

East Hoathly and District Preservation Society

Autumn 2016

The Society is:

Associate Member of Action in Rural Sussex

Affiliate Member of the CPRE

Associate Member of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

Associate Member of the Woodland Trust

Committee

CHAIRMAN	Toni Whewell
SECRETARY	Leycester Whewell
TREASURER	Peter Brooke
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Chris Pellett
EVENTS SECRETARY	Toni Whewell
WEBSITE & IT	Leycester Whewell
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Jenny Pellett

Additionally, we thank Kate Richardson, Fred Carter, John Deane, Jane Seabrook, Russell Brown, Gill Ford, as well as quite a few others who all assist with different aspects when needed.

The Society aims to promote the preservation of the amenities of the village and its surrounding area, its heritage, historic buildings and footpaths. The Society issues seasonal newsletters and there are monthly guided walks

Website address:

www.easthoathlypreservation.org.uk

PLANNING - Village Concerns

The Village Concerns Group started in March 2016 in response to the Revised Wealden Local Plan Draft which suggested 190 houses for East Hoathly and 30 for Halland.

Our aim was to keep people informed of events and to increase our knowledge of the planning processes. Members of the group attended SWOT (Save Wealden from Over development Team) which looked at the impact of the changes across the whole of Wealden

John Kay from CPRE (Campaign for The Protection of Rural England) was invited to East Hoathly on May 19th 2016 to give his view on Wealden Local Plan and the probable effects on the villages in Wealden.

Our main concern is that, whilst Wealden District Council is in the process of revising the Local Plan and attests to not having a 5 year land supply, virtually all planning applications are being passed by the Planning Committee, even those deemed inappropriate. The process seems to be developer not plan led. A great deal of land has been offered for development in East Hoathly and Halland.

A house to house petition has collected over 260 signatures. This petition calls into question the strategies adopted by Wealden District Council.



Artist's impression of new housing for Rinameer

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An online petition regarding development in East Hoathly has nearly 300 signatures.

These petitions have been sent to Wealden District Councillors, Planning Officers, ESCC, Nus Ghani MP, Secretary of State Savid Javid and others.

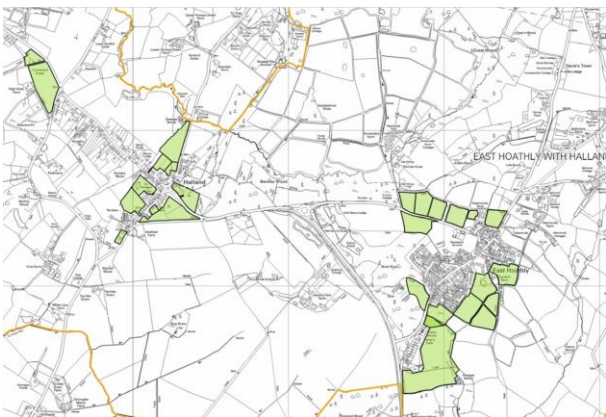
Letters have been written to Nus Ghani, a visit has been made to her surgery and a radio interview took place on Uckfield FM.

Now our main focus is on the proposed development for 211 houses on Hesmond's Stud following the public consultation on August 12th 2016. We are looking into the impact such a development would have on Infrastructure, School, GP Surgery, Landscape, Wildlife, Traffic, character of the village and other aspects.

We will continue to monitor and challenge new housing proposals in the village to ensure sustainable housing development occurs without undue overdevelopment.

E mail villageconcerns2016@gmail.com

Further information can be found on the VillageConcerns2016 website blog



E Hoathly & Halland land put forward for development so far

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Toni



Hello,

For those of you who were lucky enough to join us for a tour of Quirky Lewes, what a treat! So much to see that had been previously been right under ones nose but never acknowledged through our lack of appreciation. Kevin Gordon certainly brought the town alive.

"Talking Machines" was also another treat. David's passion was clearly evident as Leycester's write up explains.

So now let us look forward to Michael Blencowe, our new Parish reporter on the Sussex Wildlife Trust. I shall look forward to hearing him on the 14th October, when he will take us on a virtual tour along the valley from Newhaven to Barcombe. Also don't forget to put in your diary our Social Evening on November 23rd. Good food, good wine and beer and good company, what more could you ask for? Possibly even a Thomas Turner free quiz or two. Enjoy!

