East Hoathly & District Preservation Society



Sussex chair

Autumn 2019

The Society is:

Associate Member of Action in Rural Sussex Affiliate Member of the CPRE Associate Member of the Sussex Wildlife Trust Supporter of the Sussex Butterfly Conservation Trust Associate Member of the Woodland Trust

Acting Committee

CHAIRMAN	Chris Pellett
SECRETARY	Jenny Pellett
TREASURER	Linda Butcher
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Chris Pellett
EVENTS SECRETARY	Lesley Jepps
WEBSITE & IT	Leycester Whewell
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Jenny Pellett

Additionally, we thank all our members, as well as many others who come forward and 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 hosts expert speakers, outings, monthly guided walks and issues seasonal newsletters.

Website address:

www.easthoathlypreservation.org.uk

Email:

ehdps@hotmail.co.uk

ACTING CHAIRMAN – Chris Pellett – 2/11/2019

It was pleasing that sixteen members were able to stay on for a short meeting after the Bee talk in September to support the future of the society. The willingness and desire of those offering help with ideas and action for the organising of next year's programme is both extremely pleasing and encouraging.

More members contacted Jenny and I in the days after the meeting also offering assistance for which we are most grateful.

I'll take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting the society, especially those who have volunteered to take on some of the tasks that make the evenings run smoothly, but also to those who just come along to enjoy the talks, and even those unable to attend but who still support the society through membership or other ways, it is certainly enough to make it all worthwhile for me.

Anyway, I haven't had much chance to follow up the offers yet but fortunately a group have got on and done it!

My thanks go to Lesley Jepps who has kindly taken on the role of coordinating the speakers, ably assisted by Sue Burrough and Linda Butcher. Marion Salmon has also got on with things and already sorted a speaker for next May.

The last evening event this year is the social on Friday November 29th. Plenty of hands were raised and offers of help made so I'm sure it will be another successful and enjoyable evening.

We haven't really got a secretary (sorry Jenny) so notes on who volunteered for what are scant. If you can remember what you raised your hand for, or would like to pick from the following list please call us on 01825 872830.

Chris <u>ehdps@hotmail.co.uk</u>

Social Job List

Lots of little jobs all add up, so please let us know what you could help with.

Purchase of Drinks:	Beer, Wine, Fruit Juice, Lemonade etc., we have a record of previous years quantities so fairly easy	
Purchase of Food:	Iceland? Cold buffet this year? We need a savvy shopper!	
Obtaining Raffle and other Prizes:	We have a list and a budget.	
Setting up the Hall:	Manpower; tables, chairs, etc.	
Table Decorations:	Tableclothes & Flowers make it festive.	
Be responsible for Background Music:	No DJ'ing just something quiet for ambiance	
Preparing & serving the Food:	On the night	
Running the Bar:	On the night	
Running the raffle:	On the night	
Organising & Running Game 1:	Any ideas?	
Running Game 2:	Bagatelle?	
Quiz around the room:	Local History	Marion Salmon
Pub Sign Quiz:	Projector images	Chris Pellett
Catch Phrase Quiz around the room:	We have an idea, please enquire!	
Video	Old Sussex 1933	Chris Pellett

There'll also be a table for "I REMEMBER WHEN" anecdotes

Also a small display of Dickerware Pottery; If you have any can you bring it along so the display becomes a little more interesting?

Call Jenny on 01825 872830 or Email me ctpellett@yahoo.co.uk

TREASURER'S REPORT – Linda Butcher

This is my first treasurer's report for the society and I must start by thanking Peter Brooke for going through and explaining the nuances peculiar to the society's book keeping. Although most income comes from membership, visitor fees and the raffle at each meeting play an important part, keeping a small but useful steady stream of cash available to pay expenses on the night, purchases for the raffle and, for instance, refreshments at the time for the social. The teas, coffee and biscuits costs are monitored but generally self-sustaining with an occasional surplus paid back into the general fund.

Expenses never go down so it is a credit that, for several years, the society has managed to maintain a small surplus and, subject to membership numbers, looks to be able to keep membership fees at the current level for at least another year.

Currently the Society has £2352 in the bank which is just £19 less than this time last year

Linda Butcher Hon. Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP – Jenny Pellett

Seventy eight members was just two short of our target and as more than two did not renew because of other commitments but came along to meetings regularly as visitors, I can say that, in terms of membership, we have had a successful year.

There will be membership forms for 2020 available at the social in November and accompanying the New Year newsletter in January. Please do renew as early as possible as insurances and affiliation subscriptions are paid at the beginning of the year, and the remainder determines how much we can spend on good quality speakers or how we

Jenny Pellett Membership Secretary

can help with other community activities.

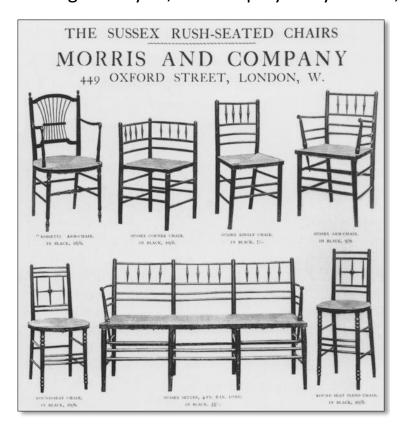
COVER PICTURE - The Sussex Chair

The Rich family were attributed to being chairmakers in East Hoathly many generations before Henry Rich continued as trug and chairmaker in 1810 at the age of 24 until he died in 1887 aged 81,. He was also clerk and sexton of the church for fifty-seven years, officiating at 142 weddings, 805 baptisms and attending 412 burials.

Henry was just as industrious as his forebears, working at his 'factory' in East Hoathly opposite The King's Head Inn.

The rush seated Sussex chair of Henry Rich was spotted by the artist Ford Madox Brown, who was a friend of William Morris and founding partner of the William Morris design company in 1861. It was quickly adopted by Morris and Co., successfully marketed by them in their London and Manchester stores and exported to Germany and the United States.

Possibly the rivalry that appeared to exist between the trug families of Rich in East Hoathly and the Smiths of Herstmonceux, spilt over to their chair making too; following Madox Brown's visit to East Hoathly, in 1866 Alfonso Warrington Taylor, also employed by Morris, visited Herstmonceux to find



a reclining version of the Sussex chair by Ephriam Colman. I guess this did out do the East Hoathly chair and went on to be known as the famous Morris chair, available from 1869 to well into the 20th century.

The notable characteristics of a Sussex chair are the spindle arm supports which pass through the box frame of a rush seat into the side stretchers, which are usually double stretchers.

The back also has double rails and short vertical turned spindles. But one determining characteristic often overlooked is the curved arms, which are steam curved; a process used when making trugs. All other similar chairs, whether from France, the midlands or North of England have straight or carved arms, only the steam woodworks of East Hoathly and Herstmonceux produced arms in this way.

