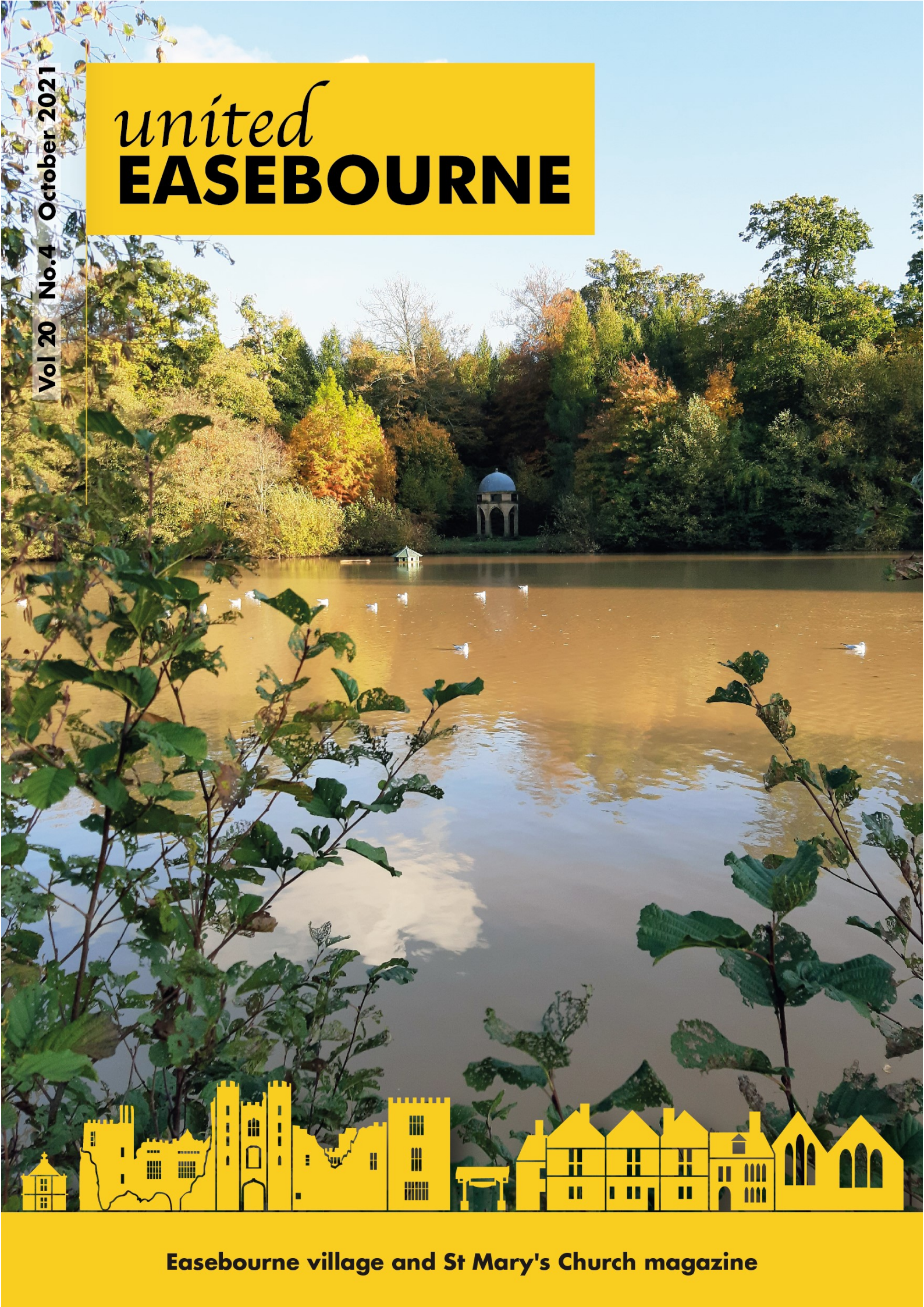


Vol 20 No.4 October 2021

united **EASEBOURNE**



Easebourne village and St Mary's Church magazine

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The cover photograph of Benbow Pond taken in October 2020
includes the memorial to the 3rd Viscount Cowdray.

The deadline for the November issue is Friday 15 October 2021.

Do you have a nice image for our November cover?

easebourne.united@gmail.com or Tel 816542

Letter from the Vicar



Dear Friends

This is the time of year in the church calendar when we give thanks for the harvest. Across our three churches we gather to give thanks for our food, worship with traditional hymns, pray for our farming community and collect produce for the homeless in our local area. These services are advertised separately in this publication.

This tradition of Harvest thanksgiving has sat at the heart of our rural life for a very long time. It is a moment to recognise that 'getting food to our plate' involves a lot of people and a lot of hard work. For the gathered church, we also want to recognise the power of God's creation and the need to pray for good weather. It is also a moment of reflection – how can creation be so abundant, and yet so many go hungry?

Our two village schools also come and give thanks. Teaching children about the importance of 'giving thanks' sits at

the heart of their spiritual development; how easy it is to see food as something that just happens, instead of recognising the efforts and hard work of many, including mum and dad.

So, the challenge is there for all of us. As we eat, shop or stare in wonder at our beautiful surroundings – can we take a moment to 'give thanks?' – and if it is our tradition, can we also find time to offer up a prayer to the One who creates, asking for good weather and a generous heart to think of everyone across our world; especially those who suffer without food or with failed crops. And if you would like to, please come and join us for our Harvest Services, you will be most welcome.

*Come ye thankful people come
Raise a hymn of harvest thanks...*

Canon Derek Welsman

Date	Reading	Gospel	Reader	Intercessor
3 October Harvest Sunday		Matt 6:25-33	Roger Sked	
10 October 19 th after Trinity	Amos 5:6-7 & 10-15	Mark 10: 17-31	Bill Howkins	Caroline Hutchings
17 October 20th after Trinity	Isaiah 53:4-end	Mark 10: 35-45	Ann Harfield	
24 October Bible Sunday	2 Tim: 3:14-4:5	John 5:36b-end	John Backshall	Colin Datchler
31 October All Saints	Isaiah 25:6-9	John 11:32-44	Simon Hendry	

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 after the 10.30am service on most Sundays.</i>
Other Sundays	10.30am Holy Eucharist	
Wednesdays	10.00am Holy Eucharist	

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

Vicar: Rev Canon Derek Welsman, Northgate, Dodsley Grove 812655
Easebourne GU29 9BE Email: derek.welsman@outlook.com

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

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

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

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

Organist & Choirmistress
Mrs Mary Knight 812783
Practice on Fridays 6.00pm

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

Editors of *United*
Tina & Gavin Litchfield, 7 St John's Close, Midhurst GU29 9QB
Email: easebourne.united@gmail.com 816542

