

Hurst Life

Including Sayers Common & Albourne

Local village talk,
by the village

Issue #42 : Sept. 2018

Free
Please help
yourself!

A sweet treat by Belle

p. 36

Meet Geoff & Toni

p. 24

Festival opens with Super Sunday

p. 10



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EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

I find something quite satisfying about the return of 'order' to life after schools go back. Maybe because I have school-age children, but, whatever your position, the summer changes things, whether it's higher priced holidays, regular meetings paused or just colleagues or friends not being around.



One thing **September** does mean is that lots happens in our community again. As many of us will know, **Hurstpierpoint** in particular really comes alive this month as **Hurst Festival** opens on the 15th. You can find out more about it, and **Super Sunday** in particular, on **page 10**. Plus there are a few other connected items dotted throughout our pages too.

Sport takes a key place in this edition with articles from **Hurstpierpoint Football and Cricket Clubs**. Thank you to **Ed Bartrum (page 17)** and **Rob Sawyer (page 32)** respectively for your assistance in keeping us up to speed with the seasons. On **page 28 Bob Mitchell** shares the results of their annual **Pro-Am Bowling competition** – and capture the winners lifting their much-deserved trophy!

On **page 34** we go **Behind the Counter** at Marram, as **Millie Hampson** talks to **Michele Copeland** about life running a High Street shop.

Page 18 is something I had not heard of before, the **Hassocks, Hurstpierpoint, Keymer and Ditchling Transition movement**. Maybe you haven't either? It's a group made up of local people with environmental concerns on their minds. Find out more in our article and get involved if you'd like to.

Our **Village People** feature this month tells the stories of two gentleman who have lived here for a long time. Meet **Geoffrey Crane** and **Toni Evans** on **page 24** as they met Michele last month.

If you know someone who'd make a great Village People candidate we'd love to hear from you. Young or old, man or woman – we love to tell stories, as you know!

Issue #42 – September 2018 – 4,200 copies printed

Next magazine copydate: 18th September 2018

Next magazine published: 2nd October 2018

Hurst Life

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Disclaimer: The opinions expressed within the magazine are of the individual authors and not necessarily those of the editors. Whilst the editors welcome contributions & photographs, this is on the understanding that there is no obligation to include them and that the item may be edited & that there is no breach of copyright. Neither the editors nor the publisher accept any liability in respect of the content of any article, photo or advertisement.

Hurst Life Published by Kipper



Louise Sullivan Photography – Hurst Open Studios artists in front of Wolstonbury

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We love to hear from groups, organisations and individuals about what's happening locally. Include a photo if you can. Email your stories to editor@hurstlife.co.uk

Artists open studios this month

Hurstpierpoint Open Studios will take place over two weekends in September during the Hurst Festival.

There will be 26 artists at 13 venues around the village displaying their work, which includes paintings, photography, textiles, stained glass, furniture, sculptures and jewellery.

You can meet the artists and enjoy the wonderful variety of work on display, and maybe treat yourself, or someone else, to a unique piece of artwork. Refreshments will be available at two venues during the first weekend and at one venue during the second weekend.

'Art making is a way of experiencing peace' is a quote from artist Melanie Circle. With this quote in mind and a theme of 'Peace' running through the Hurst Festival, the Open Studios artists have each produced a piece of work in their own interpretation of 'Peace'. These will be on display in shops around the village for the two weeks prior to the Open Studios.

The Open Studio venues will be open on 15th/16th



and 22nd/23rd September from 11am to 5pm and will have blue and white balloons at the entrance. Please note two venues will only be open on the first weekend. Details of venues (with a map) are in the Hurst Festival brochure and on posters and flyers in shops in the village and in the library.

Discover more about the group online at: www.hurstpierpointopenstudios.com or search Facebook for Hurstpierpoint Open Studios.

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School becomes all Sussex Netball Champions!



By three members of the St Lawrence A team

Back in June the St Lawrence School netball team entered the gates of the K2 Leisure Centre in Crawley.

We had played our way into the Sussex Games and were there to try and win the netball title. We had competed in and won two other tournaments to get to that stage - the Downlands tournament (South Mid-Sussex area) and the Mid Sussex Finals in East Grinstead. The team included nine players and our coach, Mrs Hampson.

The teams came from all around East and West Sussex. Nine schools competed in the Sussex Games, each representing a different area of Sussex. The St Lawrence team was thrilled with the victory as almost three hundred schools had entered the initial stages of

the competition. Through two rounds of fierce playing, and encountering many difficult games, we made it to the finals. We played eight games (some that were quite hard) and we won seven and drew one.

In order to attain this level, we trained three times a week. We also did twenty shots every day at break time to help us with our shooting. When we practised, we also thought of different tactics to help us in the match.

We had practised so much and so hard that our shooting and defence play was amazing! Every game we showed off our skills and our ability to play well; our play was better than all the other teams. We found a couple of the games challenging, but our teamwork and determination paid off... WE WON!

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Work to start on community hub

Mid Sussex District Council is working in partnership with Hurstpierpoint Parish Council to create a new community hub for local people.

The former Ex Servicemen's Club at Court Bushes Recreation Ground in Hurstpierpoint has been empty since December 2017, and later that month a serious fire destroyed the interior of the building.

The District and Parish Councils are working together to bring this building back into use as a community facility for local events, and building work is set to get under way shortly.

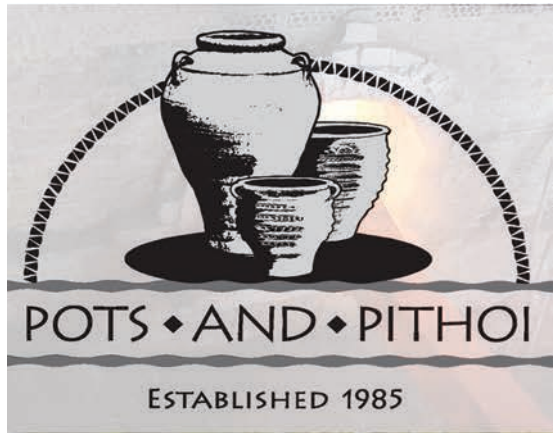
The new community building will be a flexible space that can be used in different ways by local community groups.

A large hall area will be available for social functions like wedding receptions and birthday parties, as a space for social groups to meet or as a venue for positive activities like exercise classes. An area will be provided for community meetings to be held, and it is hoped that a nursery provider will use the space to provide local childcare for nearby families.

Storage has been set aside to enable a foodbank to be run from the building, and the ex-servicemen, who built the original building, will be able to relax and socialise in a new bar area.

The new facility will be built by Mid Sussex District Council before it is handed over to Hurstpierpoint Parish Council to manage on behalf of the local community. Work started in August to strip out the interior of the building and prepare the site for renovation. Building work will start this month, and the new community hub is expected to be completed by the end of December 2018.

Councillor Colin Trumble, Mid Sussex District Council Member for Hurstpierpoint and Downs, added: "It's wonderful to see the District Council, Parish Council, Ex-Servicemen, Clarion Housing and local community groups all working together to make this dream a reality."



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Garden guru opens office in Hurst

Juliet Sargeant is the latest business owner to join the High Street. An RHS Chelsea Flower Show Gold medal winning designer, Juliet has numerous other design awards and 20 years' experience in creating gardens in and around Sussex.

Last year she judged Penelope Keith's Village of the Year on Channel 4 and is a regular contributor to television gardening programmes, including BBC Gardeners World, Channel 4's Operation People Power and BBC Inside Out.

Asked why she chose Hurstpierpoint, Juliet said: "We already have an East Sussex base in Alfriston, but, having recently completed some West Sussex projects, I have discovered more of this area. Hurstpierpoint is a village with lots going on, a thriving High Street and still a great traditional Sussex feeling to it... the perfect spot for Juliet Sargeant Gardens & Landscapes because most of our gardens reflect the nature of the Sussex countryside and architecture.

"I wanted to have an office on the High Street so that people can pop in to look at photos of our gardens. We are very happy to talk through the process of having your garden designed."

Juliet also has a small garden at the office, where she has planted solely edible ornamental plants – her Edible



Courtyard. It is part of her 'Tasty Garden Talks' project that she runs with chef Samantha Matthews from her Sussex Garden School. After many years of teaching design and planting at various colleges, last year Juliet set up her own classes for garden enthusiasts that run from Sussex garden venues.

