

East Hoathly & District Preservation Society



White Stork at Ringmer 1949

Autumn 2020

The Society is:
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

Committee

ACTING CHAIRMAN

Chris Pellett

SECRETARY

Marion Beal

TREASURER

Linda Butcher

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Chris Pellett

2020 EVENTS SECRETARY

Lesley Jepps

2021 EVENTS SECRETARY

Marion Salmon

Community Liaison, Communication and Social Media Secretary

Sue Redshaw

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.

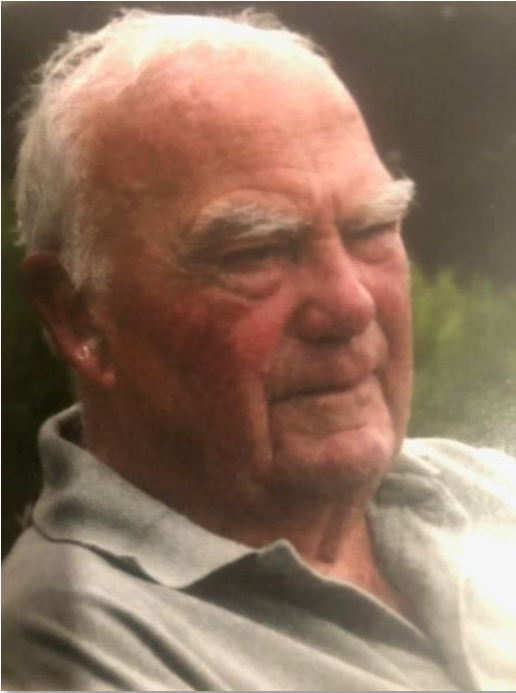
Website address:

www.easthoathlypreservation.org.uk

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ehdps@hotmail.co.uk

VIC TIDSWELL 1923 - 2020



I have been invited to pay a small tribute to my friend Vic Tidswell and I am delighted to do so. Vic was, after he and June moved here, a member and supporter of many of the clubs and organisations in the parish. These included the Cricket Club, the RBL, the Preservation Society, the Show Society, the Short Mat Bowls Club and I am sure there were others and most of them were the better for his membership as he often acted on the committee and as the treasurer to some of them.

Looking back at that list I feel it demonstrates in some measure one of Vic's endearing characteristics. He really enjoyed competition and he always played to win - which, in my experience, he did far too often but then always with a smile and a kind word like "next time the luck will run your way" and the important thing is, he actually meant it - and it did. When we started playing cribbage there was four of us, Jack Irwin moved away and sadly we lost Ken Pearce. But the pair of us played on for years and years until I think we just became the old pair of yokels that decorated first the Foresters and later the Kings Head on Monday evenings. The crazy thing is that in all that time not a penny changed hands, we played just for the fun of it.

I suppose Vic and I got on so well because we had quite a lot in common, our back grounds were similar and our views on many subjects were alike. And, just thinking about him while writing this has made me realise that his parents definitely got it right when they named him (the) Victor.

Malcolm Soane

COVER STORY – Chris Pellett

My father took this photograph in May 1949 of what he thought was a Crane.

At the time the photo was dismissed. But with the recent interest in White Storks at Knepp (and them having been spotted on East Hoathly Playing Fields October 2018) I took a closer look.

It certainly looks like a White Stork to me!



SteveSankey Wildlife Holidays [Orcadian Wildlife](#)

ACTING CHAIRMAN – Chris Pellett

This lovely Autumn picture of a holly bush, taken by Sue Redshaw at Park Corner Butterfly Reserve, is a reminder of how nature does not live in the past but prepares for the next season and future opportunities.

Its beauty is not dampened by our misfortunes, on the contrary, nature has the ability to provide solace and optimism in uncertain times.

As well as the berries being valuable food for blackbirds, field fares, redwings and thrushes, holly leaves are slow to breakdown, so hedgehogs, small mammals, toads and slow worms hibernate in the leaf litter that builds up beneath the trees.

The committee tried to have a meeting via email exchange but to be honest it just didn't work.

The good news is that a schedule for next year's talks has been made, thank you Marion, all we need now is some form of normality.

Unfortunately the latest restrictions have put the kibosh on our plans for the social which would have included fish and chips delivered to your door.

Responses to the last newsletter have been favourable, for both the longer reads and the idea that the society should widen its activities.

Drawbacks with the email distribution of the newsletters have come to light and so there will be changes to that in the New Year.

Printed copies are always available to members on request.

I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and please feel free to pass it on to anyone you think might like it.

Hopefully in the New Year there will be a cautious lifting of restrictions and we will be able to resume a little more social contact, and as I write this (revised again report), there is news breaking of promising vaccine test results.

The committee and I send you our very best wishes for a Christmas that is undoubtedly going to be like no other and trust that we will all remain safe and well.

In the meantime, if anyone needs any help with shopping, just needs a chat, anything at all, we are more than happy to help however we can.

Yours truly

Chris – Acting Chairman

TREASURER'S REPORT – Linda Butcher

Money, Money, Money

With no meetings income is entirely down to subscriptions.

Although we are not paying for speakers, we have lost the income from the raffle and from guests. We are fortunate to have a healthy reserve that can pay the set overheads such as insurance, website and printing costs for this year and probably next.

The society also pays subscriptions to support the CPRE, the Sussex Wildlife Trust, the Sussex Butterfly Conservation Trust and for associate membership to the Woodland Trust.

These, like so many other charities, are currently experiencing loss of revenue and operating difficulties. Many of their projects have had to be shelved and so when they can restart, our continued support is vital.

MEMBERSHIP – Jenny Pellett

I'm sure we are all eagerly looking forward to a brighter new year in which the society will be offering a full and extra busy programme of events and activities.

Although less has been achieved this year with your subscriptions, what hasn't had to be paid out is all going towards making 2021 extra special.

As you know, normally a lot of subscriptions are paid at the social. With that not happening and in anticipation of your continued support we have enclosed a membership renewal form at the end of the newsletter.

It includes bank details should you wish to pay by bank transfer.

Cheques can be sent to the address shown.

We will, of course, have the usual desk at the February meeting

Looking forward to seeing you soon

Jenny

BOW BELLS MILE POSTS

The EH Parish Council has agreed to finance the 47 Mile Milepost apparently stolen early last year.

The Parish Council now own the master and so further replacements should be easier. The [Eastbourne Historic Vehicle Club](#), through Peter Gillies, is the driving force and physical labour actually replacing them and our society is keen to help where it can.

The 49 mile Mile Post which should be adjacent to Rowland Wood on the A22 was lost in 2015 and becomes our next object of interest.

This is technically on the Laughton side of the A22 and so their Parish Council has been approached.

By strange coincidence an image of another 49 mile missing post, is being offered for sale on [Ebay](#)!

This one would have been the one on the A26 at Ringmer, close to the entrance of Ringmer Park Farmhouse.

You will note that those from Uckfield to Lewes didn't have the Pelham Buckle, just a raised black roundel.



The General Turnpike Act of 1766 obliged Trusts to erect mileposts every mile along their route. By 1820 there were 22,000 miles of turnpike highway across the country, 521 miles of them in Sussex.

