

Vol 21 No.7 February 2023

united **EASEBOURNE**



Easebourne village and St Mary's Church magazine

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The deadline for the March 2023 issue of United is the earlier date of Monday 13th February. Send your contributions to:

easebourne.united@gmail.com or Tel 01730 816542

We are grateful to Paul Lindley of the Sussex Wildlife Trust for the photograph of the Brimstone Butterfly on the front cover.

'I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly' (John 10:10)

This line from John's gospel is a good place to begin our journey through Lent. Jesus' statement of intent proclaims a truth about the purpose of God's incarnation (God in human form). So, the question that it places before us is – 'what does life in its fullness mean to us and how can God help us to achieve this?

As I ponder this question, I reflect that in many ways my life does feel abundant; I love my family, my work and the place where I live. This for me is a blessing. But I realise, that this question is about so much more; my real passion would be, like God's passion, is that everyone feels this way.

So, in Lent, why not find some space to consider what 'life in its fullness' looks like to you. Easter will remind us that salvation and eternal life are the crowns of God's life in fullness. But there is so much more to discover in ourselves and in God.

The gospels are full of stories where people find 'abundance of life' through their encounter with Jesus. For some it was being healed – released from the burden of pain or the burden of human

frailty. Others found it through the miracles of Jesus that revealed God's power to bring abundant life, especially to those who felt excluded and on the margins. For others it was simply the power of Jesus' teaching, releasing them from a life restricted by religious practises that stifled their lives. In each moment 'life in abundance' was about being set free to be who the person should truly be. These people found in God, through Jesus, that 'fullness of life' is about living in the power of God's love, conscious of our own self but also of those around us.

Lent affords us time to reflect. As spring opens up, so does this season of reflection and prayer. Our evenings become lighter and our sense of release from the grips of winter awakens our souls. This release reflects those gospels stories – being released to live, unburdened by the things of life, and set free to be who we truly are in ourselves and in God. But it requires us to engage, to be open to the question and to truly want life in abundance as God offers it.

May I wish you a truly 'abundant' Lent and may God offer fullness of life to you.

Rev'd Canon Derek Welsman

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 Easebourne GU29 9BE Email: derek.welsman@outlook.com	812655
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Visit the benefice website: www.thepriorychurches.co.uk



TEA AT THREE

Join us **EVERY** Wednesday, 3.00pm at
St. Mary's Church Easebourne. All welcome!

Forthcoming Dates:

Wednesday 8th Feb - Friendship Tea

Wednesday 15th Feb - Knit and Natter (or just
come and natter! ☐☐)

Wednesday 22nd Feb - Easebourne Primary
School - serve and share

Wednesday 1st March - Clergy Coffee-time with
Derek and Liz

**Come and join us as we share coffee, conversation, tea and treats
together at St. Mary's Church, Easebourne,
every Wednesday afternoon at 3.00pm.**

Open to anyone who would welcome a chance to chat and meet with other
people from the area, whether old, young or somewhere in between! Bring
crafts, kids, neighbours or just yourselves - everyone will be made welcome.

Contact Rev'd Liz Yonge for more info: 07747 611993 or
revlizyonge@outlook.com

LITTLE LAMBS

**Come and join us for tea, chat, toys, stories and songs
for little lambs aged 0—4 years.**

**Term-time Tuesdays, 10—11.15am in the
church. Everyone welcome.**

Suggested donation £1 per family



Tea at Three

One of the great joys in coming to the Priory Churches has been the warmth and friendliness of the communities, and their willingness to share God's love with our neighbours. The post-Covid relaunching of our toddler group, Little Lambs, and Messy Church has been blessed by many volunteers, creating crafts, baking cakes and faithfully turning up to provide cuppas and conversation to the carers and kids that come along.



At the heart of this is the St. Mary's Social Gang, and nowhere is their love more evident than at our monthly friendship tea, held at 3.00pm on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Here a mountain of sandwiches and cakes awaits anyone who wants to attend, with our lovely volunteers collecting those needing assistance.

Time dedicated to simply eating, chatting and laughing together is a real blessing, not just for the older villagers that attend, but for the teams that serve, and certainly for Derek and me- it's one of our favourite days of the month. And it is a blessing that we now want to share every week, with everyone.

Starting from Wednesday 8th February, we would like to invite ANYONE that feels they would enjoy some company and conversation to St. Mary's, every Wednesday from 3.00pm. Whether you are young, old, or somewhere in the middle, you will find the kettle on, biscuits at the ready and someone to have a chat with. No need to be part of our worshipping congregation, or to have any faith at all. Feel free to bring crafts, kids, (friendly!) dogs, neighbours or just yourselves - however you come, you will be welcome, and we hope that you will feel some of the joy and delight that we do in sharing time together. If you are a bit nervous or want more information then please just give me a call on 07747 611993, or email me at revlizyonge@outlook.com.

See you there! Liz X



Messy Church Dates for 2023

at St Mary's Church, Easebourne for the
parishes of Lodsworth, Selham & Easebourne
3.30 to 5.30pm

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!