Kind regards,

Toni

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TREASURER'S REPORT - Peter

Nothing of real import to report from a money point of view-we are still solvent! I'm told we may need more ink for the printer and indications are that various fees and subscriptions for next year will go up, so we do need to generate more income.

Regards, Peter Hon. Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP - Jenny



There has been an increase in visitor numbers to our meetings but at this time of year membership of the society, as expected, remains constant.

A reminder that Membership for next year is increasing to:- £12 for single, £20 for joint membership. Guests will be charged £4. Your continued support for the society is greatly appreciated.

If anyone does wish to join for the rest of this year it's just £5 which is cheaper than paying as a guest for the remaining meetings: Cheques payable to EH & DPS c/o Jenny Pellett, 2 Prices Cottages, Whitesmith, Lewes BN8 6JD

Jenny Pellett Membership Secretary

QUIRKY LEWES - Chris

Quirky Lewes Sunday August 28th
Presented by [Kevin Gordon](#)



Modern addition to an ancient wall at All Saints Centre

Our August outing this year was a wonderful amble around Lewes with a narration by the ever popular speaker Kevin Gordon.

We started at the Station, immediately learning facts about the signage to "bridge 1123" walked over the bridge and along Lansdowne Place. We explored the All Saints churchyard. As its role now is as an arts centre, modern bizarre mingles well with historic quirkiness and memorials to the Baxter family and other significant Lewesians are easily missed. We stopped halfway up Church Twitten, the Groves, Gardens and Paddocks of Lewes House and School Hill House have been lost to "development" but we were able to view the martyrs' memorial and be read a poem written by Kevin's grandfather 100 years previous. Coming out onto the High Street /School Hill juncture we learned of an American, Edward Perry Warren and Rodin's Kiss and facing us was an excellent example of a Georgian façade of mathematical tiles and fake stone quoins hiding an earlier probably Tudor house. Up to the War Memorial, designed by Vernon March, who

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was considered an extraordinary artist, was also responsible for the Canadian National War Memorial in Ottawa and the Cape Town Cenotaph in South Africa. Read more at: <http://www.sussexexpress.co.uk/>

Then through the 1792 Market Tower where a local produce market is now held on Fridays.



Courtesy: Edward Reeves Lewes

On through the Needlemaker's car park to cross West Street and through another twitten alongside the unique military weapons and toy Auctioneers Wallis and Wallis. We entered St John's churchyard from a different angle to usual and were shown the "Widows Penny" and other interesting features including the intriguing mystery of the anchorite cell. Out and along through Abinger Place, overlooking Gallows Bank, did you know our "gala days" derive from the Saxon gallow days when the public enjoyed the spectacle of a good hanging. Then up to the Mount and Castle Precinct. We walked along Pipe Passage around the NW of the castle and atop of the town wall, past the former windmill and down alongside the Freemasons hall. Crossing the High Street we went down Keere Street, known locally as Scare Hill, one of Lewes' real gems. Ending in the wonderful Grange Gardens we heard stories of Violet Gordon Woodhouse the harpsichord player in time for tea and cake.

PAST MEETINGS - Leycester



Talking Machines Fri 9th September Presented by David Homewood.

Our speakers are invariably passionate about the topics on which they speak and David is no exception. His interest in "talking machines" stemmed from the time, aged 5 or 6, when an aunt gave him a portable gramophone that she no longer wanted. His interest in it soon outshone that for his model railway, which was abandoned.

It was Thomas Edison, who, in 1877, developed the phonograph after coming up with the idea of adapting the mouthpiece of a telephone (invented the previous year by A.Bell) to record and replay sound waves via a stylus to and from a recording medium. The term gramophone generally relates to the later disc format of recording. Early results used tin foil on cylinders, which suffered from the drawback of not being removable from the supporting medium intact, to be followed by hard wax cylinders, which could be replaced comparatively easily. The first recording was the now famous phrase, "Mary

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had a little lamb, its fleece as white as snow,
ha, ha, ha!"

