

united **EASEBOURNE**



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The photograph on the cover shows Cottages 17, 18 & 19 on Easebourne Street, one of our listed buildings. See page 13.

The deadline for the May issue is Thursday 15 April 2021.

easebourne.united@gmail.com or Tel 816542

Letter from the Vicar

Dear Friends

The best moment in any Easter day service is when we stand to sing the opening hymn: 'Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!' It always sends a shiver down my spine as I carry the new Easter candle into church and place it in its stand for the first time. The candle is a symbol of new life – Jesus breaks forth from the tomb and the world now has hope beyond hope, life beyond life.

The candle, with its new transfer marking the year, becomes for the church a symbol of hope faith and love. Its light will shine at all services of baptism when families gather to give thanks for new life. It will also be lit as part of every funeral in church – a symbol of that resurrection hope that Easter Sunday sets before us. So, a light that frames our lives – but also a light that will burn at key points in our church year.

I love symbols that with simplicity 'do a job' for us. The light of a candle can transform a room – set the tone of a romantic evening, or even bring a sense of magic to the surface of a birthday cake. We use candles in church

to decorate and create the right mood for services. Unlike all other candles, the Easter Candle has a special place and role – not just a candle to decorate, illuminate or set the mood; this candle proudly proclaims the possibilities of God's love to the world. Its light sets light on the path of a newly baptised baby, its light speaks of hope to a family that mourns, its light reminds all

that come to church of the Easter Story. This candle like no other has a special role – and for the church gathered it encourages us to take its light and journey on with it into the world.

After a year of such darkness, a year when for the first time Easter Services were cancelled, we all need the power of light and hope. With the

possibilities of returning to normal life after vaccines and the onset of spring – can I wish you all a wonderful Easter time; and may God's light shine in your lives.

Rev Derek Welsman



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

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
 Other Sundays 10.30am Holy Eucharist
 Wednesdays 10.00am Holy Eucharist

*Coffee is served in Church
 after the 10.30am service
 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: derek.welsman@outlook.com

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

Date	Reading	Gospel	Reader
4 April Easter Sunday	Acts 10: 34—43	Mark 16: 1—8	Alison Davis
11 April	Acts 4: 32—35	John 20: 19—end	Irena Grieves
18 April	Acts 3: 12—19	Luke 24: 36—48	Gill Welsman
25 April	Acts 4: 5—12	John 10: 5—12	Roger Sked

CHURCH DIARY

As you are all aware the rules regarding the Covid pandemic change rapidly and we have therefore decided that the church services will (for now) be advertised via our weekly bulletin and will also be available on the website (www.thepriorychurches.co.uk)

If you are not receiving the weekly church bulletin by email please contact us via stmaryseasebourne@hotmail.co.uk.

Keeping St Mary's Church safe

In this third lockdown it is a real blessing that churches have been allowed to stay open for services and private prayer, at the discretion of the incumbent and church wardens. In order to keep St Mary's church and those that use it safe, we have undertaken a further risk assessment, leading us to tighten up on and add more safety measures. To this end, and following government guidelines, it is now vital and essential that you enter the church building with a mask and/or face visor already being worn. Also, please ensure that your mask is being worn correctly – covering both mouth and nose. Hand sanitizing is a must and we are asking you all to be aware of the 2-metre distancing rule at all times – as you enter and leave church and also when receiving communion. Once seated please remain in your place whilst you wait for the service to start. You will now find Roger in the porch as you arrive, to check on masks and to open the main door for you, so that only he touches the door handle, ensuring further safety. Booking is still required and essential as the 2-metre distancing rule limits how many can attend in total. Numbers are lower at the moment, but as more are vaccinated and warmer weather arrives I'm sure more people will return to church.

Therefore, Roger and I will be being much more vigilant in enforcing these measures. Thank you to those of you who are coming to church for your own caution and vigilance, and for your patience and understanding. We are really grateful to you all for your support in following the above measures – they help to protect you and everyone else. These are difficult, worrying and trying times but by working together we can all do our best to keep St Mary's as safe as we can and open to all.

Thank you.

Roger Sked and Alison Davis, Church wardens

Poet's Corner

Easter by Sue Absolom

The weeks move through Lent to Holy
Week

With the pain of Our Lord's Crucifixion
And the days that preceded it
Before He faced His final humiliation.

Maundy Thursday celebrated
Our Lord's washing of their feet
That followed The Last Supper
The final meal Disciples and He would eat.

Later in The Garden of Gethsemane
Where often He went and prayed
It was here that Judas found Him
And with a kiss He was betrayed.

Passed between Herod and Pilate
And mocked with a Crown of Thorns
All that occurred had been Prophesied
Before Our Lord was born.

By now He'd been ridiculed, insulted
His body bruised and battered
It made no difference. He was innocent
Keeping the people happy was all that
mattered.

The crowd was a baying mob
Calling for Jesus to be Crucified
Where once they'd strewn His path with palms
Now only His death would see them
satisfied.

Forced to carry His own Cross to Calvary
Where, with two thieves, He met His Death
Even in these last few moments
Words of forgiveness He said, with His final
breath.

But do not fear, Easter Sunday will dawn
And we will fall to our knees in adoration
Our Faith, Hope and Love will be restored
Because of Our Lord's Resurrection.

