

The Parish Pump

Community news, events and local services in:
**Pevensey Bay, Stone Cross, Westham,
Pevensey, Normans Bay and Hankham**



Issue 172 – Winter 2025-2026

Includes pull-out **What's On** centre section



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Community News

Find out what local organisations have been doing and what events they are planning.....

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the Winter Edition of The Parish Pump! As 2025 draws to a close dedicated volunteers continue to give up their free time to ensure the future of the wide variety of clubs and organisations which offer residents, young and old, the opportunity to try a new hobby.

There is the ever present calendar of events and activities for all ages spanning the coming weeks and months – and, of course, many will have a Christmas theme towards the end of the year.

New volunteers are always welcome by the different groups, so if you can spare a few hours get in touch with the group or organisation which you would like to support.

Meanwhile, as Remembrance Sunday approaches if you would like to rattle a Poppy tin to help raise money for the Royal British Legion in the run-up to Armistice Day on 11th November contact The Parish Pump for details.

My thanks go to Janet Day, from Pevensey Bay Art Group, for her watercolour 'Bold Pheasant' - our last front page for 2025.

As ever, a big thank you to all our contributors, advertisers, delivery volunteers and you, the reader, for your continued support.

Wishing you a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Sara Cheesley

Editor

07799 374049

theparishpump13@gmail.com

ISSUE 173 DEADLINE

Local groups and organisations should email details of events and activities between 1st March 2026 - 30th June 2026 to: theparishpump13@gmail.com by

14th January 2026

Brief details (date, time, subject, venue) of events for the 'What's On' section should be sent on a separate email.

ANDERIDA BORDER MORRIS

Anderida Border have had a very busy Summer, which finishes with our last event on 4th October at Tenterden day of dance.



We were very lucky this year to attend, for the first time, the Ilfracombe All Things Morris Festival and the Broadstairs Folk Festival. In all, we attended an amazing 37 events and all of our newbies have now danced and played in public.

We return to practice on 3rd September and look forward to learning new dances.

We are very pleased to have been invited back to the Tudor Wassail at Michelham Priory for the second year, and will be performing at both the afternoon and evening wassails on 10th January. We also look forward to being the host Morris side for the return of the Eastbourne Lammas Festival at the beginning of August next year.

Further information about the side, how to join or book us, can be found on our facebook page.

Shirley Deans





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BAY COMMUNITY HUB

Well, what a great summer we had here at the Hub with over 50 persons on average through the door on some days and some Saturdays over 70 persons. It really is great to see so many people using our services.



The dog show/fete was very successful for us; you may have seen our stall? I was surprised as to how many local people didn't know about us. We must have been asked 20 or so times for library application forms and it was wonderful to chat to everyone and meet their dogs.

The library goes from strength to strength and is as busy as ever. Are you a member? The library is free to join and free to take out books. We are always buying new books and also have a good children's and teenage range.

The information/medical appointments side of the Hub is also very, very busy, it is great being able to help visitors/and residents.

Please remember that we run a volunteer car service for medical appointments. Our drivers, who are all DBS police checked, will pick you up, take you to your appointment and wait for up to two hours and take you home and all for a small donation for fuel. Passengers under 18 MUST be accompanied by an appropriate adult.

When booking transport please let us know if you have any walking aids /wheelchairs etc. We are unable to take animals like cats, dogs and goats. Yes I did say goats!

We have some lovely cards and jigsaws and also a range of exclusive cards by local artist Rosemary Pill for sale.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all our volunteers and our very special drivers for their hard work and dedication for making the Hub the success that it is.

Do you have 3 hours a week to join us or become a voluntary driver? If you would like more information then pop in and see us.

We still have room for a small community group or charities to use the space in the hub on afternoons. So far we have each Monday a local art group. The first Friday of each month the INKSPOT writing group, and once a month Pevensey Town Trust all using the Hub.

We will be running our very popular Christmas draw from 1st December, and we will be closed over the Christmas holidays from 19th December until 5th January 2026.

It was very disappointing that on August Bank Holiday Monday vandals smashed one of our windows at a cost of £265 for us to replace. It is fortunate that we have CCTV.

We are open Monday to Saturday from 10am to 1pm. Our telephone number is 01323 766230.

Derek V Green, Chairman

BRITISH CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
ROTHER VALLEY BRANCH

With the nights drawing in it's time to stop watering your cacti and succulents until next March. They will benefit from a winter rest and although you may see them shrink a little don't be alarmed, they will spring back into life in, well, the Spring!

It is not a good idea to position your plants close to a radiator during this period, so move them to a cooler room such as a bedroom. As they are not growing they don't need as much light.

We still have one meeting before the end of the year – on 13th November – at the village hall in Sedlescombe. We welcome non-members and meetings are FREE! There are always plants for sale and we provide FREE refreshments. Doors open 7pm, meeting starts at 7.30pm.

Please see our Branch website for more information - the 2026 programme will appear before the end of the year: www.rothervalley.bcsc.org.uk.

There you can also sign up to receive our monthly emails (you can unsubscribe at any time) and there are links to the BCSS Sussex pages on Facebook and Instagram, or just email us if you have any questions: secretary@rothervalley.bcsc.org.uk

BROWNBREAD HORSE RESCUE

Have you noticed, as you get older, 'time' seems to progress faster? Well, this last summer has been like that. First, we had our dry spring then a dry summer; at least down southeast it was. The lawn didn't go as brown as it was in '76.

We were pleased to have had visitors. They ring up first to make an appointment; just as well since, being volunteers, we might be anywhere because our hours are crazy; sometimes in the dark, sometimes not even on the farm.

Our two Shetlands, a mare and her daughter, came to the end of their lives. The mare was elderly and the daughter, about twelve, had defective legs which the vet said had become critical. She was called "Carnival" as both mare and tiny foal were rescued from a back garden on Bexhill Carnival Day. There were actually four in the back garden, sorry, back earth yard filled with dung. The filly was so small that one of us carried her up the steps in our arms.

Thank you to all our supporters especially those that have kindly donated hay. Many farmers have had to feed hay this last summer because of the lack of rain. This may be a problem for Athem as hay is normally feed for the winter months.

Please ring 01424 892381 if you wish to visit. I also need paid office help, preferably on site.



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EASTBOURNE & DISTRICT LOCAL RSPB GROUP

There has been a Local RSPB Group in Eastbourne since 1975, with a brief pause in 1993, whose aims are to encourage an interest in wildlife and to support the RSPB nationally: "Protecting habitats, saving species and helping to end the nature and climate change emergency."



Your local Group of the RSPB organises a range of enjoyable activities for members and non-members.

Our friendly walks (usually on the second Wednesday and third Saturday) are not strenuous and usually last between two and a half and three hours - we are not in a hurry to get anywhere and pause to enjoy the birdlife and all nature on the way.

Our talks (usually on the first Wednesday) are held in St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay, and take place in the afternoon at 2.15pm and then repeated in the evening at 7pm. The talks last around two hours with a break for (free) refreshments. We have a wide variety of speakers, usually with an illustrated presentation, talking about all aspects of nature.

You can join your Local Eastbourne Group for only £10 per year. Talks are £5 (£6 for non-members). Walks are free, but we hope that a voluntary donation of £2 is made.

EAST SUSSEX HEARING

East Sussex Hearing is offering free ear health checks. If you feel you may be suffering from a build-up of ear wax, please contact East Sussex Hearing for advice.

Advice is also available about the microsuction ear wax removal services which are chargeable.

Hearing Aid Maintenance Sessions continue to be held at St Luke's Parish Centre, Stone Cross, on the 2nd Saturday of each month, 10am-11am.

The team of staff and wonderful East Sussex Hearing volunteers look forward to meeting you all.

For further information, please call East Sussex Hearing on 01323 722505; email: hello@eshrc.org; website: www.eshrc.org

EAST SUSSEX MOVIEMAKERS

The past few months have been a mix of 'ups and downs' for our Club. At the end of May, two members went to the South East region's film festival held traditionally in the Oast Theatre, Tonbridge.



The range and quality of films entered was good, and it made for an enjoyable day out.

Since then most of the club's meetings and activities have been routine, with only a few members attending. One absentee is engaged with an Eastbourne college, which receives groups of students from countries such as Austria and Switzerland.

One such group made an afternoon visit to a gathering at Eastbourne's Venton Centre. There, the students sang some Swiss songs, before interacting in conversation with the Centre's elderly attendees. The afternoon ended with a 'singalong' of songs associated with VE Day, 2025 being the 80th anniversary.

Two members of our Club filmed the event to demonstrate how useful such occasions can be for older people in our communities, and for the students.

Another event filmed was the summer production by Bright Lights theatre group who perform at a hall in Little Common.

The comedy, entitled A Very Roman Family 235AD, produced plenty of laughs for the audience, and the filmed record of their performance will, we hope, bring back some good memories for the cast. The proceeds from the filming, and DVD copies sold, is divided between our club and the charity 'Action for Children'.

Sadly, Geoff Davey, one of our members, died in August.

Money raised from the sale of some of his film making equipment, is being sold by club members, and the proceeds donated to the 'Parkinson's Society'.

More recently, three members spent a few hours in Ferring Village Hall where the Sussex Film Festival was held; sadly no entries from our club this time amongst the 31 films shown.

The overall winner was entitled Shippams - A Factory at War. It depicted how the Shippam's family, based at their factory in Chichester, charitably and supportively, kept contact with their employees caught up in, and fighting, during the First World War.

Last, but not least, we have been approached to assist some local residents publicise their intended action to preserve the qualities offered by an unblemished Peelings Lane.

If any organisation looking for a film show to include in their programme of activities at their normal venue, this can be available in return for a donation to share with the club, and a local charity.

For further details please contact Malcolm Webster by phone 01323 769016 or by email: mfwebster@btinternet.com

For full details of each meeting, both date, time, and place, please either ring Malcolm Webster, or email Val McManus: mcmanusuk@yahoo.com.



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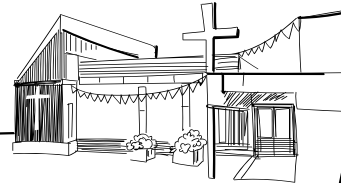
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EAST SUSSEX VISION SUPPORT

East Sussex Vision Support (EVS), formally The East Sussex Association of Blind and Partially Sighted People, was established in 1921 when social inclusion was at the top of its agenda.



This is still the case today and we remain dedicated to providing vital services to blind and partially sighted people who live within East Sussex, Brighton and Hove.

Whilst aiming to increase the independence, confidence and well-being of blind and partially sighted people, we also work to promote the understanding of sight loss in local communities.

Perhaps one of the worst times in a blind or partially sighted person's life is when they are first diagnosed with sight impairment or when it changes or worsens. Such experiences normally take place at an eye clinic.

