

The Valley Diary

Binderton ~ Charlton ~ Chilgrove ~ East Dean ~ Singleton ~ West Dean

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April 2024

NOT LIKING SPIKING

Sussex Police has a good understanding of this dangerous form of assault and is working closely with partner organisations, bars, clubs, door staff, universities and colleges in order to raise awareness and let victims know there is help and support available.

Through the organisation 'Stamp Out Spiking' we have already purchased anti-spiking StopToppis which protect drinks from any unwanted substances and distributed these across our county. We have recently commissioned a further 250,000 to ensure we continue supplying local pubs, clubs and venues with the essential tools to keep their customers safe.

Several initiatives are being implemented so that police and partners do not become complacent in addressing this abhorrent crime. These included the police's use of dogs to sniff out drugs when people are queuing to enter night-clubs; increasing engagement through our mobile Police Hubs; and initiatives that we have supported with funding,

like our ground-breaking Night Marshals.

Through the online portal Safe Space Sussex, we now have a host of services available to support anyone who has been unfortunate enough to be a victim of a crime in Sussex, including spiking.

You can find out more about the visit and Sussex approach online via tinyurl.com/28h99tr5

Katy Bourne
Sussex Police & Crime
Commissioner



LADIES NIGHT

Star and Garter
East Dean
Tuesday 9th April, 7pm
All Welcome!

FETE SEASON!

East Dean's is on...Saturday 29th June
2.30pm at The Old Vicarage, East Dean
See Page 4...

St Wilfrid's Hospice Moonlight Walk 2024.
You gonna' have a go? See Page 16...



Mark Astley, MNAEA
Director

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S.P. Approved 27/02/2020

5/20/2020 10:20:20

QUIZ NIGHT

TUESDAY 30TH
APRIL

@ The Fox Goes Free organised by the Singleton PTA

7pm onwards

£6 per person teams of six or less. Funds are being raised for school equipment and an outdoor shelter.

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Money saving and sustainability tips at the Get Thrifty Weekend

Patch it, fix it, reuse it and get the most out of it! This is how rural communities once lived to survive - there is lots we can learn from them today, to not only reduce waste but also save money and become more sustainable.

Demonstrations and interactive activities, including traditional soap making, thrifty printing workshops, the art of natural dyes and no-waste woodland management, as well as looking at the art of thrift in our Tudor Kitchen, repairing and reusing clothing 500 years ago and gardening tips. To find out more and book tickets see advert, above.



EAST DEAN CHURCH FETE

Saturday 29th June

2.30pm

The Old Vicarage, East Dean

This year's 40th anniversary Fete is a few weeks later than normal so save the date in you diary and get ready to have a fun day in the sunshine.

As always, we welcome donations of gifts, bottles, pre-loved good condition, sellable, household items, books, clothes toys and games. There will be plant and home produce stalls and all the traditional fete stalls and attractions – all good quality contributions will be very much appreciated.

Contact Sam 07887 562473 or Susie 07825 336689 for more information!

Reminder for East Dean Residents: Our house-to-house collection will be week beginning 17th June (day to be finalised)



CELEBRATION OF MOTORSPORT AND CAR CULTURE!

Held in the parkland surrounding Goodwood House, the **Festival of Speed** is motorsport's ultimate summer garden party. Nowhere else will you get so close to the cars and bikes as they blast up the hillclimb track; nowhere else will you enjoy such unrestricted access to the machines and the drivers who made them famous.
goodwood.com/motorsport/festival-of-speed

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References/
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available on request





SUNDAY CARVERY at The Griffin

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every Sunday throughout the winter months
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Celebrating Art and Agriculture

Zimmer Stewart Gallery present a unique exhibition and talk at South Stoke Barn in collaboration with The Sussex Snowdrop Trust.

The exhibition 'South Stoke Idyll - A view from the barn' is open from **23rd to 27th May, 11am - 6pm.**

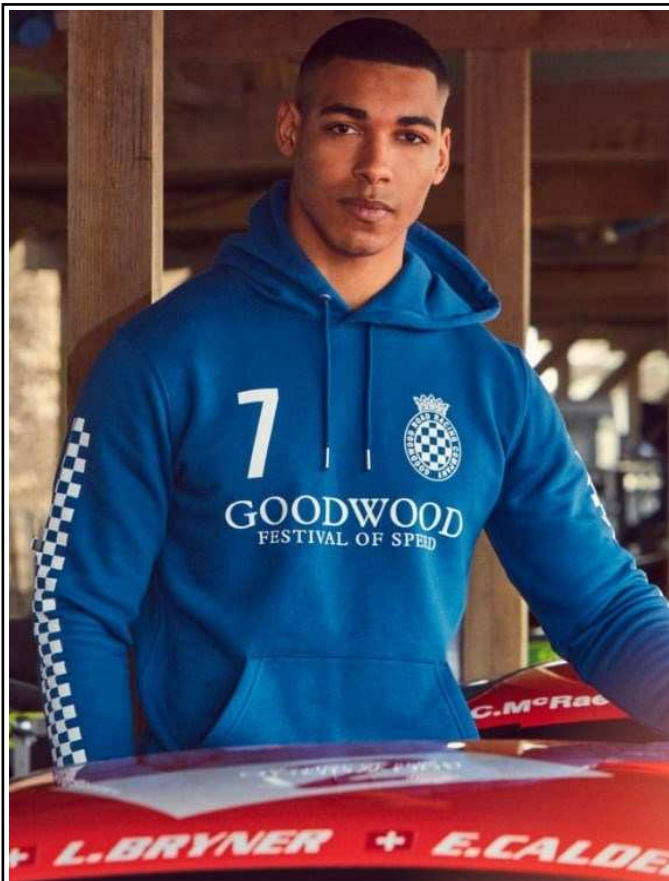
On **Friday 24th May at 6.30pm** there will be a talk by Ryan Haydon, farmer and Adam Stead, artist, agriculturalist and researcher, with a panel discussion including artists