Early phonographs were sent around universities to demonstrate their capability and whilst most accepted it as a wonderful piece of new technology, there were those who refused to accept its methodology and ascribed it to trickery. The initial market was for business use, to be followed by versions for public events, such as fairgrounds, and then domestic models after the Great War. Their peak came around 1925, before gradually succumbing to advances in radio technology.

Based on the book "Phonographs and how to make one", published in the 1880s, David made his own model. Although functional, he didn't play it as it is apparently quite tricky to setup correctly. However, he did play a 1902 model, costing the princely sum of £15 new, with Florrie Ford singing "The Bull & Bush".

As for his own collection, however, the main spring on David's first machine broke after a while and so his father bought a second gramophone player to keep him happy. Inevitably, that led to a third one being bought for the grand sum of 30/- (£1.50 for those unfamiliar with LSD) and the interest snowballed from there. He now has about 100 players from various periods, confined to a bedroom and garden sheds.



David then went on to tell the tales of how the trademark "His Master's Voice" came into being, how the opera singer Enrico Caruso became the first million selling record artist - playing a 1915 edition of one of his songs, how phonographs gave way to the gramophone and little snippets such as the origin of the word "album". Other machines were also played, including a replica of a Gramophone Co style 5 machine, with 1899 music from the British Army. We were also treated to a pocket phonograph, which could be described as the forerunner of the Sony Walkman.

Gramophones only stopped being made in the late 1950s, with the last 78 record being pressed in 1960, some 80 years after their invention. How much of today's music technology will last half that time?

Leycester Whewell, EHdPS secretary,
21 September 2016

FUTURE MEETINGS



Friday Oct 14th	THE WILDLIFE OF THE OUSE VALLEY. Michael Blencowe.
Friday Nov 25th	SOCIAL EVENING In the Village Hall

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Friday Oct 14th

The Wildlife of the Ouse Valley

By Michael Blencowe from the Sussex Wildlife Trust



Michael will take us on a virtual tour along the Ouse Valley from Newhaven to Barcombe.

Along the way we'll find out more about the butterflies, birds, flowers and other wildlife that can be found in the area.

The talk begins at 7.30pm so please arrive early if possible!

Members are not charged and visitors are welcome for a modest charge of £3 per person. To help subsidise the cost of speakers Toni is kindly organising raffles. Please do buy a ticket if you can and stop for a coffee/ tea and biscuits after the talk and catch up with the various activities and opportunities that our society affiliations offer.

Friday Nov 25th

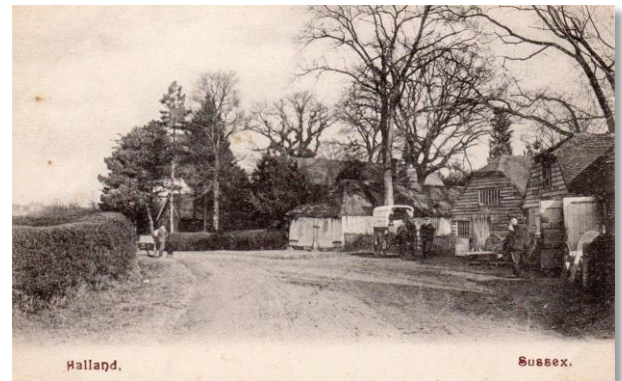
SOCIAL EVENING

Wow this is going to be good!

Apart from top quality nibbles and wines selected by our discerning committee there promises to be games old and new with smashing prizes and a really easy quiz!

There will also be video shot locally of past events to reminisce over, and display boards highlighting our activities from the past year as well as artists' impressions of what the village and our countryside might look like in a few years' time.

HALLAND



Confessions about the demise of the Lesser Spotted Halland Frog by Jenny Carter- Vaughn

My own Great Grandparents lived in Halland and my Great Grandfather was the village wheelwright- he apparently purveyed his wares from the Blacksmiths Arms (now of course the Black Lion).

My Dad (sadly now deceased) and his brother spent a lot of time in the Second World War in Blackboys and talk fondly about "frogging" in the ditches round Halland. Not sure whether in today's ecologically friendly world that this is something that I should mention - they were responsible for the elimination of the lesser spotted Halland frog or some such rare amphibian!

