

# East Hoathly & District Preservation Society



Happy New Year 2018

The Society is:

**Associate Member of Action in Rural Sussex**  
**Affiliate Member of the CPRE**  
**Associate Member of the Sussex Wildlife Trust**  
**Associate Member of the Woodland Trust**

**Committee**

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

Additionally, we thank Kate Richardson, Fred Carter, John Deane, Jane Seabrook, as well as many others who all assist with different aspects when needed

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

**Website address:**

[www.easthoathlypreservation.org.uk](http://www.easthoathlypreservation.org.uk)

**Email:**

[ehdps@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ehdps@hotmail.co.uk)

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Hello members,

On Fri 13th October, Pete the Pond's enthusiasm astounded us all, my report on the evening appears on page x in 5 of the newsletter

We tried something different for the Social Evening on the 24th November and it certainly felt both very buzzy and extremely enjoyable. Thank you for all your wonderful feedback.



A flyer for next year's walks was available and for those who paid their membership next year's programme became theirs to take away. The membership fees remain the same at £12/£20 for single/joint respectively and £4 for visitors to ordinary meetings.

Alan and Marion Salmon brought along various antiquities to amuse, Sven Svensson, an expert teller of "Scroeta" (Viking Bus Jokes), caused a certain amount of havoc and Jose Loosemore launched the Barnabas Birdy Book.

Again a fuller report appears further on in these pages.

Our first meeting next year is on the 9th February, "Something in the night, the nocturnal world of Sussex and beyond" with Michael Blencowe. A real treat both visually and audibly!

So, as always, I look forward to seeing you soon, In the meantime the committee wishes you a great festive celebration and a fun filled New Year.

Kind regards, Toni

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Firstly a big thank you to all those members who renewed their subscription at the social evening - it really helps to receive them in good time.

I am now preparing the draft accounts for 2017 and the accounts are looking healthy - further news when all the figures are finally agreed.

Regards

Peter



## MEMBERSHIP



What a brilliant start to the year! More than a third of members have already paid their subs for 2018! Looking at the programme of events for the year ahead I'm sure no one will be disappointed. There is a membership renewal form at the end of the newsletter

Jenny Pellett  
Secretary

Membership

Cheques payable to: EH&DPS c/o Jenny Pellett, 2 Prices Cottages, Whitesmith, Lewes BN8 6JD



**PAST MEETINGS - POND LIFE****THE IMPORTANCE OF WILDLIFE PONDS IN OUR ENVIRONMENT****- Pete the Pond**

On Fri 13th October, [Pete the Pond](#) explained why wildlife ponds are so important to our environment. His impressive credentials as Alan Titchmarsh's Pond Doctor and his talks on Sussex Radio for Alison Fern's Sound Advice Programme were clearly evident. In fact, we were all mesmerised for over an hour and a half, very passionate and a real fountain of knowledge (excuse the water related pun!). I for one can't wait for him to come and advise Leycester and I on our home ponds, although we love our ducks and so will possibly not go to the top of his class!

Did you know...

Ponds are great homes for fish, of course, but they also support about two thirds of our native freshwater species of plants, invertebrates, mammals and amphibians.

A pond can contain examples of virtually every single major group of animals on the planet.

Within two years, a new pond can become as valuable a habitat as one that's been around for half a century!

How amazing is that!

**PAST MEETINGS – THE SOCIAL - Toni**

The Social Evening on the 24th November was a great success.

Alan and Marion Salmon brought along various antiquities to amuse, bemuse and enthrall us. Collectively, we knew very little about the array of items on display but hopefully we all came away more knowledgeable as Alan kindly explained to his audience their purpose.



*Photo by Leicester*

Sven Svensson, an expert teller of "Scroeta" (Viking Bus Jokes), caused a certain amount of havoc. It was lovely that he joined our merry throng in his full Viking regalia, provided a musical interlude along with his particular form of humour, so thank you David Burrough aka Sven!



*Photo by Leycester*

Jose Loosemore launched the Barnabas Birdy Book with individual stories and artwork about birds visiting her garden bird table, along with complementary cards. So impressive was her delivery that she sold out on the night. However, more copies are now available from the Chiddingly Community Shop.

Jane Seabrook also had a selection of local publications to whet our interest.

Q's beautifully crafted festive button game was won by Gill, a visitor from Broad Oak. Toad in the hole was won by Jean Moore after a nail biting competition between Jean, Vic, and Rob.

A lovely short film of Sussex in the fifties and a slide show of more old local scenes to reminisce over were also much appreciated. Well done Chris for sourcing this for us.

For those who hadn't signed before there was an opportunity to sign the Tree Charter, instigated by the Woodland Trust and partnered by over 70 influential organisations, that should help protect our woodland for future generations.

We spent a fascinating time trying to guess whose baby/child picture had been proudly displayed and at the end of the night all was revealed. A great way to get to know one another a little better.

Leycester administered an impressive raffle which even had a specific prize for 'Sadie', who joined the party for the night. Wisely, she watched proceedings from the safe location of her dog rug!

Thanks to everyone who joined in and made the night such a pleasurable experience. The donations bar expertly manned by Fred and Richard kept the members well lubricated! Lastly and by no means least, a huge thank you to all those helpers, especially Nov and Sue, whose sterling efforts ensured that the buffet table was laden with excellent party food including Linda's yummy mince pies.

## FUTURE MEETINGS

### PROGRAMME FOR 2018

Fri Feb 9th	Something in the night; The nocturnal world of Sussex: Michael Blencowe.	*
Fri Mar 9th	Musical instruments of the Medieval Period: Dorothy & Michael Withers.	
Fri Apr 13th	Argos Hill Windmill, past, present & future: Richard Howes.	
Fri May 11th	Pinot to Phyteuma, the story of Rathfinny Wine Estate: Richard James.	
Fri Jun 8th	AGM & Dinner: Ellie's Little Kitchen. *	
Jul / Aug	Outing: Argos Hill Windmill. *	
Fri Sep 14th	Alstroemeria & UK Cut Flower Industry: Ben Cross.	
Fri Oct 12th	Honey Bees: Oliver St.John.	
Fri Nov 30th	Social evening. *	

Details will be in later Newsletters

#### Did you know...

Pond enthusiasts really are doing their bit; in the ten years up to 2007, an estimated 18,000 ponds were lost - but a staggering 70,000 new ones were created!

According to a recent survey, one in every ten British gardens has a pond or water feature.

But one in ten ponds contains at least one plant species officially regarded as an "invasive alien"!

How amazing is that!



**THE NOCTURNAL WORLD OF SUSSEX - Michael Blencowe**

You are invited to a talk entitled

# **Something in the night, the nocturnal world of Sussex**

BY

**Michael Blencowe**

Join Michael as he takes us on an audio and visual nocturnal journey through Sussex (and beyond), searching for the strange animals which emerge after we have gone to sleep. He will talk all about owls, bats, nightjars and badgers and tell us how he handled deadly moths, hazardous waste and risked catching leprosy to put this presentation together.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

**at 7.30pm**

**East Hoathly Village Hall**

**ADMISSION IS FREE TO MEMBERS**

**VISITORS VERY WELCOME @ £4**

**Toni Whewell 01825 872460**

## THE ANGEL AND THE FIEND

*"I looked like an angel, but was a fiend inside." Lee Miller 1907-1977.*

A muse, model, photographer and one of the first female war correspondents during WWII.