N.B. We hope to have a talk about the Sussex chair next year.

PAST MEETINGS - RNLI Newhaven Lifeboat Visit

Sunday 11th August



Ready to Board the RNLB David & Elizabeth Acland

This year our annual outing was to the RNLI lifeboat station at Newhaven. Our visit was superb, with our group of 24 given a full guided tour of the lifeboat by extremely knowledgeable and engaging volunteers who had first-hand experience of putting to sea in treacherous and challenging situations.

Over the years the design and capabilities of lifeboats has obviously evolved to reflect changes in technology and the demands of practicality and safety.

In October the "Severn-class" lifeboat at Newhaven will have been in service for twenty years.

Still a very capable vessel and much loved by her crew, she is able to operate in almost any weather condition, day and night, and has been tested to her limits many times whilst going to the assistance of others.

The lifeboat, named the RNLB David and Elizabeth Acland in honour of David Acland CBE DL, a long standing member of the RNLI's committee of management, cost £1.8million, has been launched on service 743 times since it arrived on October 27, 1999, assisting crew members to help 893 people and save 37 lives.

Call outs have seen volunteer crew use the vessel to help sinking boats, evacuate injured sailors, rescue stranded dogs, assist with Eastbourne's 2014 pier fire and respond to a hot tub floating in the Channel.

The vessel can carry 28 survivors, or 124 in 'extreme circumstances'.



I think we all came away with a renewed appreciation and respect for the courageous volunteers and the need to support them as much as we can.

Fred at the Helm

For those that missed the

trip we came away with a few information leaflets which will be at the social.

The RNLI station volunteers were very pleased to receive our donations on the Sunday.

The lifeboat service receives no UK government funding and less than 2% of the RNLI's total funding comes from government sources. As a charity, 94% of their total income comes from donations and so their lifesaving service relies on the generosity of supporters. Click here for link to Newhaven Lifeboat Fundraising.

PAST MEETINGS – Bumble Bees

In September our speaker was Michelle Ernoult, whose enthusiasm for bees was both infectious and informative in equal measure. Michelle, apart from running her own small business; The Little Honey Bee Company, also works with children, engaging with them in small groups to teach about the wonders of bees and bee keeping.



Michelle Ernoult

The information, together with beautiful photography, just kept on coming, and what follows is merely a brief summary of a vast subject:

- Worldwide, there are over 22,000 species of bee, 280 of which are in the UK;
- •The UK has 26 species of bumble bee, some of which are in danger of extinction, but re-

introduction programmes are being managed;

- Bees have been around for more than 80 million years, wasps even longer;
- Bees are vegetarian, wasps are meat eaters and are good for the garden as they not only pollinate, but eat pests such as aphids too;
- Male bumble bees cannot sting, the females prefer not to, and warn of attack by raising their front legs;
- Bees fall into two groups social and solitary;
- Solitary bees have hairs on their undersides, which enables one individual to effectively do the same amount of pollinating as 120 honey bees who lack these hairs;
- If you encounter a swarm of bees don't panic they will be placid as they have nothing to defend (perhaps easier said than done);

BEES ARE FACING COLOSSAL MAN-MADE PROBLEMS:

- More than 90% of meadows have gone;
- There is a serious lack of wildlife corridors linking populations and providing food sources;
- Isolated habitats risk inbreeding and unhealthy colonies;
- Widespread use of pesticides, including neo-nicotinoids;
- 2 species have become extinct since the start of the 21st century, with 2 more in imminent danger;

THERE ARE WAYS WE CAN HELP:

- Plant bee friendly open, flat flowers;
- Have early flowering plants, such as crocuses;
- Leave dandelions and other wildflowers and create a meadow like area; provide a water source with easy gradual access;
- Don't be too tidy, as bees love longer grass, boggy areas, loose soil, compact soil, hollow stems, dry moss and old logs;
- Lobby councils, government and multi-national corporations to do more to protect the welfare of bees and the natural world.

At the end of Michelle's talk, we were able to purchase a variety of products from her bees, and I must say, having bought and used them, that they are particularly good.



The Little Honey Bee Company Rolled Beeswax Candles

FUTURE MEETINGS – 2019

PROGRAMME FOR 2019	
Fri Oct 11 th	Milly, Mog and Gug. Three remarkable women of Chiddingly Donation to the church, David Burrough.
Fri Nov 29 th	Social Evening

As the newsletter is again running behind schedule, Milly, Mog & Gug has been and gone. There will be a full write up on this immensely enjoyable talk in the New Year newsletter, which just leaves the social:-

A good number of volunteers have offered help to ensure that this year's social will be another great success. So in anticipation I can say that we will have colourful images, historic video, excellent food, wonderful games and amusements, drink, a display of old pottery and a short I remember when of local memories.

N.B. If you were one of those who volunteered help, please contact Jenny or myself as soon as possible, Thanks – Ed.

FUTURE MEETINGS - 2020

PROGRAMME FOR 2020

Hot off the press, next year's programme has now been finalised. The team, liaising through Lesley Jepps had no shortage of ideas but which speaker can do which date and pinning them down to it is, as Toni will confirm, not always an easy task. The Programme will be announced at the Social.

This really is the lynch pin on which the society relies.

Next year's programme promises to build on the success of previous years; interesting, varied, relevant and fun.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS - THE HOUSE AT HALLAND — BENTLEY WOOD

The Modern House – Efficient Homes



The House at Halland

Designed and built by Serge Chermayeff, one of the major figures of modernist architecture and design in this country and America.

Serge Chermayeff (1900 – 1996) born in Grozny, Chechnya, to a wealthy Jewish family, was educated at Harrow before his family lost their money during the Russian Revolution. He began a career as a journalist covering dance crazes, in which new participated and won several international competitions. He spent a year in Buenos Aires and earned his passage back to England escorting the horse of an Harrovian friend. In 1924, he began work with an interior design firm specialising in period interiors.

He joined Waring and Gillow to develop the Modern Design Studio until, despite no formal training in the profession, he established his own interior architectural practice in 1930, and company; Plan Ltd, to market modern furniture. In 1933 Chermayeff formed a partnership with the Nazi Germany evacuee architect Erich Mendelsohn, and their best-known structure is an icon of the International Style: the De La Warr Pavilion in Bexhill-on-Sea. This enabled Chermayeff to buy the land at Bentley and build his house showcasing his ideas that have influenced a change in taste unmatched by any other designer of the twentieth century.

Influenced by the Arts and Crafts movement, international architecture and his working with Paul Follot at Waring & Gillow, Chermayeff saw domestic interiors as the origin of good architecture, where reason, order and light would be matched by harmonious colour and good workmanship.

