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August 2022

MUDDY STILETTOS AWARD!

Weald & Downland Living Museum Wins Sussex Muddy Stiletto Award 2022 for Best Family Attraction

The Weald & Downland Living Museum has been named Sussex Family Attraction of the Year in the 2022 Muddy Stiletto awards. As winners the Museum will be automatically put through to the inaugural National Muddy Stiletto Awards 2022 which will be judged throughout the Summer.

Speaking about the award, Simon Wardell, Museum Director said: "We are delighted to have been recognised as best family attraction in Sussex and would like to thank everyone that voted. The award reflects the hard work of the whole team, which includes not only staff, but also volunteers and the local community. It inspires us to keep enhancing our visitor experience, events programme and maintaining our unique historical collections and artefacts which make the Museum such a special and

captivating attraction for all ages."

The Museum has a packed programme of family fun planned throughout August from outdoor theatre experiences to their Wonderful Weeks series of summer holiday activities and crafts, including nature trails, orienteering, singing and puzzles.



2009 Formula 1 World Champion to Race at Goodwood Revival Again

Jenson Button will return to race at this year's Revival, taking place Friday 16th - Sunday 18th September at the Goodwood Motor Circuit. Button made his historic racing debut at the 2021 Revival where he took part in the Stirling Moss Memorial Trophy driving a Jaguar E-type alongside Alex Buncombe, with the duo also making an appearance in an AC Cobra for the RAC TT Celebration.



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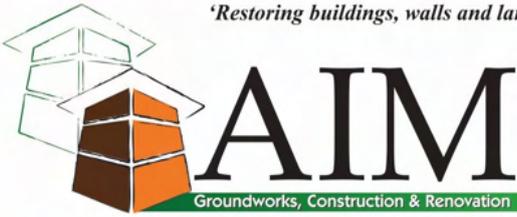
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With a variety of activities, including crafts, multi-sports, creative play and team challenges, summer on the Great Ballard campus has never looked busier!

For full details please contact:
office@greatballard.co.uk

NEAT 

Sunshine and Fun at Singleton Fete...

Singleton held another successful Fete on Saturday 16th July. The sun shone continually as we have now come to expect at this event. Fete goers were treated to an array of attractions, games and stalls. Chichester City Band provided the perfect musical background.

Together with all the traditional stalls you would expect at a village fete, fete-goers could enjoy a Hot Dogs & Burger BBQ, Cream Teas & Cakes, as well as a refreshing drink from the Cricket Club's Licensed Bar. Face painting and Lucky Dip were provided for the children, as well as Cricket and Beat the Goalie games.

Sadly, we made the difficult decision to cancel the Fun Dog Show due to the extremely high temperatures but we plan to hold it later in the summer when things are a little cooler.

The Fete Committee wish to thank the Singleton Cricket Club for allowing us again to use their beautiful field, the many sponsors and donors of excellent prizes for the Grand Draw and Silent Auction and particularly to acknowledge the hard work of all the stallholders and helpers in the days leading up to the fete and on the day, making it the success that it was. **Photos: Sue Martin**



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WEALD & DOWNLAND
LIVING MUSEUM

A 'BUZZ' AROUND THE FESTIVAL OF SPEED

There was certainly a buzz around Festival of Speed as Jo Ambrose, beekeeper at Goodwood, successfully relocated a swarm of bees that had taken up residence in a tree next to the start line of the infamous Goodwood Hill climb.

As well as being a beekeeper, Jo works at Goodwood House, so she was on hand to help. She has her own bees at home as well as taking care of the Goodwood bees based at Home Farm. She is on the swarm collectors list for the British Beekeeping Association and has been called to a number of swarms this year to lend a helping hand.



Jo said: "Control called me to say the bees had settled in a tree by the Supercar Paddock. Obviously, they needed removing before FOS so I went up the tree in a cherry picker as it was about 20ft high and collected the swarm in my skep. I was able to put them in a portable hive at the bottom of the tree and leave them to fly all day before going back and picking them up in the dark. They are now happily settled in my garden!"

It's important to Goodwood to rehouse swarms and encourage them to reside somewhere safe instead of ending up in a nearby chimney pot! Bees are not only essential to our survival, they also have a crucial role to play in both plant reproduction and the biodiversity. Without them, trees, shrubs and flowers would not be pollinated and therefore be unable to reproduce. Reproduction of plants in turn ensures the purification of air, continued source of food for other animals and plants and increased yields in commercial farming.