Under Lee Miller's brave and beautiful exterior there lay a hidden torment.



*David, Jonathan, Ami, Tony & James*

Whilst not a Preservation Society event, after the revealing and truly memorable presentation Tony Penrose gave us back in May 2016, it seems right to report on the performance of *The Angel and the Fiend* that took place at East Hoathly Church on Friday 1st December.

After the war Lee Miller married Surrealist artist Roland Penrose and settled at Farley Farm, Muddles Green, now the home of the [Lee Miller Archives](#).

The highs and lows of Lee Miller's turbulent life are explored in *The Angel and The Fiend*, written and devised by Tony Penrose.

This award winning piece has travelled widely in the UK and internationally. In this version Antony appeared as himself, Lee Miller was played by her granddaughter Ami Bouhassane and the role of the Surrealist photographer Man Ray by James Leighton. Miller's wartime buddy David E. Sherman played by Jonathan Bailey and her husband Roland Penrose by David Burrough, who also directed the production.

One of the most powerful pieces of modern theatre, a remarkable journey, enhanced by voices and pictures from the past. Absolutely incredible.

Perhaps the greatest commendation is that, together with Tony Penrose's inexhaustible determination, this drama has helped clinch the deal for Kate Winslet to portray Lee Miller in a prestigious biopic based on his authorised biography; [The Lives Of Lee Miller](#). Production is expected to begin in 2018.

## OLD HARTFIELD - HALLAND



**A request was recently made to Historic England to assess [Old Hartfield](#) and its adjacent outbuildings for statutory listing:**

Old Hartfield, historically known as

Hartfields Farm, formerly belonged to the Pelham family, Earls of Chichester, who lived at Halland Place until 1768 when they moved to Stanmer. On T. Marchant's 1778 estate map an L-shaped building is shown in the position of Old Hartfield, the L-wing facing north-west, and a small detached outbuilding is shown to the north-east.

On the 1839 Tithe map the Apportionment details show Hartfields Farm belonging to the Earl of Chichester but occupied by William Hampton. The 1841 Census shows the property was occupied by William Hamilton, Woodkeeper, probably a transcription error for Hampton.

Until the late C19 Halland was known as the Nursery, presumably serving the Pelham estate.

The 1911 Census shows the head of the household was Alexander Stewart aged 64, a Forester, and Alexander's son Donald became a manager of the estate about 1945.

The north-east wing dates from the late C16 or early C17 and retains three bays of a two storey timber-framed house

Inside, the ground floor room in the north-east wing has an oak ceiling with a chamfered spine beam and exposed floor joists. The adjoining room to the

west has a central beam, match-board dado panelling and a four-panelled door.

The hall has a C19 dogleg staircase with stick balusters and turned newel posts. A subsidiary 1970s pine staircase in the north-east wing leads to the principal bedroom above the open fireplace which has an exposed box-framed north-east wall, wall-plates, jowled corner posts and trusses and tie beam. The corridor adjoining has another jowled truss visible.

The north-west bedroom has C18 corner posts and wall-plates visible, one a post reused horizontally. The ledged plank door has pintle hinges.



*Pintle Hinge*

### **The Adjacent Outbuildings:**



Outbuildings to Old Hartfield, a former farmhouse.

The northern part may have been a stable with hayloft above dating from the later C18. The southern part was probably added during the first half of the C19.

The buildings are timber-framed clad in weatherboarding except for the south-east end which is

clad in brick and have a gabled clay tiled roof.

They form a single-storey building built in two phases, the northern part earlier and with a slightly higher roof-line.

The south-west front of the northern outbuilding has a casement window of 12 panes and retains a ledged and braced wooden door, the other part missing. The southern outbuilding also has a wide plank door. The north-west end is gabled with a wooden barge-board and has a 9-pane fixed window near the gable apex and a plank door. A rear lean-to has two reused plank doors.

The south-east end is clad in brick in stretcher bond.

Inside the northern outbuilding has a wide plank partition to the loft at its southern end and a ground floor plank partition with a wide plank door with a wooden latch and iron hinges and a fixed wooden ladder. There is a wooden stall partition. The southern outbuilding has a roof structure with tie beams and a ridge-piece, but added collars. There is a part brick floor.

### OLD HARTFIELD – the outcome

Unfortunately the decision was made NOT to give either the house or outbuildings listed status. It was thought that the former farmhouse had too little of its original form remaining to warrant preserving.

The outbuildings:

“As agricultural buildings these are of modest architectural quality and insufficient degree of survival. Their original function is not clear. The northern outbuilding has formerly been used for stabling, however, a stable of this date would require the survival of stall partitions, mangers and feed racks to meet the criteria for listing and one surviving stall partition is not sufficient.”

“having carefully considered the architectural and historic interest of this case, whilst of some local interest, the outbuildings at Old Hartfield are not recommended for listing.”

Regret goes only one way.

The preservation of historic buildings is a one-way street. There is no chance to renovate or to save a historic site once it's gone. And we can never be certain what will be valued in the future. This reality brings to light the importance of locating and saving buildings of historic significance—because once a piece of history is destroyed, it is lost forever.



**VERT WOODS - Community Woodland****Laughton**

*Along Park Road on the way to the Tannery at Lewes*

**WORK IN THE WOODS****DECEMBER 2017**

Anyone who drives up Park Lane will have been aware of a lot going on in the woods! Euroforest has been working in both Sandpit Wood (to the West of Park Lane) and in Upper Vert Wood (to the East). They claim to be the leading provider of harvesting and marketing services to the UK forest industry.

Upper Vert Wood is part of the Community Woodland. Having a contractor in to widen rides and thin out some of the pines has meant that huge progress has been made towards fulfilling the aims of our Woodland Management Plan. Plumpton students had already made a significant difference with the work they have undertaken as part of the College's Forestry Courses but Euroforest have been working on a far bigger scale. The results are quite startling, letting the light in in a big way and beginning to show the shape and structure of the woodland.

The timber extracted has been taken away on huge lorries to the Biomass Plant at Sandwich in Kent. Thank you for your patience during any lorry movements on the road. The timber has raised in excess of £5000.

**CHARTER FOR TREES****WOODS AND PEOPLE**

The local launch of the Tree Charter took place in Lewes on 15<sup>th</sup> November. A lot of effort went into organising this event, especially by Stewart Boyle, and our efforts were rewarded by a big turnout of well over 100 people and lots of positive feedback. There was the opportunity to [sign the Charter](#) and purchase A3 printouts of the Charter itself.

It was a full evening with the first half being devoted to an explanation of what the Tree Charter is all about provided by Jim Smith-Wright of the Woodland Trust; an update given by Christine Meadows on the Community Woodland, illustrated by some videos and photographs. Christine also mentioned the Community Benefit Society that members of the public will be able to buy into and the need for lots of different talents to make it all work. There was also entertainment provided by [the Zu Choir](#) and the musician, [Dirk Campbell](#).

After a short break when refreshments could be purchased from the Tree Brewery, the main attraction came on stage to be interviewed by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust. Robert Penn is an author and broadcaster and is a charismatic and articulate speaker. His passion for trees is encapsulated in his book "[The Man Who Made Things out of Trees](#)", which I cannot recommend too highly.