Matt Bodimeade, Nick Bodimeade and Emma Hurst, led by James Stewart from the Zimmer Stewart Gallery. Tickets £15, to include a glass of Digby Fine English fizz on arrival.



On **Sunday 26th May**, The Sussex Snowdrop Trust invites you to South Stoke Barn to view the exhibition and find out more about the farm. **Bring a picnic** - tea and cakes are provided from 3-5pm for a donation.

South Stoke Barn, near Arundel, BN18 9PF



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THE VALLEY DIARY

Published every month, serving the residents and visitors to our lovely corner of West Sussex with its rolling hills and beautiful sights.

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**editor@valleydiary.org
thevalleydiary.org/advertising**





AS GOOD AS NEW CLOTHES SALE

**Saturday 20th April
10.30am - 2.30pm
East Dean Village
Hall**

Brand new, barely worn, pre-loved and some vintage clothes along with fabulous accessories and some menswear.

Great selection of dresses, jackets, coats, skirts, tops and trousers - all sizes - plus hats, shoes, bags etc. Many great labels. Come along on the 20th and you will definitely pick up a bargain. Cash and cheques accepted.

Entrance is £3 per person which includes a Glass of Prosecco.

Tea/Coffee, Homemade Cakes and Light Lunches will be for sale.

Even if you don't want to buy, come for a browse and a chat

Proceeds to East Dean Village Hall and local charities.

We will also be collecting for the local Foodbank so please bring along items that are in date and unopened.

Easter at Weald & Downland Living Museum...

Join in an Easter Egg Trail around the Museum's 40-acre site, running from now until Sunday 14th April.

Knucker the Dragon family activities return on Tuesdays to Thursdays with Easter themed crafts, games and the chance to learn more about the history of Easter. There will also be a medieval puppet show on Monday 8 April - Friday 12 April, where families can see the story of Knucker the Dragon.

Don't miss out on hearing folklore stories about chaotic chickens and gingerbread houses from a storyteller in Walderton House and discover the Cabinet of Curiosities, where you can find all kinds of interesting items and hear about their stories.

Finally, Easter wouldn't be complete without some delicious baked treats! Watch the Museum's bakers demonstrate their skills in the historic bakehouse over the Easter weekend. There will be an opportunity to enjoy freshly baked traditional Hot Cross Buns!

Activities vary daily. Pre-book online to save...
wealddown.co.uk/events/easter-holiday-activities



Singleton Cricket Club - Juniors



Starts: **Saturday 11th May**
(SCC, Sheepwash Meadow, PO18 0EX)

Dynamos 9.30am - 10.30am - All Stars 9.45am - 10.30am
Sign up at **www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars/register-interest**
(any problems: Juniors@singletoncc.co.uk)



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Saturday 9.30am to 4pm

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**Brent Lodge
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HOSPITAL IN
APRIL**



As we enter April, our 'baby season' is well and truly upon us. As well as plenty of adult patients, we have many babies who have been found without their parents and are too young to look after themselves. We always make sure that people have double-checked over a period of time that the parents are not returning before intervening and bringing them to us, whether they've stumbled upon a nest whilst gardening or just found them out in the open. If something similar happens to you, please call for advice first.

**HELPING BRENT LODGE
WILDLIFE HOSPITAL**

To help support the many animals in our care, we are always in great need of wet cat/kitten and dog/puppy food, newspapers (non-shiny), bird suet or seed, large black bin liners and puppy pads for our particularly young patients. Donations can be dropped off at our hospital, our charity shops, Westbourne Animal Feeds or Creative Spaces in Aldwick. Thank you.

Please always feel free to call us if you need any advice/ assistance with wildlife enquiries or how to support us - brentlodge.org - 01243 641672



The Swirling Wish

I sold a wish to the Wind, who carried it South on swirling gusts. She told the Sea who swept it away East on grey tides. The Sea gave it passage to the Depths, who pulled it down deep, and whispered it in the ears of the old gods. They pondered and partied on it, letting it fill them like sweet summer wine. There my wish lies, held close in safe-harbours, waiting for the day it is ready for the Wind to carry it back to me, where it will breathe life again into my dreams. **Jess Ashworth**

what3words

Have you heard of what3words? Here is how this app helps Chichester Police.

what3words has given every 3 metre square in the world a unique identifier made of 3 words - making the location of any emergency (999) or non-emergency (101) incident very easy to describe and share.