Afternoon Tea

Nearly three months into 2021 and the Social Gang hope you are all keeping well and looking forward to the better weather and of course the end of Lockdown. It seems such a long time since we have been able to meet and have chats over a cup of tea, but hopefully the end is becoming a reality. Meanwhile, we all have Easter to look forward to and all the joy it brings. We hope you have all had your jabs and look forward to seeing you all again.



Take care and love to you all from the Social Gang



Birthday House

Birthday House was constructed in 1965 to commemorate the 21st Birthday of the Hon Michael Pearson, now the 4th Viscount Cowdray. At the time of construction, the property accommodated 21 flats and bedsits. Shortly after construction, the property was placed into a charity, the Birthday House Trust, which is administered by the Estate in accordance with its charitable objectives. Whilst these objectives are wide ranging, the original intention of using Birthday House to accommodate retired Estate employees, those connected with the Estate, and those who live locally, continues today.

The property has been altered over time and now accommodates 15 flats together with communal areas and facilities. Initially there was a live-in warden, however this has now changed to a part time Cowdray employee who is in regular contact with everyone at Birthday House. This service is supplemented by a 24-hour careline

system which is provided to all residents. There remains a strong sense of community with the residents regularly holding internal events and undertaking works to support local charities. During lockdown, the residents have formed their own social bubbles. A group of the women have been knitting most afternoons, creating an array of toys including clowns to sell to raise money for the Yellow Bus charity. (For information about the toys and how to purchase them, phone Joy Jones on 601424 or Val May on 814714.)



Nearly all the residents living at Birthday House, or their partners, have worked on the Estate. They have been employed in a wide variety of roles including in the Works and Forestry Departments or they have worked directly for the Cowdray family.

Residents Bill and Betty Parry

Bill Parry, 89, and his wife Betty have lived at Birthday House for the past 11 years. Mr Parry worked for the Cowdray Estate for 51 years, starting in 1946 as a carpenter and joiner apprentice. After attending Bognor Technical College, he joined the Royal Air Force before returning to the Estate where he continued to work until his retirement in 1998. He was promoted to Joinery Foremen before being becoming the Works General Foreman.

"I have very much enjoyed working for the Cowdray Estate – I enjoyed every minute of my job. I have lived in the area pretty much all my life and remember the current Lord Cowdray being born as well as Birthday House being built," Mr Parry said. "There have been many changes over the years. When I first started, the Farms and Woods department used horses, and even

the gardeners had horses to carry out a variety of tasks. Over the years it has become more mechanised. "When I retired, the Estate gave me a wonderful send off. My wife and I moved to Birthday House 11 years ago, but even then, I was still doing odd jobs for the Estate including looking after the water supplies."

The Parry's have embraced life at Birthday House and enjoy the family atmosphere and the sense of community. "It is an absolutely beautiful spot. We very much enjoy living here and it is in a very handy location with the village post office, the pub and the church nearby," Mr Parry said. Mr Parry celebrates his 90th birthday in April and has three children, six grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. "I wouldn't change a thing about my life," he said. "I absolutely loved my job and am hugely grateful to Cowdray to be able to live in Birthday House."

Prior to the pandemic, the residents enjoyed a range of social events including Bingo, fish and chip evenings, and being able to catch the bus into Midhurst as well as further afield for various excursions.

However, during lockdown they have provided support to one another as well as gathering on their doorsteps to join in the national clap for NHS workers.



**The communal area at
Birthday House**

Covid-19 Vaccinations for Midhurst Area

Riverbank Medical Centre



The staff and volunteers at the Riverbank Medical Centre are extremely pleased with the Covid-19 vaccination rollout. Our small army of staff and volunteers numbers around a 100 people and, so far, we have delivered over 8,400 vaccinations to our local population. Covid numbers were high in January, however anecdotal evidence from the doctors suggests the prevalence of Covid 19 in the Midhurst area is in steep decline. Of course, we must guard against complacency and social distancing remains very important.

In April we will start giving people their second vaccination for Covid-19. As before, we will contact you by phone or letter. In the meantime we would encourage patients to look at our website for more information.

www.riverbankmedical.co.uk/covid-19-vaccination

Dr Paul Fludder

Midhurst Memorial Hall Vaccination Hub



Raj Rohilla from Midhurst Pharmacy told us that over the weekend of 12—14 March they managed to vaccinate very nearly 1,000 people. He is incredibly grateful, not only to the staff at South Downs National Park Authority for the use of the Memorial Hall, but also to all the volunteers who have stood out in the cold to marshal the queues, and who have worked as recorders and observers. Raj said that the easy part of the job is actually administering the jabs.

He wanted us to point out that there was a glitch on the NHS national booking system that meant that people went online to book their slot for a vaccination but arrived to find that their appointment had not registered on the system. He said it is important to make sure, if you are booking online especially on a smartphone, to make sure that you have received a confirmation of your booking.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 200 CLUB

March 2021 Draw winners

1st Prize - £100

2nd Prize - £75

2nd Prize - £75

3rd Prize—£50

3rd Prize—£50

3rd Prize—£50

No 166

No 140

No 215

No 25

No 119

No 228

Mike Dawson

Brian Scholey

Brian Scholey

Mo Knight

Tina Litchfield

Sue Absolom

**200
CLUB**

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

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

Please note, winners will receive monies by bank transfer.



