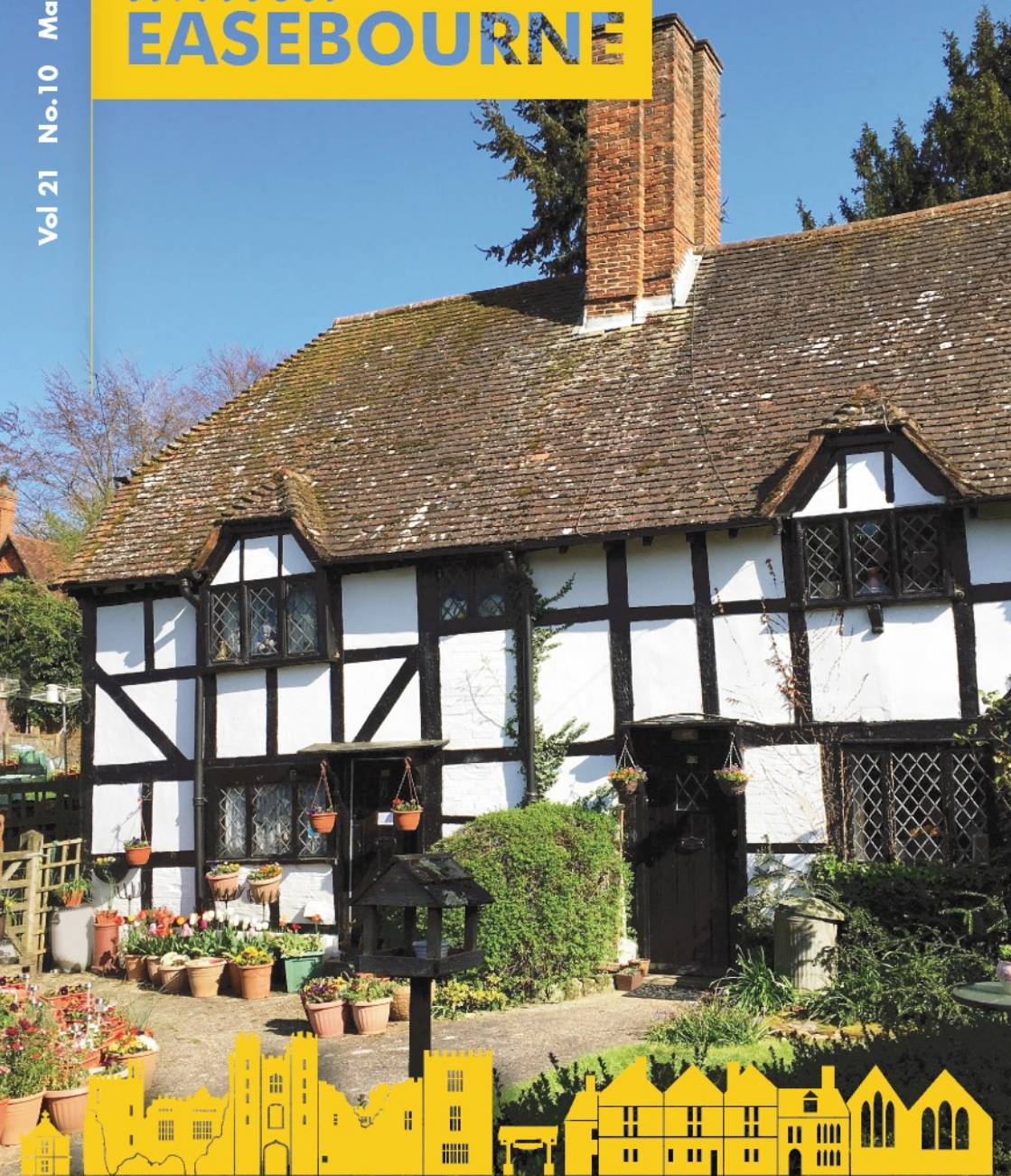


Vol 21 No.10 May 2023

united **EASEBOURNE**



Easebourne village and St Mary's Church magazine

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The deadline for the June 2023 issue of United is Monday 15th of May.

Send your contributions to:

easebourne.united@gmail.com or Tel 01730 816542

The image on the cover shows one of the 'Burnt Cottages' in Easebourne Street



CHURCH and VILLAGE FETE

**Saturday 13 May from 2.00 – 5.00pm
at Easebourne Priory GU29 0AJ**

- Easebourne Garden Society 12th Annual Plant Sale
- Bowling for the Pig (or at least part of a pig..)
- Have a go at playing the organ!
- Teas in the church
- Cake stall
- Bottle Tombola
- Scouts and Guides
- Golf Putting Competition
- 200 Club
- Easebourne Parish Council
- Art in the church
- Plus many other stalls and activities

Bring-a-Bottle Coffee Morning

Saturday 29 April

from 10.00 to 12.00 in church



Bring any bottle for the bottle tombola and enjoy a cup of coffee

Church and Village Fete—message from the vicar

Dear Friends

On Saturday 13th May at 2.00pm, we will be hosting the Easebourne church and village fete. The event carries on from the years that the church has hosted a fete; but now we want the whole village to be included. The church will provide a cake stall, bottle tombola, 'Bowling for the Pig', golf putting and teas in church. The Garden and Allotment Society will bring their hugely successful plant stall along. The uniformed organisations will provide games and entertainment for the children. We also will have the Parish Council with us.

What we want to know is – do you want to come along and have a stall or run a small event, like a dog show? The more the merrier! So, do you make jewellery

or craft items at home that can be sold. Are you part of a group that could join us to bring colour to our event? You will need to provide your own stall and gazebo if needed.

These events are always fun and attract people from our village. This is wonderful way to get together and celebrate the life we share in Easebourne. If you would like to come and do something, or sell something, then please either ring me on 01730 812655 or email me at derek.welsman@outlook.com.

Rev'd Canon Derek Welsman

(More information about the Fete from organiser Martin Dexter
mdexter123@btinternet.com)

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New Editor for our Village Magazine!