The Fun Weekend

3rd & 4th September 2022

We are open from 11:30 to 4.30 on both days

A fun family day out where you can meet the rescue animals

There will be live music, an array of country craft stalls, food stalls, the animals parade, refreshments and a bar too!

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Playground – Just Giving

We are thrilled to let you know that we have achieved all the funding for the first phase of the playground project, a staggering amount of £22,490. This has allowed us to order all the new swings, including a basket swing along with the football goal and basketball net. We are now moving onto phase two which includes the track for bikes, scooters and roller blades, a bounce area and also picnic benches. We already have £18,500. We have also been pledged another £5,000 if we can match with another £5,000 from the community. We have set up a Just Giving page and do hope that you will be able to make a donation however small or large! If we can raise more than the £5,000, we can then move on to phase 3 which will be to renew the zip wire. They are huge sums but once installed will last for at least the next twenty years. All the equipment we purchase has to be of a community playpark standard and therefore, of course, costs more. So, your donation will play a huge part in creating a great place for our children, grandchildren and future generations. www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/singletonandcharltonplayground



TV filming

A film crew will be coming to Singleton and Charlton in August. They are filming a six-part drama based on the book *The Burning Girls* by CJ Tudor. They will be mainly filming at the far end of The Leys, field behind The Leys, Exterior scene at The Partridge and outside by the phone box in Charlton. Filming starts on August 22nd for three days and then again sometime between mid-October and early December. If you would like to be involved, they are looking for extras and also marshals. Both are paid! Please go to the parish website where you can find out all about it.

Community Highways Scheme

The final proposal has now been signed off by the Parish Council and has been submitted to Highways. You can read the proposal on the Parish website or if you do not have access to a computer then please contact Viv for a paper copy.

Vulnerable list

As many of you know, prior to the pandemic we had been to every house in the parish to find out if they would need help in case of an emergency. This proved to be a fantastic resource in getting help to those in need immediately that lockdown was announced. We know that many new people have moved into the parish and would like to ask them if they would like to be included on the list. The list is only held by the Parish Clerk and absolutely no details are shared with anyone except the chairman and emergency services should there be an emergency. If you would like to be included or ask any questions, please contact either our clerk, Viv Nuttall on 01243 811810 or our chairman, Deborah Harwood on 07976 800965.

Come and help us!

We have set up working parties to deal with all the projects that we are carrying out, including the new playground, traffic calming and maintenance. We would love to know if there are any members of the parish who would like to join. Many hands make light work! Please contact Viv to find out more.

Do get in touch with us if you have any issues, complaints or suggestions for the parish.

Contact

Viv Nuttall (Clerk), singletonparishcouncil1@gmail.com, 01243 811810
www.singletonparishcouncil.co.uk



Tuesday 9th August

...from 7pm at The Star & Garter at East Dean

All welcome!

**MORE SILVER BELLS
FOR THE OVER-65's
AT THE BLUE BELL!**

The Blue Bell in Cocking has extended its Silver Bells (for the over 65s) 2 course lunch menu, for the summer, at £8.95 a head.

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Valley Gardening Club

The next event is the **VGC Annual Show – Saturday 6th August 2.30pm at East Dean Village Hall**. Exhibiting at the Show is only open to members, but you can join when you enter. There is something for everyone from flowers and vegetables to baking, textiles, upcycling and of course, the Junior section, so do try your luck and make it a flourishing Show, remember your entry does not have to be perfect!

We are trying some different timings this year so **entries need to be at East Dean Village Hall between 8.45am - 10.15am**. This will ensure we have everything ready for the **judging which starts at 10.30am prompt**. **Entry Forms should be submitted by 5pm on Thursday 4th August** and can be dropped into your nearest Committee Member, names below. Late entries can be accepted under special circumstances but the entry fee will double, from 50p to £1. Junior class entries for under 14-year-olds are free. Show schedules including Entry Forms are available online at www.valleygardeningclub.org.uk or from the Committee.

There will be a talk on the evening of **Tuesday 18th October** by **Liz Sawday of Apuldram Roses**. The subject will be **Managing your Roses** and promises to be very interesting and informative.

The **VGC AGM** will be in November when we will have a simple buffet supper, recognising that everyone's costs are going up at the moment.

Again, new members are welcome. You can join at any event or through a Committee Member. Membership is £3 per person or £5 per couple.

Committee Members: *Miranda Andrews (East Dean 811548), Miranda Mayne (Charlton 07970 370627), Vicky Mudford (East Dean 818046), Larrie Robinson (Goodwood 811467), Elaine Kelly (Singleton 811833), Penny Buchan (Charlton 811544) & Penny Spence (Singleton 811453).*

EDITOR ACKNOWLEDGES EMAILS!

