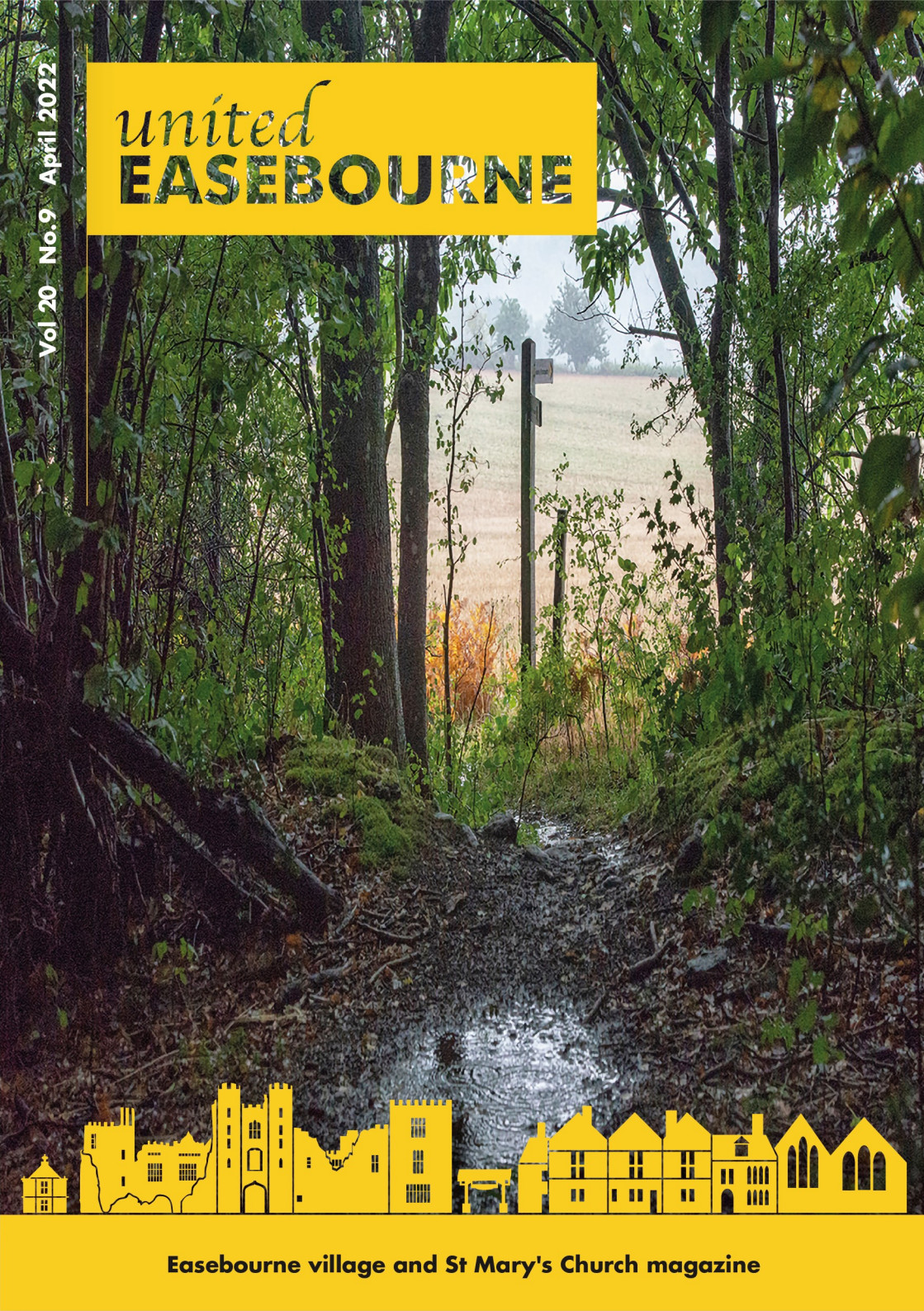


Vol 20 No.9 April 2022

united **EASEBOURNE**



Easebourne village and St Mary's Church magazine

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The deadline for the May issue of United is Friday 15 April. We always welcome interesting articles and attractive images from our readers.

Send to: easebourne.united@gmail.com or Tel 816542

**Many thanks to Clive Blott of the Midhurst Camera Club
for the image on the front cover.**

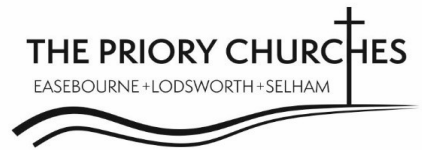
Letter from the Vicar

Dear Friends

Power, and how we use it, is a big topic in our world again. Russia's war against the Ukraine brings sharply into focus how power and its misuse can lead to so much suffering and pain. In our daily reflections for Lent, produced by the Church of England, called 'Live Lent, Embracing Justice', we revisit the story of Moses and the Pharaoh of Egypt.

Through the story of Joseph and his brothers, the Israelites find themselves living in Egypt. At first their time in Egypt is a prosperous time; Joseph is central to the life of Egypt under Pharaoh. Over time, as so often is the case, the plight of the Israelites changes, and in the story of Moses, they find themselves enslaved to hard labour and hardship. When they cry out, God hears them, and after a tussle of power between God and Pharaoh, Moses leads his people out of Egypt, through the Red Sea to freedom.

