

East Hoathly and District Preservation Society

Spring 2016

The Society is:

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

Committee

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

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

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

Website address:

www.easthoathlypreservation.org.uk

THOMAS TURNER - The walk

We will start the newsletter with a great big thanks to Jade Innes, from East Hoathly, who has been wonderfully inscribing new oak plaques for the Thomas Turner Walk



From this



To This

Probably fifteen years ago, to coincide with a county initiative of millennium walks, ten plaques were attached to stiles or gateways along the way of the published Thomas Turner walk. Mainly through natural deterioration these have gradually become unreadable or just disappeared. We believe they were originally part of a school project but no-one has come forward with information so the Preservation Society has taken on the task of replacing them. After deciphering the remaining ones, finding older pictures and referring to the Turner diaries the short texts have been recreated on fresh English oak and will soon be screwed back on to the appropriate posts.

The society did the easy bit, we must applaud Jade for the hard work and the really excellent job she has made of it.

Jade is currently studying graphic design at West of England University Bristol, we wish her well.

We will display the plaques at the AGM before they are fixed so that those unable to do the walk can appreciate what wonderful skills we have in the village.

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Toni

Hello,

I hope the programme of events has tempted you to attend either a walk or a talk or ideally both, despite some horrid wet and windy weather! Our first meeting had an excellent turnout with many guests which enabled us to provide our superb speaker June Felstead and her canine friends with an extra donation for the search and rescue charity. It was certainly compelling watching.

Kevin Gordon then took us on a virtual tour of Quirky Sussex, which was thoroughly entertaining. And we are delighted to continue the theme by engaging his skills for our summer outing, starting at 2pm on Sun 28th August with a 'Quirky Lewes tour' at a cost of £5 each. For those who just want to join us for tea we shall finish at Southover Grange Gardens and we would love you to join us here.

As an extra treat Chris and Jenny are extending the planned walk on the 17th July to The Lavender Line, Isfield, to encompass a short talk about Isfield and the trains, a diesel train ride, a tour of the museum, a jolly good lunch if you wish and then the footpath walk for those that want to. Phew!

Please note that the May meeting is on May 20th, rather than the usual second Friday of the month, to avoid clashing with the Show Society.

I am pleased to announce that Denise will be once again be providing the culinary flourish for the Annual General Meeting on Fri 10th June. Please complete the booking form at the end of the newsletter to secure your place.

Forms will also be available at the April and May meetings. A good attendance at the AGM helps ensure the viability of the Society as well as enjoying a fine meal and good company.

I look forward to seeing you on the 8th April for amusing Royal Navy Ditty Box Yarns by Cdr Roger Paine.

Kind regards, Toni

TREASURER'S REPORT - Peter

The Society benefits from having subscriptions paid as early in the year as possible. This helps us to plan events and also have a degree of confidence that we will meet the fixed costs that we have such as 3rd Party Insurance, website maintenance, meeting expenses and our subscriptions to affiliate organisations- these expenses are approximately £880. We have received £725 in subscriptions and other income so far this year so we do need members who have not yet paid to let Jenny Pellett, our Membership Secretary, have their subscriptions as soon as they are able. This would be much appreciated.

Regards, Peter Hon. Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP - Jenny

Thank you to all those members who have promptly paid their subscriptions for this year. So far our membership totals 69, with some renewals still to come.

If you are one of those people who, like me, have a tendency to need reminding to do things, could I please take this opportunity to gently prompt you in to sending me your outstanding fees. The cost remains the same as last year - £10 for single, £18 for joint membership. Your continued support for the society is greatly appreciated

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

Jenny Pellett Membership Secretary

PAST MEETINGS - Leycester Whewell

Search & Rescue Volunteers and their Dogs

Presented by June Felstead, with her Blue Marl Collie, Mollie.

Fri 12th Feb 2016



This meeting was a great start to the year, with a hall full of dog loving members and visitors eagerly waiting to see Mollie and her owner, June, talk about lowland search and rescue.

We normally associate search and rescue with teams in the mountainous areas of the country going out to locate people who have become lost or missing for a variety of reasons. However, there are nine search and rescue dog teams in the lowland areas of the UK, available 24/7 when called upon by the Police. June is part of Search Dogs Sussex (<http://searchdogssussex.com>), which is a member of the Association of Lowland Search and Rescue Teams (<http://www.alsar.org.uk>). At the time of

her talk there was in fact a search going on in Dorset.