A most successful evening, which we feel has put [Vert Woods Community Woodland](#) on the map.

**WALK IN THE WOODS****IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Due to the heavy rainfall between Christmas and the New Year the New Year's Day walk was CANCELLED and is to be rescheduled for later in January. As soon as a date is known we'll send out an Email to all members.

Details will be displayed at Laughton, Ripe, Chiddingly and East Hoathly shops.  
***Sue Redshaw, Laughton Tree Warden***

**WRAS - Trevor Weeks MBE****BBC Sussex Community Heroes Awards November 20, 2017**

**Two volunteers from East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service (WRAS) attended the BBC Sussex & Surrey Community Heroes Awards 2017 at Gatwick Plaza Hotel.**

Congratulations to volunteers Kathy Martyn and Daryl Farmer. Kathy was a finalist in the Animal Welfare Awards and Daryl a finalist in the Fundraiser Award. As if that wasn't enough, Daryl won his category to everyone's delight after his amazing 96 day row single handed across the Atlantic last winter.

It is difficult for people to appreciate the sheer amount of effort put in by people like Kathy, Katie, Chris, Karen and all our volunteers like Daryl who give up time to support [WRAS](#). It's difficult to express the emotional roller coaster, tiredness, exhaustion, frustration pushed through by determination and commitment that our staff/volunteers deal with. So in my eyes you are all heroes. Congratulations.

Trevor Weeks MBE

**Are you struggling to find a suitable present for someone who is mad on hedgehogs?** Why not buy them a "Become a Hedgehog Helper" Gift Certificate?

We are offering people the chance to spend the morning working at WRAS feeding and cleaning our hedgehogs, getting to handle some of them, as well as learning more about these fascinating creatures. The three hour placement is a great present and is suitable for anyone over the age of 13 (but those under 16 must be accompanied by an adult).



If any hedgehog rescue or admissions take place during your visit you will get the chance to be involved and help out.

This three hours placement is available for only £35 for an adult. Children under 16 are just £15 per child but they must be accompanied by at least one full paying adult. We can take up to four people at a time.

We cannot guarantee that any hedgehogs will be admitted during the time the "Helper" is present, and placements have to fit in with our regular feed and clean shifts. The placements take place at weekends. Date are dependent on availability of volunteer instructors. The sessions take place between 10am until 1pm. We hope to make additional times available in the future.

The Experience takes place at East Sussex WRAS's Casualty Care Centre at Whitesmith, East Sussex, on the A22 BN8 6JD.

For more info or to book, please e-mail [jen@eastsussexwras.org.uk](mailto:jen@eastsussexwras.org.uk).

Please be aware that Jen who co-ordinates the Hedgehog Helper Sessions is a volunteer and does not work full time for our charity so may not be able to reply to you e-mail or phone calls straight away. Our sessions are often fully booked up to two months ahead

**DEFIBRILLATORS - Tim Williams**

*Heathfield & Waldron Community First Responders*

**Don't let an emergency be the first time you set eyes on a defibrillator!  
Do not fear using one.  
Defibrillators are very forgiving and each PAD will talk you through how  
to use it as soon as it is opened.**

Know what to do! Call Push Rescue – the elements of CPR

In the event of cardiac arrest (sudden death):

**Call** for help – get the helper to dial 999 and to fetch the defibrillator

**Push** - 100 firm compressions a minute on the centre of the chest

**Rescue** – turn on the defibrillator and apply its two pads (one to the lower left side of the chest, the other on the upper right chest). Listen to its instructions. It is easy to use, and fool proof. Repeat Push as needed.

<http://www.heathfieldcfr.co.uk>

[http://www.secamb.nhs.uk/our\\_services/community\\_first\\_responders.aspx](http://www.secamb.nhs.uk/our_services/community_first_responders.aspx)



The defibrillator (or AED) will not administer a shock to anyone unless they are actually in cardiac arrest. You cannot cause harm to a person with a defibrillator.

There is a defibrillator located at the Halland Forge Hotel, by the main front door.

There is a defibrillator located at the Surgery, Juziers Drive in East Hoathly, by the main front door for emergency use.

At Chiddingly there are, at present two in the village. One is in the Red Phone Box in Muddles Green and the second on the outside wall of the Six Bells. You need a code to open them and the code is on a label on the outside of the box.

A third at The Gun is awaiting the formal adoption and refurbishment of the red telephone box.

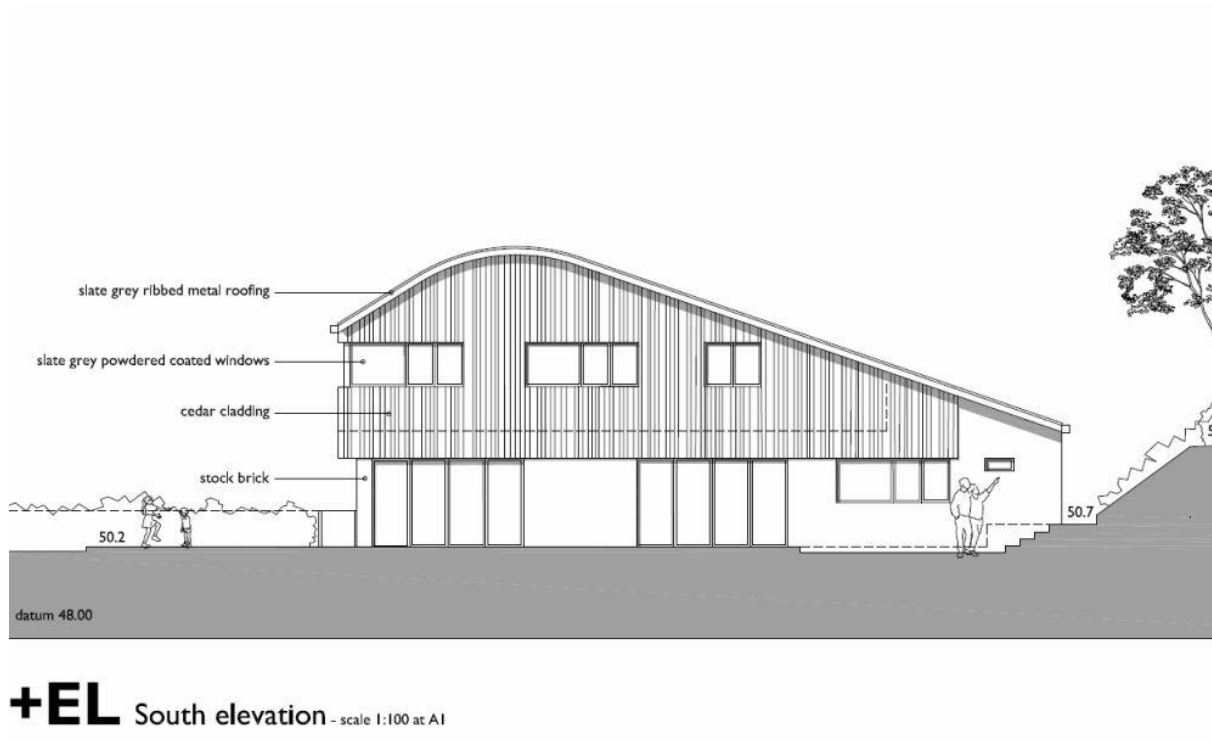
At Laughton there are plans for a Defibrillator close to the school.