The story sits at this time of year as part of our Lenten preparation. At Easter, we once again reflect upon being set free, but not by the work of a man like Moses, but by the Cross of Jesus Christ. This time our freedom is about recognising our sin and its impact upon others and our world. Jesus bears our sins upon his body on the cross; we are called to



recognise this and live in the freedom it brings. Jesus could have had power – but he chose to walk with his people. Jesus could have chosen a path based on 'self' – but he always put others before himself. Jesus could have used power for personal gain – but with humility and grace he sacrificed everything for us and the world.

Jesus' example should bring hope to us all. That despite those who would do differently, there is a God who believes in peace, humility and justice. Jesus, described in John's Gospel as 'the light of the world', shines that light through those who share those values into our world and communities.

Pharaoh discovered ultimately that God's ways are more potent, because they are based upon all that is right and good. Yes, power does occasionally flair up and bring suffering into our world, but as is always the case, the light ultimately wins. Prayers for the peoples of Ukraine – prayers for all affected by war – prayers for us all as we try and live out peaceable and gentle lives.

May God bless us all this Easter.

Rev Canon Derek Welsman

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

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

SERVICES AT ST PETER'S LODSWORTH

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

SERVICES AT ST JAMES SELHAM

1st & 3rd Sundays
8.30am Holy Communion

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

Churchwarden: Mrs Alison Davis, Merrydown, Bepton 816642
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Churchwarden: Mr Roger Sked, 3 Fox Rd, Easebourne GU29 9BH
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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

Editor of United Advertising Tina Litchfield, 7 St John's Close, Midhurst GU29 9QB
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To subscribe to United phone Ann Harfield 813810
or email—annharfield23@gmail.com

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

CHURCH DIARY FOR APRIL 2022

Sunday 3	5th Sunday of Lent		
	8.30am	St James	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Family Service
	6.00pm	St Peter's	Evensong
Monday 4	7.00pm	St Mary's	Lent Group
Tuesday 5	10.30am	St Mary's	Coffee Morning in aid of Spire Fund
	7.00pm	St Mary's	Standing Committee
Wednesday 6	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Thursday 7	10.45am	St Mary's	Easebourne Primary School Easter Service
Sunday 10	Palm Sunday		
	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	4.00pm	St Peter's	Palm Procession
Monday 11	3.30pm	St Mary's	Messy Church
Wednesday 13	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	St Mary's	Afternoon Tea
Thursday 14	Maundy Thursday		
	6.00pm	St Peter's	Holy Communion
	7.30pm	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Friday 15	Good Friday		
	Time to be confirmed		Pilgrimage
	2.00pm	St Mary's	Hour at the Cross
Sunday 17	Easter Day		
	8.30am	St James	Holy Communion
	9.45am	St Peter's	Holy Communion
	11.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Wednesday 20	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Sunday 24	Easter 1		
	9.00am	St Peter's	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Wednesday 27	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	6.30pm	St Mary's	Quiz and Curry Night

CHURCH DIARY Cont'd

MAY

Sunday 1

Easter 2

8.30am	St James	Holy Communion
10.30am	St Mary's	Family Service
6.00pm	St Peter's	Evensong

Tuesday 3	7.00pm	St Mary's	Women's Fellowship Beetle Drive
Wednesday 4	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion

Wine & Wisdom

The Social Gang is organising a Wine & Wisdom evening on Wed 27 April at 7.30pm in the church—cost £10 per person including a glass of wine and a choice of chicken curry or stew. Numbers will be strictly limited to 35, so first come, first served! The attraction of the evening will be our quiz masters Derek and Gill. If you would like to join us, Hilary will be taking names after church and recording your preference for curry or stew.



Greetings Cards



Handmade greetings cards for all occasions—made from recycled materials. Please look out for these bespoke cards and help support the Church Spire Fund. They will be for sale after the morning services.

Thank you
Caroline Pede

Women's Fellowship

In March we all enjoyed Pam Stevens' talk and presentation of cake decorating. Pam showed us photos of some of the lovely designs she had created and also brought some of the animals she had made. We were shown how to make roses, primroses, and other flowers, and were invited to have a go ourselves.

In April we are hosting a coffee morning which will be in aid of the Spire Fund. This will take place on Tuesday 5 April in St Marh's from 10.30am—12 noon.

All are welcomed—do come and share coffee and cake. There will also be a raffle.

Ann Harfield, Tel 813810



More details from
Lynne Todd (01798 861399) or
Alison Davis (01730 816642)

3.30 - 6.00pm

Monday 11th April

at St Mary's Church, EaSebourne
for the parishes of Lodsworth, Selham & EaSebourne

A relaxed and informal church
with a warm welcome for the whole family

*Crafts, songs, celebration, food and plenty of
opportunity to have fun and make a mess!*

Afternoon Tea - Wednesday, 13th April at 3.00pm in church

The Social Gang looks forward to seeing everybody again for an afternoon of chat and laughs.

If you would like a lift, please contact Hilary (01730 813923), Jan (01798 342233), or Sue (01730 812105).
Take care during the coming weeks and with all best wishes.



Date	Reading	Gospel	Reader
3 April Passion Sunday		John 12: 1—8	
10 April Palm Sunday		Dramatized Gospel	
17 April Easter Day	Acts 10: 34—43	Luke 24: 1—12	Alison Davis
24 April Easter 1	Acts 5: 27—32	John 20: 19—31	Roger Sked

N.B. If you are unable to do your reading, please phone Hilary Craig on 813923.

Poet's Corner by Sue Absalom

The Doldrums

Have you ever been to the Doldrums
Apparently a nautical term
Where the open seas remain windless
The National Ocean Service confirm.