Keen to support local charities, Juliet will be speaking in aid of St Peter & St James Hospice on 21st September at South Downs Nurseries in Hassocks. She will be sharing her experiences of achieving a Gold Medal at the Chelsea Flower Show and giving some valuable take-home garden tips.


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Hurst Festival

Hurstpierpoint Open Studios

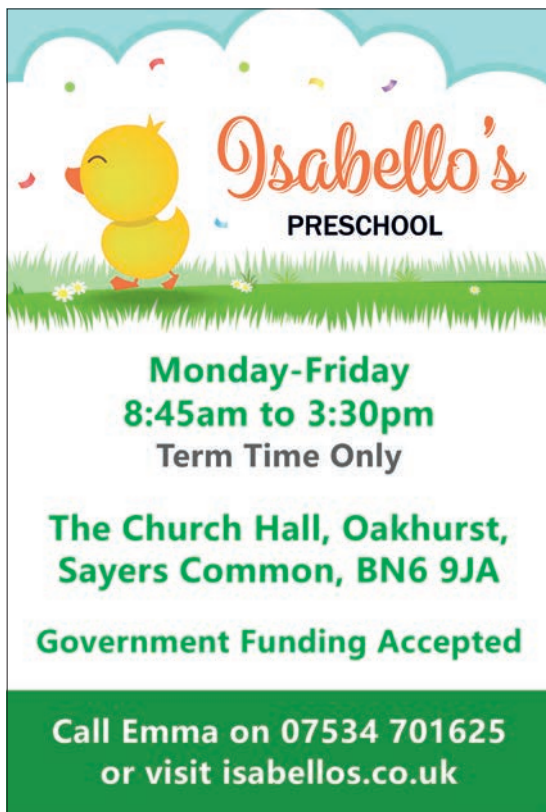
15th/16th & 22nd/23rd September 2018
11.00am to 5.00pm

hurstpierpointopenstudios.com

26 local artists will show work at 13 venues around the village. Works consist of a broad selection of decorative and fine arts with maps available from local shops and in the festival brochure.

 Hurstpierpoint Open Studios - 15/16 & 22/23 September

Look out for the blue and white balloons!



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Super Sunday – the best family day out!

HURST FESTIVAL



Sid Bowfin Show!

Super Sunday on 16th September is the official opening celebration of Hurst Festival. Everybody is welcome to enjoy a fabulous day of family fun.

If you haven't been before you won't be aware of the street performers, the workshops, the singing and dancing, the food and drink, the special offers on the High Street and, of course, the Harris Old Time Fun Fair – this really is an excellent family day not to miss!

It begins with the treasured transport parade led by the Burgess Hill Marching Band. It travels through the High Street to the South Avenue Recreation Ground where you will be able to wander amongst these beautiful vehicles at close quarters.

The High Street will be filled with special offers from our brilliant traders. Many will be offering food and drink as you pass. Do make sure you pop in to Poponin. Jess and her team are creating Festival Bunting from the 1st – 10th September, when every child will make their own piece of bunting. This will be joined together and ready for Super Sunday – a unique piece of village art!

Look out for the brilliant street performance of 'Too Many Cooks' in their converted food-van. It's street theatre at its best; jam-packed with music, puppets and the world's smelliest cheese!

As you're wandering along the High Street, don't be surprised if you bump into some strangely attired Traffic Wardens – they'll remind you how important it is to laugh and enjoy life by being very, very silly!

Create Space Studios will lead a fabulous, family dance session in 'Merengue



Madness' – let's get the generations dancing together in our own version of Strictly! All you need is a willing partner of any age and happy vibes to help kick-start the Festival!

Enjoy Brighton's Cuckoo's Nest Morris Women as they perform a series of ancient and modern stick and handkerchief dances, accompanied by musicians playing period instruments. Then look out for the South Downs Folk Singers and lose yourself in their beautiful harmonies.



Come, see, hold and photograph exotic animals from the humble cockroach to the mighty reticulated python, and discover everything about them with the East Sussex Reptile and Amphibian Society. They will answer any questions, share their enormous knowledge and help you conquer any fears surrounding these marvellous animals. Let's see how many people can hold a snake at once!

Join local Brighton Graffiti Artist Tom Goulden at his workshop. He'll show how to do lettering and spray techniques and then you can create your own work of art to keep on A4 board using specialist graffiti pens.

Don't miss out on the hugely talented, unpredictable (slightly unhinged) Sid Bowfin Show! Sid combines madcap comedy with superb musicianship. You'll love his one-legged Mozart, Vivaldi's secret agent Winter, Brahms's Hungarian dancers and Rossini's choir of barbers.

Let the kids have a go at den building with Wild Wood Fun. By the time they've finished they'll have a den good enough to sleep in! There's also a leaf hunt, exploring all the different types of trees around the recreation ground. Find a leaf, identify it and add it to the display board.

Have a go at the adrenaline filled action sport, Combat archery. Don't worry – all equipment is provided! Or maybe you want a less active adrenaline hit at the Harris Fun Fair. Choose the Merry-Go-Round, Chairplanes or Swing Boats.

Finally, make your way to the New Inn for the Open Mic evening where you can stand up and sing or maybe just enjoy a drink and let someone else take centre stage!



Tom Goulden

Help keep Hurstpierpoint footpaths safe

By Gerry Green

Walking round the public footpaths to the south of Hurstpierpoint in recent months several stiles and a footbridge have been found in need of repair. Remedial work is urgently needed as they are potential accidents waiting to happen.

The Monday Group volunteers have been maintaining the public footpaths in this area for over forty years. We reported three stiles that we assessed to be the most dangerous. Within a few weeks they had been replaced. The cost of the oak wood used for the construction was astonishingly over £500! Needless to say we donated some money, but nowhere near the full cost.

If you use these paths whilst walking your dogs or just enjoying our wonderful countryside, it is in your interest to help keep them safe.

Should you encounter any problems notify The Monday Group on its website: www.mondaygroup.org. This group of volunteers don't walk all the paths themselves, but will inform the correct authority if not part of their remit.

Unfortunately none of the work they do is possible without sufficient funds – the materials for even a single stile cost approximately £150. Sponsoring a stile or



Photo shows Harold Rowling MBE, who started the group 57 years ago

making a smaller donation is possibly the easiest way to contribute to their work and to help them maintain easy access to the Mid Sussex countryside. You can donate by cheque or online, using the donate button on the website. If you wish to sponsor a site they would love to hear from you.

It would help if you also notify the Parish and/or County Council. Your safety should matter to them. We didn't have much luck but if others complain as well, something should be done.



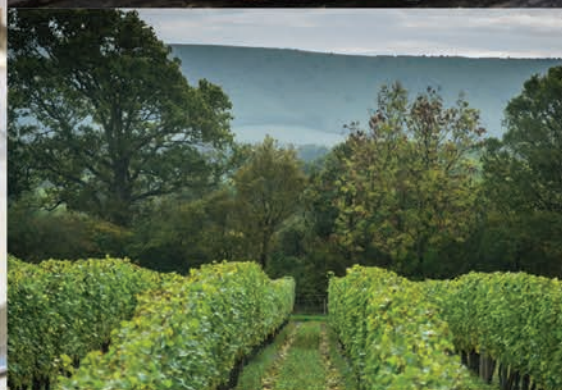
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New home for disabled riding group

It is with great sadness that, due to redevelopment, South Downs Riding for the Disabled group has had to relocate from Bridge House Equestrian Centre at Slinfold. The new home is at Horsham and Mid Sussex Equestrian Academy (HMSEA) at Albourne, where it runs three sessions on Wednesday mornings.

The group enjoyed five very successful and happy years at Bridge House during which time the owners, Liz and Chris McIlwraith, and the wonderful liveries who so kindly loaned their ponies to the group, were always incredibly supportive. However, HMSEA has extended a very warm welcome to the group and their riders, and after the upheaval of the move, all are settling nicely into their new surroundings. Riders are looking forward to getting back in the saddle this month and are eager to encourage new volunteers and local organisations and companies to get involved. If you know someone who may be interested in joining the group, or just learning more about the work they do, they would be delighted to chat with you. Telephone Carolyn Heitman on 01403 711867 or see the website: www.southdownsrda.org



Amanda getting to know her new pony, Beau.