Ringmer Primary and Nursery School, Harrisons Lane, Ringmer, BN8 5LL also have a Defibrillator thanks to [the Connor Saunders Foundation](#)  
It is located by the office doors at the front of the school.

The 999 operator knows the location of the nearest defibrillator (and also the code if the cabinet is code protected). Defibrillators (PADs – Public Access Defibrillators, sometimes labelled AEDs = Automatic External Defibrillators) are widely distributed and publicised.

Around Heathfield they can be found outside the Heathfield Fire and Ambulance stations, the Heathfield Rugby Club, Broad Oak Village Hall and in Bodle Street (the White Horse Inn), Rushlake Geen (Osborne House), Punnetts Town Village Hall, Cade Steet (Goward Hall), the Five Ashes Inn, Horam veterinary surgery, and in Mayfield (Woodhill Surgery and the Primary School). There are plans to fund PADs in Three Cups Corner, Old Heathfield and the Welcome Church (in Alexandra Road for the Green Lane estate).

## PLANNING



*Proposed New Stud managers dwelling at Aillies Lane*

At the beginning of December we were reminded that the proposal to build over [two hundred new homes](#) in East Hoathly, as well as a “new” Hesmonds stud accessed from Ailes Lane had only been **deferred** NOT defeated.

### Village Concerns

have been working relentlessly throughout the year studying the many aspects and impacts of such a scheme in order to present a well-reasoned and qualifiable case preventing overdevelopment and loss to our long established and balanced community.

It is not possible to include all the Village Concerns briefings here and so we recommend you to be on their mailing list, in order to keep up with the latest developments.

The more individual representations submitted to the Wealden Planning Department, the more likely your elected representatives will listen and act responsibly,

Worryingly, recent meetings of the WDC planning committee do not show our councillors in a good light. It is imperative that they are enlightened to the will of the electorate by our objections.

Even the existing applications for development (and more are expected to be submitted), if passed, would change the dynamics and natural environment of our communities more than any other event in history, including two world wars.

### LISTED BUILDINGS – Peter & Chris



*Sellens*

It has been rightly pointed out that a review of the amenities and community assets of East Hoathly & Halland is long overdue.

Obviously as time goes by more of our buildings reach their centenary and gain an historic importance as part of our heritage and landscape.

Our past is our roots and nothing grows well without roots. The Tithe map of 1839 identifies over ninety buildings, of those surviving less than thirty are listed. New houses from the Victorian period may be architecturally



significant, who knows? Many already fall within the recognised village conservation area. In fact the modern developments of Juziers and Nightingales may at some future time be found to have design aspects worthy of preservation.

There may be other topographical or archaeological features that need recognition such as Breeches Wood, apparently planted and bequeathed to fund “the reparation and renewal of the rector’s and his successors nether garments”.

A serious review would, I should think, be useful to the Neighbourhood Plan, Village Concerns (who suggested it) and other interest groups.

### CHIDDINGLY ORAL HISTORY GROUP – GILDRIDGE – Jenny Davies



A summary of the Oral History talk given at the [Chiddingly Community Shop](#) on 27<sup>th</sup> November

We moved to Gildridge in January 1984. Andrew was 15 months old and Alex was born in October 1985. We lived there for 26 years. It was a very special place to bring up a family.

I had always intended to research the history of the house so when I was asked to give a talk on Gildridge, it was time to do just that. With a great deal of help from the archives office at The Keep in Brighton, the history was traced back to 1724! This is especially remarkable as the records are in Latin pre 1742. This is history of the house, with gaps.

6th October 1724- Thomas Willard, gent, had died and the 50 acres of land, that he had held at Whitesmith, passed to Thomas Plummer.

1774-1779- David Guy was the occupier and the rental value of the Lands changed to £20.00. The lands were known as Ralph's Lands, and were part of the Manor of Ripe.

1780-1797- Mr. Nickolas Chatfield, owner with David Guy as occupier. The rental value was £18.00.

15th June 1787- A court record shows that Edward Relfe had died (Ralph's Lands) and the 50 acres passed to his daughter Anne Chatfield.

1800-1804- Mr Young owner with Nickolas Chatfield as occupier.

1805-1806- Mr Nickolas Chatfield owner/ occupier.

23rd May 1811. A court record shows that Ann Chatfield, widow, formerly known as Ann Relf, spinster, had died and the parcel of land, now known as Old Brook, had descended to her only son, Nickolas Chatfield.

1821-1830- Nickolas Chatfield owner with John Whiteman occupier. The Lands were now known as Whitesmith Hill.

1831- The Earl of Chichester owner with Samuel Brock as occupier.

1832- The Earl of Chichester owner. The land was valued at £18.00 in the Chiddingly Land Tax Records. It is thought that the house became known as Gildridge at this time.

1835-1840 The Earl of Chichester owner with William Guy as occupier.

There is now a 90 year gap.

During this time some of the land was sold off. In this 'former orchard' another house was built and at some point Ronnie Carroll, a popular singer, lived there.

1928-1956 The Rowe family were the owners. A Mr. George Cosstick was their full time chauffeur. His son, Richard, wrote an article about his father's



time at Gildridge. He recalls that the car, a Humber, had to be cleaned after every trip regardless of the time of return. It had to be spotless for the daily trip to Lewes station where Mr. Rowe caught the London train. Richard's mother worked in the house, for many years, as the cook and cleaner. She had to take hot water up to the bedrooms, in the morning, as there wasn't running water at that time. There were 3 full time, and 1 part time, gardeners. The gardens were sometimes open to the public. When Mr and Mrs Rowe were in residence, no one was allowed to walk in front of the house so the mowing, in this area, had to be done when they were out.

During the late 60's early 70's the owners ran a small playgroup in the grounds.

We bought the house from the Cardoza's. He worked in the city and would sometimes return home by helicopter, landing in one of the paddocks.

We had been living at Gildridge for nearly 3 years when the hurricane hit Sussex. We lost many trees and were without electricity for 16 days. The house and roof remained intact, a small miracle considering its foundations were only 9 inches deep.

In 1988, Philip had the idea of having a vineyard planted up. We planted up 2 acres with 4 Germanic vine varieties. After 4 years, and lots of hard work, we were producing enough grapes to make approximately 4,000 bottles of wine annually. This I sold to local pubs, restaurants, friends and a local golf club.

During our time at Gildridge we made several changes, to the house and grounds, always with improvement and restoration in mind.

After 26 eventful years we moved from Gildridge in the snowstorm of January 2010. We had all loved living there and remember this time with great affection.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - East Hoathly With Halland Parish Council

What type of community do you want to live in? Where do your children want to live, work and bring up their families? How should our Parish look in 20 years' time?

### IMPORTANT DATES

We have reached the stage where we need your support, views and ideas.

Please come along to one of our open evenings to find out more!