Less than 60 turnpike road mileposts can now be accounted for in Sussex.

CHIDDINGLY ORAL HISTORY RECORDINGS**I Remember When Christmas**

[Bull River Farm Outbuilding by Simon Carey](#)

“In those days, when I was in the choir, when it came to Christmas, or any of those big religious festivals, you wouldn't have a pew to sit in. It would be that tightly packed. There were eight if not nine choir-boys, and there would be about four others. People were required to go to church. You had to go!”

“The schoolmaster and the vicar used to live in the village, which kept it a sort of closer-knit society. And then you had the people like Colonel Agg, and Hayden Morris. Colonel Agg always used to give a Christmas Party for the children.”

“When we first came here, in the late '50s, early '60s, we did all our Christmas shopping in the shop at Golden Cross, the whole lot; we didn't have to go into Hailsham for a thing! Wine, chicken, fruit, everything! They had different sections - the groceries, the greengroceries, the dairy, off licence. The bacon and cheese here, and the chemicals there. They had it all divided up, he and his wife, and her mother and the eldest girl used to help in the shop.”

“We used to pick the nuts, take the pieces off the bottom, put them in jars, put a little bit of salt in the jar, tie them down with a bit of newspaper or something, and bury them into the ground. And we saved them for Christmas! Hazelnuts. I always remember, there was snow on the ground, it was February, and my little girl came running in saying, "Look what I dug up!" And she'd dug up this jar from underneath the apple tree, and the nuts were still good. I said, "We'll have those, because it's my birthday!" And apples, we used to peel them, and hang them up to dry - apple rings.”

“Christmas Day, we had off after we had done the necessary work on the farm.”

PROJECTS FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

We are after volunteers to help with, or take on, particular projects.

This isn't a definitive list, new ideas are welcomed, but remember none of them will get done without your help.

The very first help is renewing your membership, as not everything we do is without cost.

Some of these projects are already underway and just need help to speed thing up.

Others may require physical effort with the rewards that brings, others can be tackled from the comfort of your armchair and a computer

The School Local History Project

I Remember When Project

Chair Making Workshop

Village Directory

Pelham Buckle & Bow Bell Milestone and other antiquated street furniture maintenance

Themed Exhibitions of Local History

There is also the Chiddingly Oral History recordings to be digitalised.

If getting involved with one of these projects, or indeed any others, is something you would be interested in, please let us know.

WINGS AVIATION MUSEUM

The Wings Museum is a totally voluntary organization run by friendly dedicated volunteers and as such is a registered charity. The Museum is housed in a large "hangar" style building between Balcombe & Handcross, close to RAF Station Redhill which saw active service throughout World War Two.



This cockpit section of a very rare B-26K Douglas Invader saw action in WW2 as an A-26C. It arrived at the Wings Museum during December 2009. When the cockpit section arrived it was in dire need of restoration due to the serious amount of corrosion that was destroying the cockpit. The museum's team of volunteers have completely restored the cockpit and removed over 99% of the corrosion and replaced it with new material. The cockpit work has now been put onto a back burner whilst we deal with other projects but there is still a little more work to be done on it.

To support the museum please follow the link.

<https://www.gofundme.com/.../26-challenge-to-support-the...>

Originally the Wings Museum was based at Redhill Aerodrome in Surrey but relocated in 2008 to a new location close to Balcombe in West Sussex (only a stone's throw from Redhill).

"We are still very much dedicated to remembering and recording the history of Redhill Aerodrome. We have a dedicated display within the museum which includes original memorabilia associated to the station as well as a comprehensive collection of photographs and the book of remembrance which lists over 70 pilots who lost their lives flying from Redhill during World War Two. The research for this was undertaken by Wings Museum volunteers.

"We also display an abundance of original memorabilia representing a wealth of "display themes" including: Home Front, RAF Fighter Command, Blitz, Battle of Britain, RAF Bomber Command, US 8th Air Force, Luftwaffe, Russian Front, D-Day (the second front) and much, much more. This includes aero engines, airframes, uniforms, equipment & medals.

"The Wings Museum is a growing & very much active museum. Through the use of informative displays we aim to educate future generations of the sacrifices made by our gallant armed forces during World War Two in order to preserve the peace we all benefit from today. It is our goal to ensure that their memory is not lost through the passage of time and that their courage and spirit lives on to inspire us all. We hope you enjoy the site & we look forward to seeing you soon!

(Our visit to the Wings Museum at Balcombe was of course cancelled, but it has provisionally been rescheduled for July next year).

GATE HOUSE

With the trip to Knepp being unrealistic, we were very grateful to Jonathan and Bettina Walker for stepping in and opening their garden to us for a much needed reminder that the world can still be a wonderfully inspiring place.

<https://www.villageshowsociety.co.uk/>

From the
ultimate bug
hotel:



To an efficient vegetable garden. Social distancing came naturally, as did the end of the morning rain, and so a good number of our members relaxed and enjoyed the afternoon.

Truly blissful.

TEMPERANCE & HOPE

Ros Black's talk would have included the story of Sarah Robinson from Hesmond's or Prospect House as it was then and we will save that for a later day.

Another East Hoathlian who took the pledge and joined the Band of Hope was Edward Steer. The son of plumber Edward Steer and Sarah Rich, Edward Junior was born in East Hoathly in 1842.

By 1882 Edward the younger was living in East Grinstead and publisher of the East Grinstead Times. He was a strong advocate of religious and political freedom which landed him in gaol for his preaching. He countered this by organising a large demonstration which helped re-establish the right to hold public meetings in the town.



He tried but failed to be elected on to the council until 1895, however he did become a nonconformist representative to the East Grinstead School Board and onto the Board of Guardians of the East Grinstead Workhouse.

Edward was constantly at odds with the majority of the Conservative run Urban Council as he campaigned for Council Housing and the creation of a children's park at Mount Noddy.

His plans to reform the workhouse were unpopular and his accusations of financial impropriety by board members fell on deaf ears. No action was taken.

As a nonconformist he refused to pay the education rate which favoured Church of England Schools which he saw as a state indoctrination of religious inequality. Again he was sent to prison.

Eventually his efforts succeeded in turning Mount Noddy into the marvellous park that it now is. He also won the argument which resulted in the first twelve council houses being built in Bellagio Road*.

Steer was an active supporter of the Women's Suffrage Movement and invited to speak at a meeting before the start of Women's Great Pilgrimage to London in 1913 but it was broken up by a rampaging mob of over 1500 men.

I make no apology for basing most of this text on information available from Spartacus-educational.com. The original article was written by the founder of that site John Simkin, himself a history teacher from East Grinstead. Spartacus Educational is now one of the top three websites used by history teachers and students in Britain (the other two are BBC History and the Public Record Office's Learning Curve), and is committed to producing free content, especially to those countries that find it difficult to purchase books.

I strongly recommend visiting Spartacus-educational.com where, as well as finding an astonishing amount of quality reading, you will be helping this important resource long continue.

*Bellagio road is now Dormans Park Road. Council Terrace is now Northdown Terrace.



LIFE ON THE STAGE - Richard Cosstick

David Borrough was to entertain us with stories of his Life in the Theatre, that will now happen in the New Year.