This happens North of the Equator
Where two Trade Winds meet
That offset each other, so no wind
And sailing ships have to admit defeat.

Ships will remain becalmed
If they rely solely on sails
With no engine to take over
Their progress severely curtailed.

This begs the question then
How on earth do they cope
Does the crew have to man the oars
And with each stroke, pray and hope!

The only Doldrums I ever heard of
Are the ones you find yourself in
When life's pressures get you down
And there seems little chance to win.

And like the becalmed sailing ships
It can be a struggle to find a way out.
The news from around the world
Does nothing to help banish the doubt

Let's pray the change in the Seasons
Will lift moods from dark to light
With the birds singing sweetly
And mornings and evenings bright.

Turn to the light and seek Jesus
Take His courage from above
Those problems won't go but will ease
Helping you live with Faith, Hope and Love.

FIRST TIME AUTHOR FINDING FOOTPATHS ALL AROUND MIDHURST

A new walking guide set in the heart of the South Downs National Park is shortly to be published by first time author and keen Rambler, Michele Facer. Beautifully illustrated with her own photographs, *Circular Walks Around Midhurst* introduces eight circular walks in the countryside around Midhurst.

The book is a brand new take on the traditional walking guides most of us are used to. Michele sought help from local design company HOOLI to ensure the maps were simple, instructions clear, and the layout well thought through.

The walks start and end at the Market Square in Midhurst. Each has a theme, enabling Michele to include snippets of

local history as well as notes on wildlife and culture. Intended for walkers of all abilities, every walk comes with options for creating shorter or longer adaptations to the suggested route.

Seven local businesses are specially featured in the book, whilst several others are mentioned in the route guides. The aim is to share what is on offer in the area as well as highlighting the important role these businesses play in sustaining our local community.

Michele's goal is to introduce readers to the beauty of less well known footpaths within the National Park. Through her book she is giving locals a wide variety of walking routes to try out. She is also offering visitors straightforward ways to explore what has always been an area of outstanding natural beauty.

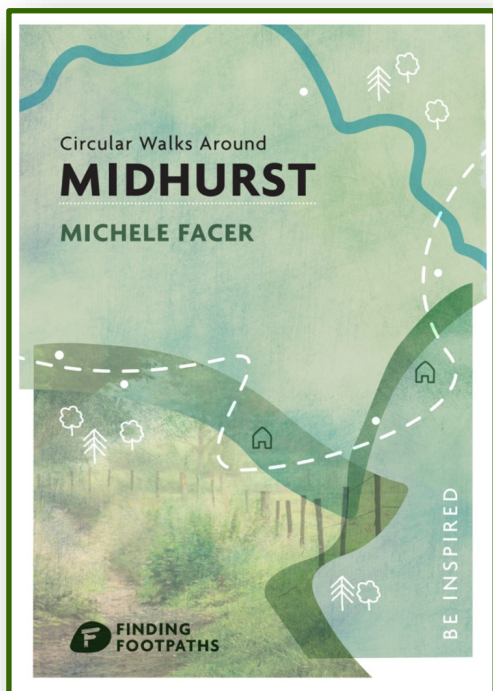
Circular Walks Around Midhurst, is published on April 9th and will be on sale in local shops and independent bookshops in Midhurst, Petersfield, and Petworth, as well as being available direct from the website, www.findingfootpaths.com. It will be launched at an open event in The Old Library, on Knockhundred Row, Midhurst on April 9th at 2pm.

Twitter: @michele_facer

Instagram: @michele.facer

Facebook Group: Finding Footpaths

Website: findingfootpaths.com





Midhurst Rother College
The best in everyone™
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IT'S BACK !

Community Day

Saturday 7 May 2022



All the usual fun including:

Lifestyle, Leisure and Fitness

Delicious Food and Drink

Artisan Goods

Local Craftspeople



SOMETHING FOR ALL THE FAMILY!!

PLUS +++

**We're doing our bit for the planet
AND you can too!!**

Greener Living Alternatives

Hybrid + Electric Car Display

Wires + Plugs Recycle Point

Eco Friendly Goods

Reduce Reuse Recycle



10am - 2pm

BE A PART OF THIS WELL-ESTABLISHED AND MUCH ANTICIPATED EVENT

**MRC Careers Fair-
Once again, Live and In Person**
by Madeleine Hathaway

After two years of online events for its students, Midhurst Rother College opened its doors and welcomed exhibitors back into the building for a vibrant careers fair for its 1200 students.

The careers event saw over 30 companies and educational establishments descend on the College with the sole purpose of educating students about the possibilities that are available to them as they progress beyond Midhurst Rother College. A wide range of careers and industries were represented with local exhibitors including Cowdray Estate, Goodwood Estate, Contract Candles & Diffusers Ltd, Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Ltd, and South Downs National Parks. From further afield Exclusive Hotel Group, Farol Ltd, the Oil and Gas Industry, and Hays Travel Group were joined by a number of further and higher education providers.

The representative from University Campus of Football Business expressed that he found the students to be polite, courteous and professional in their manner and thorough

with their questions about their future careers. A Year 8 student said they learned from the Fair “...that although there could be one job, you're set on doing, there are so many others that have potential”, whilst a Sixth Former stated similarly, “I learnt more about fields of work that I was both very interested in and that I had not considered before. I also learnt how businesses works and the support that they can offer in return.”

Roger Burton, Assistant Principal at MRC, commented, ‘It’s lovely to see businesses return to the College to support events such as these. Engaging with businesses face to face enables students to explore their future pathways and enjoy the opportunity to discuss possible options enabling them to make good choices.’