To tell us the location of an incident using what3words

1. Download the free what3words app from <https://tinyurl.com/y48cwjvk>
2. When you are at the location of the incident open the app and tap the arrow icon (iOS) or compass (Android) for your current location.
3. Dial 999 (emergency) or 101 (non-emergency) and read the 3 words displayed at the top of the app screen to the call operator.

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Should Have Gone To...

A Poem by Francis

I knocked on Mr Ewc's door,
And asked, are you Mal?
A man pushed rudely past me,
Not happy I could tell.

But his name was on the door,
So maybe he's not in.
Then another chap came out,
Who could not help but grin.

I said, "Hello Mr Ewc,
Or may I call you Mal.
I'm told there is a loo near by,
I'm desperate so please do tell."

"You've found it," said the chap,
"Now come in and listen to me.
There is no Mal. There's no Mr Ewc,
The door says, MALE WC.!"

Recipe Struck Off in a Heartbeat

Another Poem by Francis

We thought our veggie soup healthy,
But the doctor seems to disagree.
He removed some key ingredients,
Taking the pulses from her and me.

Chichester Harbour Rotary Club CALL MY BLUFF CHARITY WINE TASTING

Friday 10th May

7pm - 9.30pm

Westhampnett Community Hall

A fun and probably competitive evening blind tasting several wines to raise funds to support Sage House Dementia Hub and Rotary Charities. Enjoy a lively evening raising money for great causes.

£15 tickets include Ploughman's supper. Tickets from Jean Hardstaff...

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LAVANT MEMORIAL HALL ACTIVITIES

LAVANT FRIENDLY CLUB

1st Wednesday at 2pm. April 3rd: Scam Presentation + Shirley Sings

COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

Concert 2nd Friday at 7.30pm: April 12th Capricorn (Band) £9
Dance at Mundham: 4th Saturday 7.30pm: April 27th Hombre (Solo with backing) £7

SHORT MAT BOWLS

Thursdays 7pm & Sundays 3pm.
Equipment Supplied. All Welcome

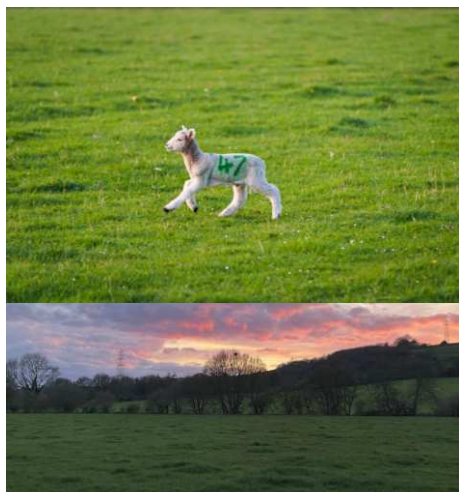
527439

tonybleach@talktalk.net

LAVANT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEET IN LAVANT MEMORIAL HALL

Wednesday 10th April A talk by Stephen Harmer 'The Arts and Crafts Movement and its Gardens'. Pre-talk refreshments at 7pm

Sunday 12th May - Annual Plant Sale starts at 2pm. Come early to get summer colour for your garden.



DID YOU OR ANYONE IN YOUR FAMILY GO TO WEST DEAN SCHOOL?

With the help of the school, local archivists & West Dean College, I am researching the history of West Dean School from the 1830s until the present day.

Does anyone have any memorabilia from their time at the school which I could copy?

I would like to collect any memories such as those of teachers, notable occasions, Christmas parties or sports days, lessons, school meals, wartime, school trips or journeys to school.

Thanks, Wendy Goacher
wendygoacher@yahoo.com

GIVE SOMETHING BACK? YOUR TIME. LEND A HAND AND STRETCH YOUR LEGS!

Can you help? A Distributor is needed to cover Bankside in Singleton. This would involve delivering 31 copies each Month starting from the School end. If you can help, please contact **Chris** on **01243 811833**

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STRANGE TIMES...

March 20th 2024. Four years ago today was the last evening drinking in the Star and Garter before lockdown started. Naturally we all took it very seriously and did our level best to drink the place dry! At any rate those of us that were in there did; some people were taking it seriously, and so weren't in there. As we tipped out the last toast that evening was "See you on the other side!" Deliberately ambiguous; did we mean the other side of lockdown or the other side of the veil? Remember, at the time no-one was sure whether this was the start of the new Black Death or a lot of fuss about a nasty cold.



A couple of weeks before that the Prime Minister was not taking it seriously, at first making a point of continuing to shake hands with people before conceding to theatrically nudging elbows in greeting. Boris, who'd been elected three months earlier as a cavalier libertarian who liked to get things done (with "no more dither and delay!") was forced to rule as a killjoy puritan, telling everyone they had to "stay at home". To emphasise how serious it was, he took to doing nightly addresses to the nation, flanked by Chris Whitty and Jonathan Van-Tam, deferring to them as we were now being "led by the science". So some of the nation responded by stripping the shops of toilet rolls, pasta and tinned tomatoes - keep calm and carry on it wasn't!

Then came markers outside of shops at two metre intervals to keep people an entirely arbitrary distance apart; in East Street Chichester there were green dots to mark the queue for Marks and Spencer, although the line had to kink into the middle of the road to avoid clashing with the red dots for the Halifax queue next door, but not so far across as to bump into the blue dots for Barclays, opposite. People were encouraged to go out for a walk each day (but only one) although officials taped off park benches to stop them sitting down. The Police moved people on who dared to sit on the grass; in the Peak District two people were arrested for driving out into the countryside to walk their dog, well away from anybody else!