**To subscribe to *United* phone Ann Harfield 813810
or email—annharfield23@gmail.com**

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

CHURCH DIARY FOR OCTOBER 2021

Saturday 2	12.30pm	St Mary's	Baptism
Sunday 3	18 Sunday after Trinity		
	8.30am	St James	Harvest Service
	10.30am	St Mary's	Harvest Service
	12.30pm	St Mary's	Harvest Lunch
	6.00pm	St Peter's	Evensong
Tuesday 5	2.00pm	St Mary's	Women's Fellowship
Wednesday 6	8.45am	St Mary's	Conifers Harvest Service
	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Saturday 9	2.00pm	St Mary's	Wedding
Sunday 10	19 Sunday after Trinity		
	9.00am	St Peter's	Harvest Service
	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Wednesday 13	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	St Mary's	Afternoon Tea
Sunday 17	20 Sunday after Trinity		
	8.30am	St James	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	12.30pm	St Mary's	Baptism
	6.00pm	St Peter's	Celtic Service
Wednesday 20	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Thursday 21	11.00am	St Mary's	Easebourne Primary School Harvest Service
Friday 22	1.00pm	St Mary's	Memorial Service
Sunday 24	Bible Sunday		
	9.00am	St Peter's	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Wednesday 27	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion

October cont'd

Sunday 31

All Saints Day

10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
12,30pm	St Mary's	Baptism

NOVEMBER

Tuesday 2	2.00pm	St Mary's	Women's Fellowship AGM and Holy Communion
Wednesday 3	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Sunday 7	8.30am	St James	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Family Service
	6.00pm	St Peter's	Evensong

Afternoon Tea—Wednesday 13 October

It was really great seeing you all at the last Afternoon Tea after such a long break. This will be continued on a monthly basis on the second Wednesday of each month. The next one is on October 13 and we look forward to seeing you all again. If you would like transport, please let a member of the Social Gang know and we will arrange it.



Gill, Gladys, Hilary, Jane, Sue
Jan Harling 01798 342233



Our lovely Social Gang

Thanks to Grahame Hall for the photo

The Priory Churches continue to support Stonepillow by collecting items of food for use at their shelters. These items can be left in the trolley at St Mary's, or handed to the wardens at St James' and St Peter's. This month's items are sugar, toilet rolls, and coffee.



Katharine Minchin

Women's Fellowship

There was a good attendance at our September meeting with one new member and one guest. We met in the social area of St Mary's which worked out very well. One of our members, Pam Stevens, was our speaker, and she gave a most interesting and amusing account of when she, her three sisters, and their mother were evacuated from their bombed home in Portsmouth, and were sent to Petworth House where they remained for eight years.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 5 October at 2.00pm in St Mary's, when we hope to have a film (the title of which is TBA).

Ann Harfield
Tel 813810

St Mary's 'Yardies' (Churchyard Maintenance Group) **Saturday 30th October 2021** **from 9am 'til Noon**

If you are able to join us for our Autumn session of garden maintenance in the churchyard, please add your name to the list at the back of church by Sunday 24th October. Please bring small hand tools and gloves and a garden waste bag (bos-bag or similar).



Bacon Butties and hot drinks will be served mid-morning! For further details please email Martin Dexter mdexter123@btinternet.com or call 07752 001316.

Thank you
Martin

Harvest Buffet Lunch

Sunday October 3 at 12.30 in the Church

At the time of going to press, the cost will be £5 per person to cover lunch, a glass of wine or fruit juice, coffee/tea. Tickets are available from Hilary at the back of the church after Sunday morning services.



Poet's Corner

Harvest Time by Sure Absalom

Have you noticed the Tractors
Driving along our country roads
Going out with trailers empty
And returning with full loads.

It's that time of year again
Crops are reaped from the land
By the hardworking Farmers
And their loyal Farmhands.

We have so much to thank them for
They plough and sow throughout the year
Working from dawn till dusk, and longer
They deserve our praise that's clear.

The weather is often against them
Too much sun, or too much rain
And as the Winter months descend
Heavy frosts challenge them again.

We all need the food in our shops
So give a thought to how
It has made the journey
To get to where it is now.

When you're caught behind a Tractor
Or maybe two or three
Keep calm, and give thanks
They're carrying food for you and me.

RIDE AND STRIDE on 13 September



Alan & Liz back at
Easebourne Church

RIDE+STRIDES

The riders and striders from our Benefice, who included Alan and Liz Austin, Sue Absolom, Alison Davies, Roger Sked, Phil Stringer and others, visited in total 17 churches and cycled about 21 miles. Once all their donations were collected they raised over £1,000! 'Ride & Stride' which is run by the Sussex Historic Church Trust in order to raise funds for churches and chapels of architectural or historic interest for essential repairs and restoration. Over the years they have helped more than 470 churches. This year, over 600 buildings took part with many of them providing refreshments. Unfortunately when Liz and Alan got to the little church at Didling, Liz's bike broke down, but their neighbour from Easebourne, Wyn Bate, kindly brought a spare bike and took the other home.

Well done, everyone!

News from the Cowdray Estate

Jonathan Russell, CEO

The Cowdray Forager



COWDRAY



Cowdray is set amongst breathtakingly beautiful and diverse West Sussex countryside. Within Cowdray's woods, forests, fields and meadows is a hidden and fascinating world of wild food. To uncover this previously unexplored world, professional forager George Linklater has joined the Estate as the Cowdray Forager. Using his wealth of knowledge and experience, George is hosting

foraging trips at Cowdray teaching the public about how to find wild food. These tours are a chance to connect with nature as well as learning what is edible, what is not and how we can protect these habitats for future generations.

“Cowdray as an entity is unparalleled in my experience because it has so many different habitats all knitted together, and framed within the incredible history of the Estate, which can be seen big and small from the enormous ancient oaks to the small-scale biodiversity,” said George. “You can move between a beautiful babbling brook and five minutes later be in a pine forest. Not only is the landscape unbelievably beautiful, but it also allows a complex variety of wild foods to flourish”.

The native edibles found across the Estate cover an enormous range of the wild food found in the UK and include flowers like chamomile, fruits like bilberries, wild raspberries, and a whole host of edible plants species like pink purslane (rare in the south of England), watermint, watercress, and wild garlic, as well as an enormous variety of mushroom species.

George started foraging seven years ago when he began working with a very experienced and knowledgeable forager who taught George all that he knew. Together they set up a company called Bello Wild Food, which supplies the freshest foraged wild edibles to some of the country’s top restaurants, chefs, and food establishments. This unique relationship between chef and forager has led George to be featured on programmes like BBC’s Saturday Kitchen following the journey from forest to fork. Over the years George has accrued an in-depth knowledge of the countryside, its diverse habitats and the variety of plants and fungi each contains.

However, for George his passion and lifelong work is to encourage others to appreciate the significance of our native countryside and how we can enjoy and protect it for future generations. Through his tours, the public can find out about the fascinating biodiversity of the land which we often take for granted and the different edible plants in the local countryside.