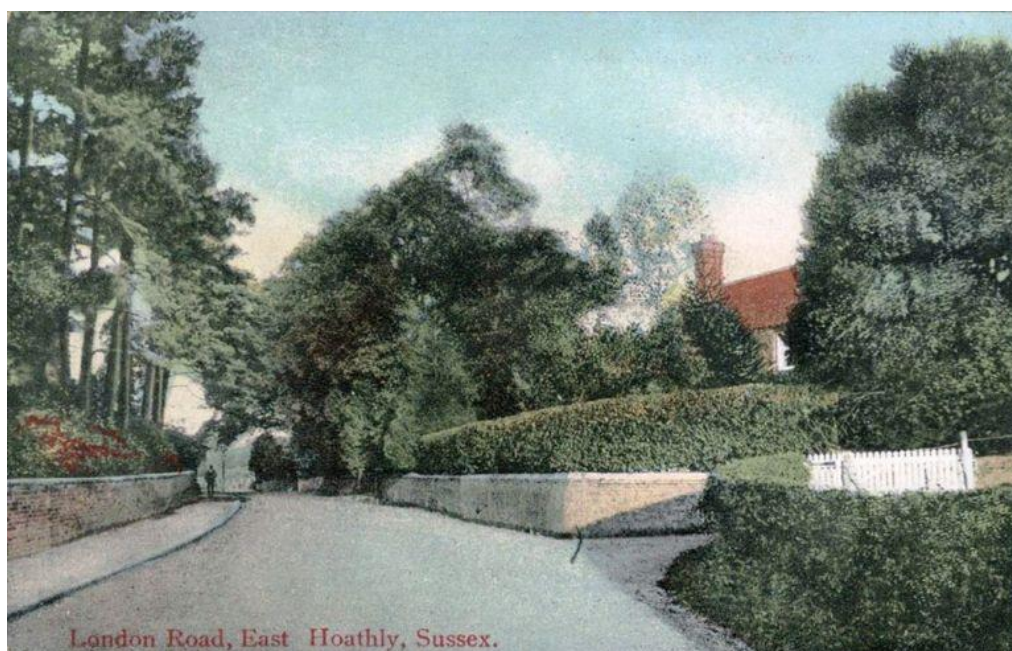
HALLAND OPEN MEETING  
JANUARY 24<sup>th</sup> 6.30PM – 10.00PM  
THE FORGE HOTEL HALLAND

EAST HOATHLY OPEN MEETING  
JANUARY 25<sup>th</sup> 6.30PM – 10.00PM  
THE PAVILION EAST HOATHLY

GET INVOLVED - COME TO OUR DESIGN EVENT  
A two day neighbourhood plan design event

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH DROP IN ANYTIME BETWEEN 8 A.M. - 10 P.M.  
THE PAVILION, EAST HOATHLY.

Every address in the parish of EH with Halland should have received a letter with information on the neighbourhood plan.



London Road, East Hoathly, Sussex.

Many people feel that they have very little influence in the planning process. A Neighbourhood Plan enables the community to think about, and have a say in, how they would like to see the parish develop over the next 10 to 15 years.

The Parish Council has begun to create a Neighbourhood Plan, a working group has been formed and has worked on this project for most of this year. The brief is to create a vision for our future.

A consultancy organisation, Feria Urbanism, has been appointed to manage and advise on the generation of the plan and site visits have already been held with the consultant. Funding has been sourced via a grant from Locality UK, so that the project is not solely funded by the Parish Council. Additional funds will also be sought from other grant awarding bodies. Wealden District Council have provided outline approval and support.

Our neighbourhood plan must run in parallel with the Wealden Local Plan and conform to its key objectives. However, if there is a proposal for housing development in the future, the Neighbourhood Plan will give us the opportunity to express preferences on housing type, style, purpose and location. The Neighbourhood Plan can add weight to any challenge by the community to unsuitable housing developments.

#### WHAT ELSE GOES IN THE PLAN?

The plan covers more than the planning of new housing development, it also makes provisions for the support and expansion of the economic and employment structure of the villages, including the significant agricultural based businesses in our rural area.

The ideas will also take into account the preservation of the environment and green spaces, recreational facilities and additional community infrastructure which will enhance and maintain the community's identity.

#### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

After a period of consultation a draft plan will be produced and we will hold a community referendum. The Draft Plan will then be submitted to Wealden District Council for approval and inspection.

We will need the majority of residents to agree to our plan. It is therefore very important that we have as much involvement and enthusiasm from the whole community.

East Hoathly and Halland Parish Council, Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Email address: [ehwhnp@gmail.com](mailto:ehwhnp@gmail.com)

Parish Council Email address: [easthoathlywithhallandpc@gmail.com](mailto:easthoathlywithhallandpc@gmail.com)

Parish website: [www.easthoathlywithhalland.org.uk](http://www.easthoathlywithhalland.org.uk)

## SUSSEX WILDLIFE



Artist's impression of Rye Harbour Discovery Centre

**Sussex Wildlife Trust is launching a new multi-million pound project to engage future generations in wildlife conservation.**

The project – “Discover Rye Harbour” – will see the establishment of a major new Discovery Centre at the largest of its nature reserves in both East and West Sussex – the vast landscape of [Rye Harbour Nature Reserve](http://www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/rye-harbour-nature-reserve). In addition to a broad range of new activities, walks, talks, education, training and research, the new scheme will be the largest project ever undertaken by the Sussex Wildlife Trust, and is set to engage over 350,000 people in the wonders of nature.

**BOOKS - Chris**

At the social we were lucky to be able to help launch and have for sale the marvellous Barnabas Birdy children's book, we also had Chiddingly Calendars, the Laughton Village of the Buckle and various East Hoathly books care of Jane Seabrook.

It is surprising just how many publications there are with otherwise unknown information about life, living and our homes in the Sussex Weald. We will start with the following which are available to buy via the society or various outlets:

Diary of Thomas Turner £8 heading the list.

Remember them Well £6.00 EH & Halland that served during hostilities.

East Hoathly and Halland Carnival Society £12.00 History in photos.

In Loving Memory £5.00 EH churchyard memorials

As Clean a Lot of Children as he had Ever Seen £8.00 EH Schools from 1865

Waldron and the Great War

Waldron Cookbook

The Chiddingly (Sussex) Millennium Cook Book

More than a dozen different Lee Miller/Farley Farm books

Village of the Buckle £8.00 Laughton

E H Millenium Church Kneelers Booklet

In addition, there are individual copies of some of the out of print publications Jane has for sale, and some that can be borrowed from the society.

A selection will be on display at our meetings.

If you have any local interest books that you don't mind other people borrowing why not share them through the society at our meetings?



## MENTAL HEALTH

Many will remember Dan Keeley's grandmother May who, as well as being one of the loveliest ladies in the village, features amongst the preservation society [oral recordings](#) with her wartime memories.

### Rome to Home (Dan Keeley)

If you're reading these words, I can't thank you enough for engaging with my adventure and wanting to know more!



On August 25th 2017, I started on a 1250-mile self-supported running adventure from Rome to Home (the Colosseum back to the London Eye) as

my biggest platform yet to share my story and keep men alive by talking. In the summer of 2012 I experienced a full-blown manic episode when on holiday in Italy – an episode which culminated with me believing I was 'the chosen one' and preaching from the central lane of a major motorway at rush hour (not to be recommended!). What followed was time spent in psychiatric wards (both in Italy and the UK), a clear diagnosis of Bipolar Disorder and the inevitable crippling depression which had me wanting to take my own life.