After closing the catering industry the government then decided to reopen it, and so came "Eat Out to Help Out" whereby if you went out for dinner they'd pay half the bill! Jolly good idea, except it led to a spike in infections (the R rate - remember the R rate? Everyone used to talk about the R rate) which led to a second lockdown. And then came the final absurdity; it was decided that it would be ok to have a drink in a pub as long as you had a substantial meal with it. Cue an argument as to whether a Scotch egg constituted a substantial meal, with one government spokesman saying it did and another one saying it didn't!

And then came the vaccines, for once a genuine British success, marred only by a few people who got it into their heads that the whole thing was an elaborate ruse by Bill Gates to inject everyone with microchips. Why he want to do that was never explained, but it doesn't seem that far fetched, given all that stuff that had just happened! **Tim Weeks**

THIS SPACE COULD BE YOURS!

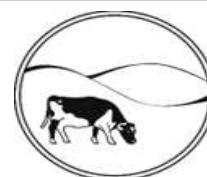
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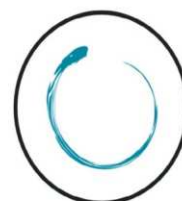
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email editor@valleydiary.org**

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The Valley Parish

www.thevalleyparish.org

www.facebook.com/ValleyParish

Children's Church



Sunday 28th April

11am at West Dean

Inc. Bible Story, activities and music.
Coffee and Cake available before the
service

Times and Places

7th April 10am Holy Communion
from the Book of
Common Prayer
(Said service)
East Dean

14th April 10am Holy Communion
Singleton

21st April 10am Holy Communion
West Dean

28th April 10am Said Service of Holy
Communion
West Dean

11am Children's Church
West Dean

STANDING THE TEST OF TIME

Preserving our Heritage

Look out for regular updates in the Valley
Diary, as well as details of forthcoming
events.

Although we have raised enough to restore
the windows in Singleton, we still need
funds to repair and restore the churches in
East Dean and West Dean.

Contacts -

Parish Priest – Rev Sarah Manouch: priestvalleyparish@gmail.com, 07468 854864
(principal working days are Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Not available on Thursday)

Churchwarden

Mrs Wendy Goacher – 01243 811641 / wendygoacher@yahoo.com

PCC Secretary

Susie Holmes - pccsecretaryvalleyparish@gmail.com

The Diary

Here's a quick overview of what's actually going on, in and around the villages of the Lavant Valley in the coming months. Do please let us know if we've missed anything and we'll add it next time for the benefit of all.

www.thevalleydiary.org

April 2024

Sat 6th & Sun 7th Get Thrifty Weekend: Weald & Downland Museum

Mon 8th Community Cafe: Singleton Village Hall: 10.30am

Tue 9th Ladies Night: Star & Garter: 7pm

Wed 10th Live Music at The Fox Goes Free: Willie Austin: 8pm

Mon 15th East Dean Parish Council AGM: 7pm, Meeting: 7.30pm: East Dean Village Hall

Wed 18th WI: Nicola Court on Madge Turner: Singleton Village Hall: 7pm

Sat 20th As Good As New Clothes Sale: East Dean Village Hall: 10.30am - 2.30pm

Sun 21st Season Finale Pub Quiz: Star & Garter: 7pm

Mon 22nd The Valley Diary Copy Deadline: 12.00hrs (Noon)

Sat 27th VGC Spring Show: East Dean Village Hall

Sun 28th Tom Brown Gardening Event: Upwaltham Barns: 2pm

Tue 30th Singleton School Quiz Night: The Fox Goes Free: 7pm

May 2024

Mon 13th Community Cafe: Singleton Village Hall: 10.30am

Tue 15th West Dean Parish Council Annual Meeting: 7pm, AGM: 7.30pm

Wed 16th WI: Rachel from Carruthers Waste Prevention: East Dean Village Hall: 7pm

Sat 18th & Sun 19th GoodWoof 2024

Thu 16th VGC East Dean Garden Safari

Mon 20th Singleton & Charlton Parish Council Meeting & Annual Meeting: Singleton Cricket Club: 7pm

June 2024

Thu 6th D-Day 80th Anniversary Tea Party: West Dean

Mon 10th Community Cafe: Singleton Village Hall: 10.30am

Wed 20th WI: Tractor & Trailer Ride: East Dean Village Hall: 7pm

Sat 22nd & Sun 23rd The Power of Plants & Flowers: Weald & Downland Museum

Sat 29th East Dean Fete: The Old Vicarage: 2.30pm

July 2024

Mon 8th Community Cafe: Singleton Village Hall: 10.30am

Thu 11 - 14th Goodwood Festival of Speed

Mon 15th East Dean Parish Council Meeting: 7.30pm: East Dean Village Hall

Wed 18th Singleton & Charlton PC Meeting: Singleton Hall: 7pm

Deadline for the...

May 2024 Edition

All information for to arrive by **12.00hrs (Noon)** please on...

Monday 22nd April

editor@valleydiary.org

Submissions, news, reviews, event information, photos and anything you have to share with your community should arrive **as soon as possible**.

