

# EASEBOURNE Magazine

September/October 2025 Vol 24 No.3



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The Community Magazine for Easebourne

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## Seasons of Mellow Fruitfulness Already



**In magazine production we work three months in advance and so, at the beginning of June, I have to start planning the content of this the September/October issue and I dread it!**

It means I am mentally fast forwarding through the wonderful lazy days of summer, imagining what Easebourne will be feeling like in the "season of mellow fruitfulness" when the ruins are shrouded in mists, the vines are ready to be harvested and the trees are starting to lose their leaves. Luckily for us, here in our beautiful part of the world, it is those very "turns of the season" that make our lovely countryside what it is. We do see a definite change when, in so many other parts of the world, they simply move from one extreme weather system to another.

A dear friend, visiting from Canada recently, told me the seasons are now marked by 'snow and smoke.' Six feet of snow in winter followed by out of control prairie fires in summer. It certainly gave me pause for thought.

In this issue we celebrate our two village fêtes, the large and the small. One thing that we Brits are brilliant at is our village fêtes and Easebourne certainly holds this tradition close to its heart. It is a great deal of hard work to put on such events and huge thanks must go to those who put so much effort and energy into them.

Nature seems to be something of a theme for September too. On our Instagram page we featured the heroic Midhurst Green Volunteers who fought back the menace that is Himalayan Balsam on the banks of the Rother. Meanwhile Graham Morrison is up at The King Edward VII valiantly on the trail of Nightjars. We learn about that most secretive of creatures, the water vole, from Sussex Wildlife Trust. Then there is the newly formed Greenheal, an exciting new environmental group based here in Easebourne.

It's another packed issue for you. Time to put the kettle on, sit back and enjoy the whiff of that mellow fruitfulness.

● Jan Harvey

■ [easebourneeditor@btinternet.com](mailto:easebourneeditor@btinternet.com)



# Seeing the Wood



Jan Harvey  
interviews  
Dave West  
who recently  
retired from an  
Easebourne  
business that  
possibly dates  
back five  
hundred years.

Everybody knows Dave West, he's a fixture in Midhurst; retired retained fire-fighter, tenor with the local choir and now retiree from the family firm, WL West Timber, based on the edge of the Cowdray Estate.

When he reached sixty six, Dave knew it was time to step down as Managing Director after twenty six years with Wests. He had brought his skills as an engineer to the company and has overseen necessary changes as it evolved and adapted to new markets.

'At one time a very large number of our fences could be seen along the M4, M5 and A303,' Dave explains. 'Many other main roads and a large number of military bases were our contracts too, but times change and we moved on.'

Wests now produce a huge range of products and from a variety of tree species too. Dave explains how market forces have impacted the business over the years.

## Niche

'There was a point when, for example, we were supplying wood to some of the six hundred furniture manufacturers in High Wycombe, now there are hardly any there. Over the years, we learned to diversify and also to provide niche products. Wests now have many contracts with specialist agencies preserving listed buildings and churches, and one of their most significant projects is working on HMS Victory.'

Dave explains how the company has been work-

ing on the preservation and renovation of the oldest commissioned warship in the world, an icon of British naval history.

## Expertise

'Over many decades we have supplied timber to HM Dockyard Portsmouth for the restoration of HMS Victory and other ships including HMS Warrior. We were involved in the repair of beams on the Orlop deck to stabilise the ship, and the installation of a new walkway on

the same deck to enable easier public access.

'Over the past six years or so we have been one of a number of companies who tendered for a project to supply timber to refurbish and replace the external hull cladding in oak.

## Four Years

'The shipwrights who built these vessels really

knew what they were doing, but the ships were constructed to last four years at the most,'

Dave explains. 'Where the wood has rotted and repairs are needed, we need to replicate the expertise of men who did this every day of their lives; such dedicated skills are hard to find. We sought guidance and advice from an expert in France before moving forward.

It's a learning process and absolutely fascinating, but we developed the right techniques and know-how for the project.'

I ask Dave if he's really going to miss the work that Wests is involved in now. After all, it's a way of life for someone who, along with his

"It's a learning process and absolutely fascinating"

four brothers, was born into the industry.

'We have tangible evidence that the business goes back to 1865, however we've seen a cutting from the Midhurst Times in 1951 that stated that there has been a West's Timber in existence for three hundred years before that. It takes some believing!

'In effect, my family has been working in wood for many generations growing and harvesting it around this area for centuries.' Dave tells me. 'They used to work over saw pits. The term "top-dog" and "under-dog" comes from the men who would saw above and below a log, and my Dad, James, (Jim) was one of that generation. You can see such pits at The Weald and Downlands Museum.'

However, James, Dave's father, had other ideas for his five sons. He refused to let them go into the timber industry, even brother Richard, who was really keen to join the family firm.

'My Dad wanted us to do something different and not to feel the pressure to work for Wests. He really wanted us to see more of the world and then to come back when we felt we were good and ready. I chose to work for the Post Office as an engineer. It became British Telecom and I had a wonderful career. I loved it and I'm so grateful for that opportunity, but when the time came, back in June, 2000 I knew I wanted to be a part of the West's family story too.'

Dave positively glows when he talks about wood; 'I see a tree differently from other people because of my upbringing. I was never happier than walking through our copses and knowing that, quite possibly, my family could



have planted the trees there a hundred and fifty years ago. When we select one its time has come and it has a job to do and, once felled, it gives up its secrets. The first time you see a tree "opened up" you see its history. You will see beautiful patterns, knots, "cats paws," and physical things like horse shoes, bullets - not so many these days but you never know. Trees can tell you an awful lot.

'That's why, when people look at something made of solid wood and say "that's expensive" I slightly despair,' Dave says. 'If only they knew and understood the story of how that piece of wood arrived there in front of them; the centuries of growing, the cutting, the crafters' hands, the time and effort involved.'

Very few can say they understand that story, but Dave West is certainly one of them.

**WL West invite you to join them for an open day on Friday 3 October, from 10.00am to 3.00pm where there will be product displays, demonstrations along with free gifts and refreshments. Address: WL West, Selham, GU28 0PJ**

**You can read more about the amazing history of WL West on their website**  
■ [www.wlwest.co.uk](http://www.wlwest.co.uk)



**In the 1940s and 1950s, North American jazz and blues musicians were regularly crossing the Atlantic. Artists like Sidney Bechet, Adelaide Hall, Lonnie Johnson, Dexter Gordon and Sarah Vaughan often played prestigious clubs in London, Paris and Copenhagen which were still recovering from the war.**

How many US airforce flights that should have continued to Paris "had to refuel" at nearby airbases like Westhampnett or Tangmere? How many dropped off mysterious figures dressed in zoot suits and two-tone spectator shoes, clutching oddly shaped luggage, to be whisked away in the night may never be known.

### **Dark Horse**

However, it turns out they were all coming to Midhurst, where some of the 70,000 US and Canadian military personnel based within a thirty-mile radius of this sleepy rural town, would discreetly gather late at night to get a taste of the music from home.