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

Mavis Quinnell 22 Nov 1921—10 Feb 2021

Mavis would have celebrated her 100th birthday in November this year and had seen in her long life 100 Christmases. As her son John told us she packed a lot of life and experiences into those 100 years. She was born in Reading and gained a Higher Certificate which enabled her to train as a nurse in London. She had qualified during the War and was a young SRN, dropped into the deep end during the Blitz, when she had to deal with all the casualties of the bombing.

Also during that time she met and married Arthur Scott. They had two sons, John and Peter, and settled in Brentford, West London. But poor Arthur became ill with TB and was unable to work for a long time. That was tough for Mavis and her young boys. She did cleaning jobs during the day and worked nights as a nurse to make ends meet. They moved eventually to Horsham near Arthur's parents who were able to help support the family and that is where the boys went to school. Sadly Arthur died in 1954. Mavis the young widow continued to work all hours to keep the family together.

Now it happened that Mavis's dad, Harry Nash, used to be a chauffeur for Lord Cowdray, and later was the landlord at the Holly Tree. Harry had a good friend called Bill Quinnell. Harry introduced his friend to Mavis and that is how Mavis came to be living in our village. When they married they lived in Cowdray Road and Mavis

started a job in the Council Offices in North Street. Later the council job moved to Pallant House in Chichester and Mavis was one of the very few women in her department.

John said that Bill Quinnell was a good and gentle man who was a natural foil for Mavis's more assertive, outgoing character. The couple made many lifelong friends and Bill helped Mr Nash with the running of the Holly Tree. They were



members of the Bowls Club, the Golf Club, and the Midhurst Club. When Bill passed away in 1996 they were living in one of the Stone Cottages opposite the west lychgate.

Mavis regularly attended St Mary's Church and found great comfort, reassurance and friendship in the family of the church. She was

a longtime member of the Women's Fellowship and was involved in many church activities. She also became a close friend of Pam Newbury. They always sat together on a Sunday and after church they would go back to Pam's house for a glass of sherry and Sunday lunch.

In her last five years Mavis lived at Birthday House. [See page 5.] Mavis enjoyed the wonderful family atmosphere there and all the activities – of course, living in the village she was already acquainted with many of the residents, and they all continued to look after her,

especially at the end when she wasn't able to get around so well. John did say that they have Birthday House to thank for the fact that, at the age of 96, Mavis gave up smoking – because she couldn't unlock her back door to get outside for a puff!

Mavis's family was incredibly important to her. She leaves behind her sons John and Peter and their wives, 5 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. At the very end, John says she 'raged against the dying light' - she hated getting old and having to rely on others. She was a fiercely independent lady and will also be remembered for often speaking her mind, but she was loved by everyone and will be greatly missed. Her family feels fortunate that they were able to say a proper



Mavis as a young woman

goodbye to Mavis when she quietly passed away on the 10th of February.

Many thanks to John Scott for telling us about his mum.

Subscription Form—Easebourne United Magazine

If you are not a subscriber we would welcome you to take up a subscription. The year runs from April for ten issues and the price remains the same at 50p an issue or £5 until March 2022. Your copy can be delivered free if you live in Easebourne or in the centre of Midhurst. Please complete a copy of this form and send with your remittance to Ann Harfield, Stable Cottage, Vanzell Road, Easebourne GU29 9BA. Tel 01730 813810. (If you phone Ann, she will tell you if you are on a route for free delivery.) Cheques are payable to St Mary's Easebourne Magazine. Alternatively you can pay by bank transfer to:

Barclays plc, Sort Code 20 20 62, Account No 535 23 756

If you pay directly to our bank please advise easebourne.united@gmail.com and include your name, full address, phone and email address.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Phone _____

Email address _____

We enclose our remittance of £ _____



General Knowledge Quiz

Compiled by Carole Sawyer

1. What is a group of lions called?
2. What is the best selling book of all time?
3. Who famously said "You must be the change you wish to see in the world"?
4. What is the name of the Greek dip consisting of yoghurt and cucumber?
5. Which singer has been named best-selling female album artist of the century?
6. Catalonia is a region of what country?
7. Tom Cruise is an outspoken member of which religion?
8. What is Keir Starmer's constituency?
9. The Troubles in Northern Ireland were brought to an end in 1998 with the signing of what document?
10. The Stadium of Light is home to which English football club?
11. Earth is located in which galaxy?
12. Which former resident of Flamingo Land is embarking on a 7000 mile trip to Tanzania?
13. Who is the only musician ever to have been awarded the Nobel prize for literature?
14. What is Japanese sake made from?
15. What is the largest bird of prey in the world?
16. Rangers have won the Scottish Premiership but how long has it been since they won it last?
17. What is the capital of Switzerland?
18. Who is fifth in line to the British throne?
19. What animal alive today is even bigger than a dinosaur?
20. Where are the 2028 Olympics going to be held?