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Got something to add to the Diary? Please let us know.

Lots more dates and events can be found in the Diary Online at...

...thevalleydiary.org/diary

Useful Telephone Numbers

CDC Councillor, Henry Potter	07792 857973
East Dean Football Club	07944 036709
East Dean PC Clerk	07712 647511
East Dean Village Hall	07785 740625
Goodwood Security	07909 876823
Lavant Road Doctors Surgery	01243 527264
Lavant Road Pharmacy	01243 380185
Local Police	101
Singleton Fete	01243 818037
Singleton Parish Clerk	07702 240126
Singleton School	01243 811679
Singleton Tearooms	01243 811899
Singleton Village Hall	TBA
Weald & Downland Museum: Office	01243 811363
Weald & Downland Museum: Shop	01243 811020
West Dean College	01243 818300
West Dean Fete	01243 811247
West Dean Gardens	01243 818318
West Dean PC Clerk	07596 884847
West Dean School	01243 811247
West Dean Stores	01243 818222

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PILATES CLASSES Jo, 07917 177404
FERNS RESTORATIVE YOGA 818058
STANDBY NANNY Josie, 07747 867652
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FETCH DOG WALKING Canine specialist dog Walker, Helen Ferrell, 07765 577290

Albert says...



He has called his house Lautrec,
 What a funny name to choose.
 When I asked him why,
 He said, because it's got 2 loos.

Register of Local...

B&B

Trundlers Charlton - ask another Helen 01243 811686
Hunters Lodge, Lavant - or indeed another Helen!
 01243 532415 - 07788 663712
 B&B - Ring **Sophie** on 01243 811465
The Folly, Charlton on 01243 811307 - ask Joan or David
Harper's Cottage, East Lavant. Ring Caroline 01243 278659
Flint Cottage, 47 Mid Lavant, Lavant Road, PO18 0AA: Sue Kemble 01243 785883 / 07814903541
The Shepherds Barn, Chilgrove: Lucy 07775 934999
www.shepherdsbarnsussex.co.uk
The Blue Bell, Cocking: 01730 239669
The Nest, Singleton: Self-Contained Accommodation: Julie 07887 943523
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Chichester Fringe announces its 2024 line-up!

The Fringe is back! This year, the Fringe will be packing 70+ performers and over 50 shows into 2 weeks, from Friday 31 May to Saturday 15 June. There will be an exciting range of performances, from circus, theatre, music, comedy and musicals, through to drag and cabaret.

This year's fringe programme kicks off with the return of New Theatre Night, at One-O-Four, The Hornet, on 31 May featuring 4 short theatre pieces including Kitchen Sink Productions, Emma True, Steven Finley and Jack Stone. Brand new shows also take over New Park Centre's Studio throughout the Fringe, from poetry to drag, as well as stand up comedy from comedians including: Farah Sharp, Phil Green, Natalie Bryce, Ben Ashurst and more. In the Roundhill Picture Palace, a magical 13 seater space, witness some unique magic from The Crooked Croupier and Mark Flynn on various dates throughout the Fringe!

Chichester City Arts Centre will host a variety of shows between 8-9 June and back by popular demand is Epic Comedy and The Chichester Fringe New Comedy Act of the Year Competition 2024! 20 comedians from Sussex, Hampshire and Surrey will be competing to become Chichester Fringe's New Act of the Year!

4 new venues have been added this year: New Park Centre, The Picture Palace, The Taco Box, The Guildhall in Priory Park (run by The Novium Museum) and The Old Court Room in the City Council Building. The ever-popular Chichester Canal Cafe, Richmond boat, Draper's Yard, Chichester City Arts Centre and One O Four, The Hornet are all returning this year for a host of exciting events throughout the Fringe, totalling 10 venues across the city.

Tickets for Chichester Fringe go on sale soon, with prices starting at as little as £5, and some events are free: chichesterfringe.co.uk/whats-on

CHICHESTER NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

CHICHESTER Wednesday 3rd April: Illustrated Talk by Michael Blencowe on 'The Log Walk Home' at The Pallant Suite, Masonic Hall, South Pallant, Chichester: Entrance members free/visitors £2: 01243 786079: wheelchair access

RSPB Zoom Meeting

Thursday 18 April: Hilary McGuire on 'RSPB Forest of Bowland Wader Conservation Project: Meeting starts at 7pm: The talks are free to all RSPB Chichester Local Group members and £4 each to non-members. Places are limited, so please book your place in advance: Rob Yarham: 07545 376074: chichesterbirds@gmail.com

The MULBERRIES

PAGHAM Saturday 27th April: The Mulberries present Sweeney Todd a 50's - 00s tribute band, at the Pagham Village Hall, Pagham Road, Pagham at 7.30pm: Tickets in advance £9 on 07833 971620 or 01243 262833: Bring your own food and drink: Wheelchair access: Proceeds to local charities

Maria Wildman

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Global Accessibility Awareness Day: Raising the Profile With 4Sight Vision Support...

Learn more about digital accessibility while celebrating Global Accessibility Awareness Day (GAAD) on Thursday 16th May. The purpose of GAAD is to get everyone talking, thinking and learning about digital access and inclusion, and the more than one billion people worldwide with disabilities/impairments.