<https://www.facebook.com/HallandVillage/videos/280033372331588/?permPage=1>

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CHIDDINGLY ORAL HISTORY GROUP

'Life as a Chauffeur and working for Gentry 1928-1956 in Sussex'.

By Richard Cosstick for the Chiddingly Oral History group

Mr Rowe always had Humber Cars, a new one each year, these were filled with petrol at Park Corner Garage owned by Mr Jones, where Mr Rowe had an account.

All brands of petrol were available here, Shell, Esso, Power, Cleveland Disscoll etc. Best Petrol was about 1/6 a gallon in the early days (7.5p today). Full tank for the Humber was about 19 shillings (95p)



George Cosstick and one of Mr. Burton Rowe's Cars

The car had to be cleaned after every trip out, regardless of the time of return. Mr Rowe would not go out in a dirty car and as a child I can remember father being very late home often, as the car had to be cleaned ready for the trip to Lewes Station at 8am next morning, for Mr Rowe to catch the train to London.

In those days at Lewes Station the various chauffeurs would be there, either taking or collecting their employers, and so 'your car' had to be the smartest and cleanest in the line!

Life as a Chauffeur was tough, as one was always on call, anytime night or day, many Sunday lunchtimes were spoilt as the phone would ring and father was expected to go at once to take Mr and Mrs Rowe out, often to Bournemouth.

Father would rush upstairs and change into his uniform, very smart, and cycle to Gildridge, get the car at the door ready for them to get into, all of this with often only 30 minutes warning.

My Mother worked in the house for many years, as cook, cleaner, waiting at table, all the jobs that were required of her.

Before the water was on tap (see later) this included taking hot water to the bedrooms in the mornings in brass hot water cans that one can still see in antique shops today.

Mother had worked at Gildridge in the days before Mr Rowe when it was owned by the King family.

In those days, Gildridge had three full time gardeners and one part time. The garden was sometimes opened to the public. The saying was almost true, that if a leaf fell from a tree it had to be picked up!

Gildridge gardens were just under four acres and included ornamental pools which ran from the top of the gardens right down through various size pools, to a large bottom pool where the water was pumped back up to the top.

Mr Westgate was the head gardener. He lived at East Hoathly and could grow anything. As Gildridge did not have greenhouses he used cold frames to bring plants on.

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Fruits of all types were grown in the large fruit enclosure. A special brick building was built at the bottom of the garden to store the fruit. This building was the size of a small house.

The herbaceous border was five yards deep on two sides of a long border and full of flowers. There was a large rose garden, with crab apple trees set on each corner.

Lawns were hand mowed with an Atco Mower, it was about quarter of a mile down the lawn so going up and down meant there was a lot of walking.

Of course no one was allowed to walk in front of the house for any reason when Mr or Mrs Rowe were in residence, so mowing at the front was always done when they were out.

Every time one wished to go to the top of the garden from the bottom it had to be via the back of the house.

Gildridge had its own drinking water supply. Mr Rowe had a bore hole drilled and a pump house built, which contained three tall round tanks almost roof high.

Water was pumped into the first one, allowed to settle, treated with acid to purify, then allowed into the second tank for more treatment and then into the third, by which time it was fit for drinking and was pumped into the house for this and washing etc.

A large tank was also erected, outside at the top of the drive beside the pump house again for more water reserve.

Gildridge was a fine house, surrounded with superb grounds and was much loved by its owners. As for the employees it was a grand

place to work and as most stayed for many years, it became part of their lives.

It was often hard work but they knew that back then that someone was always ready to jump into your job given the chance.

Until the War broke out in 1939 employment was hard to find so it was best to get on with the job in hand and 'be glad that one had a job to do'.

One did not know then that life would never return as it had been for so many. The war changed everything.

BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION SUSSEX BRANCH



Herald moth

Conservation work parties

Working parties are a great way to get involved in conservation work. Many of the habitats of some of our rarest butterflies were created by farming practices which have long since vanished.

These habitats are now managed by a small army of volunteers who care deeply about their environment. Without their tireless activity the Sussex countryside would be greatly impoverished.

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You too can join in, make a difference and meet like-minded people with a passion for nature.

