous people of Easebourne made it possible to send over £3,000 to the Royal British Legion so I feel we are challenged to do our bit this year to enable the Legion to carry on its vital work.

If there is anyone who would like to contribute via a cheque, or cash, please feel free to contact me or put the donation in an envelope through my door.

Katharine Minchin
Kelross, Lutener Road, Easebourne
Tel 01730 813586

Scan to donate



To donate **£2** text **POPPY2** to **70545** *

To donate **£5** text **POPPY5** to **70545** *

To donate **£10** text **POPPY10** to **70545** *

EVERY **POPPY** COUNTS

Poet's Corner

Thanksgiving by Sue Absolom

Tis the season of the Harvest
A time of grateful thanksgiving
For the fruits and the crops
And the farmers and their living.

Through weeks of blazing sun
Through times of torrential rain
They battle with these elements
Often for little financial gain.

The yield may be poor this year
The quality not quite at its best.
But fields must still be harvested
Then prepared again or left to rest.

It's also a time of Thanksgiving
To our Dear Lord above
For our food, and the beauty around us
And for His unconditional Love.

This year has been so difficult
It's hard to find something good
But Our Lord is faithful in all things
So to give thanks to Him we should.

For the trees in all their glory
Aglow with bright coloured leaves
Whether in rain or in the sunshine
What magic Our Lord does weave.

The hedgerows have been laden
With fruits of all kind galore
To make jams, sloe gin(!) and puddings
It's that time of year once more.

So take a little time out
Lift your faces to the sky
Enjoy the peace of our countryside
Don't let these things pass you by.





WELLBEING AT COWDRAY HALL

Cowdray Hall & Therapy Rooms is a well-established centre for wellbeing. The centre focuses exclusively on inspirational workshops and events, weekly classes and one-to-one therapy sessions which promote self-development. At a time when the importance of holistic health is widely acknowledged, the centre provides a place where visitors can relax as well as focus on wellbeing.

Alongside Cowdray Hall sits three beautifully appointed Therapy Rooms for hire offering an accessible yet private space for a wide range of practitioners. From part-time therapists looking for a room with less commitment, to full-time professionals looking for a permanent home, we have pricing options which cater to all.

For further information on classes and events at Cowdray Hall and for more details on Cowdray Therapy Rooms, please visit:
www.cowdray.co.uk/wellbeing/

t: 01730 812423 e: therapy-rooms@cowdray.co.uk
Cowdray Hall & Therapy Rooms, Parkway, Easebourne,
Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 0AW



A focus on volunteering

We've had some great support from volunteers in 2020 despite the challenges of COVID-19. Without residents' involvement the Parish would not be what it is. There are plenty of opportunities to get involved and you can give as much time as you want. Every little helps.

- We continue to develop Easebourne Park and there are always Park projects on the go if you want to get involved.
- Our recent litter pick was a great success with lots of new volunteers; we'll be planning the next one in the Spring. Just an hour or two makes a real difference.
- The Midhurst Green Volunteers have done great work keeping greenery at bay around the footpaths of Easebourne as well as Midhurst. We really could do with more support if the Green Volunteers are to continue their work in the village. It's just an hour or so of your time on an occasional Saturday morning.
- One of the biggest concerns of residents is speeding through the village down our two main roads. Community Speedwatch activity does help but we're short on volunteers to make it regular enough to make a difference. You might consider joining the roster of volunteers.

To get involved, please get in touch with us through the Parish Clerk.

Remembering the fallen

As we approach Remembrance Sunday we're pleased to inform you that the Case Study "**Easebourne – The Men and Times Remembered**", researched and written by Christine Deadman, has been published on the Easebourne Parish Council website under the "About our Parish" heading. It's a wonderful piece of work. You can read more about it and the author in the article on page 13.

Could you become a Parish Councillor?

We're delighted to welcome Emma Chapman as our newest Parish Councillor. Emma grew up in Easebourne and is the grand-daughter of well-known resident Vic Mitchell. She joins at a busy time for the Parish Council as we continue to develop Easebourne Park and are about to embark on a number of other Parish projects designed to enhance the village. But we still have a vacancy that we're keen to fill so we can deliver on our ambitious plans (more to be revealed in the near future).

If you are a resident of Easebourne, Henley or King Edward VII Estate, have lived here for more than a year, and would like to get involved, we'd love to hear from you. You don't need to have any specific experience - it's more important to be passionate about your community and have a willingness to get involved. Time commitment can be as much as you want and is dependent on what you choose to get involved in. As a minimum it's a few hours a month. We meet as a full council six times a year (currently online through Zoom!) and

then, depending on what areas you get involved in, there would be other projects or committee specific meetings in between. If you'd like to find out more about what's involved and the current

team, take a look at our website get in touch with Sharon Hurr, our Parish Clerk. (See below)

**Parish Clerk: Sharon Hurr, parishclerk@easebourne.org
Tel: 07342 166188 Parish website: www.easebourne.org**

Listed Structure in Easebourne—The War Memorial



Photo by John Harrison

Grade II curtilage, listed due to its position within the churchyard. Designed by Sir Aston Webb, KCVO CB, President of the Royal Academy in 1919. (See next page.)