The GAAD Foundation's mission is "To disrupt the culture of technology and digital product development to include accessibility as a core requirement." They demand that "Someone with a disability must be able to experience web-based services, content and other digital products with the same successful outcome as those without disabilities. This awareness and commitment to inclusion is the goal of Global Accessibility Awareness Day (GAAD), a global event that shines a light on digital access and inclusion for people with disabilities."

4 Sight Vision Support has a dedicated Accessible Technology Specialist who supports and advises visually impaired clients on how current technology such as smartphones, computers, tablets, and smart speakers can be made more accessible. Advice can also be provided about the digital services available that can assist with day to day life.

To find out more about digital accessibility for you, or someone you know, call 4SVS on 01243 828555 or visit www.4sight.org.uk For more details about GAAD visit accessibility.day

The meeting of the Singleton and East Dean WI was held on Thursday 21st March in East Dean Village Hall. The March meeting is usually our Annual General Meeting, which aside from official business matters, gives us all the chance to reflect on the previous year and look forward to the next.

Over the past 12 months we have had some fascinating talks, fabulous outings (Windsor just after the coronation being a particular highlight) and two amazing parties. We adopted our accounts for the year and said goodbye to our Treasurer, Sue Farman, who has held the role for a number of years; which she has managed with supreme patience and grace! Sue will remain very much an active part of our WI, but we are incredibly grateful for everything she has contributed. We move forwards with a strong committee, a healthy bank balance and, as the oldest WI in the country, a healthy membership of ladies in the valley (and beyond!)

If you are thinking of joining (or coming along to see what we do) then I can let you know that we have an wonderful line up of speakers in the next 12 months (including subjects - as a sneak preview - such as, Plants to Stay Well, Historic Ship Commanders and Henry James's Mexican Home - as well as a trip to Bletchley park and our summer and Christmas parties). A special mention to Janet Holt for her hard work and dedication in planning our wonderful diary. Please do get in touch if you would like to come along and be a part of the largest women's organisation in the country.

In the meantime, I would personally like to thank every one of the ladies of the Singleton and East Dean WI for their dedication to the teas, the baking, the birthday posies, the hearty singing and for being a part of one of the most fabulous groups of women I know.

Zoe, zk.mann@icloud.com, 07770 822067



The WI Report

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Moonlight Walk 2024

Take on a walk to remember this June! St Wilfrid's Moonlight Walk returns this June 15th for the local community to get involved and raise funds for their local community hospice. This event sees hundreds of people gather on Chichester College playing field, donning the Moonlight Walk event t-shirts and enjoying a great atmosphere. Walkers then take on a 5 or 10 mile walk around the local area, under the moonlight. By taking part and fundraising, you will help raise vital funds to allow St Wilfrid's Hospice to continue providing expert palliative care and compassion to local lives suffering with life-limiting illnesses. Get your tickets at www.stwh.co.uk/moonlight

More than a Shop

Want to make a purchase that actually makes a difference to the local community? St Wilfrid's Hospice has 12 shops and an online shop that offers affordable, pre-loved items. By purchasing from one of their charity shops, you will be helping fund the end-of-life care provided by the Hospice, making a difference to local lives in the community. Whether it's refreshing your wardrobe, looking for some new furniture or simply buying a few trinkets, whatever you purchase from a St Wilfrid's shop will help give care to someone in need. Find your nearest shop at www.stwh.co.uk/shops

Gifts in Wills

Did you know, gifts left in Wills pay for 1 in 4 of St Wilfrid's patient's care? As an independent local charity, St Wilfrid's only receives a small amount of funding from the NHS, so the majority of the Hospice running costs are paid for thanks to the generosity of our local community. Leaving a gift in your Will, whether big or small, helps the Hospice to continue providing expert care and compassion to local lives suffering with a life-limiting illness. Learn more about leaving a gift in your Will at www.stwh.co.uk/gifts-in-wills

The benefits of acting quickly in the popular South Downs...

The property market is still in demand in the South Downs, but there is a lack of available stock. This has resulted in property owners being aware of the benefits of having a "chain free buyer", which I will explain in this blog post.

If buyers are able to purchase a home without the need to sell another, they would be considered to be a chain free buyer. Many require a mortgage however, but as buying agents we act for the best purchasers who are cash rich or with no related sale.

Now four years on from the pandemic where the market was exceptionally buoyant with a rush to the countryside, we are still finding there is an enormous draw to the South Downs National Park. Demand is outweighing supply once again as we head to the traditional busy spring market.

We believe we are seeing a change now because competition for good quality country houses in sought after villages has gone from strength to strength. In the thirty plus years that I have been involved in the industry, we have not seen anything quite like the shortage of available properties.

In order for buyers to strengthen their position, buyers are realising they become very attractive to sellers especially if they do not need to sell first or raise funds, putting them at an advantage over other purchasers.

Head for tinyurl.com/actquicklysouthdowns for the rest of this article from Jennie Hancock of propertyacquisitions.co.uk where she sites some reasons why sellers prefer chain free buyers.



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March Meeting Summary...

HIGHWAYS

We have ongoing issues regarding the **deterioration and erosion of the road edges on Grinch Lane** (road to Colworth Farm). This is now in the hands of WSCC Highways due to both us as a Parish Council and the Fire Service agreeing that, in bad weather, a full-size appliance would not be able to reach properties and businesses at the top of the road.

