

The Parish Pump

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



Issue 174 – Summer 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 Summer Edition of The Parish Pump!

The months ahead are promising to be warm and dry and what better place to enjoy a family day out than historic Pevensey Castle which is holding a free, three day food and drink festival with live music in August.

On a different note there is an opportunity to have a picnic at the Castle and join the audience for a 'Days of Beauty' ticketed concert by the Cantando ensemble in July.

Elsewhere, you can also take your pick of art exhibitions, concerts, cream teas and other varied events organised by the wide variety of local clubs and groups.

Don't forget to Save the Date for Pevensey Parish Council's Community Information Day in St Wilfrid's Church Hall on 26th September.

Pop in for a peek and you may discover a new hobby or perhaps decide to join the many dedicated volunteers who run the myriad of local organisations.

Meanwhile, Pevensey Parish Council is issuing a Heritage Trail leaflet to mark the UK arrival of the Bayeux Tapestry and the Year of the Normans in 2027.

The Tapestry – which depicts the 1066 Norman invasion at Pevensey – is due to go on show at the British Museum.

It is hoped that local residents, schools, social groups, charities and businesses will take part in local activities and events to mark the pivotal role played by Pevensey in the Norman Conquest. Look out for local publicity.

A big thank you goes to Pevensey Bay Art Group member Sheila Taylor for her front page painting in acrylic, 'Sunny Days'.

Finally, an appeal for new volunteers to help deliver The Parish Pump three times a year. If you can spare a few hours, please drop me an email.

Sara Cheesley

Editor

07799 374049

theparishpump13@gmail.com

ISSUE 175 DEADLINE

Local groups and organisations should email details of events and activities between 1st November 2026 – 28th February 2027 to: theparishpump13@gmail.com by

14th September 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

We are now well into the busy summer season.

Fundraising events for the Eastbourne Lammas Festival have proved popular and planning for Lammas is going well.

Before that, we have a stand with Rhedas Dream and Ruxleys Crew at the Royal Oak and Castle on 1st July at 7.30pm, The Sandwich Ale Festival on 4th and 5th July, The Gunhill Brewery and Horam fete from 2pm on 12th July, Dead Horse day of dance in Whitstable on 18th July and The Barby Keel Animal Sanctuary in Bexhill from noon on 26th July.

We then have our main event of the year, The Eastbourne Lammas Festival from 10am on 1st and 2nd August in Hampden Park. Please see the Eastbourne Lammas Official Facebook page for details of Morris sides and bands performing.

We then have the Broadstairs folk festival on 8th and 9th August, The Romney Marsh Morris 10th anniversary in New Romney on 15th August, Pippingford Medieval festival

on 31st August, The Anchor Inn Ringmer with Ditchling Morris 7.30pm 2nd September, The Kent and East Sussex Steam Railway hop festival at Bodiam station from noon on 5th September, Artwave at Gote Barn Ringmer from





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noon on 20th September, Carshalton day of dance on 26th September and finally Tenterden day of dance on 3rd October.

We have learned several new dances over the winter period which we look forward to performing over the summer.

See our Anderida Border Facebook page for other events that may be added during the summer.

BAY COMMUNITY HUB

It's a pleasure to share that the Bay Community Hub has enjoyed another fantastic year. Around 400 people a month use our services, showing how valued and well-used the Hub has become. We're proud to be a welcoming space that people rely on and feel connected to.



At the heart of what we do are three key services. Firstly, our Hospital Car Service makes a vital difference. We know how important it is to attend health appointments, and how difficult travel can be - especially for older or more vulnerable residents. Our volunteer drivers provide a friendly, reliable service, taking people to appointments and safely home again for a small fee.

Demand continues to grow, and we urgently need more volunteer drivers. Just a few hours a week can make a real difference, helping someone access essential care with dignity and peace of mind. Without enough drivers, some people may struggle to attend appointments. We reimburse mileage, but more importantly, you'll be supporting those who need it most. If you can help, please call 01323 766230 (Monday to Saturday, 10am-1pm) or visit us at the Sea Road Car Park site.

