

East Hoathly and District Preservation Society

Summer 2017

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

WITHOUT RESERVE by Janie Ramsey



Without Reserve: Tales from Behind the Scenes in the Antiques Trade is the subject of the talk to be given by Janie Ramsey. Janie, a former Director Emeritus at Sotheby's, the world's oldest fine art auction house, will give us some insights into antiques, valuations, trades and deals and how everything isn't always as it seems in the show room and on the auction room floor!

Friday 8th September 2017 at 7.30pm East Hoathly Village Hall

ADMISSION IS FREE TO MEMBERS VISITORS VERY WELCOME @ £4

Toni Whewell 01825 872460

EAST HOATHLY & DISTRICT PRESERVATION SOCIETY

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Toni



Hello members,

Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance plays a vital role in providing life -saving care 24 hours a day. We were therefore delighted to give them a donation to help them fund this critical service. A total of £ 112.20 was raised that night (7th Apr). Well done to everyone who contributed. We heard from our member Debs Findlater that she would not be alive after an equestrian accident, had it not been for their timely and expert care. As a very grateful recipient she then personally raised funds as thanks for them saving her life, delivered a cheque to the operational site and met the team involved in her care. A very emotional event. A new larger ambulance is currently being commissioned and hopefully, a second one will follow shortly. Therefore they need all the funding they can get.

Fab walk on the 23rd April, what amazing bluebells all around the Horam area! When Chris says you can go on a short or a longer walk do check out exactly what that means. The short walk lulled some of us into believing that a longer walk would be a sensible option. Little did we know that the flat terrain suddenly became hilly and the distance doubled!! Puff puff....

Equally enjoyable was the walk on the 14th May from the Roebuck Laughton, where some friendly chickens were running amok in the pub grounds! Brilliant weather, lovely

countryside followed by a sumptuous tea and cake in a lovely cottage garden - all courtesy of our member Gill Hamilton-Cramp. What a replete and pampered group!

Jenny Clarke MBE, founder of the Sussex Bat Hospital and her bat "ambassadors" enthralled the audience with their nocturnal tales on 12th May. With up to 70 bats in her care at any one time she nurtures them back into health before releasing them into the wild once they have passed their "flying test".



The AGM was a very relaxed and enjoyable affair. Thirty two of us tucked into Denise's excellent cuisine. The committee was only three strong, so the business took a record eleven minutes. That will be hard to replicate but we shall try our best! Remember, I said our finances are looking up so do keep supporting the raffle and the bar!

We have had a good response to the Giants of Brede outing and the pub beforehand, we will let you know how it went in the next newsletter.

If I don't get to see you then or on a walk or two, do have a fun summer!

Kind regards,
Toni

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TREASURER'S REPORT - Peter



In 2015 we made a loss of £68.42, but in 2016 a surplus of £502.22.

With most membership receipts in, in April this year our assets were up to £2458.33, £100 more than predicted and so our expected surplus for the end of the year is raised to near £300 assuming that the AGM and Social surpluses remain the same as forecast and there are no surprise expenditures.

Regards,

Peter Hon. Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP - Jenny



Memberships, from both existing and new members, still come trickling in.

So far, our membership for this year stands at 78, and your continued support is greatly valued, with it we can continue to thrive and grow. Please encourage those friends and neighbours that have an interest in the past, present and future of our communities to come to our meetings, the society should be a benefit to all and we welcome the fresh ideas that new members bring.

Jenny Pellett Membership Secretary

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

VILLAGE CONCERNS

Wealden District Council's Update on the Local Plan:

http://www.wealden.gov.uk/Wealden/Residents/Planning_and_Building_Control/Planning_Policy/Wealden_Local_Plan/PPolicy_Wealden_Local_Plan.aspx

In light of the report on the air quality within the Ashdown Forest, the next draft of the Local Plan will have to contain a mitigation strategy approved by Natural England for Ashdown Forest. It is anticipated that Wealden will be discussing with landowners whether they would be willing to make their land available to provide mitigation. This may take some time as the landowners will want a fee for loss of use which will have to be paid by developers. Thus, the next draft may take some time to surface. Alternatively, if Natural England cave in and decide that the NOx damage can be accepted, then the next draft could follow shortly thereafter....."