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Sayers Common BIGGEST Coffee Morning

By Evelyn Hole

Once again The Biggest Macmillan Coffee Morning will take place later this month in Sayers Common.

Wonderful home-made cakes will be for sale (more welcomed on the day!) plus delicious coffee, Bring & Buy, books, CDs. Come along to a great social affair, meet up with old friends and new, and raise funds for a very worthy cause. Last year we made £660!

The Coffee Morning takes place at Sayers Common Village Hall (behind our Community Shop) on Friday 28th September between 10am and 12noon.

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New football season starts

It's September, and the start of a new season for Hurstpierpoint Football Club. Successes of last season are quickly forgotten, and the special night when they lifted the Edgar German Cup back in May will seem a long time ago without a good start to the new Mid Sussex Football League campaign.

It's been a busy summer down at Fairfield with lots of work happening behind the scenes to keep the club on the front foot. After successfully reintegrating a Reserve side last season, they have added a Youth Team to bridge the gap between Hurstpierpoint Colts and the men's teams, made several managerial appointments, including club legend Stuart Ritchie as Assistant Manager and Jamie Butterfill to help run Graham Hill's Reserve team, and have found a new major club sponsor in internet marketing company Artemis.

It's certainly all go, and we caught up with Club Development Manager, and captain, Ed Bartram. "It feels like a well told story now, but we've spent the last three years trying to build a village team that represents Hurstpierpoint properly," he told us. "We've had to rip up the rule book and do things our own way, but we now feel that we've got a club that we can be proud of again. We're playing at the right level for players from the village, have a committee that completely understands what it means to be 'Hurstpierpoint Football Club' and now, with the new Youth Team linking with the Colts, have a pathway for footballers in the village to play from the age of five through into adulthood. It's really pleasing to be in this position, and a massive thank you must go out to everybody that has got us here."

Ed also wears the captain's armband on match day, and we asked him for his thoughts and hopes for the season ahead.

Hopes for 2018/19

"It's difficult with village football because you never know which teams are going to be strong from one year to the next. But we've had two successive cup finals in recent years, winning last season, and narrowly missed out on promotion both years too. On paper we should certainly be looking to go one better this season and get ourselves up into the Mid Sussex Championship."

One to watch

"A tough one, as we've seen some really good players join an already strong squad over the summer. But I think that it could be a big season for Robbie Payne. He turned up as a 16 year old last season and made an instant

impact in adult's football. None of us can get near him at training, so if he can take that on to the pitch on a Saturday then I think we've got a very good player on our hands."

What are you most looking forward to?

"In the short-term I'm looking forward to some shiny new kits, but as the season pans out I think you just look forward to each game. If everyone has given their all, whether you win or lose, it's all about battling with other villages alongside your teammates."

The club's first home game of the season is scheduled for Saturday 8th September, with the 1st Team (1:30pm) and Reserves (4pm) scheduled back-to-back at Fairfield Rec. For more information head to:


www.hurstpierpointfc.co.uk

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Meet the HKD Transition Movement

By Astrid Stubbs

For many of us the BBC series Blue Planet brought home the devastating horrors of plastic waste, and you'd be right to wonder what we can do here in Hurstpierpoint to protect our planet not only from overuse of plastic but the effects of climate change.

Everywhere you look people are waking up to the need to protect and save our planet. The Hassocks, Hurstpierpoint, Keymer and Ditchling Transition Group (HKD) was created over a decade ago as part of the worldwide Transition Movement dedicated to finding better ways to locally make our world more sustainable.

When it comes to climate change those living in College Lane and other flood hotspots in Hurst as well as Hassocks and Ditchling will already know how extreme weather can create local problems.

Which is why HKD teamed up with the Ouse and Adur Rivers Trust, and during the Hurst Festival two years ago we put on an event on flooding to discuss what we can do to prevent it. We are in the process of creating a number of local flood prevention schemes in Hassocks which will store run-off from roofs and roads and slow its progress into the stream, reducing flooding downstream. There are opportunities for similar projects in Hurst. Together we have just produced a free booklet called Slow the Flow about simple DIY measures all of us can take to reduce flooding. See our website at www.hkdtansition.org.uk to download your free copy.

HKD Energy, which was set up by HKD Transition, is the group behind the fantastic solar panels on the roof of Downlands School which now see it producing nearly all the school's electricity. More renewable energy schemes are in the pipeline.

Many local businesses are aiming to be more sustainable. You may already have encountered a company called Charlotte's Cupboard in Hurstpierpoint, the UK's first packaging free shop. They use an electric van to deliver food and other goods in bulk, which also saves you money. Other local businesses have started taking the initiative; for instance, Green Goddess, which sells eco friendly cleaning products and offers refills from two places in Hurst; the pet shop has started offering loose bird foods and other goods in paper rather than plastic bags and in the summer our greengrocer sells flowers grown in Hurst. Hopefully many more local businesses will follow suit.

We produce a free monthly newsletter with a membership of more than 400 and growing all the time which details everything we are up to. You can get involved as little or as much as you want. If you'd like to join our free mailing list just email us at newsletter@hkdtansition.org.uk or see our website at www.hkdtansition.org.uk. You can also find us on Twitter and Facebook.



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Ladies: Get swimming and get fit

Swimming isn't just for holidays or a cooling dip on a hot summer's day, it's a great way to keep fit and make new friends. Make it part of your weekly routine and feel the benefits it offers: Strengthens muscles and increases flexibility; burns calories and helps maintain a healthy weight; reduces stress levels and raises self esteem; it's a low impact exercise and provides an all over body workout as nearly all muscles are used.

Dolphin Ladies Swimming Club has classes for all abilities with members encouraged at every level. The club runs 30 minute classes in term time in Haywards Heath and Ardingly, and members will join a small friendly class suitable to their ability.

Carolyn Heeley from Hurstpierpoint, who is one of the qualified teachers, says: "The club has become a wonderful part of my life. When I joined in 1986, the patient teachers helped me to master the strokes and skills, and then encouraged me to become a swimming teacher myself. So thanks to Dolphin Ladies, I've found a satisfying career and made lots of lovely friends!"

Carolyn has also gone on to teach at Starfish which runs swimming classes for people with special needs and is part of Mid Sussex Marlins. She is not alone, as most of the teachers join the club to improve their



swimming, and they love it so much they go on to gain their teaching qualifications.

Some of the advanced swimmers go on to compete in triathlons and open water swimming. There is something for everyone.

The autumn term starts this month. See website: www.dolphinladiesswimmingclub.co.uk

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5 MINUTES WITH...

Ann Winney

Owner of Columbines Health & Beauty for the last 27 years Ann says she is lucky enough to work with amazing people and have fab clients. After surviving breast cancer she was a speaker for Breast Cancer Care for many years. Last year Ann started Hurst Hedgehog Haven and she relaxes by spending time in the garden and going to the cinema.

How long have you worked in Hurstpierpoint?
27 years

What's the best thing about being here?
Lovely shops and people

Favourite ice cream flavour?
Salted caramel

How many house have you lived in?
10ish

Favourite holiday destination?
Brightham House B&B, Devon

Your most enjoyable event in the village?
Hurst Festival: so well put together

Do you share your home with anyone?
I share my home with George the cat and two hedgehogs at the end of the garden

Song you play the most?
Anything Abba

Mac or PC?
Mac

Your most frequented village shop?
Gibsons and Hampers Deli

What's your proudest moment?
Recently rescuing a two-week-old hedgehog and getting her back to the garden she came from

Coke, juice or water?
Water/Gin!

Your advice for life?
Be kind to yourself!

If you would like to provide your own answers for 5 Minutes With, simply email them to editor@hurstlife.co.uk along with a photo of yourself, or do please encourage a friend to send their answers in!

College introduces new 16+ award

Hurst College is launching a Sussex 16+ award scheme for those joining the Sixth Form in September 2019.

As part of the college's long-standing commitment to their bursarial programme, a small number of scholarship and means-tested bursarial awards of up to 100% of Sixth Form fees will be available to applicants from any state school in East or West Sussex. Successful applicants will have a track record of academic excellence and will have demonstrated exceptional character in pursuit of their goals and the wider good of their community.