The House at Halland was possibly the first to express environmental design recognising that while the home should give comfort, it should also connect seamlessly with the environment in which it is set.



that To tune, Bentley Wood is built of light natural materials, landscaping its of its part architecture and unhindered its openings viewing best the of unspoilt Sussex.

The View from the Terrace

Chermayeff's belief was that the public was yet to appreciate that "good modern work" was preferable over the continuing obsession with replicating the past.

He may have been right?

DICKER MILLS

The watermill at Michelham is documented from 1434 and operated more or less continually until 1924. After a brief spell generating electricity for the priory in 1933 the mill remained idle until restoration and milling resumed in 1971.

Windmills have stood like sentinels over the rural landscape for over 1000 years, diminishing in number only since the 1880's.

The 1789 OS map of the Dicker shows three windmills. Two were sited at Golden Cross in 1793, when one blew down but was quickly rebuilt. The roundhouse of one remains, converted to a dwelling.

The other remains of a windmill are of the Dicker New Mill, finally known as Ovenden's Dicker (Wind)mill that fell at the end of 1929.

By the 20th century wind power had become outmoded.

At Golden Cross, Wickens New Mill was built in 1919 with millstones driven by a Ruston Hornsby 40HP gas engine. The site is now Marquis Motorhomes.

The Dicker New Mill also had an auxillary gas engine installed.

When taken over by Thomas and Ephraine Ovenden, Dicker New Mill, an adjacent gas powered mill and the Coldharbour Mill all became known as the Ovenden Dicker Mills.



Image from "Memories of East Sussex" Facebook Page

Coldharbour Mill was probably the first of the modern steam or gas powered mills on the Dicker. It was built by George Dann (Sr.) in 1901 and operated by his son until 1964 when the business merged with the Dutch firm NGJ Schouten in 1975.

Milling ceased in 1978 and housing now fills the site.

Pages Mill, another steam powered mill, built along Coldharbour Lane in 1906 at the brickworks, passed into the hands of George Ovenden in 1934 and operated until the outbreak of WW2.

The Ovenden family also operated the Polegate Smock Windmill.



Pages Mill Coldharbour Lane

There are also references to Black Mill, Chiddingly, on the Dicker but it is unclear as to which mill this refers.

WALDRON - Portrait of a Sussex Village

From the Book: WALDRON Portrait of a Sussex Village

Memories of Tom Gaston of School View Cottage

I REMEMBER WHEN

In the old cottage there were big chimney corners. Brand irons were on the hearth and we sat in the chimney corners to warm ourselves on cold winter nights for there was always plenty of wood to be had for the picking up. There were pot hooks in the chimney from which hung a porrage pot over the fire; higher up the chimney were nails for drying bacon. In one corner there was a brick oven in which mother used to bake enough bread to last a week with a few cakes and pies. It was hard work kneading the dough and making bread. The bread was as good at the end of the week as it was at the beginning. The flour came from Stream Mill ("Guys"), and the miller used to bring it down from Lions Green on his back, half a hundredweight once a fortnight.



This Postcard shows School View Cottages in the centre where Tom Gaston was born, the small end (single storey) of Pink Cottage where his grandmother lived and just beyond School View Cottages, Mount Pleasant where his parents were given breakfast after their wedding.

LAUGHTON IN THE 1900'S

Memories of Mary Potter of Hunter's Wood From the Book Laughton Life; portraying a Sussex village

I REMEMBER WHEN

Moving to Laughton in January, early 1960's, with no road to our house it was necessary to get a tractor to pull the furniture removal lorry across the wet field. The water supply came from a dubiously clean well and was pumped into the kitchen with a hand pump – freezing temperatures, three children and no mod cons.

When my daughter, Cherry, passed the 11+ the village postlady, Miss Goldsmith, gave her half a crown, as she did every pupil that passed.

The day I waited outside the school to collect my son, chatting with a father waiting to collect his, later hearing he had murdered his wife that day.

Days when our children and their friends would disappear into the woods for hours on end only returning, covered in mud, when they were hungry and we were having no worries about them at all.

My very earliest memory of Laughton Lodge, long before we moved here, when as a child of 5, I was left sitting in the car when my father went to see his sheep, "out to keep" from Romney Marsh, at Avery's Oak Farm and being frightened by a group of people staring at me over the fence.



EVACUEES – W.I. East Hoathly

I REMEMBER WHEN

War came to East Hoathly on Friday September 1st with the arrival of coachloads of evacuated children from London. Three hundred children with thirty staff unloaded themselves outside the village hall in the early afternoon. They were the infant school and the senior Boys School from Chaucer Road Southwark. The billeting officers, with their helpers, then began the seemingly unending task of finding homes for children of all ages from four to fourteen, Valiant efforts were made to fit the right ages and sexes into suitable homes. Presently little parties of children, pathetically hung around with gasmasks, iron rations, and small personal possessions, moved off in charge of a helper to their foster homes, each child labelled with their name and address, and often carrying anxious little notes from their mothers to their new foster parents. It was not until after 10 o' clock that night that the last grown-up had been found bed and supper, and the last postcard sent off "to my mum". Two days later a further party of mothers and mothers to be, with their pink cards, arrived, making a total of four hundred newcomers to be fitted into a village of seven hundred people. And most homes had already far more than their usual number of occupants for private evacuees had come down too! No wonder that for a month or more the problems of settling in had to take preference over everything else! The old chapel was requisitioned for extra school space, and a clinic started there to deal with the immediate outbreak of scabies, impetigo and dirty heads. Sewing machines worked furiously and oddment drawers were ransacked to provide nightclothes, frocks, pinafores and knickers. Second hand shoes were eagerly sought, for town foot ware just fell to pieces under country conditions.

"Just look at these. Nothing but cardboard." Said one indignant foster mother as she hunted for a pair of real country boots for her thirteen year old.

CHIDDINGLY – William Jefferay 1619

I REMEMBER WHEN, four hundred years ago!

Before leaving my native land I would fain see once again that dear Chiddingly, and upon this occasion did ride there a few days before sailing. It is but some fifty miles from London and in two days' time I had reached my old home, being welcomed most heartily by my brother Thomas, who liveth there in good estate and much respect. He hath many fair acres in his right as first born, and I think it doth some grieve him that he hath no son to heir this goodly estate, though his daughters, Lettice and Margaret, are much comfort to him.

Before setting out on my return I called upon our near neighbours the Calverlys, at the Broad (as their estate is called), being but across the perry lands, which last my brother owns, lieing close unto his homestead of the Peaks. The rooks do make most solemn procession daily from the Broad to the Peaks, going from us in the morning, but returning in the evening, and this hath been so from ancient times.