We are very happy to announce that **Jan Harvey** will be the new editor and is taking over this magazine from the July/August issue. Jan was born in Ormskirk in Lancashire and has moved around the country quite a bit living in Orpington, Leeds, Oxford and The Cotswolds. She moved here during Covid to be near her granddaughter, now two, who she freely admits is the centre of her universe.

Jan has been in magazine production throughout her thirty-year career. She ran her own graphic design consultancy, but branched off into magazines after eight years. She has primarily worked on business-to-business publications and has a broad experience in editing, design and marketing. However, she tells us, she is now 'rusty' having truly believed that she had hung up her keyboard in 2012 when she changed direction to write fiction.

In her spare time, Jan loves to paint, walk and she sings with our local Community Choir.

(See next page.)

Tina Litchfield and Jan Harvey



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Easebourne United Magazine

If you go on the website of Easebourne Parish Council, you can always see back copies of this magazine.

www.easebourne.org/parish-history/parish-magazine/

As I was tidying up files in preparation for handing over to Jan for the July/August issue, I found the very first copy of United—from exactly 50 years ago! The editor was Barbara Gayford, the founder of Conifers School. The vicar in April 1973 was Hartley Bird. In the magazine you could find a list of all the invalids in the village, all those who were married or who had moved into the village. There were 4 church services every Sunday. And a welcoming message from Rev Bird to introduce the new magazine.

‘We are aiming to provide a genuine Parish magazine, rather than an exclusively Church one, by bringing together news of all the local personalities and activities.’ I know that Jan wants to continue this important association with the entire village.

The Retiring Editor

Although pleased to be handing over the reins after eight years, I have greatly enjoyed my time as editor of United.

I took over from Dave and Sue Widdup who were preceded by Jean and Mike Piggott. This magazine in one form or another has had many incarnations since that first issue. Things will look different with Jan at the helm. The magazine will be bigger and more colourful. The name will change and Jan has a new editor’s email address. (See below.)

I was asked to say a bit about myself. I was born in the States but have been in the UK for very many years, and my two sons were born and brought up here. I used to have a quilt shop in the town. Gavin and I were married by Derek back in 2007. By handing over my job as editor, I will have more time for my many interests. I also love to paint and I sing with Fernhurst Choral Society and the Siena Singers. I am on the committee of Easebourne Garden Society, The Midhurst Society, and Gavin and I sing in the church choir. I am a keen gardener. Gavin and I love to travel and to meet up with family and friends.

I leave this job knowing it is in capable hands, and I wish all the best to Jan. Please support her by sending over lots of interesting stories and images.

Tina Litchfield, editor

Advertising Manager

We are looking for an Advertising Manager to take over from Gavin Litchfield and to work with our new Editor. The work is far from onerous, just a few hours a month keeping track of our advertisers, chasing their adverts if necessary and each year helping them renew their bookings and sending new copy. You will need to be able to make the books balance to ensure the magazine can pay for itself and a knowledge of graphics and marketing would be really helpful, but training can be given. If you think you can help please contact Jan Harvey by email:

easebourneeditor@btinternet.com

The Angel Fire and Closure of North Street

The 16th of March is the date of the devastating fire that destroyed the Angel Hotel and the adjoining shops. As we go to print, it happened just over a month ago. Of course we understand that what remains of the structure is unsafe, and for that reason the road must close. We have read the blogs about the various agencies involved with the disaster, but many in Midhurst are becoming impatient at the length of time it is taking for anything at all to happen.



We met Lorraine who works in the Post Office.

She lives (lived) with her partner in a nice ground floor flat behind the area of the fire (circled). They had to evacuate that night because, although their building was not fire-damaged, the heat from the adjacent fire caused structural damage to their dwelling. They were in B&B in the town for a couple of weeks, and having to pay for it themselves. Fortunately they have now made arrangements to rent an adjacent property for

a few months until it is safe for them to move back home. Others who live either behind the Angel or in other nearby buildings also have a very uncertain future.

Our poor traders are really suffering. I popped into Jintana, our new florist shop, to buy some flowers. She was telling me that she only opened her shop at the beginning of February. Trade was good, she said, for the first weeks, until North Street closed. She says now on some days she has no trade at all. Her neighbours on the other side of North Street, the Turkish barber, Tilly's Tea Room and Wizz Bits, have said the same. People are coming to gawk at the ruins, but they are not stopping to shop. Jintana (the owner's name) comes from Thailand.

Her shop is full, not only of fresh flowers, but lots of things she has imported from her country—scarfs, little bags, baskets, all sorts of really nice gift items. She said that she and her neighbours see their old customers going over to Petersfield, Haslemere, Petworth and elsewhere to do their shopping. She mentioned the voucher scheme, but said that no vouchers had been used in her shop, and few new customers are visiting. Jintana pleads with all those agencies to do what is necessary to



make the front of the Angel safe as soon as possible, so that North Street, the main A286 road, can re-open.

Those of us who need to drive from the south side of Midhurst to the north side, for example to the Health Centre or to Easebourne, must make a very long detour all the way up to Fernhurst and back down again. The roads are not built for heavy traffic and we are all complaining about the narrow roads and potholes. It's true that repairs to those roads must be made, but the council can clearly not close the roads to make permanent repairs until North Street reopens. A real Catch 22 situation.

There is a blog on FaceBook on 18 April by one of the owners of the Angel, who wants to update everyone on their side of the story. They are as frustrated as everyone else about the delays. It was they who commissioned the drone camera shots which show the damage to the back of the iconic façade. Heat damage to the brickwork and the burnt lintels have made it very fragile. But they, like the rest of us, must wait for the reports from the various authorities before work can even start.

Tina Litchfield

Petworth Ukrainian Relief (PUR)

Thank you everyone who generously donated their time and money, and filled boxes for the recent Lenten appeal for the people of Ukraine. The Petworth Ukrainian Relief (PUR) storage centre was literally filled with your love and generosity. The money generated from the sale of blue and yellow lapel badges paid for a trip around the supermarket with my children choosing items for children in Ukraine. Medical aid was quickly distributed to Ukraine, and it will arrive imminently. Other items such as wound dressings were sent separately direct to frontline positions.