The locations of these illicit midnight jam sessions is the stuff of legend. However rumours tell of secret cellars under the Cowdray ruins, of the upstairs room in one of the local pubs, and even of the Old Town Library being co-opted for the use of these

unlicensed speakeasies...

Midhurst, it would seem, is the dark horse in the history of jazz and blues in Europe.

Fast forward to 2025 and the town is about to be brought alive with the spirit of rhythm, blues and jazz all over again.

From smoky standards to the great jazz and blues club numbers from New York, Chicago, and Buenos Aires, Midhurst will be celebrating life in all its colour.

And with Cowdray's world-famous polo grounds based here, the festival is proud to include some Argentine flair in its mix. The sounds of tango interwoven with blues and jazz? It's a heady blend and one you'll find at no other music festival!

This is just the beginning. Our vision is to grow this into a permanent fixture on the national festival map, something locals can feel proud of, and visitors will return to year after year. A weekend that blends world-class creativity with the warmth and charm of this extraordinary location.

● **Adam Page, Festival Director**

**The Midhurst Jazz, Food and Blues Festival, 2025 runs from 14-16 November**

■ [www.midhurstjazzandblues.com](http://www.midhurstjazzandblues.com)



# What's On

## GRAYSHOTT FOLK CLUB

Bob Fox is an engaging, endearing and enduring musician. He sings and plays guitar and accordion and is one of the true greats of the folk world.

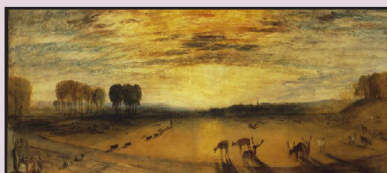
**Saturday 20 September 7.30pm**  
Grayshott Village Hall, Headley Road,  
Grayshott, GU26 6TZ  
[www.grayshottfolkclub.co.uk](http://www.grayshottfolkclub.co.uk)



## PETWORTH HOUSE ART CLASSES INSPIRED BY J.M.W. TURNER

This series of courses, in collaboration with West Dean College, will provide an introduction to a variety of mediums, from oil painting to watercolour and charcoal to felting. The courses draw inspiration from Turner's atmospheric paintings and provide a unique opportunity to learn and create in two historic locations.

**Check the website for the full programme. Booking is essential. Running until 9 October**



## TURNER'S VISION AT PETWORTH

A specially curated selection of J.M.W. Turner's artistic studies of the Petworth landscape, exhibited in the very place that inspired him.

**£10.00 per adult, £5.00 per child. No pre-booking required. Normal admission to Petworth House also applies. Running until 16 November**

## ANCIENT SACRED SOUNDS

A one hour deep relaxation sound journey led by expert musician, Jez Smith

**19 September 7.00pm - 8.00pm**  
**£20.21**

**Cowdray Hall, Easebourne**  
[www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)

## SOUTH HARTING SOCIETY 'Creative South Harting'

**Ryan Watts**

Head of Operations and Engagement at Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery. Inspired by the famous art patron, Peggy Guggenheim, and her pre-war life in South Harting and Hurst, this talk explores some of the many creative individuals that have called South Harting home.

**Thursday 2 October**



## 'Nature, Horses and Royalty'

**Henry Dallal**

The award winning photographer presents his adventures from around the world. His royal portraits include the iconic final portrait of Her Late Majesty the Queen at ninety six.

**Thursday 6 November**

**All meetings are held in the Village Hall, South Harting at 7.30pm and the bar is open from 7.00pm. Visitors are most welcome £5.00 per head. Sarah Wilcox at [swilco149@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:swilco149@yahoo.co.uk) or on 07963 909889**

# Out and About

# A Day Out To.... Butser Farm

**To visit Butser Ancient Farm is to step back in time and no mistake.**

We were there to witness Imbolic, the Celtic Spring Celebration. On entering the bronze age round house, we were instantly immersed into an ancient ritual. We gathered around the fire which was fed with herbs and spices filling the space with earthy aromas.



For the next two hours we were seated in lengthening shadows whilst the flickering light of the fire reflected in the face of our storyteller.

We heard incantations, folk tales, ancient spells and poems that have travelled down the centuries and the imparted wisdom and sayings have changed little in that time.

The most wondrous moment was when the storyteller called upon the robin and, lo and behold, the very same little bird landed on the door frame as if he had a hop-on part!

Imbolic is just one of the events at Butser. Two of the biggest are the fire festival, which includes the May burning

of a forty feet tall wickerman and the Viking boat burning in September.

Naturally, celebrating the summer solstice is an important part of the year at Butser. It has been celebrated since stone age times and various activities and feasts are organised to mark this special event.

There are also workshops which include; bronze-casting, ancient metal-working, chain mail, flint-napping, drum-making and many other traditional crafts.

The farm also runs agricultural projects including a Roman kitchen garden and a Saxon medicinal garden. There are also rare breeds of animals on the farm including Manx Loaghtan sheep, a rare sight on the South Downs!

So, if you would like to welcome the Moon's flow or become immersed in the Mists of Samhain, get along to Butser Ancient Farm and experience a deeper and more ancient time; Your inner ancient soul will love it.

■ [www.butserancientfarm.co.uk](http://www.butserancientfarm.co.uk)

● Jan Harvey





## Autumn at Cowdray

Autumn brings a transformation of the countryside. The lush greenery of summer gives way to vibrant hues of gold, amber and deep red. Cowdray embraces this special time of year with a celebration of autumn including foraging walks, wellbeing events, the popular Apple Day and the first in the series of Run the Seasons.

After a busy summer, and the popular Maize Maze finishing at the end of August, there is plenty going on in the autumn months. This includes '9 and Dine Eve-

nings' at Cowdray Golf, a series of fascinating autumn foraging walks exploring the countryside, drawing classes at Cowdray Ruins, and afternoon teas at The Walled Garden.

### Treats

Cowdray's fourth Apple Day will take place at the farm shop on Saturday 11 October with visitors enjoying the opportunity to juice home-grown apples in a press. There will be music and apple-themed treats made by the Farm Shop team alongside tastings from local suppliers.

Cowdray's annual apple harvest takes place in September with the harvested fruit pressed into apple juice, which is then sold in the Farm Shop or served to guests at Cowdray House. There are over two hundred fruit trees scattered across the Estate, some of which are quite old or rare varieties. Over winter the trees are pruned by teams from Parks and Gardens to ensure a good crop the following year.

The first Run the Seasons takes place on the same day as Apple Day, with runners setting off towards Bexley Hill, through some ancient and thick woodland before returning on a different route exposing the golden autumnal colours on the South Downs.

### Carefully curated

Once a month, starting in the autumn, the café team will host a themed dining event which draws on ingredients straight from the estate and including produce from local suppliers. These evenings are also a chance to meet our head chef and to learn more about what inspires his carefully curated menus.

And before you know it the estate will be gearing up getting ready for Christmas.

For information on what's on at Cowdray's events, please visit the website.

