

united **EASEBOURNE**

SPECIAL
EDITION

FREE COPY

A magazine for the village

A village magazine is a remarkable thing. Within you find articles from local groups; celebrating the rich diversity of village life across the ages. You find adverts for events in the village; opportunities for us as a village to come together. You will also find information about local groups, contact details for important services and also numerous adverts from local businesses that support our daily life. And this magazine is also a place for the church to connect with the wider community; important seasons and events across the year. A village magazine is a remarkable thing; connecting, informing and celebrating - as it so neatly says 'United'.

*Derek Welsman
Vicar of St Mary's*

Many of you will have seen the new banners that have appeared close to North Mill and at The Grange, encouraging us to all Shop Local, Eat Local and Love Local. (See photo p.7.) Our local shops and businesses were amazing during the lockdown – they really stepped it up a gear when we were at our lowest. Many did free deliveries which they've never done before, offered safe collections and starting stocking essential items that many supermarkets had sold out of. Lockdown may now be easing and people are starting to go back to some more normal routines, but please remember to continue to support your local shops and encourage others to do the same. We hope you agree that we owe them a very big Thank You!

Many of our local businesses are included in our monthly Parish Magazine so it's an easy way of finding out about what they do, how they can help you and how to get in contact with them. The Magazine is produced every month apart from August and January and can be delivered direct to your door for only £5 a year.



*Mike Noble
Easebourne Parish Council Chairman*

(To see past issues of United
Easebourne go to the homepage
of: www.easebourne.org)

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Many thanks to Val Carver for the photograph of the village for our front cover.

The Benefice of ST. MARY'S PARISH CHURCH, EASEBOURNE
with St Peter's Lodsworth and St James Selham

SERVICES AT ST MARY'S

First Sunday	10.30am Family Eucharist	<i>Coffee is served in Church</i>
Other Sundays	10.30am Holy Eucharist	<i>after the 10.30am service</i>
Wednesdays	10.00am Holy Eucharist	<i>on most Sundays.</i>
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

Vicar:	Revd Derek Welsman, Northgate, Dodsley Grove Easebourne GU29 9BE Email: derekwelsman@btinternet.com	812655
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Organist & Choirmistress	Mrs Mary Knight Practice on Fridays 6.00pm	812783
200 Club	Margaret & Mike Wharton E-mail: mike@mwassociates.eu.com	810474
Women's Fellowship	Mrs Ann Harfield	813810
Bellringers	Joanne Blackwell (ring on alternate Thursdays from 7.30 – 9.00pm)	01798 860883
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To subscribe to United phone Ann Harfield 813810
or contact the editors by email—easebourne.united@gmail.com

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

Letter from the Vicar

Dear Friends

At the beginning of July our three parish churches returned to Sunday worship. After an absence that began in early March, it was a wonderful feeling to be back in church; recognising of course, strict government guidelines. From the outset, to accommodate social distancing we have had to restrict numbers attending – but in spite of this, the feeling of being in church again has been great.

This pandemic has meant that for all of us we have been forced to step back; from family, friends and social groups. For me, this 'stepping back' (which I prefer to Lock Down) has meant that the 're-emerging' from it has made me value the things that I might have taken for granted in the past, even more. I wouldn't want to go as far as saying that 'every cloud has a silver lining'. With the amount of suffering that the pandemic has brought to so many lives, one wouldn't want to detract from its impact - but certainly this has been a time for recognising, even more, the things that we value so much.

As I write this letter, we hear today that face coverings will be required in shops and confined

spaces. The story of Covid 19 and how we respond as humanity is an ever changing landscape.

More than any time in my life, I recognise the importance of my role in working with all of you to make this pandemic go away – we are in this together. This has meant that, firstly, we stayed at home. Then we tentatively returned to work and shops. And as every week goes by, new things emerge for our return to some form of normality – having your hair done, or going with friends for a meal or drink. But in all these things, it is our collective 'working together' that will make a real difference.

In all that has happened, I have been deeply moved by the way people have gone that extra distance to help our communities. From shop keepers who have installed screens and markings to help us keep our distance, to innovative businesses that have worked tirelessly to allow us to get back to gathering for social occasions. I deeply admire my refuse collectors – always cheerful, always happy to help. And how can we ever thank our



school teachers and staff who have kept our children educated. Who has impressed you? To name them all here would take too long – but we are truly grateful to them all. And I want to add my heartfelt thanks and praise to my church wardens, who took hold of the task of returning to church and made it happen; so to Deryck, Lynne, Roger, Janet, Alison and Roger I/we thank you!

Together we get through this. As communities we achieve so much more. I am proud to be your parish priest, to be part of your story and I am blessed daily by your dedication to our local life. May God bless us all.

Derek Welsman
 Vicar of St Mary’s Church

In January next year we will be bringing our three parish churches together under one Parochial Church Council. This has no real effect on the daily life of our church, but it will make a huge difference in the way our churches are managed and the way we work together. Before this change comes into effect, there is a period of public consultation. To this affect, there is a Public Notice in each of our three churches for people to read and make comment.



Date	Readings	Readers	Gospel	Intercessors
2 August	Isaiah 55: 1- 5	Wendy Trafford	Matthew 14: 13–21	
9 August	Romans 10: 5–15	Colin Datchler	Matthew 14: 22–33	
16 August	Isaiah 6: 10—end	Jan Harling	Luke 1: 46–55	
23 August	Isaiah 51: 1–6	Tony Craig	Matthew 16: 13–20	
30 August		TBA		

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

Women's Fellowship

This year was to have been the second year of fund raising for the charity TANDEM. Sadly we have been unable to host our annual Beetle Drive or the Cheese & Wine evening, both good sources of funds and social gathering with friends from other groups.

We usually support our chosen charity for two years but in this case we will extend it to a third year and hope our events can go ahead as usual in 2021.

We will have to forgo our summer outing as not all facilities are available and car sharing would also be a problem.

I hope it will not be too long before we can meet again. In the meantime, keep well and stay safe.

Love and best wishes to all of our members.

AnnHarfield

Tel 813810

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 200 CLUB

Winners in July draw

1st Prize - £100	No 21	Joy Karn
2nd Prize - £75	No 15	Pat Broadbent
2nd Prize - £75	No 62	Ellen Wheeker
3rd Prize—£50	No 24	Mo Knight
3rd Prize—£50	No 125	Ann Marchand
3rd Prize—£50	No 23	Jan Bennett

If you would like to join the 200 Club please contact:

Mike & Margaret Wharton,
tel 810474, email mike@mwassociates.eu.com

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Park Life

Although Easebourne Park has been open throughout the lockdown, it truly came back to life on Saturday 4 July when children could start using the play equipment again. The re-opening comes with some social distancing guidance but it's been such a joy to see young families having such a lovely time. Don't forget that everyone is welcome to use all the facilities, including the glorious Roundhouse, the barbecue and the picnic tables. It's a place to be enjoyed by all (well most) of our community.