Now 5 years on, I'm sharing my story with any audience who will have me, all in the hope of encouraging others (particularly guys) to speak up when they're struggling the most, to play my part in normalising the conversation surrounding mental health issues, to battle the stigma and ultimately to

show others that you can live life to the full with the right love, support & professional guidance in place.

Working closely with the team at CALM (Campaign Against Living Miserably), my aim is to blow the roof of my fundraising efforts and raise as much awareness as possible about male suicide in the UK – the biggest single killer of men under the age of 45. With 12 men taking their own life every single day in the UK, I'm calling on as many of my supporters as possible to engage with the adventure, to help spread my message, to donate if you're feeling generous, to support me with what you can (be that through your media channels, kit donations or your time) and to join me as we collectively keep men alive by talking!

My 65-day journey took me from the Colosseum, up through Tuscany, across the spine of Italy and up towards the Great St Bernard Pass in the stunning Aosta Valley in the Italian Alps. From there I dropped down to Lake Geneva before heading North to Paris and crossing the channel to Newhaven. 'The Home Leg' then took me (and others who joined with me) over the South Downs towards Eastbourne, before swinging by my old secondary school and East Hoathly ahead of the final blast up to London via Sevenoaks (my home town) and finishing at the London Eye.

As I hope you've gathered, this was as much an awareness-raising challenge as it is an adventure-challenge, and I'm wanting to bring as many of you along with me for the ride. Thank you for your support, for being part of the story, and hope to speak very soon.

For more information and everything you need to know about Rome to Home, please visit [www.rometohome.com](http://www.rometohome.com). To donate, please visit [rometohome.com/donate](http://rometohome.com/donate). You can find me on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram & YouTube. Or you can contact me directly on email at [dan@rometohome.com](mailto:dan@rometohome.com) or my mobile +44(0)7803 876455.

Dan

It is hoped that Dan will be back in East Hoathly soon to talk about his journey and raise more funds and awareness for the [CALM charity](#). When a date is set there will be posters about and we will email members with details.

**CPRE**

**CPRE Sussex is making a formal objection to the ‘mathematical trickery’ behind a new government paper which argues that the majority of new house building should be concentrated in the South-East of England.**

The new proposal would see house building in rural Sussex increased by up to 40% while many urban areas and most communities in the North of England would see their housing targets fall.

The recommendations are based on a mathematical formula which the government argues will “address affordability” by factoring in existing local house prices. The resulting figures point to vast increases in the number of houses built in more lucrative areas, such as rural Sussex.

CPRE Sussex’s Dr Roger Smith says the maths behind the calculations is deeply flawed and is warning that the proposals would have a devastating impact on the Sussex countryside if they are adopted by the government.

[Beauty Betrayed \(PDF File\)](#)

**FORESTERS EAST HOATHLY - Michael Evans**

A lesson for me is that as a small village we really have to treat all the assets that we have, as a village, as community assets that we all have a stake in

and that collectively we need to try and take as much responsibility as we can for their success. The reality is that with The Foresters we knew that something was inevitably going to happen and we all should have acted sooner, next time we need to be ready.

Planning permission has been given to Harvey's to convert the Foresters into 3 residential dwellings. The Council have rejected the Application for Asset of Community Value – Their letter states that the property is not going to be disposed of by Harvey's and yet in the next paragraph "The Council understands the property has been advertised for sale since July 2015, no evidence has been submitted indicating there is any real interest amongst the local community to purchase the property".

Yet a small group of us offered to acquire the freehold of the Foresters from Harvey's as a pub and if we failed as a pub then Harvey's would have the right to buy the pub back at what we paid for it and costs incurred. That way Harvey's would not have lost out on any development value or gain from the change in planning. However they have snubbed our offers - their stated intention is to do a low cost conversion and retain the dwellings.

And so despite the best efforts of a number of people who have provided great support and in some cases funding, we are finally having to throw in the towel.

Additionally an application for a listing for The Foresters has been submitted. Historic England is currently considering whether the building has special architectural or historic interest.

We were incredibly close in this case to defeating the planning. So I want to thank Tim Laker, Jonathan Walker, Kathryn Richardson, David Seabrook, Tania Freezer, Tony Watson, Stephanie Evans, Jenny Slater, Ruth Forbes and Jools Plummer for all of their help, support and funding; we would have never have got so close without them.

Michael Evans



**BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION SUSSEX BRANCH****Rowland Wood and Park Corner Heath**

At [Rowland Wood](#) the clear felling of the close planted conifers may take several years to rejuvenate but if we have another slow damp spring and cool start to summer we will see more than just butterflies returning to this once ancient woodland.

A report by the [Sussex Botanical Recording Society](#) in 2016 (following earlier clearing) suggests sedges; they saw ten species, with five of them, Yellow Sedge, Smooth-stalked Sedge, Oval Sedge, Pale Sedge and Pill Sedge being new records for the reserve!

In addition, Ragged-Robin, Common Milkwort, *Vicia sativa* ssp. *segetalis* and subsp. *nigra* (Common Vetch) and Squirreltail Fescue were found.

A deliberate search for *Viola riviniana* (Common Dog-violet) a food plant of the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary found some encouraging re-occurrence. In all 140 records were made in one day.

A visit to neighbouring Park Corner Heath reserve was disappointing as Lesser Butterfly Orchid, Marsh Cinquefoil and Three-lobed Crowfoot, previously known to be there, were not found.

Let's hope they are back for 2018



*Lesser Butterfly Orchid*

**WOODLAND TRUST****View towards Moat Wood**

*Photo credit Jan Le-Flay Williams*

The 2018 Woodland Trust maintenance schedule for Moat Wood is;  
By July: Visitor Access Maintenance - Annual path cut: strim rides and paths to 2-3m width avoiding cow-wheat where possible.  
By October: Ride Management - Ride widening/moat works (4 man days).

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

## Woodland Trust Ancient Woodland Restoration

Restoration is a long-term process – it can take decades to achieve. Our approach to the restoration involves the gradual and selective thinning of the existing canopy over several years.

To grow and thrive many of our native woodland species need a certain level of light, the dappled sunlight that filters through a full canopy of broadleaved trees is ideal. Too little light, like that found under the canopy of conifer trees with their tightly packed needles, and native species can't grow. Too much light shocks native species and creates conditions that are ideal for coarse vegetation such as brambles and nettles to dominate an area, suppressing the regeneration of other plants.

Our approach to the restoration of ancient woodland involves the gradual and selective thinning of the existing canopy over several years, to slowly allow light levels to increase without shocking the existing remnant features, or providing enough light for brambles to get a foothold.

As light levels increase, broadleaved trees begin to germinate from the existing seed bank, grow new leaves and branches and gradually fill in the gaps left by the removal of the conifers, providing a continuous filter for the light that reaches the forest floor, while the canopy very slowly changes from being dominated by conifers to being dominated by native broadleaved trees.

The development of this approach took years of trial and error on our own estate, and we still have long-term monitoring programs on several of our oldest restoration sites to look at how these change and develop over time. This gradual approach to restoration gained independent support in a study from the Oxford Forestry Institute, which carried out both field trials on our estate and a review of any other existing research on the restoration process.