Answers on page 34

The editors welcome contributions from readers, as well as your comments and suggestions. Do you have a family event to announce? How are you coping during lockdown? Any nature notes? We hope to hear from you. The deadline is 15 April.

easebourne.united@gmail.com

Easebourne Park -

updates from Councillor Ian Milne

The work on our tree sculptures continues with another fairy house, a well with squirrels, and a very friendly-looking badger being recently completed. There are a few other animal sculptures to be created by local chainsaw sculptor, Nathan Blatherwick. This work has been enabled by a grant from the South Downs National Park Authority.



proposing to carry out a surface compaction treatment using Vertidrain equipment. This process involves long metal tines being forced into the ground to allow better drainage and to aid ground surface aeration. This should be complete by the end of March. Additionally, replacement grass seed is to be sown on areas looking bare, and wild-flower seed strewn over appropriate places around the Park periphery. If you've seen polite notices around the park advising that the area has been sown with new grass seed, please refrain from using that area.

We need you!

The Parish Council is on the lookout for a new Councillor to join our team and get involved in a number of exciting projects in the Parish. The Council meets in full every other month, via Zoom at the moment, but we hope eventually in person again. Other committees meet more frequently, specifically those managing Finance, Planning and Easebourne Park.

Mike Noble—chairman

Park surface drainage

Whilst this has been a very wet winter period, when the Park has been a much used sanctuary for families during the latest lockdown, regular users will not to have failed to notice how soggy underfoot places in the Park became. Our Muddy Puddles was not the only area of the Park that became a bit of a muddy bog. In order to alleviate the surface earth compaction, the Parish Council are



Listed Buildings in Easebourne—

Cottages 17, 18 & 19 (The Burnt Cottages) in Easebourne Street

from the archives of the late John Stringer, photograph by John Harrison.

Contributed by Phil Stringer

Grade II listing No. NGR SU 3966 122677. One building. Restored C17 or earlier. Timber framed building with plaster or painted brick infilling. Tiled roof. Casement windows with diamond shaped panes. One blocked original window with wooden mullions. Two small oriel windows on brackets. One story and attic. Four windows and three dormers.



Christine Deadman has done some research on this building from the census taken on 2 April 1911. .The occupants of these three dwellings recorded them as each having four rooms. The Census instructions required a kitchen to be counted as a room, but not a scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom nor a warehouse, office or shop.

No 17 Easebourne Street

This was the family home of James Chevis and his wife Amelia. They lived here with their three sons Charles (age 17, a Labourer), William (age 8), Reginald (age 5) and two daughters Susan (age 14) and Emily (age 11, at School). James was employed as a Garden Labourer. (Their eldest son, Percy James Chevis, was already the head of his own household in 1911, age 22 years, and living at North Mill Cottage. Percy served with the Royal Sussex Regiment in the First World War. He was wounded in operations following the landing at Suvla Bay but recovered and re-joined his regiment. Percy died, age 29, of disease in Port Said on 11 March 1917 and is commemorated on the War Memorial in the Parish Church of St Mary's, and in Port Said.)

No 18 Easebourne Street

Next door neighbours to the Chevis family in 1911 were Wyndham Baker and his wife Annie. Wyndham was born and lived his life in Easebourne. He and Annie Grant were married in Easebourne by Rev. Henry Wood on 18 April 1886. Wyndham was a Garden labourer and Annie was a Dressmaker. In their mid-forties in 1911, their two children had left home.

No 19 Easebourne Street

This was the family home of William Newell, a General Labourer, his wife Hannah, and their four daughters Alice (age 17), Fanny (age 15 a day girl in service), Edith (age 13 at school) and Daisy (age 8).

The “Find My Past 1939 Register”

This register records the following names as occupiers of these properties. If you can tell us any more about any of three families, please contact the editors.

No 17 Easebourne Street was the home of Arthur Albert Muller (born in Liss in October 1899) and his family from 1938. (See p. 15.)

No 18 Easebourne Street – Mabel J Dabbs born 1913.

No 19 Easebourne Street – William W Howell born 1862.



**The 1921 fire at Cottages 17, 18 and 19.
Photo taken from The Old Vicarage opposite.**

The Mullers at No. 17

We had a chat with Doris Ricketts (née Muller) who grew up at No 17. She told us about her parents Arthur and Matilda May who came to live at No 17 with their five children in 1938. Arthur Muller was a Post Office fitter and later was promoted to being a linesman for the Post Office. Arthur and Matilda May remained in the cottage for the rest of their lives and the children grew up there and went to the local primary school. Most likely built in the 1500s, 17 Easebourne Street is one of three dwellings in a large timber-framed house. It was originally built with a thatched roof which was later replaced with tiles after a huge fire nearly destroyed the entire building.

Doris told us that her parents paid just 5/6 weekly rent - 26 pence in today's money! Being an old house, there was no bathroom, no running hot water, and an outside privy! She says she remembers well, on a winter's evening, opening the back door and looking left and right for Bogey Men before running across the cobbles. They bathed in a large zinc bath in the scullery, or in winter when they were small, beside the old black range in the living room. The living room was the only room downstairs apart from the scullery, where the huge copper lived,

opposite the butler sink and looking out on the side garden. In 1957 the house was renovated and the rent increased to the huge sum of £1.00 per week. Now the house had running hot water, an indoor toilet, and a bathroom – what luxury!

Doris said that when they were young Mr and Mrs Dabbs lived next door at No 18 (and they shared the large side garden with the Muller family. Mr and Mrs Clear and their family lived at No. 19. The Stringer family lived in No. 21, next door to the Burnt Cottages.