Sadly, we have had a few incidents of poor behaviour over the past few weeks from a small number of young people including drug dealing and vandalism of the Roundhouse. As a result, we've had to increase security patrols, are now looking to install CCTV and are in regular contact with the Police. If anyone spots an incident, please call 101 to report it. Not only does such behaviour spoil the Park for other users but it also means we are wasting money on repairs and prevention measures. We're also now looking to start a crowd-funding campaign to try to raise funds required for CCTV.

On a brighter note, the Parish Council is currently planning the next developments – watch this space.

Save the date!

Despite the current pandemic we're hoping that, come September, a relaxation of the lockdown rules means we'll be able to host our annual family picnic. The plan is to hold it on Sunday 6 September from 1.00 to 5.00pm (weather and lockdown permitting) just before the end of the school holidays. Everyone in the Parish is welcome. For now, just save the date. We'll provide more details soon.

Could you become a Parish Councillor?

Have you ever thought of becoming a Parish Councillor? Do you want to find out what's involved and what a difference you can make to your local community? We have several vacancies on the Council and lots of opportunities for the right person to get involved in some exciting ongoing projects and to help shape the future of the Parish.

You don't need to have any specific experience. It's more important to be passionate about your community, have a willingness to get involved and have a few spare hours a month to help make things happen. As a Council we meet six times a year (although not face to face at present) 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 and have a chat about what's involved please get in touch with our Parish Clerk.

Parish Council Meetings

Please note the Parish Council is still unable to hold public meetings due to Covid-19 restrictions but is continuing to

operate with decisions made via emails, telephone conversations and virtual meetings. If you have any questions for the Parish Council or wish to make any suggestions, you are welcome to do so, by contacting the Parish Clerk Sharon Hurr (details below) or by letter to 1 Pennicott Road, Bersted, West Sussex, PO21 5AY.

Easebourne Park reopens!



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



Anthony Browne, Viscount Montague 1528–1592 by Andrew Guyatt

Sir Anthony Browne, the first Viscount Montague, was born in 1528. He must have been a precocious child since he was elected as MP for Guildford at the age of seventeen and for Petersfield eight years later. Although under age, he also became a standard bearer to Henry VIII and held other positions at court.

At the accession of Edward VI in 1547 he was created a Knight of the Bath and the next year on the death of his father inherited his estate including Cowdray. Since he was a staunch Roman Catholic, relations with this most Protestant king were sensitive and he was imprisoned for hearing Mass. Nevertheless later the king visited Cowdray referring in his journal to 'the goodly house of Sir Anthony Browne where we were marvellously, yea rather excessively, banketted.' He also became the Sheriff of Surrey and Sussex.

However his career really bloomed after Edward died and was succeeded by Mary. In 1554 she raised him to the peerage 'in consideration of the good and laudable service' on the occasion of her marriage to King Philip of Spain. Anthony became Viscount Montagu, (also spelt Montague), a name probably coming via his grandmother Lucy who had been married to a Marquis Montecute.

Mary tried to restore Roman Catholicism to England and in 1555 Anthony was sent to Rome together with the Bishop of Ely



The tomb of Sir Anthony Browne in Easebourne Church

to negotiate with Pope Julius III. Later that year he became a Knight of the Garter and in 1557 after acting as Lieutenant-General at the siege of St. Quentin in Picardy, was appointed to the Privy Council. He was one of fifteen executors of Mary's will.

When Elizabeth came to the throne in 1558 he lost his place on the Privy Council and next year in the House of Lords spoke against measures for religious reform including the Royal Supremacy over the Church of England and the dissolution of religious houses which had been re-

established during Mary's reign. He was one of only two peers to speak out but despite this he retained the Queen's favour and was sent on diplomatic missions to Spain and the Low Countries. He was also re-appointed as Lord Lieutenant of Sussex in 1569.

However relations soured when he and his son-in-law, Henry Wriothesley, second Earl of Southampton, were implicated in various plots. The latter was imprisoned in the Tower for 18 months.

When war with Spain broke out in 1585, Anthony lost his position as Lord Lieutenant. Next year however he was chosen as one of the peers who tried Mary Queen of Scots.

Official accounts credit him with taking a troop of horsemen together with his son and grandson to Tilbury in 1588 where the Queen was encouraging her people before the arrival of the Armada. However this

was fake news, as a staunch Roman Catholic he had been placed under house arrest, not least because he had a cousin serving in the Spanish navy!

This story had been concocted as propaganda to persuade the Spanish authorities that prominent Roman Catholics were supporting their monarch rather than their church. A letter to this effect was leaked to their embassy in Paris, and then sent on to Madrid.

Three years later Elizabeth spent six days at Cowdray. Although usually portrayed as a joyful occasion, there is the suspicion that her main reason for coming was to suss out the Viscount's loyalty. Many of her courtiers were apprehensive that she would come to harm. It was just as well she did not know the potential of one of the house servants, a certain Guy Fawkes!

Anthony died in Surrey at West Horsley in October 1592 and was buried at Midhurst.

But he was not allowed to rest in peace; his tomb was thought to take up too much room and in 1851 was transferred to Easebourne to clutter up the church there!



The two wives of the first Viscount Montague are Jane Radcliffe and Magdalen Dacre.

Easebourne Village by Sue Absolom

How very fortunate we are
To live where we do
In this beautiful village
Home to me and you.

You need only to walk a short way
To appreciate our countryside
And find peace and tranquillity
With views far and wide.

The Easebourne Park is a joy
A place where in rain or sun
To sit and wile away an hour
Watching your children have fun.

The Primary School and Conifers
Are part of village life
And have supported many pupils
Through this time of strife.

All the Doctors and the Staff
And those in the Pharmacy too
All working at The Riverbank
We all give a big 'Thank you'.

Local farmers and their farmhands
Working all hours, when most in bed
Cultivating the landscape
Growing produce so we can be fed.

The White Horse Public House
A pleasant watering hole
Providing meals, and takeaways
To help revive body and soul.

The Village Store has served well
Its customers during this time
So thanks to Kirisha and Vicky
For giving them a lifeline.

Guides, Brownies and Rainbows
Scouts, Cubs and little Beavers
Such important young groups
With their hardworking Leaders.

Cowdray Polo Lawns and Ruins
All added to the mix
Plus the Cafe and Farm Shop
All here in rural West Sussex.

The Fishing and The Golf Clubs
The Garden Society too
We mustn't forget the Sports Ground
All local, and here for you.