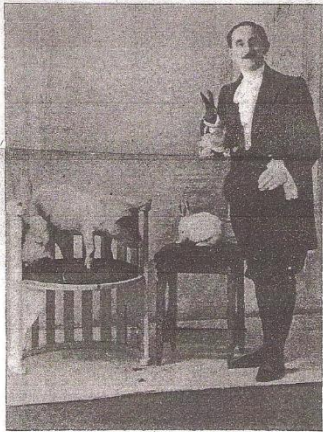
However, Richard Cosstick's father was chauffer to the Rowe family at Gildridge, Whitesmith, and he remembers his uncle; The Great Como, and his "Life on the Stage"

I Remember When

THE GREAT COMO

Comedy Illusionist.

"FUN IN A FARMYARD."



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

That I am the one and only Great Como, British Subject. Have been an Illusionist since a boy, and had the name of the Great Como for the last 12 years. To my friends who are trying to do me harm, I am appealing to Proprietors to see my show this week at Collins' Music Hall, Islington, London. First appearance in London since December 29, 1914, when I played The Surrey as Great Como. Have a few vacancies this year. Booked into 1921.

All communications to my Sole Agent and Business Manager—A. SCRANTON, the Agent of M/c. 140, Oxford Road, Manchester. Telegrams: Scranton, M/c. Telephone: 7892 City.

"The Great Como came to my parents' home in Whitesmith, when he was doing a show at the Grand in Brighton, that night. He wanted my Dad to take him to a farmer who would sell him six Chickens for his show that night. This Dad did and went to the show that evening with my Mum. During the show Como brought on a large Chest of Drawers. Anyone could go onto the stage and check it to make sure it was empty (many did). He then threw a sheet over this chest and proceeded to pull out the drawers. The top one's had Doves in which went all around and then returned to the chest, the next

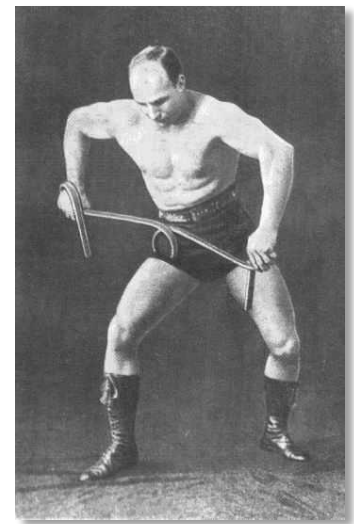
drawer had about five Chickens in, the ones he had purchased from

Chiddingly earlier. They pottered around and stayed by his side and the bottom drawer had a small Pig, which again stayed close to him. Nobody had any idea of how he did this, he died early in his life and took all his secrets with him.

Talking of time flying by, I have just been advised from Canada, that Esmee the young daughter of The Great Como has just had her 90th. Birthday. She would be so proud of all the interest everyone has taken in this about her Mum and Dad.

As well as assisting the Great Como, my Aunt Lottie played the Piano for the Strongman act “The Amazing Samson”, real name Alexander Zass, he used to pick up the Piano with her seated at it with

her still playing!”



Samson, who from 1934 used the name “Zass, the Man of Muscle” achieved lasting international acclaim for his displays of incredible strength, and in 1930 had toured with The Great Como throughout the UK in an old van.

The Great Como, whose real name was Thomas Moore, was described in the press as an Irish-American comedy illusionist whose feats were characterised by “skill and smoothness”.

THE SOCIAL (AT HOME!) NOVEMBER 27TH*November Sunset over East Hoathly - Andrew Beech***THE SOCIAL**

Sadly, any ideas for an alternative, socially distant social have had to be abandoned in the light of the current lockdown. However, although we can't share an evening of good company and tasty party food, there is still an opportunity to make it a special event and order a delicious takeaway from

one of our excellent local establishments. [The King's Head](#) continues to offer great food, as does [Buffalo Bills](#), [The Gun](#), [The Six Bells](#), [The Wok](#) and probably others that you know and I don't.

Supporting our local pubs and restaurants is always a good thing to do and saves on the effort of cooking too!

Bon Appetite!

If we had had the social you would probably have sat quietly through an episode from Richard Vobes, [the Bald Explorer](#) projected onto the wall. So if you can play YouTube on your television take a look at this short film whilst you drink a little wine, it was recorded almost exactly one year ago: Autumn Walk around Lakewood near Uckfield, East Sussex

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xPGRp0XQ9U>

It's a walk we will be including in our schedule for next year.

You could also use the evening to write your bit for our **I Remember When** Collection.

FUTURE MEETINGS – 2021

PROVISIONAL TALKS & VISITS 2021 Fridays 7.30pm at East Hoathly Village Hall unless stated otherwise. Usually on the SECOND Friday of the month but not always.	
FEBRUARY 12 TH	David, Fiona & Friends – Life at Bank House since the days of Thomas Turner Our first meeting of the year, let's make it a good one WITH COMPLIMENTARY GLASS OF WINE!
MARCH 12 TH	David Burrough – Life in the Theatre. <i>A fascinating first-hand account by our very own</i>
APRIL 16 TH	<u>Janet Pennington – Sussex Chairs</u> <i>How East Hoathly influenced William Morris design</i>
MAY 14 TH	<u>Antony Smith - Witchcraft</u> <i>The Hammer of Witches and The Fables of Witchcraft</i>
JUNE 11 th	AGM & Dinner <i>Venue, Menu and details to follow</i>
JULY 7 th Wednesday	Visit to Wings Museum Balcombe <i>Personalised tour</i>
AUGUST 22 nd Sunday	Knepp Walk or Chair Making in the Woods – <i>Yet to decide which!</i>
SEPTEMBER 10 th	Bruce Moore - The World's Fastest Steam Powered Car
OCTOBER 8 th	<u>Ros Black - The Temperance and Hope Movement</u> <i>Including the story of Sarah Robinson who lived in East Hoathly</i>
NOVEMBER 26 th	Social Evening <i>Back to the usual shenanigans</i>

CPRE - Dr R F Smith

There are two current Government White Papers relating to 'Planning Reforms'

"Changes to the planning system consultation policy" (closed 1 October).

And **'Planning for the Future, White Paper'** (closed 29 October)

In Both Cases: Less Protection than Now For Nature

Referring to the "stark challenges" laid out in David Attenborough's documentary, 'Extinction: The Facts', Andrew Griffith MP (Arun & South Downs) recognises the need to protect biodiversity, advising that "we have to make sure that the planning system protects 'green corridors' for wildlife to move through the landscape and for natural processes to operate effectively" (WSCT 17/09/20).

Unfortunately, draconian changes to the planning system now being proposed by the Government in its 'Planning for the Future, White Paper' would, if implemented, provide less protection than the current system and result in considerable harm being done to the natural environment, including significant loss of biodiversity, as is made clear by the just released 'The Wildlife Trusts' preliminary analysis of the Planning White Paper'.