Wed 29 March Wed 21 June Wed 27 September Wed 29 November

Details from Rev Liz Yonge 07747 611993



Passion & Resurrection

**A Concert for Eastertide in St Mary's
on Saturday 15 April at 7.30pm**

The South Downs Soloists, a group of eight professional singers, will perform in our church under the direction of George Haynes. The concert is in aid of our Spire Fund. They will sing a selection of beautiful unaccompanied music from early Renaissance to the 20th century.

Tickets available in March.

Can you help the Spire Fund by sponsoring one of the singers?
Contact Eric Bounton the treasurer, or the organisers
Tina and Gavin Litchfield for more information.

Their contact details are on p. 2.

In the meantime, please save the date!

The Bell Tower and Spire

Following an inspection of the church a few years ago, several high priority repairs were identified. These were the repair and renewal of the shingles on the spire as a result of woodpecker damage. There were also substantial works required to the actual Bell Tower, which was last repaired in 1925. Works to be done here include repairs and renewal to the lead parapet gutters, refurbishment of the cast iron rainwater goods, masonry repairs and refurbishment of the weathervane. The total cost of this project is expected to be over £187,000. . This project has been necessarily delayed by Covid-19 restrictions, but plans are in hand to start work this spring. We have applied to the Sussex Historic Churches Trust and the National Churches Trust for a grant, and hope that we will be successful, but further help from friends of the church is essential.

Phil Stringer



CHURCH DIARY FOR FEBRUARY 2023

Sunday 5	3 Sunday Before Lent		
	8.30am	St James	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Family Service
	6.00pm	St Peter's	Evensong
Tuesday 7	10.00pm	St Mary's	Little Lambs
	2.00pm	St Mary's	Women's Fellowship
Wednesday 8	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	St Mary's	Tea at Three
Sunday 12	2 Sunday Before Lent		
	9.00am	St Peter's	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Monday 13	4.30pm	St Mary's	Standing Committee
Tuesday 14	4.00pm	St Peter's	Standing Committee
Wednesday 15	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	St Mary's	Tea at Three – Knit & Natter
Sunday 19	Sunday next before Lent		
	8.30am	St James	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	St James	Celtic Service
Tuesday 21	10.00am	St Mary's	Little Lambs
Wednesday 22	Ash Wednesday		
	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	10.45am	St Mary's	Advent course
	3.00pm	Primary School	Tea at Three
Sunday 26	1 Sunday of Lent		
	9.00am	St Peter's	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Tuesday 28	10.00am	St Mary's	Little Lamb
	7.00pm	St Mary's	Lent Course

MARCH

Wednesday 1	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	10.45am	St Mary's	Lent Course
	3.00pm	St Mary's	Tea at Three

Sunday 5

2 Sunday of Lent

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

St Mary's Church Choir



Do you love to sing? Come and join the church choir. We rehearse on Friday evenings at 6.00, and we sing on most Sunday mornings at the 10.30 service and for weddings and funerals. We need more voices in the choir—both high and low. For more information about singing in our choir, phone Mary Knight, our organist and choir leader, on 01730 812783.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 200 CLUB

December 2022 draw winners

1st Prize - £100	No 64	David Christie
2nd Prize - £75	No 61	Jane Bricknell
2nd Prize - £75	No 120	Mardell Backshall
3rd Prize—£50	No 2	Arthur Douglas-Nugent
3rd Prize—£50	No 126	Jan Harling
3rd Prize—£50	No 20	Julia Wain



January 2023 draw winners

1st Prize - £100	No 141	Bryan Scholey
2nd Prize - £75	No 12	Jan Harling
2nd Prize - £75	No 174	David King
3rd Prize—£50	No 228	Sue Absolom
3rd Prize—£50	No 30	Keith Nightingale
3rd Prize—£50	No 116	Gavin Litchfield

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.

St Mary's Reading Rota for February

Date	Reading	Gospel	Reader	Intercessor
5 February 3rd before Lent		Matthew 5: 13—20	TBA	
12 February 2nd before Lent	Romans 8: 18—25	Matthew 6: 25—end	Jan Harling	Andy Castledine
19 February Next before Lent	Exodus 24: 12— end	Matthew 17: 1—9	Ann Harfield	Colin Datchler
26 February Lent 1	Genesis 2: 15—17 & 3: 1—7	Matthew 4: 1—11	Simon Hendry	Clergy

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

AFTERNOON TEA in the church

Wednesday 8th February at 3.00 pm in the church.
Everyone is welcome to join us for an afternoon of chats
and tea! Hope you are all keeping well and with all best
wishes and love from the Social Gang. (See p. 3)



Women's Fellowship

The first meeting of 2023 will be on Tuesday 7th February at 2.00pm in Church. We look forward to welcoming Rev. Liz Yonge to speak to us about her journey towards the ordained ministry. New members and guests are always welcome so do come and join us for the afternoon.

Ann Harfield 813810

World Day of Prayer

This year the service has been prepared by the Christian women of Taiwan. It will be held at St Mary's Easebourne on Friday 3rd March at 2.30pm. Do join us to pray for the people of Taiwan, especially the women who face suffering and injustice.