Some of you will have noticed there are some boxes remaining in St. Mary's church. Your generosity generated a surplus which cannot be stored by PUR, and so it will be distributed locally to charities.

Andy Castledine

The Refugees in the Angel from Mike Abbott

Very sadly the Ukrainian families who were temporarily living in The Angel Hotel had to be re-located to Chichester after the fire. Their children are currently being bussed back to schools in Midhurst but there is a very urgent need to find them accommodaton in the Midhurst area so that the children in particular do not have to move yet again. Anyone who has the possibility of spare room(s), a flat or house in this area should urgently contact:

Victoria Martin in WSCC's Ukrainian Support Team
Mobile: 07894 996908 Email: victoria.martin@westsussex.gov.uk

Midhurst Rother College Student wins International Art Competition

by Madeleine Hathaway



Midhurst Rother College
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

After over 10,000 votes from social media, art teachers, senior leaders from within United Learning, and the judgement of a professional artist, we are pleased to announce that Molly in Year 13 (Sixth Form) at Midhurst Rother College has won this year's United Learning International Art Competition, with her entry 'Still Life'. This is a truly fantastic achievement and a reflection of Molly's hard work, determination, and skill as an artist.

The competition gives young artists across the Group's secondary academies and independent schools the chance for

their artwork to be exhibited in Tokyo. Tina Ramos Ekongo, the professional artist who formed part of the judging process, said about Molly's work 'This is a great use of acrylic paint - you really understand light, shadows, perspective and know how to interpret what you see. If this style of still life paintings is what you love, then keep doing it!'

Molly's piece will now be exhibited at the International High School Arts Festival held at the National Art Centre in Tokyo. Once again congratulations to Molly for this incredible achievement of which she should be immensely proud.



Winning Still Life by Molly

Celebrating Students and the Tradition of Gilbert Hannam Day



Midhurst Rother College
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

On Thursday 23 March, Gilbert Hannam Day, the College continued the tradition of celebrating community education and outstanding achievements of students. The day marks the continuity of education in Midhurst, of which Gilbert Hannam was an integral part, and comprises a traditional church service at Midhurst parish church for our Year 11 and Year 13 students, with an awards ceremony being conducted during the evening.

Gilbert Hannam

As a young man in his teens and a member of a Parliamentary company engaged in the Civil War, Hannam fought his way eastwards across England. For a considerable time Hannam's troop was stationed near Petersfield, and he frequently delivered messages to parliamentary forces in the Midhurst area. Edward Hannam, his uncle, had a prosperous woollen business in Midhurst and Steyning and young Hannam joined him after the war as a weaver and coverlet maker. In 1672, believing strongly in the importance of education, Gilbert Hannam set up a free school for twelve poor Protestant boys in a classroom in the loft of the Market House. Later, the school was moved to Gilbert Hannam's old house in North Street.

Gilbert Hannam died in March 1677. In his Will, he asked that each year, on the anniversary of his death, a service be held in the parish church at which his scholars would pray for his soul. During the service a man in orders would preach a sermon, the fee for which was to be twenty shillings and a pair of gloves to the value of two shillings and sixpence.

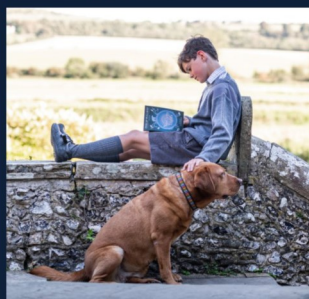
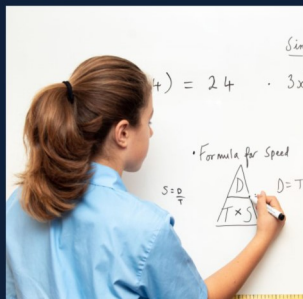
This special church service continues the tradition of prayers for the soul of Gilbert Hannam, the sermon and the gift of gloves. This year current Head Boy & Head Girl, Jacob Thompson and Lily Crawford, presented the traditional gift of a pair of leather gloves to Reverend Jane Roberts. The congregation enjoyed a rendition of Beethoven's 'Allegretto' and 'The Final Countdown', performed by Midhurst Rother College Orchestra.

In the evening students were invited, along with their families, to celebrate their achievements in the College Theatre. Prizes were presented by the Guest of Honour Miss Chloe Dudman, ex Head Girl of Midhurst Rother College. The evening also sees students and alumni receive endowments from the trustees of the Gilbert Hannam Education Foundation who continue this long history of stewardship.

The students, staff and Governors of Midhurst Rother College would also like to thank the Gilbert Hannam Education Foundation for their continued support and particularly for their sponsorship of Gilbert Hannam Day. We would also like to express our appreciation to Reverend Jane Roberts and all the staff and volunteers at St Mary Magdalene and St Denys, Midhurst.

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Tatler Schools Guide 2022



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News from the Primary School

Caroline Hulbert, Head Teacher



Our dance club took part in the Rother Valley Arts Festival recently on the stage at MRC. They performed two dances choreographed by Katie Stevens. They really did us proud and they clearly enjoyed sharing the performance with an appreciative audience. Twelve local schools took part sharing dance, choral and instrumental performances.

Our Year 5 children (all 58 of them!) took part in the Rother Valley All Sing at MRC. Mrs Stevens led the morning in which our children joined forces to become a 150 strong choir learning part songs, trying their hand at some beatboxing and singing a round song which sounded wonderful with so many children singing together. And our Dance Club took part in the Rother Valley Arts Festival at the end of last term on the stage at MRC.

Our Squirrels class went to visit the Mary Rose Museum in Portsmouth, where they learnt about the ship and the Battle of the Solent. The children investigated some of the items that divers found on the ship when it was recovered and then they had great fun dressing up as characters from the ship.

Rabbits and Badgers polished off their lines and acting skills for their end of term production *Rock Bottom*. The children rose to the occasion and really enjoyed performing to an adult audience because 'they got the jokes' and this musical really did pack in the puns.

Our Foxes and Otters class have both been working on optical illusions – Foxes using paper and Otters using photography, which required them to think carefully about the perspective of each shot to create their finished pieces – both classes had great fun and produced some excellent work.