News from Easebourne Primary School

At the end of Fairtrade Fortnight, two of our Rights Respecting Ambassadors (Billy and Elizabeth) sold fairtrade chocolate bars, raising £165 for Ukraine Sunflower Aid, the local initiative to help the Ukraine. We are also collecting fairtrade stickers in an informal house competition and hope to cover four large posters of the Fairtrade symbol by the end of the term.



athletics tournament at MRC. Our children competed well and came back with various medals and a trophy!

Earlier this term, as part of their Grow, Sow and Farm topic, Year 5 went on a

fascinating trip to Buddington Farm where they were warmly welcomed by James Renwick and his sons, and by school parents, Lewis and Amy Edge. They learnt about a range of different farming processes and techniques linked to the mixed farm. Lewis, Ella's dad, guided them around the farm and explained how the dairy cows are cared for - the children even saw a cow being milked by a special robot! The farm also produces potatoes for restaurants and they learnt how to wash, sort and bag them. The forklift that moved the potato crates around was the children's favourite piece of machinery because they were able to see how it could reach to the top of the warehouse roof. They loved asking questions and exploring the different parts of the farm. At the end of the trip, they were allowed to pick a turnip to take away with them; however, the best bit was getting to try some ice-cold milk before they left!

Hot on the heels of the large number of ash trees in our woodland having to be felled because of ash dieback, we have lost two trees and some heavy boughs to Storm Eunice. Our woodland is much exposed and quite open to the main Haslemere road and the houses beyond. We are planning to plant some young saplings



Since our last piece in this magazine, we have sadly had to say goodbye to Lizzie Mayhew. In classes, everyone watched a slideshow, reminding us of Lizzie's warm personality and sunny smile. Our oldest class, Otters, worked out, from an early picture in the slideshow, that Lizzie arrived in Dragonflies

at the same time as they did so she has played a significant part in the first year at 'big school' for the vast majority of our children. She will be sorely missed. Lizzie will be moving on to work with children in care who are currently separated from their birth families and will be wonderful in her new role.

We have had a flurry of sporting fixtures which included two mini-tournaments at Petworth involving mixed and girls' football teams, two cross country meetings, including one at Conifers, and an indoor

from the Woodland Trust and some more mature trees, with funds raised by our PTFA. In the meantime, over half-term, we planted a 'fedge' (half fence, half hedge), using much of the willow that was pruned in the spring. This screen will hopefully restore a small amount of the privacy that has been lost through the felling.

In other news, Our Music Lead, Katie Stevens, led 150 children from across the Rother Valley in a singing event at MRC. The event was a huge success and she will be leading two more with other age-groups later in the term. Also, a minibus of our older children went to the third of our three after-school visits to Chichester Festival Theatre. They saw *Private Peaceful*, by Michael Morpurgo, a moving story about the experience of two brothers in World War I. Finally, we are very grateful to one of our parents, a textiles teacher, who is busy creating a Ukrainian flag for the school and I hope, by the time you are reading this, that it will be flying above the school in support of the Ukraine.



I wish you all a restful Easter.

Johnny Cusker

Love in a Vacuum

Do you remember Sue's poem in the February issue about the Henry hoovers in the broom cupboard? Well, look what they have produced—a tiny little baby Hoover called Henri! He is only 4 inches tall.



Common Pipistrelle Bat

by Michael Blencowe,

Learning and Engagement Officer, Sussex Wildlife Trust



Sussex
Wildlife Trust

I spend way too much time in graveyards (especially considering that I'm going to spend an awful lot of time in one in the future). But they are great places to look for Pipistrelle bats. At this time of year, adult Pipistrelles are emerging from their winter hibernation and taking flight. Above Sussex, the night sky is a battlefield of deafening cries as Pipistrelles swoop and swirl, plummet and pounce at their insect prey.

The acrobatic anarchy overhead goes unnoticed by us humans. Our hearing is limited and when it comes to night vision we're as blind as, well, something with really bad eyesight...in fact anything but a bat. Bats have excellent vision. But it certainly isn't their best sense.

Echolocation is one of the animal world's most incredible superpowers. A Pipistrelle shouts, the shout hits something and bounces back. This echo is instantly analysed in an amazing brain and tells the bat how far away the object is and whether it's a mosquito, a moth or a mansion. To get the maximum information from their echo, Pipistrelles yell at high frequencies (45 kHz—we can only hear up to 20 kHz). And these shouts are loud; pneumatic drill or jet fighter loud. Up to 110 decibels in some species. A bat would deafen itself if it heard its own shout. So Pipistrelles have to disengage their ears, then shout, then turn their hearing back on, listen for the echo, analyse, then start all over again. All at the rate of 10-15 times a second. This gives bats an amazing, multi-

layered awareness of their surroundings. But it's tricky (and impolite) to shout when you're eating, so once a moth is in the mouth the bat has to chew-shout-listen-chew-shout-listen to avoid a collision.

There are 17 different species of bat in Sussex. Our smallest – the Common Pipistrelle – is also the one you're most likely to see around your gardens. Back in the 80's there were just four TV channels, two types of videocassette and one species of Pipistrelle in Britain. But in the 90's, scientists discovered that some Pipistrelles were echolocating at higher frequencies (55 kHz); a Montserrat Caballé to the Common Pipistrelle's Freddie Mercury. These are the Soprano Pipistrelles. There's now a third—Nathusius' Pipistrelle. By affixing lightweight metal rings to this species' wings, researchers have discovered that these bats are migrating to Sussex from as far away as Latvia. An amazing journey for an amazing animal.