We are there to help when someone has a new diagnosis or if a sight problem changes or worsens. The consultant can refer the patient directly to ESVS where we are able to provide advice, care, comfort, sign posting, support and ensure they have full advice and guidance at this very difficult time.

Our Services

Our long-running, successful, Low Vision Service provides a detailed one-to-one package of care that will help you get back on your feet, sort out a range of problems or just provide care and support when you most need it.

The Aids & Equipment Co-ordinator and his Personal Assistant visit people in their homes and invite clients to visit the shop at Head Office, to show them the latest equipment and software that will enable people with sight loss to be independently mobile inside and outside their homes.

Our telephone Helpline is based locally at our Hailsham HQ. The service is available from Monday to Thursday 9am to 4.30pm.

Our Higher Intervention Service is there to help people with long term, complex need.

We currently provide 10 social groups run by 100 volunteers. These offer a vital lifeline to over 300 of our members who would experience social isolation and exclusion without the opportunity to get together once a month.

For further information about any of our services or to get in touch with us please ring our HQ on 01323 832252, email: info@eastsussexvisionsupport.org or visit our website for further information: www.eastsussexvisionsupport.org

ETHEL WOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Ethel Wood Community Centre is your community hall and the perfect venue for every occasion.



It is located in the heart of Pevensey Bay on Coast Road and is an amenity for the whole community.

Key features and amenities include:

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- outdoor space

The hall is well used with many activities including, lunch clubs, dance groups, art classes, martial arts, yoga, social gatherings and the pentacle drummers.

Interested in booking? Please visit the below website to access the booking system which includes the hall's availability, how to book and pricing or contact Sarah Mosedale: email: clerk@pevenseyparishcouncil.gov.uk; phone: 01323 743900/07849 124319; website: <https://pevenseyparishcouncil.gov.uk/#bookethel>

1ST PEVENSEY SQUIRRELS

1st Pevensey Bay Scout Group have had a fabulous few months, not only are the Squirrels having oodles of fun learning about being Scouts, but now the brand new Beavers section is also up and running!



The Squirrels have been on exciting hikes and explored the world around them, have been on scavenger hunts, explored Bushy Wood Scout camp, shot arrows and thrown axes, carried out some experiments and went on a visit to the library! Phew!

In their first 6 weeks, the Beavers have been busy getting to know each other, learning some new games and have made a start finding out about camping – ready for their adventures! They even had lots of fun with food, discovering exactly how far some of our food travels to our plates and how to be healthy. There is a whole lot more fun on the programme for the next term!

Squirrels are ages 4-5 and Beavers 6 – 8.5 and we are hoping to be able to launch our next section, Cubs in January 2026 for age 8-10. If you have a young person who might be interested in joining us, then please drop us an email: 1stpevenseybay@eastbournescouts.org.uk and we can take your information.





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We are always on the look out for any adults who could spare an hour a week to help deliver these sessions, but no matter if you can't manage regularly, but could help out at other times, behind the scenes or even on our trustee board, we would love to have a chat with you.

If you are a parent/carer who could offer some volunteer time to us, we would ensure that your young person takes priority in the event of a waiting list.

A huge thank you must be extended to the volunteer team at Pevensey Bay Scout Group, to have made this such a resounding success – the young people of Pevensey Bay are loving it!

FOXES HOLLOW RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Thank you to our members for 2025/2026 as we continue in another membership year.



We continue onwards after our AGM in September with plans to maintain and represent the Foxes Hollow estate.

Any household who missed out on membership applications from June then please get in touch with us via foxeshollowestate.com or contact our Chairman Stuart McMillan on 01323 764 350 for further details.

INKSPOT

Turn over a writing leaf for autumn'

We are a friendly and supportive creative writing group meeting on the first Friday of each month between 3-5pm at the Library within the Bay Community Hub.

It's an accessible and inspiring event for experienced writers or those wanting to try out some writing for a first time. There is no pressure on reading your pieces so you can just listen if that suits you better.

We often start with a 'warm up' piece to flex the writing muscles and later move to a selected topic at which we request either prose or poetry, but with a maximum of 1,000 words (less if possible).

As the group has grown in numbers we really hope members will stick to this or we run out of time!

Since the last magazine we've covered topics from 'Wardrobes' to 'Open' challenges on any



topic to 'The Tearoom' which linked nicely to our Summer Social visit to the lovely Castle Cottage Tearoom right next to Pevensey Castle. With thanks to Julie and her team for looking after us - part of the group is pictured indulging in scones etc!

Talking of refreshments we break during our monthly meetings for a cuppa/biscuit and pay £1 towards that alongside £1 donation towards the Hub.

We loved being part of the Pevensey Community Information Day again in September at St Wilfrid's Church Hall and are making plans to link up again with Pevensey and Westham Community Forest Garden and hope to have a session of creative writing responding to The Mint House and its fantastic history.

Our next meetings will be on Fridays - 7th November, 5th December (plus a probable Christmas Social) 2nd January and 6th February.

For further information contact: pcoughlan@btinternet.com or check out our website: www.inkspotbythesea.com

MEMORY LANE

Do you look after someone – a friend or relative, who has dementia, and you feel isolated?

Memory Lane is a local registered charity providing support and social activities, especially for people with dementia and their carer.

Singing or games are held at 2pm every Wednesday at Christ the King Church Hall, Princes Road, Eastbourne (just off Langney roundabout).

Once a month on a Saturday there is a themed lunchtime group with homemade soup and a roll. Additionally, there is Ten Pin bowling on Friday afternoon.

There is also an allotment in which you can participate should you wish, even if it's just to chat and have a cup of tea. In the summer the group enjoys a coach outing.

No charge is made for some of the regular activities, but donations are requested to help with the running costs.

Light refreshments are served at all our meetings in the Church Hall, where carers can chat with each other, which is a valuable asset for carers and helps them to feel that they are not alone in what can be a very isolated life.

People no longer caring for a loved one can join a Friends of Memory Lane group which has its own social events.

For further information please email: memorylane.eastbourne@gmail.com or if you prefer contact 07393 834498.





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PARISH OF PEVENSEY ST WILFRID & ST NICOLAS CHURCHES

REMEMBERING, WAITING, CELEBRATING

One of the joys of the Church of England is the changing seasons of the church giving various 'flavours' in worship.

The vibrant summer months of 'Ordinary Time' are behind us, and Autumn moves us gently through a season of remembrance towards Advent.



St Nicolas Church



St Wilfrid's Church

On All Saints Sunday we remember named and unnamed 'Saints' and the following day, 3rd November, we have a special service to give thanks for our own departed loved ones and light a candle in their memory. Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday are poignant occasions as we honour those who died because of war and pray for a more peaceable future.

Advent Sunday, 30th November, heralds a time of longing for the coming Christ (Advent = "coming"). This season culminates in the Festival of Christmas as we celebrate 'Emmanuel' (= 'God with us') when our churches are beautifully decorated and carols are sung.

The Christmas Season lasts all the way through Epiphany right up until Candlemas which we celebrate on Sunday, 1st February and it is only then, that the cribs are removed from both churches.

As Easter falls early in 2026, the season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 18th February and the mood changes again to one of solemnity and reflection.

All are welcome to come and explore the seasonal journey with us – whether you are a believer or just questioning.

For more details about time/venue of any of the above, please see the 'What's On' section. All are welcome to our regular Sunday services - St Wilfrid's at 9.30am and St Nicolas' at 11.30am.



**The Annunciation
St Nicolas'**



**The Call of the Disciples
St Wilfrid's**

Please get in touch with any enquiries about marriage, baptism or funerals and keep an eye on the parish website: www.pevenseyparish.org which is regularly updated.

Revd. Merriel Woodward

Associate Vicar

01323 509891

email: pevenseyparish@outlook.com

PEVENSEY BINGO

New people are always welcome to join our bingo sessions.

We open at 6.45pm on Friday evenings. Eyes down is at 7.30pm. We finish about 9.15pm. We have 11 games of bingo, football cards, raffle. Free tea and coffee in the break after 5 games. We also have a £50 draw which is drawn when the sheet is full.

Books of 10 games are £5 and the flyer is £2.

For further information call Peter on 01323 763520 or 07825 050599.

PEVENSEY COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Pevensey Community Support Tuesday lunch Club welcomed two new members this quarter.

We are still looking for volunteers both for driving our mini-bus on Tuesdays and driving the mini-bus once a fortnight to Asda for taking some ladies shopping.

Volunteers are also needed to help out on Tuesdays at the lunch club. No special talents needed, just be able to socialise and chat, occasionally maybe assist in kitchen when short-handed. It's only for 3 1/2 hours.

We are always looking at different ways to raise much needed funds so we are holding a Christmas Fayre at St Wilfrid's Church Hall in Pevensey Bay on 22nd November, 2025, 12.30 till 3.30pm. Come along and meet Father Christmas. There will be lots of other craft stalls. Cakes and refreshments available.

We also have a few wheelchairs available to borrow should any local resident have a need. No charge just a small donation.

Should anyone be interested in a lunch freshly cooked by our local chef give us a call. We do have a mini-bus that goes around the village collecting our members and then returning them home.

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If you are considering a school for your child, please contact us to arrange a viewing.

For more information please contact
01323 763265

office@hankham.e-sussex.sch.uk
www.hankhamschool.co.uk

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PEVENSEY CRICKET CLUB

Double promotion Season 2025

Pevensey Cricket Club's 2025 season could not have gone any better, with both their league sides winning their respective Divisions. The 1st XI ended on 456 points, with Rob Adams the leading run scorer and Graeme Corbishley the leading wicket taker.



1st XI with supporters

Skipper Dave Beck led them to 14 wins from their 18 games, and we are already starting preparation for life in Division 8. Kieran Loader had both the highest individual score of *135 against Mayfield, and the best bowling figures of 6 for 30 against Heathfield Park, but so many other players produced great performances or moments across the year that it was a true team effort for our success.

Meanwhile, the junior inspired 2nd XI won 11 of their 14 games, topping Division 12 with style and character. They finished on 354 points, with Steve Chapman the leading run scorer and Will Fryer the leading wicket taker. Captain Josh Perry pulled the strings magnificently, and it was a great reward for the efforts of a young squad – 9 of their top 10 bowlers were under 30, and this clearly bodes well for future success up the league.



2nd XI

Our Sunday side play Development Cricket, with adults and juniors combining to improve and enhance their

skills against similar friendly opposition. Captain Will Fryers debut season went brilliantly, with all ages of young cricketers getting their first taste of long format hardball cricket, in a nurturing and happy environment. Whilst results were secondary to inclusion, they finished the season on a high with a glorious 104 run victory over club friends Hurst Green.

Away from the adult games, the Dynamos section, for kids aged 8 and above thrived, with several new players appearing in their first ever games and tournaments, and the established players going from strength to strength.