Doris's son Paul, who now lives in the States, told us his memories of his grandparents' house: 'It was a fixture of my childhood and remains a major touchstone in our family history. It was where my brother and I played football with our cousins, where we climbed the massive fir tree at the end of the property and where we were once chased from the garden by a huge swarm of bees when the queen bee decided to rest in the apple tree we were playing beneath.'

Doris and her husband now live in Midhurst. The present residents of those three cottages have lived there now since the early 1990's. The resident of No. 18 said how happy they are to live in such a pretty, cosy cottage.



Midhurst Angels

The Midhurst Angels are a group of local volunteers, including members of Midhurst Town Council, community groups, local churches and charities. Their purpose is to help the community

during this period of isolation. They can help support anyone struggling through the pandemic whether with grocery and prescription deliveries or with guidance on financial support, or even just as a friendly voice at the end of the phone. Tel 07538 839703.

Website: midhurstangels.co.uk Email: midhurstangels@outlook.com

Thanks to David King for this lovely photo of a sunset over Hurst Park.



Birch Trees Nursing Home

On the 8th March we started to welcome visitors back into our home for meaningful visits. This means that our residents can have one member of their family to visit them in their rooms and hold their hands. Having this extra interaction means so much to all of us at Birch Trees and makes us feel that there is light at the end of the tunnel.

In January, our worst fear came true when two of our residents contracted Covid 19. However, we jumped into action quickly and under the guidance of our operations manager, Andrew, who worked tirelessly, coming in early and leaving late during the outbreak to support the staff we managed to successfully contain it to the two residents. We are very happy to announce that both of those residents made a full recovery. We have had no further outbreaks since, and one of those two residents, a lady of 100 years of age has improved so much since her illness that she was discharged at the beginning of March to go back to her own home! We are very proud of this achievement, and we are very happy for her and her family.

Our daily activities continue with an extra quiz and Guinness tasting on St Patrick's day, and we are getting ready for Easter with an Easter tree, painted Easter bunnies and hats to hide our lockdown hair. Our hairdresser has already been booked for 12th April. We can't wait to see her!

Sarah Darnell, Care Practitioner

Birch Trees, Hollist Lane T: 01730 813260

E: sarah@victorianursinggroup.co.uk



Coming to church when you cannot get out

For those not able to come to church you can 'attend' online. Go to www.thepriorychurches.co.uk. Near the bottom of the homepage choose the date of the service you want to view and click on the arrow to watch it. You will also find links to the order of service, the weekly bulletins (pew sheet), and previous services, reflections and music. If you are in a care home, ask your warden for advice on how to take part.

The Buddington Carvers by Vanessa Fischer

I was interested to read in the November 2020 issue of United about the Carvers who lived at Locks Cottages. The first occupants of our house, Buddington Cottage on Hollist Lane, were William Carver (born in 1863), his wife Ann and their three children Leonard, Ethel and Cecil. That family was living here in 1891.

Buddington Cottage where Vanessa and her husband Edward live was first known as the Coachman's House when it was built in 1890 as the stable block/carriage house for Buddington House. William worked as both the coachman and the gardener. This Carver family was still living there in 1911, by which time two more daughters, Gladys and Elsie, had been added to the family. There seemed to have been lots of Carvers living locally 100 years ago, but we were told by Pete Carver of Easebourne Street that he didn't think the Carvers of Locks Cottages were related to the Carvers who lived in the Coachman's House.



KerryType

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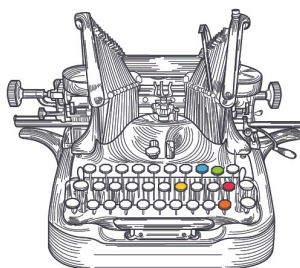
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Lodsworth Village Cricket Club

We are a village club with a mix of players of all abilities who play, first and foremost, to enjoy their cricket in a friendly and sociable environment. We are approaching the new season in a cautious but positive frame of mind. One of our aims is to attract new players who would like to play village cricket and all it has to offer.



We only play friendly Sunday matches on the recreation ground at Lodsworth. There are 14 games arranged for this season and we have deliberately avoided matches on the bank holiday weekends and Fathers Day. Players are not expected to be available for every game. There are good facilities including full use of the village hall with excellent showers and changing rooms, and superb teas.



Importantly, given all the restrictions imposed by the lockdowns, playing cricket will provide an opportunity to stretch you legs and get some enjoyable exercise.

We would be delighted to hear from you. For more information contact either Mike Williams, the club captain, on 01798 860835, or John King, secretary, on 01798 861728.

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New President for the Society



Philip Jackson, CVO DL

Following the resignation of Viscountess Cowdray as our President, the internationally celebrated sculptor **Philip Jackson CVO DL**, based locally in Cocking, has accepted our proposal to be our new President. Philip presented to members in 2019 and proved very popular with all who were lucky enough to come along. We are looking forward to inviting him again to address the membership. To learn more about our new President please follow this link www.midhurstsociety.org.uk/news/

New Treasurer

We would also like to announce the appointment of our new Treasurer. After four years in the role, Harvey Tordoff has stepped down to be replaced by **Dave Widdup**, former IT Consultant, Project Manager, and Training Manager, who first moved to Midhurst with his wife Sue in 2009. We reckon this will leave Harvey with time on his hands!