Listing NGR: SU8947922514

Easebourne War Memorial—Report by Phil Stringer

Following the annual condition report on the war memorial completed by a joint team from the church and parish council in January this year, it was decided to apply for a grant to conduct some restoration in advance of the centenary of the memorial in October 2021. As part of the grant application process, research into the history of the war memorial, primarily taken from village reports in the West Sussex Gazette, has been undertaken and the article below highlights the key moments from its history.

In April 1919 a parish meeting was held to make arrangements for celebration of peace following end of the Great War. Some argued that the plans should be combined with Midhurst arrangements (illuminated ruins, display of fireworks and a bonfire). But others wanted separate celebrations. The vicar of St Mary's Easebourne, Rev C E Hoyle, argued that celebrations should be delayed until the summer when it would be known if Germany was carrying out the terms of the peace treaty, and due to the Russian plague sweeping over the country! At this meeting it was also agreed that Easebourne was to have a separate war memorial.

By May 1919, Sir Aston Webb, president of the Royal Academy and already linked with Lord Cowdray from work he completed on a house in Kent and proposed works to Easebourne church, was commissioned to design the memorial. He had visited the churchyard and recommended that the war memorial cross should be placed at the bottom of the churchyard on the path, because it would be in line with some point of the church. He estimated the cost would be £400 (£25,000 in today's money). He prepared designs (copies of which are in

the West Sussex Records Office) which were submitted to the organising committee in September 1919.

The peace celebrations were finally held in July 1919, when it was decided to give a free tea to all returning soldiers and their wives, all children and widows of soldiers. It is interesting to note that there were 367 names on the Church roll of honour, those who fought from the parish including 43 men killed. This number was subsequently increased to 49.

By January 1920, a model of the proposed war memorial was placed near the old yew tree (now long since gone, although you can still see its roots), at the junction of two paths in the new portion of the churchyard. The monument was described as:

"20ft high on lines of ancient crosses with tall and graceful shaft."

The memorial was funded by a parish subscription and Lord Cowdray offered to give £1 for every £1 collected in the parish, up to £200. By April 1920, £238 had been contributed by 283 subscribers from the parish. In addition, £30 came from the Peace Festivities Fund. By July, a church faculty (ecclesiastical planning permission) had been authorised for the construction of: *"a cross of stone 20 feet in height from the design of Sir Aston Webb and intended to be provided as a war memorial may be erected in the western portion of the churchyard"*.

The memorial was dedicated on 1st October 1921 at a service held in brilliant sunshine. The service was conducted by Rev Hoyle and the unveiling was performed by Viscount Cowdray. He also gave an address from the first tier of the memorial. It was clearly very emotional as he

(cont'd on p. 16)

Easebourne – The Men and Times Remembered

by Christine Deadman

As the time draws near once again for us to remember those who are commemorated on the war memorial in the church yard, you may be interested to read my Case Study “Easebourne – The Men and Times Remembered”.

just seven surnames account for seventeen of the fatalities. Easebourne responded patriotically to the call for arms. It housed large numbers of billeted men, seemingly with good grace, and its residents contributed generously to support of those in need and helping the war effort. To read Chris’s study go to www.easebourne.org and find the ‘About our Parish’ page, and then to ‘The Great War Project’.



The plaque in the church with the names of the men listed on the War Memorial.

About the Author

Chris Deadman has lived in the parish since 2009 when she moved to Budgenor Lodge. This coincided with early retirement from a managerial career in the NHS. interested in history and with more time available, she embarked on research into her family history. She was close to her maternal grandfather who had told her stories of his experiences in the Machine Gun Corp in the First World War.

Many of you who attend church, and some who do not, will know the names of many of the men listed on the memorial. Indeed, they may be your ancestors. So this Case Study, which provides a story about some of those men listed (who they were, where they served, where they died and where they are also commemorated (e.g. Arras Memorial) may help fill in some details of your personal ancestry.

The 24-page study also features aspects of life in Easebourne at the time, what some of its people were doing, and how many of its institutions fared. The impact of the war was considerable on the people of the parish as

During this research she became aware that the West Sussex Library Service was looking for volunteers to participate in their Heritage Lottery funded “Great War” Project. She decided to volunteer and was tasked with helping to digitise some local newspapers of the war period to make them more accessible to the public. As part of the project volunteers were encouraged to write a case study of their choice. She decided to research the details of the men listed on the Easebourne war memorial so that she would have a better understanding of the history of the parish, its people and the impact of the war on it.

Please contact the editors if you have comments about Chris’ study.