For example: proposed Growth, Renewal and Protected Areas:

- "provide no mechanism for nature's recovery and three ways in which nature can be destroyed: by being automatically discounted in the Growth area, overwhelmed in the Renewal area and unprotected in the Protected area",
- "removal of the requirement to undertake site-specific surveys", and therefore the need for accurate and up to date information, when determining and designating areas of development "could mean impacts on nature are not fully assessed, therefore not avoided, or mitigated",
- "proposals do not address the climate and ecological emergencies",

- “no explanation is given on how planning will contribute to the enhancement of nature, beyond tenuous nods to net gain’, and
- there is “a presumption that the international, national and local protections we have are all we need for nature. This fails to recognise that many of our protected sites are in unfavourable condition and even if these weren’t, these alone will not support nature’s recovery. Nature is in freefall – we need more space for it”.

Mr Griffith and all who have concerns for nature and the natural environment really must read the ‘The Wildlife Trusts’ preliminary analysis of the Planning White Paper’ – and respond to the White Paper consultation. (Consultation closed 28 October).

Yours faithfully,

Dr R F Smith

Trustee [CPRE Sussex](#)

WOODLAND TRUST

[Defend our woods and trees against cuts to planning protection](#)

The proposed changes to the planning system could put most of England’s ancient woods and trees at risk. As if that’s not enough, they could also reduce the say that communities can have on decisions that affect their local trees and woods.

Under the new proposals, local authorities would split all land into three zones: growth, renew and protect.

Most ancient woods and trees are currently only protected by national planning rules - but they are missing from the Government’s list of land types that would be protected in the new planning system. With irreplaceable ancient woodland covering just 2.8% of England, we can’t afford to lose any more.

Consultation processes are set for change too, leaving the public less opportunity to defend woods and trees from unchecked loss due to development.

We must not lose our last line of defence: the ability to speak out when our woods and trees are under threat.

The planning system exists to help make better places to live. The changes offer new opportunities to drive high quality new tree planting to green our towns and cities with proposals for tree-lined streets on new developments. But we must start by protecting the trees we already have.

More than 9,000 of you responded to the Government's public consultation on the proposals through our campaign. This was key to getting the Government's attention, but it was just the beginning. We need you to continue speaking up for woods and trees, asking for them to be given greater protections.

Trees and woods improve our quality of life, from air quality, shelter and shade to boosting mental health. The planning system should protect those we already have and help to increase tree canopy cover further, to give us all access to trees and woods.



LAUGHTON GREENWOOD formally VERTWOODS COMMUNITY WOODLANDS

Saturday July 18th

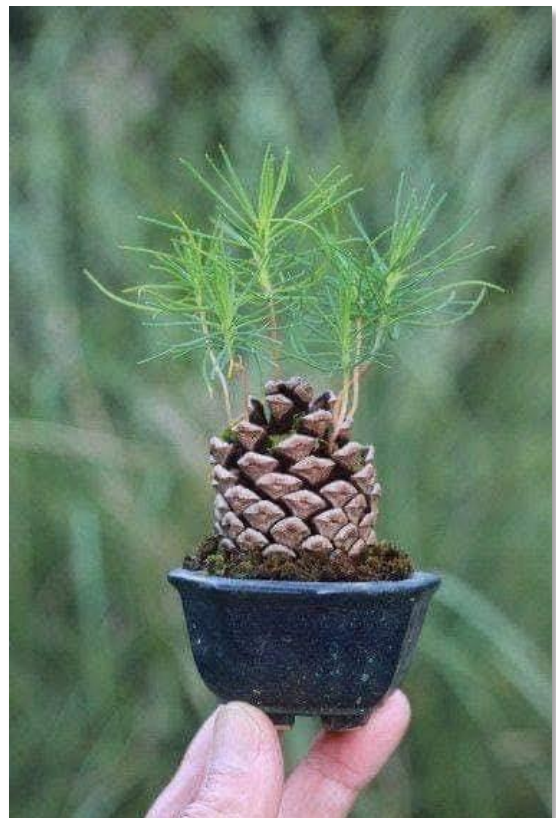
Great turn out for our day in woods for potential new committee members, advisors and volunteers! Thanks to Tom, our woodland manager for such an interesting walk...from leaky dams, to thinned trees to increase diversity, future plans of pond project, pathways, membership access and sharing nature carefully with groups! Want to get involved?

Contact

info@laughtongreenwood.co.uk

Try This:

1. Go to the woods. Bring home a cone
2. Put the cone in a pot - so that most of it stands out.
3. Pour water on it every day make sure it is a small amount of water, as excess water makes the cones rot.
4. After some time, a tiny tree will appear.
5. Congratulations - YOU just started oxygen production and you have a piece of forest in your own home. And a free Christmas tree for next year!



WALDRON

The Facebook Group, [Heathfield, Horam, Hellingly & Villages in old photographs](#) is coming up trumps with interesting paraphernalia.

A post by the Administrator of a Cross in Hand Ginger Beer Bottle on Ebay with the comment "Anyone got any of these?"



Resulted in;
Andrew
Robertson
"Yes dug one
up in my
garden in
Heathfield."



And John Parsons:

"When we had the bakery demolish/re-build six years ago I found loads of local bottles of different shapes and sizes

This one says Nelson & Kenward, Waldron."



Malcolm Duggleby:
 “Found this years ago in Heathfield.”



John Parsons
 “And this”

Ross Newark asked; “Chris didn't your great grandfather make these?
 Chris Newark replied “Yes, down Newpond hill, called the pop factory, building still there”



Looking at the census for Newpond Hill in 1881, most residents were farm labourers, married with on average three children.

Thomas Foord however, described as a Mineral Water Manufacturer at the Ginger Beer Manufactory had married Philidelphia Stevens and had 12 children aged between fifteen years and three months (with more to come).

I guess that's a good recommendation for their drinks!

W.I. EAST HOATHLY – Wartime recollections continued**I REMEMBER WHEN** (written in 1952)

In a few years' time parents may be surprised to hear that before 1940 no milk was served in school and children living at a distance had to bring sandwiches for their midday meal. In 1940 the Institute set to work to get this altered. Thanks to the help of an Institute farmer husband, milk was provided. Then the Institute started to negotiate with the Education authorities for permission to start a school canteen.



By Ministry of Information Photo Division Photographer - <http://media.iwm.org.uk>

After a year's persistence permission was given in September 1942. An old school shed was transformed into a kitchen, and the Local Education Authority undertook to pay the cook's wages and the cost of equipment and heating. For their share the Institute undertook to order and pay for the food, using the children's dinner money to pay for the food, threepence a dinner. It arranged the weekly menu and it organised a rota of mothers and other willing helpers to help the cook prepare, to serve the meals and to wash up after.



East Hoathly Allotments (now Church Marks Lane)

From that moment much of the food grown on the W.I. allotment was diverted straight to the school canteen. This accounts for the remark of one mother: "When I ask my young hopeful what he had for dinner today, he is sure to say 'and cabbage and carrots of course!'".

The annual report for 1945 mentions, under the heading 'school canteen' that two hundred and fifty pounds of jam had been made for the school at the jam centre and adds that one hundred and twenty nine pounds of runner beans from the allotment had been salted down for the canteen's winter use, remarking that "only the wartime shortage of salt had but an end to this interesting occupation!"

This activity came to an end when peace was declared and the canteen was taken over officially and run by the education Authority. The report of 1945 sums up by giving the number of meals planned and served under Institute management as just over forty thousand.