The charity was formed in 2003, following the Sarah Payne case, to help locate missing people, "mispers" as they are known, with the use of air sniffing dogs. A surprisingly large number of mispers occur nationally during the course of a year, the figure was about 300,000 for 2011/2, of whom 34% were female and 66% male. Of them, about 46% were classified as despondents, 22% as suffering from dementia and another 5% as suffering mental ill-health. Statistics gathered about mispers have been compiled into a lost person behaviour book, which helps determine the best way to look for someone. Only serious cases require the support of a dog search team and on average the Sussex team have about two callouts per month.

The analysis begins with a search wheel, with the hub representing that person's last known whereabouts. The rim represents the area of search and the spokes represent likely routes travelled, subject to geography. Reflectors on the wheel highlight points of significance. A missing dementia patient will typically travel in a straight line, whereas a despondent will head for places out of sight.

The pattern of search will vary according to the wind and terrain. A person will emit about 40,000 particles per minute and knowing how they travel subsequently affects the positioning of the dog and its search path in order to maximise the chances of picking up a scent. A dog has typically got 200 million scent receptors in its nose, forty times that of an average

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human, which underlines the contribution they can make.

Remembering that everyone in a team is a volunteer, not only spending their time but also covering the cost of out of pocket expenses too, they train four times a month during the day and also at night. A dog needs to learn how to function under a wide a set of circumstances as possible since the time to find someone in a real rescue has an impact on the survivability of that person. If a crime scene is found then the team has been trained to preserve it for later forensic analysis.

Collies, spaniels, terriers and German shepherd dogs are the most common breeds used in search and rescue. Essential characteristics include a strong play drive, a good nose, safe with livestock, stamina, safe with other dogs and people, and obedience. As they near the end of their initial training they go for two mock assessments (each valid for 3 months) before going for a national test. Only when all have been passed can they then be used in a real rescue. Regular practice sessions keep their training up to date.

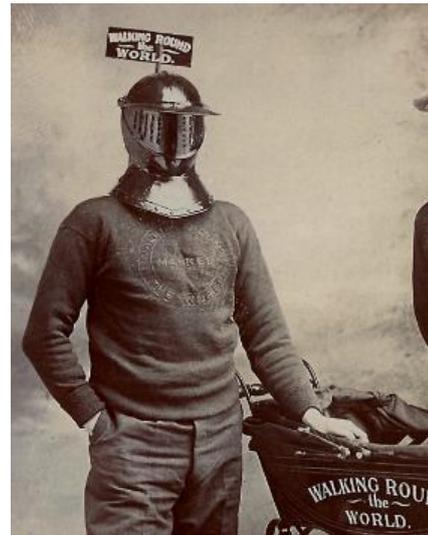
During the talk and slides, Mollie and another search and rescue dog, Lilly, belonging to a colleague Paul, were sitting or lying patiently on the hall floor. With only a couple of fidgets and getting up occasionally to stretch, their patience was rewarded with a "Valentines" dog biscuit treat. The slides showed current search strategies, some facts and figures, and photos of the dogs and their owners in various situations and environments. One of the more memorable of which was Lilly having just

rolled in a very muddy ditch. All that could be seen was a pair of eyes peering out of a blob of light brown mud that resembled the shape of a dog!

Quirky Sussex

Presented by Kevin Gordon.

Fri 11th Mar 2016



Kevin has a repertoire of excellent speeches about topics featuring Sussex and this was a classic performance. Delivered in his usual light hearted and enthusiastic style, the audience was treated to a wide range of pictures, anecdotes, facts and figures about all sorts of unusual things that give the county its unique character.

Many of the things spoken of were found whilst walking around cemeteries, something for which Kevin has a real passion. Others had been gathered over the years and added to his eclectic mix of events. So, did you know that there's a sundial marked out in the middle of a Seaford road, or that the Willingdon village pump is built from sheep knuckle bones? Or that Henry Coxwell, who had a balloon making factory in Seaford,

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held the hot air balloon altitude record of 7.5miles from 1862 to 1921? Such was the variety of items in the talk that any summary or precis cannot capture and reflect its essence.

Even if we only remember a small part of Kevin's encyclopaedic recollections, there'll be more than enough material to make a decent dinner conversation. Finally, a question: what's the correct way to pronounce the name Burwash? The answer will be given in the next issue.