■ [www.cowdray.co.uk/events](http://www.cowdray.co.uk/events)

*The first in the series of Run the Seasons*







**What a wonderful, memorable day we all had as Easebourne Parish Council (EPC) and Easebourne Primary School PTFA teamed up again to stage the 2025 Easebourne Fête in the Park.**

The organisers had been anxiously checking their various weather apps and sharing forecasts in the hope that, this year, we would be rewarded with a clear and sunny day, and when we met at the Park at 8am, we all had our fingers firmly crossed.

We got to work, putting up gazebos, setting up our new red and white striped deck chairs beside the roundhouse, heaving tables and chairs from the school to the park, hiding clues for the scavenger hunt, creating a show ring, unloading hay bales, welcoming Laura with her coffee and cake whilst mildly panicking that we hadn't allowed space for the bouncy castle and roundabout lorry to squeeze through! I am sure you can imagine the scene, parents, FrEP volunteers, councillors, musicians, donkeys, dogs, all working hard to be ready in time.

Just before 11.00am, and just after the EPC gazebo had mysteriously moved from the Park entrance to a convenient spot between

the Laura's coffee hut and the Pimm's tent, we were ready.

Katie Stevens, a much loved teacher retiring from Easebourne Primary School after more than twenty years of dedicated work with children from the village, cut the ribbon and the Fête began. Happy families, excited children and many from the community explored the colourful and busy attractions, whilst those 'on duty' began popping corks, firing up BBQs to cook the delicious burgers donated by Cowdray and trying to get electronic payments to work.

The wonderful B3s and Josh Eade entertained us with their eclectic mix of numbers to create a vibrant atmosphere of songs that had visitors tapping their feet and singing along. The park was a hive of activity, smiling faces, laughter, conversation, accompanied by the occasional woof of an excited dog. Donkeys gave rides, scooters were put through their paces, children had their faces painted, stall holders chatted to visitors, ice creams were enjoyed and the Pimm's flowed.

EGAS, Easebourne Garden and Allotment Society, had organised a horticultural competition, with five categories which





included a wildflower arrangement in a vase, most unusual vegetable and Mr or Mrs Potato (home-grown). We are very grateful to Caroline Nelson, Chair of EGAS, and Alec Penny, a long-time resident and EGAS member for agreeing to judge the competition. The Davies family went home with a clutch of very well-deserved rosettes, with special mention to Sofia and Amelie Davies for their Mr and Mrs Potato Head.

Although there was great excitement when the judges for the Bake Off arrived: Mary Berry? Paul Hollywood? The masks came off to reveal Laura Pinder and Mike Noble who poked, prodded and sampled the cakes. The winners were Rosine and Olivia Lillywhite with an outstanding garden-themed cake.

An obstacle course provided a sense of chaos to the dog show, with Busby the labrador showing his speed, versatility and his owner Kristy Tidman her competitive edge. Whilst Angus won the dog with the most beautiful eyes. Wilson, the very handsome, friendly and very well-behaved Staffordshire terrier took the coveted best in show award.

More music was provided by Petworth Voices, the community choir led by the hugely talented Emily Barden. This a capella choir

has sung together for many years, but this is their first time performing in the roundhouse, with many of their songs celebrating summer and sunshine as the forecast rain began to fall.

### Happy visitors

FrEP volunteers with bags and litter pickers kept the park clean throughout the day, and many other parents, members of FrEP and parish councillors worked very hard to provide a very successful event. As the happy visitors left at three, the heavens opened, but nothing was going to dampen the spirits of those who had enjoyed such a fun day in Easebourne Park.

The Fête raised £4,422.00 and all this money has been contributed to Easebourne Primary School to help fund their new outdoor classroom.

Huge thanks to the stall holders and other contributors who gave excellent support to the fête and a special thanks to the organisers of the day; Kristy Tidman, Sarah Jenkins, Mike Noble, Ian Milne and Emma Tremaine for all their hard work in creating such a splendid day and many apologies to those helpers I have forgotten to mention. Let's do it again next year!

● Judith Macdonald-Lawson



As well as growing flowers this year, having had a crew cut for most of my adult life I have decided to go wayward and woolly and am growing my hair. This is like having a perfectly manicured lawn and suddenly letting it go wild, which we seem to have done in our garden too.

There is long grass everywhere and quite a few weeds but frankly, I don't care any more. I'm embracing the wildness, which all sounds alarmingly like a mid-life crisis, but what the heck! Luckily, I have managed to retain a semblance of order in my flower garden which isn't easy in the middle of the woods with a million weed seeds seemingly flying in every day.

So now it's all about clearing, weeding and mulching, in an effort to stop the blighters from taking root, so that I have some room for my flowers next year. I love the autumn months, they are perfect for working outside and for getting the quite labour intensive jobs done, it being a little cooler.

I am also sowing the first of my hardy annuals. I am becoming more and more interested in dried flowers and want to make sure I have multiple beds of flowers that are equally good fresh and dried for next year. Many of these are hardy annuals and are tough little flowers. Hardy dried flower

## Embracing The Wilderness



varieties that I love include helichrysums (my favourite are the salmon ones), ammi majus, corn flowers, bupleurum, nigella, larkspur and pop-

pies. Statice (again I love the apricot/peachy varieties) is a great one to grow but is half hardy so needs to be started off in the spring. Perennials that are good for drying include echinops, veronicastrum, eryngium and achillea, particularly parkers variety which is a bit of a dried flower classic.

As well as getting next year's flowers on their way, at this time of year I am still harvesting some of this year's crops and I am enjoying having huge swaths of the things hanging up drying in every corner

of my house and upstairs above our shop in Midhurst. There's something very autumnal about dried flowers and obviously they are a brilliant choice for decorating your home over the autumn and winter months.

Another family of plants that I intend to grow in abundance next year are herbs. Not only are they great for cooking, but they also make lovely foliage in bunches and smell heavenly.

My planting plan for next year includes lots of oregano, fennel, mint, lemon balm, dill and sage, and again, they also dry very well.

So that's it from me now folks. With my big woolly barnet, I'm going to head back into my forest of dried flowers and get making stuff.

● Kate Verdley  
■ kate@verdleyflowers.com





# The Garden and Allotment Society

Saturday 2 August 2025

Every year gardeners in this part of the country face challenges. This year it was the drought and heat in June and July which made it tougher than ever to grow successful crops in our gardens and allotments.

Despite these challenges we had a very successful show in Cowdray Hall. Entries in all categories were up from last year, and many of our members displayed their produce for the first time. Setting up was completed by noon, leaving time for judging. In the afternoon we returned to see who had won a first, second, or third prize for their displays, to see who had won the coveted trophies and cash prizes, and to purchase raffle tickets.

## Prize-Giving

The highlight of the afternoon is the prize-giving ceremony. Once we had all assembled in the meeting room, we collected a cup of tea and piece of homemade cake and took our seats. We were delighted that Jean Humphris came along to hand out the trophies. She is the widow of our late chairman John. Jean was accompanied by her son Andrew.

## Best in Show

The Jock Ledingham trophy for Best in Show went to Nicola Cheriton-Sutton this year for her arrangement of flowers and vegetables in a basket called 'Market



Pictured left to right: Gavin Lichfield, Caroline Nelson, Andrew Humphris and Jean Humphris



Top left: Carolyn Davies and Jane Dawson Top Right: Molly and John Etherington Bottom left: Pete Carver and Tony Nelson Bottom Right: Viewing the vegetables.