HALLAND

The pump was fed by the spring that is sited above and closer to Back Lane. Water would have been piped to three brick built filtration tanks before drawn up by the pump. Probably, like East Hoathly, mains water wasn't installed until about 1960.

The lamppost was one of four in Halland and lit with paraffin stored in a wooden shed alongside the Mission Room, which can be seen on the far left.

Maps show that both the cottages and the pump would have stood on the current roundabout!

The cottages were demolished about 1930. According to Jane Seabrook's book "[East Hoathly a parish and its people](#)" the lady collecting the water is Elsie, daughter of Frederick and Louisa Turner of the Blacksmith's Arms, the young boy leaning on the lamppost is Aubrey Funnell whose parents had the village shop.

BROAD OAK CHIDDINGLY

The area we know as Golden Cross was once known as Broad Oak.

The future Reverend Michael G. Bishop started his farming career at Broad Oak Farm in 1942. His time there is described in his book "[From Smock to Cassock](#)". The hay crop was heavy, and as rain was forecast, the Farmer, Mr Fordham, and "Tiny" decided to build the haystack at the lower end of the farm.

As we were proudly putting the finishing touches to the apex roof of the stack, an RAF staff car sped across the fields, a sergeant approached us aggressively "remove that haystack at once" he announced.

"I'll not remove it" responded Mr Fordham "we're fighting a war against people like you, we can't have little Hitlers here!"

The sergeant saluted, left and promptly returned with an officer;

"My Spitfires can't take off! Your haystack's right at the end of the runway".

With the help of Royal Air Force crew the haystack was moved to nearer the farmyard.

Next day we witnessed the first Spitfire taking off. We were honoured with a performance of the famous 'Victory Roll' traditionally given when returning victorious from battle.



[*Deanland and Broad Oak from a Spitfire*](#)

Broad Oak Farm was down the track adjacent to the Bat and Ball and abutted Deanland.

More recently Broad Oak Barn has become home to the Great Unwashed!

A video games development company whose first title is a comedy action series called World Leaders. Working with creators of Spitting Image and top comedy writers, World Leaders is an arcade comedy action series featuring caricatures of various political leaders and dictators. They live together in a surreal cross between a Big Brother house and a mental institution. The player controls little cartoon versions of the world leader characters and faces an onslaught of bizarre nightmare enemies!

EAST SUSSEX WRAS – Trevor Weeks

If WRAS stays as busy as we currently are, It is possible that 2020 will see WRAS deal with over 5000 casualties for the first time in its history. Over 1100 casualty up on last year. This is mad! If you can help WRAS by making a donation today please do, as we are really going to need your help this Autumn, Winter and into Spring if we are going to be able to survive another year like this. if you can help PLEASE DO. Reg Charity 1108880.

To make a donation please call 01825-873003 or go to <https://wildlifeambulance.org/>

To report a casualty, phone the hotline



Please put this number in your phone 07815 078 234

After what has been a busy summer we have made a huge dent in the mountain of newspapers we had stored earlier this year. We are now in a position where we can start taking in newspapers again, and hopefully stock up a bit more for the autumn and winter hedgehog season.



Due to Covid-19 and because we are still working with a limit number of staff and volunteers, we are unable to collect newspapers and rely on people kindly delivering them to our Casualty Centre at Unit 2, The Shaw Barn, A22, Whitesmith, BN8 6JD.

PLANNING



Central Government has made it clear:

To make sure more houses are built, more quickly, in more places.

There is a new formula to estimate housing need in each local authority area.

Research from the House of Commons library has forecast it will increase quotas in small villages and rural areas more than in large towns.

Local councils will be asked to designate land either as “growth”, “renewal” or “protection”. New developments will be granted automatic permission on “growth” land and “renewal” areas will see developments given “permission in principle” subject to some checks. Only areas given the “protection” status, including the greenbelt, will not have automatic building rights.

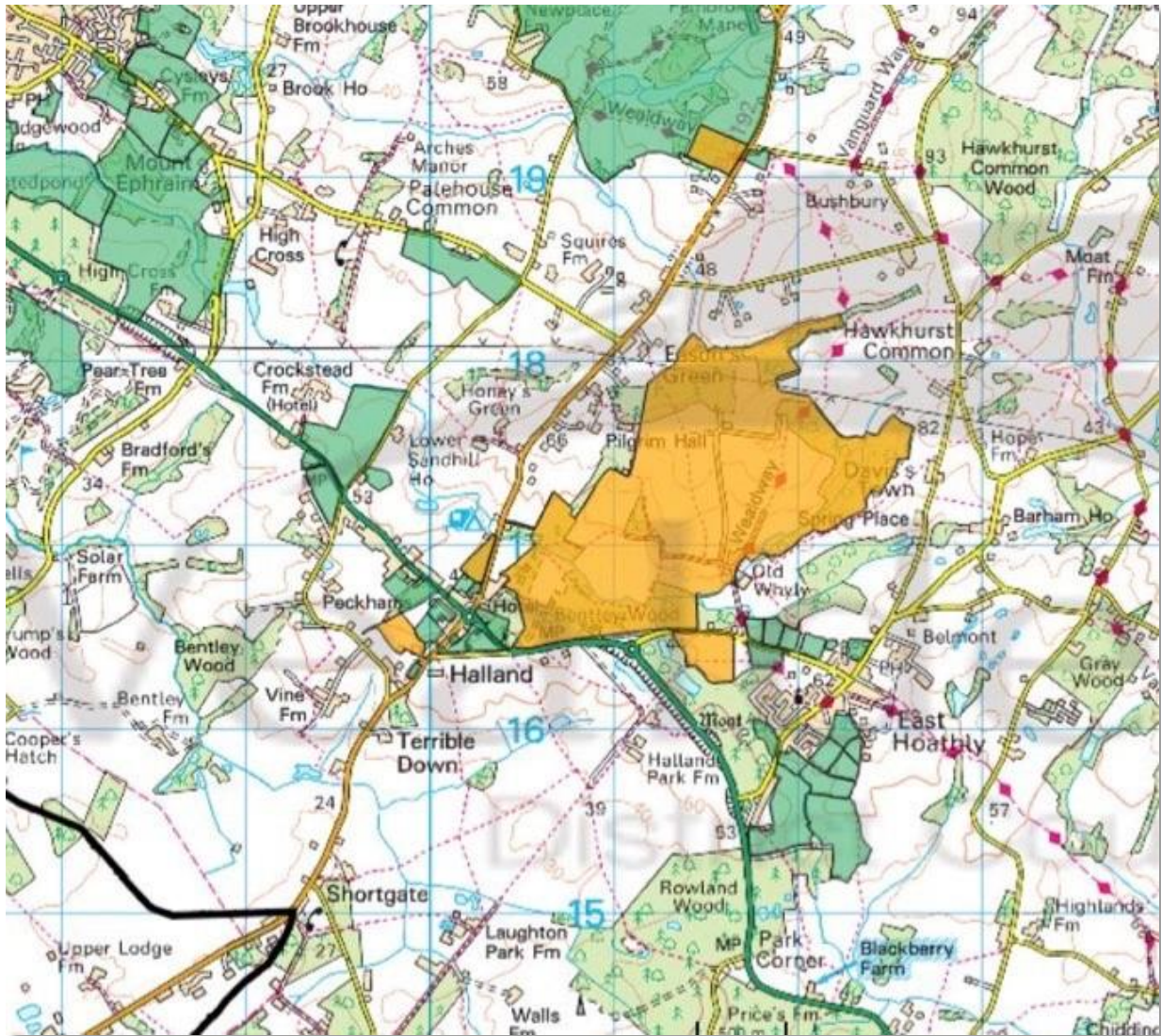
Described by the opposition as a “developer's charter that will see communities side-lined in decisions and denied vital funding”.