Rowland Wood and Park Corner Heath

The adjoining reserves of Rowland Wood and Park Corner Heath are a part of Vert Wood, which was once a woodland and heath which teamed with wildlife. Large parts of the wood were planted with conifers in the latter part of the 20th Century. The reserve is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and has been one of the few remnants of Vert Wood's previously more extensive heathland.

Habitat management

Butterfly Conservation will be clearing the remains of the 20th century conifer plantations and replacing them with native deciduous trees and open spaces.

Permanent open spaces will be created and these will require cutting on a three-year rotational cycle to prevent them turning into scrubland.

Almost three and a half kilometres of two and three zone rides will be created throughout the woodland areas. Two-zone rides consist of a central zone of short grass short grass and an outer zone of longer grass and herbs. Three-zones rides have an additional scrub border.

On Park Corner Heath bracken clearance is required on a regular basis.

Silver birch will be coppiced on a 10-year cycle. Some areas will be subject to annual brush-cutting and coppicing on a three year rotational basis - divided into six compartments, with two non-adjacent areas being cut each year.

Conservation work parties

Volunteers will be required for scrub clearance and coppicing throughout the autumn and winter months. We meet on the

second Sunday of each month, starting at 8.30 am and continuing until lunchtime. You are welcome to come along for as much or as little of this time as you wish. Work will be with hand tools only, which will be provided, but please wear stout footwear and bring work gloves and protective glasses if you have them.

For more information contact

swheatley@butterfly-conservation.org.

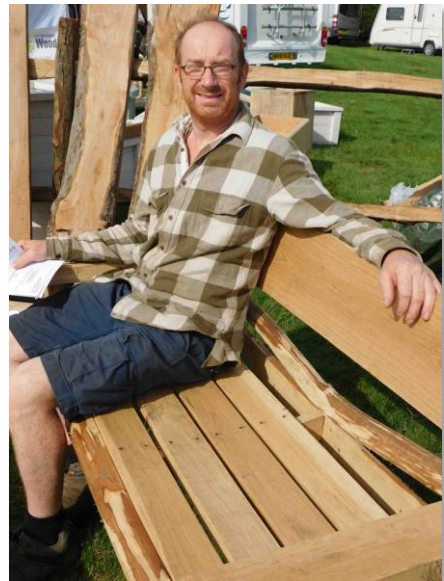
www.sussex-butterflies.org.uk/

VERT WOODS A COMMUNITY
WOODLAND

Conversations with Chestnuts

Saturday, October 22

9:30 AM - 4:30 PM



Andrew Coates

Sweet chestnut coppice is one of the most productive and versatile trees in the UK. When managed correctly it can provide a regular crop of quality wood every 16 to 18 years offering construction material, fencing, garden furniture, food and many other products.

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The day will be a real opportunity to learn about the tree and its life cycle, as well as managing chestnut coppice correctly, including hands on work with several 'live' coppices. You'll have a chance to explore cutting, protecting from deer and then making things from the product. We'll also have a discussion over the economics of coppicing at small and larger scale where we can talk about costs and likely income.

The day will be held in a 'live' coppicing area in the new Vert Woods Community Woodland (VWCW) in East Sussex. We'll be working in a tarp covered work area with Workshop leaders Mark Lloyd and local forester Tom Ottoway.

Mark is an experienced chestnut coppice worker and forester, and has been managing his own woods for many years. He will be passing on his knowledge of how to manage chestnut properly as well as the practicalities of a range of products. Tom has been working a nearby wood for the past 11 years and is currently developing new product lines for VWCW. He runs a small portable sawmill to add value in small woodlands.

Bring lunch to share - tea, coffee and biscuits provided.

Details of our other courses can be found on our website...

[Facebook Page](#) or [Twitter](#).

We'll update you on exciting developments in the new Community Woods, with opportunities for volunteering, visiting and getting involved.

Contact Sue Redshaw for more information
smredshaw@btinternet.com

THE WOODLAND TRUST



by Deb Collins

The area of ancient woodland in the UK has been much reduced, particularly in the last 50 years by development, conversion to agriculture and replanting with conifers.