Our U11s hardball side put on some great displays against far more experienced positions, always playing with a smile on their face.

Finally, the Award Winning Disability Champion Section continued to run friendly, free and inclusive sessions across the summer, and was recognised recently by the ECB for the work they do.

We are always looking for new members of any age for any section, or just as a supporter, and we look forward to seeing everyone at the rec again in 2026!

Graeme Corbishley
Chairman

PEVENSEY LEVELS

Pevensey Project Update - Autumn 2025

What a season it's been at the Pevensey Levels! Our wetlands have truly come alive, delivering some fantastic wildlife moments and a few surprises along the way.

Breeding Successes

This spring and summer, we were thrilled to see several breeding pairs of lapwing and little ringed plover making the most of the excellent water levels. Their presence is a testament to the careful management of the site and the dedication of everyone involved.

Migration Magic

Now, as autumn sweeps in, the landscape is shifting once again. The first waves of teal, snipe, wigeon, and



Aerial view of Pevensey Levels



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PEVENSEY PARISH COUNCIL

Sunday 27th July saw the launch of Pevensey Village Fete, which included the ever popular village Dog Show, which encourages responsible dog ownership. With perfect weather we had several stalls, activities and entertainment which included musical support and bar and refreshment facilities. It was an excellent fun day.



Alison Wood with her dog Edna,
'Veteran' class winner

The council is grateful to the volunteers who helped organise the event and on the day.

Update on the pavilion project

The council has been working hard to get all elements of this project off the ground which included identifying the work required on the pavilion as it was showing signs of deterioration and doesn't meet modern standards of a sports club.

The council acknowledged that the project would require specialised expertise and a formal procurement process. A sub-committee was set up to:

- Explore options about how to refurbish the existing building and obtained planning permission;
- Appoint a main contractor during the coming winter, on the basis of competitive tenders and managing the refurbishment of the project, during 2026;
- Draw up applications for grant funding in connection with the works to the pavilion.

Further updates can be found on the council's website.

The council has and continues to provide small grants to organisations that undertake activities across the parish. Applications could be made up until 31 October 2025 for 2026 and an announcement about which has been successful will be made in the new year.

Council holds litter picks throughout the year and volunteers across are crucial to ensure litter picks are successful and worth having. New dates will be released in the new year.

During the winter months council will be working on the budget for 2026-27. The council is very conscious of the difficult financial times facing local people and every effort is made to ensure that any increases are kept to a minimum and justifiable.

Unlike the county and district council's parish councils do not receive any direct funding from central government, which means the majority of a Parish Council's income comes from the council tax precept. The percentage of your council tax precept that the Parish Council receives is 5% of the whole amount.

For more information on what the parish council is doing including events, ongoing projects and general council business can be found on the councils' website:

<https://pevenseyparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

All council meetings are open to members of the public and are held on the first Tuesday of every month at St Wilfrid's Church Hall at 7pm. Come along to see what our 13 members discuss and do voluntarily on your behalf!

Contact the Clerk, Sarah Mosedale on 01323 743900

email: clerk@pevenseyparishcouncil.gov.uk

➔ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

green sandpiper are arriving, bringing fresh energy and excitement to the Levels. Their calls and movements are a wonderful reminder of the site's importance as a vital stopover for migratory birds.

A Rare Visitor

One of the season's true highlights was the appearance of a red-footed falcon—a rare and spectacular visitor that caused quite a stir among local birders and conservationists. Moments like these really showcase the Pevensey Levels as a haven for both common and unexpected species.

Looking Ahead

With water levels holding strong and habitats in great condition, we're looking forward to seeing what the rest of the migration season brings. We'll continue to monitor the wildlife and share updates as more arrivals touch down.

Thank you to everyone who has supported and contributed to the project—your efforts are making a real difference for wildlife at Pevensey!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23 ➔

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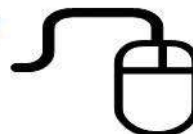
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PEVENSEY
PARISH COUNCIL

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CAN YOU HELP AT ONE OF OUR COMMUNITY EVENTS?

Whether its the Village Fete and Dog Show or the Vehicles of Yesteryear Car Show or one of our organised litter picks.

Please take the opportunity to volunteer a little of your free time to help out.

The next litter pick will be on 22 November 2025.

FED UP WITH SPEEDING TRAFFIC?

Then why not join Community Speed Watch and do something about the problem?

You will get training and support from Sussex Police

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER

at Sea Road Car Park on Saturday the 8th November between 09:30 and 11:00.

For more information about how you can get involved please

email: clerk@pevenseyparishcouncil.gov.uk or call on: 01323 743900

Local Community Organisations' Directory

Churches

Pevensey Bay Baptist Church	01323 769002
St Luke's, Stone Cross	01323 767020
St Mary's, Westham	01323 460176
St Nicolas, Pevensey	01323 509891/07415 580651
St Wilfrid's, Pevensey Bay	01323 509891/07415 580651

Halls - Bookings

Ethel Wood Community Centre, Pevensey Bay	01323 743900
Pevensey Memorial Hall	pevmhbookings@gmail.com
St Luke's Parish Centre, Stone Cross	01323 767020
St Wilfrid's, Pevensey Bay	01323 460523/ bookings@swpb.uk or www.swpb.uk
Stone Cross Memorial Hall	booking@stonecrosshall.org
Westham Village Hall	07821 377110

Parish Councils

Pevensey - Clerk	01323 743900/07849 124319 clerk@pevenseyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Westham - Clerk	01323 461299 clerk@westhamparishcouncil.org.uk

Wealden District Councillors

Cllr Daniel Brookbank, Pevensey Bay Ward	07852 102613, cllr.daniel.brookbank@wealden.gov.uk
Cllr Dan Upton, Stone Cross Ward	07748 150540, cllr.daniel.upton@wealden.gov.uk
Cllr Paul Coleshill, Herstmonceux & Pevensey Levels Ward	07552 621066, cllr.paul.coleshill@wealden.gov.uk
Cllr Mark Fairweather, Herstmonceux & Pevensey Levels Ward	07552 621066, cllr.mark.fairweather@wealden.gov.uk

Health

GP: Pevensey Bay, Stone Cross, Westham	01323 761461
Eastbourne District General Hospital	0300 131 4500
Conquest Hospital, Hastings	0300 131 4500

Play Groups & Primary Schools

First Steps Mums & Toddlers	01323 769002
Hankham Primary School	01323 763265
Little Castle Nursery	07568 473917
Little Lukes Playgroup	07707 265891
Pevensey & Westham Primary School	01323 762269
Stone Cross Independent Pre-School	01323 740149
Stone Cross Primary School	01323 461002

General

Pevensey Castle	01323 762604
Pevensey Court House Museum and Gaol	01323 733419

Public Transport

Cuckmere Buses	01323 870920
South-East Traveline (Bus/Train)	0871 200 2233
Stagecoach	0345 241 8000
National Rail Enquiries	03457 48 49 50

Emergency Numbers

Floodline	0345 988 1188
Electricity	0800 783 8866
Gas	0800 111 999
Water	0333 000 0365

Organisations & Societies

Anderida Border Morris	07815 426589
Bay Community Hub	01323 766230
British Red Cross	01323 412787
Brownbread Horse Rescue	01424 892381
Care for the Carers	01323 738390
Cats Protection	01323 440101
Dickens Fellowship	01323 471615
East Sussex Vision Support	01323 832252
East Sussex Hearing	01323 722505 mail@eshrc.org
East Sussex Moviemakers	01323 769016
E/Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service	07815 078234

1st Pevensey Squirrels	1stpevenseybay@eastbournescouts.org.uk
Foxes Hollow Residents' Assoc	01323 764350
Guide Dogs for the Blind Freephone	0800 781 1444
Haven Players	01323 767816
Kit Wilson Trust for Animal Welfare	01825 830444
Memory Lane	07393 834498
The Mint House Home of Sussex Folklore	07905 723964
Pevensey Area Gardeners Club	01323 460523
Pevensey Bay Art Group	07790 277986
Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club	07562 095349 secretary@pevenseybaymodelrailwayclub.com
Pevensey Bingo (Friday)	01323 763520
Pevensey Church Farm Trust	01323 743301
Pevensey Church Farm (Tenant)	01323 762371
Pevensey Community Support	01323 767615
Pevensey Cricket Club	07976 649388
Pevensey Memorial Hall SM Bowls Club	01323 764346
Pevensey Plungers	pevenseyplungers@gmail.com
Pevensey Ukulele Group	01323 763061
Pevensey and Westham Community Forest Garden	07402 321382
Pevensey & Westham Flower Club	07900 394323
Pevensey & Westham Jnr Boys & Girls, Adult Ladies	07718 915315 pevenseyfootballsec@outlook.com
Pevensey & Westham Historical Society	01323 656435
Pevensey & Westham Sports Club	01323 469003
RVS Monday Lunch Club	01323 768019
Royal British Legion (Eastbourne)	Eastbourne.Chairman@rbl.community
Royal National Lifeboat Institution	01323 351674
Samaritans (Free from any phone)	116 123
Stone Cross Windmill	01323 483470
Stroke Association Helpline	0303 303 3100
Sussex Wildlife Trust, Eastbourne	07946 753135
VIEW Craft	07932 785557
Wealden, Hastings and Rother Lost & Found Dogs	01424 490034
Westham Art Group	01323 461433
Westham Evening Women's Institute (Jan Bailey)	07710 559880
Yoga Classes (Vicky)	07566 228445

The Parish Pump The Editor reserves the right to edit or refuse material for publication. The views and opinions expressed by contributors are not those of the Editor. Information is published in Community News, Local Community Organisations' Directory and What's On sections in good faith. All advertisements are accepted in good faith. Publication does not imply approval has been given to goods and services. Resources are not available to vet advertisers. No warranty is made, whatsoever, or in any respect, on behalf of advertisers. Readers remain entirely responsible for accessing the authenticity and suitability of any advertiser and are advised never to part with money before delivery of goods or completion of services.

What's On

Activities are subject to change. You are advised to check with organisations before attending.

SUNDAY LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES

- 8am** St Mary's, Westham. BCP Holy Communion.
9.30am St Wilfrid's, Pevensey Bay. Holy Communion.
10am St Luke's, Stone Cross. Sung Parish Mass (except 2nd Sunday of the month).
9.45am St Mary's, Westham. Holy Communion. All ages welcome.
10.30am Pevensey Bay Baptist Church.
10.30am St Luke's, Stone Cross. Mass followed by a shared lunch (2nd Sunday of the month).
11.30am St Nicolas, Pevensey. Sung Eucharist.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

- Wed 24th** **4pm** St Mary's, Westham. Family Christingle Service.
5pm St Luke's, Stone Cross. Crib Service.
11pm St Nicolas, Pevensey. Midnight Mass.
11.30pm St Luke's, Stone Cross. Midnight Mass.
11.30pm St Mary's, Westham. Midnight Communion.
Thu 25th **9.30am** St Wilfrid's, Pevensey Bay. Holy Communion for Christmas Day.
10am St Mary's, Westham. Family Worship.
10am Pevensey Bay Baptist Church. Christmas Day Service.
10.30am St Luke's, Stone Cross. Christmas Day Mass.
Fri 26th **10.30am** St Luke's, Stone Cross. St Stephen's Day Mass.