The college understands that, as a fee-paying school, not every family can

access the opportunities they provide.

Which is why, since 2002, the college has been raising money for an Endowment Fund to provide financial assistance to children who would thrive at the college, but who require support to attend.

Through highly motivated and talented teachers, small class sizes, exceptional facilities and a comprehensive range of extra-curricular activities, Hurst's Sixth Form can provide children with all they need to develop into happy, well-rounded and productive young adults.

The closing date is 19th October and further details are

available at www.hppc.co.uk or by calling 01273 836937.



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Geoff Crane and Toni Evans

VILLAGE PEOPLE

By Michèle Copeland

It was as I was making my way to the High Street that I noticed two men working on two model steam engines. Intrigued, I decided to approach them.

Toni Evans moved into the village in 1936. "I was only three months old then," he says, with a smile on his face. "My mother was a Faccenda," he continued, "and had gained some repute at the time, with their horse and cart, as part of a well-known ice cream family, based in Burgess Hill.

"She had met my dad, who was Welsh, whose family had moved to the area during the depression."

Toni's career is a fascinating one, as he recounts his time in the Royal Navy: "I was due for National Service at just 17, so decided to sign up before I was called upon.

"After the Royal Navy, I joined the Merchant Navy. I was on the HMS Ceylon cruiser, during the Suez Crisis in 1956, with the RFA (Royal Fleet Auxiliary service). I went on to be on the Bramble Leaf, during the Falklands War in 1982 and finally on the Sir Bedivere, during the Gulf War in 1990. In all, I've been at sea for 26 years," he explained.

"One of the highlights of my time at sea was on-board the refuelling tanker RFA Blue Rover and attending the royal yacht on the Queen's tour of America."

As a single man travelling the world, Toni has always kept a base in Hurstpierpoint but, now retired, acknowledges the fact that he would very much liked to have kept in touch with his fellow navy war veterans.



Our other steam mechanic, Geoff Crane, was born in October 1951 and brought up in the village. His connections go even further back as both his parents and grandparents owned a cottage which stood near Lambs House and Trinity Road.

"I originally trained as an engineer and moved into the haulage industry in 1984," he says.

Also a bachelor, both men met around a common passion, which was model steam engines; a lifelong interest.

"Though, in reality, we met in the village when one of our second-hand cars broke down somewhere and we needed help to get it off the road!" Geoff says with a laugh.

"When we were kids, we used to go to the Fairs in the Chinese Gardens (now Manor Road)," says Toni.

"My memories go back to when my Grandad used to take me to Sayers Common to see ploy engines, when I was a lad, operated by Tom Bourne, who was a local contractor then," continues Geoff.

"My granddad used to make small engines and I enjoyed watching him. My dad worked for the Brighton locomotive works too, so something of a family trait there," he adds with a laugh.

"Our friendship goes back many years and we go to shows and motorcycle together. In the 1950s and 1960s, our mates used to help out with our second-hand cars too," Geoff explains.

In addition to the two model engines, which weigh a good half a ton each, the pair own a 1968 Morris Minor van. Toni is often seen driving it around the village - it is noticeable because of the post office stamps on it and its dark burgundy colour.

Geoff and Toni have obviously seen a lot of changes to the village over the years. "It was definitely more of a village then," Geoff remarks. "In the past we had seven pubs, a Victorian Police Station in Manor Road, Stanley's nurseries in Manor Gardens, The Chinese Gardens and The Pierpoint - a public house which was a great favourite of Londoners who used to stop there on their way back from Brighton."

As we talk I notice a stack of beautiful walking sticks that Geoff has sculpted with colourful animal heads. "It's another passion of mine," he enlightens me.

"I have made thumb sticks for years but made carving sticks for about ten years. I cut my own shanks when out walking with the dog and have to season them for a year before they can be finished." Geoff is a member of The British Stickmakers Guild.

Obviously a man of many talents!

Next time you go to a Fair with steam engines keep a look out for Hurst residents Geoff and Toni as you've got a good chance of seeing them there too!



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Hurst Life



Evening rides available

Local group Cycling Without Age has been offering older residents the chance to 'feel the wind in their hair' by getting a ride on the village 'Trishaw'. Over the summer many have enjoyed the Wednesday evening rides, starting from Morley's Wine Bar at 6pm every week.

Organiser Bridget Hamilton said: "We will keep offering evening rides whilst it's light enough and then switch to weekend afternoons. If you know anyone, please do get in touch."

The pilots can start at Morley's or pick riders up from home if they are local. They also hope to take passengers to the 1918 Garden Party later in the month at Danny House.

Email cwahunstandhassocks@gmail.com for more information.



Allotment Open Day

Hurstpierpoint Allotments celebrated National Allotment Week by having an Open Day on Sunday 19th August. It was a chance for people to come and look around the Allotments and find out more about the delights of Allotment life. The Allotment Committee enlisted the help of Ann Winney, who brought along her Hedgehog Haven display. Amanda Millar, another local person, kindly brought along information about bees and bats (www.sussexbatgroup.org.uk) and some of her fabulous honey.

Luckily for us, Bryony Hill's latest book – *GROW happy, COOK happy, BE happy* – fitted the theme of the day perfectly, and she signed copies for us.

The Open Day gave local people the chance to walk through the gate on Albourne Road and see why so many people wax lyrical about life on the plot! Anyone interested in having an allotment should contact a member of the Hurst Allotment Committee or make a visit to the Parish Office, next door to the Library.



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Photos: Alan Needham

PA Property Services take Pro-Am

Last month, despite poor weather and after much effort by its groundsman, Hurstpierpoint Bowling Club again successfully ran its 'Pro-am' competition for the Mishon Mackay Cup. This event, in its third year, involved 12 teams of four players, each containing two players from a business supporter, the amateurs, and two 'Pros' from the Club.

The standard of bowling by the amateurs has steadily improved each year, and all of the six matches were closely fought. The eventual winners were PA Property Services, who were also runners up in 2017, with a Mishon Mackay team second and Hampers third.

Before inviting Alex Mackay to present the cup to Paul Burnett of PA Property Services, Bob Mitchell, Chairman of the Club, stressed that the Mishon Mackay sponsorship and the support of other local businesses had been a major factor in enabling the Club to extend its clubhouse in 2018 and thanked them all. "I am looking forward to the autumn," he said, "when playing bowls indoors in Hurst will become possible for the first time because of the clubhouse extension."

The Club's second Bowls & Beer Festival took place at the beginning of this month.

The Club expects the indoor bowling, already mentioned, to appeal to local residents looking for

something to do in winter. The Club's membership has steadily increased over the last five years, but it is still keen to recruit younger members who might only want, or be able, to play in the evening and at weekends. It is hoped that the chance to play indoors will appeal to that age group.

Whilst the Club welcomes players of all abilities, it is competitively ambitious and encourages members to compete, if they wish, at local, county and national levels. For more information about the Club, please go to www.hurstbowls.org.uk



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Fostering Q&A

Martin, 63 and Liz, 59, tell us about their journey into fostering and why they love fostering teenagers.

Why did you want to become Foster Carers?

LIZ: Martin had taken early retirement and our boys had left home. I used to be a busy mum but suddenly I didn't have so much to do with my time. When the children left, I thought what am I going to do? I didn't want to go into retirement because I didn't feel old enough.

MARTIN: I'd sold my business, and then experienced this change in lifestyle. I went from being extremely busy to finding I had a list of things to do that were quick to complete, leaving me in a void when I'd finished.

What is it that you enjoy about fostering teenagers?

LIZ: For me, it's the most familiar stage of parenting because our sons are now in their twenties. It doesn't seem that long ago that they were teenagers.

MARTIN: Teenagers are exploring where they want to go, and they're discovering what they want to do with their life. They're very vocal about what they want to do; why you're wrong and why they're right. They're interesting to talk to because they've got ideas that make you sit up and think maybe they're right, maybe I'm stuck in my ways. It's refreshing!

LIZ: Having teenagers keeps you young. It's got me back into real life!

What do you find rewarding about fostering?

LIZ: For me it's the little steps that can be very rewarding; for example a hug, if they get to know you and learn to trust you.