St Mary's Church sits at the heart
Of our village community
Offering a calm, welcoming presence
Especially in times of adversity.

It has stood proud for centuries
Helping many to find strength to cope
During sad times and happy times
It's a beacon of light and hope.

The last 3 to 4 months have been hard
And we have all had to adjust
Some hit harder than others
But for necessary reasons, we trust.

Let us continue our caring
For those more needy, until
We see out the worst of this
And with His help we will.

Report from Birch Trees Nursing Home

While the world changed for everybody during lockdown, Andrew, Sarah and the team at Birch Trees have been focused on trying to keep everyday life as normal as possible for our residents. Robust infection control measures meant that unfortunately we were unable to allow visitors into our home during the lockdown period and nothing has passed our threshold without being disinfected almost to the point of oblivion.

Our dedicated Activities Organiser Caron has been laying on projects to keep everyone's minds active using arts and crafts, gardening, music, puzzles and games. One of

our biggest successes has been to encourage wild birds into our garden by making our own fat balls and hanging them on stands. We celebrated VE day by making our own union jack hats, decorating the home with flags and bunting, watching films from the era and reminiscing about the good old days.

We have celebrated several birthdays (with cake, obviously...)

Many of our residents, some for the first time, have been embracing technology such as Facetime and WhatsApp video calling, to keep in touch with loved ones. We have all embraced "Zoom" - who had heard of that before March?

We have been very fortunate to remain Covid -free throughout the pandemic and have worked closely with the local GP's to deliver the very best care to our Birch Trees family. Now, as we contemplate welcoming visitors back to our home, we are all slightly anxious about our lockdown hair! However, it will be lovely to see everybody again, albeit socially distanced in the garden and wearing PPE.



Birch Trees resident Ann White celebrating her birthday

Dr Vic Mitchell—a biography

Vic's story is fascinating. He was born in 1934 and went to school in the leafy London suburb of Hampton. Vic has always had a keen interest in vehicles that travel on rails, and with inventing and making things. As a boy he was a regular visitor to Hampton Station, only a few doors from the family house. Young Vic was given odd jobs at the station in return for footplate rides on the steam locomotives.

Vic went on to Hampton Grammar School where he spent much time in the science labs. He never was very keen on sports (although he once won first prize in the egg-and-spoon race!) With his biology teacher he set up a Natural History Society for which Vic worked out the best train routes for field trips.

At the age of 17, Vic followed his dad's footsteps and enrolled at Guy's Hospital to study dental surgery. During his time at Guy's Hospital, Vic and his peers were heavily involved in the revival of the Ffestiniog Railway in Porthmadog, North Wales where Vic later became a long-term Director.

It was also while he was a student in London that he first set eyes on his future wife Barbara. During their years of courtship there were many happy times in Selsey, often with their extended families. They enjoyed walking on the South Downs, and the young couple got to know Midhurst. Barbara and Vic married in November 1958 just after Vic qualified as a Dental Surgeon. They honeymooned in Switzerland – travelling of course by train! National Service as an

RAF dentist in South Wales followed.

First daughter Caroline arrived in Spring of 1960 while they were still in Wales where Vic had his first surgery.

They moved to their forever home, Midleton Lodge, Easebourne, in December 1962. It was cold and draughty until Vic installed central heating and double glazing. But its lofty windows afforded excellent views over Midhurst and the South Downs. It was a wonderful home in which to raise a family. Second daughter Deborah arrived in mid 1964. Vic later carved a gap through the hedge so the girls could have a short cut to their school, Conifers, next door.



Vic and Barbara - November 1958

Vic's interest in Rail continued and he and younger brother Richard built a narrow gauge railway around the garden, which has given huge pleasure over the years to Vic and Barbara's five grandchildren and most recently 6 great grandchildren.

Middleton Lodge also served for many years as Vic's dental surgery. From here Vic innovated 'The Illuminated Probing Handpiece' later patented. As a result the dentist's aid was exhibited at the Exposition de Innovation, in Geneva, 1972 where he was awarded a Gold Medal for innovation.

Vic designed various other products and innovations, which were highly regarded and could be seen exhibited widely throughout the UK including at the Energy Show, Olympia, 1977, where he was awarded a silver medal.

Eventually, his other interests took over and he completely retired from dentistry in the mid 80's. Among many other ventures, he and Barbara ran a successful business 'Mitchell Mouldings', encapsulating objects in acrylic, which were sold as far and wide as Harrods and Selfridges department stores. He also experimented with harnessing energy from rotting compost for use as fuel. His greatest customer was HRH Duke of Edinburgh whom Vic met at the Centre for Alternative Technology, Machynlleth where the system was showcased and installed.

Vic's interest in railways has given way to his most successful venture – Middleton Press. Since 1978 they have

published over 600 books, mostly on Britain's railways and tramlines. Barbara worked full time in the business until her sad passing in September 2015. Deborah and her husband Ray remain active partners. Over the years all of Vic's children and grandchildren have had various roles and achieved qualifications through the firm.

In October 2019, Vic, as a founder volunteer of the 'First Railway Revival Scheme' back in the 50's, was invited to unveil a commemorative blue plaque at Haslemere station, to celebrate 150 years since its opening.

Vic is certainly hard to categorize. He is a dentist, an inventor, an authority on trains and railways, an author and publisher. But above all else he is a devoted husband and family man.



Vic Mitchell—March 2020

? General Knowledge Quiz

1. Dame Vera Lynn died recently, but how old was she?
2. Name one of the teams that took part in the first Premier League game since lockdown.
3. Which type of food interests a mycophagist?
4. Bacchus was the Roman god of what?
5. Which London bridge crossing the river Thames is located between Blackfriars Bridge and Hungerford Bridge?
6. Which of the Beatles was walking barefoot over the zebra crossing on the Beatles' Abbey Road album cover?
7. Where are next year's postponed Olympics set to be held?
8. Which Canadian province shares its name with two breeds of dog?
9. Which war did Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale tend soldiers in?
10. Which vegetable is the principal ingredient of rosti?
11. In mythology, who supported the heavens on his shoulders?
12. Which book is Douglas Adams most famous for?
13. What name is given to the fear of spiders?
14. A try in Rugby Union is worth 5 points, but how many is it worth in Rugby League?
15. What is the name of the country that is enclaved by South Africa?
16. How many children did Queen Victoria have?
17. What was the name of the TV detective played by David Jason?
18. What is the distinguishing feature of a Manx cat?
19. Which famous artist had both a 'Rose Period' and a 'Blue Period'?
20. Which party island said it would not be opening clubs this year?

Compiled by Carole Sawyer

Answers on page 40

Mary, do you accept John as your lawfully wedded husband? If you do press [ent]. If you don't press [esc].