Land suitable for **growth** will be approved for development at the same time that plans are prepared, meaning new homes, schools, shops and business space can be built quickly and efficiently, as long as local design standards are met.

Renewal areas will enable much quicker development where it is well designed in a way which reflects community preferences.

Development on Green Belt land will continue to be restricted as it is now with the policy of **protection** remaining a decision for local authorities as they prepare their plans

VILLAGE CONCERNS - Kate Richardson



This Map is land submitted to Wealden for consideration for development in our Parish as part of the New Local Plan process.

It includes all the previously submitted land shown in green plus the remaining entirety of Hesmonds Stud to the North and West of East Hoathly and 2 sites in Halland all shown in Yellow.

You should also be aware that Hesmonds Stud have also put up for sale Tourles Farm Stud which comprises the remainder of their land to the South and East of East Hoathly and they indicate in the sales particulars that they consider it has development potential.

SUSSEX BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION

Winter Work Parties

Neil Hulme will be leading winter work parties at Rowland Wood and Park Corner Heath as usual this season. Our work parties will continue to take place on the second Sunday of every month, so in the coming winter the dates will be:

11th October

8th November

13th December

10th January

14th February

14th March



Comma emerging from chrysalis - Pellett

The work parties will start at 10am and end around 4pm, but don't feel obliged to stay all day.

Work parties will be arranged to be Covid safe. Under the current guidance this will most likely be working in two 'bubbles' of six - one on Park Corner Heath and one on Rowland Wood. Therefore you must inform Neil that you intend to come in advance and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Please email: neil.hulme.sussex@outlook.com to confirm attendance.

We will of course adapt plans if guidance changes - please keep an eye on the website for the most up to date information.

To help with keeping work parties Covid safe, please do bring your own work gloves and your own hand tools if you have them, particularly loppers. You will also need you bring your own food and drink as required.

PAST WALKS THAT DIDN'T HAPPEN – RIPE

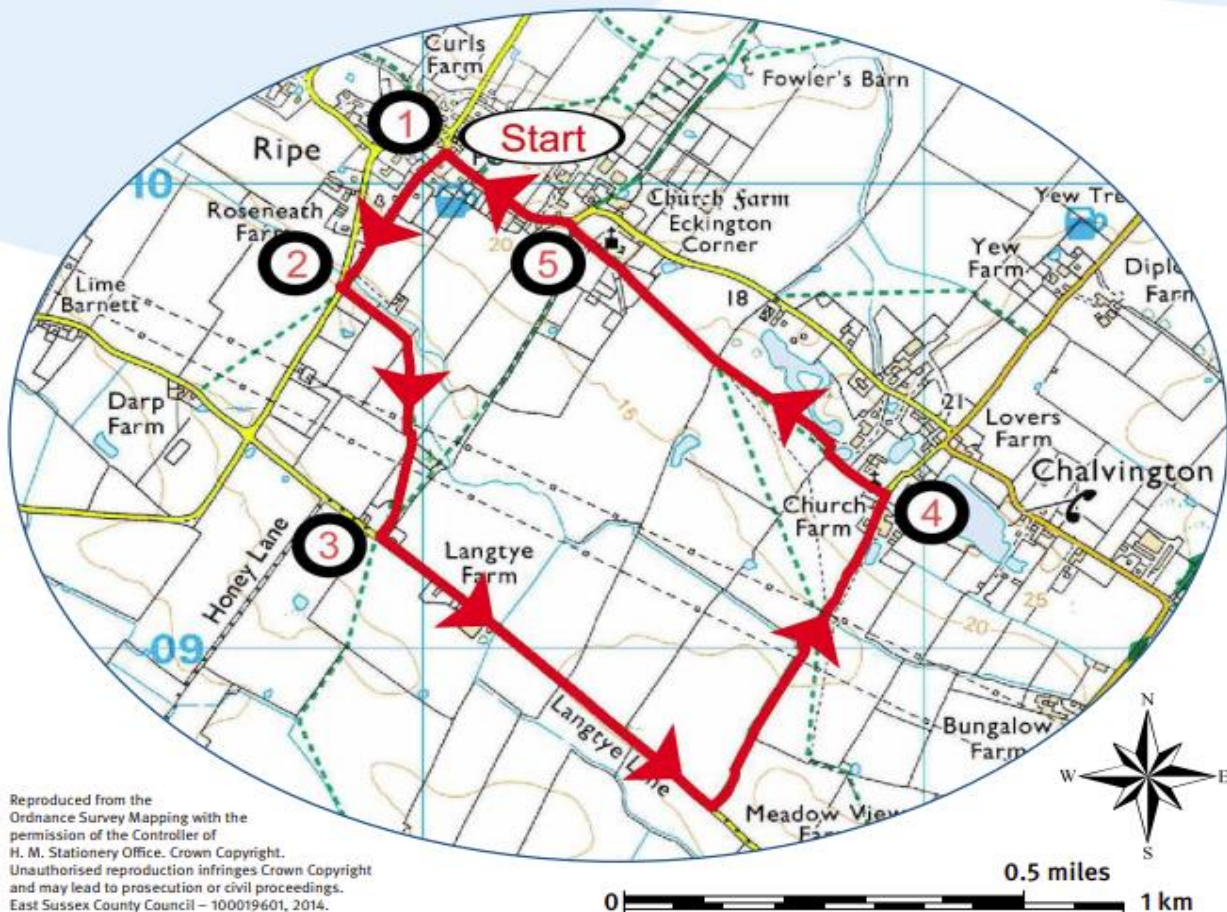
eastsussex.gov.uk

East Sussex
County Council



Ripe Walk

An easy walk along country lanes and across fields with a few stiles.



Local Information

The villages of Ripe and Chalvington, through both of which this route runs, are close neighbours, which still retain their individual characteristics. One of the most eye-catching houses in Ripe is The Old Cottage, a timber framed building covered in a large number of carvings. Dating from the 16th century, the house looks like no other in the village.