George’s enthusiasm for foraged food is contagious and he is keen to convey his love of nature to others. “Getting people to engage with the natural environment is my life’s work,” he said. “The more people can learn to love their natural environment, the more they will benefit from it. Nature is a great source of calm in our busy modern lives and the more immersed you feel, the more calm is instilled.”

Find out more by visiting: www.cowdray.co.uk/foraging-at-cowdray

Picnic in the Park



EASEBOURNE
Parish Council

On a slightly overcast August Bank Holiday, Easebourne Parish Council held the third event in the planned annual running of the community "Picnic-in-the-Park" event. This popular and well attended social event was enjoyed by all who attended and was supported by two sessions in the beautiful park Roundhouse from the versatile local band, the B3s, led by Steve Ball. The middle of three musical sets was performed by Ellie Baker and Tom Holder, both tremendous musicians. The event was supported by Easebourne Scouts who provided tea/coffee and bacon butties, Deluca's Ice Cream van, the Easebourne Primary School PTA who were selling pre-used school uniform, four ladies from Birthday House selling knit-ware and knitted children's toys, and a stand manned by Friends of Easebourne Parish

(FrEP) who were recruiting volunteers to assist with their litter-picking and other Parish green tidying duties. Nick Haddock, the Under 6s' coach at Midhurst Rugby Club, held training sessions for youngsters. Additionally, there was a highly popular Dog Show run by David MacDonald-Lawson, where proud dog owners demonstrated their skills and their pooches' skills, and competed for highly coveted rosettes. The Parish Council dispensed free soft drinks and answered parishioners' questions. Estimates indicate that the Picnic-in-the-Park was attended by around 300 local families. The event would not have been possible without the support of the Head of the Primary School, Johnny Culley, and a host of willing councillors and other volunteers.



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

This event was an acclaimed success and will definitely feature as an annual community event well into the future.

The Parish Council wish to say thank you to all those mentioned above who supported this much enjoyed event, plus Roger Sked who provided the bunting, and to Tristan Parks of local agricultural business, ACS, for providing Bark for the Park (safety bark for the Park's unique oak dens and trails).

Ian Milne, parish councillor

Who or What is FrEP?

You may not be aware of the existence of **'Friends of Easebourne Parish' (FrEP)** so I would like to provide you with some background information on who we are and what work is currently being undertaken by our volunteers, as well as future plans for the group. FrEP has been in existence since September 2018 and at that time we were known as 'Friends of Easebourne Park'. All our focus was on work being carried out within Easebourne Park to help Easebourne Parish Council maintain and improve the facilities of the wonderful asset which is Easebourne Park. FrEP continues the work within the Park, but since mid-2019 the name was changed to 'Friends of Easebourne Parish' in order to better reflect the wider diversity of work being undertaken by our group of volunteers.

Volunteers regularly pick litter throughout the Parish, maintain and improve areas requiring attention such as bus shelters, footpaths and pavements, and we also continue to carry out various tasks within Easebourne Park including tending to the trees and shrubs. FrEP have also been significantly involved in raising funds for Easebourne Parish Council, the funds being used in major projects such as the building of the Roundhouse and improving footpaths within the Park.

We have also been successful in raising funds for FrEP purposes such as the purchase of equipment and a storage shed. We anticipate that we will soon be the proud owners of various power tools to further enhance our work in keeping the Parish of Easebourne looking good.

We would like to thank the following organisations who have generously provided us with funds or equipment: Austens Home Hardware Midhurst, Easebourne Parish Council, South Downs National Park Authority, The Grange Community Association and West Sussex County Council Access Rangers.

FrEP are seeking new members - we need as many new volunteers as possible. If you can spare any time, even on a very irregular basis, you would be most welcome to join us.

An example of work that our volunteers will be offered to help with later this year is a mass daffodil bulb planting which will be undertaken within Easebourne Park, plus tidying up the area around the wood carvings in the Park.

If you would like to become a member of FrEP please contact our secretary:

FrEPsec@btinternet.com

Frank Davies, Chairman
Friends of Easebourne Parish (FrEP)

St Mary's Churchyard – Why the long grass?

For many years the Church of England has been encouraging action on climate change with the aim of getting the Church towards being net zero carbon emissions by 2030. St Mary's, as well as the other Priory Churches, have joined the Eco Church - an initiative to care for the environment through action in their worship, buildings, land, community engagement, and individual lifestyles.

At St Mary's, one of the areas of action in the management of our land is to create a wildlife area. We have decided to leave the grass long in an area of the churchyard, to try to increase the diversity of plants, pollinators and predators in that area. We hope this will create a more balanced ecosystem which will help the churchyard in the future. Some paths will be kept short for visitor access and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone areas will be maintained by volunteers.

We are working with children at Easebourne Primary School who will regularly survey the area to measure the impact of this initiative. The long grass will be cut back hard in late October in preparation for next year's growing season.

Phil Stringer



FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 200 CLUB September 2021 Draw winners



1st Prize - £100	No 69	Robin Sawyer
2nd Prize - £75	No 106	Phil Stringer
2nd Prize - £75	No 42	Pamela Stevens
3rd Prize—£50	No 146	Christine Barrett
3rd Prize—£50	No 214	Hilary Craig
3rd Prize—£50	No 220	Gladys Hardwick

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.

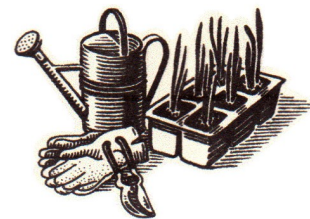
Alongside Cowdray Hall sits three beautifully appointed Therapy Rooms for hire offering an accessible yet private space for a wide range of practitioners. From part-time therapists looking for a room with less commitment, to full-time professionals looking for a permanent home, we have pricing options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

Snippets from a Gardener's Diary by John Humphris



I spoke some years ago about growing and storing fruit, and with the most extraordinary growing conditions we have struggled with this year, not just with fruit but most vegetable crops also, I thought an update would be useful. When we moved to Easebourne, almost twenty years ago, the garden was divided into three parts by planting espalier fruit trees. On the one side were two varieties of apples, Egremont Russet and James Grieve and on the other side two varieties of pear, Comice and Conference.

For those not familiar with espalier fruit trees, they are usually bought from a specialist grower with the basic structure already in place. That is, they are already part grown and ready to be trained onto a framework of supports and wires with each tree having four arms each side. It is important to seek advice from the grower regarding pollination groups so that cross pollination can take place with your two or more varieties. Apart from one shrub, the garden was just lawn so growth was vigorous in the early years and it was not long before they started to crop well, and suddenly we were overrun with fruit. Stupidly it had never occurred to me, having always worked in gardens with a fruit room, (a shed on the north side of a building) where fruit stored well until Christmas. A lot of fruit was spoilt and we gave a lot away, so eventually I bought a fridge and with it on its highest setting, plus 5C, this proved ideal for storage. Pears are the most important to store as under warm conditions they start rotting from the inside and you do not notice what is happening until you cut them

open. Both Conference and Comice will store into November at the low temperature mentioned, and if one or two are brought out and put in the fruit bowl they will be ready to eat in a few days. Ripening time for apples varies enormously. Egremont Russet is a very hard apple and can often be kept until Christmas. Directly opposite to this is James Grieve which should be picked when ready, (lift and turn in the palm of your hand), place in the fruit bowl in a cool room and they are ready to eat in a few days.