Report from Buddington Farm from James Renwick

Here at Buddington we have had a very busy summer and autumn. The summer was very warm and dry which has been lovely but challenging, as grass growth was almost nil and the fields turned brown so we had to feed stored winter silage much earlier. But luckily we have good stocks in store.

We made a decision to start selling fresh pasteurised milk from our cows back in the spring during lockdown as people buying potatoes asked if we sold milk too. So after converting our old milking parlour into the milk



pasteurising room and buying the equipment

and the milk vending machine, we were able to start selling in late September. Everyone has been very supportive in the community, and hopefully they are enjoying the milk and the reusable glass bottles. We are still selling potatoes but in half size bags as 25kg is often too much. We also sell local free range eggs.

(Special thanks to Derek for his "promotion" in church during his Harvest Sunday sermon. I can confirm he isn't on commission!)



Report from Stonepillow

from Katharine Minchin



As you can imagine Covid-19 has made helping the homeless an even more important task. In March the government launched the Rough Sleepers Initiative. This provided money for charities like Stonepillow to seek out as many as possible of those sleeping on the streets. In the Chichester, Littlehampton and Bognor area a further 45 people were found. Five of them said they would not come in, which left 40 beds to be found. It was quite a challenge to find more beds in addition to the 97 across the area already under the Stonepillow umbrella. Some were found rooms in the Butlins holiday camp and some in Travel Lodge.

Now over six months later, Stonepillow has, with the help of Chichester Council, managed to find accommodation for all those who wanted to continue to take advantage of a secure roof, plus a chance to address some of the issues that made them homeless. There were some who after a very short space of time found they just couldn't bear to be inside. For some, this is because of mental health issues or experiences from their past such as prison. The rise in numbers has meant that Stonepillow has had to increase its outreach staffing levels. There are now staff who are out on the streets, at all times of the day and night, getting alongside rough sleepers attempting to get them to trust the staff and persuade the

rough sleeper to access the day centres in Chichester and Bognor.

There are also staff in St Richard's, Worthing and Crawley hospitals in the A&E departments identifying those frequent attenders who, because they have no address, are unable to get onto a GP list. Even a minor problem leaves them with no choice but A&E. Covid-19 has made catering for the clients much more difficult. Current regulations with the restriction on numbers means that there are only so many that can access the day centres at one time, and hot meals are often put into takeaway dishes and handed out through the kitchen door.

Harvest Festival time has meant that many parishes have delivered their offerings to Stonepillow. They are very gratefully received as this is the maximum donation time. Some parishes have sent their money offerings to the meat account at Parker's Foodservices which allows the various centres to order fresh meat. If anyone would like to support Stonepillow by donating to the account, Parker's telephone number is 01243 542195 and the account is STO 02. I am very happy to answer any questions re Stonepillow.

Katharine Minchin
813586

(cont'd from p. 12)

addressed the congregation in front of the panel which recorded his own son's death in 1914. He said: *"We parents and others who were near and dear to them, are here to pay our homage to those glorious 48 [one further name appears to have been added later] whose names have been read and are inscribed on this beautiful memorial, which we have erected as a lasting reminder of their supreme sacrifice. Their lives were given to prevent might and strife overcoming right and selfishness and greed taking the place of justice and faith"*.

Relatives of those commemorated laid floral tributes on the tiers of the memorial. One card read: *"With greatest honour, love, respect and sympathy, to our departed comrades of Easebourne"*.

A month later at the annual Remembrance

Day service, Rev Hoyle addressed the congregation saying: *"The memorial reminds us of fellowship – the steps around it pointing in every direction, the shape, the names recorded upon it, and the towering shaft bearing on the top a cross, the symbol of all sacrifice, remind us that in our lives we should have more and more the spirit of fellowship"*.

He also appealed for subscriptions to clear off the £16 debt on the memorial!

After World War Two on 11 Nov 1948, Lord Cowdray unveiled three additional bronze tablets bearing 13 names of those killed from the village. This followed the annual Remembrance service. The silence, which was observed in the church, was preceded by the reading, by Lord Cowdray, of the names of the fallen in two world wars.



tandem



APPEAL FOR DRIVERS

Volunteer as a driver to ensure that Tandem can continue to provide these critical services to all in need.

Tandem is a Midhurst-based charity, founded in 1983, that provides transport to medical appointments for the not so young and not so able in the Midhurst and Petworth areas. You would use your own car and we would pay you a mileage allowance. The service is demand-driven with no fixed schedule, so drive when and if you can. So if you have some spare time please let us know.

Please volunteer and make a contribution to your community.