Goblin Gone by Anthony Knight

The Greenpower Education Trust is a UK based charity aimed at encouraging young people to develop an interest and to be involved in engineering and technology through motor sport, using electric cars. The cars are designed and built by students aged 9 - 25 at schools, colleges and universities, aided by visiting professional engineers, and are then raced in fiercely-competitive events. The scheme for primary school children is based on the Goblin electric car.

For the past three years Easebourne Primary School has had a very successful Goblin project. Each year members join an after-school club to build and race cars. We began with one car, then in the second year added another. We were particularly proud to win, twice, the "Spirit of Greenpower" award for teamwork and support of the project. One of our cars remains as it was first built, so team members have the opportunity of driver training during the early part of the school year. The second car is dismantled over the Summer holiday and then is reconstructed by the new year's team who devise new bodywork for the car, based on renewable and eco-friendly materials. Each year the teams seek support and sponsorship from families, friends and local businesses, giving valuable experience in public relations and finance.

At the beginning of the 2019 school year the Goblin Club was advertised in school and became immediately over-subscribed. It was decided to form 3 teams of 6 pupils each, who would operate in sequence

over the 3-term year, coming together for Goblin racing events. September's team started work on reconstructing the second car and began designing bodywork. The Spring term group were able to complete the car and then to explore sponsorship opportunities. We had a particularly valuable contribution from Helmet City in Chichester who gave us three magnificent crash helmets. (Drivers have to wear full protective clothing.) We booked local racing events and were all set for a competitive season, then along came Covid-19.



All visits by helpers to school and all after-school activities were cancelled. Eventually the school closed completely, except for some children in special categories. The Goblin cars and all the work and enthusiasm that had

gone into them came to a full stop. After some weeks the Greenpower HQ announced that all of the 2020 planned events, including the final spectacular "Gathering of Goblins" at Goodwood, were cancelled. What a disappointment that was for the teams of budding engineers who had worked so hard on the project!

It seems unlikely that the cars will run at all this Summer. Then there is the question of what happens in the new school year: will there be a Goblin Club? Will after-school activities continue? We will just have to dismantle the car again and store the parts and those crash helmets safely away, waiting for guidance from the Government and from Greenpower.

Easebourne Guiding Units Report

Hello everyone. We hope you are all well and keeping safe. We just thought we would let you know what Easebourne Guiding units have been up to during lockdown.

We have not been together in face-to-face meetings since March, but that most certainly has not stopped our adventures and abilities to have fun. We have been meeting every week on Zoom. We have done badge work, and fun activities like mixology, mug cakes and flapjacks. We have had two match stick campfire activities, and of course our district plane challenge which flew to 40 members of the district. Some of you might have seen this on The Priory Churches Facebook page. We hope it brought a smile to your face.

We have also still been able to go camping together, virtually, to celebrate on the VE weekend on our 'camp@home'. The girls had to set up either a den or pitch a tent in their gardens. They had to help prepare a meal and take part in some Guiding activities and of course toasting marshmallows. Some girls were dismantling dining room tables just to get their tents in. We also tied in some VE activities. We took part in the 2-minute silence, made

Union Jacks to decorate our homes and enjoyed an afternoon tea party in the garden. Some girls were following the programmes on the TV as well.

Easebourne Rainbows have also turned 30 years old. Sadly we could not be together in person but we will be having belated celebrations when we can all be back together. However we still celebrated and the girls had a badge competition. (We all love a badge!) We played musical statues, and had a few party games on Zoom. And the girls all had their own cupcakes and we sang Happy Birthday together.

Over the summer we are going to be holding another virtual camp, as we cannot be together on our annual Camp, Pack Holiday or Rainbow sleepovers. We are going to space and do a variety of fun activities.

Hopefully we will be back together in the Autumn term when the schools return but we are still waiting for guidance from Girlguiding as we will need to carry out risk assessments, safety measures and a deep clean of the hut before any meetings can take place.

Emma Parry
Easebourne Leader

Notes from the girls

As a Girl Guide it has been important to keep up our activities whilst we are in lock down. We can achieve badges, learn new things and have fun. My Guide unit has completed so many activities in the last term to keep us busy in our free time. For example, on VE Day we had Afternoon Tea with our homemade scones, we partook in the 2-minute silence, and then we had a virtual camp at home, where you had to cook dinner, make a fire, cook marshmallows over it and camp out at home.

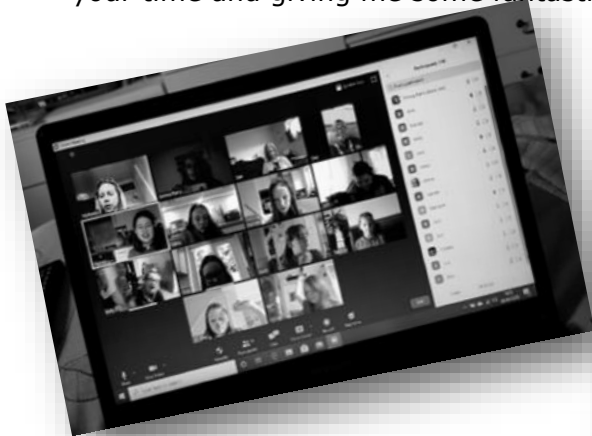
From Darcey (Easebourne Guide)

This is just one of many fun activities we did. We have also created a positive poster which we have put up around our communities, so people are reminded of good and happy thoughts throughout their day. We also have weekly Zoom meetings, so we still get to talk to one another while making things such as flapjacks and paper aeroplanes.

I really look forward to my Guide meetings, so thank you leaders.

During Lockdown I made a room in a box, also made a fizzy flyer, planted tomatoes, basil and made bread, cakes and other activities online. Every Tuesday I do Zoom calls, and I did virtual camps. It was also nice to see some of my friends, thank you leaders for giving up your time and giving me some fantastic memories.

From Erin (Easebourne Brownie)



Above: a Zoom meeting



Right: VE Day Celebrations



Above: Building a campfire, Activities collage

Below: Virtual camping, BBQ at home



Listed Buildings in Easebourne



The Midhurst Society

“What did you do in the war, Daddy?” That's a question we don't often hear nowadays, but perhaps future generations will be curious about what we did during Lockdown. For many people it was either frustrating, boring, or scary, perhaps all of those things, but the stand-out feeling for everybody seemed to be sadness at the lack of human contact. Particularly between members of the same family trapped in different households. For those people who contracted Covid-19, or lost friends and relatives to the virus, it must have been a nightmare.