Cultivation of espalier and other trained trees is relatively simple. A feed of nitrogen at the recommended dose in February is often mentioned in books, and of course summer pruning of the annual growth down to just two buds is essential. The timing for this is tricky. This year I pruned mine in July which was too soon, particularly for the apples. The growth had been so vigorous that I was sure it would not make much more this season. I was wrong, the heavy rain during May followed by a mini-heatwave encouraged more new growth and I am about to re prune all the apples and some of the pears.

Plant of the Month

I have grown *Abelia x grandiflora* for many years and although finding it an attractive shrub flowering for many months it always became very large and difficult to prune correctly. I was given a plant after the RHS trial at Wisley in 2011

and because I did not really have the room for such a large shrub it was planted against a wooden panel outside our back garden. I would not describe it as a wall shrub but, because it was only able to grow one way the pruning was quite straightforward. Each spring I pruned back every shoot to a basic framework which was tied in to wires on the fence. Because its flowering time is July until October, almost every new growth produced a head of flowers. The clusters of flowers are white tinged with pink with persistent pink sepals which always look attractive even after the flowers have gone. The glossy green leaves are an added attraction with any that grow too strongly easily reduced in length.



Abelia x grandiflora

Interestingly, this hybrid of *A chinensis* brought back from China in the 1840's was first grown in Italy before 1866. It was eventually named *Abelia x grandiflora* 'Lake Maggiore', and this name which had not been used for many years was given to the plants shown at the trial mentioned above at Wisley.

Easebourne Garden & Allotment Society Programme

Meetings in Cowdray Hall GU29 0AW at 7.30pm

(Please note that future meetings will take place on Thursdays.)

Thursday 12 November—AGM and speaker TBC

Thursday 9 December—Christmas Social and speaker TBC

Thursday 10 February—Speaker TBC

Contact the secretary if you would like to join the Society. It only costs £4 a year or £6 for two at the same address. We meet for talks usually four times a year, we have a big plant sale every May, and our Produce Show takes place in August. There is a discount from local garden centres. For information email to egas@tinagavin.com

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

1. When is the Prime Minister's planned 1.25% National Insurance tax rise due to kick in?
2. To which animal does the adjective Taurine refer?
3. Who played the title character in the BBC series 'Jonathan Creek'?
4. Which metal has the chemical symbol Pb?
5. What Christmas dinner favourite could be in short supply this year due to ongoing UK supply chain problems?
6. What is the name of the machine, commonly referred to as a 'lie detector', which measures reactions such as blood pressure, pulse and respiration of an individual in response to questions asked?
7. A vehicle with the national registration code 'PK' would originate from which country?
8. The Rolling Stones drummer Charlie Watts died recently aged 80, but what was his job before he joined the band?
9. Emerald is the traditional birthstone associated with which month of the year?
10. Which animals have been captivating China as they head back to their nature reserve after wandering hundreds of miles across the country?
11. When referring to a cash machine, what does 'ATM' stand for?
12. The now-abandoned Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant is within which modern-day country?
13. Where on the body would you wear an epaulette?
14. How many differently coloured sets of residential properties are there in a game of Monopoly?
15. Which player topped the football rich list in 2021 (according to the Radio Times)?
16. Which European country has the longest coastline?
17. Which type of angle is greater than 90 degrees but less than 180 degrees?
18. Who did Emma Raducanu beat to win the 2021 US Open tennis tournament?
19. From which language does the word 'futon' originate?
20. Are there more calories in a McVitie's Jaffa cake (standard size) or a McVitie's digestive biscuit (plain, not chocolate)?

Answers on page 26

Petworth Literary Festival

'There is something incredibly special about hearing a well-known author – or even a not-so-well-known author – talking about their latest oeuvre', says Stewart Collins, Petworth Festival Literary Week's Artistic Director. Between Saturday 30 October and Sunday 7 November, audiences will have nearly 40 opportunities to meet in person (and online) a huge range of authors that also includes Gyles Brandreth, Alison Weir, Jeffrey Archer, Tessa Dunlop with Joyce Wilding and historian Dan Jones. Whether it's autobiography, discussing the science of weather, illuminating the life and discoveries surrounding Tutankhamun, or the shocking history of chemical and biological warfare, the Petworth Festival Literary Week promises a fascinating addition to anyone's diary at that otherwise dreariest time of year.

See full page ad on page 20. For more information go to www.petworthfestival.org.uk

AH DOLENTE PARTITA! AH PAINFUL PARTING!

a concert of saucy and
sad renaissance music
from italy and england



performed by Piculet
consort of five voices

£10

7.30-8.30PM

2 OCTOBER 2021

ST PETER'S CHURCH

LODSWORTH

Tickets available at the
Lodsworth Larder (01798861947)
and on the door

Artwork by Harriet Liddell Foster

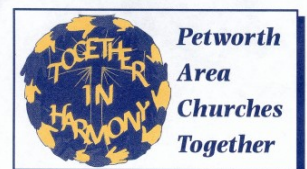
Concert at St Peter's Lodsworth on 2 October at 7.30pm

Join us for a recital of Italian and English part songs on the cheerful (!) theme of parting and loss. The programme features works by Palestrina, Purcell, Monteverdi and Morley, among others, and will last around an hour. Tickets cost £10 and are available from the Lodsworth Larder (01798 861947) or on the door.

PACT Autumn Lecture – Friday 15th October 7.30pm at St Mary's Church Petworth GU28 0AD

The speaker is James Mildred, chief communications officer of CARE (Christian Action Research & Education). His subject is 'For Parliament and the Church'.

Excellent canapés and wine afterwards. Loos at church. Free entry - all welcome. Ample free parking 6 minutes walk away. Organised by PACT - Petworth Area Churches Together. Further details from Geraldgreshamcooke@gmail.com Tel: 01798 342151



Birch Trees Nursing Home

With the restrictions in place now for so many clinically vulnerable people it can be difficult to celebrate those special moments and milestones with those we love.

Alec is devoted to his wife, Trish. They eloped 55 years ago (how romantic!) in September 1966. They had hardly ever spent any time apart until Alec was admitted into hospital before Christmas last year. He came to stay with us in February, not having seen his lovely wife for a couple of months due to the Covid restrictions in the hospital. Being apart for so long had been tremendously hard on both of

them. Now that he is at Birch Trees, Trish is able to visit him regularly.

Alec wanted to do something special this year for their Anniversary, so with the help of our team and especially our chef Michael, Alec was able to invite Trish to a romantic dinner for two at Birch Trees. Trish was presented with a bunch of red roses and they enjoyed good food and wine. Romance is definitely not exclusively for the young!