EVERY WEEK

- Sun** **10am-12pm** Pevensey Memorial Hall Short Mat Bowls Club.
10.30am-11.30am Gentle Hatha Yoga with Vicky.
Mon RVS Monday Lunch Club. Ethel Wood Community Centre, Pevensey Bay.
Pilates with Tracy: www.eastbournepilates.com/timetable.com St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
2pm-4pm & 7pm-9pm Pevensey Memorial Hall Short Mat Bowls Club.
7pm-9.30pm Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club, Ethel Wood Community Centre, Pevensey Bay.
Tue **10am** Pevensey and Westham Community Forest Garden volunteers. Meet at Pevensey Recreation Ground car park.
10am-12pm VIEW Craft art and craft group for blind and partially-sighted people. Herstmonceux Village Hall (term-time only).
1pm-4pm Pevensey Memorial Hall Short Mat Bowls Club.
7pm-9pm Pevensey Ukulele Group. Practice. Holly Blue, Stone Cross (except 1st Tuesday which is at the Lamb Inn).
Wed **9.15am-12.15pm** Pevensey Bay Art Group. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
10am-12pm Westham Pop-In, Westham Village Hall.
11.30am-12.30pm Chair-based Yoga. Ethel Wood Community Centre, Pevensey Bay.

- 1pm-4pm** Westham Art Group, Westham Village Hall.
2pm-4pm Pevensey Memorial Hall Short Mat Bowls Club.
6.30pm-8.30pm Tai Gyoku Ryu Aikido Club, Ethel Wood Community Centre, Pevensey Bay.
7.30pm-10pm The Haven Players. Stone Cross Memorial Hall.
Thu Pilates with Tracy: www.eastbournepilates.com/timetable.com St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
10am Pevensey and Westham Community Forest Garden volunteers. Meet at Pevensey Recreation Ground car park.
1pm-3pm St Mary's Church, Westham. Parent & Toddlers Group. Noah's Ark (during term-time).
7pm-8pm Traditional Shotokan Karate Club. Shinewater Sports Club, Milfoil Drive, Langney (Main Hall. Age 16+).
Fri Pilates with Tracy: www.eastbournepilates.com/timetable.com St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
10am-11am Chair-based Yoga. Langney Community Centre.
10am-12pm St Luke's Church Hall, Stone Cross. Community Coffee Morning. Support from the church Community Larder is available.
6.45pm for 7.30pm start Pevensey Memorial Hall Bingo.
Sat **10am-11am** St Nicolas Church, Pevensey. Bell ringing practice.
Cuckmere Buses Service 36 - Berwick Station to Beachlands via Polegate, Stone Cross, Westham, Langney Shops, Asda (Crumbles) and Pevensey Bay (Plus return).
Cuckmere Buses Service 37 - Beachlands to Hailsham via Pevensey Bay, Asda (Crumbles), Langney Shops, Westham, Stone Cross and Ersham Road (Plus return).

EVERY MONTH

- 1st Sun** **8pm** St Luke's Church, Stone Cross, Compline.
3rd Sun **8pm** St Luke's Church, Stone Cross, Compline.
4th Sun **6.30pm** St Mary's Church, Westham. Worship with Coffee & Cake.
1st Mon **7.30pm** Pevensey and Westham Historical Society, Westham Village Hall.
1st Tue **7pm** Pevensey Parish Council meeting at St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
3rd Tue **7pm for 7.30pm** Pevensey and Westham Flower Club, Westham Village Hall.
2nd Wed **2pm** Pevensey Area Gardeners Club. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
1st Thu **10am-12pm** Pevensey Bay Baptist Church. Friendship Plus.
3rd Thu **10am-12pm** Pevensey Bay Baptist Church. Friendship Plus.
4th Thu **7.30pm** Westham Evening WI. Westham Village Hall.
1st Fri **3pm-5pm** Inkspot creative writing group. Bay Community Hub, Pevensey Bay.
2nd Fri **2pm-4pm** St Luke's Church Hall, Stone Cross. Good Companions.
2nd Sat **10am-12.30pm** St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay. Craft Fair (not January). Free entry.
10am-11am NHS Hearing Aid Maintenance. St Luke's Church Parish Centre, Stone Cross.

THE PARISH PUMP

'Providing a voice for local community organisations since 1967'

The Parish Pump is published three times a year by Pevensey Memorial Hall. It is compiled and distributed to 5,000 homes entirely by unpaid volunteers.

NOVEMBER

- Sun 2nd** **9.30am** All Saints'. St Wilfrid's Church, Pevensey Bay.
10am All Saints'. St Luke's Church, Stone Cross.
11.30am All Saints'. St Nicolas Church, Pevensey.
- Mon 3rd** **4.30pm** All Souls. St Nicolas Church, Pevensey.
7.30pm Pevensey & Westham Historical Society. 'The Queen's Beasts': Mike Rumble. Westham Village Hall.
7.30pm All Souls. St Luke's Church, Stone Cross.
- Wed 5th** **2.15pm and 7pm** Eastbourne RSPB. Talk. 'Tasmania': Glenda Law. £5 members. £6 non-members. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
- Thu 6th** **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Westham Village Hall.
- Fri 7th** **6pm** Jacket Potato Supper and Sparklers. Tickets bookable in advance for catering purposes. St Luke's Church, Stone Cross.
- Sun 9th** **10.30am** Remembrance Sunday. St Luke's Church, Stone Cross.
- Tue 11th** **10.45am** Service of Remembrance outside St Wilfrid's Church, Pevensey Bay.
- Wed 12th** **10am** Eastbourne RSPB. Moderate walk with styles and/or slopes. West Rise Marsh. Meet in car park off Sevenoaks Road. Non-members welcome. Free. TQ 626024.
- Sat 15th** **10am** Pevensey Bay Art Group. Exhibition/Coffee Morning. Beautiful art works and delicious cakes for sale. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
10am Eastbourne RSPB. Easy walk. Rye Harbour Nature Reserve. Meet in car park. Non-members welcome. Free. TQ 941189.
- Thu 20th** **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Westham Village Hall.
- Sat 22nd** **12.30pm** Pevensey Community Support Tuesday Lunch Club. Christmas Fair. Lots of craft stalls. Meet Father Christmas. Cake and refreshments. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
- Sun 23rd** **12pm-4pm** Winter Fair. Stone Cross Windmill.
- Thu 27th** **7.30pm** Westham Evening WI. 'Sussex Home Guard': Robin Kyte. Westham Village Hall.
- Sat 29th** **7.30pm for 8pm start** Nothing is Real (Beatles Tribute Band). St Luke's Church Hall, Stone Cross.

DECEMBER

- Mon 1st** **7.30pm** Pevensey & Westham Historical Society. 'Who was Jack the Ripper?': Tony Harris. Westham Village Hall.
- Wed 3rd** **2.15pm and 7pm** Eastbourne RSPB. Talk. 'Costa Rica - a World of Nature': Mick White. £5 members. £6 non-members. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
- Thu 4th** **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Westham Village Hall.
7.30pm Westham Evening WI. Christmas Party with entertainment from Lee Baker. Westham Village Hall.
- Fri 5th-7th** Christmas Tree Festival. St Mary's Church, Westham.
- Sat 6th** **12.30pm-3pm** Christmas Fair with stalls and refreshments. St Luke's Church Hall, Stone Cross. Christmas Tree Festival starts.
- Sun 7th** **9.45am** Scratch Nativity, St Mary's Church, Westham.
10am Christingle. St Luke's Church, Stone Cross.
12pm-4pm Celebrating Christmas. Stone Cross Windmill.

Wed 10th **10am** Eastbourne RSPB. Easy walk. Peacehaven for a stroll along the prom. Meet in Carvery car park. Non-members welcome. Followed by a Christmas lunch in The Peacehaven Carvery on the A259. TQ 404012.

Sat 13th **10am-12pm** Westham Evening WI. Christmas Craft & Flower Workshop. More details/booking from President Jan on 07710 559880. Westham Village Hall.

10am-12.30pm Christmas Craft Fair. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.

2pm-5pm Messy Church. St Luke's Church, Stone Cross.

Sun 14th **10.30am** Toy Service. St Luke's Church, Stone Cross.

Wed 17th **6.30pm** Carols by Candlelight. St Mary's Church, Westham.

7pm Carol Singing at The Red Lion Pub, Stone Cross.

Thu 18th **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Westham Village Hall.

Sat 20th **10am** Eastbourne RSPB. Easy walk. Arlington Reservoir. Meet reservoir car park. Non-members welcome. TQ 528075.

6pm Nine Lessons & Carols. St Nicolas Church, Pevensey.

Sun 21st **4pm** Carol Service. Pevensey Bay Baptist Church.

6pm Nine Lessons & Carols. St Luke's Church, Stone Cross.

Tue 23rd **6.30pm** Carol Service. St Mary's Church, Westham.

Thu 25th **9.30am for 10am plunge** Pevensey Plungers. Meet on the beach in front of Sea Road car park, Pevensey Bay.

JANUARY

Thu 1st **9.30am for 10am plunge** Pevensey Plungers. Meet on the beach in front of Sea Road car park, Pevensey Bay.

Thu 15th **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Westham Village Hall.

Fri 16th **7pm for 7.30pm start** Winter Quiz. St Luke's Church Hall, Stone Cross.

Thu 22nd **7.30pm** Westham Evening WI. Discussion on the Resolutions and Games. Westham Village Hall.

Thu 29th **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Westham Village Hall.

FEBRUARY

Mon 2nd **7.30pm** Pevensey & Westham Historical Society. 'Smugglers of Sussex': Philip Elms. Westham Village Hall.

Sat 7th **11.30am** Service of Healing, laying on of hands anointing with holy oil. St Nicolas Church, Pevensey.

Thu 12th **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Westham Village Hall.

Sat 14th **3pm-5pm** Cream Tea. St Luke's Church Hall, Stone Cross.

Thu 26th **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Westham Village Hall.

7.30pm Westham Evening WI. 'Make up for the Older Woman': Margot Clarkson Bennett. Westham Village Hall.

Sat 28th **10am-11.30am** Jumble Sale. St Luke's Church Hall, Stone Cross.