The 2021 Talks Programme

Talks normally take place in the Memorial

Hall on the third Thursday of each month at 7.00pm However the talk on 22 April, presented by the **Rother Valley Farmers Group**, will be online. The talk on 21 May will also be online. It will be given by historian **Dr Danae Tankard** talking about Chichester during the time of the Civil War. June 24 marks our first reunion at the Memorial Hall with one of our favourite presenters, **Ian Gledhill**, whisking us off to San Francisco this time in the style only Ian can! See our website or your membership card for details and information about future lectures.

Vic Mitchell RIP

Last month we were sorry to learn of the death of one of our members, Vic Mitchell. His life's work was an inspiration to so many people and his passion for railways was marked by publishing many books on the topic with his own publishing house, Middleton Press.

Latest Midhurst Magazine out soon

The result of tireless effort and many hours through the winter gloom enabled Editor **Harvey Tordoff** to put together a feast of new stories and articles from local contributors. It is hoped that this Spring Issue No 33 will be distributed to members by Easter weekend and will then also be available to non-subscribers for £3 from selected shops.



News from
The Midhurst Society

Facebook

Once again **Harvey Tordoff** has continued with his daily postings from our historic picture postcards collection, local news and events, as well as quizzes and photos, that have pulled in thousands of viewers and followers. Take a look for yourself

www.facebook.com/themidhurstsociety/

Planning Matters

It seems that no patch of land in our town is left untouched by planning applications for new houses. Our Planning Officer Keith Tregunna has had a very busy start to the year and you can view summaries on the website www.midhurstsociety.org.uk/campaigns-planning/planning/10/

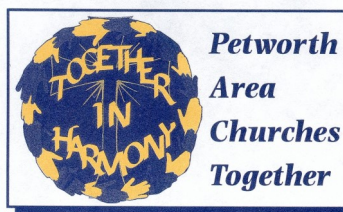
We were particularly encouraged to see that the pre-application by Metis Homes at Bepton Road Depot (otherwise known as the 'Brickworks' development) has been rejected by South Downs National

Park Authority until concerns and comments raised regarding landscape, style, layout, and access were addressed.

And Finally - Membership Renewals are strong

A massive THANK YOU to all of you who have already renewed your membership for 2021 and to those newly enrolled members who we look forward to meeting for the first time. The subscriptions, donations and Gift Aid have helped support your Society in challenging times. Not renewed yet? There's never going to be a better time at **£9** (£15 per couple) but hurry as the official 2021 closing date is March 29! On line renewal at www.midhurstsociety.org.uk/application

Mike Balmforth, chairman



Petworth Area Churches Together (PACT) will hold its Spring Talk on **Friday April 16th 7.30** by Zoom. PACT's Talk will be given by Lord Dr Michael Hastings of Scarisbrick CBE, Chancellor of Regent's University, London.

He will speak on the intriguing title "*The future we don't know*". The title sounds rather exciting given

that the future for all of us is unknown! He is also Professor of Leadership at the Stephen R Covey Institute, Huntsman Business School, Utah State University, a Vice-President of UNICEF and Ambassador for Tearfund. Previously Head of Citizenship at KPMG International and the BBC's Head of Public Affairs, then Head of Corporate Responsibility.

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Easebourne Primary School

Since the last issue of this magazine, the school has reopened to all children. The excitement was tangible, not just amongst the children, but it was also evident both in the faces of the staff and, perhaps not surprisingly, of the parents and carers. The responsibility of supporting the children's learning has never been shared between school and home like this for so long and there was visible relief as adults regained something of their old lives as they left their children at the gates. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our families for stepping up to play their part in keeping their children's education in these challenging times.

This is one time when it is heartening to see long queues. As I write this, the queues of adults waiting for their vaccinations at the weekend in Midhurst demonstrate how steadily our local population is gaining some protection from COVID and, as I see it, every vaccinated adult makes the community a tiny bit safer. At school, the percentage of adults who have had their first vaccination is rising which is also encouraging.

Since we have been back at school, we

have been able to celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight and World Book Day. We ran competitions to celebrate favourite books through a wide range of media, including baking, and to design a new Fairtrade logo, and had wonderful entries for both.

Our Fairtrade winners were wonderful, with creativity and meaning within their designs – congratulations to Emmy (Y2), Tula and Alais (Y3), Ivy (Y5) and Scarlett (Y6). (Rest assured - all entrants came away with a bit of Fairtrade or Cocoa Life chocolate!)

The competition in our World Book Day competition was also very strong. In the end, the six World winners were Alba and Benjamin (Y1), Tula and Harvey (Y3) and Lucy and Poppy (Y5). The entries were ingenious and used very different approaches. Poppy's was a very long scarf which Lily from Cogheart wore in the third book, *Skycircus*, whilst Benjamin created a wizard by cutting out paper and sticking it to a toilet roll. Lucy's pizzas were inspired by Harry Potter and Tula was inspired by *The Day the Crayons Quit*! Harvey



Alba's entry



Benjamin's entry



Poppy's entry

produced a picture, a clay sculpture and a gingerbread house from *A Squash and a Squeeze* and Alba's whole window was filled with characters from Hundred Acre Wood!

Finally, our KS2 children have been enjoying the new adventure playground which was installed in very soggy ground over a very wet half-term. Each class has a day to themselves on the equipment and are busy exploring the many possibilities it offers.