MARTIN: It's rewarding when they open up. When they arrive, they don't trust you. Perhaps the child is very reserved because of the journey they've been on. After a period of time they'll start opening up, and you'll start realising they can give you enjoyment and companionship.

How did you find the assessment process?

LIZ: It was very therapeutic, and in fact I wish I'd done it years ago. It highlighted things I'd been doing my whole life, and once I finished I thought I'm not doing that any more. I learnt a lot about myself.

How have you found the support?

LIZ: The support we've had has been second to none; we've got the most wonderful Supervising Social Worker.

MARTIN: She knows exactly how much to give us. She's neither in our face, nor too distant. We've certainly not been isolated.

LIZ: She keeps in contact with us and we have regular meetings. She really understands us as a couple. When we have meetings we're included as part of the Brighton & Hove team as though we work in the office with them.

What advice would you give to others thinking of fostering?

LIZ: Fostering has got its challenges, but it's really good fun! I have really enjoyed it. We've laughed; we've had lots of laughs. You've got to have a good sense of humour, and fostering makes me really happy.

MARTIN: Think of the challenges but also the rewards. There is support in the system to help you, and you will be surrounded by professionals who will help you. There is always somebody at the end of the phone.

LIZ: You have to have a love for children, and you have to be a people person. I should have gone through Skills to Foster before I had my own children because it taught me so much! I treat the children in our care as though they are part of our family.

MARTIN: Fostering keeps you young. It stops you vegetating and keeps you physically and mentally active. It fulfils my needs as much as the children's.

If you are interested in fostering for Brighton & Hove City Council, you are welcome to attend an Information Evening on 12th September at 7pm in the Charles Neville Room at Community House in Peacehaven. Information Events are held regularly; details of future events can be found by visiting www.fosteringinbrightonandhove.org.uk.

Alternatively you can call 01273 295444 or email: fosteringrecruitment@brighton-hove.gov.uk to speak directly with a member of the fostering team.

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RECYCLE THIS...

WSSC Recycling Ambassador Colin McFarlin sheds some light on what can and can't be recycled in our domestic blue bins. If you have a question for him, email: editor@hurstlife.co.uk

What a full mail bag this month. Do keep the questions coming... Plastic is still the hot topic.

The thin film plastic you cannot recycle?



Did you know that you CAN put all your stretchy plastic bags into the supermarket plastic carrier bag recycling bin?

As long as the plastic is stretchy it can be recycled at most major supermarkets including Tesco, Asda, Morrisons, Sainsbury's, The Co-op and Waitrose.

Such as: carrier bags; plastic bread bags (shake out); plastic cereal bags (like plastic porridge oats bags); plastic wrappers and ring joiners from multipacks of cans; toilet roll and kitchen roll plastic wrappers; plastic freezer bags; baked beans wrap; the wrap you get on cucumbers; plastic magazine and newspaper wrappers (from your letterbox post); fruit and veg supermarket bags and plastic bags McDonalds toys come in! Please make sure these are all clean so they can be recycled.

None of the above can be accepted in your blue top bin.

By taking stretchy plastic from your black top bin you should be able to slim your bin even further! It's easy to store too – just pop it all in a carrier bag then put it all in the recycling bin next time you visit the store.

Toothpaste and Moisturiser tubes

This type of plastic CANNOT be accepted in your blue top bin. Whilst it is plastic it will have to go into your black top rubbish bin, along with the tops, and will be turned into Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF). More on this another time!

Thank you for sending in your specific questions on recycling. Keep them coming ...

Look forward to hearing from you. Keep recycling.



Excellent form from Hurst

HURST CRICKET CLUB

By Rob Sawyer

As we move into the business end of the cricket season our senior Saturday teams are looking in very good shape. One more win should see the 1s promoted as champions; this would be reward for a season in which we were clearly the best team in our division. It looks like the 2s are going to finish second, but unfortunately only one team is promoted from this division.

We've enjoyed some cracking games recently with good wins against the likes of Streat, Westmeston and Lindfield. Streat's umpire had some interesting interpretations of the laws of cricket which made for a spicy encounter, but we restricted them to 175 which, on our home patch, should have been simple enough to chase. We started well but the wickets tumbled including a ridiculous mid innings collapse in which your correspondent was one of three batsmen in a row registering ducks. Tudor Ellis then came in and batted 19 but we were still short. In came young Henry Oliff who had bowled extremely well. Streat saw their chance but Henry was having none of it, looking very comfortable defending and hitting a cover drive for three that was straight out of the coaching manual! Captain Tony Andrews held the innings together with a superb 92 not out and steered us to victory.

And so to Lindfield and their picturesque Walstead School ground. Once again Captain Andrews was in the runs with a solid 50 but this time it was Simon Tunley who starred with the bat, hitting an unbeaten 100. The Lindfield reply was restricted by some quality Hurst bowling, although we tried to make a game of it with numerous dropped catches. Ben Potter was the first victim and was heard to moan that he had had 19 catches dropped this season, he then went on to spoil his argument somewhat by dropping two of his own. To be fair he had been led astray by fellow player Kenton Green the previous evening with a night in the Poachers! We completed a comfortable win by 70 odd runs.

There was a really interesting game at Fairfield on Sunday 19th August with Hurst Women taking on Bognor Regis. Bognor are a good side, but we got them for only 22 runs. What should have been a routine run chase turned into panic stations with us 16 for 7 before Captain Karen Miles came in and batted two quick boundaries to seal victory. All of the Hurst Women fielded and bowled well and so we shouldn't pick out individuals but, hey, it's my column, and so a word for my daughter, Isabella. This is a girl who has been known to take 20 minutes per eyebrow and so to see her diving full length to take a brilliant catch was amazing. Happily, this proud father was on hand to see the catch. Well done, Isabella!

Woodcraft wagons

By Brian Campion

The Sussex Woodcraft Society was formed in 1985 by a group of woodworking enthusiasts. The club provides somewhere for people interested in various aspects of woodworking to meet regularly and share their knowledge and skills. Members include woodcarvers, turners and those who make toys, musical instruments, walking sticks, veneered boxes, furniture, fretsaw work, letter cutting etc. The mix of work and skills makes the club lively and interesting, with expertise from beginners to professionals, for men and women of all ages.

The club meets at Cyprus Hall, Cyprus Road, on the second Wednesday of the month, excluding January and February. Meetings start at 7.30pm and include showing work made by members in the previous month, followed by a talk or slideshow on a specialist woodworking subject. This is followed by tea, biscuits and a chat, finishing at about 9.30pm.

One of our members is a gentleman named Ted Burst, a long-time resident of Hurst who makes beautiful 1/12 scale showman's wagons (see picture). He is an absolute



perfectionist and also makes a lot of the internal furnishings and fittings. Ted is often invited to visit showman's wagons where he takes lots of photos so he can make the model as real to life as possible. When exhibiting his models, Ted has raised quite a lot of money for charity over the years. He is a true craftsman.

You are welcome to go along to a meeting to see what they do. For further information, please contact me, membership secretary Brian Campion, on 01444 232824 or email: briancampion542@gmail.com. Alternatively, visit the website: www.Sussexwoodcraft.co.uk

Volunteer from the village

Become the first person from Hurstpierpoint to volunteer for Chailey Heritage Foundation (CHF). The charity changes the lives of children and young people with complex disabilities by providing education, care and transition services.

As CHF grows, so too does the need for volunteers. The fundraising team has a very busy month in September and is looking for help from Hurst residents. From checking in participants' bags at the Wolf Run to selling raffle tickets, there are a number of roles and events that the charity would like help with:

Sunday 16th September: Bo Peep Hill Climb, Alciston

Sunday 23rd September: Classics in Town, Burgess Hill

Saturday 29th September: Wolf Run, Nutley

To volunteer, please email fundraising@chf.org.uk and someone from the team will get back to you.



Community grants available

Organisations across Sussex are being invited to bid for funding from the county's Police & Crime Commissioner Katy Bourne.

Grants of up to £5,000 are available for groups that provide a positive and lasting impact on the local community in Sussex.

"Since launching the Safer in Sussex funding scheme in December 2013, I have allocated nearly £1.5 million from the Community Safety Fund to support nearly 300 crime reduction and community safety initiatives," says Mrs Bourne.