As I neared the Calverlys I was minded by the sight of a cottage of what befell me there some years since. It was in my college days, upon occasion of a visit home, that I was dared by one of the Calverlys to stay a space, at night, in this cottage. None would live there because of the chopping of wood in the middle of the night, which though clearly heard, yet was no wood found at the door nor in the forest close by, except such as did grow. I was not to be dared in those days and did indeed make part of a night there, not thinking to hear any chopping, for I deemed it but an idle tale.

About midnight, however, I did hear (upon a sudden awakening) something that much resembled a slow chopping noise, and, truth to tell, my heart did seem to thump somewhat in time to the chopping. This inward quaking (at first) did now anger me, and I quickly dressed, and went out to find the chopper, for the noise seemed close to the house, on the edge of the wood. No one could I see, and the noise now seeming drawn into the wood a little,

I followed, till getting into some black mire in the midst of the forest, and seeming to get no nearer the noise, I was forced to betake myself home again, for I stayed not longer at the cottage. As I turned from the mire there seemed a light dimly hovering on the further side where lieth a quagmire, and once as I turned me from it I heard something that sounded much like a low but hateful laugh.

Some do say a woodman who long since lived in the cottage did an horrid act which causeth him ever to chop, but I believe not overmuch in spirits, though I understand not how this seeming sound of chopping could be.



Hawkridge Cottage
Pic. © Copyright Chris Thomas-Atkin and licensed for reuse

Four hundred years later the rooks continue to travel daily between Pekes and Broad Farm, crossing the same Perrylands, and Boggy Wood where Hawkridge Cottage stands close to a quagmire, perhaps on the site of the old woodman's cottage.

VERT WOODS COMMUNITY WOODLANDS

Mission Statement

Our mission is to create and nurture an inspirational Community Woodland that puts Nature at the heart of decisions. We seek to establish a self-sustaining and thriving woodland culture that connects people with Nature, now and into the future.

The Community Woodland is 171 acres of mixed woodland. Since Autumn 2015, a Community Benefit Society has been formed, which has the right to buy, and the woods managed by a small committee with exciting plans for the future.

The woods have probably been in existence for over 7000 years and we have discovered evidence of a wide range of activity on the land for many decades.

After the planting of many softwood trees as a crop after WWII, our detailed plan and assessment is pointing the woods in new directions. That will require the removal over time of much of the softwood



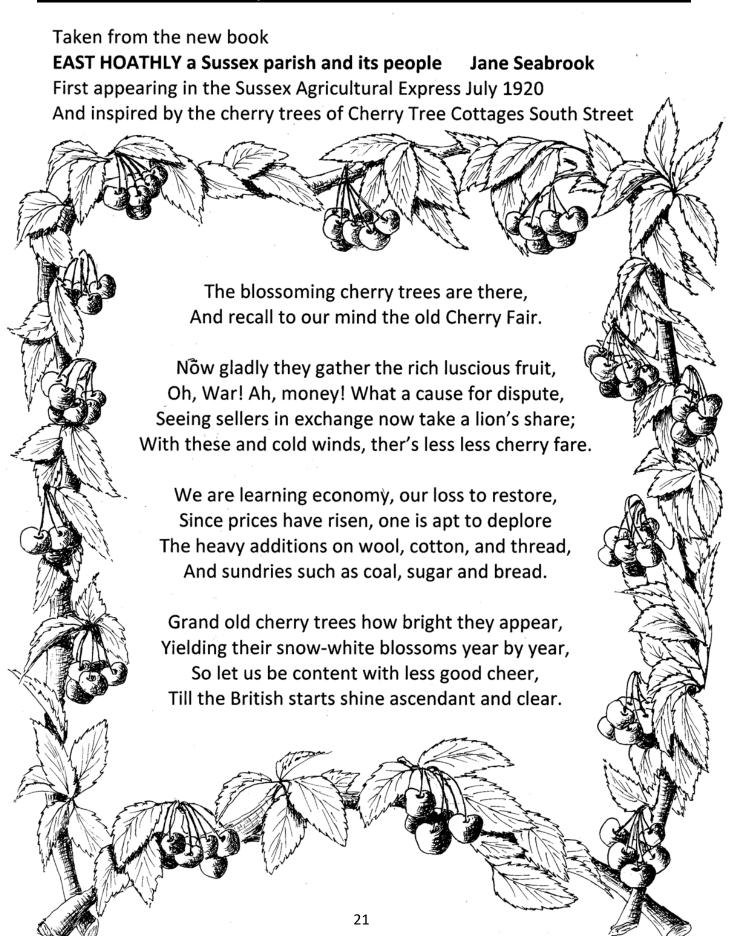
Discovering the railway tracks in Vert Wood

'crop' and replacement with more native hardwoods. We also want to make it easier for people of all ages to visit and experience the benefits of the woods to ensure a stronger connection with nature.

At the 2019 Annual members meeting in September Paul Rideout was unanimously elected as new chairperson.

To find out how to get involved or join the CBS of the Community Woodland see the website: https://vertwoods.co.uk/

POEM – CHERRY TREES by Mrs Finch



TREES PLEASE – The science behind the claims

'Forest bathing' is scientifically proven to improve your health.

The Japanese practice of forest bathing is proven to lower heart rate and blood pressure, reduce stress hormone production, boost the immune system, and improve overall feelings of wellbeing.

Forest bathing—basically just being in the presence of trees—became part of a national public health program in Japan in 1982. Nature appreciation—picnicing en masse under the cherry blossoms, for example—is a national pastime in Japan, so forest bathing was well received.

Eight years studying the physiological and psychological effects of forest bathing and designating 48 therapy trails based on the results, Qing Li, a professor at Nippon Medical School in Tokyo, measured the activity of human natural killer (NK) cells in the immune system before and after exposure to the woods. These cells provide rapid responses to viral-infected cells and respond to tumor formation, and are associated with immune system health and cancer prevention. In a 2009 study Li's subjects showed significant increases in NK cell activity in the week after a forest visit, and positive effects lasted a month following each weekend in the woods.

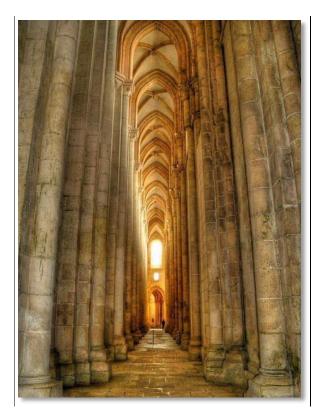
This is due to various essential oils, generally called phytoncide, found in wood, plants, and some fruit and vegetables, which trees emit to protect themselves from germs and insects. Forest air doesn't just feel fresher and better—inhaling phytoncide seems to actually improve immune system function.