News from Easebourne Primary School



We've been busy developing our grouping and classifying skills in Science this term which has been really good fun. Our **Year 4 Badgers** class went to the Haselmere Museum where they used practical resources, in this case taxidermy birds and butterfly specimens with classifications keys. They reported back that they felt like real scientists and that the trip made the learning much easier to remember.



Our **Reception** children are now officially dinosaur experts, accurately pronouncing so many very complicated dinosaur names and bringing dinosaurs into their learning whenever they can. My favourites were seeing the dinosaur skeletons they made using cotton buds.

Our **Year 3 Rabbits** class got rather soggy on their trip when they went to the RSPB's Pulborough Brooks on one of the wettest days this year! They collected soil samples using a giant corkscrew and then took them undercover to classify, using a key.

After they had warmed up a little and dried off, the children ventured out again, this time to do some pond dipping! Catching newts, blood worms and phantom midge larvae were the highlights and the children had the opportunity to use microscopes to take a really close look at their specimens to help them to identify what they had found. Again, they loved working like real scientists and bringing their learning to life in a very practical way.





Our **Forest School** is year round and this term our Squirrels (Year 2) and Badgers (Year 4) classes are out enjoying learning in the woods. High winds and torrential rain have been a challenge, but the groups have managed to get out and last week Badgers got to grips with the basics of fire lighting using a flint and steel. With just a little piece of cotton wool in a scallop shell they persevered until they had managed to get a big enough spark to catch the cotton wool and start a tiny fire. Hopefully we will have enough dry days for them to progress onto small traceless fires before half term.

Commitment is one of the 7C's we celebrate at Easebourne and learning how to light a fire using a flint and steel for the first time, requires resilience by the bucket load.

Caroline Hulbert, Headteacher

GARDENER AVAILABLE

I'm an experienced, young gardener available for gardening jobs, especially lawn mowing, weeding, hedge-trimming and leaf raking. I have my own tools and rotary mower. I can also do pressure-hosing for patios and pathways as shown in this picture. You will need your own compost heap or green bin. I give very competitive prices within 5 miles of Midhurst.



Just call Ben on 07966 759889

Save this Magazine!

As you can see, there have been a few changes since this issue was published 120 years ago. There have been many incarnations and many editors since 1903, including Barbara Gayford who was also the founder and headmistress of Conifers School. We have been producing Easebourne United as a village magazine since 2016 and we now need to retire.

There must be someone out there who would like to take over as editors. It's great fun and a useful service to the village, and a nice way to keep in touch with the community. It

only needs 2 or 3 days a month to put it together. If you give us a ring, with no obligation, we can tell you what is involved. Hopefully you are someone from the wider Easebourne community who will continue to make United an interesting magazine for the whole village, not just the church.

Email: easebourne.united@gmail.com or Tel 01730 816542.

Tina and Gavin Litchfieldd, editors



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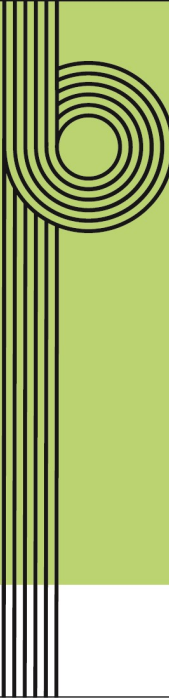
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Form V and VI Project Work

Written by the pupils

Forms V and VI explored Midhurst with Peter Nightingale, owner of the Midhurst Museum, for our project on History. Form VI's learning question was: "What did the Tudors do for Midhurst?" Form V were answering the question: "Who were the inhabitants of Cowdray?"

Form VI

We learnt about the features of the Tudor house and we looked at the 'box structure' of the buildings. Peter told us that they were built in such a way that a giant could pick them up and move them to a different place. Each beam is numbered with Roman numerals so that the builders would know which piece goes where. We learned that there used to be many more pubs in Tudor times than there are now! The Tudor buildings often had an overhang on the front of the house which formed the base of the first floor. We learnt that there is a genuine Tudor wall painting in 'Olive and Vine' restaurant.

We had great fun designing and creating Tudor model buildings; we had to work out the dimensions and cut the template from cardboard boxes. We then used the photographs from our walk to paint on the decoration. Although many bricks and tiles were in use in



Tudor times, some of the infill would still have been wattle and daub and roofs would have been thatched.

In pairs, we researched other aspects of Tudor life such as the food that they ate. For example, did you know that acorn bread was eaten by peasants and wheat flour bread was for aristocrats? Animals were only killed when they needed to be eaten and meat was smoked inside the building over a fire, especially in the early Tudor village houses.



Form V

We learnt about how Savaric FitzCana came into possession of the manors of Midhurst and Easebourne in 1107 and how his descendant, John De Bohun built Coudreye in Easebourne. We made a giant historical timeline from 1284 to the 8th Viscount Montague in 1793, including all the changes to Cowdray, which became a fine example of a Tudor mansion in the 1550s. We learned how the 8th Viscount sadly died in an accident while negotiating the Laufenburg Falls on the River Rhine and never knew that braziers had set light to his beautiful Cowdray on the night of 24th September 1793. We used this piece of history to write imaginative stories and plays about what might have happened during that time.