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Meanwhile Wealden District Council, have an answer for a new provisional 5 Year Land Supply.

The proposed new plan basically cuts the timescale in half and consequently the total number from 19,950 to just 11,456 dwellings.

By including about 7000 existing permissions over this shorter period the number of additional new homes required p.a. reduces dramatically. The 5YLS is therefore achievable!

Amazing what you can do with figures.

[Village Concerns](#) is an East Hoathly with Halland Parish Action Group, and remains active on our behalf.

HEDGEROW SURVEY - Kate

The importance of knowing what we have on our doorstep, along the verges, dividing the fields and creating our landscape, has not been more put to the test than by the recent development proposals within our communities. But it is also enjoyable.



For more information

Kate Richardson

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kathrynrichardson@gmail.com

PUB REVIEWS - Chris

It's not just good food and drink that gets a pub noticed. Ken Boulter of the Six Bells Chiddingly advised on the refurbishment of the Roebuck and came up with some unforgettable ideas.



Roebuck Laughton

Standing opposite the village green, which was brewery land until purchased by the Parish in the 1980's, The Roebuck leaves a lasting impression - painted bright yellow and green on the outside and full of quirky character inside.

Dating back to the 16th century, this pub has played an important role for the community of Laughton. Stonemasons lodged here whilst rebuilding the Church and it was the Laughton Farmers Club meeting here that brought Ploughing matches to Sussex.

With really well presented bed-and-breakfast the Roebuck was refurbished and re-opened under new management; Tony and Dominic, in May 2015. There is now a large single bar area with alcoves leading off it

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and to the right down a couple of steps, the large ballroom-type room ideal for special functions. The story goes that the legendary actress Diana Dors performed here in cabaret.



Described as a 'curiosity cabinet' of a pub that has its own unique and idiosyncratic style created with the help of a number of local artists and craftspeople. As soon as you walk through the pub's front entrance an eye-catching copper-clad bar grabs your attention, and as you look further you will soon discover many interesting and wonderful fittings scattered around. The urinals in the Gents are the most photographed in Sussex!

The guest beers are from Sussex breweries and smaller breweries from further afield and the guest ciders change regularly.



If you have friends or family visiting from afar, the accommodation here is well worth considering. The four bedrooms are very

clean, comfy and decorated in pretty 'dolly-mixture' colours and quite luxurious.

The pub garden is fun for kids with resident micro pigs, Bramble and Primrose, and the free-roaming chickens that deliver eggs for breakfast.

You know where [The Roebuck](#) is, so for a country home-from-home, a welcoming retreat, tasty food and genuine Sussex hospitality, The Roebuck is hard to be beaten.

PAST MEETINGS - Leicester



The Sussex Air Ambulance Presented by Dave Winsor. Fri 7th April 2017

Based on previous speeches given to other groups, Dave was specifically requested to come and give tonight's talk, and it was indeed a superbly polished performance.

Most of us are aware of the air ambulance from various events reported up and down on TV and the radio. However, we probably don't appreciate the current sophistication of the organisation and how much money is required in order to maintain the operation, which is a charity relying on public donations for much of its income. £6.4 million is required each year just for this regional service.

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[The Kent, Surrey & Sussex air ambulance](#) operates from two sites at Redhill (having moved from Dunsfold to allow around the clock activity) and Marden. From these sites most of the region can be accessed within 15 minutes at a top speed of 140mph. A critical care paramedic monitors all 999/112 calls and if required the helicopter can be airborne in 4 minutes. The Sussex ambulance was the first to have an on-board doctor - senior consultants are used. Much of the knowledge for treating patients on site or on the return journey has been developed from rescuing casualties in military conflicts. To cut time to patient, helicopters with blades 12' above the ground are used so that medics can get out and back in whilst they are still rotating. Night time flying was introduced in 2011 with the CAA stipulating the need for two pilots. 2013 saw the introduction of blood being carried on board, four units of type O, which cost £120 each. There is now also freeze dried plasma, at £240 per unit, to help seal wounds.

Around 2200 callouts are made annually which allows a profile of the type of incident to be made. For those under 50 the most common events are road traffic accidents, falls, assaults, sport & leisure (equine in particular) and industrial. For those over 50 the most common cause of each callout is cardiac arrest.