Other experiments on forest bathing conducted by Japan's Chiba University measured its physiological effects. The team measured salivary cortisol (which increases with stress), blood pressure, pulse rate, and heart rate variability during a day in the city and compared those to the same biometrics taken during a day with a 30-minute forest visit. "Forest environments promote lower concentrations of cortisol, lower pulse rate, lower blood pressure, greater parasympathetic nerve activity, and lower sympathetic nerve activity than do city environments," the study concluded.

The parasympathetic nerve system controls the body's rest-and-digest system while the sympathetic nerve system governs fight-or-flight responses. Subjects were more rested and less inclined to stress after a forest bath.

Trees soothe the spirit too. A study on forest bathing's psychological effects surveyed 498 healthy volunteers, twice in a forest and twice in control environments. The subjects showed significantly reduced hostility and depression scores, coupled with increased liveliness, after exposure to trees. "Accordingly," the researchers wrote, "forest environments can be viewed as therapeutic landscapes."

Even brief exposure to greenery in urban environments can relieve stress levels, and experts have recommended "doses of nature" as part of treatment of attention disorders in children. What all of this evidence suggests is we don't seem to need a lot of exposure to gain from nature—but regular contact appears to improve our immune system function and our wellbeing.





Man made and God made Cathedrals

INTERESTING INSECTS - The Giant House Spider

<u>Drusillas Park</u>'s Spider expert, Angela Hale said: "As we approach the autumn season, adult male spiders will be starting to move around and look for mates, so it will appear as though there are suddenly a lot more spiders around.

"Lots of female spiders will also be pregnant at this time of year so they will appear larger and a little clumsier as their bodies are swollen with eggs.

"Due to the temperate conditions a lot of people have been out working in their gardens and spending time outdoors.

"They are therefore noticing the spiders more, as they are larger and therefore more visible at present."

There is also a lot of food around for spiders right now as Ms Hale explained: "milder weather has meant there are a lot of insects around at the moment, providing an abundance of food for spiders to feast on.

"This has allowed spider populations to soar."

Despite many fearing the eight-legged creatures, Ms Hale stressed: "Our native spiders pose no threat to us.

"They are essential to our ecosystem; they are our friends, not our enemies so we need to find a way to learn to live alongside them.

"They really are more scared of you than you are of them and would much rather run away."

If you would like to combat your fear of eight-legged creepy crawlies or learn more about spiders, Drusilla holds regular Spider days and even a fantastic one-to-one Spider Phobia Course with experts!



www.uksafari.co.uk

WRAS – Trevor Weeks

East Sussex WRAS October 9 at 11:52 AM ·

Rescuers from East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service (WRAS) were called to help rescue a fox which had fallen into the moat of the 200 year old Seaford Martello Tower yesterday (8th Oct 2019).

Volunteers at the Tower which is now a museum of local history, noticed the fox had invaded the moat of the Tower when they opened up the moat doorway. The fox was running around jumping up the brick wall in desperation to escape. In fear the fox was going to injure himself volunteer John Bond called WRAS for help.

"When we arrived the fox was hidden behind a shed, but as soon as it saw us it started running around and jumping up the walls trying to get out, it was clear this rescue was not going to be straight forward and a bit of a battle to catch him" said WRAS founder Trevor Weeks.

Rescuers obtained rescue equipment from their ambulance and worked out their battle plan to try and catch the fox either on top of the shed, where the fox kept attempting to jump out of the moat or behind the shed where the fox was more enclosed.

The fox had already damaged a nail from trying to jump up the brick wall and was leaving small marks of blood as it ran.

"The fox was extremely fast and the first few attempts to catch the fox was unsuccessful" said Trevor, "however as the fox kept running behind the shed we used this to our advantage, and tried to block it in. Being tired from running laps round the moat floor, the fox tried to hide giving us the ideal opportunity to confine and secure the fox using a dog grasper."

Trevor working from the shed roof and rescuer Thea Taylor working on the ground were able to slowly restrict the fox to a smaller and smaller area till eventually they were able to cover the fox and get a dog grasper on him. "I was then able to scruff the fox and lift him to the waiting fox cage

where we could then check him for injuries. Luckily there was nothing seriously wrong but he had worn his nails down trying to climb out. That was a struggle but a battle we were pleased to win for the fox's sake."

Rescuers decided not to release him straight away due to the traffic in the area at that time of day, so he was transported to WRAS's Casualty Centre for a hearty meal and a rest before being returned to Seaford about 8pm where he was released close to the scene of the rescue.



"It was a blustery evening but the fox was clearly ready to go, and shot off out the cage as soon as the door was opened and legged it off into the distance. The final victory was clear the fox's!" said Thea.

WRAS Rescued Fox

Please take the time to visit this link to the <u>East Sussex WRAS Autumn</u> Newsletter

To make a donation please call 01825-873003 or go to www.wildlifeambulance.org

FOR INJURED WILD ANIMALS KEEP THIS NUMBER IN YOUR PHONE:

24 hour Hotline: 07815 078234 http://wildlifeambulance.org/

CPRE

A CPRE Sussex Planning Training Session

Saturday, 30th November 2019

The Function Suite, Clair Hall, Haywards Heath, RH16 3DN

10.00am until 13.00pm



A well-designed development is not just about 'pretty' housing. It is about shaping great places where people and wildlife will thrive.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that good design is "a key aspect of sustainable development". This, together with forthcoming updates to planning practice guidance on design and

the work of the Building Better Building Beautiful Commission, means the prominence of place-making and design in planning is likely to grow even more.

But how can you decide whether a planning application is 'well designed'?

"Building Beautiful" will consider what constitutes good design and how improvements to the design and surroundings of new developments can be achieved even as housing numbers and density pressures rise. The seminar will build on CPRE Sussex's national award-winning Making Places design initiative and use practical examples of how communities can work together to plan well designed new developments, ensure net local gains to the natural environment and create places with character and distinctiveness that support good health and wellbeing.

The seminar will combine presentations with participant workshops that use actual planning application examples to demonstrate how you can make a contribution to improving development design. Our key presenter will be Will Anderson of Lewes-based Rabble Place consultancy, an expert in the issues involved.

Buy tickets here.

Tickets £5 for CPRE members £10 for non-members

EH with HALLAND PARISH COUNCIL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Neighbourhood Plan Consultaton Event

The Vision for Our Parish.

The participants were briefed on the current situation and the draft Vision and Objectives. They were then split into small groups and worked on a series of Tasks examining specific ideas related to the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Steering Group were delighted that 67 people attended the two sessions and provided us with a huge amount of feedback on the work already undertaken. The Steering Group thanks those who took part and engaged so fully in the Tasks they were set. Each session lasted 2 1/2 hours and people were so fully committed it proved difficult to end the sessions.