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Get in touch with Julia and Rachel.

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

1. What breed of dog used to be sacred in China and could only be owned by members of the Chinese Imperial Palace?
2. In which continent would you find Ayer's Rock?
3. What type of flower does a vanilla pod come from?
4. What cabinet post was held by Denis Healey, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Nigel Lawson and John Major?
5. What is the name for the tough fibrous flexible connective tissue that links bones together?
6. Which creature more commonly associated with the Arctic Circle was recently spotted on a Northumberland beach?
7. Which composer's principal works were the opera 'Porgy and Bess' and Rhapsody in Blue for piano?
8. Who recently became an unlikely co-champion for training young children to be engineers?
9. What is the capital of Malta?
10. The concept of gravity was discovered by which famous physicist?
11. Which reddish-brown colour gets its name from a pigment extracted from a cuttle fish?
12. What country do the Canary Islands belong to?
13. Which social media app only lets you view pictures and messages for a limited time?
14. 'And so to bed' is a quotation from which famous diarist?
15. What does a nidologist study?
16. How many calories does a glass of water contain?
17. What is something wrapped in if it is served 'en croute'?
18. What is the hardest natural substance on earth?
19. What is the deliberate use of exaggeration for emphasis called?
20. What colour is found on 75% of the world's flags?

Answers on page 25



Growing Clematis—continued from the March issue

Selecting which clematis to grow from the hundreds available is really difficult. Firstly I would like to mention a few which have stood the test of time, are vigorous and free flowering and do not suffer from many problems. C Perle d'Azur is a true light blue with a mauve flush. We have had this in our garden since we moved here, and although not as free flowering now it still one that should be in every garden. Very often in gardens where clematis do not grow well you will see C Comtesse de Bouchaud, bright pinky mauve, vigorous and free flowering. Similarly we have C Miss Bateman - this was growing on a fence at Borde Hill behind the herbaceous border and flowered freely every year, creamy white with purple anthers. And a real favorite of mine is C Ville de Lyon, deep carmine, vigorous and free. Just a brief mention of the winter flowering *cirrhosa* forms. These are mostly from southern Europe and have names such as C *cirrhosa* Wisley Cream and Freckles. They need a sheltered sunny wall and one I planted on the house at Sutton Place was called Freckles. I was incredibly surprised and somewhat alarmed at its vigor as it soon reached the gutters and had to be clipped back each year, but the flowering was remarkable,

covered in flowers from top to bottom in February.

You may remember, many years ago in the early nineties we had a series of garden festivals. They took place in England, Scotland and Wales and were very popular. One of the exhibits was by a professional garden group at the Glasgow Festival and I was asked to look after the stand on one day and answer questions. We also had a number of new books to review, three of which were on clematis. The outstanding book on the subject was 'Clematis by Christopher Lloyd, revised with Tom Bennett'. This edition came out in 1989 although its first edition was published as long ago as 1965. Of course many new books have all the latest varieties - this though is without doubt the standard work, full of useful information, highly readable and well worth obtaining from second hand bookshops or online.

John Humphris 810052



**Clematis x durandii, a hybrid between
C integrifolia x jackmandii**

Easebourne Garden & Allotment Society

Coach Trip to RHS Wisley—Tuesday 7 June There may be spaces left on the coach for this all-day outing to Wisley. Cost if you are a member is only £18 which includes entrance and a cream tea in one of their cafés. Non-members can join for £22 but you can become a member of the Society for the extra £4. Please contact Jackie Haggis, email jackieh5@gmail.com or Tel 812230.

Our **Handbook for 2022** is now available with details of all our talks and events, and the schedule for the August Produce Show. Contact the secretary if you would like to join our friendly local garden society. It costs £4 per person or £6 for two people at the same address.

Phone Tina 816542 or email egas@tinagavin.com

11th Annual Plant Sale on Saturday 21 May

**10.00am until 12.00 (or until we sell out)
in front of Easebourne Priory**

We will be selling the usual perennials, flower and veg seedlings and plants, houseplants, and sundries. We won't know until the day what shows up, but there are always bargains for everyone, and lots that you can't find in the garden centres. Make a note in your diary!



What's On Locally



**Friends Of
Midhurst Common**

Annual General Meeting Thursday

14 April at 7.15pm

at the Memorial Hall North Street

Members and non-members are invited

to come along to hear what has been happening on the Common over the last year, and to put their points of view to the committee. We would appreciate questions in advance if possible. Email: friendsfriendsofmishurstcommon@yahoo.co.uk

www.friendsofmishurstcommon@yahoo.co.uk

Andrew Mitchell – Chairman

The Midhurst Camera Club is hosting a Speaker's evening on 20th April at 7:30pm on "Underwater Photography - The Big Stuff from Manatees to Crocodiles" given by David Keep ARPS ABPE. David is passionate about all forms of photography and confesses to spending far too much time doing it! However, he would describe himself as an image maker and not a photographer as he enjoys the post-processing as much as he does taking the photo.



The Midhurst Camera Club is a friendly club for people who have a passion for photography. This Speaker's Evening will be held at the Cowdray Park Gold Club. To register your interest please contact us via email: website@midhurstcameraclub.co.uk. Your first camera club session is free. You can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or our website: <http://midhurstcameraclub.co.uk/>

Midhurst Rother College

Community Day

Saturday 7 May 2022 10am-2pm



Midhurst Rother College

The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Calling all local businesses, agencies and groups to join us at this event to share your skills, demonstrate your crafts, promote your goods, recruit new members, and engage with the local community.