Johnny Curley



Notes from our Midhurst Rother College reporter

Recently school reopened and I had to go back. It's different. This time everyone has to wear a mask when they are inside the building, and the school is also asking us to take Covid-19 tests. These take about a total of 45 minutes, but sometimes longer, because the tests can either fail or just take ages to come through with the results, so you can be waiting for ages. You get to miss a bit of your class so it's worth the wait. It's nice seeing people because I haven't had any social interaction in ages. So far other than going to school my routine hasn't changed much. When I get back home I do the same thing, I call my friends and we play video games. It sounds like my life hasn't been impacted that much but that's an understatement. From 8:30 to 15:40 I am in school learning compared to the 1.5 hours of focus that would happen online.

In conclusion I am happy to be back at school but it was still nice being at home.

Rudy Tiplady, age 12

Struggling to provide food during Covid 19?



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NEWS FROM MIDHURST FOODBANK

Midhurst Foodbank continues to provide food parcels for those who are, for whatever reason, unable to feed their families. Since the beginning of the year that has involved 90 deliveries, feeding a total of 265 people (146 adults and 119 children). An average week usually consists of 10 deliveries. We are obviously still unable to open as we did pre pandemic. We depend very heavily on our volunteers to pack and deliver the food in Midhurst and the surrounding villages. In addition to the tins and packets we are able to include eggs and potatoes thanks to kind local donations. We are also supplied with a variety of fruit and vegetables at the moment by UK Harvest.

In addition to the weekly deliveries, we are now preparing to distribute our Easter Lunchboxes. This is to guarantee that children who receive a free school meal, are fed during the holidays. This is an enormous operation, but thanks to Karen Lovett's efficiency and the amazing help from volunteers, it runs very smoothly. We are very grateful for the help and cooperation of Midhurst RC Church, who allow us to operate from their premises. As always, Midhurst and Petworth Rotary Club are working in partnership with the volunteers.

Chichester District Foodbank are in the process of developing a signposting team. This is to attempt to direct those who use the foodbank towards other agencies who may be able to help them with what are sometimes quite complex needs. We, in Midhurst, hope to replicate in the near future.

On Monday 8th March Chrissie & Mike Abbott, who established the Foodbank in Midhurst and ran it until 2019, were presented with The Paul Harris Fellowship by Midhurst and Petworth Rotary Club. This is their highest award for outstanding services to the community and rarely awarded outside Rotary. This is certainly well deserved for their dedicated service and achievements over many years. They continue to be heavily involved with the day to day workings of the Foodbank.

Liz Willing (Midhurst Foodbank Coordinator)



Friends Of Midhurst Common

Bog Allotment – Catherine, our local basket-making expert, has been busy planting new finer willow variants for her use, and for pollarding in the future. She has reported a large crop last year. Also, she has donated a lot of willow rods from the allotment to two local pre-schools. They, with Catherine's help, are building living shelters with them for the kids.

Murray – he has reported sightings of treecreepers, Marsh Tits and an increased population of Bullfinches this year – he is not sure why. Any ideas?

Heathland work – we are hoping to resume working parties of up to 6 people from 29 March. Post-COVID we are looking for new volunteers to work to maintain the heathland and to lead the team when out.

Training would be provided through South Downs National Park representatives. Send me an email if you would like to discuss your potential involvement further.

The Annual General Meeting of The Friends of Midhurst Common is to be held on Thursday 15 April by Zoom at 7pm.

Members will be sent a link to join the meeting. For non-members, please email me as below and I will send you the link.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Apologies, but you will need to provide your own snack and drinks this year.

The daffodils are flowering well and we have frogs and toads in our pond at home – Spring has arrived.....

Andrew Mitchell – Chairman

www.friendsofmihurstcommon.co.uk



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My Back Pages

by Michael Blencowe,

Learning and Engagement Officer, Sussex Wildlife Trust



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I love old natural history books. It's not just the information they contain. I love the smell, I love the binding. For the past twelve months I've avoided Covid anxieties by burying my head in old books, scientific papers and traveller's journals. I've been researching a book of my own, an account of my travels in search of what remains of the world's iconic extinct animals. A journey which took me from the dark forests of New Zealand to the ferries of Finland and finally to an inflatable crocodile floating on Widewater Lagoon in Shoreham.

After spending long lockdown nights writing at my computer it was somewhat surreal to receive an advance copy of my book in the post this morning and to run my hands over its embossed cover. I finally filed it on my bookcase where it rubbed shoulders, and spines, with *On The Origin of Species* by Charles Darwin and *Animal Magic* by Johnny Morris.

My bookshelves sag with old natural history books. Just holding these tomes transports me to another time. Tucked away inside my battered (but beloved) copy of *The Butterflies of Eastbourne* (1928) by Robert Adkin is a map, which I always unfold eagerly as if I've discovered the concealed directions to some long-lost buried treasure. Indeed, in the book Adkin

describes bounteous butterfly riches which could be found in the woodlands and downland coombes between Lewes and Eastbourne. You can almost hear Rudyard Kipling whisper of "something lost behind the Ranges. Lost and waiting for you. Go!" At the time, many young explorers answered the call and Adkin claimed that "almost daily during the summer, one meets small armies of schoolboys each armed with a butterfly net."