Secondly, the Hub offers a valuable source of information for residents and visitors, with maps, leaflets, and local knowledge from our volunteers.

Our community library also continues to thrive. Free to join, it offers over 2,500 books. Thanks to National Lottery funding, we've added a wide range of new titles for everyone to enjoy.

We're also delighted to offer souvenirs, including mugs, fridge magnets, and postcards featuring exclusive designs by a local amateur photographer.

We are very grateful to the National Lottery Community Fund for their support.

Daniel Brookbank
Chair
Bay Community Hub

BRITISH CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY ROTHER VALLEY BRANCH

Are you watering your cacti and succulents correctly?

You should have started watering cautiously at

the end of March and waited for signs of growth before starting to water more regularly - every 1-2 weeks. Never let your plants stand in water. Cacti in particular like to dry out between waterings, as they do in the desert, and that will encourage them to flower. Water throughout the summer, ease off in early September and stop altogether by the end of the month.

Your succulents will benefit from being outside over the summer. Don't worry if they get drenched by rain every now and again, they'll love it! Cacti you need to be more cautious about. Opuntias are very tolerant but others may not be so put them somewhere sheltered from the rain if you can.

Not all cacti will flower on a windowsill so if you want to find out more come along to one of our meetings. We welcome non-members and they are FREE! There are always plants for sale and we provide FREE refreshments. Doors open 7:00, meetings start at 7:30.

Please see our Branch website for more information, including the 2026 programme: www.rothervalley.bcscs.org.uk. There you can also sign up to receive our monthly emails (you can unsubscribe at any time) and there are links to our pages on Facebook and Instagram, or just email us: secretary@rothervalley.bcscs.org.uk.

We will again be organising a **Cactus Show** in conjunction with the Alexandra Park Greenhouse Group on **Saturday 4 July**. Come along and say hello, and bring the family for a fun day out.

BROWNBREAD HORSE RESCUE

Two local farmers have donated several large round bales of hay. We have had such donations of hay more often in recent years possibly partly due to a higher standard of farming where hay made is stored and kept dry in well-built barns.

For more than fifty years we have made our own hay, but the quality has always been on a knife edge due to the weather. Hay that has been rained on loses quality and, if stored, could be dangerous due to overheating. So, we have recently sold our hay-making equipment which will remove our anxiety about the weather but also the considerable time taken to make the hay.

Nevertheless, our fields will still be rolled and possibly cut in order to maintain the pasture balance which ensures we have one of the highest numbers of flora and fauna species for any Wealden meadow farm.

I make sure that all our visitors are shown around the yard and close field areas to see the horses in their natural state, and they can ask any questions.

A friend told me recently that they had visited another animal rescue centre and they were not shown any animals even though a donation was expected.

Visit Brownbread by arrangement and you will see everything you want and ask any questions you have: 01424 892381 or Tony's mobile 07711 924472.



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EAST SUSSEX HEARING

East Sussex Hearing would like to be contacted if you have recently received a letter updating you about your NHS hearing aid provision and you need advice about its contents.

Meanwhile, 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.

NHS Hearing Aid Maintenance sessions are held at the East Sussex Hearing Centre in Chantry House (ground floor), 22 Upperton Road, BN21 1BF on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-3.30pm.

Details of other NHS Hearing Aid Maintenance sessions, including at Langney Community Library, are available on the East Sussex Hearing website.

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

For further information and advice, please call East Sussex Hearing – Tel: 01323 722505; Mobile: 07950 855580; Email: hello@eastsussexhearing.org.uk; Web: www.eastsussexhearing.org.uk

EAST SUSSEX MOVIEMAKERS

Looking back over the early months of 2026, the most noteworthy meeting was when Ruckshana Master was our guest. Ruckshana is a listed Public Speaker, and has several subjects in her repertoire of talks.