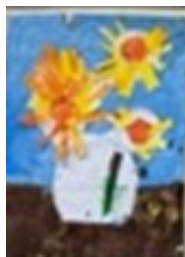


Our Collective Worship in the Spring Term is all about Hope in the lead up to Easter. As part of our Easter preparations, each class decorated a cross in a meaningful way, ready for our

Easter Service with Derek at St. Mary's.

Badgers class chose to use decorations to represent the shops of Midhurst High Street following the devastating fire at The Angel Inn. Their pictures show the kindness and compassion of people in our community supporting those who were affected.





At Conifers we have been getting into practice for our project work for summer term which is based on the National Gallery work 'Take One Picture Week.' The artwork is from across the school and uses a range of different techniques.

What's On Locally



Midhurst Society Talk on Thursday 18 May at 7.30pm

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE!

This talk will take place in the Methodist Church Hall.

We have invited 'History Man ' Paul Ullson to return following his very popular talk last year. He will tell us all about life during the Bronze Age and the Iron Age in western Sussex. He will bring lots of artifacts to handle and will probably come dressed for the period. This talk will also be especially interesting to children under 18, who may come free of charge with an accompanying adult. Visitors welcome—entry £5.00.

www.midhurstsociety.org.uk

**Brahms *Requiem*—Saturday 20 May
at Chichester Cathedral**



**Fernhurst Choral Society will perform one
of the highlights of the choral repertoire at Chichester Cathedral
on 20 May at 7.30pm. Tickets £20 and £25, NUS £5, under 18s
free. Tickets can be purchased via the website:**

www.fernhurstchoralsociety.org.uk

Arts Society Midhurst

The Arts Society Midhurst's lecture on Tuesday 2nd May 2023 will take place at the Methodist Church Hall, North Street, Midhurst. Tea & coffee served from 10.00am. Lecture starts 10.45am promptly. New members always welcome. Guests £7.00 paid in cash'

Richard Whincop will talk about 'Sicily: Cultural Crossroads' exploring the cultural melting pot that Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Visigoths, Islamic tribes and Normans brought to the island to produce a complex and enlightened society which saw Palermo become one of the most important cities in Europe.



Poet's Corner

The Coronation

by Sue Absalom

After the passing of our beloved Queen
Which has been less than eight months since
Now her eldest son Charles Philip Arthur George
Will no longer be known as Prince.

All his life he has waited
Knowing this moment would some day come
That sadly it would follow his Mother's death
And the Monarchy would pass to him, her son.

Yes, he has a hard act to follow
Though she'd have been his mentor and guide.
She had served her Country selflessly
And Charles will have learned by her side.

There will be many reservations.
What sort of King will he make?
Of course, he will bring his own ideas
So new paths he may want to take.

We must all give him a chance
And his Queen Camilla too
As they settle into their new roles.
Not a task many would choose.

As preparations continue for the big day
For the Prince who will now wear the crown
Let's bring out the flags and the bunting
For him, and our late Queen, as she
looks down.

The Coronation Coaches have been dusted
And polished to a brilliant shine.
Apparently one less comfortable than the
other.

Hope it's an easy ride on the Royal behinds!

If he does as stirring a job as our Queen
He will surely be a good and popular King
And with the Country behind him
And Camilla, it's time to let the bells ring.

God bless King Charles III

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MIDHURST FOODBANK NEWS EASTER 2023



Firstly, a huge thank you for your support of the Foodbank.

We are so very grateful for all the donations that you are so kindly giving. The Easebourne church basket is always so full! It is hardly surprising that 2023 has shown a greater need for the Foodbank than ever before. We have fed 418 individuals since the first of January. Our busiest month was February, with 162 people needing food. Each month we are carrying out between 40 and 50 deliveries. We continue to help a lot of single individuals, for whom the ever-rising cost of living is simply too much. Trying to pay all the bills with no help is hard, challenging and very often impossible. Of the 418 individuals, 238 were adults and 180 were children. We were supporting the Ukrainian families resident in The Angel. We are so sad that they have had to move to Chichester because of the terrible fire. What a tragedy and such a shame that no accommodation can be found in Midhurst to enable them to stay. (See article at bottom of p. 6.)

A few weeks ago, we distributed 220 holiday lunchboxes to 124 families. Once again, these were mainly financed, packed, and delivered to us by Seaford College. This is a massive undertaking, and we are incredibly grateful to them for their amazing help. It is all organised by Colleen Hayes who is a remarkable 'can do' person, who is able to achieve great things to help others. This year, the Easter eggs were donated by Midhurst Rother College and Midhurst and Petworth Rotary Club. We had 31 delivery teams who fought their way through closed roads and potholes to distribute once again these donations far and wide across the area. The whole process was master-minded by Karen Lovett, with her usual level of efficiency and good humour. Yet again a huge achievement and one that massively helps the struggling families in our neighbourhood.

We are now busy preparing for The Midhurst Rother College Community Day. This will take part in the college on Saturday 22nd April, between 10.00 and 2.00. Do come along to support us and the rest of the organisations taking part. We hope to be placed next to The Midhurst Hub, to present a support package for the community. We are working closely with The Hub, to try to signpost people to various organisations and charities, who might be able to help them improve their situation and help negate the necessity to ask for food. There is no doubt how invaluable their support has become.

Liz Willing, Area Representative



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‘Pat, never Patricia’

A longtime friend of Easebourne, Pat Broadbent, died on the 15th of March. She was 92, and had enjoyed a long and wonderful life. She was born in Amersham in Buckinghamshire. Family was everything to Pat. But her second love was music. As a teenager she went to The Proms each year and loved going to London to see musicals.

Her husband-to-be John Broadbent was a couple of years older than Pat. He had finished his education and had joined the staff of Dr Challoner’s Grammar School in Amersham where he taught maths and music. In 1954 John’s school choir staged a performance of Bach’s St Matthew Passion, and another maths teacher at Challoner’s had invited his pretty goddaughter Pat Watts. The two met after that concert, they fell in love and married in 1957. They had two children, Clare and Andrew.