We loved explaining all this to our parents and showing them our work at the end of term!



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Toilet Facilities at Easebourne Park

This much loved, much used, community facility, is due to be updated and improved in 2023. The placing of a temporary public toilet, and feedback gathered from families using the Park, proved that there was a clear demand for this facility. Thus, plans are well underway to construct a 2-chamber eco-loo in approximately the same area as the 2022 temporary loo. These loos are to use fully sustainable materials, are to be serviced daily and are planned to be available to Park users during the hours of daylight at peak times of the year. Wooden shingle tiles, kindly supplied by Cowdray Estate from local forests are to be used for the roof. Work should commence mid-March with the units planned to be completed by the end of April.

Roundhouse Roof

Roundhouse Roof. The Sedum Roof on the Roundhouse unfortunately failed during the hot period last summer,



EASEBOURNE
Parish Council

despite the Parish Council volunteers using copious quantities of water on the roof to try to keep it green. After taking expert advice, and conscious of the need to conserve Sussex water supplies as we try to mitigate the effects of climate change, the Parish Council reluctantly elected to permanently change the material of the roof to wooden shingle tiles. These tiles, sourced by the Cowdray Estate from their sustainable local timber, will be machined and installed by the Midhurst and Goodwood company, Artizans of Wood, the original constructors of The Roundhouse. Again the Parish Council and local community thanks the Cowdray Estate for their generous donation of wood to create the shingle tiles.

Facebook page to keep up to date with what's happening in your locality.

Mike Noble, Chairman

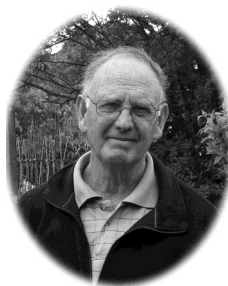
Parish Clerk: Sharon Hurr, parishclerk@easebourne.org
Tel: 07342 166188 Parish website: www.easebourne.org

Friends of Easebourne Parish (FrEP)

Throughout the winter months FrEP volunteers have continued to carry out various tasks which include litter picking, emptying waste bins and keeping the bus stops within Easebourne Parish free of rubbish. We will soon resume works that require teams of volunteers to tend the trees within the park, footpath clearance and cutting back of hedges and undergrowth.

For those amongst you who need a New Year's resolution to focus on, why not join us as a volunteer and help maintain our parish! We welcome new volunteers – for further information please contact our secretary via email: FREPSec@btinternet.com or call **07803 933694**.

Frank Davies, Chairman



In 2005 I organized a conference called 'Sustainable Gardening.' At that time, I did not realise just what an

important subject it would prove to be. There were a number of high-profile speakers and I was surprised at the passion they showed, and their views on how we had allowed the easy options to creep into our everyday gardening.

One of the most interesting speakers was Mike Snowdon, who at that time was managing the gardens at Rowallane in Northern Ireland. When he took over the gardens, the standard reply to any of his suggestions for change was, 'We have done it this way because it has always been done like this'. Well, change began at Rowallane with a mowing regime that re-introduced meadows of the past. They changed the usual regime to allow the natural meadow plants to thrive. That also brought in greater insect life, which also enjoyed the wider range of plants in the garden. A further step was the management of the garden waste, which had been allowed to lie about in tangled heaps around the garden. Most important was the introduction of a good chipper and composting system that used up every bit of waste. They also introduced a peat-free system some 18 years before the use of peat became a major concern.

Another interesting lecture was by the landscape designer Julie Toll. She

created the following list for a sustainable garden. No. 1. Spoil removal. 2. Collection of rainwater. 3. Re-use of material. 4. Shredding and composting the hedge trimmings on garden boundaries. 5. Avoiding the use of peat. 6. Biodiversity and 7. Feeding birds.

The next lecture was a scientific case presented by Rebecca Joyce, who was working for the Royal Horticultural Society at that time. Among her many ideas were - mitigating the causes of climate change, and not adapting to the outcome. Also sustainable gardening, including 'we must slow down'. She suggested that we tackle things on a human scale rather than bringing in heavy equipment. And then she said, 'There is only one solution to the energy crisis and that is to use less.'

A lecture from Dr Ken Thompson was called 'The Bugs Survey'. This group makes no distinction between native and alien plants. The animals in our gardens do not care - it is more important to have something in flower all the year round.

There was much much more on all of this, in fact 66 pages in the final proceedings. I was quite amazed by each speaker's determination to get their message across. Now almost 20 years later it is interesting to see how relevant the subject matter is. We all now know that global warming is a fact and needs to be treated seriously by everyone, not just the committed few.