Leycester Whewell, Secretary

FUTURE MEETINGS - Toni

East Hoathly and District Preservation Society presents:

Backstage at Farley Farm House by Tony Penrose

East Hoathly Village Hall Friday 20th May 2016 at 7.30pm.

A behind the scenes look at the creation of the Lee Miller Archive which houses more than 60,000 negatives of Lee Miller's work, 10,000 vintage prints plus manuscripts and ephemera. Farley Farm House has become a museum from which the archive produces a constant stream of books, films and exhibitions. It is also the human and practical face of running what has become one of the most internationally significant private collections of photography and fine art.

Tony is a film maker, photographer, author, artist, photo curator, co-founder of the Lee Miller Archives and The Penrose Collection.

An accredited NADFAS lecturer, he has also lectured for institutions such as the V&A, Tate Britain, Scottish National Gallery of

Modern Art, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Museu Picasso Barcelona, Museum Ludwig and The Art Gallery of Ontario.

MEETING DATES 2016	
Friday Apr 8th	DITTY BOX YARNS. Cdr Roger Paine RN.
Friday May 20th	BACKSTAGE AT FARLEY FARM HOUSE. Tony Penrose.
Friday Jun 10th	AGM & Dinner. See the booking form on the back page
Sunday July 17th	Outing: LAVENDER LINE Isfield
Sunday August 28th	Outing: QUIRKY LEWES with Kevin Gordon
Friday Sep 9th	TALKING MACHINES. Dave Homewood.
Friday Oct 14th	THE WILDLIFE OF THE OUSE VALLEY. Michael Blencowe.
Friday Nov 25th	SOCIAL EVENING In the Village Hall

The talks begin at 7.30pm so please arrive early if possible!

Members are not charged and visitors are welcome for a modest charge of £3 per person. To help subsidise the cost of speakers Toni is kindly organising raffles.

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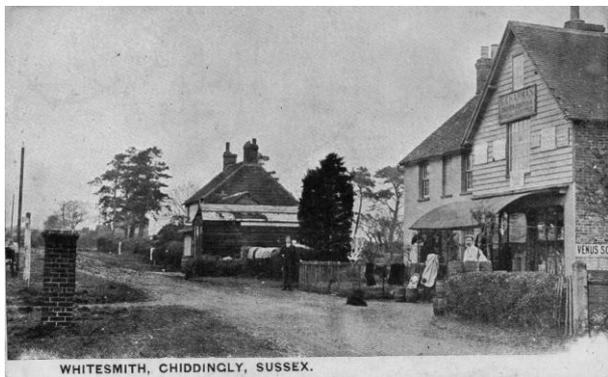
Please do buy a ticket if you can and stop for a coffee/ tea and biscuits after the talk and catch up with the various activities and opportunities that our society affiliations offer.

Ditty box yarns



Full report in the Summer Newsletter

CHIDDINGLY ORAL HISTORY GROUP



January's meeting was residents' memories of 'Chiddingly before the Second World War'

February's was the history of the Nash Street workhouse and what life was like in workhouses in general.

On Monday 21 March the group discussed the history of The Old Vicarage of Chiddingly with current owners Clare and Jonnie Hancox.

There will be a meeting on 25 April and the subject will be in the Chiddingly Parish Magazine and emailed to those on the group list.

Everyone is welcome and please bring friends or villagers who may be interested. Please let us know, at the shop, if you are attending.

There will be a small charge of £5 to cover tea/coffee and a cake.

Please put the dates in your diary for future reference.

Best wishes,

Caroline caroline@chiddinglyshop.org.

BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION SUSSEX BRANCH



The Butterfly Conservation reserve at Park Corner Heath holds regular work parties; twenty one turned out for the last work party of 2015 on 13th December.

There is still much to do and only hard graft will set the scene for the return of the spring fritillaries

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As part of the Fritillaries for the Future project the reserve manager Neil Hulme is working with owners and managers over a much larger part of the Vert Wood complex, as it is vital to reinstate these species on a landscape scale if they are to really thrive and survive here in the longer term.

One of the most exciting developments is the recent purchase of a very large area (70 hectares; 171 acres) of adjacent woodland, destined to become the Vert Woods Lewes and Laughton Community Woodland.

www.sussex-butterflies.org.uk/

VERT WOODS A COMMUNITY WOODLAND



Join us in Vert Woods for a community walk and picnic!

Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May at 12.00pm

Click here for the [Link to Register that you are going](#)

Bluebells are a sign that Spring is well under way and we'd love you to join us in the Vert Woods Community Woodland to celebrate this!

The idea is that you come for a walk - some guided, some via a map - and share a picnic lunch and play some games (kids and grown-

up kids welcome). A chocolate Treasure Hunt may be in the offing with clues! We also hope to have a bluebell expert on hand to tell us about this wonderful flower.

Bring food to share, wear stout footwear and prepare for usual mix of British Spring weather - waterproofs and sunscreen! Also please note that we are a young community venture and as yet we do not have a toilet, so come prepared to return some nutrients to the wood.

You can find out more about us on our [Facebook Page](#) or [Twitter](#).

Although free to come, please click on tickets so we know many are coming - children count too! It's really helpful for us to know how many members of the community are enjoying our woodland!

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

Contact Sue Redshaw for more information smredshaw@btinternet.com

THE WOODLAND TRUST

Identifying ancient woodland: look out for lichens.



Dotted ramalina is a fruticose lichen that is

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widespread on trees due to its tolerance to acid and nitrogen (Photo: E Bonham/WTML)

Some [species of lichen](#) need the continuous presence of woodland to survive whereas others rely on ancient or dead trees.

These 'old woodland' lichens can therefore show ecological continuity and can be used to help identify ancient woodland.

Finding these species on their own will not always mean a wood is ancient. But along with [other ancient woodland indicators](#) they can help provide evidence that it is.

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

PAST WALKS - Chris 'n' Jenny

SUNDAY 17th JANUARY - The Foresters, E. Hoathly



We are very fortunate in this part of east Sussex to have so much beautiful and varied countryside to explore on our monthly walks.

Our first walk of the year started from the Foresters, where we made our rather muddy way to the Park Corner Butterfly reserve to see how the habitat restoration work is progressing. In the Autumn of last year the oldest tree, an ancient standard oak that appears on OS maps in Rowland wood

succumbed to the weather and fell, but a more natural habitat than the wartime pine planting is emerging again.

SUNDAY 21th FEBRUARY - The Red Lion, Chelwood Gate

In February we explored the Chelwood Gate area of the Ashdown Forest and while we did digress from the planned route we did reach the Folly Bridge at the rear entrance to Chelwood Vachery. Under a canopy of mature trees such as ornamental red oaks, maples and juneberry, there is a 'gorge' made from limestone brought from Cheddar Gorge.



SUNDAY 20th MARCH - The Smugglers Inn, Alfriston



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Starting with lunch at the Smugglers in Alfriston we knew it would be a good afternoon. A leisurely walk along the riverbank in glorious spring sunshine, we reached Litlington and stopped for tea, before heading back.

Some walks are longer than others, but the emphasis is always on enjoying each others company.

FUTURE WALKS - Chris

PROPOSED WALKS FOR 2016

Usually start at 2pm after lunch in the designated pub

SUNDAY 17TH APRIL - The Star, Waldron

SUNDAY 15TH MAY - The Cuckoo's Rest,
Hellingly

SUNDAY 19TH JUNE - The Forge, Halland

SUNDAY 17TH JULY - The Lavender Line
Cafe, Isfield

SUNDAY 21TH AUGUST - Six Bells,
Chiddingly

SUNDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER - Mount Harry
Offham

SUNDAY 16TH OCTOBER -, Stanmer Park,
Brighton

SUNDAY 20TH NOVEMBER - The Green
Man, Ringmer

SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER - East Grinstead
(Streetwalk)

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

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

AND AS A BONUS:

The July walk will follow a morning tour, ride, talk and lunch at the Lavender Line Steam railway. - So that's a Grand Day Out!

Exact details have yet to be confirmed but all are welcome to just do the railway visit in the morning or the walk in the afternoon.

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

CONTACT CHRIS & JENNY PELLETT
01825 872830

MID WEEK WALKS

East Hoathly Rights of Way Volunteer Group

Hopefully now that wintry weather is largely behind us it is time to look forward to another good summer's walking and gentle maintenance of our parish rights of way. The maintenance aspect of our efforts is carried out under the overall guidance of the County Council's Rights of Way Department.