Sarah Darnell, Care Practitioner
Birch Trees, Hollist Lane T: 01730 813260
E: sarah@victorianursinggroup.co.uk



Alec and Trish celebrate their anniversary

A BUSY SUMMER FOR MIDHURST FOODBANK



At the beginning of the summer holidays 254 KLP's (free school lunch packs) were delivered by Foodbank & Midhurst & Petworth Rotary Club volunteers. This fed 127 children as each child received two boxes to cover the six weeks of the school holidays. There were three lovely sunny mornings when the 64 volunteers worked together, loading and transporting the boxes. This has become a regular task at the beginning of each school holiday, ensuring that no child goes hungry. A team of volunteers has now been trained to help signpost clients who might have needs other than a lack of food. We include a leaflet with each delivery of useful telephone numbers of agencies that can help with such issues as debt, housing, mental health, etc.

cont'd on next page...

Throughout the autumn and winter months we shall continue to operate a delivery only service. We are fortunate to have a good team of volunteers who are willing to do this. The system certainly benefits those living in the more rural areas, who would otherwise find it very difficult to come into the foodbank to collect food.

We have, at last, managed to meet up as a group. We gathered in the market square for an hour to chat over a drink. It was a very pleasant occasion and for many of the volunteers it was the first opportunity to meet with fellow workers. Joanne Kondabeka and Sarah Adams joined us from Chichester as well as David Dixon from Selsey.

We are always happy to welcome new volunteers into the team, so if you would like to be involved please drop me an e mail,

midhurstcoordinator@chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

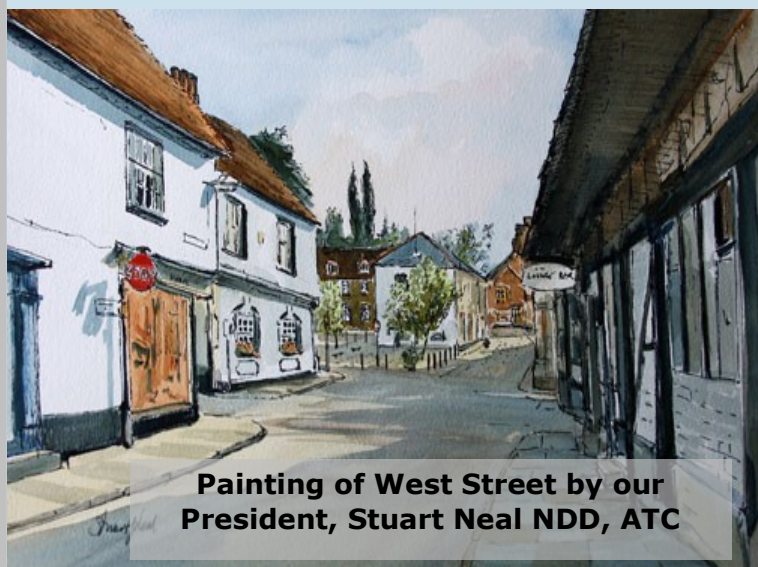
Liz Willing Midhurst Foodbank Coordinator

Midhurst Art Society

Do you like to draw and paint?

Come and paint with the folk of Midhurst Art Society from 2.00pm to 4.00pm on Thursday afternoons at the Grange Centre. This is a cheerful, friendly gathering of artists of all levels from beginners to semi-professionals. There is no formal instruction but we help each other when asked. The cost is just £3.00 per head per session to help cover room rental.

The Midhurst Art Society was forced into dormancy over the worst of the pandemic, as, apart from anything else, our meeting venues became unavailable. It is now coming back into life and in the future we hope to resume our monthly evening demonstration/ social evenings and our annual exhibition.



Painting of West Street by our President, Stuart Neal NDD, ATC

Meanwhile do come along and enjoy a relaxed painting afternoon with like-minded people and see whether you would like to become a member at some future date. You will be made welcome. For more information you can contact the chairman, John Robinson on 01243 535271 or email JohnRobinson@eastmarden.net.

<http://midhurstartsociety.org.uk>

Listed Buildings in Easebourne—Little Todham Farmhouse

Contributed by Phil Stringer

Listed 26.11.87, Grade II House. C17. L-shaped. Ironstone rubble, first floor of west wing tile-hung. Tiled roof. Casement windows. Stone chimney breast on north wall. Two storeys. Three windows. Listing NGR: SU9077220687

The Midhurst Society has provided this useful link to all the listed buildings in Easebourne:
www.midhurstsociety.org.uk/history/listed-buildings-easebourne/58/

A previous occupant of Little Todham Farmhouse was Brigadier-General Charles de Winton. He enlisted in the Royal Hampshire Regiment in 1880 and had an early career in



India and Burma. By 1914 he was a Brigadier General. His medal rolls record he was awarded the Burma clasp to the India medal in 1887 and the Victory, British War and 1914-15 star. He was also awarded the CMG. Between 1911-15, he commanded 162th Infantry Brigade of 54th Division. Before the Great War they were a territorial formation in a home defence role as coastal defence brigade in East Anglia. In May 1915, the brigade concentrated with its division in the St Albans area to prepare for overseas service. On 8th July it was warned for service at Gallipoli, and between 28 and 30

July it departed Devonport and Liverpool for the Mediterranean. On the night of 10/11 August 1915 the brigade landed at Suvla Bay with its division as part of IX Corps. Brig Gen de Winton handed over command before operations commenced and was posted to command 175th Infantry Brigade which was part of 58th (London) Division that in 1915 was in a home defence role and based in the Ipswich area training for operations. In early 1917 it deployed to the Western Front. The Division then remained in France and Flanders and took part in the Battle of Bullecourt (4-17 May) and the Third Battle of Ypres (Sep – Nov 1917).

Brigadier-General de Winton retired on 23rd December 1917 aged 57 and lived in Great Malvern. The 1939 England and Wales register records him as a widowed and retired army officer living in Little Todham Farmhouse aged 79. Brig de Winton was active in the Midhurst Branch of the Royal British Legion immediately before the outbreak of World War II.