Plant of the Month

At this time of the year all the plants in flower or about to flower have had their flower buds in place from well before Christmas. Although I have mentioned *Edgeworthii* crysanthema before, it looks particularly attractive this year with their hanging buds, opening to soft yellow on the bare shoots. It is a native of China and has long been cultivated in Japan for making high class paper. It is also used extensively as an under-planting for the early cherries.

John Humphris VMH 01730 812080



Easebourne Garden and Allotment Society

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 9 February at 7.30pm** in Cowdray Hall. We have a talk by Carol Gubler entitled 'Aspects of Fuchsias' which should be very interesting. Visitors are welcome (entrance only £2) and refreshments will be served. We hope to see you there.

To join the Society, contact the secretary, Tina Litchfield, on 01730 816542, or email EGAS@tinagavin.com. It only costs £4 a year to join, or £6 for a couple. Our new Handbook for 2023 is now available. Please collect your copy at the meeting or get in touch with us.



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General Knowledge Quiz—How well do you remember 2022?

1. How many Prime Ministers did the UK have in 2022?
2. What was the online game that went viral in January and was later bought by the New York Times?
3. Which British company fired 800 of its employees over a video call in March?
4. In March, which oldest recorded town became the UK's newest city?
5. What did Will Smith do at the Oscars to get himself banned from future ceremonies for the next 10 years?
6. What is the name of the new tube line that opened in London?
7. As part of Jubilee celebrations, who joined the Queen for afternoon tea?
8. In July, the UK hit its highest record temperature ever, what was it?
9. Which painting did Just Stop Oil protestors throw a can of soup on in the National Gallery in October?
10. Who was named as the new CEO of Twitter in October?
11. The UK was hit by an egg shortage in 2022, what is the main factor contributing to this?
12. Who won the World Cup in December?
13. Which two senior royals celebrated their 40th birthdays in 2022?
14. Who resigned after losing the confidence of the Mayor of London?
15. Which birds of prey were found nesting in Poole Harbour and produced an egg, the first in Southern England in modern times?
16. The UK government announced plans to ship English Channel migrants to which country?
17. Hamza Yassin broke down in tears as he won what?
18. What name did delivery company Hermes UK rebrand to in 2022?
19. The Lionesses beat which team in the semi-final, and what was the score?
20. Joe Lycett pretended to shred a pile of cash after David Beckham refused to pull out of his Qatar sponsorship deals. How much was in the pile?



Answers on page 23

JOIN THE MIDHURST SOCIETY!

The Midhurst Society exists for everyone who cares about Midhurst and the surrounding villages (including Easebourne!). We are proud of the beauty, our history and our heritage as well as the wonderful people and organisations that are part of this fabulous part of the Country. We put on ten interesting talks each year, usually on the third Thursday of the month in the Memorial Hall in North Street. Talks are of course free to members, but visitors can attend for a modest fee. We also produce a high-quality magazine every



THE MIDHURST SOCIETY
Preserving and improving local heritage

year, and other publications about the town and the neighbouring villages. We also offer occasional visits to interesting places in the area. You can find our new programme for 2023 on our website.

New members are always welcome and you can find out more if you visit midhurstsociety.org.uk or if you email chair@midhurstsociety.org.uk.

We hope to you soon.

Nick Cansfield, Chairman



Midhurst Society Talk on 16 February—'Number Please'



Our next illustrated talk will be on Thursday 16 February when Anthony Knight from Easebourne will give us a talk entitled 'Number Please'. Anthony had a long career with what used to be Post Office Telecommunications and what then became British Telecom in the late 1970's. This was still at a time when most phone connections in this country were made manually by operators. He will talk about the development of telephone numbering schemes in the UK and will explore the history of

the telephone service, from manual local control through to world-wide automation, with a few anecdotes along the way.

The talk at the Memorial Hall starts at 7.30pm. Visitors £5.

Dates for your diary—the next talks at the Memorial Hall

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 16 March | John Humphris VMH, former head gardener at Sutton Place, will tell us its colourful story—'From Jekyll to Jellicoe' |
| 20 April | Our AGM, and talk by a speaker from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission |

Visitors Welcome!

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Valentine's Day

February 14th arrives with excitement
How many cards, if any, would I get
Oh, these teenage years are full of angst
Will I get one from the boy I've just met.

Waiting for the Postman to come
Is he even going to call today
Will there be an envelope that's
red
And if there is, what will it say.

Will it have hearts and roses on
With words of love so sweet
That my heart will sing for joy
As I'd read "Would you like to
meet "
(
Perhaps it will not even be signed
With "Guess who" written, and maybe a
kiss
Hope it's not from that boy at school
I've been trying for ages to give him a miss!

Where's that Postman this morning
He's never usually this late
I guess he has many more deliveries
How I wish he'd walk through our gate.

I see him now with his big red bike
He stops at the lady next door, to chat
For goodness sake I'm on tenterhooks
here
She's too old to expect anything like that!



I hastily move from the window
As he, at last, walks toward our door
Something is pushed through the
letterbox
I don't have to wait any more.

But Mum has beaten me there
And is looking through the mail
"Nothing for you my dear"
As I turn a whiter shade of pale!