There have been a couple of instances recently where people have emailed stuff into me for the coming edition of The Valley Diary and they haven't arrived. Or been sent. Or whatever, in terms of technical hitches.



Please be assured that whenever I get an email from anyone submitting content and it arrives safely, I email back an acknowledgement. If you don't get a confirmation email, it's time to smell a rat and check it out! I do also check my Spam Bucket regularly in case it's been dumped there. I would never ignore an incoming email and not acknowledge it.

Thanks to everyone who does submit. It's really helpful when trying to make The Valley Diary interesting and attractive to all. **Ted the Ed.**



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A variety of new measures were put in place by Government as



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Commissioner**

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Safer in Sussex

part of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act. The new measures will see an overhaul of sentencing laws to make our streets safer and ensure that serious violent and sexual offenders spend longer behind bars.

The reforms will also help to cut crime and protect the public more effectively as well as introduce new powers to manage serious disruption caused by protests.

Included in the measures are mandatory life sentences for those who unlawfully kill an emergency worker in the course of their duty, known as Harper's Law.

Emergency workers risk their lives every day, they are often the very first people on the scene and they do everything possible to save lives. Harper's Law will provide a level of extra protection and make sure that those who unlawfully kill an on-duty emergency worker will face the severest of sentences.

There are also measures to protect victims of domestic abuse (DA). These will extend the current time limit for prosecution of DA offences, giving victims more time to report.

It's great to see these new reforms come into place and to see crimes such as burglary and knife crime being taken seriously with the introduction of minimum sentences.

The changes tackle a variety of different crimes and take into account how even 'low-value' claims can still have a detrimental impact on some people.

They help to ensure that police can continue to fight crime, make our streets safer, protect victims and that offenders will face robust repercussions.

Katy Bourne, Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner



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Chichester Film Festival Open Air Screenings

To launch the 30th Chichester International Film Festival, three open-air screenings will take place in Chichester's beautiful **Priory Park** over the **5-7 August**. These include Baz Luhrmann's **Elvis**, Steven Spielberg's **West Side Story** and family favourite, the new Pixar release **Lightyear**. Find out more and book tickets at chichestercinema.org

Chichester International Film Festival: Chichester Cinema at New Park 5th - 28th August

Leading film critic, Derek Malcolm, will officially open the annual Festival. The programme will feature over 130 films including exclusive premieres and previews from around the globe as well as tributes and retrospectives, silent film screenings accompanied by live music and inspiring talks from special guests.

Find out more and book tickets at chichestercinema.org

Outdoor Cinema comes to Petworth House

Enjoy a summer evening watching a film with friends and family in the beautiful grounds of Petworth's Pleasure Garden.

Book your tickets to experience outdoor cinema at Petworth through the National Trust website. The grounds will open at 6:30pm for you to explore the garden, before finding your spot to watch the film. Bring along a fold up chair or picnic blanket to sit back, relax and enjoy the film. Hot-dogs are available to pre-book, and ice-creams, snacks and drinks will be available to purchase on the night. Films will begin showing at 8:30pm on a 30-foot screen in Petworth's Pleasure Garden.

Friday 19 August: Romeo + Juliet

Saturday 20 August: Cyrano

Sunday 21 August: Encanto

Adult £15, Child £7.50
nationaltrust.org.uk/petworth-house-and-park




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Sundays at Singleton are back!

Ploughman's and Cream Teas served on Sundays during August.

August 7th
August 14th
August 21st
August 28th

We look forward to seeing our old, and hopefully some new, friends.

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100 CLUB

1st... Jennifer Hull, Charlton
2nd... Jane Knight, Charlton
3rd... Viv Mills, West Dean

Congratulations to our July winners. May I just remind those members of the 100 Club who joined annually in September that renewals are due for the new year starting in September 2022. Reminders are being sent out.

Please encourage friends and family to join and raise much needed funds to keep the fabric of the three Churches in good order.

The next draw will be on Sunday 7th August.
Wendy Heather



4Sight Vision Support Offers Free 'Make a Will' Fundraiser

4Sight Vision Support has announced it will be running a Make a Will Fundraising Scheme in September inviting people to have their Wills or Lasting Powers of Attorney written (or Wills only, amended) in return for a donation.

The scheme begins with a free session with an expert lawyer giving the group of participants the opportunity to talk and ask questions about different types of Wills, Inheritance Tax, Trusts in Wills, Codicils and Lasting Powers of Attorney. Later in the month any participants who wish to can then take part in the Make a Will Scheme itself.