Last year we had a successful series of working days interspersed with outings solely dedicated to leisure walking over footpaths and bridleways mainly located within our parish but not always contained by our parish boundaries. Our working parties are usually concerned with the exploration of little used routes, light clearance of undergrowth, assessment of route structures such as stiles, gates and footbridges, necessary reporting and the upkeep of appropriate way marking. With one notable exception, we have only rarely encountered any serious manmade obstruction.

As you will probably guess the exception is the obstruction of Footpath 20 at Blackberry Farm.

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The campaign to have the formidable obstructions removed and the footpath reopened is a personal one.

Due to a tremendous wave of local support and a subsequent boost by one of our Parish Councillors, the light at the end of the tunnel is becoming convincingly brighter.

Particular thanks must go to Toni Whewell and Councillor Jan Burdon for applying their shoulders to the wheel in the communal effort to aid the recovery of this illegally blocked footpath.

The good news is that the County Rights of Way Department have at last managed to persuade the landowner to agree a practical diversion to allow a link connecting to a second right of way, Footpath 18b, reestablishing a circular popular route originating in East Hoathly village.

The current phase of the proceedings is a four week consultation period, which is necessary to take into account any public objections to the proposed diversion.

Assuming no objections I have been assured that the official aim is to open the diversion before the end of April.

There is a second piece of good news for local walkers which is of course the change of ownership of Vert Woods. Apart from opening up a new and splendidly spacious area for public access this acquisition also completes a further, longer circular walking route from East Hoathly village. Having transited Blackberry Farm and Upper Vert Wood it will now be possible to return to the village via the butterfly reserve at Rowland Wood and Halland Park Farm, a circuit of about five miles and a truly interesting route with diverse scenery.

I am happy to be able to end this brief review of recent happenings in this optimistic vein. If you have an interest in joining the Group please contact me, John

Deane, at dixiewalks@hotmail.com for further details of our activities.

John Deane

March 2016

CPRE (Campaign for the Protection of Rural England)

England's planning system exists to ensure that development is in the public interest, weighing up its economic, environmental and social benefits and drawbacks. The planning system can make sure that development supports regeneration which meets the needs of local communities. It can support the development of affordable housing. It can make sure that new development in historic areas takes into account its surroundings. And it can prevent development where it would cause unacceptable environmental damage.

Members of the public are entitled to see and comment on all planning applications. This is your chance to press for planning decisions that are positive for your local community.

The CPRE. Produce a booklet "How to respond to planning applications - an eight step guide"

<http://www.cpresussex.org.uk/resources/housing-and-planning/item/2678-how-to-respond-to-planning-applications-an-8-step-guide>

WILDLIFE REPORT

Quite a lot of us keep a garden bird list. It may be written down or in your head, but those who strive to attract birds into their gardens are usually well aware of which species are regularly seen and those that are more rarely recorded - some may have

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been seen only once or twice, but that still counts as a 'garden bird'.

But what are the rules about what can or cannot be counted?

Obviously a bird physically in your garden is fully acceptable.

Species flying over in 'your' airspace also count for most people.

Purists might limit their garden list to these two categories, but I prefer to count any bird that is seen from my garden.

So, a species does not actually have to be on my little patch of land, but I have to be able to see and identify the bird from the house or garden.

Having established the ground rules, the key to a big garden list is location.

We should do pretty well in the countryside but obviously won't see all the sea birds or migratory species that you might on the coast.

I suggest thirty might be a reasonable tally.

Mind you, if you have a full-time job, and don't get up early very often to look for unusual migrants in spring or autumn you may miss the wondering partridge, wax wings or siskin.

Feeders and nest boxes help and if there is a constant source of food there will be a steady stream of tits and finches which usually encourage other species.

Blue Tits, Great Tits and House Sparrows will attract the attention of the Chiffchaffs and Blackcaps, Nuthatches and Tree Creepers.

Bullfinches will annoyingly eat buds and every few years there is an invasion of Siskins in late winter.

This could be one of those years. Usually in with chaffinches this year they seem particularly abundant.

Common Buzzards are now seen daily, in stark contrast to ten years ago when they were almost unheard of in Sussex.

Siskin do breed in small numbers in Sussex in the conifer plantations and heathland in the north of the county. However, they are mostly a winter bird driven down from the north by the cold or shortage of food.