"Yes there is, silly me" she says with a
smile

"But your face is as white as chalk"
She hands me the red envelope, and I dash
Upstairs, as I read on the back 'S.W.A.L.K.!!

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Music at MRC

by Madeleine Hathaway

The MRC Music department has finished a busy Autumn Term. It is wonderful to see trips and events back to normal again! The start of the term saw our music and performing arts students visit the famous Glyndebourne Opera House where they were treated to a performance of La Boheme, and as it was such a special occasion we decided to dress up, just because...! The students had a wonderful time, most of whom had never been to an opera before.

2022 also saw the first RV Rotary concert since 2019, this is always a fantastic event with over 100 RV children performing. Our Orchestra, Jazz Band and choir thoroughly enjoyed the first concert of the term and were particularly impressed by South Harting's brass group!

Our annual Winter Concert took place at the end of November, showcasing all our musical ensembles. We had everything from the choir and orchestra to the Jazz Band and musical numbers, as well as a number of stunning solos. We were treated to a beautiful dance choreographed by three of our GCSE

Dance students, too. There were so many highlights of this concert, but it was fab to see a snippet from our upcoming show, Mary Poppins. It was also amazing listening to one of our Year 7 classes who had learnt an entire song in French. Well done to all the performers, it was a full house with around 150 students performing!

Before the term ended, on a particularly rainy evening, we took a trip to see the Music for Youth Proms at the Royal Albert Hall. Wow, the venue itself is an experience, but the young performers were simply inspiring, with one of our students turning around to tell us "That will be me on that stage one day, Miss!" Wonderful.

Heading towards Christmas we took a small group of musicians to accompany the carols at the Easebourne Tree of Hope service. This is always an honourable event to perform in alongside many of our local community. It was a beautiful service, and we hope to play there again next year.





We rounded the term off with five carols services at St Mary Magdalene & St Denys' church in Midhurst. The Orchestra accompanied carols as well as performing music from Polar Express, we were also treated to a very jazzy version of Jingle Bells from the MRC Jazz band.

We have had a lovely rest over the break and ready to go again this term. We have our Spring Concert on Tuesday 21 March. Tickets

will be available to purchase on the door. We also have entries in the Chichester Festival of Music, Dance and Speech; wish us luck!



General Knowledge Quiz Answers

- 1.Three – Boris Johnson, Liz Truss and current PM Rishi Sunak. 2.Wordle.
- 3.P & O Ferries. 4.Colchester. 5.Slapped host Chris Rock in the face.
- 6.The Elizabeth Line. 7.Paddington Bear. 8. 40.3 degrees in Coningsby, Lincolnshire. 9.Vincent Van Gogh's Sunflowers. 10.Elon Musk. 11. Outbreak of bird flu in the UK. 12.Argentina. 13.Prince William and Princess Kate.
- 14.Cressida Dick (Metropolitan Police Commissioner). 15.Ospreys. 16. Rwanda.
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Woodland Life-cycle

Standing and fallen decaying wood and old plants are very important for wildlife. It is of great value to insects, fungi, mosses and lichens. Birds feed on the insects that make their home in old wood. Wood piles also create an inviting home and feeding ground for toads, newts, bees, spiders, centipedes and many other insects and bugs. Please remember that if you see a tree limb on the ground on Midhurst Common that might be attractive as firewood, to remove it, you are interrupting this valuable resource to the wildlife cycle that has been established for millennia. Rotting woodpiles and plant debris are a great addition for garden wildlife – a super-tidy garden should be avoided!



Mid-January we had mechanical assistance on the Common to remove some larger silver birch and conifers than our regular Heath Team couldn't manage – you may



Friends Of
Midhurst Common

Object found by Jean. Probably the nest of a harvest mouse. Usually found at the base of a clump of grass or in a thorny scrub. This was found attached to heather, within a few metres of plentiful Purple Moor Grass. Let us know if you have seen one locally.



have noticed this as you meander across the Common. Our aim for the heathland is to promote the growth of varying stages of heather and remove invasive trees – this has been happening for thousands of years but by grazing herbivores rather than the Heath Team!

Our Annual General Meeting this year is on Tuesday 25 April, 7.00pm at the SDNPA Memorial Hall.

Andrew Mitchell - Chairman

email:
friendsofmidhurstcommon@yahoo.co.uk
www.friendsofmidhurstcommon.co.uk

CHRISTMAS GENEROSITY



The Communities of Midhurst and Easebourne showed tremendous generosity throughout December in their support of The Foodbank. All the collection points yielded a great many provisions and we were delighted with numerous private donations. We were able to give many Christmas goodies in addition to the normal food parcels that we delivered. The warehouse remained well stocked, despite the economic situation and a greater demand for food throughout December.

We delivered 202 lunch boxes, each child receiving a Christmas goodie bag. This was a massive operation, greatly helped by Seaford College who provided all the contents of the boxes as well as packing and delivering them to us. Our Christmas appeal in local shops was remarkably successful. Local people showing great generosity in supporting the Foodbank by buying small gifts and placing them in our Christmas boxes.