The Vision and Objectives were wholeheartedly approved by all those attending with one caveat that the Vision should be amended to include mention of all agegroups in the Parish.

The results are being consolidated now and will be published on the website in due course. The Steering Group will take forward the most promising ideas and incorporate them into the next stage of the process when we write the Policy Section of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Many thanks and well done to those who took part.

If you enjoyed the sessions, why not get involved with the Steering Goup?

For more information please visit our Website



http://easthoathlyhallandneighbourhoodplan.co.uk/index.html

VILLAGE CONCERNS - Kate Richardson

Firstly, the most excellent news that the Appeal for the Planning Application to build houses at the end of Buttsfield Lane has been rejected. The reasons given, combined with the reasons that the Planning Inspector also rejected the Hop Garden Appeal, have given us renewed hope that we may be successful in fighting off the other significant applications still haunting our Parish.

The Hesmonds Planning Application has not gone away; it remains a live application awaiting consideration. Various amendments have been made and additional documents submitted but it remains an application to build 205 homes on greenfield land that would blight the entrance to East Hoathly and build unsustainable homes for which there are no facilities, school places or jobs.

The South Street Planning Application made in 2018 has gone to Appeal for Non Determination. We are awaiting a decision which is now somewhat overdue. However, the developer has chosen to submit an almost identical application under a new Planning Application. This means that all those objecting to the original have to do so again and all the agencies that need consulting have to commission reports again. It is a colossal waste of everyone's time and a considerable amount of public money, not least for Wealden who have to deal with all the administration costs. We have urged Wealden to reject it immediately and requested that our District Councillor also puts his weight behind getting rid of this waste of everyone's time.

Please get involved in these important planning issues affecting our Parish. All the details are viewable on the Village Concerns Website: village concerns.co.uk

The Wealden Local Plan continues to make its slow progress through the Public Hearings. Representatives of Village Concerns attended every session of the Hearings and took part in the proceedings when allowed. Part One of the Hearings are now complete and the Planning Inspector is writing

her report to Wealden on the outcome. It is likely that she will recommend several modifications to the Plan to ensure that it is legal and sound. If Wealden comply with her recommendations then the revised Plan will proceed to Part Two of the Hearings. One of the key elements already considered was the conflict between Wealden and Natural England who have divergent views on how much protection should be afforded to the Ashdown Forest. The Inspector is likely to make a judgement on this issue and this could have a significant impact on the future of housing in our Parish. At present we have a degree of protection because any new housing would generate traffic that would have an impact on the Ashdown Forest. If the Inspector finds that the impact on the Forest is not important then the Parish could be vulnerable to more housing. Village Concerns will attend Part Two of the Hearings and hope to make our case to protect our Parish.

This is the list of various East Hoathly & Halland housing developments that developers are trying for.

Your letters to the Council really do affect the outcome.

East Hoathly & Halland Planning Applications Update

Hesmonds Stud- 205 Houses - Live

South Street-74 Houses Appeal Submitted

South Street-74 Houses (New Application) - Live

Buttsfield Lane - 2 Houses - Appeal Rejected

Bramblebank - 30 Houses Live

Hop Garden - 21 Houses - Appeal Rejected

Old Hartfield - 4 Houses - Live

Old Hartfield -6 Houses - Live

Halland Forge - 21 Apartments - Application Rejected Appeal

Submitted

Circle of Oaks - 32 Houses - Live

Graywood Lane - 1 House - Live

If you would like more information and or to join our E mail list for updates Villageconcerns2016@gmail.com

EAST HOATHLY COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

Early in August the East Hoathly CLT shared an impressive article on The Goldsmith Street Project.

That project went on to win the RIBA Sterling Prize on October 8th.

The consensus of opinion in our, like many, rural communities, is that the housing most needed is affordable housing for, both young and old, members of local families.



Goldsmith Street

Affordable housing is badly defined by the government, and often badly executed by developers.

Community Land Trusts, not run for profit, offer the best opportunity to go further and design homes that match local needs, fit in with the local vernacular and are cheap to run.

"The Goldsmith Street project looked at the nearby popular conservation area in Norwich, which has terraced streets just 14 metres apart, significantly less than the guidelines would normally allow but by emulating this street pattern we were able to get significantly more family houses in the scheme, which matched the local housing need and pattern." explained Mikhail Riches.

The design aim and achievement was "Passivhaus Certification" which uses natural sunlight to provide desirable light filled homes with very low fuel bills of approximately £150 per year.

Local Community Land Trust Affordable Housing Schemes, are exactly that. The <u>East Hoathly Community Land Trust</u> is backed by the Sussex Community Housing Hub (an initiative by the Action in Rural Sussex charity to which the preservation society subscribes), whose major role is to identify problems, respond and provide practical support, helping villages in Sussex remain vibrant living and working places.

The East Hoathly CLT could build homes that most of us would be proud of, an asset for the future of the village, and probably win awards. It just needs a little of your help to become reality. Please support them.

BOOK REVIEW –Chris Pellett

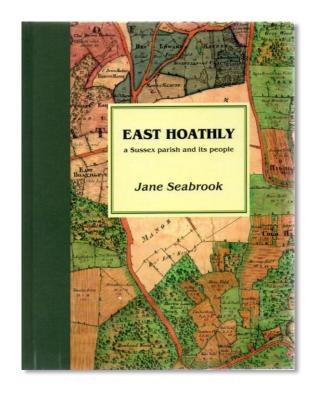
EAST HOATHLY a Sussex parish and its people Jane Seabrook

You cannot fail to be impressed by the content of this book; 552 pages makes it one of the most comprehensive volumes on any English village.

The preface reveals Jane's true commitment, almost an addiction, and certainly her desire to create an, as complete, correct and job well done as humanly possible.

The task is of course endless, as history is still being made and both every building, and every resident past and present, has a story worthy to be told.

I know Jane has far more that she



wanted to include, but to ensure that readers are not swamped with data, the book is sensibly laid out, sources of information and their accuracy noted, and the volume is indexed such that the reader can dip in confidently knowing they will find what they are looking for.

Reading from cover to cover isn't what this book is really about.

It can be read cover to cover (as I have) and you will be enlightened to characters, locations, occupations and activities no longer known to us.

Or you can use it as an encyclopaedia on East Hoathly that cannot be replaced with an Amazon Alexa!

Marks out of ten; Ten without doubt.

Available from Clara's Book Shop and EBay

I REMEMBER WHEN - HISTORY PROJECT

What's your earliest memory of East Hoathly or Halland?

There have been a few snippets put on paper and a lot of recollections when talking to people on the street. Perhaps I should have a tape recorder going.

Do you remember tape recorders?

How about the switch over from 78's to 45's?