# Annual Produce Show 2025



First prize for Market Garden by Nicola Cheriton-Sutton



Top left: Ann Wright and winning vegetables Top Right: Tina Litchfield and her prize heritage tomatoes Bottom left: Visitors with the floral entries Bottom Right The vegetables on show



Entries for floral categories

Garden'. Nicola also won the Harral Cup for the most points in the fruit, flowers, baked goods and preserves section. The Harry Etherington cup for the best collection of vegetables went to Lucinda Davis. She also won the Dave Gibbs Cup for the best single entry in the vegetable competition for her cherry tomatoes; and she took away the RHS Banksian Medal for the most points in the horticultural classes.

## Raffle

Pete Carver won the Lilian Etherington Cup for his dahlias. The raffle was drawn at the end of the ceremony. There were some excellent horticultural prizes to be won.

Membership of Easebourne Garden and Allotment Society is open to anyone living in Easebourne and surrounding villages. Besides our Produce Show, we have our very popular Plant Sale in May, and talks on gardening subjects in February, March, November and December, and a couple of excursions.

The programme for 2026 will be published by the end of this year. For more information please contact the membership secretary, Tina Litchfield. All details are shown below.

● Tina Litchfield

■ EGAS@tinagavin.com

■ 01730 816542.

■ [www.easebournegardenandallotments.co.uk](http://www.easebournegardenandallotments.co.uk)



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## Five Things To Look For In A Good Estate Agent

Selecting the right estate agent can make a big difference when buying or selling your home. A good agent will help the process run smoothly and work hard to get you the best possible outcome.

Here are five key things to look for when making your choice:

### Local knowledge

A good estate agent knows the local area inside out. They should understand what buyers are looking for, be aware of recent sales in the area and have a good sense of current market trends. These insights help them set an accurate price for your property or guide you to the right opportunities if you're buying.

### Good communication

Clear and regular updates are essential throughout the process. A helpful agent will keep you informed, answer your questions promptly and be honest about how things are going. Good communication helps avoid stress and keeps everyone in the picture.

### Strong track record

Experience matters. A reliable agent should be able to show examples of their recent sales and reviews from satisfied clients. A proven track record often means they have the skills and local connections to achieve the best results.

### Marketing expertise

Your property needs to stand out to attract the right buyers. A good agent will know



how to promote its unique advantages through professional photography, well-written descriptions and targeted advertising, both online and in print. Effective marketing can help your home sell more quickly and at the right price.

### Professionalism and transparency

Trust is essential. Look for an agent who is open about their fees, contract terms and how they work. Membership of professional bodies such as the National Association of Estate Agents (NAEA) can also show commitment to high standards.

### A final thought

It's about looking beyond who charges the lowest fee or has the flashiest adverts. The very best agents bring together local knowledge, clear communication, experience and a professional approach. If you're thinking of buying or selling your property, get in touch with us to see how Henry Adams makes a difference.

● **Matt Shepherd, Partner, Henry Adams**  
■ [www.henryadams.co.ukagents/midhurst](http://www.henryadams.co.ukagents/midhurst)

Illustration: Jan Harvey



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## THE KING EDWARD VII ESTATE

# Searching for Nightjars

Graham Morrison tells us of his new volunteering role

**"Anybody else hear the mysterious drilling noise coming from the other side of the car park?" After a bit of entertaining public debate on social media, my neighbours eventually agreed that the source of the unusual sound, heard last summer, was in fact the 'churring' call of a nightjar.**

The haunting, oddly mechanical call made by the male birds is often heard at dusk on heathland during early summer, when they advertise their presence to females in an attempt to find a mate before heading back to Africa for the winter.

Nightjars are so well camouflaged, sleeping during the day and often indistinguishable from the branch of a tree, that they are rarely seen. This has led to all sorts of myths about their presence and behaviour. One nickname for them is 'goatsucker'. People genuinely used to believe they would drink milk from goats' udders. Unsurprisingly this has been comprehensively debunked. In reality they eat moths and other insects, hence their crepuscular activity and unusual, moth-like flight.

Despite a reduction in their range through the 1970s, 80s and 90s, more recently the nightjar population has been growing in the UK. Current estimates of their abundance are based on counts made around twenty years ago, when the number of nightjar territories (i.e. churring males) was estimated at 4,600. Encouragingly, these studies found that nightjars were regaining ground in northern England and Scotland. This

year, the British Trust for Ornithology is aiming to bring the statistics up to date.

I recently walked the Serpent Trail and was lucky enough to see a few of these amazing birds in the gloom as I set up camp. On returning home, I was reading up on fun nightjar facts online when I stumbled across the British Trust for Ornithology appeal for volunteers. I was delighted when my application to be the official nightjar surveyor for a one square kilometre area near my home, on the King Edward Estate VII, was accepted.



My first survey of my 'patch', in early June, recorded eight birds! The data I collect will be combined with that of many other volunteers across the country and will underpin new understanding of how nightjars have fared in the United Kingdom over the last twenty years.

Like many I'm fascinated by nature, especially in the local area, and I'm thrilled to be contributing to this important project. Hopefully the results will help to strengthen the case for increased protection of the beautiful heathland sites in our area, for nightjars and many other specialist species.

If you find yourself near heathland at dusk over summer, keep your ears open – it's likely you'll hear the unique sound of a nightjar, and might even be lucky enough to see one against the dim sky as it hawks for a meal.





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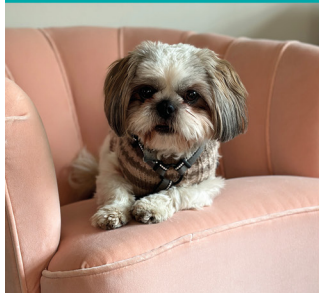
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Millie, a Mount Noddy dog, now living on King Edward VII Estate



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## Midhurst U3A



LEARN,  
LAUGH,  
LIVE



## Midhurst u3a Coffee Morning

Come along to our Coffee Morning on  
**20 September from 10.30am to 1.00pm** to  
find out what Midhurst u3a is all about.  
There will be free tea and coffee available.

### Why this date?

All over the United Kingdom, u3as are celebrating u3a Week (20-28 September) to showcase the activity, learning and fun which takes place across the movement every day.

It's all voluntary, run by the members for the members. Like all u3a's Midhurst is home

to many activity groups covering subjects ranging from languages, games/sports, and various skills to walking as well as outings and social events.

Members draw upon their knowledge and experience to teach and learn from each other for pleasure - learning is its own reward. It's local, social, friendly, and low-cost.

If you are approaching retirement or no longer fully occupied with work or raising a family then come and find out more at the Methodist Hall, Midhurst.

Midhurst

**u3a**

Learn,  
Laugh,  
Live

**Tuesday 16 September**

**"Horatio Nelson - Picturing Britain's Greatest Admiral"**

**Dr James Taylor, FSA**

Discover the extraordinary life of Vice-Admiral Lord Horatio Nelson (1758 -1805) through paintings, drawings and prints. Nelson was a charismatic and complex character beloved by his men afloat but lampooned ashore for his relationship with Lady Emma Hamilton.