After 14 years at Dr Challoner’s, John accepted a job at Midhurst Grammar School in 1966 where he became head of music. They moved to Midhurst with their young children and bought a brand-new house in Guillards Oak. Pat and John entered fully into Midhurst life. Pat became a teacher at Midhurst Primary School and John founded and conducted the Midhurst Music Society and the Rother Sinfonia. With John at the front conducting, Pat ran the show behind the scenes and sang for many years with Midhurst Music Society. After she retired Pat continued at the school as a volunteer to help the children with reading. She passed her love of



reading to her daughter Clare. Although living in Midhurst, much of their life was centred around the village of Easebourne where John became organist and choir master of St Mary’s church. Pat was responsible for the bookings of the refectory for many years and she collected every year for the Poppy Appeal. Pat was a loyal member of the church choir until quite recently. Her children Clare and Andrew added these memories of their mother.

Throughout our childhood holidays always involved camping. Mum said she slept better than anywhere else in the caravan. St Agnes, Cornwall, was one of our favourite places to visit. We went year after year meeting the same families and enjoying simple pleasures – surfing, sandcastles, ice creams. Joyous holidays for us all. She also loved gardening and nature, passions inherited from her Mum. She was the boss, the matriarch of the family. She was funny, kind and loving.... and definitely in charge. Pat was a worrier. The quote ‘you are never happier than your least happy child’ was especially true of Mum. At her bedside a couple of weeks ago we told her she didn’t need to worry anymore as her children and grandchildren were all happy and well, Dad had been waiting patiently and now it was time to join him.

RIP Pat

Ed note: Please let us know if you have a family announcement for the village magazine.

General Knowledge Quiz by Carole Sawyer

1. On what day of the year is St George's day held?
2. The scientific unit Lumen is used in the measurement of what?
3. Who wrote the Twilight series of novels?
4. Affenpinscher, Keeshond and Leonberger are all types of what?
5. Which two countries will host the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup?
6. Which month in 2023 marks a whole year since Russia invaded Ukraine?
7. Mary Wilson was a founding member of which girl band?
8. Which country is known as the "Land of the Rising Sun"?
9. Which two types of cheese are layered in a Huntsman cheese?
10. In which British seaside town would you find a Tate Gallery?
11. Cristiano Ronaldo was born and raised on which island?
12. What is another name for a sleepwalker?
13. What herb is generally used to make a Pesto?
14. If you were putting numbers on new changing room lockers to be numbered from 1 to 100, how many times would you use the number 9?

And what do you know about the Coronation?

15. What is the date of the Coronation of King Charles III?
16. When was the last Coronation?
17. In which coach will Charles and Camilla travel to Westminster Abbey?
18. Which two crowns will King Charles wear during the Coronation?
19. How old will Charles be at the time of the ceremony?
20. Can you name any of the events taking place over the Coronation weekend?



Answers on page 24

My bottom desk drawer is a graveyard, the final resting place for the obsolete. A broken calculator, foreign coins, buttons and a Maxell C90 cassette given to me a few years ago. I had no means of playing it until I recently discovered my clunky cassette deck hiding in the garage.

An accompanying note says the tape contains “the song of a Nightingale in the churchyard of St John sub Castro, Lewes, spring 1985”. It was recorded by a lady called Barbara from an upstairs window in neighbouring Lancaster Street. After some dusting, re-wiring, buzzing and hissing the sweet sound that swirled from my speakers transported me back over three decades to a time when Reagan negotiated with Thatcher, Paul Hardcastle’s na-na-na-na-Nineteen topped the charts and a Nightingale sang in St John sub Castro.

To be frank, Nightingales aren’t much to look at. Small brown birds; a Robin without the redbreast. But when they open their beak there’s a Susan Boyle-like transformation. These drab birds become the world’s most celebrated vocalists. For centuries, poets have praised their performance. Homer, Shakespeare, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Clare, Keats, Dylan and Cohen. Shelley claimed, “A poet is a Nightingale who sits in darkness and sings to cheer its own solitude with sweet sounds”. Trust young Percy Bysshe to believe the bird was wallowing in its own self-pity. The Nightingale’s song is actually both an

aggressive war-cry and a sweet, structured sonnet. A hymn to the silence in the hope of enticing a passing female.

The Nightingale’s optimistic warbles have inspired everyone from the late

Vera Lynn to Roxy Music. A BBC recording of a bird singing in Oxted in 1942 inadvertently captured the roar of Lancasters, Wellingtons, Stirlings and Halifaxes passing overhead laden with bombs destined for Germany. The contrast between innocence and beauty, terror and destruction make it the most powerful sound I have ever heard.



Nightingales will sing by day but are most famous for never letting up when the sun sets, their beautiful phrasing carrying loud and clear over the muffled grunts and hoots of other nocturnal animals. Once the Nightingale has hooked a partner his nocturnal performances will stop, so there’s a narrow window to hear them. Our Nightingales spend the winter south of the Sahara in a wide belt between Senegal and Kenya, usually returning in late April.

Due to habitat destruction the UK population of this amazing bird – so entwined in our cultural heritage – is in a steep decline. The sound of a Nightingale singing in the centre of Lewes may have been relegated to the bottom drawer of history but we are blessed to still have this bird performing in our Sussex woodlands. We must never let their song of hope be silenced forever.

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SNIPPETS FROM A GARDENER'S DIARY

by John Humphris



Despite what they all say, most head gardeners have a passion for certain groups of plants. For Brian Doe, who I worked for at Borde Hill, it was the Heathers. He had worked previously at Wisley and had been involved in the original planting of the Heather Garden. There was little he did not know about the various species and hybrids of this group of plants. I have not mentioned them previously in these notes, and as there are varieties that flower in almost every month of the year, it is worth showing you what are the best heathers available.

On the large scale of a garden like Wisley, the Heathers can be spectacular. But in the average back garden, if a gardener is keen to have a few of the best varieties they need choosing carefully. Without doubt the various varieties and species of *Erica* are best. For many gardeners this will mean the winter heather flowering around Christmas and the New Year. They will carpet the ground or edge a path, and with varieties such as *Springwood White* and *Vivelli* to choose from they always look attractive. But good as they are, there is a wider range, all within the *Erica* family, flowering throughout the year and these are the ones I am keen to mention.