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St Nicolas, Traditional Nine Lessons & Carols
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St Nicolas, Midnight Mass
 - 11pm, Wednesday, 24th December

St Wilfrid's, Holy Communion
 - 9.30am, Christmas Day

1240

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PEVENSEY MEMORIAL HALL SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

As a club we bowl all year round and welcome new members.

Bowling sessions are held on Monday and Wednesday 2pm-4pm; Monday evenings 7pm-9pm; Tuesday afternoon is a fun group with bowls and bingo from 1pm-4pm; Sunday morning 10am-Noon.

Membership is just £15 per year and £3 per session.

For further information contact Peter Winter on 01323 763520 or 07825 050599.

PEVENSEY PLUNGERS

We are a collection of people of all ages, all walks of life, all abilities who have one thing in common ... the SEA!



The Plungers meet every morning at 9am on the beach in front of Sea Road car park in Pevensey Bay.

We are a wonderful community who pride ourselves in welcoming new people to join us.

You will never be pressurised to enter the water. We have many plungers who can't, for one reason or another, go in to the sea – so they bring a drink, sit by the sea and have a chat.

We also have early morning and evening plunges, as well as monthly events such as the Full Moon Plunge.

Safety in the sea is an absolute priority for us so we recommend:

- speaking to a medical professional before getting into cold water
- never swim alone – stay with the group – do not take risks
- never enter the sea if your ability doesn't meet the conditions

Take a look at our Facebook page for up-to-date information and events as well as important safety information. Our email is: pevenseyplungers@gmail.com

PEVENSEY UKULELE GROUP

Our Group includes both good ukulele players and also beginners. The mix works well as those who play well are only too pleased to help those with a new ukulele wondering where the chords are.

Even superstores sometimes have ukuleles for sale, less than £30. Probably not worth getting a push instrument to



start with, but within a year or two quality starts to become important for a beginner.

Most instruments have just four strings, while others may have 8 strings in pairs, but it is still played as if it had four strings.

Then there are also different lengths of instrument. A soprano is the smallest. Next comes a concert followed by a tenor and a baritone is the largest. Then, many players also have a Banjolele. This is played like a ukulele, but is louder because the bridge is on a skin or plastic drum in the body of the instrument.

Our member, Trevor, plays a banjolele solo at gigs and, depending on floor space, Molly, Bernice, Jan and others will dance at the front and invite others in the audience to join them.

In the 20's and 30's George Formby popularised the instruments in his comedy films. One of his favourite tunes, "Leaning on a Lamp-post" is one we play in book 2 of the four books we use. We play in many care homes and this is often one tune requested by the audience.

We particularly enjoyed the Fair at Horam and more recently all dressed up with a Western theme at the White Cliff Care Home in St Leonards. Alan, our leader, suggested that we offer the cowboy Western theme again to groups that may want something different.

We continue to practice every Tuesday evening, 7pm to 9pm at the Holly Blue, Stone Cross, except for the first Tuesday of the month when we are at the Lamb Inn on the A27 Pevensey bypass.

Contact Alan Coomber on 01323 763061 or 07986 130034.

PEVENSEY BAY ART GROUP

Our summer at the Art Group has been very full on. In July, we took advantage of the sunny weather with an outdoor sketching session on the beach and we thank Lotte, Nicola and Carol for their hospitality.



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We have had 5 workshops. 3 led by visiting artists. Ben Dawson showed us how to make stunning paintings of birch trees using a spattering and masking fluid technique. Graham Hickmott demonstrated how to paint a portrait in oil and on another occasion, a stunning wave picture. Sue led a session using charcoal. We enjoyed exploring the medium to make large scale depictions of small subject matter. In Jo's session, we had great fun learning how to make an armature and using basic supports with the addition of papier mache to make a 3D piece.

We enjoyed a group visit to the Towner Gallery to see the Sussex Modernism exhibition. After being inspired by the exhibits we met up for a coffee and chat.

We have had 2 successful exhibitions. Firstly, at the Aqua Bar in May and then in August we held our Annual Show in St. Wilfrid's Church Hall. We were pleased to welcome many visitors and to receive congratulations regarding the quality and diversity of our work and to make sales.

Our next happening is a Coffee Morning/Exhibition, 10am-1pm at St Wilfrid's Church Hall, on November 15th, 2025. We hope to see you there.

We are a growing, friendly mixed ability art group who welcome new people to art and those who are more experienced. We aim to carry out a workshop each month. During the rest of the time we enjoy carrying out our own art practice.

We meet every Wednesday morning, between 9.15am-12.15pm in St. Wilfrid's Church Hall.

If you are interested in joining us, please drop in to a session or contact us on 07790 277 986.

Dinah Jones

PEVENSEY BAY BAPTIST CHURCH

Pevensey Bay Baptist Church is a friendly and welcoming church; whether you are looking to be involved in a lively church, want to explore the Christian faith, or are just visiting.



Our meetings are for people of all ages, backgrounds and nationalities. We seek to love God, and our neighbours, and to serve our local community. We look forward to meeting you!

Sunday Services, 10.30am-12pm. We meet every Sunday in the church hall for our Sunday Service. You will find a very friendly welcome, 90 minutes of worship, teaching, and an opportunity for you to ask the team to pray for you after the service. There will be a time to chat together over refreshments after the meeting.

Prayer Meetings, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7pm-9pm. The church gathers together twice a month to encounter God and pray for each other, our families, our community,

and for events happening in the world.

Life Group, 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesdays, 2.30 pm-4.30pm. Life groups are a place to gather with friends, to grow in faith together, to build each other up, to share our needs and care for one another.

Friendship Plus, 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 10am-12pm. Friendship Plus is all about friendship, plus trips out, special interest events and coffee mornings. We love making new friends - everyone is welcome!

Knit & Craft, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 2pm-4pm. Craft meets together to either knit for charity or bring along our own craft projects to do, whilst having a cuppa and a chat.

Men's Breakfast, 1st Saturday of the month 8.30am -10am. This is an opportunity for men to meet up and fellowship over breakfast at a café or pub.

ALPHA. Curious about Faith? Alpha is a place for you to explore the Christian faith on your terms.

Each session unpacks a big question on life, faith and purpose and is designed to spark conversation. There's no pressure or follow up, and it's free! Keep an eye on our website for our next Alpha course.

Christmas. Sunday 21st December, Carol Service 4pm; Thursday, 25th December, Christmas Day Service 10am-11am.

For more information or if you would like to come along to any of our activities, please contact us or visit our website.

Pevensey Bay Baptist Church

34 Eastbourne Road, Pevensey Bay
07365 723665 (phone, text or WhatsApp)
pevenseybaybaptistchurch@gmail.com
pevenseybaybaptistchurch.org.uk

PEVENSEY BAY MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

Since 2012, the club has staged, apart from two years during the Covid pandemic, highly successful model railway exhibitions.



This year the event was held on Saturday, 5th July, at the Victoria Baptist Church in Eastbourne. They provide a showcase for the club, but also to encourage a wider interest in a hobby that has many adherents.

A great deal of forward planning is required, especially to ensure that each year there are different exhibits for visitors to view.

Layouts require many hours of skilled work during construction. They vary in scale, gauge and size, thus adding to their interest. Many modellers base their layout on imaginary locations. Some though will model a real location. Wherever in real life there are railway tracks, and there are many unusual ones, they become the theme for a model railway.



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Over the past two years, we've had the privilege of supporting so many individuals and families, forming lasting bonds and heartfelt friendships along the way.

Our team is growing too!

Thanks to you, we've welcomed new colleagues who share our commitment to compassionate, premium homecare. Together, we continue to deliver the personal and professional care you deserve.

Here's to our journey so far – and the many more milestones ahead.

Thank you for being part of The Home Bees family.

If you would like our team to support you or someone you know, please feel free to get in touch.

Phone: Nikki on 07523 219876
or Kerry on 07429 170828
Email: help@thehomebees.co.uk
Web: www.thehomebees.co.uk

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Such an unusual location was the basis for the layout voted as best in show at this year's show by the public. Outstanding in presentation a layout named "Somewhere In France" depicted a late WWI scene of a narrow gauge light railway used to supply and evacuate troops in the trenches.

Monday evening club nights at the Ethel Wood Community Centre are well attended with work on the construction of the new 00 gauge layout "Pevensy Beach" and the N gauge German themed "Ochsted" continuing apace.

Work is also starting on a layout depicting the London underground, again highlighting the wide range of railway modelling opportunities.

Contact: secretary@pevenseybaymodelrailwayclub.com.
Details of the club: www.pevenseybaymodelrailwayclub.com

PEVENSEY AND WESTHAM COMMUNITY FOREST GARDEN

This summer has been the hottest ever in England, so it is not surprising that we have had an excellent harvest in our forest garden of some of our more exotic fruits, such as figs and asian pears.

The figs in particular have ripened very well and were enormously tasty, being very popular with our volunteers as a result.

Our Japanese Wineberries have also flourished, and the incredible sweetness of the berries has been a revelation to those of our volunteers who have never seen or tasted them before.

Our most exotic newcomer is the aprium, a cross between an apricot and a plum, and we can confirm it is delicious!

As we pass into autumn with its resumption of heavy rain and high winds, we are harvesting a truly record-breaking crop of apples and pears.

We hope to bring a sample of the crop to our stall at the Pevensy Community Information Day on September 27th, so that people can taste some of the heritage varieties we have, and which can't be found in our local supermarkets.

But already we are building up a backlog of work to do over the winter as more of our old trees are falling over due to the wind.

Yet this allows the inevitable young shoots of new trees to flourish now that space and light has opened up for them. In particular, whenever old buddleia trees die, new elder trees move in and grow fast, which is most welcome to us as they are productive of edible flowers and fruit, unlike the buddleia.

We have been keeping up with the monthly water quality testing of the Langney Sewer using the specialist equipment given to us by Strandliners, and we are very grateful to our team of volunteers trained up to do this.

PEVENSEY AND WESTHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Hello Everyone,
The Summer has been glorious, but now it's fading into Autumn. We hope you have had a great Summer and enjoyed your holidays.

So, to our Autumn/Winter programme:

We have in November, Mike Rumble with 'The Queen's Beasts'. This a talk on Queen Elizabeth I which incorporates beasts on her buildings and her Coronation.

Also, in November we have our AGM.

December brings us Tony Harris with 'Who was Jack the Ripper?'

As usual we will have a break in January 2026.

In February, we welcome Philip Elms with 'Smugglers of Sussex'.

Hope to see you soon but just an added note - we do need people to join our Committee. If you are interested, please contact our Chairman, Rob Slater at the meetings.

The Committee

RVS MONDAY LUNCH CLUB

Pleased to say we have had a good summer.

We are looking to see if we can increase our numbers. It seems that a few clubs still running are needed more than ever.

We have already taken our guest out for a free meal. We are planning our Christmas meal, hopefully it will be a free one for our guests.