**Tuesday 21 October**

**"The Working Coast" Dr Geoffrey Mead**

Along the Channel coast people work in a variety of occupations, some new and some of a historic nature; fishermen, harbour teams, boat-builders, holiday camp entertainers and ... smugglers! This talk looks at the diversity of the shoreline workforce, past and present.

Monthly talk and refreshments: doors open 2:00 pm; refreshments served until 2.20pm; talk starts at 2.30pm Cost: £3.00 for members £4.00 for visitors considering joining. All events at the Methodist Hall, Midhurst GU29 9DU.



## POETRY CORNER

### One Day

One day, her small hand will slip away  
As she walks into school,  
And forgets to kiss you goodbye

One day, she will dress herself  
And she will not turn to you and say: 'Do I look okay?'

One day, she'll leave for a date, with 'him'  
And nothing you can do will change her mind

One day, she will cradle her baby and say 'I'm fine,  
I don't need you, I know what I am doing.'

And you will wait, patiently, and then wait some more.

Then, one day, when you're standing beside her  
As that little hand slips away  
And there is no kiss to say goodbye  
Her hand will slip inside yours  
And, that day, you will hold it tightly  
And press it to your heart.

The Shy Poet

1. Which mountain range is the longest in the world?
2. Which email service is owned by Microsoft?
3. What was the name of the actor who played Jack Dawson in Titanic?
4. What is the name of the Italian dessert made with coffee-soaked lady fingers and mascarpone cheese?
5. The Britannia Royal Naval College is located in which South Devon town?
6. Which 3 letters can precede the words: verse, son, corn, form and cycle to make 5 longer words?
7. Who was sworn in as Vice President of the USA on 20 January 2025?
8. What is the name of the entrance at the Tower of London which was used in Tudor times to admit prisoners?
9. Which Test Ground is home to the Warwickshire County Cricket Team?
10. Mick Hucknall is the leading vocalist with which band?
11. Which British Sports body is known as the LTA?
12. 'Lara's Theme' is a piece of music from which epic historical/romantic film of 1965?
13. On which island was footballer Cristiano Ronaldo born?
14. Who was King of England at the time of the Great Fire of London?
15. Manchego cheese is made from the milk of which animal?
16. In a women's heptathlon what is the final event?
17. The town of Grasse in France is famous for producing which product?
18. Which is England's largest National Park by area?
19. How many violins are there generally in a string quartet?
20. What mythical creature is Scotland's national animal?



## The Coffee Time Quiz

By  
Carole  
Sawyer

Answers  
on page  
38

The deadline for the **November/December** issue of Easebourne Magazine is 21 September so please kindly send your contribution by that date, if not before, to be really helpful!  
■ [easebourneditor@btinternet.com](mailto:easebourneditor@btinternet.com)







# Seasonal Dining

AT COWDRAY FARM SHOP CAFÉ

Whatever the weather or the season, enjoy premium quality culinary delights at Cowdray. Throughout the Autumn and Winter, popular monthly evening dining experiences take place at the Café. Head Chef Curtis Wingate and his team create outstanding seasonal menus with tickets purchased in advance through our website. These evenings are great to enjoy with friends and family or are ideal as a gift.

Open seven days a week for breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea, the Cowdray Café menu reflects the seasons and provides delicious, wholesome dishes to suit all tastes and dietary requirements. The Café is fantastic at all times of year, and on warmer days in the Spring and Summer customers can enjoy sitting in the sun on the large terrace where dogs are welcome. We look forward to welcoming you to Cowdray.



Please visit [www.cowdray.co.uk](http://www.cowdray.co.uk) for more information  
Cowdray Farm Shop & Cafe, Cowdray Park, Midhurst GU29 0AJ

## Friends of Easebourne Parish

The hot weather might have slowed the growth of vegetation, but there is always plenty for FrEP volunteers to cut back in order to keep footpaths clear.

Work sessions over the summer months have mostly concentrated on the footpaths close to Easebourne Park and Glaziers Lane with similar tasks slightly further afield.

Throughout the summer months our volunteers have also been regularly watering the newly planted fruit trees in the park which all appear to be doing well.

In preparation for the summer fête, our last work session prior to it concentrated on tidying up the park and checking all the trees and play areas.

On the day of the event, FrEP volunteers helped with setting up, car parking, litter-picking and dismantling equipment at the end of what was a very successful day.

FrEP also ensures that bus shelters are regularly cleared of rubbish and their bins emptied. Litter picking is carried out regularly throughout the parish too.

The hedges within and around the park will be our next main focus of attention over the coming months.

● Frank Davies



Working on footpaths close to Easebourne Park.



If you would like to become a volunteer and make a real difference to your local environment, please email:

[FRPSEC@btinternet.com](mailto:FRPSEC@btinternet.com) or call 07803933694

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*Midhurst Community Choir in a break from rehearsal*



*Musical Directors: Yvonne Gravely and Judith Ellis*



*Getting ready to sing choir members Sue Brown and Sandy Maguire*



*The choir performing in the summer concert*

## The Midhurst Community Choir *Summer Concert*

The Midhurst Community Choir Summer Concert was a sell out success and those lucky enough to obtain a ticket were able to enjoy a very fine repertoire of songs from John Lennon's "Imagine" to the show-stopper that is Freddy Mercury's "Barcelona."

The choir, led by founding musical director, Yvonne Gravely and Judith Ellis who joined last year, has gone from strength to strength and has not fought shy of tackling some big and impressive numbers.

### Chance

A broader picture was painted by some superb soloists, including a charming rendition of "The White Cliffs of Dover" by Claire Betts and a moving song called "Letting Go" from choir leader, Jude Edwards. Giving people the opportunity to perform in public as novices is what this choir is all about and one of its major successes has been the ensemble. A self selecting smaller group of choir members, they put in many hours of extra practice. The group delivered numbers by Coldplay and Abba which were stunning.



*Preparing the raffle prior the concert. members of the committee and the front of house team*

Carol Brinson was in the audience, she told me:

"The programme was delightfully varied and the presentation professional and smooth from beginning to end; The Soloists, the "Busketeers" and the ensemble. The choir gave its all to familiar and not so well-known pieces, with Jess

Brown-Fuller as Master of Ceremonies providing us with light-hearted introductions.

"It was all so colour co-ordinated with the blue and black theme and a superb raffle. The evening was topped off with the opportunity for the audience to join in at the end with the very appropriate "Sound of Music."

The choir's committee had worked hard to make this concert a success with some really creative initiatives and they, themselves, performed a hilarious "recruitment drive" song.

The choir is, indeed, looking for new recruits, particular in the tenor section, so do visit the website for more details on how to join.

● Jan Harvey

■ [www.midhurstcommunitychoir.org](http://www.midhurstcommunitychoir.org)



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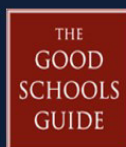
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## The Midhurst Society



### FORTHCOMING TALKS

18 September

The Weald and Downland Living Museum

Hannah Miller, head of interpretation at the museum, will talk to us about the museum, its buildings and its volunteers.