So what did The Midhurst Society do in Lockdown? We cancelled our public

talks, along with our 60th-anniversary celebrations, but we did manage to publish a special issue of the Midhurst Magazine, with lots of memories from the last 60 years. Our internet activities were unaffected, of course. We increased our Facebook posts, and we spent time updating the Listed Buildings page on our website. We had already transcribed the listing details; now we started adding photographs and background stories. With 106 listed buildings in Midhurst, this is a long-term work-in-progress.

It will come as no surprise to Easebourne people, but the Cowdray Ruins do not appear on the Midhurst list. On the 'Statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest' Easebourne and Midhurst are shown separately. At the risk of biting off more than we can chew we would like to add Easebourne to our website. Although we are called The



Midhurst Society, our sphere of interest encompasses surrounding villages, as in the old Midhurst District. In Easebourne there are 88 listed buildings. There are also 34 in Stedham with Iping; 32 in Heyshot; 28 in Cocking; 15 in West Lavington. Etc. We might be making a rod for our own bat!



But Easebourne and Midhurst are inextricably linked, and so Easebourne should be next in line. Which brings us to the purpose of this article. We would love to
Cont'd on p.24

Scouting in Lockdown



**Above: Investiture on St George's Day
Left: Celebrating VE Day**

Below: Recreating a classic film



"May you live in interesting times" a quote often used by my favourite author, Sir Terry Pratchett. And one we are certainly experiencing at the moment, Scouting is all about being outside, being together and learning new skills. How on earth do we manage this in a time when we are not able to use the skills that leaders have spent many years learning and perfecting? Interesting times indeed. Both Scouting and Girlguiding received

the directive from our respective headquarters on 16th March 2020 and we immediately entered a whole new world. How did we translate our program into a new format?

Very quickly the leaders we set about researching what we could offer to entertain the Scouts at home. Technology seemed the way forward and a few pioneers from the wider Scouting family introduced us all to the world of Zoom.

We started with the Cub section. A tentative foot into the new world and over the next two months we added weekly sessions for Beavers followed by Scouts. A new routine was found and now leaders were the ones learning new skills!

Our weekly meetings have been varied. We have baked at home and learnt about VE day. We had visits from local instructors in Zumba (Stacey Bedford), Fitness (Marvin Murphy), and water safety (Maria Harding). We have played games and learnt about the environment. We met each others' pets, made crafts and shown off our talents. At the end of the meetings, we set a project for the week to build on the skills they had learnt. We have turned toilet rolls into film characters, made bug hotels, recreated classic films and collaborated on a group video to get Akela's necker all around Midhurst - available to view on Facebook.

Being invested is a great occasion for any Scout and we have even managed this via Zoom, with Beavers, Cubs and Leaders all making their promise at our Group St Georges day celebration in April.

The young people are amazing and an inspiration to us. They embraced our new format and turn up week after week, excited to show us what they have been doing. They encourage all us leaders to try harder and to find new ideas. Without them being so engaged and enthusiastic the virtual meeting would not work.

And now we head towards the end of term. We will be finishing with a Group Virtual Camp. Thirty members and leaders across four sections will be camping at home and joining in online with all our

usual camp activities from craft to camp fire. It will be an amazing weekend.

And then the future beckons. Over the summer the leadership team will be completing risk assessments and putting new procedures in place to allow the return to our home. We really hope to be back face to face in September. We will only be returning when we know we can do it safely and only with the full engagement of the whole family and with the support of their parents. There is work to be done cleaning the Hut, cutting back the weeds that have taken over the beautiful grounds our hut sits in, and ensuring that all the new equipment we will need is in place.

Easebourne Scouts have had a tough few years and we have many challenges ahead. This year alone we will have missed all our major fund raising events. MRC Community Day, various school fêtes, and Madhurst, all of which we use to raise vital funds for Hut maintenance, to buy new equipment and subsidise adventurous activities.

The Scout Group also needs members for our Executive team to help us get restarted. If you can offer any time at all to help please contact us. Vacancies include Treasurer and Chair. Email: chairman@1steasebournescoutsandguides.com

And finally I would like to thank and congratulate the leadership team. It has pushed many of our boundaries, but as usual, they have all risen to the challenge and taken Scouting virtual. The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are all truly grateful. BRAVO.

Sarah - GSL & Akela,
1st Easebourne Scouts

Subscribe to United!

If you do not already receive United Easebourne we hope you will become a new subscriber. The cost for 10 issues delivered to most addresses in Easebourne is £5.00 a year. (A bit extra for postage if you live far from the centre of the village. Phone Ann for information.)

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The subscription year starts in April. Normally we publish every month except that December/January and July/August are combined issues. There are only six more issues left if this subscription period. This special issue is in addition to the ten normally published and is free of charge to all.

The cost to subscribe to United for the remainder of this subscription period is only £3.00. Next spring you will be asked to renew for the next subscription period April 2021 to March 2022 (which will be £5.00).

To subscribe please complete this form (or a copy) and send it or hand it in to Ann Harfield, our treasurer and subscriptions manager. Her address is: Stable Cottage, Vanzell Road, Easebourne GU29 9BA (next door to Vine House care home). Enclose a cheque for £3.00 made out to St Mary's Easebourne Magazine (or cash through her door) along with the completed subscription form. Ann's phone number is 813810.

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cont'd from p. 19

have someone in Easebourne working on this with us. Ideally, someone who is interested in property for its own sake; who can type up a Word document; who can take photographs. It doesn't have to be an individual; a group of people could take on the project. You can see what we have achieved to date by visiting the Listed Building section of our website:

<https://www.midhurstsociety.org.uk/history/listed-buildings/50/>

Any volunteers? Please contact me at the address below. We look forward to shaking hands with you on North Mill Bridge. When it's safe to do so, of course!

Harvey Tordoff, Vice-Chairman

MidhurstSociety@bigger-picture.co.uk

Leaping Hart Archery Club



As with so many organisations and clubs Covid 19 had stopped Leaping Hart Archery in its tracks.

Before lockdown, members and guests had enjoyed meeting

twice a week to shoot and socialise. New members found that after just a few weeks of archery upper body strength had improved, they were using the breathing techniques used to focus during shooting in their own time to relax, and found that a couple of hours twice a week in the fresh air improved their general health.

Now in its fourth year Leaping Hart Archery is a welcoming inclusive club, with archers ranging in age from 6 years to 80 plus, meeting at Manor Farm, Cocking, with spectacular views of The South Downs. Targets are set between 10yds and 60yds. We also have "Clout" days with flags as targets in the ground up to 180yds away; and "splitting the wand" which is a post in the ground up to 100yds from the shooting line. This is

something medieval men had to practice every week to enable them to shoot through the slits in castle walls to neutralise the enemy within.

We have club equipment suitable for junior and senior guests, who will be instructed by a fully qualified coach. The first step would be to come along and meet us while taking part in a two-hour taster session. If you would like to continue you would enrol for a four session Introduction Course, satisfying Archery GB and NSRA insurance criteria, and proving you are "range safe" to become a member of Leaping Hart.