In the new year we are hoping to arrange some outings and perhaps a few treats to help pass the winter months.

We would like to thank everyone that donated pears, apples, runner beans, potatoes, and rhubarb.

Due to your kindness, we can provide a few extras for our guests.

Christine Wood
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Whilst we are still in interregnum presently, we have been fortunate enough to have Reverend Canon Colin Luke Boswell and Reverend Pat Gibbs who have continued to care for us spiritually in church and socially in the Parish Centre.

We have also been grateful for monthly Parish Partnership Evening Prayer services with hymns, alongside St Nicolas', St Richard's and St Wilfrid's churches.

Looking forward, we continue to have our regular weekly services, including Morning Prayer on Wednesdays, plus Compline twice monthly.

Everyone is very welcome to our regular Sunday Sung Parish Mass, which is held at 10am, except the 2nd Sunday of the month which starts at 10.30am, followed by a shared lunch.

Our Parish Centre has been busy over the summer.

Our Summer Fair was a successful event, despite the wet weather! As well as the stalls, Grand Draw and refreshments, we were entertained by The Eastbourne Silver Band, Pevensey Ukulele Group (PUG), and the Anderida Morris dancers and musicians, not to mention Fr. Colin on the spoons!

We are open for weekly Friday Coffee Mornings, Children's Parties, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts' meetings, Little Luke's Baby and Toddler Group, different Dance and Keep Fit Groups, including a new Line Dancing Class, various NHS sessions, Tai Chi, East Sussex Moviemakers, a new Baby Ballet weekly slot and LOTS of other events besides!

We are having quarterly quizzes at the Parish Centre, as well as regular Jumble Sales and other fundraising events.

We had a lovely Cream Tea in July, accompanied by The Stringles acoustic group.

Our Jacket Potato Supper and Sparklers will be on 7th November, with Nothing is Real (the Beatles Tribute Band) returning to our hall on 29th November.

Our Christmas Fair will be in our hall on 6th December, alongside the start of our Christmas Tree Festival in church.

Please look out for other community events via our website!

If you'd like to join us at The Red Lion for Carol Singing, we'll be there on 17th December!

We look forward to welcoming you to our Church services and community events, whilst wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2026!

Chrissy Norris

Parish Administrator
01323 767020

email: saintlukestonecross@gmail.com
www.saintlukestonecross.org.uk

ST MARY'S CHURCH, WESTHAM

With the darkness of winter gathering, it is to the Christmas season we next turn.



For our churches, this is a time of great celebration as we think about the coming of God's Son into the world, as vulnerable as a baby. For followers of God's story this is a huge gift we celebrate! We catch something of that in our activities and worship.

Our Christmas Tree festival has been running for a few years now and is a moment of fun and creativity. Being at the beginning of Advent (the weeks leading up to Christmas) it helps us, in a fun way, to set the scene for our more traditional Christmas services. Open from 10am till 5pm on the Friday and Saturday, and from noon to 4pm on the Sunday, with decorated trees and refreshments to enjoy. There is also a fun 'scratch nativity' at 9.45am on the Sunday as part of our 'Worship for All Ages' service.

Moving towards Christmas Day itself, our Carols by Candlelight is on Sunday, 17th December at 6.30pm – the church will look particularly beautiful for that. Then on Christmas Eve our Christingle Service (particularly child focused – come early to be sure of a seat!) is at 4pm, with Midnight Communion beginning at 11.30pm. Then, on Christmas Day itself, 10am, sees our Family Worship for Christmas Morning at 10.30am, too!

Of course, anyone is welcome to any of our services, ranging from quiet spoken communion services (usually 8am on a Sunday), Parish Communion or 'Worship for All Ages' at 9.45pm, to Worship with Coffee & Cake on the fourth Sunday of the month at 6.30pm – there is a form of Christian worship for most tastes.

We look forward to welcoming you!

ST WILFRID'S CHURCH AND COMMUNITY HALL, PEVENSEY BAY

Planning a party, meeting or a group activity? Want to get fit, sell items, or meet up with friends? This is the place for you! This hall, in the centre of the village close to shops and buses, has a large car park, kitchen, new toilets and is fully disabled accessible.



There are hiring slots available, including evenings and weekends at competitive rates. Contact the bookings clerk, Keith on 01323 460523 or at bookings@swpb.uk and have a look at our new website to book straightaway online – so easy at: www.swpb.uk

The hall is used for activities and events including:

- art, dog training, drumming, a variety of hobbies and community organisation meetings



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- craft fairs on every second Saturday of the month 10am-12.30pm
- table top sales twice per year - the next one will be in March
- for boys and girls we are pleased that we have a Squirrels Drey Group, every Tuesday from 4.15pm for 4 and 5-year-olds and a Beavers group for 6 years up from 5.30pm.

These events provide somewhere to meet up for the local community and help to provide funds for works to maintain the hall.

We are pleased that we replaced the final roof parts to the hall in September. Funding was provided by the Suez Landfill Fund to be able to secure the hall from the elements, for which we are most grateful.

We are always looking for new committee members for our quarterly meetings, so if you are interested or for any of the events listed, please contact me on 07951 230729.

Shirley MacKinnon (Secretary)

STONE CROSS INDEPENDENT PRE-SCHOOL

Stone Cross Independent Pre-School has charitable status and have been operating since 1952 from the local Memorial Hall. In 1999, the Pre-School expanded to include a purpose built Nursery Unit within the premises of the local primary school.



The Memorial Hall premises are open Monday and Friday mornings, 9.15am to 12.15pm. On Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday mornings 8.45am to 11.45am and also afternoons 11.45am to 2.45pm for children aged 2 to 3 years. There is a maximum of 30 children per session.

The Memorial Hall premises include use of the main hall, a second smaller room, kitchen and small enclosed garden area.

The Nursery Unit premises are open Monday to Friday mornings, 9.00am to 12.00pm and Monday to Friday afternoons, 12.00pm to 3.00pm for children aged 3 to 5 years. There is a maximum of 25 children per session. Morning and afternoon sessions can run consecutively.

We are pleased to now be able to offer an extra hour before school hours which are chargeable. We also offer a lunch club which gives an extra hour after the morning session times.

The Nursery Unit is a purpose built premises within the main primary school building, with an enclosed

playground area.

The Pre-School is run by a parent elected voluntary management committee, which ensures that major decision making is in the hands of parents who use the group.

To book a visit or for further details please contact the Administrator on e-mail

admin@stonecrosspreschool.org or mobile 07864295888.

Stone Cross Pre-School Staff and Committee

Registered Charity No 1030338

STONE CROSS SURGERY

Repeat Prescriptions

Patients on regular medication will require repeat prescriptions and for a safer, speedier service, prescriptions are all computerised. Requests for repeat prescriptions are not taken over the telephone. This is for medico-legal reasons as errors can occur in verbal communication.

You can use the online repeat prescription service, bring your repeat prescription request into the surgery or email our dedicated prescription email on sxicb-esx. prescriptionstx@nhs.net.

You can also contact your local pharmacy to order on your behalf. Please allow a minimum of 4 days from when you submitted the request before checking with the pharmacy and surgery.

FeNO Machine

We are pleased to announce the arrival of a brand-new FeNO (Fractional exhaled Nitric Oxide) machine, now available for use in our practice.

This advanced piece of equipment allows us to measure airway inflammation quickly and painlessly, providing valuable information to support the diagnosis and management of asthma.

The introduction of the FeNO machine will enhance the care we provide to patients with breathing difficulties by enabling earlier diagnosis, more accurate monitoring, and more tailored treatment plans. This means we can help patients manage their condition more effectively and improve their overall quality of life.

We are proud to be bringing this new service to our community and remain committed to investing in the best possible care for our patients.

Join Patient Participation Group (PPG)

Would you like to have a say in how your local GP practice is run?

Do you want to help improve services and make a difference for patients in our community?



We are looking for new members to join our Patient Participation Group (PPG).

The PPG is a group of patients who work with the practice team to:

- Share ideas and feedback to improve patient experience
- Support the practice in shaping services
- Help ensure the patient voice is heard

If you would like to find out more or get involved, please contact: stone.cross@nhs.net

Weight loss Injection

From 23 June 2025, a new medication called Tirzepatide (brand name Mounjaro) may be available to some patients in general practice as part of a national NHS programme to support weight management.

Who is eligible?

At this time, only a small group of patients will be eligible to receive Tirzepatide on an NHS prescription. You must:

- Be **aged 18 or over**
- Have a **Body Mass Index (BMI) of 40 or higher**
- Have **at least four of the following five medical conditions**:
 1. High blood pressure (and taking medication for it)
 2. Abnormal cholesterol or triglycerides (or taking treatment for these)
 3. Sleep apnoea confirmed by a sleep study
 4. Cardiovascular disease (e.g. heart attack, stroke, peripheral vascular disease, or heart failure)
 5. Type 2 diabetes

If you do not meet **all of these criteria**, you are not eligible for this medication at this stage.

Why are there restrictions?

This is part of a phased national NHS rollout. Only the highest-risk patients are eligible initially. Over time, more groups may become eligible. We will update you if that happens.

Chickenpox vaccination offered for first time to children

A free chickenpox vaccination will be offered for the first time to children across England on the NHS from January.

Thousands of children will be protected against chickenpox for the first time in England through a new vaccination programme.

From January next year, GP practices will offer eligible children a combined vaccine for measles, mumps, rubella and varicella (MMRV) - the clinical term for chickenpox - as part of the routine infant vaccination schedule.

STONE CROSS WINDMILL

The opening of the Windmill in April was very successful and this has continued throughout the season.



The Heritage weekend in September was well attended with visitors from far and wide and the radio team managed to contact a number of Windmills across Europe and England.

The Trust is grateful all our local residents who readily support the Windmill with tombola gifts and donations.

The volunteers have been milling wholemeal flour using local grown wheat and this is available to purchase for our enthusiastic bread makers.

Stone Cross Windmill occupies one of the highest spots in Eastbourne, visible from many parts of the town and is marked on admiralty maps as a reference point for shipping. It is one of the finest Tower Windmill in the country noted for its craftsmanship and longevity.

Like all heritage buildings the Windmill requires constant maintenance and if you fancy helping the volunteer team meet every Monday morning completing essential repairs.

The volunteer team has become depleted over the years and their work ensures the longevity of the building. If you would like to help contact the chair for further details.

Please continue to visit the Windmill as this historic building needs your support and donations.

The Trust welcomes groups to explore the Windmill and can provide talks to local groups providing a further source of income.

In August the Trust sadly said goodbye to Sue who passed away after a long illness. Sue was a constant help at the Windmill supervising the tombola and always ready with delicious cakes for visitors to enjoy. The Trustees send condolences to Bob and all her family.

Updating information can be found at: www.stonecrosswindmill.co.uk.