The helicopters are operational 92% of the time, with 4% allocated to maintenance and the rest lost to bad weather or unexpected faults. A £9.2 million lease-purchase of a new helicopter is currently being implemented for the next 10-15 years. The doubling of seats to four and the extra space on board will enable work to continue on the patient whilst the extra 25mph top speed will knock valuable time off the journey to hospital. Of those in the region,

the main ones used are at Southampton, Brighton, The Royal London, St. George's and King's. With each callout costing on average £2200, the need for funding continues relentlessly.

The Sussex Bat Hospital
Presented by Jenny Clark MBE.
Fri 12th May 2017



The profile of animals has been given a boost at our monthly talks over the past couple of years, with Trevor Weekes talking about the [Wildlife Rescue Ambulance Service](#) in 2015, and last year June Felstead come along to talk about [search and rescue dogs](#) with Mollie, her Blue Marle Collie.

However, not many of us have ever had the opportunity to see live bats at close quarters and that's what Jenny did so wonderfully in her talk. She began by relating the tale some 40 years ago of how a plumber she knew brought in a bat that had been found on the ground. Neither of them knew what to do to help it; there was no internet or other reference material from which to glean useful information. Therefore, she reasoned that given that it was a mammal and she had an equine background training horses, her father being a GP and her mother a staff nurse at Guys then she would treat it as a very small horse. That approach did the trick, the bat survived, and that helped create the template for the future. An interest in the care of these curious and

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misunderstood creatures developed and thus the hospital was founded at her home.

Of the 17 breeding species to be found in the UK (out of 2000 worldwide), Jenny had brought along 4 different bats, each tucked away inside their own favourite oven mitt, inside a cylindrical wicker basket about 8" across. I was surprised to learn how small they all were, not that I was expecting anything approaching the size of an Asian fruit bat. As Jenny walked around the room to show everyone each bat in turn, she spoke of their particular background, how they came to the hospital and whether they could ever be released again. The key to release was the all-important flying test; failing that would mean they couldn't fend for themselves properly and so they would have to stay. Indeed, with a life span of up to 40 years, Jenny has had one bat for 25 years.

The first bat shown was a serotine, named Sophie, who's been at the hospital for 18 years. Described by Jenny as "lazy and dim" they have broad wings and a leisurely flapping flight. They live in the south east of England, mainly in Sussex.

The second bat was a noctule, the largest species in the country but still smaller than the palm of your hand, referred to as "four fingers wide". "Honey" has been in the hospital for seven years, having been sent down by taxi from Knightsbridge by the people who found her. This species is intelligent and flies quickly, coming out early in the evening to beat the owls.

The pipistrelle is one of the smallest and most common bats, only "two fingers wide". There are two types of pipistrelle: the common and soprano. They appear fast and jerky in flight as they catch small insects, anything up to 3000 in one night.



Finally, we were shown a brown long eared bat, which have very soft coats to reduce any sound that they make. Their hearing is exceptional, enabling them to hunt by stealth in the dead of night.

Half of Jenny's time is spent caring for bats and the other half in educating the public about bats and how numbers have dwindled 70-90% since she began caring for them, mostly from changes in the environment. This covers loss of habitat, changes in the chemical composition of the environment and physical hazards such as wind turbines and vehicles. Sticky fly paper is a problem too and Jenny urges us not to use it as it takes a good three weeks of treatment before a bat can be released once more. The most prevalent weaknesses in a bat are their humerus bone, where their fingers enter their wrists and if there's a hole in their tail membrane then they can't fly. If one is found injured never unfold the wing sideways as it will think you're trying to break it, always unfold it downwards carefully. When stressed, they will lose hair under their chin, then on their chest and then on their back.

For further information and for guidance if an injured bat is found please visit <http://www.sussexbatgroup.org.uk/batrescue> where you'll find the helpline phone numbers.

Leycester Whewell, EHADPS secretary

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FUTURE MEETINGS

Fri 8th September	Without Reserve Janie Ramsey
Fri 13th October	The importance of Wildlife ponds in our environment Pete the Pond
Fri 24th November	A Social Evening Details in newsletter

LAUGHTON

The Laughton & District Agricultural Society has been so successful that the name remains despite now incorporating 43 other parishes including Lewes. Here are some of the founding family.



**THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH SEASON
PLOUGHING MATCH**
Wednesday 20th September 2017.
 Preston Court Farm, Firle. By kind permission of the Monnington Family.

SUMMER 2017

HALLAND

Just a few notes from a small community with a big heart



Stavertons started in 1966 with a table by the roadside selling to locals and the passing trade.



Crockstead Hotel & Equestrian Centre.
 Described as a possible pagan site, the Crockstead Estate buildings mostly date from between the 16th to the 19th century.



The farm has seen many tenants and was also a working, arable farm right up until 1991. It's a long drive down to the centre but a hive of activity worthy of a visit.

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VERT WOODS A COMMUNITY
WOODLAND

HORNBEAM HEAVEN

Arguably Britain's most neglected tree

Hornbeam was once the heart of Britain's Iron Industry before coal came along. This was due to its dense, high temperature charcoal. The wood was also useful in many industrial machines and tools (from windmills to butchers blocks) due to its hardness and resilience. With the advent of coal, metals and plastic, hornbeam has largely been neglected for the past 150 years. And yet it has so many great qualities and characteristics. It is literally tough as old boots. In the past it survived grazing by elephants, allowing land to be colonised and other trees to emerge. Today it lives on especially in southern England, shrugging off diseases affecting many other trees, while slowly growing and showing off its grey-green bark and typical slightly twisting form.

With Hornbeam heaven you'll be spending a day of discovery with us, exploring the tree's history, its fascinating life cycle and its uses in a potential Hornbeam renaissance. We'll be walking through our woods and showing you hornbeam at many stages of its life. We'll also show some live coppicing and 'layering' a few coppice stools to show how it should be cared for and encouraged to thrive. With many acres of neglected hornbeam coppice this is a real live issue for the woods.

In the latter part of the day we'll also take a good look at its healing qualities through its bud, leaf and bark. Herbal teas, tinctures and remedies will be explored and tried out. A bit of whittling may well be in order as well.

Come and join us for a voyage of discovery with arguably Britain's most neglected tree, and open your eyes to its power and its magic.

Hornbeam Heaven is on July 8th so be quick or miss it! (Sorry - you've missed it - Ed)

Contact Sue Redshaw for more information
smredshaw@btinternet.com

SUMMER 2017

THE WOODLAND TRUST

Trees of National Special Interest are of the utmost importance and incredibly valuable.

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

The majority of Northern Europe's special trees are right here in the UK. They may be of a remarkable age, provide an important habitat for wildlife or be the biggest of their species. Some may be linked to an important historic event or have some exceptional cultural significance.

They can be defined as follows:

Ancient or aged trees

An ancient tree is one that makes you go 'wow'. They are likely to be very fat but not particularly tall, as just like we do ancient trees shrink down with age. They are also very likely to be hollow. Ancient trees are our oldest trees. They have passed maturity and are in the final stages of their lives, but this is not a sign the tree is about to die. Even in this ancient stage a tree may stay alive and healthy for many decades, sometimes even centuries.

The older the tree the more valuable it becomes. Simply by being present in the landscape, ancient trees continue biological, historical and cultural connections, as well as providing a valuable habitat for wildlife.



Veteran trees

Veteran trees are usually in the second or mature stages of their lives and have important wildlife and habitat features. These include hollowing or associated decay, fungi, holes, wounds and large dead branches.

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Heritage trees

Heritage trees have important historical, archaeological or cultural value. They may be associated with important events or famous people, a key part of the landscape (for example iconic avenues or unique orchards) or have botanical significance (for example a rare species).

All ancient trees are heritage trees.

Notable trees

Notable trees have local or regional importance. They could be specimen trees or those that have the potential to become veteran trees. They are often magnificent mature trees which are much larger and taller than other trees around them.



Champion trees

Champion trees are the tallest or fattest of their kind. Champions with large girths will usually be ancient trees, however tall champions are more likely to be mature trees at the peak of their growth.

Tall champion trees will not be included on a national register of special trees, primarily because their height can change and because they may be non-native trees. Ancient or champion non-European trees will also not be included.