Moat Wood East Hoathly

Parts of Moat Wood outside of the Trust's ownership have suffered from under-management where threatened by conifer plantations and attempts to remove all vegetation prior to submitting a planning application. It is one of the main principles of the Woodland Trust to protect, maintain and restore this species-rich habitat.

The medieval moat which gives the wood its name comprises of a square island, 35m across, surrounded by a ditch up to 19m wide and 1.3m deep, partially filled with water. The ditch in turn was surrounded by an outer bank up to 6m wide and 1m high, which survives around the western corner.

The SW section has been largely infilled.

The island is largely covered with sweet chestnut and hornbeam coppice and the outer bank with mixed coppice and oak standards. The moat ditch has been colonised by willow and alder which is regularly coppiced.

This type of moated site is likely to have been a prestigious domestic or religious settlement containing timber-framed buildings and been built between 1250 and

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1350. The moat was intended to have been a status symbol rather than a means of defence. The site will contain archaeological and environmental evidence relating to the original use and abandonment of the settlement.

The moat was designated a Scheduled Ancient Monument by English Heritage in 2000.

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>

PAST WALKS - Chris 'n' Jenny

SUNDAY 17TH JULY - The Lavender Line Cafe, Isfield



Lavender Line Signal Box

Promoted as a Grand Day Out our trip to the Lavender Line lived up to expectations.

The Lavender Line may not be as extensive as the Bluebell Railway but it has the same comforting, nostalgic charm of the bygone age of steam travel, with it's wonderful sights, smells and sounds, complimented by enthusiastic voluntary staff.

Before setting off for a riverside walk from the station to the Anchor at Barcombe Mills and back along the riverbank, we had a ride on one of the trains, a talk on the history of the line and enjoyed lunch in Cinders Café.

SUNDAY 21TH AUGUST - Six Bells, Chiddingly



As our walk from the Six Bells Chiddingly started with a small number we decided to change the route and opted to walk directly to the Kings Head, on the journey we met with the father of a Halland resident exploring with a view to moving here. I think he was impressed by the many paths, diversity of habitat and ancient greenfields.

We sat and chatted over a most welcome refreshment before retracing our steps where we met more Preservation Society members.

SUNDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER - Mount Harry, Offham.



i360 Tower & Amex stadium from Mount Harry

The last time we walked up Mount Harry the weather conditions were poor to say the least.- Horizontal rain was not what we wanted but it was what we got. This time however the weather was much more favourable and from the top of the natural hill we could see not only 360° of beautiful

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downland but manmade features spanning at least 2,500 years, the latest being the i360 tower on Brighton seafront. Other easily identifiable features include the Amex stadium, Newhaven's incinerator and the new windmills of Glynde and Kingston. Our start and finish for this walk was The Blacksmith's Arms where we enjoyed more drinks and chat whilst watching the busy scurrings of a vole and a tiny pygmy shrew on a mission.

FUTURE WALKS - Chris

REMAINING WALKS FOR 2016

SUNDAY 16TH OCTOBER

- Stanmer Park, Brighton



There's more to Stanmer Park than you might think.

As well as being the Pelhams final country house, the park is in the process of becoming a major new gateway to the South Downs National Park. Stanmer Park and Estate are a unique survival - a living record of farming and social history going all the way back to the Domesday Book.

And for the 250 years prior to public ownership it had many ties to East Hoathly,

Halland and Laughton, and not just with the Pelham's.

At the heart of the estate lie 18 buildings that make up Home Farm - including a dovecote dating back to 1615, a donkey wheel, a dairy and a Grade 2 Sussex Long Barn.

During the Second World War Stanmer Park was used to provide billeting and firing ranges for a Canadian regiment. In 1947 Brighton Corporation bought the estate and opened the park to the public in 1953.

Proposed restoration work will provide apprenticeship opportunities for around 100 people, training for volunteers and space for Plumpton Agricultural College to train students.

Stanmer's more unusual features include the Earth Ship, an exemplary ecological building run by the Low Carbon Trust- a cutting edge 'green' building, constructed using waste car tyres and other recycled materials. The Brighton Earthship was the first to be built in England.

The Frankland monument, a Coade stone obelisk mounted on three sculptured tortoises, and one of the very first rainwater harvesting systems (Grade 2 listed) built in the 1870s.