One of the oldest sports in the world, archery has been proved to have many physical and mental benefits in a social atmosphere and out in the great outdoors. Why not come along yourself; or as a small group of friends of business colleagues, now able to meet and "catch up" in a safe environment during the Covid situation.

Give Michael a call on 07734 982525 to discuss and book a session.



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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
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Snippets from a Gardener's Diary

by John Humphris



A Short History of Sutton Place Estate and Gardens

Professional gardener John Humphris VMH has lived in Easebourne since his retirement, and among other posts at prestigious gardens in the south of England, he was head gardener at Sutton Place near Guildford for nearly 20 years until 2002. John is chairman of Easebourne Garden and Allotment Society. This is his story of the house and the estate and of his time there.

St Edward the Confessor, last of the Anglo-Saxon Kings, had a hunting lodge on the estate where St Edwards Catholic Church, built in 1875, now stands. He hunted frequently and heard Mass daily. He died in 1066 and a well in the churchyard marks the site. During the Middle Ages the Manor which grew up near the well remained Crown property. In the early 1500's the Manor came into the possession of Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII. She died in 1509 leaving the Manor to her grandson Henry VIII.

One of Henry VIII's most favoured courtiers, Sir Richard Weston, was given the estate as a royal gift about 1520, and Sir Richard decided to build a completely

new home on a site half a mile to the south of the old one, and Sutton Place, one of our most important Tudor Manor Houses, was born. It was in the unfortified style built of brick and terracotta with the building work carried out by Italian craftsmen brought over from Italy until its completion.

It was to become the home to the Weston family for almost 400 years, but unfortunately, due to their Catholic faith and being on the losing side in the Civil War, the family wealth gradually diminished. Land was taken away as the centuries went by until the estate was reduced to its present size of around 1,000 acres. There was also a disastrous fire in the 1560's shortly after a visit by



Queen Elizabeth I. This started in the gatehouse, an enormous structure which enclosed the north courtyard, and spread to the east wing doing considerable damage. Eventually in the 18th Century the gatehouse was pulled down leaving the house as it is seen today.

Although let to various tenants at the beginning of the last century the house still remained in the hands of the family. But what proved to be the final tenancy began in 1900 when Lord and Lady Northcliffe moved in. A keen gardener, Lady Northcliffe brought in Gertrude Jekyll to advise on the garden, which at that time only consisted of the west walled garden, built at the same time as the house. This has a small Tudor Garden at one end which Gertrude Jekyll redesigned, adding a number of new flower borders on the south front of the house. The major development was the extension to the lawn on the south side. This became known as the 'Great Lawn' covering an area of some four acres, and was enclosed and formalized with Yew buttressed hedges. Behind the hedges was a second area, almost as large, where Lady Northcliffe planted thousands of daffodils, known as the 'Fields of the Cloth of Gold' after a meeting of Henry VIII and the King of France at the field of that name.

In 1919 the estate was sold for the very first time in its history and bought by the Duke of Sutherland. The family were great entertainers and in the period between the two world wars, Sutton Place was a regular visiting place for the rich and famous. Many members of the royal family came to stay including Edward VIII and Mrs Simpson who were close friends.

Also a keen gardener, the Duchess continued to develop the garden preserving the Gertrude Jekyll borders and developing the newly cleared woodland with plantings of trees and shrubs. The war years signified considerable change, and in the 1950's the estate was purchased from the Duke by J Paul Getty who had visited and stayed with the Duke and Duchess on a number of occasions. He lived in the house until his death in 1976. For about four years after his death, Getty Oil kept an office on the estate with the staff being much reduced and most of the flower and vegetable garden areas were grassed over.

In 1980 Getty Oil decided to sell the estate, and it was bought by a second American, Stanley Seeger. The contrast with J Paul Getty could not have been greater. Stanley Seeger had a fine art collection displayed in the house, with a regular series of concerts performed by some of the finest artists in the world. He also had a great enthusiasm for the landscape and environment. He brought in Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe to produce a great new landscape scheme for the estate and gardens, and a period of feverish activity began. A new 13-acre lake was built on the field adjoining the north front of the house. A second walled garden was also built to balance with the existing 16th century walled garden to the west of the house. The south walk was redesigned with the surreal garden and its giant abstract sculpture by Ben Nicholson another addition. Within two years most of the hard landscaping had been completed with much of the planting to follow carried out by contractors.

There was a sudden realization that all this intense activity had been carried out by outside organizations with few in-house staff available to carry out essential day to day work. As is the nature of landscape contractors the planting, although carried to Susan Jellicoe's design, included considerably more plants than required and within a year it became a dense jungle.

Although there was a number of estate workers, most of the gardeners had either retired or left, and the next stage of the garden development was on a knife edge. This was the stage when I was appointed as head gardener to try to bring some kind of order from the chaos. The first problem was a lack of skilled gardeners. I had mostly inherited estate workers and the cowman who had been made redundant but proved to be an excellent vegetable grower. Most importantly we needed an assistant head gardener, and when Martin Ives was appointed he was the first of a number of professional gardeners we added to the team over the next few years. The range of plants put into each bed was extraordinary - seven plants when it only needed three, or three plants when it only needed one. Perennial weeds had also been brought in and one of the herbaceous borders had to have every plant dug up, split to remove the weeds and lined out in the nursery for one year while the border itself was cleared. As you can imagine it was around two years before some kind of organization was in place and this coincided with the demise of the Trust set up by Stanley Seeger. There had been little control of spending which had increased at an

alarming rate, and it was decided to sell the estate. Within three years of my arrival we had a new owner, the American philanthropist, Frederick Koch.

Fortuitously Sutton Place became available at just the right moment as the new owner was keen to display his 19th century art collection in England. A charitable foundation was set up to administer house and garden, and its first task was the restoration of the house itself which had been gradually crumbling away since the devastating fire in the gatehouse. This restoration, the first in its history, was to take nine years to complete with the house covered in scaffolding and blue plastic. To give a flavour of the incredible work load involved, each window (and there were more than sixty) had a support lintel made of English oak put in place when the house was built in 1521. All had to be replaced with a stainless steel support. Much of the terracotta and brick had also weathered badly and had to be either replaced or taken out and reversed. Initially there was great difficulty finding suitable skilled craftsman with English Heritage who were overseeing the project using some of their trainees. This was never going to be satisfactory and Albert was recruited. He had been doing restoration work on churches all over the country and when he was finally extracted from this, he travelled each day with his assistant from his home in Burgess Hill for more than eight years until the work was completed.