Erica arborea is a tall grower flowering in spring. Its variety *E arborea Alpina* is better, being more compact with white flowers smelling of honey. Then we have the Spanish Heath *E australis*, with rosy flowers on a tall bush flowering in spring and early summer. All of these tall summer flowering heathers need pruning after they have flowered to keep them tidy and compact.

One variety I have not grown is *E Xdarliensis* raised at Darley Dale in Derbyshire and said to have a longer flowering period (winter to late spring) than many others.

A further Tree Heather is *E lusitanica*. It has pink and white scented flowers which I remember well flowering with the early rhododendrons. Again, like most tree heathers, it need trimming over after flowering.

The Corsican Heather, *E terminalis*, flowering in summer to autumn, has pink flowers and can be used as an informal and very attractive unclipped hedge.

I have grown a couple of varieties of the Cornish Heath, *E vagans* - Mrs D F Maxwell and St Keverne have lovely pink flowers and flowering from summer to autumn. Not so tall growing as many of the tree heaths, so more attractive planted in groups, or drifts if you have the space.

The attraction of choosing from this wide range of heathers is that you can avoid the flat look of many heather gardens with so many in a range of different sizes and spread. They are also on the whole very trouble free, being very neat growing plants with only the accessional trim over necessary to keep them in shape.

I cannot end these notes without mentioning the new Cherry walk at Wisley. When I read that the RHS were going to plant an avenue of *Prunus X Yedoensis* to lead down to the new entrance and immediately inside the garden with a much broader planting, I

(Cont'd p. 22)



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immediately thought that this was an idea taken from the spectacular displays in Japan. These are mostly varieties of the Japanese Hill Cherry which are not really suited to the British climate but flourish in the more benign climate of Japan. However one of their hybrids, *P x yedoensis* is much more amenable to the British climate and was an obvious choice.

As I was at Wisley for the ornamental plant competitions, I was hoping to see them in flower in the week before Easter. I was not disappointed. It was spectacular, every plant in full bloom with the wider planting inside the garden mesmerizing the large crowds.

In the Kyoto Botanic Garden in Japan is a lovely group planting of this variety with flowers of the softest creamy pink, underplanted with *Spiraea thunbergii*, small snowy white flowers on wiry twigs, one of the best spring plantings I have seen.

John Humphris VMH 01730 812080



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Anne Dennig, Botany Bay Conservancy, Sussex

Big Plant Sale on 13 May starting at 2.00pm

Easebourne Garden & Allotment Society 12th Annual Plant Sale will share the date and venue with the Church Fete in front of Easebourne Priory. It will stay open until everything is sold! Please get there early to queue for the best bargains. NO sales before 2.00pm. Cash only in multiples of 50p. Bedding plants & perennials—all kinds of vegetables, tomatoes, salads and herbs—house plants—and lots more. (Donations are welcome.) For information phone 01730 816542. Tell your friends.

Easebourne Garden and Allotment Society

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. It has details of the August Produce Show and all our events for the year.

Members and guests are invited to visit the 25-acre Ramster Gardens near Chiddingfold on Tuesday 9 May. In May the Rhododendrons and Azaleas are at their peak, as are the Bluebells. There is a tea room and a Sculpture Trail curated by the Surrey Sculpture Society. For more information, please contact Carolyn Davies, email davies@hurstpp.co.uk, or Phone 812020.



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Friends of Easebourne Parish (FrEP)

Maintaining the trees in Easebourne Park and the planters in various locations around Easebourne are just some of the tasks undertaken by FrEP volunteers over



this last month. Other tasks have included cleaning road name signage and litter picking. FrEP would very much like to get involved in rewilding projects in the parish so therefore please get in contact if you have an area of land, no matter how small, that could be turned into a wild life sanctuary.

If you would like to join the Friends of Easebourne Parish please contact our secretary via email **FRÉP@btinternet.com** or Tel **07803 933694** .

Frank Davies, FrEP Chairman

General Knowledge Quiz Answers

1. 23rd April. 2. Light. 3. Stephenie Meyer. 4. Dog. 5. Australia and New Zealand. 6. February. 7. The Supremes. 8. Japan. 9. Double Gloucester and Stilton. 10. St Ives, Cornwall. 11. Madeira. 12. Sonambulist. 13. Basil. 14. 20. 15. Saturday 6 May 2023. 16. Tuesday 2 June 1953. 17. Diamond Jubilee State Coach. 18. St Edward's Crown and The Imperial State Crown. 19. 74, the oldest a new monarch has ever been crowned. 20. Sunday 7 May: Coronation Concert at Windsor Castle; 'Lighting up the Nation' during the concert at iconic locations across the UK; the Coronation Big Lunch – street parties and get-togethers to share food and fun. Monday 8 May (bank holiday): The Big Help Out – a day organized by The Together Coalition and 25 of the UK's biggest charities about inspiring people to try volunteering.



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LOCAL BUSINESS - REFERENCES AVAILABLE

Listed Buildings in Easebourne

by Chris Deadman and Phil Stringer

2 and 3 Petworth Road (formerly listed as Priory Park Gates)

Listed 18.06.59, Grade II

Cowdray numbers. One building. L-shaped C17 or earlier timber-framed building with some timbering exposed at the back but refronted with coursed stone rubble in the C18. Three tile-hung gables. Tiled roof. Georgian Gothic casement windows. C19 gabled porch. Two storeys. Three windows.. Listing NGR: SU8954322538

No. 2 Park Gate (a 7 room dwelling)

Thomas (age 42) and Jane (age 40) Roberts were resident here with their family in 1911. Thomas was born in Denbighshire and Jane in Yorkshire. Thomas listed his occupation in the census as “Forester on Estate”.

Their two eldest children, Hilda Mary (age 14) and Cecil (age 11) were born in Melton Constable in Norfolk. On their baptism records Thomas was noted as a Forester. It is possible that Thomas might have been employed at Melton Constable Hall which had extensive parkland.