4Sight Vision Support provides support and specialist information to blind and sight impaired residents throughout the county.

Details about taking part in the information session and/or Scheme, 01243 828555, email fundraising@4sight.org.uk or visit www.4sight.org.uk

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At MacDonald Oates we love to get involved and support events in our local community. For example, you may already be aware of the Petersfield Youth Theatre and the amazing work they do, and recently in June we were delighted to sponsor the successful Petersfield Orchestra. We will also be sponsoring the forthcoming Petersfield Shakespeare Festival from 19th – 24th July (visit petersfieldshakespearefestival.co.uk for more information and tickets). Please do look out for all the wonderful events happening in and around Petersfield this summer.

It is great to encourage and support these organisations after Covid-19. Supporting our local community falls under one of our key values of being Responsible, with the others being Open and Fair.

If you would like to find out more about us, either because you need advice on a legal issue or you are interested in any job vacancies we may have or you may have a sponsorship idea, please do get in touch on 01730 268211 or visit our website, www.macdonaldoates.co.uk for more information. We are here to help.
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The Valley Parish of East Dean, Singleton & West Dean

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Services

<u>7th August</u>	10am East Dean Holy Communion
<u>14th August</u>	10am Singleton Holy Communion
<u>16th August</u>	6.30pm Singleton St Roche's Day
<u>21st August</u>	10am West Dean Holy Communion
<u>28th August</u>	10am West Dean Family Communion with Music Group

St Roche's Day Service

**with the opportunity for prayers for
healing and the laying on of hands.**

Tuesday 16th August

6.30pm

Singleton Churchyard
(in church if wet)

Please bring a seat with you

St Roche's Day

Although the journey to the top of the Trundle, the site of the St Roche's Chapel, has for several years been a meaningful pilgrimage for many, we have decided that we will once again hold the service in the churchyard at Singleton.

Following St Roche's example, the focus for the service will be healing, and healing prayer. If anyone is unable to attend but would like to be prayed for, please contact me by Friday 13th August. Personal prayers for healing and the laying on of hands will be available in the church after the service.

Contacts -

Parish Priest

Rev Sarah Manouch priestvalleyparish@gmail.com
07468 854864

(principal working days are Friday, Saturday, and
Sunday. Not available on Thursday)

Churchwardens

Mrs Wendy Goacher – 01243 811641
Mr John Holt – 01243 811257

PCC Secretary

Karen Searle Barrett karensearlebarrett@icloud.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

August 2022

Sat 6th Valley Gardening Club
Annual Show: East Dean Village
Hall: 2.30pm
Sun 7th Ploughman's & Cream
Teas: Singleton Village Hall: 11.30am
- 4.30pm: 811453
Mon 8th Community
Cafe: Singleton Village
Hall: 10.30am - 12noon
Tue 9th Ladies Night: Star &
Garter: East Dean: 7pm
Sun 14th Ploughman's & Cream
Teas: Singleton Village Hall: 11.30am
- 4.30pm: 811453
Fri 19th The Valley Diary Copy
Deadline: 12noon:
editor@valleydiary.org
Sun 21st Ploughman's & Cream
Teas: Singleton Village Hall: 11.30am
- 4.30pm: 811453
Sun 28th Ploughman's & Cream
Teas: Singleton Village Hall: 11.30am
- 4.30pm: 811453

September 2022

Thu 15th Singleton and East Dean
WI: Singleton Village Hall: 7pm:
Chichester Planetarium: Speaker,
Ann Mills
Fri 16th - Sun 18th Goodwood
Revival
Wed 21st Singleton & Charlton
Parish Council Meeting: Singleton
Village Hall: 7pm

October 2022

Sat 1st As Good As New Clothes
Sale: East Dean Village Hall
Mon 10th Community
Cafe: Singleton Village Hall:
10.30am - 12noon
Mon 17th East Dean Parish Council
Meeting: 7.30pm: East Dean Village
Hall

Tue 18th VGC Talk: Liz Sawday:
Managing Your Roses
Thu 20th Singleton and East
Dean WI: Singleton Village Hall:
7pm: UK Harvest: Speaker,
Yvonne

November 2022

Wed 16th Singleton & Charlton
Parish Council Meeting:
Singleton Village Hall: 7pm
Thu 17th Singleton and East
Dean WI: East Dean Village Hall:
7pm: Flowers for Christmas:
Speaker, Father Peter Bustin

December 2022

Thu 8th Singleton and East
Dean WI: East Dean Village Hall:
7pm: Christmas Party

January 2023

Thu 19th Singleton and East
Dean WI: Singleton Village Hall:
7pm: A New Recipe for a New
Year

**Got something to
add? Please let us
know by
emailing...**

editor@valleydiary.org

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

...thevalleydiary.org/diary

*Head on over for as many of the
dates as we can scoop up!*

2022

Deadline for the...