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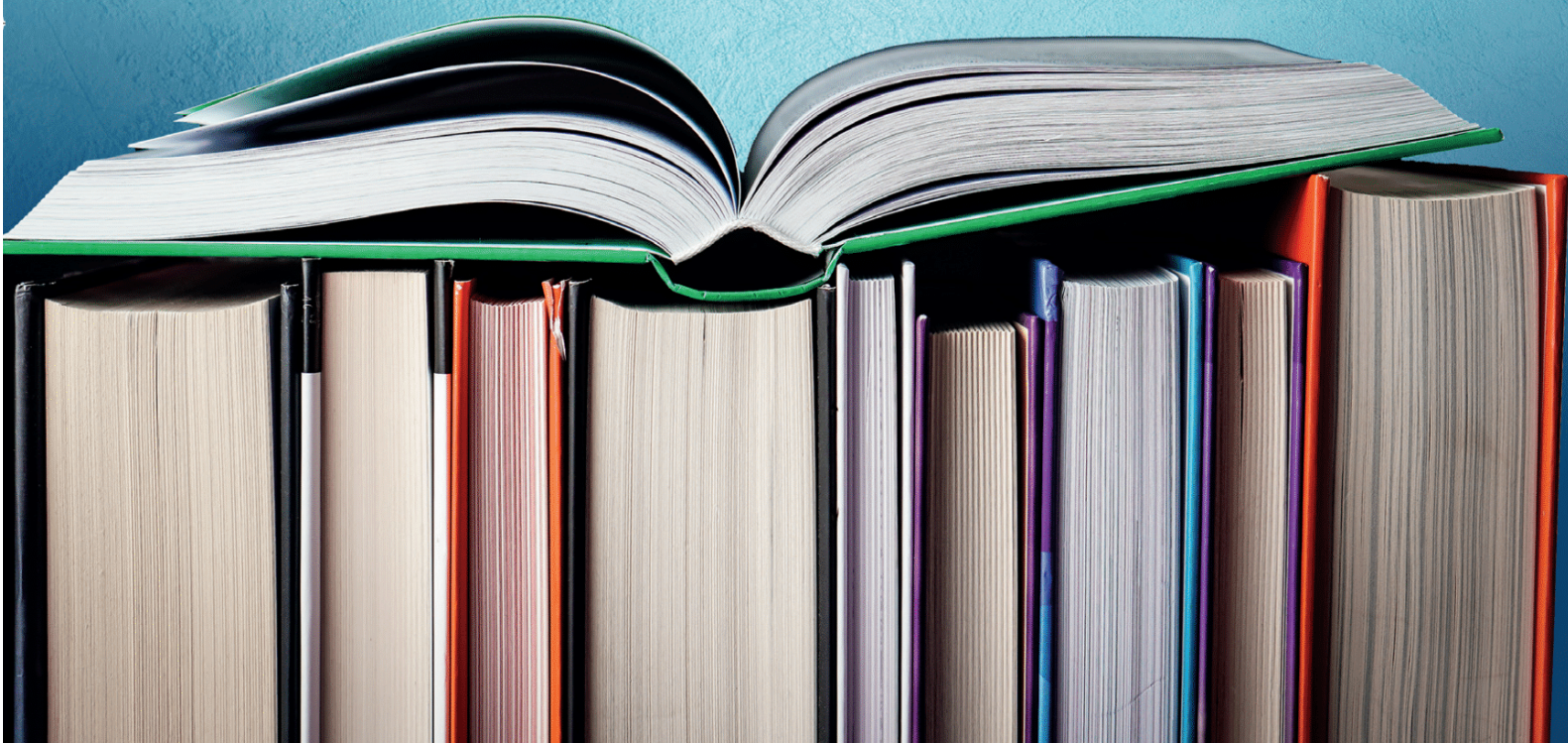
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Sloes

by Michael Blencowe,

Learning and Engagement Officer, Sussex Wildlife Trust



Sussex
Wildlife Trust

From up there, it felt like I could see the whole world: the Oak trees adorned in summer's fading leaves, the fields at harvest, the city far in the distance. Each October, my Grandad would load me and a bucket into Betsy, his faithful 1963 Ford Anglia. Together we'd cruise the county's back roads. Every few miles he would ease Betsy to a halt and inspect the landscape until finally declaring "this is the place." My bucket and I would be hoisted high up on his shoulders and from there I'd get my Grandad-stand view of the world. More importantly though, it'd put me within reach of the treasure. The jewels we sought on our expeditions were sloes, the round, purple-black berries that bedecked the Blackthorn bushes. My Grandad was convinced that the finest fruits were located high on the hedge. And the best sloes made the best sloe gin.



Each spring, the Blackthorn hedges bloom; their brilliant white flowers creating snow-white drifts against the woodlands and along our roadsides. These ephemeral petals soon fall and the Blackthorn becomes cloaked in small, oval leaves, capturing the energy that powers production of the sloes. A Blackthorn bush

is a prickly character and as approachable as an enraged porcupine. Each twig is armed with spikes, which deter cattle and Grandads from helping themselves to its leaves and berries. This spiny spinney fortress also safeguards a wealth of wildlife. Nightingales, Turtle Doves and other birds nest under its protection and the elusive Brown Hairstreak butterfly lays its miniature sea urchin-like eggs on the bush's black bark.

Many years after my Grandad and Betsy had departed, I decided to honour them both and concoct my own sloe gin. I found an online recipe and, in what was and still remains one of the biggest disappointments of my adult life, I discovered that the main ingredient in sloe gin...was gin. After watching my Grandad making his moonshine I had genuinely believed that by submerging a load of sloes in a bottle you would magically turn water into gin. It seems my Grandad couldn't perform miracles. Indeed, looking back, our hedgerow pillaging raids could easily be dismissed as forced child labour. Was he exploiting me and my tiny hands to bypass those thorns and reach the best berries? A few decades earlier he'd probably have sent me down a mine or up a chimney. But my Grandad wasn't some Fagin-like character. Now I think of it, I never once saw him actually drinking any of his sloe gin. Perhaps just being out in the countryside in the autumn sunshine, on an adventure with Betsy and his grandson, was the truly intoxicating ingredient.

www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk

How to Make Sloe Gin

1. Harvest your sloes when they are nice and ripe. 2. Wash them and freeze them overnight. Freezing will take the place of pricking because they will burst when thawed. 3. Halfway fill a big glass jar with your thawed sloes. Top up your jar with good-quality gin. 4. Leave it to macerate for about 3 months, turning the jar a couple of times. But be patient, don't open it yet. It should be ready by Christmas if you do it soon. 5. Make a sugar sirup. Strain the gin and add the sirup just a little at a time until it is sweet enough for you.

ENJOY!

If you contact the editors we will tell you where we found LOTS of sloes!

The changing face of the Bowling Green

by Jean Hicks



Friends Of Midhurst Common

How this small corner of Midhurst Common got its name seems to be a mystery. However, it holds a lot of memories for many people. Many years ago in the times of hunting, it was the meeting place for horse and hounds on Boxing Day. It was also the play area and events site for the Midhurst Primary School, which was then in Petersfield Road, opposite the Half Moon Public House.

Over the years, the vegetation has gradually encroached on the area, but it has remained the meeting place of several Rights of Way and an area for recreation. During the last 18 months, when lockdown ensued and footfall in this area became limited, the vegetation has crept in even more. Although it has been a grassy area, this has always remained flattened through continual use, but the grass has now grown quite considerably and the gorse has also started to move in.

Since the end of lockdown, the volunteer group of Friends of Midhurst Common have been working on the Bowling Green and cut back the straggly and dead gorse and some of the more spindly trees. This has allowed in the light and has given the gorse the opportunity for regrowth, which will be more beneficial to the wildlife. The volunteers have more recently cut back the bracken which was also encroaching, in the hope that this will discourage too much regrowth next year.