Were you really proud of your new radiogram cabinet?

Who kept a pencil in their car to wind the tape back into the cassette? Please bring your "I Remember When" snippets along to the social.

Or you can drop them in to Jane at Clara's Bookshop in East Hoathly.

This picture and the snippets below are courtesy of the <u>Memories of East Sussex</u> Facebook Page.



Mary Tutt I lived in East Hoathly for part of the war, I think I was about 7/8. Lived in the cottage you can see in the photo right of the shop. My mum, Gran and myself were billeted with a Miss Williams who had quite a number of cats. The toilet was outside, I think it was called a "Sanni lav". Every so often a gentleman with a horse and cart used come and empty it. The school

I attended was near the church, I don't expect it is still there! Every month the WI had a market in one of the shops, my mum would buy me a peach (if I had been good). So many memories of my childhood from this site thank you for posting.

<u>David Bulbeck</u> I have many memories of East Hoathly. I used to stay with my Grandmother who lived in Fern Cottage in the High Street. The toilet was at the end of the garden. There was a well at the rear of the cottage. It was great fun using the pump to get water which was then stored in a large earthenware basin in the larder. I particularly remember standing at the junction of the road which leads to Uckfield and watching troops march by. There was an Officer there who had a revolver and I asked him if he had 'real bullets' in it.



<u>Vivienne Clark</u> Thanks for posting these, really good to see them. I have a whole line of East Hoathly ancestors including g.g.grandparents who were beer house keepers at the Foresters Arms.

Pat Fears Spent a few of my teenage years in there Xx

EAST HOATHLY BIRDS – Fred Carter

The Chaffinch

Commonest of all native Finches is the Chaffinch. Certainly one of the most desirable of garden birds. A popular and easily tamed bird, bright of hue and a welcome garden visitor. For Robert Browning, in Italy, it has nostalgic associations:

"While chaffinch sings on the orchard bough, in England, now."



Pellett

It is a loud and cheerful singer, particularly in spring, the joyful melody descending in tone and finishing in a challenging flourish! Its nature echoes its song, being most sociable as it flits among the hedgerows and thickets, joining sparrows and green finches on arable land, and less conveniently, after the wheat sowing, but always

elegant rather than gaudy!

The adult male is particularly handsome, with its blue nape and crown and a body of varying shades of brown, yellow green rump and wings and tail blue-black, streaked with white. The female is paler, yellowish brown and has the same pattern in the wing; both sexes have a recognisable white shoulder patch.

Certainly, the chaffinch is one of the most desirable of garden birds! Its cheerful and much repeated song, from mid-February onward, is one of first real signs of the approach of spring.

The juvenile is similar to the female but lacks greenish rump. The birds feed mainly on weed seeds, fruit seeds and grain, but insects are freely



Pellett

taken and fed to fledglings. Scraps are greatly accepted during winter months.

The bird builds its nests close to the ground, in bushes, hedges and small trees. It is extremely carefully and compactly made of moss and fine grasses, intricately woven together, and decorated on the outside with lichen. When complete, it is difficult to detect among the surrounding foliage. In town or City Park, the chaffinch is equally appreciated, for in addition to its attractive qualities already listed, it is as fearless and cheeky a scavenger for crumbs around the park bench as the ubiquitous sparrow.

The hens do the actual building, while the cock helps to collect the building material and lends vocal encouragement! Four to six eggs are laid, two or three times in a season, varying in colour from greenish blue to grey, generally with dark brown markings.

BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION - Martin Kalaher

For this newsletter I've chosen to include Martin Kalaher's summary of this year's gardening and garden butterflies at his home in West Sussex for inspiration. The full read can be made at

Sussex Butterflies – Features – Wildlife Garden

Martin has separated his garden into three key areas; Background foliage, Herbaceous borders and Wildflower Meadow.

Background Foliage

"The background foliage at Cherry House consists of deciduous hedgerows, British-native tree species and evergreen shrubbery. Over the past 2-3 years I have allowed most of the hedgerows to grow taller and wilder and this has proved to be beneficial for the garden butterflies, as the main herbaceous bed is now very sheltered from the prevailing wind. Whether or not it is coincidence I cannot say but the all the "Browns" appeared to have benefited from this increase in shelter with nice-size colonies of Gatekeeper, Meadow Brown, Ringlet and Small Heath. I also had more second generation Holly Blue than ever before and there were often 4-5 flying around close together by the garden pond. What is flourishing is a

sizeable Bramble patch next to the garden pond! As many butterflies are attracted to both the nectar of the flower heads and the juice of the Blackberries, I have decided to leave the brambles alone, for now.

Herbaceous Border

"I have enlarged the herbaceous bed and stocked it with Marjoram, Betony, Devilsbit Scabious, Field Scabious & Greater Knapweed. I would recommend buying plugs from a specialist nursery and then pot them up once or twice, before planting them out. I removed most of the grass, created lots of bare patches and in no time at all, up sprung self-seeded Ox-eye Daisy, Hemp Agrimony, Field Scabious, Purple Loosestrife, with the under-stated yellow flowers of Nipplewort running riot throughout. In early July it was a lovely mixture of colours and most of it was a natural creation with very little intervention or aforethought from me. Magical!

Wildflower meadow

"In 2018 I extended the wildflower meadow. The soil quality is very poor and grass species generally struggle but where grasses do not prosper, our native wildflowers often flourish and Field Scabious, Devilsbit Scabious, Oxeye Daisy and Kidney Vetch all do well. Kidney Vetch has an attractive flower-head, which is rich in nectar but the main reason for nurturing this wildflower is to try and establish a small colony of Small Blues. Last year I had a very brief view of a female Small Blue but this year I was delighted when I spotted three different females laying eggs on Kidney Vetch.

On August 2nd there were 20 butterfly species in the garden with a daily total of around 140 butterflies - both garden records.

2019 was a very special year, but as always there were some personal highlights. I will begin with a common brown butterfly, the Ringlet. On some days there were as many Ringlets as Meadow Browns in the meadow, and I've never had that experience before ----- Being in the right place at the right time certainly applied to the male Dark Green Fritillary, which landed on a flowerhead just 5-6 feet away from where I happened to be standing just how lucky was that! ----- Having grown Kidney Vetch all these years it was great to watch Small Blues lay their eggs, which will hopefully be the beginnings of a small colony? ----- Aberrant Brown Hairstreaks - will they be

back next year? ----- I have never photographed a Purple Hairstreak in the garden but this year I observed and photographed them on 12 consecutive days ----- It was really nice to see a male Wall, when I haven't recorded one in the garden for around 10 years ----- Painted ladies seen every day, for the whole of August, that's never happened before ----- And last but not least, a male Long-tailed Blue, a first for the garden - this blue butterfly took the season's total to 32 butterfly species with the cumulative total now standing at 35 species

One of the great joys of having one's own little nature reserve (sometimes called a wildlife garden) is the opportunity to click a camera without having to drive anywhere (let's call it eco-friendly photography!).