**MID WEEK WALKS & MORE - John****RIGHTS OF WAY GROUP REPORT**

Our activity has been limited over the past month due a lack of overgrown Rights of Way, variable weather and other commitments.

The bridleway between Mill Lane and Ailies Lane has been walked to check the suitability for horse riders. Some clearance work will be required but first there has to be some improvement to make an existing gate able to be safely opened by a rider.

If anyone has any other reports of obstructions to local Rights of Way please let me know.



*I did warn you John!*

Five of the local ROW Group recently attended a festive get together at the Seven Sisters Information Centre, where we were able to compare notes with neighbouring Groups. One of the most interesting items of news was the establishment of the new public Green Space at Newick, which is well worth a visit. This Space has been gifted as part of an agreement associated with the recently approved development in the village.

There is an idea being mooted of investigating the possibility of extending the Parish Woodland in the directions of both Moat Wood and the Decoy Pond. If anyone would like to air their opinion either for or against this proposal do please let me know your thoughts.

Finally my thanks must go to all the faithful ROW supporters; the clearance simply wouldn't take place without you.

Please direct your comments to John Deane at [dixiewalks@hotmail.com](mailto:dixiewalks@hotmail.com)



**EAST HOATHLY BIRDS***Not a Magpie Photo by Pellett*

### The Magpie

The familiar magpie turning over cow pats in search of dung beetles calls to mind Macbeth's reference to "maggot-pies", and is possibly the name once bestowed on the bird. But this is a false clue probably, for, fittingly in Shakespeare's Cotsall district, Maggot was still in use within living memory as a playful variant of Margret!

The conspicuous pied plumage and chattering voice and the preference to feed well out in open fields marks this bird as unlikely to be overlooked! Although not shy, it is wary and stealthy in the presence of man.

The Magpie exhibits the usual sociability common to most of the crow family and after the breeding season parties of up to thirty may frequently be seen together. The presence of such a party may be an indication of carrion and almost certainly a magpie rising from the road at the approach of a vehicle will reveal the point at which some squashed traffic victim,

hedgehog, rabbit, rat or bird is lying! The habit of flying off in single file makes this bird one which we automatically count and there are many versions of good luck or ill fortune foretold by each number!

Perhaps this superstition is a relic of the belief which Macbeth had in the significance of the actions of his “maggot pie”.

## INTERESTING INSECTS



*Great Green Bush Cricket Nymph (no wings) – Pellett*

This Great Green Bush Cricket Nymph was seen very late in the year, basking in November sunshine.

The great green bush-cricket is one of the biggest and most eye-catching crickets in the UK. Often 3-4 cm long and its antennae another 5 cm as well. These long antennae show its affiliation with the bush-crickets (Tettigoniidae) and distinguish it from the grasshoppers' family (suborder Caelifera). The males of this cold blooded insect begin to sing in the afternoon of sunny days. Doing so, they usually sit head down on high plants and chafe their forewings on a membrane in order to produce the characteristic chirr. The acoustic organ of the green bush-cricket resides on the knees of the forelegs and can be recognised by two small slits. Furthermore, crickets have got an additional organ that enables them to feel the slightest jolting and warns them about approaching enemies. To

escape, the great green bush-cricket not only uses its strong hind legs, but also its fully developed wings in order to fly for some hundred metres.

Although this bush-cricket was for a long time among the most common of crickets, its number has gone down dramatically. Fortunately it seems to be on the rise again and as well as the typical places to find it such as besides rarely used grassland, borders of woods and sunny fallow ground, it for some reason benefits from being close to man; these crickets are often observed near villages. Trees and bushes are important too because the males can hide there while “singing”.

If a female is attracted by the singing of a male, the copulation, which lasts for about an hour, begins. The female lays up to 600 eggs into the humid and loose soil with her ovipositor. Depending on the environmental circumstances, the eggs stay there for up to 5 years. After they have hatched out of the eggs, the grubs have to pass 7 stages until they are adult crickets. In summer, they reproduce and die in the first cold days of autumn. During the entire cycle, the great green bush-cricket eats predatorily; at first aphids and later small insects, caterpillars or even sick fellows. In contrast with some related, herbivore crickets, the green bush-cricket is an agricultural useful animal.

**RECENT WALKS****WALK FROM THE SIX BELLS CHIDDINGLY – October 22<sup>nd</sup> by Jenny Pellett***Jenny Pellett*

Although we regularly walk at Chiddingly for our October walk we chose paths that were, for the most part, new to us.

Starting of course from the Six Bells, we headed towards Coopers Farm, and took the footpath to the left for Latchett Wood now much reduced in size after I believe use by Canadians as an encampment before the D day landings of 1944. We passed a couple of superbly built new homes and substantial equine developments that, when driving, are not at all visible from the road. At Whitesmith we turned into Burchett's Farm, venue of many a memorable Harvest Barn Dance. In Hoad's Wood the ground was so thickly carpeted with sweet chestnuts, we had to clear a way through, so that Travis, an aging but very determined Labrador, could get through without hurting his paws!



Finally, after making our way alongside Boltwood, we went up through the cricket ground and churchyard to end up back at the Bells for more refreshment.

#### EHPS WALK FROM RUSHLAKE GREEN – Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> by Sue Redshaw



*Sue Redshaw*

So much of my walking is done alone with my two dogs. Sometimes it is good to have company. Today my daughter, Shelley, and I joined the EHPS walking group to do a walk from Rushlake Green. There were nine of us and two dogs. We took a circular route which wended its way through woods and fields to Walberton, a village I have never visited before. In fact all of this landscape is unfamiliar to me and yet it is only 12 miles away – 22 minutes according to Google Maps. It was a perfect day for walking, sunny and still, warm enough but not too hot. We have had some wonderful autumn days this year: the colours have been exceptional.

Walberton is a pretty village with a typical Norman church and a pub called the Black Duck. Worth a visit on another occasion. The churchyard has a memorial to Richard Woodman, farmer and ironmaster, who died at the stake in Lewes in 1557. How brave those martyrs were.