Essential Information

Distance: 2.5 miles/4km
Walk grade: Easy
Maps: OS Explorer 123
 OS Landranger 199
Start/Finish: The Lamb Inn, Ripe
Post Code: BN8 6AS
Grid Ref: TQ 510101

- 1) Starting from the centre of Ripe village at the Lamb Inn, head along Church Lane, signposted to Chalvington. Immediately beside the pub, turn right to head down the driveway. At the end of the surfaced drive, continue straight ahead along the narrow, enclosed path between the drive entrances, as waymarked. Follow the enclosed route, through the gate, to reach another gate beside an access track. Cross the track, to the footbridge, and then continue ahead to reach the road.
- 2) Turn almost immediately left onto the signposted footpath, crossing a small sleeper bridge. Head straight across the field in the direction indicated. Continue straight ahead into the next field for a distance of 80 metres (85 yds.), before bearing right to follow the route to a gate in the field corner. Almost immediately a second gate will be reached, after which follow the well defined path towards a third gate. Beyond this gate, follow the route across the gravel driveway, to reach another gate beside the road.
- 3) Turn left to join Langtye Lane, and follow this for a distance of approximately 900 metres (980 yds.), before turning left again onto the signposted bridleway. The route now follows a field edge path, with hedges to your right. After the bridleway passes through the gap at an old gateway, continue to follow the field edge route, heading towards the barns of Church Farm. Continue through the farmyard to join the lane.
- 4) On reaching the Church, turn left, going through the ornate iron gate, to follow the path through the churchyard to reach a second iron gate on the far side. Follow the route beyond, along the field edge path, with the boundary to your right, to reach a kissing gate. From this section of the route there are some wide reaching views towards the South Downs. Continue along the edge of the next field, still with the boundary to your right, before crossing another field, heading towards Ripe Church to reach a stile. Cross the two small paddocks, and then continue, through the kissing gate to follow the path along the edge of the Churchyard. Beyond the churchyard, continue to follow the route ahead, along the driveway to reach Church Lane.
- 5) Turn left to follow Church Lane for a distance of 330 metres (360 yds.) back to the centre of Ripe village, and the end of the walk at the Lamb Inn.



Ripe Church

14-15:593

PAST WALKS THAT DIDN'T HAPPEN – KNEPP

Knepp made history on 15th May with storks nesting and hatching, the first known non- captive, [White Storks in Britain](#) for 400 years.

Just before our planned visit to the Knepp estate nineteen captive bred juvenile white stocks were brought in from the Cotswolds and added to Knepps resident population.

Soon thirty eight storks were flying. Seven of the juveniles are fitted with GPS tags. On the day of our proposed trip they had taken a day trip to Rustington and by the end of the month they were venturing as far as Lizard in Cornwall and returned on September 5th before crossing the channel to Europe. Many storks no longer fully migrate and find a ready source of food at landfill sites along the way. Two of Knepps tagged juveniles have now crossed the Strait of Gibraltar and are now in Northern Africa.



Knepp's rewilding project includes docile Longhorn cattle seen here guarding the White Stork Oak

PAST WALKS THAT DIDN'T HAPPEN – SEAFORD HEAD

Just before we tried this walk [Kevin Gordon](#) posted about the memorial to an event that didn't happen:

The monument on Seaford Head was unveiled by the Seaford Mayor in 2006 but there is no record of the incident ever taking place other than the recollections of a man many years later - a story he used to tell people at the pub:



This plaque commemorates those soldiers who died in this area and specifically in this field during World War II. Their numbers are unknown but their memory lives on.

The following is a personal testimony from Corporal LESLIE EDWARDS 1920-2004 a local man who served in the area and laid poppies on this spot every Remembrance Day until his death.

"I will never forget the day in 1940 when a Canadian company came to Cuckmere and pitched their tents in this field and I was stationed here and knew that bombers regularly used this valley for navigation purposes. I tried to tell the commanding officer but he was not interested in what I had to say. Two mornings later the Messerschmitts arrived. Just as the sun was rising they came skimming over the water and up the valley. Around Alfriston they banked hard and came back. Bearing down on the tents they opened fire. Steam, soil and grass rose in front of them as bullets and bombs entered the ground. All the young men in the marquees and bell tents were killed. The commanding officer who was shaving at the time in the middle coastguard cottage died instantly when a shell went through the wall that held his mirror"

Remember me when I am gone away
Gone far away into the silent land
Christina Rossetti

WALKS FOR 2020 – Dates for your Diary

FUTURE WALKS

Walks 2020 Walks start at 2pm, usually after lunch in the appropriate pub. This year they will usually be on the FOURTH Sunday of the month but please check	
OCTOBER 25 th	Bentley, Halland <i>Cancelled</i>
NOVEMBER 22 nd	Cross in Hand, <i>Start from St. Bart's Church</i>
DECEMBER 13 th	East Hoathly Street Walk, <i>Meet at Churchyard War Memorial</i>

I believe our walks can play a more important role in the community and so the emphasis will now be on well-being rather than endurance.

Current restrictions mean group walks cannot happen at the moment, but you can go walking with those you live with, your support bubble or one person from another household.

The benefits to physical and emotional health of exercising cannot be overestimated and we are very fortunate to have such beautiful surroundings we can explore, whether to enjoy a brisk romp amongst the stunning autumn colours or simply to amble and appreciate the wonders of nature.

I suggest that we DO walk the November walk, but individually. You don't have to do it on the day or time it was scheduled for. Just when you feel you need to exercise, explore and enjoy what can be best described as a gift: Darch's Wood Cross in Hand.

WELL-BEING WALKS FOR 2020 – BENTLEY

Too wet for well being!



It was originally intended that this walk would start near to Bentley by the Millennium Fox, a sculpture by [Corin Johnson](#) commissioned as part of a National Trust (Cliveden Conservation) workshop project in 2000.

In the end we decided not to go ahead and promote it because of the predicted weather and the bleakness of the proposed route.

A wise decision!

So just a few words about the sculpture on our doorstep, of a fox with a pedigree and eminence that few appreciate on first glance.



Corin Johnson's other major commissions include Two Christian Martyrs on Westminster Abbey, The Lady Diana memorial at Althorpe, and a relief carving

of a slave for The Scott anti-slavery monument at Wisbech.

We are extremely lucky to have this sculpture so close by and openly available to us. Not only is the artist skillful, so is the fox.

WELL-BEING WALKS FOR 2020 – CROSS IN HAND Nov 22nd

[Cross-In-Hand Amenities Society](#) (CHAS) is the trustees to Darch's Wood.

Start from St Bart's Church Car Park, Little London Road, Cross in Hand.

The wood currently remains open to the public for people to exercise and walk their dogs, provided they follow government guidelines. We are asked to walk clockwise around the wood to assist in social distancing. Posters will be placed at the entrances reminding people to keep 2 metres apart and take a clockwise route.

In 1976, Mrs Margaret Marr Darch, the owner of Heatherden, donated 40 acres of woodland that formed part of the Heatherden estate to the CHAS, to be held in Trust in perpetuity, for the benefit and enjoyment of residents.

Having taken over ownership of the wood, the Society soon found that it had been very poorly maintained. Boundary fences were in need of repair, all of the bridges spanning the many streams were in a dangerous state, paths were overgrown, and what had once been a pond had become a swamp.

By 1987 with assistance from the Rivers Authority the pond had been recovered from the swamp.



Housing development for Fairies!

An ornamental bridge was installed at in 1993 to replace a rather dilapidated wooden bridge commonly referred to as the 'Bridge of Sighs' because of all the grief it gave the Society!

The clearance in January 2016 revealed an old brick bridge that had lain hidden for over 20 years, and the Society's hopes to rebuild the path along the valley to the bridge have now been realised.