To find out more please phone. Tel 0330 030 3962

? **General Knowledge Quiz** *Compiled by Carole Sawyer*

1. Who has recently become the first female president of the Scout Association?
2. What kind of orange is used to flavour Earl Grey tea?
3. In which US state is the Grand Canyon?
4. How many dots are there in total on a pair of dice?
5. What is the Decalogue better known as?
6. What name is given to a female horse aged four or under?
7. What was the last James Bond film in which Roger Moore starred?
8. Which British architect born in 1935 is best known for buildings including 'The Gherkin' and the new Wembley Stadium?
9. Which famous diarist started with a first entry on 1st January 1660?
10. What is the only common metal that is liquid at room temperature?
11. Which British admiral defeated the French at Trafalgar, but was killed during the battle?
12. Who asks the quiz questions on television's 'The Weakest Link'?
13. According to a recent report who is apparently the most hardworking royal in all of the European Monarchies?
14. The M90 motorway is the most northerly motorway in the United Kingdom; which city is at its northern end?
15. Which animal is the symbol of the American Republican Party?
16. What type of milk is a basic ingredient of Thai cookery?
17. The poem by John Keats that begins 'My heart aches and a drowsy numbness pains my sense' is an ode to which bird?
18. What are arachnoids?
19. What are the colours of the rainbow, in order from Red?
20. A reality show centred around which family announced it would air its final series following twenty seasons of feuds, scandals and fall outs?

Answers on page 22



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Locks Cottages – an update by Pete Carver

Following on from the story in the October issue about Locks Cottages, Pete Carver got in touch with the editors to fill us in on who has lived there in the past. Pete's grandparents, Harry (b. 1865) and Georgina (Talbot) Carver (b. 1874), who were both born in Upper Easebourne Street, went to live in Old Buddington Lane in the lower part of the Locks Cottages from sometime between the wars until 1950 with their five children—Henry, Archie, George, Ivy and Lucilla. Next door in the upper part of Locks, which was then two separate dwellings, lived families of gamekeepers. One family called Bristol had a son Cyril who married youngest sister Lucilla.

Pete's dad was the third son, George, born in 1906. George and his first wife May Eldridge lived in one of the cottages further down Old Buddington Lane and had 11 children. Pete, born in 1946, is the second youngest of that very large family. Grandfather Harry was a gardener by trade and worked on the local farms doing such things as hoeing the sugar beet fields. He also tended two allotments where the houses of Canada Grove were later built. He grew vegetables including asparagus, which were left at the Priory Gates to be taken up to London hotels. Harry was knocked over one day walking down the lane by the postman (on his pushbike). He broke his leg and had to have it amputated so was unable to carry on working, but he did manage to dig his own garden by sitting a wooden box and shuffling along.



Harry & Georgina Carver

Harry died in 1950 and his grandmother Georgina ended up in Graylingwell Hospital until her death. Pete has only a vague recollection of his grandparents (pictured left) but he remembers the taste of the greengages that grew behind their house. (Pete has been told that the greengages might still be growing there.) The Bristols were gone by then but there was a succession of keepers up there - George Bredding, Sid Rudd, Bob Hallot, and John Rideout. After the Carvers left Locks Cottages, Jack and Grace Glue lived in the lower part of the cottage. Jack worked at Backshalls garage as a mechanic, and Grace (whom we remember as a lovely but very stooped lady) lived alone there until her death a few years ago.

Pete would love to know more about the Talbots of Upper Easebourne Street. His great-grandfather Carver was a beer seller at the Holly Tree, and great-grandfather Talbot was a beer seller at the Bricklayers Arms in Midhurst. Please contact the editors if you can tell us more about the Talbots or all those Carvers, or if you have a story about life in Easebourne in the 'old' days.

easebourne.united@gmail.com or Tel 816542



Easebourne Cub Pack—1941

Back row: David Stringer, Ted Dummer, Bertie Coombes, John Goodall, John Stringer

Front row: Roly Arnold, David Green, Tony Weston, Dudley Angell, Billy Parry, Bobby Arnold

Please contact the editors to tell us more about the uniformed groups 80 years ago.

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General Knowledge Quiz Answers

1. Duchess of Cambridge 2. Bergamot orange 3. Arizona 4. 42 5. The Ten Commandments 6. Filly 7. A View to Kill 8. Norman Foster 9. Samuel Pepys 10. Mercury 11. Nelson 12. Anne Robinson 13. Princess Anne the Princess Royal 14. Perth 15. Elephant 16. Coconut milk 17. Nightingale 18. Spiders 19. Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, Violet 20. The Kardashians

Report from Birch Trees Nursing Home

We would like to start this month by saying a huge thank you to everyone who generously donated to our Macmillan coffee afternoon at Birch Trees. This is a charity that is close to our hearts as we work closely with our local Macmillan team. We are privileged to be involved with their new frailty pilot scheme, where they work in partnership with us to support our frailest residents to improve their quality of life.

We had started to arrange our coffee afternoon in August before the new "rule of six" was implemented, so when the government announcement came, it left us with a bit of a dilemma – do we cancel or do we try to find a

way around the problem? We soon settled on the idea of having a cake sale rather than a socially distanced sit-down event, where people could turn up, buy cakes and take them away in special take away boxes. Oscar, our very talented chef, worked hard to create some beautiful cakes and I'm very glad to report, there were a few left for our residents and staff too! We also sold some clay flowers, Christmas place settings, and cards that the residents had made, and at the end of the afternoon, we had managed to raise an astonishing £280 for Macmillan.