"It is making a real difference to local people and neighbourhoods. The high numbers that apply each time shows organisations and community groups care about, and are committed to, keeping Sussex a safe place in which to live."

To qualify, projects should demonstrate how they will increase or promote community safety within the local community and have a positive long-term impact. They should also be able to offer evidence to support the need for the project and show how it helps to prevent offending and reduce reoffending.

The window for receiving applications closes on Friday 14th September. For more information and to apply, visit www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/apply-for-funding

Gifts, coffee and art

BEHIND THE COUNTER



By Michèle Copeland

Millie Hampson from Marram is a striking picture as she greets me from behind the counter before we settled down for tea.

"I set up here, in the High Street about three years ago with my dad - who's got a 50% stake in the business." When asked how she got involved she says: "I was previously a buyer of gifts and lifestyle furniture products. However, I felt I needed a change of scene as things were pretty hectic and I wanted to create a whole new experience on a quieter High Street."

That is exactly what she has managed to achieve, with a space that enables her to contain within its walls not only a coffee shop but adjacent to this a gift shop and an outside pop-up shop. This outside space sits behind the shop, where the garden is. "This is a chance for all kinds of ventures," Millie explains. "It's a versatile space for artists, holistic therapies, clothing and so on. To showcase all kinds of things. We rent it out on a monthly or weekly basis," she continues.



One of Millie's greatest challenge to date was creating and designing the shop. Making something which was appealing to customers both inside and out. "Changing from being employed to self-employed was certainly challenging in itself," Millie says, "however, the personal achievement of doing it for yourself is huge."

Millie's latest occupant of the pop-up space is Studio in the Shed. Alison Sibley describes her work as 'watercolour and mixed media paintings which are in response to colour, pattern and texture, whether it's the changing nature of the South Downs or the muddled shapes of buildings'. Studio in the Shed features the



work of both Alison Sibley and Elaine Lokhandvala and is at Marram Trading (9.30am-4pm) for the duration of Hurst Festival, where you can also meet the pair.

You can see Millie, or one of her team, at 113 High Street every day except Sunday. You may spot her out and about in Morley's or the New Inn or walking her dog, Betty, on the High Street.





Record turnout for Play Days

Glorious summer weather and a fantastic range of activities attracted a record number of children and their families to four Mid Sussex District Council Play Days at the start of August.

More than 4,500 local children and their families enjoyed free games, sports, art and competitions in Burgess Hill, East Grinstead, Haywards Heath and Hurstpierpoint as part of Play Day 2018.

"The weather was absolutely glorious and it was wonderful to see the local community getting together and enjoying the free activities. The turnout was simply overwhelming; with more than double the number of children taking part this year," said Councillor Norman Webster, MSDC Cabinet Member for Community.

Along with other business and local supporters, Clarion Housing Group donated £2,500 to enable a Play Day to be held at Court Bushes Recreation Ground in Hurstpierpoint for the very first time.

Great fun for girls from 4 years...

By Margaret Taylor

I am one of the leaders of the 1st Hurstpierpoint Girls' Brigade (GB).

If you have a daughter who is aged four or older, she is just the right age to come along and join in the fun. We are an all-girl group led by Christian leaders and we meet at the Methodist Church in Cuckfield Road every Wednesday in term time.

During our time together we have stories, sing songs, do craft and play all sorts of games connected with the theme of the badge the girls are working for. Girls can usually gain a badge every half-term.

As well as an awards evening in July, we offer many other activities like camping, a swimming gala and even a day out to Chessington theme park!

Girls wear a GB polo shirt and sweatshirt and the termly subscription is just £22.

Explorers meet at 5.15-6.30pm and the other sections at 6.30-8pm. At the moment, we do not have a waiting list so your daughter can start straight away. Do please contact me on 01273 832286 (margaret@taylor24.plus.com) if you'd like more information.

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Blackberry and Coconut Squares

FINE FOOD

Ingredients

- 250g self-raising flour
- 25g oats
- 140g soft brown sugar
- 140g ground almonds
- 200g cold butter cut into pieces
- 75g desiccated coconut
- 2 medium eggs beaten
- 300g frozen or fresh blackberries

Method

1. Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Tip the flour, oats, ground almonds and sugar into a large bowl. Rub the butter into the flour mixture using your fingertips until only small pea-size pieces remain. Stir through the coconut, then set a mug full of the mixture aside.

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Belle Amatt is a Hurst resident and nutrition consultant, author and lecturer in Naturopathic Nutrition. She holds workshops and talks on a variety of healthy eating topics.



A delicious sweet dessert or nibble for any age group! But this is an especially great recipe for getting children involved in both cooking and also for creating their own lunchbox items. Even if kids are reluctant to try new foods it's a great idea to get them involved in the process of preparing and weighing ingredients to help encourage interest in home-cooked food. Wild fruit such as blackberries are ideal as they are so much fun to pick and offer an impressive amount of vitamin C plus both soluble and insoluble fibre. This dish can be made with either fresh or frozen blackberries.

I'm running some kids workshops called Taste Explorers this autumn which will focus on experimentation with tastes, colours and texture of fruit and vegetables. More information on my events page www.belleamatt.com

2. Stir the eggs into the bowl of mixture, then spread over the bottom of a lined baking tin (31 x 17cm) or a 21cm square tin. Smooth the surface with the back of a spoon, then scatter over the blackberries. Scatter over the reserved mixture and bake for 1 hr-1 hr 15 mins until golden and cooked through (if you poke a skewer in, it should come out with moist crumbs but no wet mixture). Leave to cool, then remove from the tin and cut into squares. Serve with some extra berries, if you like. So delicious!

Modified from a recipe on the BBC Good Food website.

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Hurst *Life*



HURST VILLAGE CINEMA

By David Saitch

First of all, I would like to thank everyone who sent us an email in support of the Filmbank Media award. I must say I had to wipe a tear of emosh away a few times at the glowing responses we received. They have all been sent off, so wish us luck for the awards night on 8th September, when we are on the shortlist for a number of other awards.

One of the recurring themes of the responses was how we have opened people's eyes to a different world of cinema and how people have often come to a film expecting that it might not be for them but have been blown away by it. That is a feeling we should all be chasing, and we are so happy we've given it to so many. So, if you have never been to the Village Cinema because you think the films aren't for you, give it a go, you might be surprised.

We are always fighting to keep the prices as low as possible, so if a film does turn out to be a dud for you, well, you have spent a fraction of what you would have at the local multiplex. For our next season we are adding a new family membership category which costs £30 and is valid for two adults and up to two other family members. That means you can all take advantage of our low members' ticket prices, particularly for NT Live events.

We are back this month with two brilliant events in the Festival. At the time of writing there are only a few tickets left for the NT Live broadcast of King Lear on 27th September, so do grab them quickly if there are any left. Do not miss our event on 25th September, the superbly restored version of Hitchcock's silent masterpiece The Lodger, with the brilliant Cyrus Gabrysch returning to play live accompaniment to the film.

See you at the Village Cinema soon. See the website for more information: www.hurstfilms.com



Bedlam's brought it home!

Albourne-based Bedlam Brewery took home a haul of four Gold Medals, including Overall Cask Champion for Phoenix at the SIBA National Independent Beer Awards, which took place in Tonbridge last month.

Bedlam Phoenix, Porter and Amagansett beers also won Gold awards within their Cask categories.

"We're incredibly proud to have beaten such tough competition to bring home a total of four medals from this South East competition!" said Ops Manager, Oliver Marsh.

These awards mean so much to Bedlam as they're judged by brewing peers, industry experts and beer journalists, local CAMRA members and beer enthusiasts and very much seen as the prestigious 'Brewers' choice Awards by the industry.

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- ✓ Focus on local people

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Hurst Life

Mother nature bites back - horseflies

By Michael Blencowe, Sussex Wildlife Trust

For centuries man has waged war on wildlife. Apart from destroying its home we've systematically killed it for food, fashion or fun. It seems we're winning. There isn't much wildlife left, which isn't surprising as nature really hasn't been retaliating. Sure, you may occasionally get pooped on from above or find a hole in an old jumper but overall the battle has been rather one-sided. Yet within nature there lie certain extremist factions whose sole purpose, it seems, is to make us pay in blood for our crimes. Leading the insect axis of evil are nature's most tenacious terrorists; horseflies.