It's all about what's on offer on our doorstep!

ALL STAND & EXHIBITION SPACE FREE OF CHARGE

For more information email: madeline.hathaway@mrc-academy.org or contact the College Office: 01730 812451

Friends of Easebourne Parish (FrEP)

We are always pleased to receive feedback about the work undertaken by FrEP volunteers – the latest much appreciated comments were received from a regular visitor to the Glaziers Lane cemetery who praised the work our volunteers are achieving.

Areas such as cemeteries, parks, other public open areas, and footpaths, are precious community assets and should be well cared for. Nevertheless, it is quite clear that local government and other organisations responsible for these community assets have very stretched budgets and are increasingly unable to carry out all this work without volunteers such as FrEP. That is why we and other similar organisations are such an important asset for the community.

Currently Easebourne Park, bus shelters and all footpaths within Easebourne Parish are being litter-picked by our volunteers on a regular basis. Work parties carry out other jobs such as hedge cutting alongside footpaths and the cemetery in Glaziers Lane, as well as planting trees and bulbs within Easebourne Park. These one-off, two-hour sessions take place approximately weekly, weather permitting. Refreshments are always provided.

We welcome new volunteers and if you would like to join us or require further information about FrEP, please contact our secretary via email: FREPSec@btinternet.com

Frank Davies, Chairman



Our Heath Team Leaders Wendy, Nigel and Jean are continuing work on the last Friday of each month – in February we were joined by Kate and Jake from SDNPA. They brought with them their Roboflail – see photos. They widened the path across



Friends Of Midhurst Common

mammals and birds. Try it in your own garden to promote wildlife.



If you enjoy identifying wildlife, have you yet downloaded the iNaturalist app on your phone? All UK national parks have teamed up to create a project within iNaturalist called LookWild. If you submit photos, you can get the species identified and recorded – useful data for wildlife management.

Have you seen the buzzards flying over Midhurst Common?

the South side of Sunset Hill for easier pedestrian access, but also cut back overgrown, aged heather in the Heathland area. This creates heather at different stages of maturity to create habitat for an increased number of species including lizards, and ground nesting birds such as nightjars.

Traditionally, we have had bonfires during the cold and damp winter months to get rid of the plant material we have pulled out or cut back – pine, silver birch, gorse, and bracken. We hope to trial 'dead-hedging' which is a way of putting the woody prunings to good use. It creates a natural habitat for insects and beetles, as well as rich feeding ground for small

Have you seen frogs and toads this Spring?



We have had frogs every year in our garden pond till last year when we had none and now in mid-March it is looking a bit late for toads as well. As a family, we have always been fascinated observing their development and feel sad that I seem to be missing that chance with my grandchildren for the time being at least.

Dog faeces and urine is unwanted on our Heathland which is particularly vulnerable to the high levels of nitrogen and phosphorus found in both – simply over-fertilisation of the poor soil which allows the heathers to survive to support the associated wildlife species. I have to admit to regularly walking Bertie on the Common, and although I haven't yet achieved collecting the urine, I do 'scoop-the-poop'. Are you aware that the

average length of time for dog faeces to decompose on the soil is 9 weeks.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at The South Downs National Park Memorial Hall in North Street **on Thursday 14 April 2022 at 7.15pm**.

Members and non-members are invited to come along to hear what has been happening over the last year and to put their points of view to the committee about any matters related to Midhurst Common.

We would appreciate questions in advance at the email address below if possible. For communications about the AGM or anything else, see our website www.friendsofmidhurstcommon.co.uk friendsofmidhurstcommon@yahoo.co.uk

Andrew Mitchell, Chairman

The Midhurst Society

The next meeting on **Thursday 21 April at 7.30pm** is our AGM.

We also have a talk by former Midhurst resident Andrew Gibson who is now director of the Chichester Ship Canal Trust.

Andrew will talk about the Chichester Canal in this, its 200th anniversary year. The canal in its time was a financial disaster. How has it survived to become a major Chichester attraction?

The Midhurst Society meets ten times a year for interesting talks in the Memorial Hall on the third Thursday of the month, and you can find this year's programme on our website: midhurstsociety.org.uk. There is time at each meeting to socialise with a glass of wine. Entrance is free for members and £3 for visitors. If you decide to join the Midhurst Society on the night, your entrance fee will be deducted. (The membership form is on our website.



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Save the Date



EASEBOURNE
Parish Council

The Parish Council along with Midhurst Town Council and the Cowdray Estate are planning two events over the Queens Jubilee weekend in June. More details will be announced in the coming weeks, but the dates to save are: Thursday 2nd June - evening official lighting of a beacon on St Ann's Hill, and Saturday 4th June - an afternoon of music, entertainment and refreshments in front of the Cowdray Ruins, from 12pm onwards

Love West Sussex

If you spot a problem with a local road, for example a pothole, a loose kerb, overgrown verge or a wide number of other highways related issues, you can report it quickly and easily by going to the following address: <https://love.westsussex.gov.uk/reports/home>

You don't need to register, simply pinpoint the location on a map, describe the problem, upload a photo if you can (but not essential) and submit.

Parish Design Statement

The Easebourne Parish Design Statement has now been submitted to the South Downs National Park Authority, and is going to be consulted on for six weeks between the dates of: Tuesday 5th April – Tuesday 17th May. To see the document, please go to: <https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning/village-design-statements/>. Or a hard copy can be found at the South Downs Centre in Midhurst.