The family moved to Easebourne sometime during 1900, as the family were recorded as resident in the village in the 1901 census. Their youngest daughter Violet was born in Easebourne in 1904.

No. 3 Park Gate (4 roomed dwelling)

James Lunn (age 78) and his wife Elizabeth (age 81) were neighbours of Thomas and Jane Roberts in 1911. James was working on the Cowdray estate as a “Gate Keeper”. Living with them were Thomas Napper a single Building Labourer, and John Challen, a widower, and stonemason.

James married Elizabeth Boswell in Alverstoke, Hampshire in the spring of 1901.

In the 1901 census, Elizabeth Boswell was noted as a widower aged 67. She was classified as the Head of the Household and as the “Park Gate Keeper”. Her son, Clarence, a Postman aged 24, was living with her. James Lunn at the time was a visitor to the household.



Photo by Chris Deadman -2020

Dear Friends



The Coronation of King Charles III affords us all the opportunity to celebrate as a nation our wonderful history and monarchy. The Queen's glorious reign reminded us about service and devotion to our country and the commonwealth. The Queen reigned for such a long and wonderful time that many of us have never witnessed a state funeral or coronation service. Her funeral was a time for national grief, but also a time of thanksgiving for a remarkable life. King Charles's coronation will be a time for us to reflect upon our nation, especially at this difficult time, and commit ourselves, with our King, to a life of service and community.

We know already that our King's reign will be different. He speaks on subjects like community and the environment and shows a great passion for young people and their development. We know that he wants to modernise the monarchy and make it fit for purpose in the 21st century. With all peoples and faiths, we offer our support and love for him as he takes on this enormous role.

As churches we will offer prayers for the King on Sunday 7th May. If you would like to join us, we would be delighted to see you. At Selham our prayer book service will be held at 8.30am - the prayer book evokes such strong memories of our history. At Easebourne our service will be held at 10.30am, with hymns and readings set for the day. And to conclude our momentous celebrations there will be an evensong service in Lodsworth at 6.00pm. At each service we will sing the National Anthem and pray for our King and Queen.

With many blessings.
Rev Canon Derek Welsman

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 200 CLUB

April 2023 draw winners

1st Prize - £100	No. 120	Mardell Backshall
2nd Prize - £75	No 141	Brian Scholey
2nd Prize - £75	No 30	Keith Nightingale
3rd Prize—£50	No 20	Julia Wain
3rd Prize—£50	No 223	Jill White
3rd Prize—£50	No 85	Julian Cartwright



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Please note, winners will receive monies by bank transfer.

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SERVICES AT ST MARY'S

First Sunday	10.30am Family Eucharist	<i>Coffee is served in Church after the 10.30 service on most Sundays</i>
Other Sundays	10.30am Holy Eucharist	
Tuesdays	10.00—11.15 'Little Lambs' Toddler Group	
Wednesdays	10.00am Holy Eucharist	
Wednesdays	3.00pm 'Tea at Three' - everyone is welcome	
Morning Prayer:	8.30am most weekday mornings except Wednesday & Friday	

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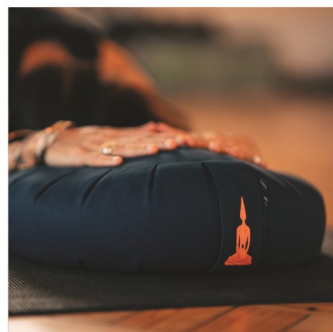
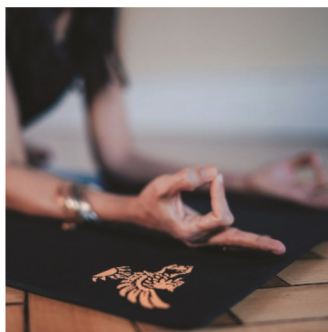
Second Sundays	9.00am Family Service
Fourth Sundays	9.00am Sung Communion
First Sundays	6.00pm Evensong

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CHURCH DIARY FOR MAY 2023

Tuesday 2	10.00am	St Mary's	Little Lambs
Wednesday 3	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	St Mary's	Tea at Three
Sunday 7	5th Sunday of Easter		
	8.30am	St James	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Family Service
	6.00pm	St Peter's	Evensong
Tuesday 9	10.00am	St Mary's	Little Lambs
	2.00pm	St Mary's	Women's Fellowship Beetle Drive
Wednesday 10	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	St Mary's	Afternoon Tea
Saturday 13	2pm – 5pm	St Mary's	Church and Village Fete
Sunday 14	6th Sunday of Easter		
	9.00am	St Peter's	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Tuesday 16	10.00am	St Mary's	Little Lambs
Wednesday 17	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	St Mary's	Tea at Three - Knit and Natter
Sunday 21	7 Sunday of Easter		
	8.30am	St James	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	St James	Celtic Service
Tuesday 23	10.00am	St Mary's	Little Lambs
Wednesday 24	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	St Mary's	Tea at 3pm
	6.30pm	St Mary's	Fish and Chips Supper/Beetle Drive

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Sunday 28	Pentecost		
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	10.30am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
Wednesday 31	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion

JUNE

Sunday 4	Trinity Sunday		
	8.30am	St James	Holy Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Family Service
	6.00pm	St Peter's	Evensong

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3 May—cup of tea with Derek and Liz

10 May—Friendship Tea—Social Gang

17 May—Knit and Natter

24 May—Primary School—Serve & Share

(31st May—no tea)



Easebourne Park News

by Councillor Ian Milne



EASEBOURNE
Parish Council

Easebourne Park Eco Loos

Work has well and truly started on the groundworks for the Easebourne Park public loos. Despite inclement weather for this construction work, much progress has been made. At the time of writing this article, the two tanks are in the ground and awaiting the rest of the building and associated fixtures to be delivered and constructed.