It is an ideal place to sit and enjoy the quiet, listen to birdsong and watch these magical creatures flitting from tree to tree.

Entering the Common from Carron Lane car park, take the footpath on the right, which will lead you to this open area. Enjoy.

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Anne Dennig, Botany Bay Conservancy, Sussex



**Tuesday 19 October
at Methodist Church Hall at 2.30pm**

Talk by well-known speaker Bob France, a guide at both Uppark and Petworth House, about the devastating fire at Uppark in 1989, and the restoration of the House. This talk is also available on Zoom. Visit midhurstzoom@gmail.com to sign up. More details at midhurstu3a.org.uk



News from
The Midhurst Society

**Midhurst Society
Wednesday October 20th LIVE
at the Grange Centre starting 6.45pm**

AGM followed by a presentation from Leslie Foulkes from Langhams Brewery on how they brew the finest beers in the South Downs. Society members free. (NB only members may vote at the AGM.) Visitors £5 for 2 people.

SING JOYFULLY!

**Debut Recital by the South Downs Soloists
St Mary's Church Petworth
on Friday 22 October at 7.30pm**



The Southdowns Soloists are a new and exciting professional vocal ensemble based in the South of England directed by George Haynes. The recital of praise and unaccompanied singing will include works by Bach, Byrd, and Britten. Tickets cost £10 and are available on the door.

HARTING SOCIETY

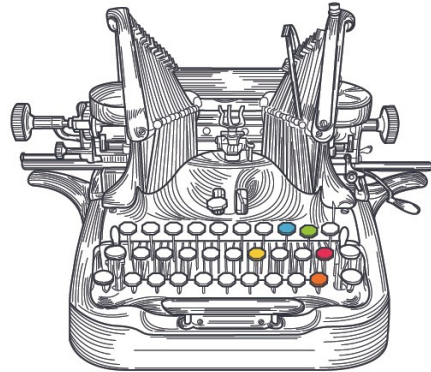
**Talk by art historian Allen Chubb on Thursday 7 October at 7.30pm
at Harting Village Hall.**

Allen Chubb is a retired solicitor and current chairman of Haslemere U3A, and has worked for many years as a volunteer at Petworth House. He has made a study of the life and work of Turner and will focus on the artist's connection with impressionism. Everyone is welcome to attend. Join us at 7.00 for a glass of wine before the talk. Enquiries to Sarah Wilcox at swilco149@yahoo.com

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Poppy Appeal 2021



Following a meeting of the Midhurst and District Branch of the Royal British Legion on 6 September, it has been decided to stop house to house collections in the district area. This decision has been taken due to a number of factors: the safety of our volunteer collectors, many households do not welcome cold calling, fewer people having cash available, and with the expected state of the pandemic, people may not be comfortable with either visiting or opening their door to unscheduled visitors. However, Poppies will still be widely available. We hope to place static collection tins at as many businesses, schools and churches in the area as possible. In addition, you will have plenty of opportunity to make donations online or by text, which proved very popular last year.

Thank you for your continuing support of the Poppy Appeal. In this the centenary year of the Royal British Legion and the 100th birthday of the Poppy Appeal, the money you donate provides important, life changing support for individuals and families in our Armed Forces community, and ensures the contribution of our Armed Forces and their families' is never forgotten.

Phil Stringer, Poppy Appeal Organiser
Midhurst and District RBL

General Knowledge Quiz Answers

1. April 2022 2. Bull 3. Alan Davies 4. Lead 5. Pigs in blankets 6. Polygraph
7. Pakistan 8. Graphic Designer 9. May 10. A herd of 14 elephants
11. Automated Teller Machine 12. Ukraine 13. On the shoulder 14. Eight
15. Lionel Messi 16. Norway 17. Obtuse 18. Leylah Fernandez 19. Japanese
20. Digestive biscuit (Jaffa Cake 46, digestive biscuit 71)



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News from Easebourne Primary School



School is back, and the weather seems, typically, to have improved, certainly for Week 1! It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school in more normal school circumstances. Our Bubbles are gone, at least for the moment, and we are eating and playing together. Break times are no longer staggered, after-school clubs are running and, most joyfully, the sound of children singing has returned to the school! We are also coming together for collective worship, rather than meeting virtually. You can see Derek in full flow in his first proper face-to-face assembly for 18 months!



We have also welcomed back our volunteers, a generous group of parents, carers and local residents, to support the children's learning. This year, we are focusing volunteer input on the afternoons and are always keen to hear from anybody who feels they might like to spend some time helping the children in some way.

Last year, led by Jacky Clipston, our Eco-Warriors achieved their Green Flag, the highest level of the Eco-Schools initiative.

This is very exciting news and our congratulations to them for all their hard work. You should be able to see the proof flying from the top of the school's flagpole when you next pass. One of our eco initiatives this term is to visit the wild area of the churchyard at St Mary's and build up a picture of the flora and fauna there. Hopefully, the team will report back in a later edition of this magazine with their findings.

This year, we hope to run theatre trips to Chichester Festival Theatre to see child-friendly performances. By using the school minibus and supplying the adults, we hope to make a theatre trip affordable for all. Our first outing, with our 5-7 year olds, will be to see 'Stick Man' in December. Who knows, you might get to read some theatre reviews soon!

As I write this, we have just finished the first week of term, so children have been settling into their new classes. However, the Friday saw a great debate in Year 6, centred on the possibility of reintroducing the 'Daily Mile'. This initiative, a daily opportunity for every child to run for ten minutes was scuppered by COVID and we wanted to know whether the children felt it was valuable enough to reintroduce. Two teams of four battled it out, making articulate and valid points and rebutting strong questions from the class and the other team. Opinion was nicely balanced before we started but the team arguing for its reintroduction managed to convince the majority that the benefits outweighed the difficulties and disadvantages, so we are now working

out how to fit it into our new timetable!

Finally, can I cheekily draw your attention to the school's Amazon Wishlist on our website. This is a new initiative and is already providing a real boost to the reading stock available to the children. It gives our parents/carers and the wider community an easy way to support the children's reading in the school by helping

to build individual class libraries of rich texts. The wishlist can be found on the school's website might also be a helpful guide for choosing books as Christmas and birthday presents for a child you know.

Best wishes

Johnny Currey

A recent survey revealed that almost a third of working parents wouldn't be able to juggle their busy work-life balance if it wasn't for Breakfast and After School Clubs. At Conifers School, wraparound care runs from 8am to 6pm each day - including Breakfast Club and Tea Club. This not only offers busy parents flexible drop off and pick up times, but the pupils have even more enrichment opportunities with their extensive co-curricular clubs and activities programme.