Cont'd on p. 23



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

Ukraine Sunflower Aid—Midhurst Steps Up

Only a few weeks ago, Digby Furneaux, landlord at the Swan in the market square, and his customers, started the ball rolling with ideas to get aid directly to desperate Ukrainian people who had fled the war. Local people in Midhurst and beyond started making donations.



by Lord and Lady

Leconfield. In the end, more than 1,000 boxes were filled and stacked into vans—many owned by local businesses

or leased for the 4-day, 2,000+ mile round trip. On Monday morning, 14th of March, the convoy of 12 vans, driven by volunteers, left the market square in Midhurst to great fanfare on route to a town

in Poland on the border with western Ukraine. On arrival in Poland, local NGO's ensured that the donations went directly to those in need. For more information on how you can help Ukrainians displaced by the war, go to the Ukraine Sunflower Aid Facebook page: <https://m.facebook.com/sunfloweraid/>, or go for a drink at the Swan.

Volunteers stepped up to sort the donations and fill boxes, which were kindly housed in a barn made available



cont'd from p. 21

War Memorial

After the successful grant application and securing additional contributions from The Church, the Cowdray Estate and the Parish Council, the work to restore the War Memorial in the Church yard is set to begin in the first half of April. The work is very weather dependant but if for any reason it can't go ahead as planned it will be scheduled as soon as weather allows.

Annual Village Meeting

Another date for your diary, this year the meeting will take place on the 25th May 2022 at Easebourne Primary School. More details to follow.

Get involved

There are frequent opportunities for you to get involved in your local community, from helping with Friends of Easebourne Parish activities, sessions with the Midhurst Green Volunteers or even joining your Parish Council. For more information on any of these opportunities please contact Sharon, our Parish Clerk - details below.

Easebourne Park news

Work continues on the final stages of the Parish Council plan to build a community pop-up space and toilet facilities in Easebourne Park, with engineers currently assessing the viability of connecting the building to Easebourne Primary School services. The structure, which will have 2 toilets and a small community pop-up space will need an official name, so watch this space for how you can get involved in that process!

Mike Noble

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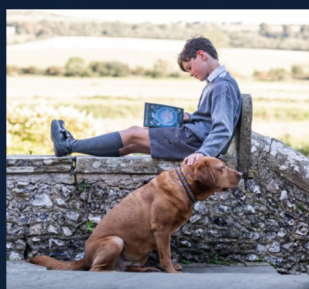
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Listed Buildings in Easebourne—Yewsley Cottage

Listing NGR: SU8949 522622

House. Restored C17 or earlier. Timber framed building with stone rubble infilling, ground floor rebuilt in painted brick. Tiled roof. Casement windows with gables over those on first floor. Two storeys, two windows.

Yewsley Cottage by Chris Deadman

Daniel Mather, a retired farmer (age 65), his wife Frances and daughter Isobel (age 39) were resident at Yewsley Cottage according to the 1911 Census. Living on their own means in this eight-roomed cottage, they employed one servant, Annie Stevens.

Daniel was born in Liverpool to parents William and Ann. William was noted in the 1851 census as having the occupation of “Gentleman”. Daniel had four brothers, two sisters and the household employed two nurses and 4 servants.

In 1861 Daniel was a pupil located in “Hill Side” Wimbledon with least 5 other teenage boys (two born in the East Indies and two in Scotland).

Daniel, aged 21, married Frances (nee Haddon) in April 1868 in Southport, and the register showed that both fathers were listed as “Gentleman”. Daniel was already a Farmer. In 1871 Daniel and his wife Frances were living in Chipping Norton, where their daughter Isobel was born in 1870. During the 1880’s Daniel was farming 379 acres in the Chipping Norton area, employing 7 men and 5 boys.

It is not clear when Daniel retired from farming nor when he moved from the Cotswolds. However, at the time of the 1891 census he was staying with his family at a hotel in Station Road, Horsham managed by William Fieldsend (Kelly’s Directory), and in 1901 he was “Living on own Means” in Slinfold with his wife, daughter Isobel (age 27) and a General Domestic Servant. (See photo next page.)

General Knowledge Quiz Answers

1. Pekingese. 2. Australia. 3. Orchid. 4. Chancellor of the Exchequer.
5. Ligament. 6. Walrus. 7. George Gershwin. 8. will.i.am. 9. Valetta.
10. Sir Isaac Newton. 11. Sepia. 12. Spain. 13. Snapchat. 14. Samuel
Pepys. 15. Bird’s nests. 16. Zero. 17. Pastry. 18. Diamond.
19. Hyperbole. 20. Red



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AN EMPTY CUPBOARD



Old Mother Hubbard,
Went to the cupboard,
To give her poor dog a bone.
But when she got there,
The cupboard was bare,
And so the poor dog had none.

We've all recited this well-known nursery rhyme, probably without giving it a second thought. What, however, is it really like to find the cupboard bare? Imagine that you've struggled for three weeks to stretch your income, whether benefit or wage to feed your family. It gets to week four and the cupboard is bare and the purse is empty! It's hard to imagine that there are a significant number of individuals and families for whom this is a regular occurrence within our community.

That's why we have a Foodbank in Midhurst. Every week we receive calls from people who simply say 'Can you help me? I have no food, no more money until the end

of the month'. When asked what do you need the answer is anything, the cupboards are empty!