16 October

The operational manager for Cowdray Home Farm is Barney Tremaine. Barney will talk about the sustainable farming methods used by the estate, which covers more than 1,100 hectares. He will tell us how they use the land for forage and arable crops, and for their herds of dairy and beef cattle.



Talks take place at the South Downs Memorial Hall, North Street, GU29 9DH. Guests are welcome for a fee of £5.00.

For more information visit the website:- [www.midhurstsociety.org.uk](http://www.midhurstsociety.org.uk)

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# Greenheal: Healing Easebourne and Lodsworth

Following COP 26 in 2021, all parish councils were encouraged to take action to meet the United Kingdom's legally binding climate target to reach net zero by 2050. I talked to parish councillor, Elaine Roberts-Grimsey about a group that has been formed to meet this challenge.

## How did you start the project?

District Councillor, Francis Hobbs took the lead in partnering Easebourne and Lodsworth together and research was undertaken to look at what activities other parish councils were undertaking. Petersfield's Climate Action Network (PECAN) was a great template and a small group was formed locally with an aim to sketch out ideas and inform people of what could be achieved.

## How was the group formed, and when?

Funds were needed to drive the project forward and that required an 'entity' and so Greenheal was formed earlier this year. The "H" comes from "Heal" and the 'E-A-L' stands for "Easebourne and Lodsworth."



Jan Harvey  
interviews  
Greenheal  
member  
Elaine  
Roberts-Grimsey

## Who is on the team?

We are a small group led by Chair, Francis Hobbs. There is myself and two other Easebourne Parish Councillors Dan Kilty

and Alastair Dodwell. Jim Sellars, a parish councillor for Lodsworth, completes the team.

## What is the aim of Greenheal?

Our mission is to promote "greener" living within our parishes. This brings the benefits of protecting and enhancing our beautiful local environment.

## How are you funded?

We are very grateful to have received funds from Chichester District Council and Easebourne Parish Council and we will be applying for other grants. Our projects are not huge but they will have a big impact over time.

## What sort of projects have you undertaken?

Well, we have had two very successful outcomes already. We purchased seventy two fruit trees, (apple, pear and cherry) and sold

*Pictured above: Distributing fruit trees: Alastair Dodwell, Elaine Roberts-Grimsey, Dan Kilty and Judith MacDonald-Lawson*

them at a subsidised rate to the community on the understanding that they were planted in back gardens. The take up on these was rapid and the project was a huge success.

Secondly, we teamed up with local conservation expert and ornithologist, Paul Stevens, who has a particular expertise in house martens and swifts.

These summer visitors are on the RSPB red list and through Paul we discovered that we have a colony in Easebourne. Back in June, Paul took a group of us on an evening swift walk through the village which was fascinating. This generated the idea of placing swift nesting boxes, (the purchase of which Greenheal subsidised), around the locality and this we achieved very quickly with Paul's expert help.

## Will the swift boxes really be of benefit?

Oh yes, they are fitted with 'callers' that attract the birds into them. Next year, the



Installing swift boxes

returning birds will inhabit the new boxes and with luck, the colony will increase.

## What projects do you have lined up for the future?

Well, we would like to install a swift tower in Easebourne Park. It will be quite a substantial thing, but worth it for

four reasons:

- 1) It will house swifts
- 2) It will have real visibility, a proper landmark
- 3) It will be wonderful for educational purposes
- 4) It will be aesthetically pleasing

We have many other plans and welcome volunteers and any donations. Our website is the best place to start for anyone interested in finding out more about our work.

■ [greenheal.org.uk](https://greenheal.org.uk)



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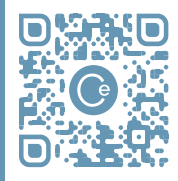
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# The Ruins of Cowdray House

Photo: Chris Deadman



**Chris Deadman**

**researches to**

**history of**

**Midhurst's most**

**famous historic**

**building**

## From the Listed Buildings File

The Ruins are included in three separate listings:

1. As a Scheduled Monument – listed in 1935
2. Grade I – listed in 1959
3. Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest – listed in 1984

The Scheduled Monument listing is for a “fortified medieval house and part of its landscaped gardens” i.e. what are known as the Cowdray ruins.

### Queen Elizabeth I

Fortified houses were residences belonging to some of the richest and most powerful members of society. It is known that Henry VIII made a few visits and Queen Elizabeth I also stayed.

From a file held in the Midhurst Society archives, there are segments of “A Booke

of Orders and Rules of Anthony Viscount Montague in 1595,” written when he was twenty-one. The following includes the spelling in the language of the time.

It was written “for the better direction and governmente of my householde and family. In the preface, he states that he is “being desirous to live orderly and quietly within my lymtte, and to mayntayne the estate of myne honour and calling.”

“The Booke” lists thirty-seven roles and, what in today’s terms would be their job descriptions. A summary of a couple of roles are: “My Stewarde of Householde” is the first listed and the most senior who has “superioritye over all my domesticall officers” etc. and “faythfully keepe all my secretes.” He must behave like the chief officer of a great house setting an example to staff but also be submissive and

dutiful towards his lordship. Responsible for hiring and managing household personnel, payment of wages, supply of provisions, keeping the inventory of household goods.

Scullery man is the last listed role and was responsible for the vessels silver and pewter vessels, ensuring that they were clean and well-ordered. Also, he was charged with “makeinge of mustarde, with good seede” and to “well keepeinge and serving of ytt.”

### Exceptional

The Grade I listing means the ruins are of “exceptional interest”.

It describes “The Ruins of Cowdray House” as “ruins of a fine stone mansion comprising a complete courtyard with gatehouse, hall with oriel windows, chapel, kitchen, etc.” essentially built during the late 15th and early 16th centuries. It was the home of the Montague family until it was partly destroyed by fire in 1792.

### Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest

This register is to celebrate designed landscapes of note, and to encourage appropriate protection. The ruins form the principal focus for the surrounding designed landscape. The registered site lies either side of the A272 Petworth to Midhurst Road, on the east side of Midhurst and Easebourne being approximately three hundred and fifty five

hectares. On the north side of the A272, its boundary follows the Race and continues until the boundary with Loves Farm.

### Benbow Pond

Turning east and then south until it reaches Benbow Pond and the A272 again. South of the A272 it skirts Dyehouse Copse, encompasses the Lodge, then turns west around Twelve Acre plantation and follows the north bank of the river Rother. Turning north at the edge of Midhurst, it follows the signed



Photo: Chris Deadman

footpath and along the causeway. Meeting the A272 again it follows Easebourne Lane until it reaches the Cowdray buildings encompassing the farm shop and café, the cemetery and St Mary’s church.

Within this described area there are approximately seventeen hectares of formal gardens and pleasure grounds which surround both The ruins and Cowdray House together with approximately two hundred and thirty eight hectares of parkland, farmland and woodland, a golf course and sports fields.