These gifts helped us to provide Christmas gifts with all our food parcels. We are incredibly grateful to the eleven local shops who embraced the appeal throughout October and November, and all those who helped to fill the boxes.

We continue to be busy, week by week, feeding between 20 and 40 individuals. Without the generosity of local residents, we would not be able to help those within our community who find it hard to feed themselves and their families. A huge thank you to everyone for the support you give us.



Liz Willing

midhurstcoordinator@chichesterdistrict.
foodbank.org.uk

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Thank you to our local community

Midhurst and Petworth Rotarians would like to thank the local community for their kindness and generosity over the Christmas period. Over £1,200 was raised

from our collections in Midhurst, Petworth and at Cowdray Farm Shop. These donations will help support good causes both locally and internationally. Thank you once again



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www.midhurstandpetworthrotary.org.uk



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Listed Buildings in Easebourne—Behar

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Listed 26.11.87, Grade II

Now 3 flats. Dated 1789 with the initials "E. E.". Coursed stone rubble with red brick dressings and quoins. Tiled roof. Glazing bars intact. Two storeys. Three windows.

In 1789 Elizabeth Etherton became the copyholder of the buildings we now know as Manor House and Behar (EE1789) at the age of 45 on the demise of her husband Edmund. *"Three Heriots three Geldings colour black"* were seized for the use of the Lord of the Manor.

Elizabeth held the copyhold until her demise 44 years later when, in her will, she left Behar, the Wheelwright's Shop and £500, to her niece Olive Osgood. (Manor House was left to her great niece Hannah James).

When Olive died in 1861 the copyhold for Behar and the Wheelwright's shop were

bought by Henry Gadd of Bignor for £400. The Court fine on Olive's death was £39.

On Henry Gadd's death in 1883, the copyhold transferred to his niece, and housekeeper, Elizabeth Bell Gallon, who held it for a further 19 years until her death in 1902. Thereafter, the copyhold passed in quite quick succession to her brother, Robert and then two years later to his brother, Thomas, in 1904.

One of the final entries in the Easebourne Priory Court Book in 1905 records *"All that Copyhold Messuage or tenement garden wheelers shop and yard with the appurtenances part of certain premises*



Photo by Chris Deadman - 2021

called Perry Garden” and to which the said Barbara Butts was admitted Tenant Out of Court on 23 February 1905.” The sum paid was £500.

Barbara Butts had lived in Snowhill House, opposite Behar, with her aunt, Emma Richards, from the age of six. Born in Sitapour, India where her father, Henry

Butts, had worked since the 1870’s. Henry Butts retired in 1893 and returned to live in Easebourne in 1901 and became a Justice of the Peace for Sussex.

Barbara and her father, Henry Hill Butts, were recorded in the 1911 census as residing at Perry Garden Cottage. With them was, Sarah Petter, a servant, who had been employed by Emma Richards at Snowhill (Census records dated 1891 and 1901).

When did EE1789 – Perry Garden Cottage become known as Behar? - Ed.

Note: Some of the details above are from the “The Copyhold of Broad Stone and Perry Garden” a privately printed booklet by Sue Coward dated February 2008.



Ed’s note: When we first came to live at neighbouring Manor Cottage in the early 1990’s, there were the remnants of a pear orchard behind the houses where there is now a car park. That is how the property became known as Perry Gardens.



Photograph by John Harrison ca. 1993

It's around about now that I start getting a bit bored of winter. Don't get me wrong, I enjoy a bit of bleak beauty: bare trees, frosted landscapes and all that. But now I need something to get my heart racing. Send me a sign – some life in the graveyard of winter, a promise of those dynamic spring months ahead, a flash of colour. In February my light at the end of the tunnel is an oncoming butterfly.

On sculpted, vibrant yellow wings the Brimstone makes his elegant entrance into the New Year on those bright February days when you feel the warmth of the sun on your face. Its distinctive yellow wings have given birth to a legend – that this 'butter-coloured fly' inspired the word butterfly. This claim may not entirely be true. Also untrue is the notion that these February Brimstones are the first signs of the year's new life. Because by the time Brimstones appear in February they are already on their last (six) legs.

Fresh Brimstone butterflies emerged from their chrysalises in late summer, so by February they could be seven months old – and in butterfly years that's ancient. Admittedly almost all of that time they've been asleep in a hedge, sheltered from the storms under Holly and Ivy. Yet despite the worst winter weather they always emerge immaculate in the spring. They must be made of Teflon.



When they awake the (bright yellow) males search for a mate, they mate, the (pale yellow) females lay eggs and then both die. Still, an adult life of over ten months earns them the title of our longest-lived butterfly. An insect OAP.

The Brimstone's caterpillars feed on the leaves of Buckthorn and Alder Buckthorn, unobtrusive shrubs which, like the

butterfly, are widespread across Sussex. When I first became the proud owner of a garden it was only a matter of days before I evicted the gnomes and planted an Alder Buckthorn. The following

spring I was excited to watch a Brimstone laying her tiny skittle shaped eggs and I studied the caterpillars as they hungrily defoliated my tree. It's funny, people often complain to me about caterpillars eating their plants – especially cabbages (the food of Small and Large White caterpillars). Why people are concerned is beyond me. Cabbages are horrible. The only reason I would ever plant a cabbage is for the pleasure of watching something else eat it.