Many more cross the North Sea in search of food and are finding it at our feeding stations. The British Trust for Ornithology, who monitor the movements of Britain's birds, would like to know the true extent of this invasion.

If you have seen one or more Siskins in your garden, the BTO wants to know. The Siskin is one of the smallest members of the finch family, normally feeds on pinecone seeds in the Scandinavian forests.



Siskin Description:

The male Siskin is unmistakable with its bright yellow plumage, streaked with black and sporting a black cap and bib. Females are somewhat duller and lack the black cap and bib. Both sexes have two bright yellow wing-bars edged with black. For a free identification leaflet, or to report Siskins in

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your garden, contact the GBW team on 01842 750050, or write to BTO, GBW, Room 09, The Nunnery, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 2PU.

The BTO monitors birds in gardens through the [BTO/CJ Garden BirdWatch survey](#). To receive a free information pack about the survey, please send your name and address details to BTO, GBW, Room 09, The Nunnery, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 2PU, email gbw@bto.org or telephone 01842-750050.

SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST

Seven spring flowers to spot



Celandine



Wood Anemone



Dog Violet



Early Purple Orchid



Blackthorn



Bluebells and Stitchwort

Midsummer on the Lewes Downs

Friday, 24th June 2016

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Join us for a summer walk over the South Downs at our wildlife-rich Southerham reserve looking for orchids, butterflies and other wildlife.

Meet on the bridge on Cliffe High Street in Lewes. Nearest postcode BN7 2AN.

Flat walk with some slopes

SWT Members free, non-members £3

Contact Michael Blencowe on 07827 830891.

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AIRS (Action In Rural Sussex)

There is a long tradition of communities in rural areas taking action for themselves to provide a wide range of services that in urban areas would be provided by the market or by the state.

AiRS a charity with 80 years experience in community development is well placed to assist with projects such as oral history recording, habitat monitoring, toad crossing volunteers, and a number of natural heritage issues, with key speakers on all aspects of ecosystem services.

For those of you with smart phones, take a look at the [ARC App](#) which although a West Sussex initiative shows how a new generation can be engaged with the rural environment.

www.ruralsussex.org.uk

GRAVESTONE PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE PROJECT



Just a quick reminder that when you go on holiday or visit a church yard this year take a photo of the church and another of its name board as a record of its location. And then take pictures of as many headstones as possible.

We can then transfer them from your memory card and submit them to help with the [Gravestone Photographic Resource Project](#)

QUIRKY SUSSEX by KEVIN GORDON



I did one of my Guided Tours of Lewes and took people through the lovely churchyard of St John Sub-Castro. I pointed out some interesting graves but noticed something today that I had no seen before. It was a Memorial Plaque - known as a Death Penny or Widow's Penny, which had been inserted into the side of a gravestone. This is something I had not seen before. I could just make out the name on the plaque 'William Lucas' Wilfred Lucas was born in Lewes in 1888, the third son of John Clay Lucas and Caroline Agnew Lucas.

He attended The Kings School, Canterbury during which time he was a member of the school cricket, rugby and 'fives' teams. Despite his obvious sporting prowess, he was known at school by the nickname 'Chubby'.

In January 1912 he went to Australia to work with his brother William as a fruit farmer. As soon as war was declared in August 1914, Wilfred joined the 3rd Battalion of the Australian Light Horse as a Trooper. In April 1915 he returned to England and requested a transfer to the Royal Artillery. This was agreed and he became a Second Lieutenant in the Second reserve of the Special Reserve.

A brother officer wrote "he was one of the best liked men in the division". His Chaplain wrote "he was always so cheerful and keen on his work, and always doing something for his men"

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At Christmas 1916 Wilfred 'Chubby' Lucas was killed by a shell as he walked away from a telephone post.

His commanding officer wrote "His loss will be mourned by all who have come in contact with him and more specially by all the ranks in his Battery. He had endeared himself to the men by his never failing cheerfulness and devotion to duty". He was 28 years old.

Wilfred is remembered on the Lewes War Memorial, on the King's School War memorial and also on the Tea Tree Gully War Memorial in Australia.

Back in Lewes, Wilfred's mother Caroline was sent his metal Next-of-Kin Memorial Plaque, (also known as the Death Penny). Unusually she had this inserted into the grave of his father John, who had died in 1893. Caroline was buried in the same grave in 1928.