Show your support for a national tree register
Help celebrate these natural wonders and protect them from harm for the rest of their days.

Planning and forestry are devolved matters across the UK so there needs to be a list or register in each nation.

Use this [link](#) to send a message of support.

SUMMER 2017

WALKS - Chris 'n' Jenny

April, The Lakeside, Horam

St Georges Day - the ideal date to enjoy some of the England's wonderful springtime sunshine - and that's exactly what we did.

Starting from the [Lakeside Café](#) in Horam (an absolute gem of a place) we made our way onto the Cuckoo Trail. After a short distance we left the trail for farmland heading towards Swanbrook.



We passed through stunning bluebell woods and had a welcome break beside a lake teeming with tadpoles. Here our group split into two, the hardy souls choosing to carry on with a longer route whilst the rest of us decided that a shorter walk with tea and cake back at the Lakeside was a more enticing option.

May, The Roebuck, Laughton

The Laughton Walk in May had a vague poetic theme to it passing the homes of poets and with poetic reference to points along the way:

Paradise Lost (in plain english) was recently performed at the Roebuck.

Andrew Crozier (1943-2008) was a major presence for the British Poetry Revival, and lived in Brickhurst Lane

From a piece called 'How Does It Go?', from around 1965, you find him asking:

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Song's failure
in its rhyme
to say what's meant
that lovely ice that girl
how to have both
in the poem?

We passed the home of Eleanor Farjeon who lived at Hammonds during the First World War, and wrote *Morning has Broken*.

Of course the walk included exciting finds, such as this shepherds hut, not just poetry.



Robert Franklin wrote of the Pelham's;
"Honour'd with title by great John of Gaunt,
On his great merits we might long descant.
Whose gallant prowess and exalted fame.
Gave the first Pelham's their distinguish'd
name.

Rudyard Kipling wrote "Sussex" and James Hurdis wrote of his favourite village, both probably after passing through Laughton.

Horace Smith's stanza referring to Sussex country churches in his poem "Why are they all shut?" is amazingly relevant almost 200 years after it was written.

Fortunately our journey's destination was the idyllic cottage garden and home of Gill

Hamilton Cramp beside the church, whose hospitality surpassed all expectations and to whom we are eternally grateful for her past community work at Laughton, including the millenium exhibitions which were a joint venture with our preservation society and of course the tea and cake, so much enjoyed on that sunny afternoon in May.

Our thanks are extended to Gill's neighbours and friends who helped and the new walkers who came along.

Middle House, Mayfield

[The Middle House](#) in Mayfield was the starting point for June's walk. On a very hot afternoon a few days before, member Debbie Findlater had guided me round a truly glorious walk. It was a route that had everything - stunning views, shady woodland, rolling hills, an old smugglers path, a pub and unspoilt meadows alive with dancing butterflies. One in particular had masses and masses of common spotted orchids, the like of which we seldom get to see in such numbers.

The day of our walk was not only Father's Day but also happened to be one of the hottest days of the year with a temperature of 30°C.

These two factors kept our numbers down and resulted in a shortened walk. It was just too hot and we ended up You've guessed it.... At the pub!

Sitting in the shade enjoying cold drinks and good company was a no less enjoyable way to spend the Sunday afternoon.

There was a suggestion that perhaps walks in the summer months could be in the evenings when it is cooler.

If that sounds like a good idea to you, please do let us know and we will bear it in mind for 2018

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2017 WALKS - Chris

PROPOSED WALKS FOR 2017

Usually start at 2pm after lunch in the designated pub

SUNDAY JULY	23 RD	Hare & Hounds, Framfield
SUNDAY	20 TH AUG	Abergavenny Arms Rodmell
SUNDAY SEPT	17 TH	Buxted
SUNDAY	22 TH OCT	Chiddingly
SUNDAY	19 TH NOV	Rushlake Green
SUNDAY	17 TH DEC	East Hoathly (Streetwalk)

CONTACT [CHRIS & JENNY PELLETT](#)

01825 872830

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

WILDLIFE REPORT - Living with Birds

Birds of East Hoathly

The Song Thrush.



Fortunate are we in East Hoathly to have the sweet sound of the Song Thrush singing its evening melody at this time of year!