Perhaps Adkin's eager Eastbourne entomologist army had been inspired by another of my favourite books. *The Outdoor World* (1900) by William Furneaux aimed to distract children from "victimising their schoolmates" and give them "a taste for something better." Back in 1900, it seems pinning butterflies and collecting birds' eggs fell into the "something better" category. Furneaux encouraged young naturalists to make "killing bottles" in which they could dispatch butterflies, and instructed children to ask the local chemist for some cyanide. The chemist will, Furneaux assures you, sell you cyanide if "he is satisfied with your intentions." Although it all sounds rather macabre now, this popular book went on to inspire a generation of young naturalists (and probably one or two aspiring Dr Crippens). Back on my bookshelf, I look at my book and wonder if — in 100 years from now — my own story will seem as distant and ridiculous as a world where schoolboys wielded butterfly nets and 10-year-olds could pop to the chemist to buy deadly poison.



www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk



Snippets from a Gardener's Diary by John Humphris

Sowing Vegetables

The endless rain this past winter has made it very difficult to prepare the ground for the vegetable crops. It is well worthwhile waiting until we have had a few days of windy dry weather before treading all over wet ground. Once the ground is ready and if you have not done so already, it is not too late to plant broad beans and then a whole range of other crops such as onion sets, leeks, parsley, parsnips, turnips, lettuce and a range of other crops to suit individual needs.

Lettuce is a crop that we buy often each week from the supermarket, yet it is possible to have lettuce over a long season in your own allotment or garden. This rarely happens because we all tend to sow one long row and then when they are ready, there are too many all at once to eat. And so another long row is sown. The better way is to sow small quantities, that will give you about a dozen lettuce. Once these are at the stage to be thinned out, thin them to about 9 to 12 inches apart. Once this is done, sow your next short row and once these are ready to be thinned, sow your next short row. Repeat this throughout the summer and into autumn. Often you will see in books to sow once a fortnight. That does not give you a regular supply as the growth rate is so different throughout the summer and autumn. Sowing a new row as the previous one is thinned out mimics the season, and as each year is so different this works so much better. Little Gem is a favourite variety and as a small cos lettuce keeps really well, or any other variety according to your preference.

Fan trained fruit trees such as peaches and nectarines are best pruned at this time, and this is now the last chance to plant and prune other fruit trees. It is also worth remembering to have protective netting available to protect your crops as they ripen and to make sure that your raspberries, blackberries, etc have suitable supports in place as once they begin to crop the weight will soon bring down any flimsy framework.

Plant of the Month

Because April is such a fickle month with always the chance of late frosts I rarely recommend the Corylopsis. These are relatives of the Witch Hazels and most have primrose yellow flowers hanging down in short racemes. *C. glabrescens* is a beautiful slow growing shrub from the mountains of Japan and I remember so well on a coach journey in the foothills of Mount Fuji seeing them looking so attractive scattered amongst a wide range of other trees and shrubs. At home we have *C. pauciflora* one of the smallest of the corylopsis just coming into flower. Certainly for the smaller garden this is a better choice as it rarely becomes too large, and after ten years ours is only a metre or so tall.



Corylopsis pauciflora

PLANT SALE—Sat 29 May! Our annual plant sale which was cancelled last year will almost certainly take place. More information in the next issue of United, but please note the date in your diary.

News from Buddington Farm by James Renwick, farmer

Here at Buddington Farm spring has finally arrived with some dry and slightly warmer weather. This has meant we have been able to turn the cows out on grass which is always a good day for them and for us. We have already planted our Spring Barley which will be emerging any day now. This is grown for malting and the straw is baled for cattle feed. Hopefully, we will be able to start potato planting sometime next week if the weather holds. This will mean we should be harvesting the new crop in late June or early July depending on whether or not we get frosts in May which can have quite an impact, so I will keep you posted.

Buddington Bottled milk is going very well with everyone really positive about the taste and it being plastic free, but also the potatoes in the different size sacks are proving popular with everyone so we are growing the variety Panther again this year amongst all the other varieties we grow.

This time of year is always enjoyable to be on the farm as everything comes to life again and we get busier at work with much more variety of jobs to fill the longer days to come.



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1. A Pride 2. The Bible 3. Mahatma Gandhi 4. Tzatziki 5. Adele 6. Spain
7. Scientology 8. Holborn and St Pancras 9. The Good Friday Agreement
10. Sunderland 11. The Milky Way Galaxy 12. A black Rhinoceros
13. Bob Dylan 14. Rice 15. Andean Condor 16. Ten Years 17. Bern
18. Prince Louis 19. Blue Whale 20. Los Angeles



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Riverbank Medical Centre	812121	Out of Hours NHS	111
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	MH Pharmacy Midhurst Pharmacy	813255 813231
Easebourne Village Stores	858130	Cowdray Shop & Café	815152
Midhurst Town Council	816953	Grange Centre	0333 005 0398

RecyclingSite, Bepton Road—Opening hours from April —Thurs to Monday 9.00am—6.00pm,
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	
Stagecoach Buses	0345 1210190	Midhurst Yellow Bus	07879 556568
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950	Tandem Bus	0300 030 3962

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Garden & Allotment Society John Humphris, chairman	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

*All telephone numbers are STD code 01730 unless otherwise stated. Please inform
the editors of errors or omissions – easebourne.united@gmail.com*

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