September 2022 Edition

All information for inclusion to
arrive by **12noon** please on

Friday 19th August

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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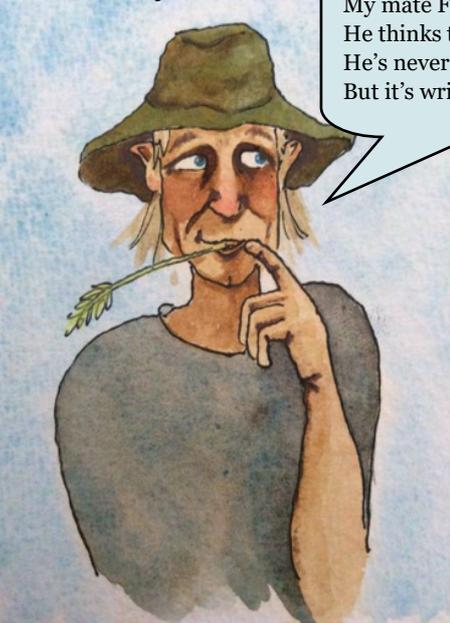
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Following the huge heat and then rain we know how hard it can be to plan for a summer ahead but we have some great ways to support you here at Graylingwell Park.

For young families: Great offers to ease the load of finding entertainment for the weeks ahead. FREE children's meal with every adult meal ordered at The Chapel through the summer holidays. Games on the Green every Monday and a range of toys and games for the little ones to play with for FREE while you relax on a picnic table nearby. Crafty Thursdays - free craft packs available on request from the counter every Thursday of the holidays so you can enjoy some messy play in the Wates Learning Room of the Chapel for FREE!

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY CENTENARY

Lavant Village Hall

Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th August

The Lavant Memorial Hall and Bleach of Lavant August bank holiday weekend centenary celebrations are only four weeks away. They start on Saturday evening with a Rolling Stones tribute band, **The Rolling Tones** (ticketed) and on Sunday, a **Picnic and Vehicle Show** (free, open to all) on the village green. Six hours of music and lots of activities for the children.

Everything is in place to make this a weekend to remember! You will have the chance to get close to (or sit in) some modern day trucks and we will have a selection of older trucks as well as a range of classic and vintage vehicles. You can get involved too - if you have or know someone who has a vehicle of interest (car, tractor, motor bike etc.) please contact Tim on 07799 411223 as we would like to include these in our vehicle line-up. This will be as park-and-go as you want, so you can leave your vehicle of interest in the show area for as long as you want.

Following the **Toast to The Hall** at 2pm the music will go on till early evening. **Jazz** 13.30-15.00, **Shirley** sings songs from the past 100 years and **Country & Western** 17.30-19.30)

If you don't bring a picnic, we can provide food and drinks from the fully loaded bar, hog roast and refreshments hut. All ages are catered for .

You will also have the chance to buy one of Tony Bleach's books about his life and living over 90 years in Lavant.

Remember to get your tickets for the Saturday music evening with includes Rolling Tones and disco. These are on sale now (£18 per person from Mick 07836 213134 or Tony 01243 527439).



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LAVANT MEMORIAL HALL ACTIVITIES

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COUNTRY MUSIC

Friday 12th August

Concert with Stubby

Sunday 28th August

Dance Capricorn

Saturday 20th August

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Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Awareness Week was in July. This is a national campaign, run by Resolve, to highlight work being done to tackle ASB in communities across the country.



Recent YouGov research commissioned by Resolve found that more than half of people in the UK (56%) believe that 'more needs to be done' to tackle ASB in their community.

However, after they witnessed or experienced ASB, a similar proportion of the public (57%) said that they did not report it to anyone. This reinforces the need to generate more awareness surrounding the detrimental effects of ASB in our communities.

I am grateful that residents of Sussex feel able to raise their concerns about ASB, whether this be to their local policing team, their local council or directly to us. The recent groups showed that the concern surrounding ASB has increased and we are now looking at how we can bolster our support to tackle this.