The Autumnal colours and specimen trees of the park will be stunning.

Certainly the best of Brighton.

SUNDAY 20TH NOVEMBER

- The Green Man, Ringmer

SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER

- East Grinstead (Streetwalk)

WATCH OUT FOR A BONUS :

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It's just possible that we will start the East Grinstead walk from Sheffield Park!!!!

And take the Bluebell Railway steam train to East Grinstead. - So that's another Grand Day Out!

Exact details have yet to be confirmed and I'd like a volunteer to help organise it as Jenny and I will be busy with a wedding blessing and Canadian visitors.

All are welcome to help make a day of it or just the walk in the afternoon.

Cost will depend on numbers, but the walk will be free!

CONTACT [CHRIS & JENNY PELLETT](#)
01825 872830

Times and details may change but put the dates in your diary

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

MID WEEK WALKS - John



East Hoathly Rights of Way Group

The Group has been extra active in recent weeks. Some pretty violent weather has served to change the face of some of our local footpaths and bridleways.

The combination of higher than usual temperatures over much of the past three months coupled with copious amounts of rain has led to plenty of rapid growth affecting our parish ROWs. In the main the local paths are now again unobstructed and usually dry

enough underfoot, with one or two notable exceptions, eg Vert Wood.

Our most demanding task has been to remove a fallen tree from the footpath between Moat Lane and Hawkhurst Farm. Fortunately it was possible to dismantle this obstruction piece by piece with our hand tools and stow it alongside the path.

We have also received some requests from the County to assist in neighbouring parishes, where there is no volunteer ROW support. This is proving an interesting addition to our usual tasks, encouraging the Group to explore areas that they are less likely to choose to walk.

In general our work is not arduous and has assisted us to build a feeling of camaraderie, whilst we help to keep the public footpaths and bridleways fit for use in this area of East Sussex.

I have been asked on several occasions recently to report progress on the opening of the diversionary footpath route at Blackberry Farm. The ROW office originally hoped that the obligatory Public Objections Period, enabling official comment upon the new proposed route, would take place during March and April. In the event, for reasons of pressure of other diversionary work and lack of cooperation from the landowner, this POP requirement was delayed until the present time. Thus the hoped for completion date is now expected to be towards the latter half of August. All I can comment is that for a running battle, which has been under way since 2011, this further minor delay, irritating though it may be, ultimately seems of no great consequence.

A different diversion order, which has recently been confirmed, effects the footpath which links Old Whyly, Annan Court and the Halland-Blackboys road, close to Pilgrim Hall. This footpath will be rerouted into Slay Wood and then loop south again

EAST HOATHLY & DISTRICT PRESERVATION SOCIETY

towards Pilgrim Hall; so don't be surprised by some new signs and unexpected turns as the new path will follow a somewhat circuitous route.

Finally, if you feel that you would like to join this Group in our ROW activities please contact me at dixiewalks@hotmail.com You will be made welcome.

John Deane

CPRE (Campaign for the Protection of Rural England)

New thinking on housing and public transport can boost our towns

Housing should be developed alongside transport infrastructure for economic, social and environmental benefits, say countryside campaigners

[A new paper released in September](#) by the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) argues that high-density development near to high-quality public transport services could boost businesses and jobs, create more well-designed homes and build more diverse, exciting communities - all while reducing pressure on the Green Belt and the wider countryside.

CPRE's 'Making the Link' paper builds on emerging changes to Government policy: [the Government's recent NPPF consultation](#) identified 680 commuter hubs suitable for high density development, for example. The paper argues that attention can also be given to smaller places like market towns, which play a hugely important role in rural communities in delivering much needed connectivity, services, employment and business opportunities.

Situating high-density housing near transport hubs can concentrate development on brownfield sites in need of regeneration and increase connectivity to

employment centres. This has the potential to make towns more attractive for residents and business, halt damaging urban sprawl and reduce car use and road congestion.

Trinley Walker, policy and research adviser at the Campaign to Protect Rural England and author of '[Making the Link](#)'

WILDLIFE REPORT - Fred Carter



Birds of East Hoathly.



The Barn Owls

The Barn Owls.