Most of the restoration has been by a small band of willing volunteers.

Over one mile of all-weather paths have now been laid, providing a solid surface throughout the year, and so this well-being walk should be exactly that and suitable for all our members.

We were going to be asking for donations on this one which would go towards the upkeep of the woods.

WELL-BEING WALKS FOR 2020 – EAST HOATHLY December 13th

Assuming we return to Medium Level Risk in December and providing the rules don't change, the December East Hoathly Walk will go ahead, as organised walks are recognised as good for us, the benefits outweighing the risks and therefore exempt from the restrictions hampering many other activities.

Therefore we anticipate that organised walks with up to 30 people will be able to resume, which shouldn't be a problem but it will mean registering before the walk so we know names and numbers.

There's a few boxes to tick as well, such as "have you got a temperature?" and you will be expected to follow the government guidelines on social contact and physical distancing during the walk.

Anyone who develops symptoms within 48 hours of a walk is obliged to apply for a COVID-19 test, and to support NHS contact tracing if requested.

It might surprise some but before our walks we do carry out a risk assessment and have a risk management strategy. In the past we have considered our members and friends able to judge for themselves whether they feel safe walking or not.

In future, for compliance, you will be shown a copy and asked to agree to it.

For clarity, the walks will be shorter, with the emphasis on health and well-being, not endurance.

With that bit over;

We will start the walk in the churchyard and leaving by the lych-gate try to visualise where some of the earlier houses of the village were and who lived there perhaps two hundred years ago. Then onto the High Street imagining the scene from Thomas Turner's house and the changes to the centre of the village since. The length of the walk will depend on the weather and the possibility of getting refreshments from the Kings Head when we finish.

THE PARISH OF EAST HOATHLY - Louise Falcini

The Poor Law: Small Bills and Petty Finance.

This is an abstract from the www.poorlaw.org project for which East Hoathly plays a prominent part as one of the villages studied.



During the eighteenth century East Hoathly contained only a handful of houses, largely clustered around the conjunction of roads at the centre of the parish. The church lay just to the south-west of this centre. However, the parish also incorporated a number of small hamlets with a scattering of houses including: Grays, Blackboys,

Whitesmiths, the Nursery and Halland. By 1801 the whole of the parish contained only 56 domestic houses, occupied by 76 families. Over the next forty years the number of houses doubled, so by 1841, 119 houses were recorded in the parish. During the same period, 1801-1841, the population of the parish rose from 395 to 607. In 1841 only 31 out of the 607 inhabitants were recorded as having been born outside of the county, suggesting a reasonably stable population with relatively few in-comers.



On Christmas Day 1758

Thomas Turner wrote 'Oh may we increase in faith and maintain and keep the good intentions we have this day taken up.'

His good intentions did not come up to expectations! As years went on, feasting at East Hoathly increased during the Christmas period. Thomas, the rector, Mr Porter and neighbours took part in behaviour which could only be called debauchery! Apparently, for weeks after Christmas Day, they met at each other's homes to play 'brag', eat and drink to excess, dance and shout and play pranks which included carrying the ladies 'pick a back' and dragging each other out of bed, which bordered closely on 'indecenty'. Shame on you Mr. Turner!

2nd Jan 1760 Diary entry At Thomas Turners House

"Joseph Fuller and Mr. Thornton smoked a pipe with me in the even. Oh, how pleasant has this Christmas been kept as yet; no revelling, nor tumultuous meetings, where there too often is little else but light and trifling discourse; and it's well if it is not intermixed with some obscene talk, and too often with vile and execrable oaths. Not that I am any ways an enemy to innocent mirth; but what I protest against, is that which is not so."

BIRDS OF SUSSEX – Wagtails by Jenny

Most of us are familiar with the Pied Wagtail, a small bird of striking appearance and endearingly comical behaviour as it runs along looking like a clockwork toy, its tail constantly bobbing, as it pursues the bugs and flies that make up its diet.

Our outside loo hasn't seen its intended action for many, many years and now houses an odd assortment of gardening tools and 'stuff'. This year, our 'stuff' has provided suitable nooks and crannies for several birds to move, build nests and set about raising their young. Initially a Blackbird made a nest wedged between the handles of an old pair of shears and things were going well until the constant to-ings and fro-ings were spotted by a Magpie and that was, very sadly, the end of that and the Blackbirds moved on.

Not long after that we were thrilled, but apprehensive, to find the abandoned Blackbird nest had been taken over by the Pied Wagtails. For days we watched the increasingly busy parents constantly feeding their young, sometimes using the front entrance, but frequently stealthily sneaking under gaps in the eaves in what must have been efforts at concealment.

Despite predation by the arguably villainous Magpie, we were delighted to see that one of the young Wagtails successfully fledged. Since then we have only seen them on odd occasions as they run along the ridge of our roof, but hopefully they will use our facilities again next year.



The other birds to use the old outhouse were Robins, who built an amazingly well hidden nest tucked almost out of sight within the security of a roll of barbed wire.

Watching all the activity in the loo and in our various nest boxes was for us, like so many, a welcome distraction and great joy during bewildering times.

The back end of last year and the beginning of this were incredibly wet with widespread flooding, and as a result, we frequently saw a pair of Grey Wagtails in habitat they wouldn't normally frequent.



A species that is strongly associated with water, they generally breed where rivers and streams are fast flowing, or beside weirs and mill-races. Thanks to the interminable downpours, a nearby stream became hugely swollen and fast flowing to the point where the beautiful Wagtails, we guess, were sufficiently confused and settled in what under normal circumstances would have been an unsuitable environment.

Once the rain eased and the flooding receded we still occasionally saw them and were concerned for the fate of any attempt at raising a brood in habitat that was becoming progressively drier and hoped they would move on and find somewhere more appropriate to nest, but over the last couple of months we have quite frequently been seeing three of them, so presumably they stayed nearby. Under favourable conditions they will raise a clutch four to six, so seeing just one juvenile is disappointing, but perhaps not surprising under the circumstances. Hopefully next year will be better for them.

EDITORS FINAL NOTES – Chris Pellett

Let's look forward to next year.

Village Halls will reopen.

Social gatherings will resume.

Village activities will take place once more.

We will probably better appreciate our local amenities.

We will probably have improved our own skills in the vegetable garden.

We will probably buy more locally than we used to.

We will hopefully continue to support local businesses.

We will hopefully continue supporting our clubs and societies.

Hopefully we will continue to support each other.

Chris 01825 872830

ehdps@hotmail.co.uk

P.S. Another thought on the social; could you use the evening to dig out your oldest photo taken locally and we'll try to do a then and now comparison in the next newsletter.

Finally, a Merry Christmas from all of the committee to all of our members and friends.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**MEMBERSHIP or MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION**

To:

Jenny Pellett
Honorary Membership Secretary
EH & District Preservation Society
2 Prices Cottages
Whitesmith BN8 6JD
01825 872830
jlpellett@icloud.com

I enclose the sum of £12 / £20* as my subscription to the EH & District Preservation Society for the year
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☐ £12 if single, ☐ £20 if joint. *Please tick whichever is applicable.

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