Last month we said farewell to Caron, our Activities Coordinator who has moved on to work in a family business but we are delighted to welcome Vee who has taken on the role. Vee brings with her extensive experience in the field of activities and has many great ideas she is excited about implementing. She is already recruiting staff members to star in the Birch Trees Panto, photos of which will probably appear on our Facebook page (Victoria Birch Trees) in due course!

Sarah Darnell, Care Practitioner
sarah@victorianursinggroup.co.uk



Forest School

CONIFERS SCHOOL

Children at Conifers School have been making the most of the wonderful Autumnal weather recently in their gardening and forest school areas. The Nursery and Pre School children had a wonderful time hunting for worms and finding out all about them from Farmer Paul, whilst the older children have been exploring in the stream, building dens, measuring shadows, learning about our natural surroundings and enjoying much adventure!

A blend of indoor and outdoor learning is so important for children and at Conifers they embrace it as part of the weekly curriculum. As well as the obvious health benefits, there are real physiological, social and academic benefits to taking leaning outside too. It aids self-esteem, teamwork, problem solving and is proving to be a great motivator to learn – it's not called the great outdoors for nothing!



Easebourne Primary School



I know that the COVID-19 is uppermost in most people's minds at present and that certainly includes the minds of the school staff. You can imagine the concern amongst the school community, therefore, when the site had its first confirmed COVID-19 case in the nursery earlier this week.

The staff followed the guidance, however, along with the school and nursery risk assessments that were in place. The DfE phone line, which the guidance instructs schools to phone in these situations, forwarded the situation to NHSBSA, operating on behalf of Public Health England, and their handling was patient and comprehensive. The Bubble affected was burst, its children and adults told to self-isolate, along with the immediate family of the individual who had tested positive. We then reported the situation to West Sussex and again the support from County was patient and reassuring. The next day, the nursery manager was contacted by a supportive County adviser and, a little later, NHS Test and Trace followed up, contacting the family to help to identify close contacts.

Despite everybody's best efforts to keep the school community safe, there was increasingly a sense for me that it was a case of when, not if, a Bubble burst. With this same urgency in mind, the Secretary of State is requiring schools to provide remote education for state-funded, school-age children who are unable to attend school due to coronavirus (COVID-19). This will have come into effect by the time you read this as the deadline is Thursday, 22nd October.

Mindful of this deadline, our classroom teachers have been trained further with

Google Classroom this first half-term and we have used the majority of our catch-up premium funding to buy two class sets of Chromebooks. This will enable our children to become more familiar with remote learning so that, if their Bubble does burst, they will be able to transition smoothly to teacher-directed remote learning on Day 3. The first two days are allocated for this transition process during which the children will undertake self-directed remote learning, using materials prepared by the class teacher. All this is detailed in our new Remote Learning Policy.

Ironically, the day after the positive test result, we were visited by a Health and Safety Executive Inspector, having been chosen randomly to see how, as a school, we were responding to COVID-19! I have to admit to being a little nervous as we had only just burst a Bubble the day before. However, the inspector interviewed senior staff, quizzed us on practice, having read our risk assessment, toured the school and spoke to a further member of staff. He complimented us on our response and the visit was a positive one.

It is certainly a bewildering time, with news stories appearing to suggest rapid shifts of policy, climbing statistics and increasingly strict restrictions being imposed, and it is easy sometimes to be disheartened by the general situation. In the school's first experience, however, with this confirmed case in the nursery, the systems felt supportive and that was encouraging.

I wish you all a safe autumn.

Johnny Culley, headmaster
www.easebourne.w-sussex.sch.uk

Midhurst WW2 Memoirs: Evil Rising, Good Awakening

Many will remember Peter Sydenham, our Australian member of the Midhurst Society and co-editor of the Midhurst Magazine. He was evacuated to Midhurst during World War II and although he has never lived here since, the memory stayed with him. So much so that a few years ago he started writing about it, and realised that readers would want more than just his personal story. As the book developed, he researched local history and background stories, and found that one book just wasn't enough!

That first book, *Midhurst WW2 Memoirs: A Place Close to My Heart*, was published in 2018, and he has now published Book 2, covering the 1930s: ***Midhurst WW2 Memoirs: Evil Rising, Good Awakening***. First explained is how WW2 came about by the deceit and imperialist aims of Italy, Germany and Japan using unprecedented military might to enforce their doctrines. The British fascist party was strongest in the south coast - with interesting local links such as Lord Haw-Haw. An interesting study deals with the mystery, did Goering and Von Ribbentrop really visit Midhurst before war broke out? It then discusses how the Allies, based on democratic rule, slowly grew in strength to combat these evil Axis forces in combat over the globe.