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Chloë Pestell





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Return to School

Back to school at Midhurst Rother College went well as we welcomed 200 Year 7's into their new surroundings. Full of excitement and a few first day nerves, they started their MRC journey looking smart and crisp in their secondary school uniforms. With one of the hottest September weeks on record and with no more year group bubbles, Years 8 to 13 returned, happy to be mixing with others from across the different year groups. Students who gained GCSE success a few weeks ago joined the thriving Sixth Form to begin their A levels studies.



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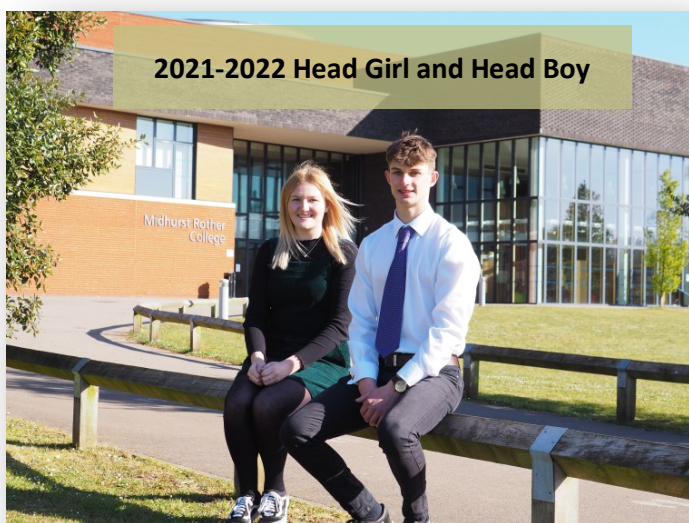
Parents' information evenings are taking place for all year groups and less than a fortnight into the new term and the College are already looking to September

2022. Before this article reaches you, we will have hosted a Year 6 Experience Day for 250 children from the local primary schools, an open evening for families of prospective

students wanting to join as Year 7s next year, a Year 12 open/options evening for those looking to become MRC Sixth Formers, and open mornings, where interested families can visit and view the College in action on a working day.

At the end of last term, we worked with Pasha Digital to produce a wonderful MRC welcome video. If you want a taste of what life looks like at MRC, you can view the video on our website www.mrc-academy.org.

Madeleine Hathaway



The first task of the new term, in line with Government guidelines, was to carry out Covid tests on the students. Over the course of six days, a huge team of community volunteers gave their time to support College staff with carrying out over 2000 tests, and we are very thankful and appreciative of their generosity.



Covid-19 Vaccinations for the Midhurst Area



Back in December, Midhurst Pharmacy was the first pharmacy in Sussex to be granted permission to offer Covid-19 vaccinations. Having started on January 29th, Midhurst Pharmacy offered their last vaccinations at the South Downs National Authority Memorial Hall on September 5th. However, this is not the end. Future Booster vaccinations, the evergreen offer of AstraZeneca and Pfizer Covid-19 vaccinations, as well as flu jabs for all adults, will be carried on at the Midhurst Pharmacy premises in North Street. I am sure that all who visited our site at the SDNPA, as well as the wider community, would like to join us in sending a huge thanks to the SDNPA for offering us such a wonderful venue. As a site it proved to work so well, and we never tired of hearing "I sat my O-Levels here!"

In the period of January 29th to September 5th, Midhurst Pharmacy vaccinated just over 45,500 patients, and I owe a huge amount of gratitude to each and every member of our 108-person team. They were unstinting with their

effort and patience, and our efficiency is recognised with the positive reviews they received. Our huge amount of thanks also goes to Fitzcanes, Cowdray Park Cafe and many other local cafes for their treats to keep us fed and sane.

As mentioned, the job is not finished and the whole system has migrated to the Midhurst Pharmacy with the same teams in operation. We will be offering the NHS booster programme as well as seasonal flu jabs. We look forward to welcoming you there.

There were a number of our team who have donated their time for no remuneration. It only seemed fitting that Midhurst Pharmacy allocated that time to what they would have earned, and that has amassed to a wonderful figure of just under £9,000. We have chosen to donate this figure to Tandem. This money will allow Tandem to transport the elderly in the community to and from much needed social events for the next two years.

Raj Rohilla, Midhurst Pharmacy



Riverbank Medical Centre continues to vaccinate the local population against Covid. We will be starting

booster doses in line with government guidelines shortly. We have also started to roll out this year's flu vaccination. As ever, we will be contacting patients for these vaccinations in due course.

Dr Paul Fludder

The Sun has got his Hat On

by Anthony Knight

In a sermon a few weeks ago, Derek encouraged the church to be environmentally conscious and to look for ways of reducing our carbon footprints. Well, we are trying to do our bit.

When we moved to Easebourne, some 11 years ago, we found that our heating system was oil-fired, with a combined boiler/cooker unit. Over the years the boiler has required more and more maintenance and was evidently reaching the end of its life. What to do next? Nearby houses have gas supplies but connecting our property would have been very expensive and, anyway, gas boilers are being phased out. A replacement oil boiler was a possibility but was definitely not environmentally-friendly. Some research suggested that, over a period of some 7 years, using all available government grants, a more radical solution was possible, an Air-Source Heat Pump. Initial enquiries among potential suppliers showed that the cost, spread over 7 years, would be almost the same as that for a replacement boiler, and we would not have to buy oil.

Our friendly local plumber, Jeremy Yeo (see ad on p. 34) was already engaged on a heat pump installation in Midhurst. This was inspected and seemed to be operating effectively. Before we could embark on our own project we had to have a heat-efficiency survey. This thorough survey identified a problem. Our bungalow home is of timber-

frame construction and so the walls cannot be cavity-insulated (because of the need to ventilate the structure). But we found a different set of criteria for such houses and we were on our way.

Our system consists of two parts. First there is the 14kW heat pump (see photo), an external unit like a large air-conditioner, and a two-coil hot water cylinder with associated pumps and controls. Secondly there is a roof-mounted solar heat panel, connected to one of the tank coils. Jeremy thought long and hard about the best location for this equipment and then decided to put the cylinder in the loft, replacing the cold water tank. This involved much clever manoeuvring to get the new cylinder through the loft hatch. The new system is sealed, working at mains water pressure, so there is no cold water tank and the hot water pressure is much improved. A lot of redundant pipework was removed and new pipes and electrical wiring were installed. The old hot-water cylinder was removed from the airing cupboard, which will now be heated by a small radiator

So far everything seems to be working well, although we have not had an opportunity to test the central heating fully until winter. The solar heat panel, on a sunny day, easily produces all the hot water that we need. Even on a dull day it manages a 10 degree increase over ambient temperature.

Mastering the thermostats and control system is taking a little while because the instructions appear to have been translated, approximately, from Korean! Now we await colder weather and a scheme to remove the old boiler, oil tank and surplus oil. Should we also retire our wood-burning stove? You may be thinking of replacing your gas or oil boiler – we and Jeremy will be pleased to give advice and to share our experiences.



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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 October —Thurs to Monday 9.00am—4.00pm,
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
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