It is a frequent visitor to gardens, where its comparatively large size and speckled breast make it easily recognisable. A churring clatter is its best known call, its song somewhat simpler than a Blackbird's. Less mellow perhaps, but, it sings in all weathers, earning its vernacular name of Stormcock! They can also be accomplished mimics, and happily include the notes of blackbird, nightingale and woodpecker in their repertoire.

It is set apart from other garden birds [except perhaps the Nuthatch] by its use of a stone as an anvil on which to smash the shell of snails, and it can be seen hopping about, head cocked, searching for worms, slugs and the afore mentioned snails! Truly, a gardener's friend.

Although fond of fruit, it is a most desirable bird to encourage into the garden. Apart from a destroyer of snails it is also partial to aphids and will take them in great numbers from infested fruit trees and roses.

Less adaptable than other garden birds in hard winters, their numbers can be severely reduced in long hard spells. They sometimes migrate to the milder south west, not infrequently to Brittany.

They nest in hedges, trees, bushes, walls or even sheds, using grass, straw and twigs, with an inner layer of dung, then lined with moss and wood chips. Four to five eggs are laid, varying from green to blue, sometimes spotted. Two or three broods can be laid, both parents feeding the young with older

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fledglings helping with feeding the next brood!

Finally, it would not be in order to leave the Song Thrush without a mention of Browning and his "Home thoughts from abroad";

"That`s the wise Thrush; he sings each song twice over,

Lest you should think he never could recapture

The first fine careless rapture!"

The Starling.



Famous for appearing on television, legendary even, for spectacular sunset gatherings, murmurations of Starlings that gather in the evenings to roost. A huge flock that shape-shifts in the sky as if it was one swirling mass! It is called "scale-free correlation". Every shift of the murmuration is called a critical transition.

Giorgio Parisi leads a team looking into the amazing movement of starlings. It seems the change in the behavioural state of one animal affects and is affected by that of all other animals in the group, no matter how large the group is. Scale-free correlations provide each animal with an effective perception range much larger than the direct interindividual interaction range, thus

enhancing global response to perturbations. There is much more to it than this! Look up mmm.com.

Back to East Hoathly starlings.

A familiar and handsome bird. With glossy black plumage, iridescent and subtle reflections of green and blue, yellow bill, mantle feathers buff tipped with underside and flanks spotted white. They sparkle in the breeding season!

The starling's song is not particularly musical, a confused mixture of wheezes gurgles and clicks, but they are remarkable for their mimicry. They include their neighbour's songs; bullfinches, tawny owls, curlews, even telephones ringing! In any gathering they sing with wings partly open, gentle flapping is quite common, keeping the bond.

An omnivorous scavenger in populated areas, close cropped grassland is their favourite feeding ground, where you can see them probing for leatherjackets, earthworms and caterpillars. They are fond of fruit in season, particularly cherries and berries of yew and elderflower. In many ways it is a bird of contrast; in plumage, which varies with age and with season; in its relationship with man, for it can be either a beneficial consumer of insect pests, for a much briefer period, an orchard pest. It can be a marauding thug at the bird table, or a few weeks later an iridescent herald of spring!

Then, November. A source of wonder, watching unanimous manoeuvres of a million individual birds. For sheer awe-inspiring numbers and uncanny mass-discipline, such phenomenal behaviour does not reach these magnificent proportions in any other British bird.

Fred Carter - Wildlife Observer

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CHIDDINGLY ORAL HISTORY GROUP



Presented by Friends of Chiddingly
Village Shop & Café
Keeping you in touch with your
community

Happy 5th Birthday to us!
(save the date)

This August marks the 5th anniversary of [Chiddingly Village Shop](#) and will be celebrating with a cuppa & cake party on Saturday September 2nd, from 11am so please save the date! Everyone is invited to come by for a complimentary cup of tea or coffee and slice of birthday cake - more details to follow nearer the time.

If you want reminders of future events call in at the shop or email julie@chiddinglyshop.org

Many of you will already have met Julie Bates, our wonderful new shop manager, who recently took over the reins from Caroline. Julie is also a relative newcomer to the village -- she and her husband moved to a cottage at Golden Cross last year from Alfriston, where they brought up their three children. Julie brings plenty of relevant experience to her new role, having previously run her family's café in Lewes, and as anyone who's met her can attest, she also has a very friendly face and an infectious smile!

BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION SUSSEX BRANCH

Neil Hulme has been awarded a British Empire Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours for his work saving the Duke of Burgundy in Sussex. Neil, said: "It is a great honour to be recognised in this manner."

He added: "But the conservation of butterflies is always a team effort, so it is equally a recognition of my colleagues and particularly the volunteers of Butterfly Conservation Sussex Branch.

We should be particularly pleased as Neil Hulme is "Fritillaries for the Future" Project Officer

Much of the work for this is taking place right on our doorstep at Rowland Wood & Park Corner.



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In Neil's words:

Firstly, I would like to reiterate my thanks - see report below - to the dedicated captive-breeding team of volunteers Theresa Lux and Gary Norman, working under the guidance of Mike Mullis. After a long journey, during which many setbacks were suffered and overcome, Sunday (11 June) saw the successful completion of the first part of a programme to reinstate the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (SPBF) to Sussex.

More than 400 SPBF have been released, as either final instar larvae or adults, into carefully prepared habitat networks at both the BC reserves in Sussex (Park Corner Heath & Rowland Wood) and FC Abbot's Wood. These reintroductions form part of a strategic, landscape-scale project targeting sites where sustainable management plans are in place.

I would like to thank our members for heeding the request for restraint in pursuing the butterflies too enthusiastically in this first season, and for allowing them to go about their business unhindered. I would also like to thank Natural England and the Forestry Commission for their support, and the main project sponsor, Heritage Lottery Fund.

On 26 May an event was held to celebrate the project, attended by former reserve managers and volunteers who had served 'above and beyond the call of duty' in the past. Needless to say, this was a very happy day that put smiles on many faces. I feel that we have done everything possible to resurrect the fortunes of this species in Sussex, but only time will be the judge.

www.sussex-butterflies.org.uk/

MID WEEK WALKS - John



John is one of several of our members who has also taken on the thankless task of Parish Councillor. As well as Footpaths and Woodland, John is also looking into protecting our redundant kiosk for possible use as a defibrillator station.

There are lots of opportunities for volunteer work in the parish, John is a good point of call whether it's for the East Hoathly Rights of Way Group or an official council initiative.

Contact

dixiewalks@hotmail.com You will be made most welcome.

CPRE (Campaign for the Protection of Rural England)

[CPRE campaigns](#) for a sustainable future for the English countryside, a vital but undervalued environmental, economic and social asset to the nation. We believe that a beautiful, tranquil, diverse and productive countryside is fundamental to people's quality of life, wherever they live. CPRE is an active and long-term supporter of Neighbourhood Planning as a means to ensure that people's aspirations for the future of the places in which they live can be identified and acted upon.

EAST HOATHLY & DISTRICT PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Neighbourhood Plan

The [East Hoathly with Halland Parish Council](#) has formed a steering group and has a busy schedule from now until Autumn 2019 when the plan may be ready for submission to WDC. We are pleased to have been approached and have representation on the steering group. The first public meeting to report on progress and obtain opinions, comments and invite residents to assist in relevant working parties will be in October this year.

SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST



Sussex Wildlife Trust have produced a really useful guidance document for those concerned about the environmental impact of development in Sussex.

Neighbourhood Plans can be good for local wildlife. They are a great opportunity to improve the local environment, including protecting and enhancing existing assets, such as local parks, nature reserves and other green spaces. When it comes to new development, a plan can make sure design reflects and compliments the wider countryside and provides space for people and nature.

[how-to-include-wildlife-in-neighbourhood-plans](#)

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR - Chris



The Autumn newsletter is scheduled for the beginning of October.

Keep sending in articles or ideas of what you would like from the society

[Chris Pellett](#)

DID YOU KNOW

New Books on East Hoathly are available through the society.

Used books on Sussex are available for loan from the society.

The Society is always pleased to receive Books on Sussex and E H memorabilia.

Residents own stories and memories of our villages are also always of interest.

See Chris for information or call 01825 872830

EHDPS@hotmail.co.uk