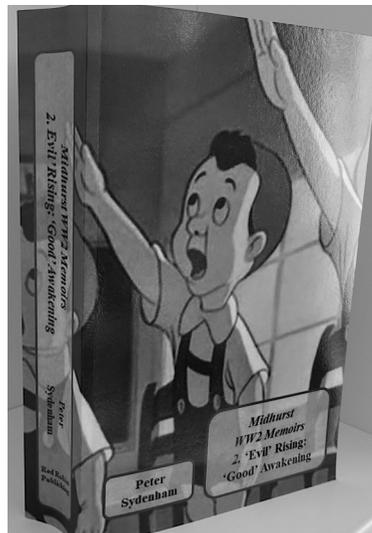
The Midhurst District has long been the home of people who made a notable difference, both nationally and internationally. After reviewing the ownership and war use of major houses and estates, the book covers facets of life, music, art, money, and sport - bringing out unexpected stories of local residents of that period. This journey through the 30's

decade is punctuated with condensed accounts of the dreadful conditions people had to live under in German rule, and who showed amazing resistance to the Nazis.

It also explains how Midhurst and surrounding villages were impacted by rules and regulations, not seen before, as war-time conditions began to bite, and the area filled with thousands of Canadian soldiers and evacuees from London.

This 564-page book includes hundreds of colour and black & white illustrations. Its format matches the first book, with easy to read print and a gentle style of explanation. It is available on-line, in print, and e-book versions. Dr Sydenham lives in Adelaide, Australia. Due to Covid-19 restrictions he will not be present for a book launch this time. Details of Book 2 are available at <https://midhurstmemoirs.com/>.

The recommended retail price is £20.00, but we are able to supply locally at a special price of £15.00. For details contact MidhurstSociety@bigger-picture.co.uk.





Joy Jones, Val May, Betty Parry, and Rose Hunt, all residents of Birthday House, plus 'outsiders' Pauline Heath, Val Carver and Pat Quinnell, have been knitting toys during craft afternoons. They started work on them well before lockdown, but after restrictions came into place some of the residents continued to come down to the lounge most afternoons to knit these lovely toys. Here is a photo of their results. They plan to sell them to raise funds for the local Yellow Bus, and have already raised around £100. They would make very nice Christmas presents. Prices of the toys vary according to size. For information phone Joy Jones on 601424 or email the warden.

Rachel Davies, Birthday House Warden
 rachel.davies@cowdray.co.uk

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Our **Annual General Meeting** has again been postponed as the South Downs National Park Authority will not be letting the Memorial Hall out till at least the second quarter of 2021.

Litter seems to be a constant where humans gather. Thanks to Cowdray Estate representatives and South Downs National Park Authority Rangers who together regularly removed tents, sleeping bags, rugs, etc from around our pond area during this sunny summer. Also, thanks to members of the public who collect rubbish as they walk across the Common.

Bat Survey – on 15 Sep I was joined at dusk by Martyn Phillis from a local Bat Group who carried out a survey for us. He found a surprisingly low number of bats. Contact me or see our website for more information.

Bog Allotment off Bepton Road – Murray has reported an amazing 20ft growth of the willow crop in one season – plenty of locally made and grown baskets for Christmas presents this year.

Fungi – We found *Sparassis crispa* - cauliflower fungus. It prefers the base of pine trees which is exactly where this one is. It is edible but don't be too greedy. Leave some behind

because it is not particularly common. (See photo on our website.) There are many fungi to be seen at this time of year – maybe you could send in your photos with species identified if possible. We could put these on our website – only from Midhurst Common though, please.

Heathland - Our Heathland maintenance work teams are now going out on every second Wednesday and last Friday of the month thanks to Jean Hicks. This month has mainly been pulling pine and cutting back silver birch which would eventually takeover the heathland if not removed. Contact us if you would like to join the team.

Are you aware of the Heathlands Reunited Heathlands **Sculpture Trail** – get your leaflet from the South Downs Centre in Midhurst or download it from their website. So far Sian, Bertie (our dog) and I have visited two sculptures – Dragonflies Rest and Cranberry on the Mire.

Regular updates are on our website:
www.friendsofmidhurstcommon.co.uk

Andrew Mitchell, Chairman
Friends of Midhurst Common Email:
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There are a number of new changes at the Midhurst Foodbank. Firstly, Liz Willing (retired deputy head teacher at Midhurst Primary School), has been appointed as our new coordinator at Midhurst, and we look forward to working with her at the helm. We are currently being asked for more help by members of our community but continue to be able to cope at the moment. No one is turned away.

The Trussell Trust has now lifted the age barrier for volunteers so with returning volunteers and a number of new ones, we are a strong team. The closure of Budgens has obviously been a concern as we collected a goodly amount of donations from there every week, but as one door closes, another one opens and I am pleased to announce that M&S Simply Food, Easebourne now have a collection basket (just in front of the tills) which is already bearing fruit! We are also collecting donations from The Nationwide Building Society in North Street so a big thanks to them too.