Being a friend of one of our members, and living nearby in Polegate, she had agreed to give our members an opportunity of being filmed whilst being interviewed about her introduction to 'speaking in public' and about the subjects on which she can speak – one being her family connections with India at the time of the Raj. It was a very pleasant experience to be the 'interviewer', and Ruckshana was a most delightful 'interviewee'.

Of the films viewed, the most unusual were Code Red, and Marching with Montfort; both involving military matters.

Code Red, a spoof film based on a friend's National Service experience in the RAF in the mid 1950s when he was based at North Weald airdrome near Epping, and worked at an underground bunker below farmland near Kelvedon Hatch in Essex. [The location subsequently became one of several Secret Nuclear Bunkers (SNB) during the Cold War period].

In what was a very full day's travel and filming, with an ex RAF air cadet, and with permission to film in the SNB, and later, with the management's agreement, in a basement room at Langham Hotel, the film was completed. Then in

early January, it was 'premiered' to an audience, and a very surprised 89-year-old friend, who was the subject of the film.

A past Club member filmed Marching with Montfort in 2014 at the dress rehearsal, when a group of actors retraced the route taken by Simon de Montfort and his troops. It entailed a march from East Chiltington along the top of the Downs north of Lewes in a re-enactment of the advance on King Henry's army prior to the Battle of Lewes in 1264.

Looking forward, we have a caricaturist demonstrating his artistic talents on two invited subjects. We also have the intention of making a film about Stone Cross Windmill; and attending an annual film festival in Tonbridge.

We meet at St Luke's Parish Centre, Stone Cross, on the third Tuesday of each month at 2pm until 4pm. On the 1st Tuesday of the month, we meet in a member's home, (or, during the late spring to early autumn, we might be out filming).

If you are looking for something different to include in your programme you could have a film show. With a choice of comedies, documentaries, dramas – three to four films would fill an hour.

If you want to know more, or would like to chat with someone before meeting with us please contact Malcolm Webster tel. 01323 769016, or email mfwebster@btinternet.com or email our Secretary, Val McManus at valmcmanusuk@yahoo.com.

EAST SUSSEX VISION SUPPORT

At East Sussex Vision Support, we are proud to support people



living with sight loss to live independently, confidently, and with the right help in place. Each year, we work with hundreds of individuals and families across the county, providing practical support, advice, and opportunities to stay connected.

We understand that sight loss can be life-changing, particularly at the point of diagnosis. That's why we offer early support and guidance, helping people understand their options and adjust to changes in their vision. Our aim is to ensure that no one feels alone and that everyone knows where to turn for help.

Our community-based services play a vital role in reducing isolation and building confidence. Through local groups, social activities, and peer support, we create welcoming spaces where people can share experiences, learn new skills, and form meaningful connections.

We also provide practical support to help people maintain independence in everyday life. This includes advice on assistive technology, daily living skills, and equipment that can make a real difference. Our team works alongside individuals to find solutions that suit their needs and goals.

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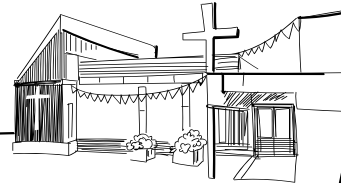
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Together, we can ensure that no one faces sight loss alone.

Daniel Brookbank

Chief Executive

East Sussex Vision Support

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.

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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

Why Volunteering with Scouts Could Be the Most Rewarding Thing You Do

1st Pevensey Bay Scout Group needs you – and it's not just young people who can benefit.



When people think of Scouts, they picture campfires and muddy boots. What's often overlooked is the impact Scouting has on adults. As our local Scout group thrives, we're inviting members of the community to consider becoming an adult volunteer – a role that's practical, flexible and deeply rewarding.