The first Brimstone sighting in February doesn't exactly mean that spring is starting but it's certainly a sign that winter is starting to end. And right now that's good enough for me. Either way this yellow butterfly is a welcome messenger of what's to come – the first sulphurous spark to ignite the blaze of spring.

Sussex Wildlife Trust is an independent charity caring for wildlife and habitats throughout Sussex. We rely on the support of our members to help protect our rich natural heritage. Please consider supporting our work. It's easy to join online at sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join

What's On Locally

Midhurst Arts Society—Tuesday 7 February

The next meeting of the Arts Society Midhurst will take place at the Methodist Church Hall, North Street, Midhurst. Nigel Bates will talk about what conductors do to make orchestras respond in so many different ways in a lecture entitled ‘They Make no Noise’.

Tea & coffee served from 10.00am. Lecture starts 10.45am promptly. New members always welcome. Guests welcome, fee £7.00.’

The Midhurst Society—Thursday 16 February see p. 19

Midhurst U3A—Tuesday 21 February

Talk by James Taylor—“Artistic Highlights of the Russell-Cotes Art Gallery & Museum”. Discover the enchanting seaside home and eclectic collection of Sir Merton and Lady Annie Russell-Cotes in Bournemouth.



It's at the Methodist Church Hall and costs £2 for members. Thinking of joining Midhurst U3A? Come as a visitor for £3. If you join in February or March your membership will be valid until 31 March 2024.

No need to book. Come from 2.00pm for coffee/tea and a biscuit and a chance to socialise and find out more about us. The talk starts at 2.30pm.

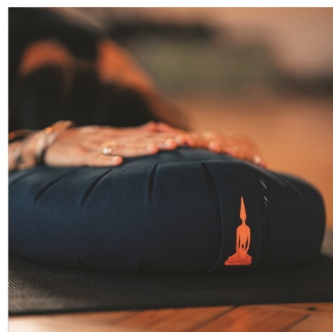
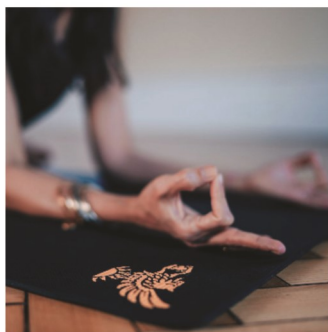
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HHH Concerts—Saturday 25 February at 7.30pm at St Christophers Church Haslemere GU27 1DD

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www.hhhconcerts.org.uk

Cont'd on p. 33



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www.cowdray.co.uk/wellbeing

What's On Locally (cont'd)

Midhurst Monthly Market

Midhurst's monthly farmers and artisan market returns on Saturday 4th February and 4 March in both the beautiful Old Library building and the historic Market Square. The Market, sponsored by Midhurst Town Council, takes place on the first Saturday of every month from 9am until 2pm.

The Harting Society

On **Thursday 2nd February** we are pleased to welcome Mark Gaterell, whose subject will be "Sustainable Buildings - What challenges do we face?" And on **Thursday 2nd March**, Paul McCue will tell us about the "**School for Secret Agents**" at Stodham Park, Liss, which was a training establishment during World War II for members of the Special Operations Executive (SOE), also known as "Churchill's Secret Army".

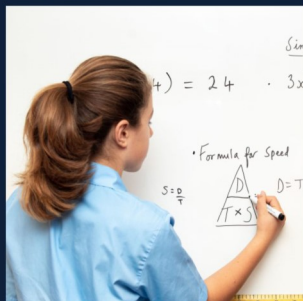
Meetings are at 7pm in the Harting Village Hall. Non-members are welcome (and invited to make a contribution of £3). Membership enquiries to Sarah Wilcox, swilco149@yahoo.co.uk or 07963-909889

General Knowledge Quiz Answers

- 1.Three – Boris Johnson, Liz Truss and current PM Rishi Sunak. 2.Wordle.
- 3.P & O Ferries. 4.Colchester. 5.Slapped host Chris Rock in the face.
- 6.The Elizabeth Line. 7.Paddington Bear. 8. 40.3 degrees in Coningsby, Lincolnshire. 9.Vincent Van Gogh's Sunflowers. 10.Elon Musk. 11. Outbreak of bird flu in the UK. 12.Argentina. 13.Prince William and Princess Kate.
- 14.Cressida Dick (Metropolitan Police Commissioner). 15.Ospreys. 16. Rwanda. 17. Strictly Come Dancing 2022. 18. Evri. 19.Sweden 4-0.
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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	
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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 Caroline Hulbert, Head teacher	813266	Early Days Nursery Annie Beadle	815046
Conifers School Miss Emma Fownes, Head teacher	813243	Midhurst Rother College	812451

*All telephone numbers are STD code 01730 unless otherwise stated. Please inform
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