I may not have spotted this very tatty male Long-tailed Blue were it not for Purple Loosestrife, as this butterfly ignored all the other flower heads available and nectared only on Loosestrife. It just goes to show the importance of plant diversity, if we wish to encourage as wide a range of insects as possible. Although Long-tailed Blues are strongly associated with coastal areas, I do wonder how other individuals might have wandered inland this year?



Long Tailed Blue © Martin Kalaher

It has been great fun writing this article, for it has enabled me to re-live some of the best moments of the summer and to a small degree, share them with others. If it encourages a few other gardeners to do something similar, then so much the better.

Martin Kalaher September 2019.

RIGHTS OF WAY GROUP – John Deane

Rights of Way Group

14.08.2019

Life has been relatively relaxed since the last newsletter.

We received a request for help to clear the footpath To Old Whyly, which borders the Hesmond paddock, opposite the pavilion. This path had started to become overgrown, particularly with brambles. We responded a few days later and the work was completed in about an hour.

Unfortunately the growth rate of brambles is quite phenomenal at this time of year, especially in view of the recent rainfall. The result is a rapid regrowth affecting many footpaths. A possible solution for consideration is that walkers carry a pair of secateurs, so that any intrusive shoots can be cleared before they become a real problem. Taking early action in this way can often be done on the move and would be really simple.

Turning to a different topic and good news for anyone who has not yet heard. At last a Tree Preservation Order has been granted for all the oak trees, which form a rough circle near the traffic choke point feature in South Street. It has taken some considerable time and communication before this appeal for a TPO has been fruitful, so it does show that a dogged approach when making an attempt to achieve a target, can pay off.

Another recent local initiative is to try to discover if there have been any local rights of way, which have fallen into disuse. There is a current national scheme, organised by the Rambler's Association, to get such footpaths and bridleways recognised and again placed upon the Rights of Way Definitive Map. Roger Ward has kindly offered to assist me with this task. If you have any proof or other information on this topic please get in touch.

If you wish to become involved with the group or have any queries related to the above notes kindly contact me

John Deane at <u>dixiewalks@hotmail.com</u>

PAST WALKS – BARCOMBE Jenny

Barcombe Sunday 21st July



Cows on the riverbank

The Anchor Inn Barcombe is always good place to start and finish a walk on a sunny summer's day. picturesque pub and families gently rowing along the river in old wooden hire boats is so delightfully English and always brings back happy childhood memories.

This walk was flat and easy going and followed the course of the Ouse, which, after crossing, we veered away from, passing a WW2 'pillbox' and headed along an old Drover's road towards the lane. After a short walk up the lane with wild hops growing in the hedgerows, we then followed a path towards the site of the long gone Barcombe mill and the original boat hire location, of which I have hazy childhood recollections.



Little remains of the old mill's machinery

This walk was a tranquil, easy amble and it was a pleasure to finish back at the pub and continue chatting over drinks and ice cream.

PAST WALKS – FRISTON FOREST Jenny

Friston Forest Sunday 18th August

The starting point for our August walk was the Butchershole car park in the heart of Friston Forest. Arriving at the car park after a small group of us had enjoyed lunch at Jevington's Eight Bells, we had only just got out of the car when we heard an



© Janet Sharpe

approaching roar. Looking up we were thrilled (and moved) by the magnificent sight of the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Lancaster Bomber flying low, directly above us. The clearing in the trees afforded us a wonderful view. It all happened too quickly and unexpectedly to get any photos, but the awe inspiring sight will remain a treasured memory. The plane was headed for a flying display at Airbourne, but coincidentally for we

walkers, it served as a poignant reminder of our wartime past, as during the Second World War, Friston had been the site of a strategically important RAF landing ground - hard to imagine now, following the post war replanting and woodland development that has taken place.



Our walk was a delightful mix of steepish slopes, shaded

woodland paths and open sunny meadows teeming with wildflowers and butterflies.

PAST WALKS - LITLINGTON Jenny

Litlington Sunday 15th Sept.

Only five of us made it for this walk, but those who couldn't be with us missed out on a superb afternoon of early autumn sunshine, wonderful views and abundant wildlife.

Starting from the charming <u>Litlington Tea Gardens</u>, we walked through the village and up a steep hillside, where we picked plump sloes and sweet juicy



blackberries. From the top of the hill the views were clear and far reaching. The hedgerows and fields were, like the meadows at Friston, teeming with life - there were so many butterflies, dragonflies and damselflies, as well as buzzards and farmland birds.

After heading back down the hill alongside Charleston Farmhouse, we crossed the road and followed a narrow pathway with high hedges. The far side of this track opened up to reveal the huge and impressive white horse etched into the hillside beyond the meandering river and meadowland with

cows grazing in the sunshine. Whichever direction we looked there was always something interesting to see paddle boarders. swimmers, ravens, egrets, herons, yellowhammers, swans, more buzzards and butterflies....the list goes on....

This was quite simply a delightful walk, and one we are sure to repeat.



WALKS FOR 2019 – Dates for your Diary

Here's another page that's out of date!

We've had the Abbot's Wood walk so that just leaves the <u>Thomas Turner</u> walk on the 17th November which, as well as the usual ramble, will point out some of the places featured in the diary, and the ever popular street walk of Lewes in December.

Walks start at 2pm after lunch unless stated otherwise CONTACT CHRIS & JENNY PELLETT 01825 872830 EVERYONE WELCOME The diary schedule for 2020 walks will be at the social.

SUNDAY 20 TH OCTOBER	ABBOTS WOOD ARLINGTON meet at THE OLD
	OAK
SUNDAY 17 TH NOV.	THOMAS TURNER WALK EAST HOATHLY meet
	at <u>THE KINGS HEAD</u>
SUNDAY 15 TH DEC.	STREET WALK of LEWES Meet at THE KINGS
	HEAD Southover High Street.

EDITORS FINAL NOTES – Chris Pellett

I do hope you have enjoyed the newsletters this year. Producing them has been great fun. If there are general topics you would like to see included, or if you come across any specific item of interest please do let me know.

Special thanks to those who have given permission to use their words and pictures; Do clip on the links as they do lead to far more than I can include in the newsletter, <u>Janet Sharpe's photography</u> for instance is far more than pictures of the Memorial Flight.

I'd like to get the New Year 2020 issue out early January so copy for that one is needed the sooner the better.

Chris 01825 872830

ehdps@hotmail.co.uk

And finally, please do put pen to paper for the I Remember When project, or ask a relative or neighbour to do so if you prefer.