On hot, calm days horseflies launch an airborne offensive against us, using some impressive aerial manoeuvres which have been compared to the 'Immelmann Turn' perfected by WWI fighter pilots. Different species target different parts of the body. Imagine a moustachioed horsefly Squadron Leader rapping his baton against a map of the human anatomy and co-ordinating the assault. "Tabanus and Atylotus, you fly in low for a bally bite behind the knees. Haemotopata, aim for the wrists. Chrysops – sneak up from the rear and go for the neck."

Of course vengeance isn't the real motivation for these attacks. In a darkly delicious twist it turns out that we humans each have a resource that horseflies would like to exploit. Eight pints of it in fact. In order for their eggs to develop, female horseflies require a small snack of mammalian blood.

Most horseflies target the hardened hides of horses, deer, cattle and sheep, so thin-skinned Sussex hikers are fast food for the fly. Whereas mosquitoes silently siphon our sanguine syrup with the precision of a phlebotomist, horseflies perform a tactless transfusion with their stout, dagger-like stylets. To prevent the blood clotting she squirts in saliva (it's this alien anticoagulant which causes itching and swelling) and slurps up our body's natural resources. You've been fracked!

It's hard to love a horsefly but look your enemy in the eye and you will see one of nature's most amazing sights, a psychedelic swirl of pixelated patterns. True beauty. But this probably won't endear them to you as you're slapping, swatting and swearing on the South Downs. 2018 has been a good year for the biters and a bad year for the bitten. Horsefly larvae develop in wet conditions and the high rainfall in the spring created plenty of perfect habitat. I get bitten yet I find it hard to grumble. I get so much free pleasure from watching the natural world (not to mention all that water, food and air too). Call me a traitor but if the occasional drop of blood is the price I have to pay then I'm happy to donate to their cause. Viva la resistance!



Photo: Neil Fletcher, Sussex Wildlife Trust

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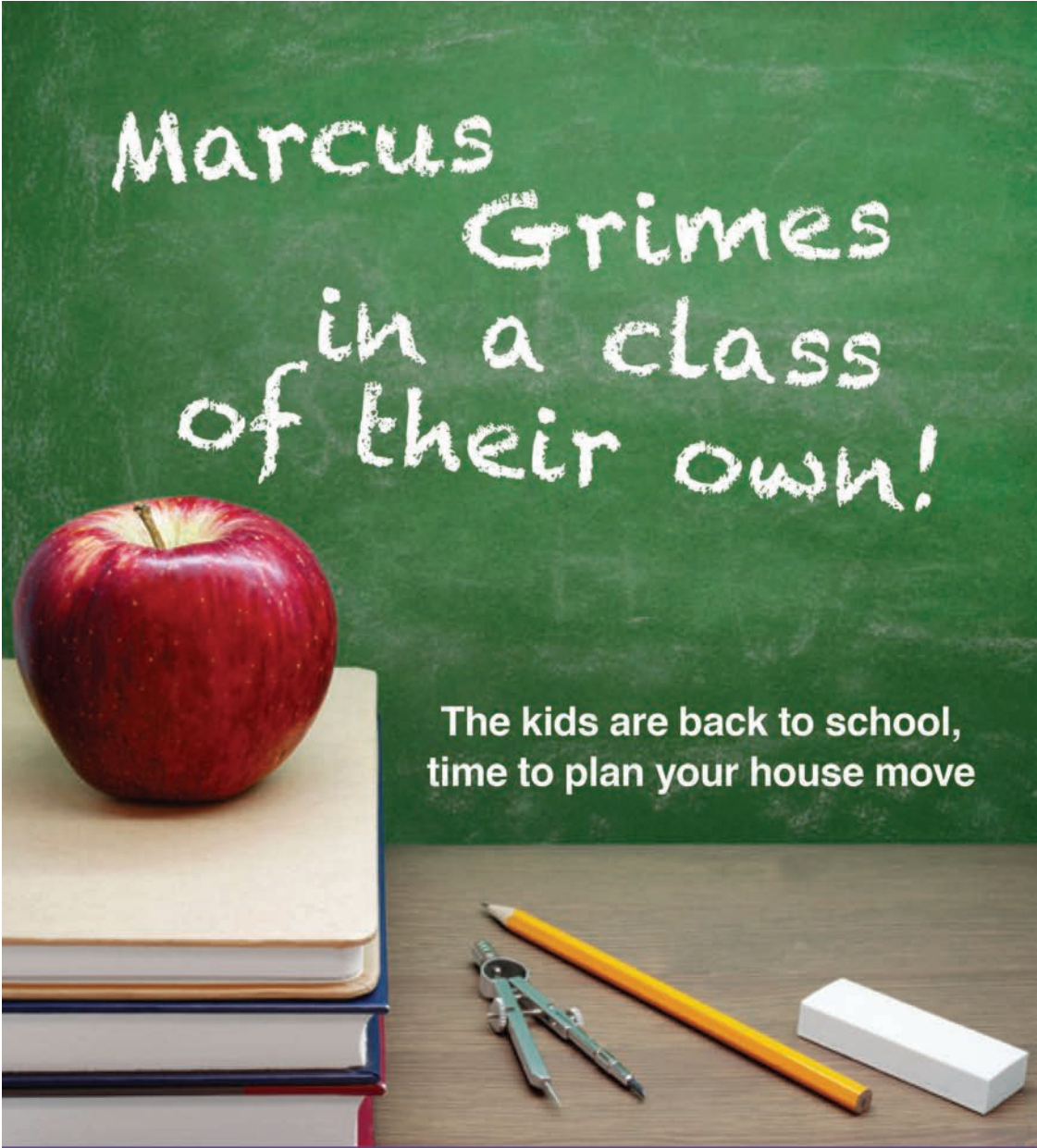
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ARTIST OF THE MONTH

In this feature, Hurst Life highlights an artist based in the village. This month's artist is Elizabeth Lamont...

With a great interest in narrative and book illustration since childhood, I started my publishing career as an editor at Penguin Books, where I went on to manage programmes of art exhibitions and related events, working with publishing and film companies, artists and illustrators.



Partly in order to progress my own creative work, I changed careers in 2003 and retrained as a teacher. I now combine working as a stained glass painter with freelance teaching.

My passion for glass began with a love of light effects and subtle, layered, glowing colours and textures in painting. When I look back now, even my childhood work looks as if it was designed to be translated into glass with the use of light, shadow and line work.

We moved to Hurstpierpoint 11 years ago and when I was designing a series of three panels loosely-based on the Cuckmere valley to harness the light flooding into the dining room of our home in 2012, rather than subdue it with net curtains, I fell in love with glass and its possibilities. I booked on to a course at Evolution in Brighton to learn about all aspects of working with glass but particularly glass painting.

I use the same paints and brushes as have been used in stained glass painting for centuries. I find the colours I need in the glass, apply black glass paint in line and texture and the work is fired slowly in a kiln so that the paint becomes an integral part of the glass.

Glimpses of Nymans, my first leaded and painted panel was exhibited at a Nymans' Open Show in 2013.

My work ranges from individual commissions and Artist in Residence programmes with the National Trust to Reflections, an exhibition which toured during the Anniversary of the Somme. The result of a collaboration with war poet Vanessa Gebbie, the exhibition features evocative stained glass paintings inspired by her poems for the fallen in the

First World War, opened in Hurst in 2016 in Holy Trinity Church and included photographs by Rev Jane Willis and stone carving by Helen Mary Skelton.

I have been delighted to join Gallery 92, on the High Street, over the summer, and I will be contributing work for the Peace exhibition in Holy Trinity Church for the Hurst Festival later this month.



Holiday snaps

Send your snap to photos@hurstlife.co.uk - thanks!



Grace Wainwright on a flight to Lanzarote



Photo: Kris Pawlowski

Durrant to wow Festival audience again

Composer and guitar virtuoso Richard Durrant will be coming to Hurstpierpoint as part of his album launch tour.

The 'un-categorisable' Durrant features a range of solo instrumentals on the new double album (Stringhenge) including playing a four string Tenor Guitar made in Ditchling by Ian Chisholm (decorated with a silver Uffington Horse).