Barbara Molog

Chair

scmt2012@yahoo.co.uk

Charity Registration No 1172798

TRADITIONAL SHOTOKAN KARATE CLUB

Shotokan Karate is one of the major Japanese styles of Karate with origins that go all the way back to Okinawa before going to mainland Japan in 1922.

Through Shotokan's rich history you can develop the



warrior spirit which helps you achieve your life goals and improves your health, fitness, flexibility, strength, coordination and all-round mental and physical wellbeing.

Training with likeminded people who will give you all the help and encouragement you need to succeed plus making it fun. Even though the club is essentially a karate club we also train with four specific weapons. Training with these weapons allows the student to develop the skills to adapt and use anything that may be lying around to defend themselves.

The Traditional Shotokan Club has been in existence since 1996. The club is small and friendly and is open to all adults, beginners or people that may already have some martial art experience.

Everyone is welcome, the club meets 7pm-8pm every Thursday night at the Shinewater Sports Centre, Milfoil Drive, Langney (Main Hall).

The club is open to anyone age 16 to 80. Should you have any questions or be interested in joining us just come along to meet us, everyone is welcome.

It's only impossible if you don't try!

VIEW CRAFT

VIEW Craft is an independent voluntary organisation which runs a weekly art and craft group for blind and partially sighted people living in the Eastbourne and Wealden district.

We meet on Tuesday mornings during term times at Herstmonceux Village Hall from 10am-12pm and run five craft classes, including macramé, mosaics, wood carving and cane work, which are taught by experienced tutors.

The members make a small weekly contribution (currently £6) towards the cost of the craft materials. Transport is free and is provided by volunteer drivers some of whom also help with the activities.

There is a very friendly atmosphere with plenty of help and support to produce many lovely items.

We are always happy to welcome new volunteer drivers. We pay an allowance of 45p per mile. If you would like to drive for us, but not commit to every week we would welcome reserve drivers to help out in an emergency.

At present, we have spaces available on all our craft tables and would be delighted to welcome more visually impaired people as members. If you are interested or know of someone who would like to join us, please get in touch.

For further information please contact Jean Wilson. Mobile: 07932 785557, email: jean.dolmeg@gmail.com

WESTHAM ART GROUP

What a beautiful summer we have had. So many opportunities to get out into nature or go on holidays to get inspiration to create works of art.

Our art exhibition was very successful selling a few paintings and cards created by our members, and also to be able to exhibit our show pieces to the local community.

Our most recent outing was to English Martyrs Catholic Church in Goring which features a full scale replica of Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel ceiling. It is very beautiful and well worth the visit. We were taken by coach and then back on the coach for a lovely afternoon tea in Worthing. This and most of our excursions are paid for out of our weekly subs. We will possibly be going on another outing in the autumn as yet to be arranged.

We have our Christmas party to look forward to in January.

We have had several new members join our group recently. It's great to welcome new members who are sharing their art with us. We still have a few vacancies for any budding artists. We are a friendly group and always welcome new faces to our group.

If you would like to come along we meet on Wednesdays 1pm-4pm at Westham village hall and charge a weekly subscription of £5. Out of this money we have a tea break with cakes and biscuits, but it also allows us to go on outings and have visiting artists to demonstrate different skills.

If you are interested in joining our group then please contact Brian Gage on 01323 461433.

WESTHAM EVENING WI

After the sunny and hot summer drew to a close with some very wet weather, members of Westham Evening WI were left wondering how they would fare on their coach trip to Portsmouth in September. During that month, of course, as the autumn equinox approaches, the amount of daylight diminishes quite rapidly over the days.

This means that members are pleased that they have a varied programme of speakers and activities lined up during the winter months that will keep them interested and entertained.

Reading the programme, it will be interesting to see if there any changes after members have attended the makeup workshop in February, which will be in time for next Spring.

The Christmas Craft and Flower Workshop in December is sure to provide lots of unusual and traditional ideas to decorate homes for the festive season.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34 ➔

WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Work has carried on as usual during the summer months at the Parish Council.

Grounds maintenance work is being carried out all over the area. This included grass cutting, tree pollarding and cutting back shrubs and hedges. The Council has a large estate to maintain and this includes areas of Foxes Hollow, Adur Park, Patcham Mill estate, the Beaulieu, Cherwell and Tillingham estates, and Hamble Road field area. In Westham Butchers Field and the Pond in Peelings Lane. The Parish Council cut all the grass verges for the East Sussex County Council from Golden Jubilee Island to Pevensey Castle.

In the next month litter and dogs bins will be fitted along Hankham Road, Hankham. Licences have now been given by East Sussex County Council for the installation of the bins in this area.

Recently there has been some confusion where the Parish boundary lies. The boundary of Stone Cross and Polegate is in the middle of Golden Jubilee Island. This has been confirmed with East Sussex County Council and Wealden District Council. This area is called "Dittons Ward" and is part of Westham Parish Council.

The sign on Dittons Road just before the garden centre is merely a guide and is not on the boundary.

The large care home of Sycamore Grove is in "Dittons Ward" as well as the proposed Marks and Spencer food hall.

Regarding planning an application has been received by the Parish Council for housing at Land at Sharnfold Farm, Hailsham Road, Stone Cross. Also, planning details for land in Peelings Lane may be forthcoming in the next few months.

If further details of any planning matters are required then please always go to the Wealden District Council website to view the planning applications webpage for information.

The devolution and reorganisation of local government has carried on during the summer months with a final date of the 26 September 2025 for submission of proposals.

The MP for Lewes has confirmed that Brighton and Sussex will form a combined strategic mayoral authority, headed by a Mayor. The first Mayor of Sussex will be elected across Sussex in May 2026 so all electors in the Westham Parish area will go to the polls to elect this Mayor.

The next phase of the local government reorganisation is to abolish our District and Borough Councils, reshaping them into single unitary authorities. East Sussex County Council alongside our District, Boroughs and local MPs



have already submitted a proposal for a new unitary to be made on the existing geographic footprint of East Sussex.

The single unitary authority for this area should be announced before March 2026.

Finally, the Parish Council is pleased to see how well used Adur Park has been used during the summer months. There have been no reports of damage and the Parish Council has ordered a new set of goal posts which should be installed in October.

➔ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

The many groups at Westham Evening WI continue to offer different opportunities; these include those for baking, craft, Night Owls, the book group and a combined lunch and theatre group. There really is something for most to find friends to share time and an interest with.

A friendly and warm welcome, usually on the fourth Thursday of the month in Westham Village Hall from 7.30pm, is assured.

For more details, please ring President Jan on (07710) 559880.

Liz Lash

WESTHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

We have had 2 incidents of vehicle thefts and 1 attempted theft that all took place in the early hours of the same evening 1st September.



A top range blue Hi Lux truck stolen outside a property in Pevensey Park Road, Westham, one attempted theft and one stolen from the same new housing development in Stone Cross.

All vehicles were similar top of the range expensive trucks and police think they were all targeted for what they are worth.

Anyone with any CCTV, doorbell cam or dashcam footage or has seen anyone acting suspicious around these areas on the evening of these thefts, please contact the police. Any information, no matter how small, may help catch these thieves and help return the stolen vehicles to their rightful owners.

Speeding and parking along Westham High Street, Peelings Lane, and around the pond area are still a big problem.

There are a lot of work vans and trucks that are parking on pavements, grass verges and double yellow lines causing access issues for other motorists and farm vehicle deliveries to pass safely.

These have been reported to highways and police for further action.

Due to a speeding motorist earlier in the summer one of our village pond ducks was knocked down and killed on



Mortain Road in front of some young children which was very upsetting for them to witness.

Please slow down and be extra vigilant driving around the pond area as these ducks cross the roads regularly.

Friends of Peelings Lane is a community group set up to protect the character and beauty of Peelings Lane for our community and all users now and for future generations and to stop any future building developments.

If you would like to help or join this group to protect our lane for future generations email for more information: info@friendsofpeelingslane.co.uk

WESTHAM POP-IN

Our popular Wednesday Westham Pop-In now has a new opening time of 10am until 12noon at Westham Village Hall.

We provide an enjoyable morning of friendship, chat, tea, coffee and biscuits, where you can meet up with friends both meet old and new.

We have a variety of pre-read books for sale with a range of jigsaws for you to hire.

We do hope you can join us, the cost is just one pound to include a tea/ coffee and biscuits, we hope to welcome you at the Westham Pop-in very soon.

Westham Pop-In Committee

WESTHAM VILLAGE HALL

The Hall has enjoyed a busy Summer of events and parties alongside our regular weekly group activities.

Our Committee held an Open Day on the 7th of September for the community to come and see what the Hall has to offer, whilst enjoying a free tea or coffee amongst friends and neighbours. What a super day it was!

Our wonderful regular groups, Dance Mavericks, Pevensey and Westham Flower Club, Westham Art Group, The Historical Society, Stitch and Knit Group, Westham Pop-In, Rebel Art Group and Friends of Peelings Lane shared their skills and time for which we thank them all, and our thanks as always goes to our Committee of amazing volunteers who keep your Hall open for you all to enjoy. Lastly, to all of you who took the time on the day to come and support your Hall, a big thank you!

When the Hall opened, a tablecloth was embroidered with signatures of local parishioners, a beautiful piece of our Hall and Village history.

The Committee have decided to continue this idea with a twist, by asking for signatures on a bunting pennant that will then be embroidered and hung around the Hall.

If you would like to join in the fun, the bunting pennants can be found in our Library/Meeting room for which we ask for a

£1 donation which will go towards the upkeep of your Hall.

Westham Village Hall continues to serve as a hub for our Community, with our seating area outside the front of the Hall being a welcome spot to sit with neighbours, family and friends. This area is proving to be an inclusive space for everyone in our community to enjoy, not just for those using the Hall.

The Hall continues to offer a wide range of activities, groups to join and as a place to hold family and friends events.

Please get in touch with our helpful booking clerk Julie on 07821377110 if you would like to hire your Hall.

We look forward to seeing you at your Hall soon.

Diane on behalf of Westham Village Hall Committee

WESTHAM VILLAGE POND

Many visitors enjoyed our lush pond during the long summer drought. Exposed silt on the bottom seemed unsightly to some. But pond plants and creatures survived.

Welcome September rain has now enhanced our oasis. Scented purple flowered Water Mint refreshes us. Bright yellow Fleabane flowers are a joy. The water remains clear, tiny pond skaters abound on the surface.

Silt is mainly organic material which accumulates on the pond bottom. A combination of plant matter, bird faeces and eroded soil. The appropriate balance between tiny pond creatures, and certain bacteria which are encouraged by pond plants aids the biological breakdown of silt to minimise excessive build up. Silt removal is expensive. Contractors last removed silt in the summer drought of 2018.