# Our Elusive Water Voles

Kerry Williams

Communications Officer - Conservation  
The Sussex Wildlife Trust

Although active during the day, water voles are extremely shy and quiet. Given their rarity and secrecy, it's a wonder how anyone even knows they are there. So, here are a few tips.

## Voles vs. Rats

As a semi-aquatic rodent, water voles are often referred to as 'water rats'. You could mistake one for a brown rat, but they are quite different. Water voles have a blunt nose, a furry tail and small ears. Rats have pointier faces, long hairless tails, and rounded ears. And although I have nothing against rats, water voles are super cute.

## Food caches

A cache of riverside nibbled grass stems can be a give-away. These often lie outside a discrete riverbank burrow. Continuing the ratty-confusion-theme, brown rats exhibit similar nibbly behaviours. However, water voles munch grasses at a neat forty five-degree angle, whereas Rat teeth marks are a bit more erratic.

## Latrines

Collections of rounded, tic-tac shaped droppings, known as latrines, are what to look for along the water's edge. These tidy deposits are a calling card for territory marking. Although the droppings are scentless, the voles rub their hind legs on their scent glands and stamp on the droppings to leave a scent.

## Threats

However, it's not all idyllic grass-nibbling and poop-stamping. Our water voles are at risk. Threatened by pollution, climate change, habitat loss, and predation by invasive non-native American mink, our water voles are up against it. Once found in nearly every waterway in England, this protected species has declined by a staggering 90% since the early 1970s and are now listed as endangered on the Great Britain and England Red List.

It sounds bleak, but there is good news ahead. Conservation organisations are protecting the species by monitoring and managing the population of American mink and there are things you can do. By keeping pets out of waterways, you can prevent pollution of our precious rivers by pet flea treatments. By taking your litter home, you can prevent bins over-flowing into vital water vole habitat. To help monitor the population, you can record sightings on iRecord, via the website or app, which are shared with the Sussex Biodiversity.

## Records Centre

By taking action to support healthy rivers, balanced ecosystems, and robust monitoring we can contribute to bringing our water voles back from the brink of extinction to their rightful place in our flourishing waterways.

■ [www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join](http://www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join)

Picture: Hugh Clark FRPS

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3. Leonardo DiCaprio
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5. Dartmouth
6. Uni
7. J D Vance
8. Traitors' Gate
9. Edgbaston
10. Simply Red
11. Lawn Tennis Association
12. Dr Zhivago
13. Madeira
14. Charles II
15. Sheep
16. 800 metres
17. Perfumes
18. The Lake District
19. Two (with a viola and a cello)
20. Unicorn

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## Jane G Reeder

1 October, 1936 - 31 May 2025

Born 1 October, 1936 in Basinstoke, first born to Vera and Jack Welling, Jane was extremely caring, tolerant and resilient as a young child helping her mother manage her three younger brothers. She had a strong sense of supporting the family in whatever way she could from a very young age.

She didn't really enjoy her time at school, especially her secondary school at The Abbey, Reading. She was sadly written off by her teachers and told that little would come of her life. A comment that she relished reminding the headteacher of when their paths crossed again a few years later.

She travelled as a young woman and served as a governess in Jamaica for two years, where she made lots of fun memories and even survived an earthquake.

She then joined the Royal Navy as a wren and rose up through the ranks to the level of 1st Officer Wrens. She thoroughly enjoyed her time in the forces and she travelled extensively in the Mediterranean. She came top of her wren officer training class at Greenwich.



Top to bottom: Jane as a young girl, as a Wren and in her later years

She then worked at HMS Mercury near Petersfield as a communications officer which is where she met Tim.

They married on the 27 July, 1963 and had Tom, Lucie and Ben. They moved a fair bit: Winchester, Bristol, Kent, Dorset and Hampshire. Then, in 1978, Paris. It was there that Jane discovered a passion for history. She visited all the museums and chateaux she could. Jane thoroughly enjoyed running the family home as a guest house but, when she and Tim separated, in 1984, the family moved back to England. Jane's passion for history and heritage was set to continue and shortly after her return to the UK, she studied for an O-level in History "just for fun," as a mature student at the now Midhurst Rother College.

Jane was very proud of all her close family and grandchildren and she always showed great pride and joy in all their experiences and achievements.

Her son Ben says: "Jane was hugely proud of her community and everyone in it. She championed so many good causes. If ever Midhurst were to have a Duchess then she would have been a fine candidate."

## Are You Thinking Of Joining A Choir?

**Fernhurst Choral Society is a mixed-voice choir with over sixty members. Its singers come from every corner of the three counties to rehearse from 8.00 to 9.45pm on Monday evenings in Fernhurst Village Hall.**

The choir performs three concerts each season with a repertoire ranging from choral standards by composers such as Handel, Mozart and Brahms, to more contemporary works. The choir's musical director, Tim Ravalde, and accompanist George Haynes, are both talented professional musicians from Chichester Cathedral.

### No Obligation

Anyone who enjoys singing is welcome to join a rehearsal with no obligation. There are no auditions, just a requirement to commit to some home practice, regular attendance at rehearsals as well as the ability to sing in tune.

The first rehearsal of the 2025-2026 Season is Monday 8 September at the earlier starting time of 7.30pm.

■ **Tina Litchfield, Membership Secretary**  
 ■ **07814 781576**  
 ■ **[www.fernhurstchoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.fernhurstchoralsociety.org.uk)**



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 MIDHURST AND SURROUNDING AREAS







## Another Amazing Maize Maze



The Maize Maze was bigger and better this year with new attractions and activities for all the family. The Cowdray Saloon offered respite from the temperamental August weather which always seems to herald the opening of the Maze adding a touch of high drama.



The Cowdray Estate brings its creativity to the fore with wonderful touches such as the Cowdray Saloon, the Snack Shack, the clever graphics and innovative kid's trail through the maze.

The maze itself was awesome in size and cleverly laid out, the result of a lot of hard work by the team from planting to running the month long event.

www.cowdray.co.uk



## Through The Church Gate



CHURCH NEWS AND INFORMATION

Charlotte Wise  
WELLBEING

New classes starting from 4 September  
at Cowdray Hall, Easebourne

*All are welcome*

THURSDAYS 12.30pm-1.30pm - PILATES

THURSDAYS 1.30pm-2.30pm - YIN YOGA

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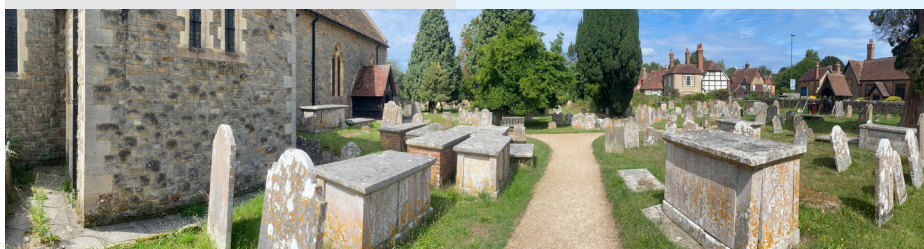
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## CHURCH SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2025