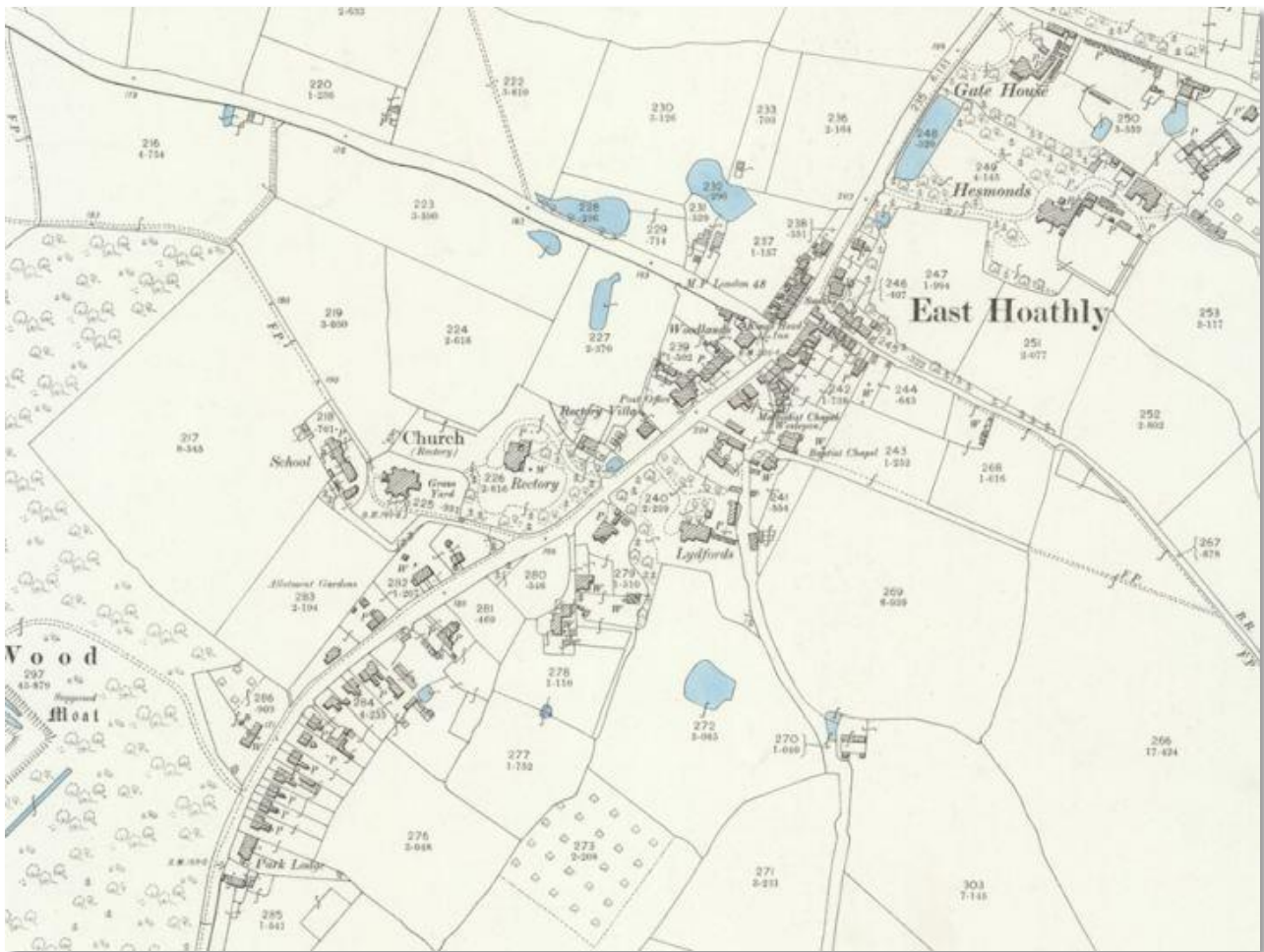


Photo by [Kevin Gordon](#)

It was quite muddy in places. Sadie, our Labrador, was picking her way round the mud and managed to end up with only muddy feet. Shelley's and my boots and waterproof trousers were caked up to our knees. Yet we have not had that much rain so far this autumn. I guess this walk would be a lot less attractive in the middle of winter but on a beautiful Sunday in November, it was perfect.

It is great to go on different walks and I can't recommend too highly the ones organised by Chris and Jenny Pellett on behalf of the East Hoathly and District Preservation Society.



EHPS STREETWALK OF EAST HOATHLY – Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> by Chris

*Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland*  
<http://maps.nls.uk/index.html>

Twenty-nine plus six dogs braved the weather to explore the lanes and twittens of East Hoathly and the afternoon was absolutely made by Rosemary Akehurst imparting her memories in a way that made us feel we were there with the bread being baked next to the Forge and sold from Mill House. Trill's, Rich's, Wheelers stores, the Old Rectory The Aero Engineering Company, Routh & Stevens, and the infamous sweetshop of Mrs Rich. There was so much to see and learn, that we didn't even get as far as London Road; there will be a part II when the weather warms up! With such a crowd I know many missed the stories told so I'll try and put pictures and topics up onto the [East Hoathly and Halland Community Facebook page](#) for discussion so we can all learn more.

Already memories of Booker Health foods in the old Tiger Plant factory (Carpenters Croft) and Paraffin Sales from a nissen hut at what is now Susan's Close. The Post Office in Waldron Road run by the Ellis family, and by Webb during the war. The homes of Crowhurst, Thorpe, Skates, Hoare, Barden, Turner, Burtenshaw families are now identified.

We walked up Mill Lane passed the site of the old windmill, down Buttsfield Lane and along Cider House Walk or Busy Prick Alley as it was once known



*PC Meads*

by some! We were able to imagine the days of Thomas Turner when these cottages faced the village pond, filled in to build the chapel. We walked down to the Mews to where Ivy House had stood, we passed where the units that Crowsons Fabric's started from had been, and turned up into Juziers Drive where the Safir works of Chapman & Smith had thrived until 2007. Carriers Way respects its former use by UPS, Carryfast, Routh & Stevens, Burchetts and Rich. From South Street we entered the former allotments, now Church Marks Lane, and onto the site of the Old Rectory (Rectory Close) returning,

via twittens, to the High Street alongside the White House; built in the grounds of the C of E Rectory but rented to the minister of the new Wesleyan Chapel.

Cold, Wet and Dark, We finished the walk on the corner with London Road, outside Woodlands Cottage where PC Meads once stood in 1920.

## 2018 WALKS



*Postcard sent to the Kings Head 1919*

### PROPOSED WALKS FOR 2018

Usually start at 2pm after lunch in the designated pub

SUNDAY 21ST JANUARY	Blackboys Inn, Blackboys
SUNDAY 18TH FEBRUARY	Anchor Inn, Ringmer
SUNDAY 18TH MARCH	Giants Rest, Wilmington
SUNDAY 15TH APRIL	Bates Green Farm, Arlington*
SUNDAY 20TH MAY	Middle House, Mayfield
SUNDAY 24TH JUNE	Eight Bells, Jevington
SUNDAY 15TH JULY	The Gun, Chiddingly
SUNDAY 19TH AUGUST	The Crown, Newick
SUNDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER	Rathfinney Estate, Alfriston
SUNDAY 21ST OCTOBER	The New Inn, Hadlow Down
SUNDAY 18TH NOVEMBER	Reading Room Pop-up Pub, Glynde
SUNDAY 16TH DECEMBER	Crockstead Hotel, Halland

\*There is an entry charge for this walk, proceeds to charity

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

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

EVERYONE WELCOME



**EDITORS NOTES***Pellett*

I hope you like the new look newsletter and it is good to be getting so many contributions sent in. It demonstrates what a strong thriving community we have.

The village environments will undoubtedly change in the coming years. Only by appreciating what we have and by working together will we maintain and develop our community spirit.

The Spring Newsletter should appear at the beginning of April so contributions are needed by March 12<sup>th</sup>.

I thought that, for the spring, contributors' profile pictures could be of a memorable event such as your wedding. It is not essential but might be better than my choice!

Finally, would anyone in the village, who has the Sussex Express regularly, like the job of keeping a scrapbook of EH&H related cuttings during 2018 for the Preservation Society?

Similarly for the adjacent parishes; Laughton, Chiddingly, Waldron.

We can supply a folder and plastic wallets, just requires newspaper and scissors!

Wishing every one of you a Joyful Happy 2018

Chris

Inside Back Cover

**BACK PAGE**