The water Lily's planted by pond volunteers and contractors are one of the plants which help to provide shade to reduce the temperature and evaporation of water. Reeds, Hornwort and floating pond weeds all provide habitat for the breakdown of silt to take place. There is a mix of pond weeds this year and less duckweed than last. Some plants such as the invasive New Zealand pigmy weed have been present more than 50 years.

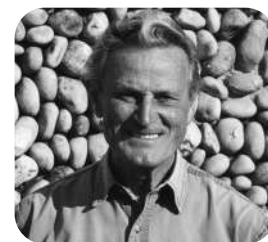
People often erroneously add inappropriate types by emptying the contents of an old aquarium. Optimum balance of pond weed is beneficial for water oxygenation. Any removal has to be done carefully to minimise pond disturbance. Pond edge plants minimise bank erosion from ducks and fish, (some erosion can be seen at the northern viewing area). Previous erosion needed professional bank rebuilding in 2012.

WPC pond volunteers were rewarded with the sight of a shy common lizard on their last visit.

If you would like to get involved with light maintenance on dry land occasionally please email our Westham Parish Council Clerk.

Nature Notes

Alan Everard's regular nature column



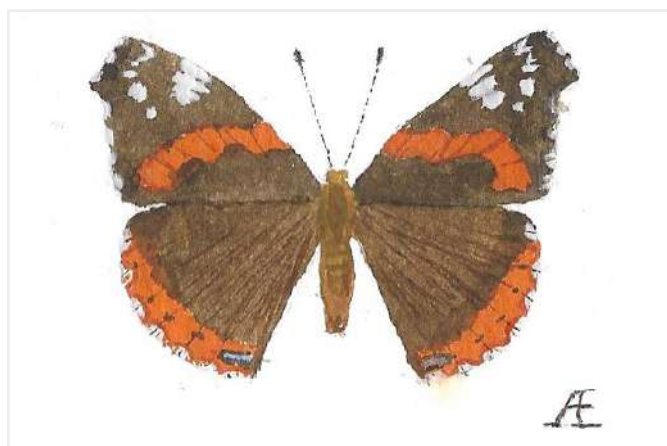
Hello my friends,

Walking home earlier in spring this year, Vi and I were delighted to be surrounded by a beautiful cloud of white butterflies. Not, in fact, an unusual event as I am sure most of you will have experienced this. A very pleasant experience! We thought that this would be followed later by our summer butterflies. But No! Our beautiful summer butterflies came in much smaller numbers, as I am sure you noticed.

As a result, I decided we could still enjoy and remember the event if I included two paintings of my favourites, "Peacock" and "Red Admiral"! So here they are.



Peacock
Painting by Alan Everard



Red Admiral
Painting by Alan Everard

Now for a very interesting article about Ospreys by Hazel Wood.

What a fantastic summer we have had this year. I am sorry for those of you that prefer to be cooler.

But winter will soon be upon us, cold, wet and dreary. Sorry again, but I am a sun lover.

Anyway, what I would like to tell you about is the Osprey's breeding programme at Rutland Water 2001.

Ospreys were once a common sight in the UK, but habitat loss during the 18th and 19th centuries led to their extinction in England in 1847. A fragment population remained in Scotland with breeding last recorded in 1916.

The re-colonisation of Ospreys in Scotland was slow and it was predicted it would take over 100 years before they were once again breeding in England.

Congratulations to all involved in this fantastic breeding programme and conservation effort. Ospreys have made a triumphant return to the UK.

All the Rutland Ospreys are fitted with two rings which allow them to identify the individual, as it wouldn't be appropriate to recapture adults to read the ring. Having said that, with the right cameras you are able to read the individual numbers.

All Ospreys are wild birds, but they have named the breeding female at Manton Bay nest, Maya.

In 1996, a translocation project began, which involved moving Osprey chicks from nests in Scotland and releasing them at Rutland Water.

Today, over 250 young Ospreys have fledged from nests at Rutland Water since 2001.

What a great re-colonisation this story is. You can now see the Ospreys soaring over central England as they fly during their migration to and from Scotland.

Well done Scotland and Leicestershire Wildlife Trust. **Hazel Wood.**

Thank you Hazel. I should now like to finish with an interestingly descriptive article written by Barry Erlan: 'The wildlife I see when walking my dogs on Pevensy Marshes'.

Starting in June, I was lucky to get a wonderful display from 6-8 Swifts with their loud, high-pitched shrieks which made me look up.

Also, the 100s of Meadow Brown Butterflies that covered the rows and rows of blackberry bushes, and to end the day with a real treat in the form of a 'Hen Harrier'.

August started well with a pair of Red Backed Shrikes (Butcher Birds) on the Horse Eye Marshes.

My friend Lesley told me that a friend of hers had seen a Kingfisher with three chicks on the river at Beachlands.

It's wonderful what we have on our doorstep!

Thank you Barry. That is certainly the case and having the Coast to our South and Countryside to our North doubles our chances of seeing so much different Wildlife – lucky us!

Alan Everard

Pevensy Bay to Eastbourne **Coastal Management Scheme**

Over 18,000 properties are at risk from coastal flooding within the Pevensy Bay and Eastbourne area. The Pevensy Bay to Eastbourne team is working closely with others to design an approach to mitigate this risk beyond the end of the century.

Short-term (2025-2027)

The Environment Agency (EA), working with our contractors VolkerStevin, has completed the initial site setup at the EA Depot on Coast Road. By the time of publication, you may have



SoSpan Dau pictured during shingle import. September 2025

noticed activities on the beach including; a significant import of shingle - enough to fill about 8 Olympic sized swimming pools! - via the SoSpan Dau dredger, delivered to the coastline at Sovereign Harbour. In addition, machinery is actively reprofiling the beach, reshaping the shingle to maintain a wide crest, alongside shingle recycling work with material being relocated to areas where it is needed most, to strengthen the beach as a flood defence.

You can expect to see similar activity continue over the Winter months, as we carry out essential beach management works. We are grateful for your on-going co-operation and support as we work to keep the community resilient to the risk of flooding.

If you see Paul Levitt or Amber Carr, the Pevensy Beach Managers out on the beach, feel free to say hello or ask any questions. You can also reach them directly by email:

 pevenseybeachmanager@environment-agency.gov.uk

To receive regular email updates from Paul and Amber about beach management activities, visit the 'Short-Term Project' page of our website and register your details:

 www.pevenseyandeastbournecoast.co.uk

Medium-term (2027-2037)

We are making strong progress as we enter the final stage of beach design. We're diving deep into the details to ensure homes and businesses remain resilient to the impacts of climate change and rising sea levels. We are also collaborating closely with our partners to ensure a positive impact on both people and the environment, which includes a strong commitment to improving equitable access. Our focus remains firmly fixed on the key milestone: being ready to begin work in summer 2027. We will share the final designs with the public in 2026 - keep your eye out for details in the future.

As with any major project, challenges are an expected part of the journey — and this critical work is no exception. We're continuing to work closely with all stakeholders to navigate these challenges and ensure we strike the right balance

between important, and sometimes competing, priorities.

Your ongoing interest and support are invaluable to us. If you would like to get involved or share your views, please visit our website:

 www.pevenseyandeastbournecoast.co.uk

Long-term Strategy (future phases from 2037)

We're developing a long-term plan to guide how we manage this coastline from 2037 onwards. With sea levels expected to rise significantly by the end of the century, it's important we start planning now.

We're still at an early stage, and no decisions are being made yet. We're now collating the results of our recent survey to better understand what this coastline means to the community and what people would like to see in the future. Thank you to everyone who took part and shared their views.

What's Next?

Early in the new year, we'll begin our next round of engagement. You'll be able to hear about our progress and contribute ideas to a long list of possible interventions. The long-term plan will take around three years to develop, with ongoing opportunities to get involved.

What else?

We've created a new StoryMap, *Our Changing Coast*, a visual guide showing how the coastline has evolved over time. It features historic and recent photos, maps, and insights to help build understanding of the area's dynamic nature.

We've also developed free schools resources with Geography South West to support GCSE and A-level Geography through case studies and mapping activities.

If you have photos of the coastline you'd like to share for possible inclusion in the StoryMap, please send them in. We'd love to see them!

Further Information and Contact Details

Visit our webpage to subscribe to our newsletter:

www.pevenseyandeastbournecoast.co.uk

You can also follow us on social media:

- Facebook: 'Pevensy and Eastbourne Coast'
- Nextdoor: 'Environment Agency- Solent and South Downs'
- X: 'Environment AgencySE'

Or email us: pevenseyandeastbournecoast@environment-agency.gov.uk



Enjoying the seaside in Eastbourne with horse-drawn bathing machines in the background. Image Credit: Eastbourne Local History Society, Alan Wenham

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St Wilfrid's Church Hall**

Tuesdays, 8.30am, 9.40am, Sovereign Harbour

**Thursdays, 8.30am, 9.40am, Sovereign Harbour
6.20pm, St Wilfrid's Church Hall**

Fridays, 9.30am, 10.40am, St Wilfrid's Church Hall

Timetable: www.eastbournepilates.com/timetable.com

**Website: www.eastbournepilates.com
Email: tracy@eastbournepilates.com
Call: 07776 197775**



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HALL FOR HIRE



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Pevensey Memorial Hall lies in the heart of Pevensey village.

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It holds 240 theatre style, 120 sit down and 150 seats for dances.

There is a good size kitchen, bar area, stage and break out room. Tables and chairs are available.

Hire rate is £16 per hour 0900-1700, Monday-Friday and Sunday

Hire rate is £75 1800-2300 on Saturday

Booking email: pevmhbookings@gmail.com

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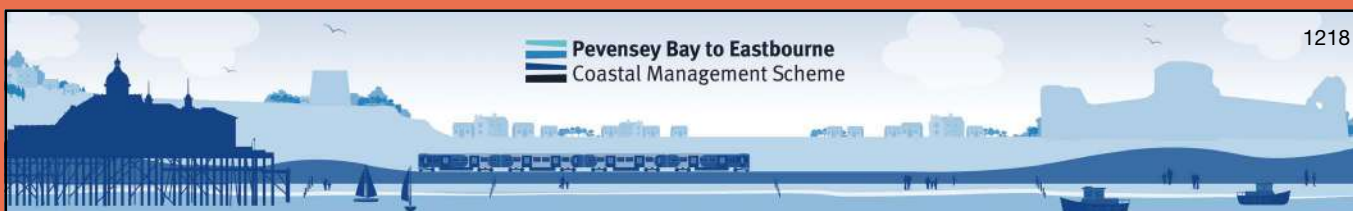
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THE USUAL FEE PER WILL IS £225 + VAT
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The Pevensey Bay to Eastbourne Coastal Management Scheme is one of the largest coastal flood defence projects in England covering 15km of coastline from Holywell in Eastbourne through to Cooden Beach.

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