You don't need prior experience. Just a few hours a month can make a lasting difference to young people – and to you.

Make a Real Difference, Close to Home

Scouting helps young people build confidence, resilience and essential life skills right here in our community. As a volunteer, you'll see the impact first-hand: teamwork clicking into place, confidence growing, and achievements that stay with young people for life.

Develop Skills You Can Use Everywhere

Volunteers receive training and support, developing skills in leadership, communication, organisation, problem-solving and safeguarding. Many find these abilities boost confidence at work, strengthen CVs and open up new opportunities. And if leading groups isn't for you, there are plenty of behind-the-scenes and occasional roles too.

Flexible, Social and Supportive

You choose how involved you want to be. Scout groups are friendly and welcoming, and many volunteers value the social side just as much as the role itself – shared laughter, teamwork and a real sense of belonging.

No Experience Needed – Just Enthusiasm

You don't need to have been a Scout or be outdoorsy. Training, guidance and safeguarding support are provided, and you're never on your own.

This is a chance to help shape something special for years to come.

Now is the perfect time to get involved

Email Kim.Hall@Scouts.org.uk to arrange an informal chat or to ask any questions!

FOXES HOLLOW RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

We continue to work to maintain the facilities in Foxes Hollow.

We use membership / subscription funds to carry out additional maintenance and gardening works through the estate. Membership this year is from 1st July 26 to end of June 2027 and membership forms will have gone out to residents.

If you misplaced the form or have moved in recently to the estate then contact Stuart McMillan, Chairman, on 01323 764 350 or via link on foxeshollowestate.com



THE HAVEN PLAYERS

We are a very friendly group who meet at Stone Cross Memorial Hall every Wednesday and Thursday at 7.30pm.

We welcome anyone interested in singing, acting, working backstage in sound or lighting, costume or helping in any other way.

We aim to put on 5 productions a year.

Thanks to all who supported our latest production "Cluedo", and we hope to see you at our latest venture "Viva Eurovision", a musical celebration of 70 years of this iconic and sometimes controversial contest.





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Performances: Friday 24th July 7.30pm and Saturday 25th July 2.30pm and 7.30pm at Stone Cross Memorial Hall.

See our website: www.havenplayers.co.uk for more details.

INKSPOT

"K *Keep your face always toward the sunshine - and shadows will fall behind you.*" Walt Whitman, poet.

Spring and the beginning of summer have seen creativity blooming in the group and alongside some members who are progressing with full manuscripts towards publication.

We have a vast array of wonderful writing responses to our topics including - Carrier Bags, Mirrors, Crisis and starting with Sunshine warm ups to get our grey cells flexing!

We were delighted to welcome local Eastbourne author Clare Flynn to our May meeting. Clare has written 21 books with her latest 'The Tea Planter's Secret' now out as the 2nd in her Ceylon series.

Clare has had a wonderfully varied life from childhood in Liverpool and Yorkshire to working in marketing and then finally deciding to turn to writing despite losing her first manuscript in a burglary!

She had lots of information about self publishing which many authors now choose and the perils of AI which is a very topical concern for many writers!

Clare is a member of the Romantic Novelists Assoc, Society of Authors and the Historical Writers Assoc. Her books sell well in the UK but also internationally and there are many fans of her plots and characters, many of which deal with displacement and separation with people wrenched from comfortable lives often to romantic hope alongside world events such as World Wars and the disappearance of the British Empire.

Clare wrote 'The Chalky Sea' which deals with the real situations of bombing in Eastbourne in WWII. Well worth a read! Members used the title for their contributions at the meeting which Clare kindly responded too. Check about more about her www.clareflynn.co.uk

We meet monthly in the Library at the Pevensey Bay Community Hub on the 1st Friday of the month from 3-5pm.

It's a friendly, positive and supportive group with interests in short stories, memoir and poetry. But often members like to just listen, so there is no pressure on reading work if you don't want to.