In 2014, the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act was introduced, requiring each police force in England and Wales to publish a Community Remedy document. Community Remedy gives victims of ASB and low-level crime the option to have a say in how offenders should face up to their actions and make amends. It also aims to reduce re-offending.

Last year we invested £217,125 into local Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) which funded 100 different ASB prevention measures across Sussex. This included youth clubs and equipment, CCTV and signage, street patrols and workshops for teachers.

Katy Bourne, Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

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Chichester Canal seeks volunteers to crew the trip boats...

Are you looking for something a bit different? Do you have spare time on your hands? And do you fancy seeing one of the most unique views in Chichester? With the increasing popularity of boat trips, there are opportunities at Chichester Canal to join their Deck Crew team – the volunteers who drive the boats. No previous experience is required as you will receive full training, including handling the boat safely and ensuring passenger safety. You'll need to be fit and healthy, able to stand for a couple of hours at a time, and happy to work in all weathers. Each trip has two volunteer deck crew, so there's always an experienced person to guide you. The views and wildlife are amazing, the passengers are happy to be on board, and in addition to the training, you'll receive uniform, drinks while on duty, complimentary food on the catered trips (such as fish and chips), volunteer social events, and a chance to make a difference to the canal which is at the heart of the Chichester community. Other than a commitment to the training, hours are very flexible.

To find out more, please drop us an email info@chichestercanal.com or pop into the canal café.

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Buyers are still competing for the best country houses

Despite concerns about the economic outlook and rising energy bills, interest rates and the general cost of living, buyer demand has not really changed in our part of West Sussex, particularly in the upper end of the housing market and for the good quality homes. This means buyers still need to be prepared to compete for the best country houses if they are to have a chance of finding one, let alone purchasing one.



At Property Acquisitions, I am still just as busy as I was during the pandemic's property buying frenzy, with offers still going over asking price amidst competitive bidding wars. This is supported by recent research from house selling weather forecast, PropCast, who tracks buyer demand across the country and often quoted in the national press. When looking at a county level, the free online tool has found that demand has remained stable over the last quarter in West Sussex.

I am finding that period homes with large gardens, outbuildings and high spec are still highly sought after, commanding a premium. Bidding wars and sealed bids are still very much going on as a result. This is especially true in the golden villages surround Chichester, Midhurst and Petworth such as Bosham, Witterings, Selham, Tillington or Lickfold. Recently for example, a really lovely Grade II listed house launched in one of the villages. We had made an appointment for a client for the next week, but received a call from the estate agent asking if we could bring the viewing forward as 40 viewings had been booked and they had already received two bids approximately 20% higher than the asking price. This is not uncommon at the moment - buyers are literally having to fight to secure the best country houses still. **Read the rest of this article for tips and advice from our supporter Jennie Hancock (propertyacquisitions.co.uk) at tinyurl.com/buyerscompete**



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NEW MANAGER STARTS AT THE DEAN

On the back of a successful AGM meeting last week, new committee members, new sponsors and a new manager, the club are in great shape for the new season ahead.

Saturday volunteers got together for a work party and we would like to thank them for their help. Many grassroots clubs rely on volunteers to run the club on and of the field. Without them we would not be here. They are such a valuable part of every club.

The club have appointed current player Tom Ferre as the new Manager. Tom has been with the club for many years and jumped at the chance when the position became vacant. Tom said "I am honoured to be given an opportunity to manage East Dean. We had a tough season last year for various reasons and I want to bring in some new players and an extra smile to the club".

The Star and Garter will be sponsoring our home kit and Blue Bell at Emsworth, our away kit. Device Doctors, Professional Property services and former player Simon Butler have also sponsored some new match and training balls.

Pre-season is now underway at East Dean. The club welcome any new volunteers and players to the club. If interested email eastdean@hotmail.co.uk. We have a full pre-season schedule up until the season starts on Saturday 27th August. **Peter Kearvell, General Manager**

Old Ma Voyce

A Poem by Francis

I have recently adopted,
A very old Shetland mare.
She is way past her best,
And needs my loving care.

Because of her age I call her Ma,
Her full name is Ma Voyce.
And everyone always says,
That is a funny choice.

It's hard for me to explain it,
Though I do my best of course.
Maybe you'll get it when I say,
Ma Voyce is a little horse.

A Stainless Reputation

A Poem by Francis

I cleaned the church windows,
I did them all for free.
But the vicar, he got very cross,
And soon got rid of me.

I could not believe his attitude,
So much effort with no pay.
And through every window now,
You could see as clear as day.

He told me straight to beat it,
And not to come back again.
Yet I had worked day and night,
Getting rid of those coloured stains.