This was the signal for further developments to take place in the garden. The Rose garden, ornamental vegetable

garden, Miro Pool Garden, Ellipse Garden and the Plane Tree garden were all added to the existing Jellicoe landscape, with a large collection of standard fruit trees planted on the daffodil fields. The woodland garden which ran down to the River Wey was planted with a wide range of trees and shrubs, and an adjoining field became the new Arboretum. The garden now covered an area of some sixty acres, and it was now almost ten years since the restoration had begun. The blue plastic was removed. The scaffolding came down, and there was this gleaming spanking new-looking 16th century grade one listed house in all its glory. The servants' quarters had been converted into the new art galleries and once the collection was in place we were ready to open to the public.

To most people, a blaze of publicity and advertising widely was the next step, and I was sure that would happen. Frederick Koch though always declined any kind of publicity and when I was discussing this with our land agent, he suggested I talk to friends working nearby at RHS Gardens Wisley and suggest that a group of them visit the garden. And so, on a drizzly evening in mid June, I took a group of gardeners and administrative

staff on a tour of the grounds and to see the newly restored house. Word of mouth spread incredibly quickly afterwards and soon a format for visits was agreed. One group each day up to thirty people, a conducted tour of the house, lunch, followed by a conducted tour of the gardens. It had a wide appeal, with historical and horticultural groups from across the country being regular visitors. We were soon fully booked April to September, and also opened once a year for the National Garden Scheme.

There was to be no fairy tale ending. After a number of really interesting years open to the public, American tax laws changed and it was decided that the funding of charities in any other country apart from the USA would not continue. We managed to stay open until the end of the year that the news broke, and then the gates closed for the foreseeable future. We had every hope that house and gardens would be handed on to English Heritage who had overseen every stage of its development. But it was not to be; the estate was put on the market and sold to a private owner.

Footnote. We were fortunate to move to Easebourne a few months before the sale took place.

Easebourne Garden & Allotment Society

Our Society was founded during the last war as part of the Government's scheme to encourage people to grow their own food. Many of our members are related to those founding members. The Society is affiliated with the Royal Horticultural Society.



(cont'd next page)

Nowadays the Society is a friendly place for local gardeners to meet for talks and outings and to share their interest and knowledge. We have a popular Produce Show every August. (But sadly, this year all of our events had to be cancelled because of the lockdown.)

It only costs £4 a year or £6 for two at the same address to join. Members receive a discount for seeds from Dobies and a discount from our two local garden centres. We have well over 90 members in 2020.

If you would like to join the Society, please contact the secretary, Tina Litchfield by email **egas@tinagavin.com** or phone **01730 816542**. You would be most welcome. Hopefully a couple of our talks in November and December can still take place.

Warden's Warbling—So what did you do during lockdown, Granddad?

I don't think I have ever been bored during the whole of the pandemic. I have achieved some but not all of my targeted goals. The first was to learn to dance in the shower. Perhaps I had better explain. My electric shower developed a leak prior to lockdown. Understandably, we weren't able to have it repaired at the time, so I have anyway a "hose on a tap" back-up with no thermostatic control! Consequently, my wife runs a tap downstairs, and it could be either hot or cold. Ouch! Brrr! In whatever order her demonic mind wants to make me dance!

I am a registered Food Delivery Operative (Essential Food Worker) for the Organic Food Shop in West Street. This has given me the chance to drive around the neighbourhoods, always socially distanced, to keep people supplied with occasional foodie bits. I've also delivered all kinds of recycled material to Gill Ward and Sue Absolom who have worked tirelessly to make all those pretty face masks people are wearing now.

I did re-learn a long-forgotten skill - making balsa wood aeroplanes from kits that were purchased years ago! I studied the plans, cut and glued, and learnt to be patient. Stop, let the glue set, then carry on. Result? Four good flying models.

Me and my fellow churchwarden Alison have been kept busy following the bulletins from the Bishop about re-opening the church again for private prayer, putting signs up and posting information, and working out where people can safely sit now that there are weekly services at church again. Despite all these challenges it has been interesting, hard work sometimes, but always fruitful, as was seen by our first service on Sunday July 5th.

Roger Sked

p.s. I finally got to see my grandsons 10 days ago to fly the aeroplanes with them.

From the Editors

United Easebourne has been going for nearly 50 years, and it used to be a church magazine. We have copies in our archives that were produced by Miss Barbara Gayford who founded Conifers School back in the 1930's and who had moved up to Easebourne Street after she retired. The magazine, in old 8" x 10" format, was all hand-typed onto a stencil and run off on a mimeograph machine. In those days, nearly everyone in the village was a subscriber and nearly everyone in the village came to church every Sunday.

We note from that first issue in April 1973 that there were 4 services every Sunday including evensong. Apart from the times of services, in the magazine you could find out who had been baptized and wed, the names of the 'invalids' and their illnesses, the fact that the Garden Society would be delivering seed potatoes and fertilizer soon, and the activities of the Young Wives. It was all gripping stuff.

These days there are far more residents in our village, especially with all the new houses at Budgenor Lodge and up at the KEVII estate which is within the parish. Maybe you don't know of United.

Some years ago, even before Derek came to be our vicar, there was a call for this publication to become more of a 'village' magazine. But a village magazine can only be as good as its content. As editors we try to include a good mixture of articles about every aspect of village life. The two schools always give us a report. John Humphris, the chairman of the Garden

Society, writes every month, Carole Sawyer concocts a jolly good quiz, and we always have a contribution from the Sussex Wildlife Trust, local clubs and organizations, and other regulars. We include the vicar's letter and the church rotas, and news from the Parish Council – especially of late a report on our wonderful Easebourne Park.

The magazine is still published by the church but it is non-profit and self-funding. Our lovely advertisers help keep the price low and makes it possible to include lots of colour.

We normally don't publish in August but we have decided to produce this special edition for you and to distribute it free to every household in the village. We hope that you enjoy reading it and that you are encouraged to subscribe. You will find a subscription form on p.21. We have a team of distributors who will deliver it to your door.

Please let us know what you think of United Easebourne (good or bad) and send over your news. Family events, recipes, amusing anecdotes, snippets of local history – anything that would be of interest to the people who live in our village. Copy for the September issue must get to us by Monday August 17. And let us know if you can help us deliver your magazines.

Tina and Gavin Litchfield
Editors, United Easebourne
01730 816542

easebourne.united@gmail.com



Friends Of Midhurst Common

The **Friends of Midhurst Common** are a group of local people, whose interest is in preserving and maintaining **Midhurst Common** for the recreation and enjoyment of the local Community. Every last Friday of each month a group of volunteers from the **Friends of Midhurst Common** work in conjunction with a South Downs National Park Authority Ranger to maintain and improve areas of the common, mainly the regenerated heath and wet bog areas. (Lockdown has prevented meetings over the last few months.)