A big thank you to all those who volunteer and those who who donate to The Midhurst Foodbank.

Sian Mitchell, volunteer



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Although you have not seen Rotarians out and about in their yellow tabards recently we want to assure you that we are still working hard to help the community. Collections to boost our charity account have been hit hard due to cancellation of fund raising events, so innovative ideas have been required. The daughter of one Rotarian raised funds by baking and selling cakes during her time at home from university, and a Rotarian made and sold face masks.

Work has continued with both the Midhurst and the Petworth Food Banks, help has been given to the Petworth Markets, flower tubs in Church Square were planted and kept looking cheerful, drivers and assistance has been given to the Yellow Bus and Tandem, to name a few initiatives. The annual Rotary Golf Day has had to be postponed as has the Schools Music Festival which we are hoping may be able to go ahead in some form over Zoom.. Work is now ongoing to assist vulnerable families during the Christmas Period.

President Rangesh Nallan has worked very hard to ensure our weekly Zoom meetings are interesting, arranging various speakers to join us . A local headmaster told how computers donated by Rotary were aiding children’s learning. We have been joined by Rotarians from Washington DC, Cambridge MA, South Africa and next month from Cincinnati. One week we had a quiz over Zoom which was great fun

At the moment we are unsure whether we will be able to come on to the streets with our collecting buckets over the Christmas period. If you do see us please give generously in this very difficult period, especially for the most vulnerable in our society. If you would like to get in touch or to know more about what we do take a look at our website: www.midhurstandpetworthrotary.org.uk

Helen Chapman, Public Relations
 Rotary Club of Midhurst & Petworth

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FROM THE EDITORS

We are always grateful to receive contributions from our readers. Do you have more stories of local history? Do you have a family event to announce? How are you coping during lockdown? Tell us about working and studying online. We'd also like to hear from younger readers.

The deadline for the combined Dec/Jan issue is 15 November.

easebourne.united@gmail.com

A priest, a rabbit, and a minister walk into a bar. The bartender asks the rabbit, "What will you have?" The rabbit shakes his head and answers, "I have no idea, the only reason that I am here is because of Autocorrect."





Snippets from a Gardener's Diary by John Humphris

Although we were keen to have fruit in our garden, we really did not have the space to accommodate many trees. Espaliers seemed to be the best option as we were able to use them to divide the garden, and one plum tree which eventually had to be removed as it became too large. The espaliers are still with us and by hard pruning each summer they are more or less taking up very little more space than once they were planted and became established. These consist of two pear trees, Conference and Comice, and two apples, James Grieve and Egremont Russet.

We did not realize at the time how important fruit tree blossom would be as a feature in a small garden. Particularly the apples make quite a show, all flowering at more or less the same time as the cherry blossom so really worth having them for the blossom alone. Once established they began cropping well, particularly the Conference and Egremont, this creating its own problems. Year on year we were picking a large amount of fruit which, although we gave away quite a lot, the rest needed storing. In the average home with a shed and greenhouse it is almost impossible to find the ideal storage conditions. On many large estate gardens there is often a shed on the north side of tall buildings or glasshouses where fruit can be stored on racks in very cool conditions. It is these cool conditions that are so important and prevents so much fruit from being wasted.

Fruit growers both here and abroad invest heavily in the correct storage units where their fruit can be kept at the optimum temperature. To try and replicate that we bought a fridge just for storing fruit and any seed we had, and installed it in the shed. Set at its highest setting around plus 5C seems to be the ideal temperature. At the time of writing we have a large number of conference pears still in good condition which we bring out as we need them. The Comice pears do not seem to crop well but produce a small number of very large fruit. Once picked they need a few weeks in the fridge before they are ready and need to be eaten as soon as they are brought out. Comice have a flavor I have not found in any other pear and it is worth having the fridge for these fruit alone. Having the apple James Grieve has been useful. This is unusual in that once ready to pick (lift and turn in the palm of your hand and they come away freely), they can then be eaten over the next week or so. If the crop is heavy we have kept some in the fridge but they do not keep well for long periods.

At Sutton Place we planted an orchard of apple trees - 148 varieties of desert, culinary and cider apples. Once established they began cropping well and one year in particular we had very large numbers of fruit which were stored in a large stone cold building. The fruit were all labeled and we did a tasting in the mess room over the winter. The consensus for the best tasting desert apple was Laxton's Superb.

Plant of the Month

An evergreen shrub that begins to open its flowers in October and flowers through most of November is a real bonus in the garden. Many mahonias flower at different times during the winter but the Mahonia x media hybrids have set new standards since they were raised some sixty years ago. The most well known variety is Charity, raised at the Savill Gardens at Windsor, followed by Faith and Hope, named after the Keeper of the Gardens, Hope Findley and his wife. The other well known variety is Winter Sun which we have in the garden here and in mid-October is just showing the first hints of yellow from the upright clusters of flowers. This is now some two metres tall and almost as wide, and covered with a dozen or so spikes of flowers. In a small garden it needs pruning. This has been done once several years ago and is now due for its second pruning in early spring. The whole plant is

cut down to about a third of its height removing all the leaves, feed and mulch, and after missing flowering for one year will then continue to flower regularly.