Richard will kick off this tour at Holy Trinity Church on 22nd September, as part of the Hurst Festival. Tickets for the concert cost £15 and are available from www.hurstfestival.org or the Box Office.



All the Good Things by Clare Fisher

BOOK REVIEW

By Clair Stanton

Twenty-one year old Beth is challenged by her therapist to list 'all the good things' in her life: she initially struggles to come up with any, but as she looks back over her short life she starts to recall some. The items on Beth's list are simple things, but now that she is in prison they seem remarkable in retrospect. The story is told by Beth, and her recollections are addressed to her child in an attempt to explain how they have become separated.

Clare Fisher has taught creative writing in a prison setting, and she portrays the prisoners as individuals whose lives have often been hard and whose bad choices seemed to be their only choices. It's a sad fact that literacy levels are a factor in how likely you are to spend time in jail, but Fisher isn't preaching - just reflecting the experiences of the women she has worked with.

Reading plays an important part in Beth's life as she moves between foster homes and eventually leads to her forming friendships in prison, as she helps a fellow inmate to read her son's letters. Beth is a very sympathetic character, a good person who has done 'a bad thing' and I was immediately drawn in to her story. I was moved to tears by this short, powerful novel and felt a mounting dread as I neared the end, hoping the 'bad thing' was not what I feared....

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Holiday from Hell?

LISTEN TO THE LAWYER

By Martyn Gooch, partner Rohan Solicitors

Question: How can I claim compensation for a delayed flight?

Answer: The holiday season is well underway, and when things don't go to plan, such as delays and cancelled flights, the good news is that compensation may be available to those impacted.

The right to compensation is currently provided under an EU regulation which seeks to protect the rights of passengers in the case of cancellations, rerouting, delays and denied boarding. It was introduced to help compensate passengers for the loss of time and the inconvenience suffered. The regulation applies to all passengers (regardless of nationality) whose flight departs from an airport based in the EU or whose flight lands in an EU country and is operated by an EU airline.

Currently an affected holidaymaker is entitled to monetary compensation for delays to their flights of over three hours (or flight cancellations) as long as the cause of the problem does not fall within the regulation's definition of an 'extraordinary circumstance' (these include industrial action, security issues and adverse weather conditions). In recent court cases airlines have tried to suggest that 'technical faults' fall within this definition, but this argument has been rejected by the courts.

The level of compensation available under the regulation is modest and is dependent on the length of the delay and the distance of the flight. Approximately £500 is available to those passengers that have suffered over four hours delay to a flight of over 3,500km. Additionally, the airline must offer you meals, refreshments and, potentially, hotel accommodation while you are waiting for your rearranged flight.

If you believe you are entitled to compensation you should first write a letter to the airline setting out your claim and the reasons why you consider you qualify for compensation. The airline is obliged to respond within a reasonable timeframe (usually 30 days) with its decision. Some airlines may offer vouchers as compensation to use against subsequent flights but there is no obligation for you to accept them and you may insist on a cash settlement. If you are unhappy with the airline's decision you may wish to escalate your claim to the Civil Aviation Authority. If you remain unsatisfied with the outcome you may consider making a claim in the small claims court.

You should also check your travel insurance policy as this too may provide additional compensation.

Brexit will end British holidaymakers' entitlement to compensation under EU law. However, it is likely that the government will preserve the rights currently provided to disappointed holidaymakers by converting the terms of the regulation into domestic law. Furthermore, the government has indicated that it may compel airlines to inform passengers affected by disruption of their legal rights and that they might be entitled to compensation.

Martyn can be contacted by email on mgooch@rohansolicitors.co.uk or by telephone 01444 450901.



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					1	7		
	9	8		5				
2						4	5	
		5					4	6
	1			8		5		
	6							1
			4				9	
	7							
			5	6	3		2	

Find the solution to #26 in next month's magazine

#25 Solution

5	1	6	3	2	7	4	9	8
8	7	3	4	6	9	2	5	1
2	4	9	5	8	1	3	7	6
9	3	7	2	5	8	6	1	4
1	5	2	7	4	6	9	8	3
4	6	8	9	1	3	5	2	7
6	2	5	8	7	4	1	3	9
3	8	4	1	9	5	7	6	2
7	9	1	6	3	2	8	4	5

Courtesy of <http://andrews-sudoku.blogspot.co.uk>

The magical winter lantern trail
 22 November – 16 December. Weekly, each Thursday to Sunday

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What's on this month

AT THE VILLAGE CENTRE

AND ELSEWHERE

Regular events

- Sun **Afternoon Tea Dance**
2-4.30pm, nearly every Sunday
- Weight Watchers** – 9.30-10.30am, weekly in the Club Suite
- Mon **The Sanctuary** – 9.30-11.30am, weekly during term time – a welcoming place where friendships can form over coffee and cake
- Tues **Yellow Brick Lab** – 3.30-5pm weekly during term time
- Knit and Knatter** – 2-4pm (2nd Tuesday)
- Wolstonbury WI** – 7.45pm Club Suite (3rd Tuesday)
- Fri **Star Dance School** – from 6.45pm, weekly
- Sat **Young Blossoms Dance** – 10.15-10.50am, weekly in the Club Suite (unless specified on website)
- Best of Ballroom** – 7.45pm (1st Saturday)

September

- 6th **Parish Council** – 8pm
Finance & General Purposes Committee
- 13th **Parish Council** – 8pm
Planning Committee
- 15th-30th **Hurst Festival events each weekend**
(www.hurstfestival.org)
- 18th **Wolstonbury WI** – 7.45pm
Biggest musical-theatre hits by Douglas Eaton. Visitors welcomed (01273 834421)
- 22nd **Horticultural Society Autumn Show** – 2.15pm
Autumn flowers and vegetables, cookery, photography and children's exhibits. Exhibiting is free and open to all simply pick up a schedule from Gibsons in the High Street. Home-made cake and tea all afternoon. Raffle and auction at end of show.
- 27th **Parish Council Meeting** – 8pm

Hurstpierpoint Village Centre, Trinity Road BN6 9QT
www.hurstvillagecentre.org

Sayers Common Pop Up Pub – Thursday and Friday evenings from 6.30pm at Sayers Common Village Hall. On Thursday evening you can buy Fish & Chips straight from the van parked outside the Hall.

September

- 4th **NHS Retirement Fellowship** – 10.15am
Franklands Village Hall, Haywards Heath - Monthly branch meeting with speaker Anita Van der Colff 'Action For Deafness' (Tel: 01444 483480)
- 5th **Good News from Prison** – 2.15pm
Girl Guide Headquarters, Trinity Road – Speaker: Tim Moulds (Sussex Pathways)
- 12th **Mothers Union** – 2.30pm
Long Melford, Albourne Road - Speaker is Chris Wooldridge speaking about the independent Hassocks charity Child Help
- 13th **Haywards Heath Ceramics Group** – 10am
Clair Hall, Haywards Heath - Talk on 'The Development of the Drinking Glass' by Jane Gardiner (Tickets £8, call 01444 483372/414477)
- 15th **Spirit of Opera** – 8pm
Holy Trinity Church - An evening of operatic delights with Heber Opera as part of the Hurstpierpoint Festival
- 16th **Mid Sussex Ramblers** – 10.30am
Trinity Road Car Park - Hurstpierpoint Festival Walk 1. A short walk across fields south of the village to Danny and back. No dogs please. 3mi/4.8km (01273 833794)
- 19th **Mother's Union** – 8pm
Holy Trinity Church - 'A Peaceful Mind' Hurst Festival event (everyone welcome)
- 23rd **Mid Sussex Ramblers** – 10am
Trinity Road Car Park - Hurstpierpoint Festival Walk 2. Circular walk to the West. 5mi/8km (01273 835931)
- 28th **Coffee Morning** – 10am-12noon
Holy Trinity Church – Hurst Festival event. Coffee Morning plus arts and crafts stalls, with organ recital by Neil Morris at 10.30am. (Everyone welcome, free admission)
- 28th **Historical Society** – 7.45pm
Guide Hall, Trinity Road car park - Ian Everest speaking on Sussex in World War One - the Home Front (Non-members £3)
- 30th **Krystallos Quartet** – 7.30pm
Danny House - Krystallos Quartet, Debussy & Shostakovich. (Part of Hurst Festival)

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