Grant funding of £20,036.32 has been received from Operation Watershed to carry out the next phase of **drainage works on the B2141** (Chilgrove Road).

COUNCILLORS' REPORT

A summary of reports from our District and County Councillor are available on our website.

TRAFFIC/ROAD UPDATE

The **SID** was in its new location and has captured the usual high speeds of 60-80mph in the 30mph zone. Members discussed that Singleton PC was lobbying for a 20mph zone on the A286; we are waiting for an update.

The **Traffic Regulation Order consultation** has ended for Binderton. The new speed limits should be operational any time now. The size of the new signs was discussed as was the hope for new line markings being painted as part of the scheme.

CEMETERY

It was agreed that an independent Memorial Stability Tester would be contracted to carry out work at the Cemetery and St Andrews Churchyard at a cost of £425 + VAT. This work is valid for 5 years.

D-DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY

It has been agreed to celebrate this important day on Saturday 8th June at The Selsey Arms. As well as an afternoon tea party the event will include various activities, competitions, fun and games. It was agreed that a flag and pole would be purchased to commemorate this event; discussions about where it could be flown are still to be finalised.

CORRESPONDENCE

It was agreed to **apply for a portrait** of King Charles III.

It was agreed that the **bus shelter** was structurally sound but that the surrounding area needs tidying up and the bench will be replaced.

A request for **village maps**, identifying house numbers, has been agreed. New maps will be placed outside West Dean Stores and at each of the bus shelters.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 15th May 2024 at West Dean College, starting at 7pm with the Annual Parish Meeting, including representatives from West Dean CofE Primary School, followed by the Parish Council Meeting and AGM at 7:30pm. All members of the public are welcome.

Forward to, That Pesky Fly

By our Poet, Francis

Despite the age we've reached,
Every year we make time,
To fit in, at least once,
A Christmas pantomime.

And we have noticed of late,
What makes us laugh so merry,
Is that ridiculous sound,
Of blowing a loud raspberry.

This brought to mind a rhyme,
That I definitely did not write.
Performed by the late Milligan,
A hero of mine was Spike.

So, ***** is a blown raspberry,
Which you must do I pray.
Blow as hard as you can,
When the following verse you say.

That Pesky Fly

*There was a little fly,
Who lived in a grocer's store.
He ***** on the ceiling,
And he ***** on the floor.
He ***** on the bacon,
And he ***** on the jam.
And he ***** on the head,
Of the little grocer man.*

*The little grocer man,
Got out his spraying gun.
He said, "I'll get that fly,
Before the day is done."
But before you could count,
From one to ten.
The little fly went *****
On the grocer man again!*

I will give a free copy of my book, **Down on Red Bucket Farm** to the first person who spots me out and about, (not at home) before 30th April and quotes to me, word perfect, The Fly poem.
Francis



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PETWORTH HOUSE

Spring Festival

Spring Festival at Petworth continues, with talks, demonstrations, art and craft workshops, family activities, a community art installation and an enhanced display of radiant daffodils. The festival runs until 14th April. Normal admission applies. Details of talks and workshops can be found on the website.

Spring Family Trail

Discover games and activities for all ages along the buggy-friendly paths of the Pleasure Garden on our family trail and look out for six sculptures inspired by nature. Until 14th April. Pick up a free map on arrival, normal admission applies.

Drop-in Family Crafts

Join us in the Battery House any time between 10.30am - 3.30pm for spring-themed craft activities: **Wednesday 3rd – Saturday 6th April:** Design your own mini spring wreath. **Sunday 7th – Wednesday 10th April:** Design your own Cherry Blossom greeting card or bookmark. All materials will be provided. £3 per child.

nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/sussex/petworth



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100 CLUB

On a bitterly cold morning in East Dean Church, three gentlemen were the lucky winners in the March draw sharing prize money of £105. The snowdrops in East Dean Churchyard have again been beautiful this year and the spring flowers are bursting with colour which is a very encouraging sign following this very long, wet and dreary winter.

Hopefully the springs will soon subside in the valley and the villages will revert to their picture postcard perfection. The next draw will take place on Sunday 7th April at East Dean Church. **Wendy Heather, 01243 811608**

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TOM BROWN

Head Gardener at West Dean Gardens

In aid of *The Valley Parish Appeal* to save the three historic Church buildings in the Lavant Valley

**Join Tom at this exclusive charity event
held in the beautiful setting of
Upwaltham Barns GU28 0LX
on Sunday 28th April at 2.00pm**

Tom is a regular contributor on BBC Radio Sussex and Surrey, a member of the RHS Herbaceous Committee and an RHS Show Judge, regularly writing for BBC Gardener's World Magazine and Gardens Illustrated



Tom will give a presentation on his work in these highly acclaimed gardens and his plans on how best to manage our changing climate. He will place particular emphasis on the challenges facing gardeners in our area and the steps we can take in our own gardens

- ★ Welcome drink on arrival and a chance to enjoy the beautiful gardens not normally open to the public
- ★ Luxury Afternoon Tea with sandwiches, scones with jam and clotted cream, and cakes
- ★ Question and Answer session with Tom who will help and inspire you
- ★ Floristry demonstration

Advance Booking Essential

Tickets £65

For further information
and to book tickets please
scan the QR Code



or contact Wendy Heather
wendy@chiseldown.net
01243 811608



WEST DEAN COLLEGE SHORT COURSES

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our new programme of short courses running from February to August 2024.