John Humphris, 01730 810052



Mahonia 'Winter Sun'

Easebourne Garden & Allotment Society

We're sorry to say that there will no further meetings during 2020. We should have had an AGM in November but as all committee members are willing to stand again, we members can vote them in when we next meet. In the meantime, please keep safe.

With extra time, please do split up your perennials. Pot them on and label them to sell at our Plant Sale which we hope very much will take place in May 2021. Members note, we now have Dobies seed catalogues—with discounts for members. Phone John (810052) or Tina (816542) if you want to pick one up.

Mole

by Michael Blencowe,
Learning and Engagement Officer, Sussex Wildlife Trust



Sussex
Wildlife Trust

and I live in a hole...

If your lawn is full of nectar-rich flowers for butterflies and bees, with a patch of long grass for grasshoppers and hedgehogs, then Mother Nature will thank you. But if you're one of those particular

people who demands that their lawn is a perfectly manicured carpet, slathered in chemicals and shamelessly shaved each summer Sunday, then Mother Nature will not be happy and she'll send in her best hit man. So while we remember, remember

Guy Fawkes in November, I'm here to celebrate Britain's other infamous tunnelling terrorist – the mole.



It's hard to bond with the mole. Like 99.9% of us, I've never seen one and probably never will. They're almost a supernatural entity – the Bigfoot of the back garden. Their invisibility means my mental image of the mole has been painted by *The Wind in the Willows* and children's cartoons instead of real-life encounters. I'm always surprised when I see an actual photo of one and it's not wearing glasses.

Moles aren't blind. Admittedly, they'll be struggling by the second line of an eye test but there isn't much call for perfect eyesight when you spend all your life in total darkness. Instead, their pink nose is covered with 5,000 sensory organs which register touch and vibration, allowing the mole to 'see' with its snout; a super-sense that makes them efficient hunters. Their tunnel network spreads out like an

underground web and when a wiggling worm drops into it the mole's super-senses tingle, sending them scrambling through their pitch-black passageways. Worms are captured, cleaned, beheaded and stored, still wriggling, in a larder for future consumption.

The mole's front paws are like a pair of giant pink snow-shovels and come equipped with an extra thumb; a characteristic they share with the giant panda. These wide shovel-hands can move an

incredible 540 times their own weight of soil in a day. That's like me moving 55.46 tonnes of mud (and before you go scrambling for your calculators, yes, I could do with losing a few pounds).

The molehills that erupt on our lawns are spoil heaps created by the construction work below. OK – they're unsightly but gardeners should be welcoming moles. When potted, molehill soil makes an excellent growing medium for seeds and seedlings, so if you're blessed with molehills - grab a trowel. Once the tunnels are completed the molehills will stop appearing and, in the long run, mole burrowing bestows untold benefits to soil aeration and quality. But for me, it's a pleasure just knowing that such an amazing animal is living, unseen, a few inches below my feet. Some people will still complain but I guess some folk will always make a mountain out of a, well, y'know.

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Woodcroft Dental Clinic	812053	St Oswald Dental Surgery	812022
Newspaper delivery (Dummers)	813348	Red Cross Petworth	0800 028 0831
Community Hospital	819100	St Richards Hospital, Chichester	01243 788122
Royal Surrey Hospital	01483 571122	Social Services Chichester	01243 752999
District Councillor Mr Francis Hobbs fhobbs@chichester.gov.uk	07968 027833	Chemist MH Pharmacy	813255
Easebourne Village Stores	858130	Cowdray Shop & Café	815152
Midhurst Town Council	816953	Grange Centre	0333 005 0398
RecyclingSite, Bepton Road—Opening hours from 1 October—Thurs to Monday 9.00—16.00, closed Tuesday & Wednesday. See http://www.recycleforwestsussex.org/recycling-sites/midhurst			
EASEBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL			
Mike Noble, Chair Clerk—Sharon Hurr		Tel: 07342 166188 parishclerk@easebourne.org	
TRANSPORT			
Stagecoach Buses	0345 1210190	Midhurst Yellow Bus	07879 556568
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950	Tandem Bus	0300 030 3962
VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS			
Garden & Allotment Society	810052	Midhurst & Easebourne Youth Football Club	816415
1st Easebourne Scout Group	Sarah Jordan sarahjordan@hotmail.co.uk		
Rainbows, Brownies, Guides	Enquiries to www.girlguiding.org/interested		OR 0800 1695901
SCHOOLS			
Easebourne C of E Primary School Johnny Culley, Head teacher	813266	Early Days Nursery Annie Beadle	815046
Conifers School Mrs Emma Smyth, Head teacher	813243	Midhurst Rother College	812451

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