Today the Memorial plaque is still (just visible) on the grave at St John Sub-Castro Church, Lewes. A memorial to a cheerful man.

For more Quirky Sussex visit <https://sussexhistory.net/>

HEDGEROW SURVEY



Pond Field East Hoathly

When they are gone they are gone, we can only protect what we have recorded. Locally we have hedgerows from all ages, pre enclosure, medieval, Anglo-Saxon and even Roman.

Intrigued?

For more information

Kate Richardson

01825 840082

kathrynrichardsoneh@gmail.com

SOLAR FARMING - Chris

Once a solar farm gets its permission all goes noticeably quiet.

The solar farm at Bentley Estate, Little Horsted, was allowed at appeal, following a refusal by Wealden Council.

The inspector identified that the main issue was whether the benefits of the scheme, including the production of electricity from a renewable source, outweighed the harm on the character and appearance of the area.

The build is about complete, it may even be in commission, but nothing, even in the Solar News Magazine.

The Cuckmere Community Solar Project plans are still "with an officer" at the planning department. Looking at the responses from consultees and the public gives some interesting insight.

It is an inspiring project with aims that are good for wildlife, good for farming, good for shareholders and good for the community.

I was surprised to read that Berwick PC and The South Downs National Park Authority currently object because of visibility.

Selmeston PC do not object but make some interesting observations following the commissioning of the adjacent Berwick Solar Farm

"We objected to Berwick Solar Farm because of:

- The intrusion of industrial-scale power generation into a rural environment;

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- Visibility from the Downs and Arlington Reservoir;
- The adverse effect on neighbouring households

All concerns were well founded and apply to this proposal. We also note that:

There is continuous low-level noise from the site.

Cheaper electricity, a "carrot" to support the project, has not materialised.

Financial benefits are small - equivalent to £320 p.a. per Parish.

Given the reality of the existing site and the prospect of "community benefit", we do not object to the extension North. However, concerns are:

- Financial benefits will be assured to investors, most of whom will not be from the local communities. However, the basis on which the community payment of circa £30,000 per annum will be made is unclear. It should be agreed with local Parishes as a condition precedent to the project proceeding.
- Intimations of cheaper electricity. These should be substantiated (which would be welcomed) or ceased."

There are many public responses; from Brighton residents applauding the green initiative. And from local residents both for and against, many with local knowledge and practical suggestions.

I just hope the right decision is made and that the honourable vision of the community group is successfully shared by those that will be most affected by the outcome.

And in time that may be all of us.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR - Chris



You may note that there are less pictures of the committee folk than in the previous newsletter, that's because of complaints about the unflattering images I selected!

Yet again both electronic and paper copies are available to everyone.

The electronic copy has the advantage of clearer pictures, links to relevant information sources and articles on the web, is cheaper to produce and doesn't clutter up your coffee table.

The paper copy is still more likely to be there when you cannot remember when the next meeting is.

If you have any ideas for, or anything to go in the next newsletter please contact myself or one of the committee ASAP as the Summer edition will not be late (trans-Atlantic wedding to go to).

The email address EHDP@hotmail.co.uk goes to both the secretary and myself so you can be sure it will be seen.

Many Thanks
Chris

PS. Please return the AGM dinner form below as soon as possible.

EAST HOATHLY & DISTRICT PRESERVATION SOCIETY

East Hoathly and District Preservation Society

Annual General Meeting

Friday 10th June 2016 at 7.15pm
East Hoathly Village Hall

2016 Dinner Booking Form

Please enter quantities of main and dessert courses required, checking the totals of each.
Retain a copy as a reminder for when you arrive.

Main Course	Quantity
Steak and ale pie	
Salmon fillet with watercress sauce	
Chicken breast in white wine and tarragon	
Roasted vegetable and goats cheese quiche and salad	
Total	

Main courses come with fresh vegetables and new potatoes

Dessert	Quantity
Profiteroles with hot chocolate sauce	
Sparkling summer fresh fruit cocktail	
Strawberry pavlova	
Strawberries	
Total	

Bring your own bottle(s)!

Cost is £15 per head.

Payment total = £.....

Please bring completed form with payment to the next meeting or post to

Toni Whewell, Holdens Lodge, Stalkers Lane, Chiddingly, BN8 6HF.

Closing date for booking is the on 20th May.

Name

Address

.....

Tel/Email/.....