There are a significant number of people who live on the edge of poverty. Their income is low to start with. They can manage unless a child needs a new pair of shoes, or the washing machine goes wrong, or they fall ill and, therefore, receive no pay! Then of course there is the daily rise in the cost of living that we're all aware of. Fundamentally low income so often equals a need for help.

Midhurst Foodbank is there to help, but we can only do so because the community support us. This week we have already fed 36 individuals, 21 of whom are children (and it's not yet the end of the week). By working together we can make sure that the cupboard that was bare has something in it and the family can eat.

midhurstcoordinator@chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Liz Willing Midhurst Foodbank Coordinator



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MORE INFO: www.buddington.co.uk

Jonathan Russell, Cowdray's CEO, talks to Nick McDonald about his role as Estate Land Manager. Protecting the environment has always been key at Cowdray, but there is now a sense of urgency about implementing projects that help in the fight against climate change as well as continuing to provide a safe environment for an array of different flora and fauna.

What is your role on the Estate?

As Estate Land Manager, I am researching and overseeing a diversity of environmental projects to ensure that we play our part in the green recovery. As well as the challenges posed by climate change, farming and land management has also been affected by Britain leaving the EU and I am looking at helping the Estate navigate through these changes.



I am also responsible for more day-to-day issues such as mapping, filming enquiries, assisting the property team with Estate management duties specifically in relation to land based issues as well as helping to manage fishing trips and wildlife tours.

What environmental projects are you most excited by?

I am involved in several exciting projects. We are currently researching a river restoration project over the 91/2-kilometre stretch of the River Rother which Cowdray owns. The aim will be to allow the river to flood earlier to store and filter more water, manage the floodplain in a way that increases biodiversity and carry out in channel habitat enhancement as well as allowing the public better access to the river and encouraging children to learn more about natural habitats. We have implemented a reduced mowing scheme which currently focuses on the verges along the A272. By allowing the verges to grow longer and to flower, we are creating a natural habitat where insects can flourish. There is also a Hedge Restoration Plan as hedges provide a valuable corridor for nature. We are looking at restoring our hedges to the best condition they can be through incremental cutting, laying and coppicing. (Cont'd on p. 31)



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
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cont'd from p. 28

Do you have any ideas for the future direction of the Estate in relation to your role?

At Cowdray we are working hard to do everything we can in the fight against climate change and to reverse environmental decline. There are plans to expand the Land and Environment team to help implement environmental changes across the Estate. It is an exciting area of the business to be involved in and I feel proud of my role and of Cowdray's commitment to the environment.

Tell us about your involvement in fly-fishing.

At Cowdray, we have about six kilometres of the River Rother that can be fished, with a small syndicate of about 20 members. We offer fishing experiences to the public for either one or two people. I manage these trips ensuring that our customers are happy, the banks are in good condition and that there is enough fish in the river.

And filming.

We have many enquiries about filming at Cowdray as there are such a diverse range of locations across the Estate. These include event venues, cottages, quarries, forests, vacant barns, off track roads, rivers and lakes. I oversee logistical issues on the ground from meeting location managers to overseeing the actual shoot on the ground.

Where is your favourite place on the Estate?

My favourite place on the Estate is down by the river – it is so quiet, and you don't see anyone there. Be it winter or summer, the area is filled with natural life, and you can hear the birds singing. I feel very lucky as through my role I can visit all corners of the Estate and I love being out and about.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 200 CLUB February 2022 draw winners

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2nd Prize - £75

No 132

Anthony Nelson

2nd Prize - £75

No 156

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Milo, the therapy dog at Conifers



CONIFERS SCHOOL

Milo the Labrador, the therapy dog at Conifers, began his life as a family pet. As a puppy he lived on a farm, where he underwent rigorous gundog training. Therapy dogs, however, are far more than simply well-trained animals. What really sets them apart is their gentle, unflappable character. It was when Milo first started joining his owner Chloe Pestell into work as a young dog that she began to see the potential for him to play a more important role in school life. Milo was an instant hit with the pupils and staff alike, and it was clear that he possessed almost a sixth sense about which children needed his calming, reassuring influence.

Milo has since been through an intensive therapy dog training program, which involved challenging assessments of his temperament to ensure his trustworthiness around children. This means he is able to participate in classroom activities, spend time with pupils one on one, and join the children during break and lunchtime – when there is often a queue of excitable pupils waiting to have a game of fetch with him!

At Conifers we know that mental wellness is key for students and their education, as it helps them to feel empowered and to think clearly, develop socially and learn new skills. At every stage in life most people experience stress. One of the ways that having Milo has helped pupils is by spending time with him when they feel stressed, without needing to explain or justify it to anyone. If they don't feel like talking, they don't have to. Milo

doesn't present any expectations or demands. Teachers have reported that after taking ten minutes with him, pupils return to lessons refreshed and better able to focus.

In early years children who might shy away from reading aloud for an adult adore the novelty of getting to read a story to Milo (and he doesn't mind if they need to take their time over a tricky word). Further up the school, teachers will often consolidate pupils' knowledge by finishing up early and going for a group walk to discuss what they've just learned - it feels like a treat for a job well done.

It's not only pupils that get to benefit from Milo's presence at school - he helps the teachers, too. Staff at the school often drop in to see him when they need a break or a wellness boost. The benefits of a therapy dog are numerous and we're delighted to be able to offer this to our students.

Chloe Pestell



Conifers students with Milo

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Mike Noble, Chair
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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 Miss Emma Fownes, Head teacher	813243	Midhurst Rother College	812451

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