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TEACHERS WELCOME!

To celebrate the launch of their new learning programme, the Weald & Downland Living Museum are inviting teachers (and their families) to visit and experience the Museum this summer.

The idea is that they will discover the Museum for themselves and enjoy their range of summer activities whilst gaining inspiration and ideas for their new terms in September.

There will be a welcome from a member of their schools team on the day and information about their schools offering which brings learning to life for EYFS right through to post 16, college and university students.

The offer includes free admission for two adults and up to three children to visit on any day of your choosing before 30th September 2022.

schoolsbooking@wealddown.co.uk



SUMMER HOLIDAYS FOREST SCHOOL

5-11 year-olds can join us at Seeley Copse for Forest School fun this summer!

**Wednesdays and Thursdays
throughout August (3rd, 4th,
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Summer Outdoor Theatre

Weald & Downland Living Museum

26 July - 31 August

Bring a rug and a picnic, relax in the stunning backdrop of the Museum's grounds and enjoy an evening of summer entertainment...

5 & 26 August - Awful Auntie

Watch the fabulous characters from David Walliams' much-loved children's novel come to life in Heartbreak Productions' adaptation of Awful Auntie for the outdoor stage at the Museum.

11 August - Peter Rabbit & Benjamin Bunny

Join Peter and Benjamin on their hair-raising adventures in this enchanting adaptation of the much loved Beatrix Potter classic.

18 August - The Reluctant Dragon

Everyone knows St George has to do battle with the dragon, but what happens when the dragon simply won't fight St George? Quantum Theatre presents Kenneth Grahame's The Reluctant Dragon, an enchanting tale of bravery, friendship and derring-do for all the family.

23 August - The Wind In The Willows

Join Mole, Ratty and Badger in a floor stomping, live music, hilarious re-telling of this woodland adventure as they save Toad and his shiny new motorcar from deep trouble.

30 August - Guy Fawkes: The Gunpowder Plot

The Gunpowder Plot comes to life in a brand new, calamitous production fit for all the family. Expect uproarious intrigue, endless costume changes, and many, many false moustaches in this highly flammable historical tale!

31 August - Shakespeare's Twelfth Night

Find a spot by the mill pond and prepare for an evening of mischief and hilarity, as five actors present an inventive take on this rip-roaring comedy, fit for all the family.

To find out more and book tickets, visit wealddown.co.uk



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Brent Lodge Briefings – Warming up for wildlife

During the recent hot spells of weather, we received a huge volume of calls for advice and/or treatment for sick, injured and orphaned birds and mammals. Sometimes entire families and often multiple species coming in on the same day. Fresh food and water should always be provided to help late

feeding mums or young babies survive in the wild, especially during warmer weather. Wildlife can perish quickly if they are dehydrated, malnourished, or exhausted so providing food and water can be a welcome relief and could make all the difference to their survival.

The first batch of our swifts, swallows and house martins are recovering well. Our new species specific outside enclosures are now filling up, as many of the recovering migratory birds move out from the hospital and onto the next phase of their rehabilitation. The new enclosures have been designed to closely replicate the natural nesting and enrichment behaviours these special birds would experience in their natural habitats. Once they are considered fit and healthy, they will be released to begin their long journey towards Africa.

The ongoing enforced Avian Influenza (bird flu) restrictions means we are still unable to admit all bird species considered to be high risk, such as gulls or waterfowl. If you find a bird or any wildlife casualty, please always call our hospital team for advice before arriving onsite. 01243 641672

With the number of wildlife casualties rising each week we are in need of essential supplies. If you can help by donating puppy pads, washing up liquid, washing powder or heavy duty bin liners, we would be very grateful. Items can be dropped at our hospital site or delivered to Brent Lodge Wildlife Hospital, Cow Lane, Sidlesham, PO20 7LN. To make a £5 instant donation to help wildlife in our care please text BLWH5 to 70085. You will be charged £5 plus your standard network rate message. Please visit www.brentlodge.org to donate or for wildlife advice or charity updates. Thank you.



...and Wonderful Weeks 1–31 August: The Museum's popular Wonderful Weeks are back for August, offering exciting family fun and activities. The theme this year is traditional games and pastimes, with a programme that changes weekly. Activities will include nature trails, crafts, orienteering, singing and much more. Find out more and book tickets at wealddown.co.uk

Gallery

Feast your eyes on this month's wonderful photos taken by our own Nadine Duty who we sent off to The Garden Show at Stansted Park in June as well as some views of Selsey, Bosham and the Trundle, some local crackers from Henry Dallal and Coral Mather's daughter Chloe has been at at RHS Wisley. Well done to all. If you have photos to add to our Gallery, do send them over: editor@valleydiary.org www.thevalleydiary.org/photos



PERCHERON HORSES: THE BREED

We are lucky to have purely bred Percheron Horses at The Weald and Downland Museum but what do we really know about them?