Easebourne Parish Council is Seeking New Councillors

This is an election year for the district of Chichester and therefore the Parish Council has undertaken the 'election process'. Easebourne Parish Council has eleven 'seats' and had more than eleven residents put themselves forward to become Councillors, a formal election would have been held on 4th May 2023 alongside Chichester District Council elections. On this occasion eight residents have done so; therefore, an election will not be held, and the newly elected Parish Council is in the position to 'co-opt' three new Councillors. If you are interested in the work of the Parish Council and would like to make a contribution to the Community of Easebourne Parish which includes King Edward VII estate and Henley, please contact the Clerk, Sharon on parishclerk@easebourne.org or have a look at our website www.easebourne.org for further information.

Pop-up Coffee Box in the Park

The Goat Box coffee and snack shop was a very welcome addition to the Easter holiday period in Easebourne Park, and when the weather was fine, did brisk trade. Unfortunately, the last week of school Easter holidays was hit by persistent wet weather and this affected the Goat Box business.

Thank you, Tom owner of The Goat Box for supporting the park during the school holidays - hope to see you back again soon.





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Concert by the South Downs Soloists—in aid of the Spire Fund



Afternoon rehearsal by the
South Downs Soloists in
St Mary's church
Photography © Rob Sadler

A large and appreciative audience attended the concert sung by the South Downs Soloists under the direction of George Haynes on 15th April in Easebourne Church. The programme was chosen by George to celebrate Eastertide, with music from the later Renaissance to the 20th centuries. The

first half of the performance was more subdued in tone, as it focussed on the passion and death of Christ. But after the interval and the wine and nibbles, the music became joyous to celebrate the Resurrection and the Ascension of Christ.

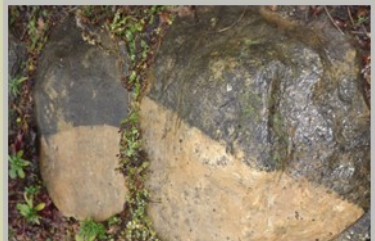
At least £2,500 was raised for the Spire Fund of St Mary's. Thanks to all those who supported the concert and those who have so generously contributed towards the repair of the spire. Thanks specially to the team at St Mary's for making it all possible.

The South Downs Soloists will next perform at the Assembly Rooms in Chichester on Saturday 24 June as part of the Festival of Chichester. Tickets are available from The Novium, Chichester or from n.dekker@hotmail.co.uk.

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St Mary's Reading Rota for May				
Date	Reading	Gospel	Reader	Intercessor
7 May Coronation	Isaiah 40: 12-17 & 25—end	Luke 22: 24—30	TBA	Clergy
14 May Easter 5	Acts 17: 22—31	John 14: 15—21	Ian Heustice	Liz Yonge
21 May Sunday after Ascension	Acts 1: 6—14	John 17: 1—11	Jan Harling	Andy Castledine
28 May Pentecost	Acts 2: 1—21	John 20: 19—23	Veronica Jull	Clergy

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

AFTERNOON TEA (at THREE)

Wednesday 10 May 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.



Women's Fellowship

At our April meeting we were very pleased to welcome Nathan, a P.C.S.O. and his colleague who gave a most interesting and informative talk on SCAMS and how to avoid them. Although there are several programmes to view on TV about this subject the scammers are always seeking new ways to con us out of our money. So be vigilant and wary of all unsolicited contacts.

Be careful and stay safe.

On Tuesday 2nd May at 2.00pm in Church we are having a Beetle Drive with invited guests. Please wear something in red, white & blue.

Ann Harfield 813810



THE JUNE EDITION

FRIDAY 2 - SATURDAY 3 JUNE 2023

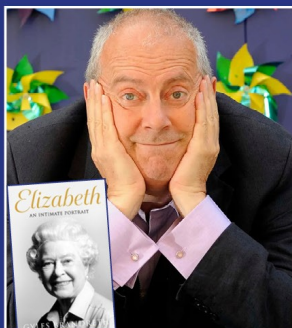
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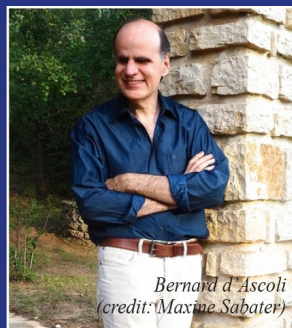
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BERNARD D'ASCOLI

Saturday 3 June
7.30pm - 9.20pm

The acclaimed
pianist plays Ravel,
Schubert and
Chopin

Box Office (online only) opens 21 March 2023

www.petworthfestival.org.uk

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Midhurst Rother College, North Street, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9DT

EMERGENCIES Police Ambulance Fire 999

Electricity	0800 0727282	Gas	0800 111999
Southern Water	0330 303 0368	Police (non emergency)	101
MIDHURST FOODBANK	07826 397732	MIDHURST ANGELS	07538 839703
Riverbank Medical Centre	812121	Out of Hours NHS	111
Woodcroft Dental Clinic	812053	St Oswald Dental Surgery	812022
Newspaper delivery (Dummers)	813348	Red Cross Petworth	0800 028 0831
Community Hospital	819100	St Richards Hospital, Chichester	01243 788122
Royal Surrey Hospital	01483 571122	Social Services Chichester	01243 752999
District Councillor Mr Francis Hobbs fhobbs@chichester.gov.uk	07968 027833	MH Pharmacy Midhurst Pharmacy	813255 813231
Easebourne Village Stores	858130	Cowdray Shop & Café	815152
Midhurst Town Council	816953	Grange Centre	0333 005 0398

Recycling Site, Bepton Road—Opening hours from April—Thurs to Monday 9.00am—6.00pm, closed Tuesday & Wednesday. See <http://www.recycleforwestsussex.org/recycling-sites/midhurst>

EASEBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Mike Noble, Chair
Clerk—Sharon Hurr

Tel: 07342 166188
parishclerk@easebourne.org

Stagecoach Buses	0345 1210190	Midhurst Yellow Bus	07879 556568
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950	Tandem Bus	0300 030 3962

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Garden & Allotment Society John Humphris, chairman	810052	Midhurst & Easebourne Youth Football Club	816415
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Friends of Easebourne Parish
FREPSec@btinternet.com Caroline Fraser, secretary 07803 933694

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 the editors of errors or omissions – easebourne.united@gmail.com

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