At present the group numbers approximately ten volunteers, but would welcome others who would like to join us. It is physical work, but is social, satisfying and does help to keep one fit. If you are interested in joining us please contact us for more information: email: friendsofmidhurstcommon@yahoo.co.uk



Sussex

gardens open for charity, 2020

National Gardens Scheme

We are delighted that many of our gardens in England and Wales are now open. All visitors must pre-purchase tickets on our website for a timed slot at their garden of choice. All funds raised will go to the 'Help Support Our Nurses' campaign. For full details and to see those gardens follow this link:

<https://ngs.org.uk/product-category/garden-tickets/>

Patty's garden at Garden House, Guillard's Oak GU29 9JZ is open Sunday 9th August 10am - 5pm. Visitors at set times only by pre booked tickets so we can ensure safe distance regulations. We are unable to provide teas but will have a brilliant plant sale payable via an honesty box so no change.

Patty Christie, Tel 813323

Great Green Bush Cricket

by Michael Blencowe,

Learning and Engagement Officer, Sussex Wildlife Trust



Sussex
Wildlife Trust

The sound of silence

I'm a huge fan of sci-fi B-movies and they don't come any better (or worse) than 1957's *Beginning of the End*. It's the usual story; overeager government scientists intent on increasing crop yield inadvertently create giant irradiated grasshoppers the size of double-decker buses, which set about destroying Chicago. There are some similar creatures lurking around Sussex. OK, they're not going to come stomping around Sompting any day soon but they're still mighty impressive.

twirling antennae give it some monster movie credentials but there's nothing to fear from this harmless native.

There are about 35 species of crickets and grasshoppers (Orthoptera) in Britain. Crickets differ from grasshoppers by having much longer, thread-like antennae and they 'sing' by rubbing their wings together (while grasshoppers rub their legs against their wings). This song, or stridulation, is the male's way of romancing a female – who, if interested, will reply. The best chance of finding the Great Green Bush Cricket is

to head out on a warm August evening and listen for their downland duets – a loud, incessant rattle. Imagine an enthusiastic maraca player.

I recently went for a walk through the flower-rich meadows of Sussex Wildlife

Trust's Southerham reserve. I was blown away by the wall of sound created by hundreds of crickets and grasshoppers but it became apparent that not everyone could hear this orthopteran orchestra. The sad truth is that as we get older our ears can't tune in to the higher



Great Green Bush Cricket

Photo by Derek Middleton

The Great Green Bush Cricket can claim to be Britain's biggest insect. Yet this Godzilla of the undergrowth is surprisingly hard to see. Its long, leaf-like body blends in amongst the brambles rendering it almost invisible. Bug eyes, impressive jaws and

frequencies produced by these insects and species by species they fall silent. I have a compilation CD of the chirps and buzzes of Britain's crickets and grasshoppers – a sort of 'Now That's What I Call Stridulation'. I played it this morning and track 24 had gone. It was there a few years ago but now... silence. I've started to lose my crickets. The beginning of the end.

It isn't just me who will be hearing less wildlife in the future. Our countryside is becoming quieter as crickets, bees and birds vanish. Wildflower

meadows, the home to crickets and grasshoppers, have been lost and the wildlife that depends on them have silently disappeared. The 'Silent Spring' predicted by Rachel Carson in 1962 has seeped across every season. This August, get out and listen to the sounds of summer before they fade.

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

www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk

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The first time that St. Mary's church Easebourne was on television was for the BBC "Songs of Praise" in 1983. Since then video, mobile phone and internet technology has advanced rapidly, demonstrated by the highly-successful series of "Derek's Vlogs", shown on the church website, www.thepriorychurches.co.uk, during the period when the church building was closed. The vicar was using a mobile phone to record his talks, and the resulting video was then uploaded to YouTube and thence to the website.

At last, our church re-opened and we were able to have a Sunday morning service on 5 July, observing, of course, all of the social-distancing and hygiene rules. We also decided to "live stream" the service to YouTube and so to our website, so that parishioners unable to attend the service could watch it at home. Live streaming is now used by many churches during lockdown, and there is lots of helpful material on the internet describing how it is done.

The use of a simple mobile phone as the capture device was rejected for various technical reasons. But fortunately we have

access to a broadcast-quality video camera and microphones. With the addition of a couple of interface devices and a notebook computer we were all ready to experiment. There was a problem however. The church currently has no telephone line so any connection to the internet would have to use mobile phone technology. There is a good 4G mobile signal available at the church, so a miniature wi-fi unit able to connect to the mobile phone service was added to the growing collection of equipment.

There were a couple of hitches on that first live streaming Sunday but these have now been corrected. So we should be better prepared for the next services. A number of people were able to view the service live and have done so since via our website. We can now advertise the live streaming facility so that people at home, perhaps shielding during lockdown, can enjoy our services. We don't know how long it will be before normal service is resumed in churches but now we have technology to help us.

Why not join us live on Sunday mornings at 10:30. www.thepriorychurches.co.uk



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What's On Locally



After a lot of thought it is with regret that the decision has been taken to cancel the annual Ride & Stride event for 2020 due to the uncertainties of the Covid-19 pandemic. The event will continue into the future and there may be some people who would like to financially support the Trust and their own churches. If you wish to do so please email Phil Stringer, our local Ride and Stride organiser, on stringers4@btinternet.com



Midhurst U3A, because of Government restrictions and social distancing, has been unable to operate as normal, and all general meetings and talks have unfortunately had to be cancelled. However, within limits of numbers and with stringent risk assessments, some special interest groups have continued (or have recently re-started) to operate, either out of doors or using Zoom.

Di Ponting, our Chairman, has been providing a very useful service keeping us all abreast of local facilities, such as Midhurst Angels, library opening times etc. as they have become available.

It is hoped that before too long, the "new normal" will enable us to restart many more of our special interest groups, and our general talks and we will be able to welcome members back and attract new members to join.



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1. 103 2. Aston Villa or Sheffield United 3. Mushrooms 4. Wine
5. Waterloo Bridge 6. Paul McCartney 7. Tokyo, Japan 8. Newfoundland and Labrador
9. Crimean War 10. Potato 11. Atlas 12. The Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy
13. Arachnophobia 14. Four 15. Lesotho
16. Nine 17. Inspector Frost 18. It has no tail 19. Pablo Picasso
20. Ibiza

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The ethos of Easebourne C.E. Primary School reflects the commitment of staff, governors, parents and pupils to its Christian foundation. Visitors are warmly welcomed; please call or email us to arrange a time.

Johnny Culley, headmaster

www.easebourne.w-sussex.sch.uk

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www.conifersschool.com

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