The Percheron is a breed of draft horse that originated in the Huisne river valley in western France, part of the former Perche province from which the breed takes its name.



Usually grey or black in colour, Percherons are well muscled, and known for their intelligence and willingness to work. Although their exact origins are unknown, the ancestors of the breed were present in the valley by the 17th century. They were originally bred for use as war horses. Over time, they began to be used for pulling stagecoaches and later for agriculture and hauling heavy goods.

In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Arabian blood was added to the breed. Exports of Percherons from France to the United States and other countries rose exponentially in the late 19th century, and the first purely Percheron stud book was created in France in 1883.

Before World War I, thousands of Percherons were shipped from France to the United States, but after the war began, an embargo stopped shipping.

The breed was used extensively in Europe during the war, with some horses being shipped from the US back to France to help in the war effort. Beginning in 1918, Percherons began to be bred in Great Britain, and in 1918 the British Percheron Horse Society was formed. After a series of name and studbook ownership changes, the current US Percheron registry was created in 1934.

In the 1930s, Percherons accounted for 70 percent of the draft horse population in the United States, but their numbers declined substantially after World War II. However, the population began to recover and as of 2009, around 2,500 horses were registered annually in the United States alone. The breed is still used extensively for draft work, and in France they are used for food.

They have been crossed with several light horse breeds to produce horses for range work and competition.

Purebred Percherons are used for forestry work and pulling carriages, as well as work under saddle, including competition in English riding disciplines such as show jumping. **DM**

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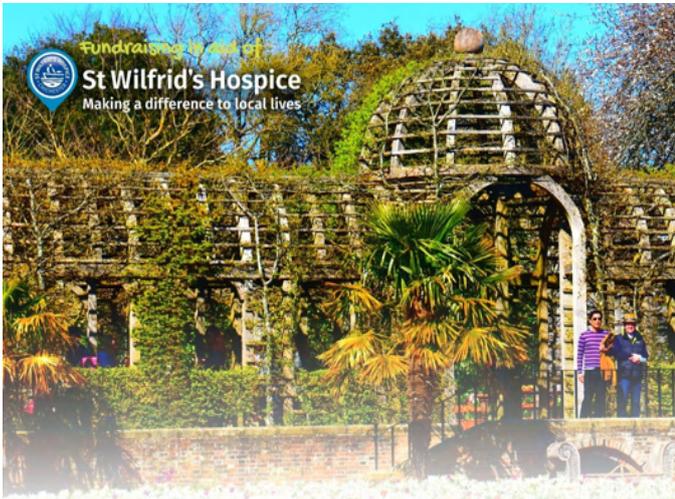
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As Good as New Ladies' Clothes Sale

Saturday 1st October
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If you have any good quality ladies' clothes and accessories that are 'as good as new', any mistake buys or well-loved designer labels in your wardrobe or a Christmas present that you don't want, we would like to ask you to hold onto them until September when we will start collecting clothes and accessories etc. We are also planning this time to have a small rack of good quality Menswear.

For more information, do get in touch with any of the following - Helen Bailie 811937, Deirdre Forman 811592, Vicky Mudford 818046 or Alexia Ward 811777.

We look forward to seeing you on 1st October. There will be Tea, Coffee, Homemade Cakes & Light lunches.

DOWN ON LEVIN

On Levin Down there is a plant once hated by farmers and farm workers in the days of horse-drawn farm implements.

This is Common Rest-harrow (*Ononis repens*), so named because it has strong tangled roots which spread and which are capable of stopping a horse-drawn harrow.



Harrowing was carried out in order to remove dead grass, weeds, moss, etc., from pastures in order to aerate the grass and obtain a better crop for grazing and producing hay. A modern tractor would have no problem with this, nor would the early pre and post-war tractors.

This plant has pea-like flowers, and like peas, can fix nitrogen in the soil which promotes the growth of plants. There is a rare moth, *Aplasta ononaria* (sorry, no common name) which lays its eggs only on Common Rest-harrow.

In past times, Rest-harrow was used to treat urinary problems, and possibly to treat diarrhoea. Flowering time is July to September on chalk grassland, hence its appearance on Levin Down. **Bill Young**



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