Date	Easebourne	Lodsworth	Selham
7 September Trinity 12	10.30am Family Service	6.00pm Evensong	8.30am Holy Communion
14 September Trinity 13	10.30am Holy Communion	9.00am Family Service	No service
21 September Trinity 14	10.30am Holy Communion	No service	8.30am Holy Communion
28 September Trinity 15	10.30am Holy Communion	9.00am Holy Communion	No service
5 October Trinity 16	10.30am Family Service <b>HARVEST</b>	6.00pm Evensong	8.30am Holy Communion <b>HARVEST</b>
12 October Trinity 17	10.30am Holy Communion	9.00am Family Service <b>HARVEST</b>	No Service
19 October Trinity 18	10.30am Holy Communion	No Service	8.30am Holy Communion
26 October Last After Trinity	10.30am Holy Communion	9.00am Holy Communion	No Service

Bold types denotes any changes



**Rector: Rev Derek Welsman**  
01730 812655

**Curate: Liz Yonge**  
07747 611993

**Lodsworth**

**Churchwardens**

**Selham**

Mrs Lynne Todd  
01798 861399

Mr Deryck Hamon  
01798 861850

Mrs J Colman  
01730 861267

Mr Roger Comber  
01798 861320

## From the Vicar

Reverend Canon Derek Welsman

Dear Friends

In August we bid a sad farewell to our lovely curate, Liz. She had been with us for three years, first as a deacon and then as a priest. Liz's curacy was unique, as she continued to live with her family in Chichester and commuted to work each day, which certainly brought extra pressures!

Over her three years with us, we all watched Liz blossom in her role. I want to thank all three church communities, our schools and the villages for supporting her training and making her so welcome in our midst.

Liz brought many amazing gifts and talents as a curate. We will never forget her enthusiasm for life and faith, always with an amazing smile. Having a curate is always a risk for an established priest. There is always the danger that they will be better than you and in Liz this was certainly the case.

Everybody enjoyed her warmth of character. We loved the way she led worship, and her preaching became of a very high standard. In everything she did she was amazing to watch. Whether working with our mums and toddlers, leading a school assembly or chatting to our more senior members. Her only weakness was admin! Thankfully, her new parish has an administrator.

Fernhurst and Lynchmere are lucky to be getting Liz and we all wish her well as she starts this new adventure in her life. When she joined us, back in 2022, I bought her a prayer book for daily use. I wrote in the cover a line of scripture from St Paul which said 'let love be genuine.' This is something which Liz has demonstrated day after day. It has been a privilege to be her training incumbent, but even more so to be her friend. We all wish you well Liz, you have left your mark on us; now fly free and shine brightly for the people you serve.



# Church Events

Every Wednesday at 3.00pm  
St. Mary's Church Easebourne  
All are welcome

## TEA AT THREE

Join us for coffee, tea, treats and a good chat.  
Bring along your crafts; invite your neighbours; children are welcome too.  
Contact Reverend Liz Yonge for more information ■ 07747 611993  
■ revlzyonge@outlook.com

### WEDNESDAY MORNING COFFEE

You are most welcome to join us on Wednesday mornings at St Mary's Church from 10.30am for a cup of coffee and a chat!



## FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 200 CLUB

200 CLUB

### July Winners

Prize	£	Share	Shareholder
1	100	128	Veronica Jull
2=	75	35	Debbie Reed
2=	75	80	Bob Lewis
3=	50	26	Arthur Douglas-Nugent
3=	50	107	Emma Pierce
3=	50	108	Betty Chatfield

### August Winners

Prize	£	Share	Name
1	100	2	Arthur Douglas-Nugent
2=	75	55	Mike Ohara
2=	75	147	Christine Barrett
3=	50	107	Emma Pierce
3=	50	80	Bob Lewis
3=	50	67	Katharine Minchin

If you would like to join the 200 Club please contact: Mike and Margaret Wharton

■ 01730 810474 or ■ mike@mwassociates.eu.com

Winners will receive monies by bank transfer



St Mary's Easebourne runs Messy Church events four times a year. Join us for songs, crafts, celebrations and food. There is plenty of opportunity to have fun and make a mess!

■ 07747 611993

■ revlzyonge@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, 10am-11.15am  
St. Mary's Church, Easebourne

Everyone is welcome

Suggested donation £1.00 per family

## EASEBOURNE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday 2 September

Roger Bricknell Speaking of his time on Concorde

Tuesday 7 October

Quiz Afternoon

With Odette Marshall

2pm in St Mary's Church

For all details of the Women's Fellowship please call Ann Harfield ■ 01730 813810

■ annharfield23@gmail.com

■ www.thepriorychurches.co.uk

## Church Contacts

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### PCC Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary

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01730 816405

### Organist and Choir Mistress

Mary Knight  
01730 812783

### Social Committee

Jan Harling  
jharlingm@gmail.com

### 200 Club

Margaret and Mike Wharton  
mike@mwassociates.eu.com



# Fun in the Sun



Alan Gibson

Everyone involved in this year's church fête enjoyed themselves and particular praise must go to the Dan Grinter and his band, and folk singer, Alan Gibson, who kept our feet tapping and hips wiggling and gave their time for free!

In the sticky heat it was a mighty task to set up and then break down the fête and the two church wardens, Alison and Phil and I were on the go from 8.00am to well past 5.00pm but it was well worth it.

## Grateful

We had a few helpers along the way to whom we are very grateful, but none of them or us is getting any younger!



Above: Roger Sked runs the Tombola, Left: Winning prizes Below: The cake stall sold out fast



The ladies of the Women's Institute on their stall



Alwyn Stocks

Inside the church was busy



The ladies of the Women's Institute on their stall



Alwyn Stocks



The ladies of the Women's Institute on their stall



Alwyn Stocks



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The ladies of the Women's Institute on their stall







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## Beautiful Churches of West Sussex

The oldest part of St. Mary's, Petworth is the north east chapel. It is dedicated to Thomas Becket who died in 1170. He was the archbishop at the time of Henry II.

In 1950, the high altar was dedicated to the memory of the Petworth boys and their teachers killed in the bombing of the school during the second world war.

Yet, you enter the church through the new, and very modern, side-door, completed only very recently.

Such is the ongoing story of our churches, always renewing, always reshaping and reflecting the life of the community around them.

### Magical

There is a lot to see in this church and, as you can imagine, it is all maintained to a high standard. It is essential to look up when you walk in because the ceiling is absolutely beautiful. We were fortunate to be visiting the church during the Petworth Festival and to see it illuminated with stage lighting was absolutely magical.

It's a church of 'rooms' to be explored. The 'walk around' guide is very helpful in taking you through the many features of the interior.

There is the east window designed by CE Kempe (1837 - 1907) who also designed the reredos and organ case. All three must be seen.

Petworth is such a busy and interesting town, dominated by the great house, that often I think the church is overlooked. It shouldn't be, it's a treasure.

● Jan Harvey



St. Mary's  
Petworth



Top: The interior lit up for the Petworth Festival  
Below: A statue of George O'Brien, Earl of Egremont.



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**Front Cover:** Autumn at Cowdray Farm Shop by Jan Harvey

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