Whether you're an avid enthusiast, a seasoned artist, or simply curious about exploring your creative side, West Dean has a course for you.

Our range of short courses covers everything from pottery to printmaking, basketry to blacksmithing. With expert tutors guiding you, you'll have the opportunity to embark on a journey of self-discovery and artistic expression.

At West Dean, we believe that creativity knows no bounds. That's why all our courses not only provide technical expertise but also encourage a spirit of experimentation, self-expression, and collaboration. It's the perfect place to try a creative course, learn a new skill, or develop your creative techniques.

westdean.ac.uk/short-courses

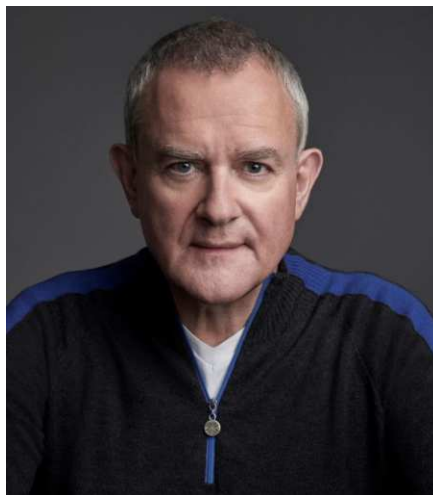
My Cue to Leave

A Poem by Francis

I never improve at snooker,
Mistake after mistake.
For all the years I've played,
Eight is still my highest break.

A bloke watched me yesterday,
As I played like a big twit.
I recognised him as the man,
Who fits new snooker cue tips.

Maybe the cue is at fault,
Suddenly came into my head.
So I asked if he had any tips,
He said, "Take up knitting instead."



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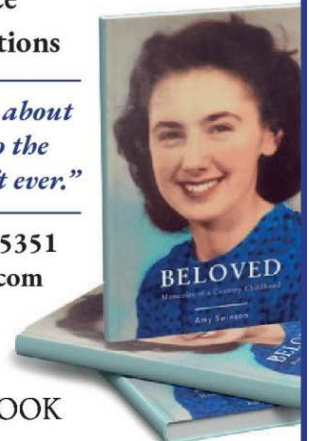
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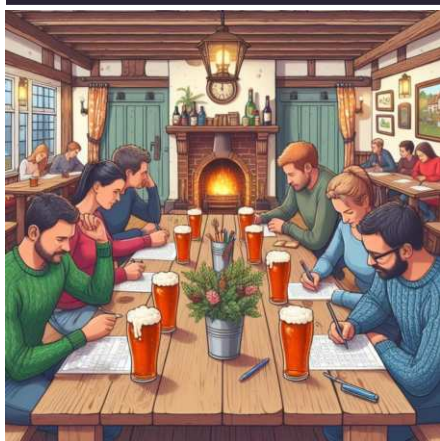
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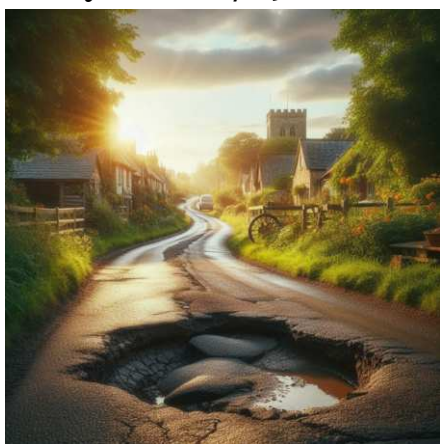
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WE DON'T KNOW!

“We Don’t Know” knew quite a lot...

The Star and Garter was packed for the penultimate quiz of the season, with every table taken as nine teams competed for the first prize, dinner for six at the pub. In the end “We Don’t Know” proved their name to be something of an understatement as they came back from fifth position at half-time to clinch victory with 69 points, ahead of the “Southern Water Appreciation Society” on 67 and “Mya’s Mates” on 60, with everyone else tightly packed in the high 50s.

Guest rounds were presented by Deirdre Forman and Maria Davies, with two rounds written by Sarah Mayhead, although she was unable to be with us on this occasion. Supper was a lovely lasagne prepared by Chef Jake and in a spirit of fun and banter we managed to raise £600 for the church restoration appeal! Not too shabby for a little country pub on a Sunday night, thanks to landlord Jim Macdonald donating half the admission money (£425) with the other £175 being raised by the raffle.

The final quiz will be on Sunday 21st April, then we’ll take a break until October whilst the big Goodwood events are on and the pub is buzzing on summer Sundays with live music in the garden and the renowned roast lunches being served. So if you want to be part of it, get your team together and book a table as soon as possible (and definitely by Friday 19th) – it helps a lot if the Chef knows how many he’s catering for!

On behalf of the Restoration Appeal I would like to thank everyone who supported us this time; £600 will not, on its own, pay for the repairs that are so badly needed if we are to keep these ancient buildings open and part of the villages they serve. But it helps enormously when applying for much larger grants if we can show that we have been doing everything we can to help ourselves!



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