Just a little east of the village centre a pair of Barn Owls has successfully raised three chicks. This may be an indicator of better farming practice locally, allowing the food chain that these magnificent birds rely on to thrive.

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The birds are enshrined in folk lore, myths and legends and in times past have figured prominently, often regarded as birds of ill omen. The Barn owl with its ghostly silhouette and piercing shriek has struck fear into the hearts of successive generations of superstitious country folk. We know that reputation as undeserved.

It flies at dusk, resting and sleeping by day. Favoured roosts are barns, church towers and tree hollows but more commonly roosts are manmade, which the birds take too readily. No attempt is made to build a "proper" nest, decayed wood being generally sufficient. Like most owls they remain loyal to one another.

In addition to its shriek, which caused Lady Macbeth to refer to it as "the fatal bellman, which gives the sternest good-night", the barn owl has a repertoire of chirruping, hissing and snorting sounds. All of which have earned the bird such local names Screech Owl, Hissing Owl and Roarer!

It was also known as Billy Wise and Tennyson was doubtless eluding this side of the bird's nature when he wrote;

"Alone and warming his five wits,
The white owl in the belfry sits."



The Chiffchaff

A major difference between a Willow Warbler and a Chiffchaff - the Willow Warbler has orange/pink legs whereas the Chiffchaff's legs are black/grey.

The Willow Warbler.

This endearing little bird, Olive green and yellow above, white and yellow below, is one of our most welcome summer visitors. They bring a most welcome sweet, rippling song of ascending and descending scales of successive short notes. A graceful, restless bird that flits about the foliage, feeding exclusively on insects.

They build a neat, dome shaped nest of moss and dried grass, lined with feathers with a side entrance. Generally found low down, on the ground or the bottom of a hedge or bush, where they lay six to eight eggs~

Among the commonest local names of this warbler are; Tom Thumb, Miller's Thumb and Haybird.

SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST



dormouse / Hugh Clark LRPS

Sussex Wildlife Trust supporter, Don Filliston from Storrington was so inspired by our recent [Dormouse Appeal](#) that he penned a poem about the threats faced by this adorable creature.

EAST HOATHLY & DISTRICT PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Numbers in Britain have crashed down the years,

Through habitat loss, with extinction fears.

Woodlands must be improved, for them to thrive;

Then, in safety, to breed and stay alive.

*Coppicing decline and farming changes,
With encroachment, has lost habitat ranges.*

*Moving freely to source nesting and food,
Will give cover from predators to intrude.*

*They will need a good mix of tree species:
Hazel coppice, with green corridor pieces.
Undergrowth of honeysuckle and bramble,
For food, their nests and safety to ramble.*

*Open country, they're reluctant to cross,
So in isolation, they're at a loss.
There's a danger of becoming extinct
Because habitats should be interlinked.*

*Dormice are nocturnal and very shy
And none of us want them all to die,
So please support Sussex Wildlife's appeal,*

To secure their future and well being seal.

If you would like to support of Dormouse Appeal please [donate online here](#) or text MICE00 £3 to 70070 to donate £3.

AIRS (Action In Rural Sussex)



Around 90 representatives from 50 communities across Kent, Sussex and Surrey came together for the 2nd of 10 national Neighbourhood Planning Roadshow events to hear more about the process and learn how it could benefit them.

The over-subscribed event was jointly co-ordinated by Action in rural Sussex, CPRE Sussex, Action with Communities in Rural Kent and CPRE Kent with assistance from the County Association's of Local Councils. This is part of a national Neighbourhood Planning Mobilisation programme currently being delivered by the Department for Communities and Local Government in partnership with ACRE and CPRE.

The event commenced with a short video address from Brandon Lewis the Minister of State for Housing and Planning setting out the importance of Neighbourhood Planning and the government's commitment to its delivery.

www.ruralsussex.org.uk

HEDGEROW SURVEY - Kate

For more information

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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR - Chris

I end on a rather sad note informing you that Russell Brown passed away at the end of September.

His contributions to the Preservation Society and to the village have been outstanding, far more than many realise. In particular the recent revamp of the Village Hall was entirely down to his generosity.

Our Respect
Chris