We welcome short stories on a different topic each month (no more than 1,000 words) and we sometimes start with a quick 'warm up' phrase or word.

Each meeting has a refreshment break for tea/coffee and biscuits/sometimes cakes! We pay a £1 donation to the Library for use of the area and £1 towards our funds for activities. We usually try to do something for Christmas and a summer social.

Our next meetings are on Friday 3rd July, Friday 7th August, Friday 4th September, Friday 2nd October.

For further information contact pcoughlan@btinternet.com

or checkout our Facebook Inkspot page www.inkspotbythesea.com or the Noticeboard in the Library.

MEMORY LANE

Memory Lane is a local registered charity providing support and social activities especially for people with dementia and their carer. Whether you live in Eastbourne, Polegate, Westham or anywhere locally you will be very welcome.

Our activities are varied and include singing or seated games at 2pm every Wednesday at Christ the King Church Hall, Princes Road, Eastbourne (just off Langney roundabout). Parking available, and the bus stops nearby.

Once a month on a Saturday (12 noon) there is a themed lunchtime group with homemade soup and a roll. Additionally there is 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, and from time to time there are other activities members are invited to take part in.

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.

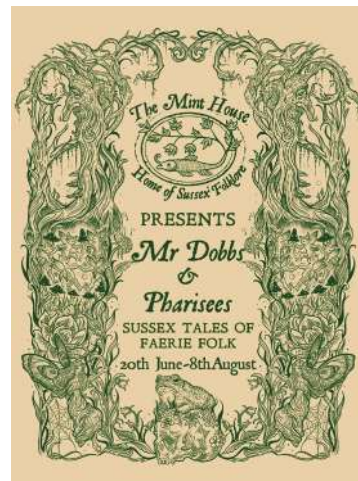
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The Fairies are Coming!

From 20th June The Mint House will be presenting our first exhibition of the 2026 season!

Mr Dobbs and Pharisees will explore the relationship that we have built with the stories of elves and fairies over the last 500 or so years.

From the mischievous or downright murderous Robin Goodfellow and his kin, which some people genuinely feared in the 1600's to the Fay and flowery days of Victorian fables and the magical beings of today - we will take a peek into their worlds.





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Alongside the exhibition our new shop will be open for merchandise, crafts and books - though we are happy to talk to locals about what else they would like to see us sell!

Please do pop in for a chat and we will be more than happy to listen to ideas and discuss the plans for the future of this wonderful and important old building.

Later in the summer we will have another exhibition 'Long Man - Tall Tales' all about - you guessed it - the famous hill figure from the nearby Downs. This will involve archaeological investigations, folkloric origins and what this enigmatic figure means to people today. Expect some controversial theories and beautiful discoveries alongside tales of squabbling giants and other mysteries!

Our exhibitions are free but your donations will help us to restore The Mint House and keep it serving our growing community for years to come.

For details of exhibitions and events please look at <https://www.minthousepevensey.co.uk/events> or check our socials.

PARISH OF PEVENSEY ST WILFRID & ST NICOLAS CHURCHES

St Nicolas church in the village, and St Wilfrid's in the Bay are our two Church of England churches in the parish of Pevensey. And we are just getting used to a new season for us - that is, without our two much loved leaders Merriel and Clive who retired in March.

All the regular services continue as usual: Holy Communion at St Wilfrid's at 9.30 on Sundays and then after, 'up the road' at St Nicolas at 11.30. Coffee, tea and biscuits (and quite often, cake!) after the services.

You can also pop in and write a prayer to hang on one of the prayer trees in our churches, which are then placed on the altar on a Sunday. A pen and some tags are provided and though they will always be completely private, God does see our pains - and listens to our prayers.

Evening Prayer: This is a short, quiet service at 5 o'clock monthly. We join with St Luke's Stone Cross and St Richard's Langney for this and rotate to a different church on the last Sunday of each month. Be sure to look on the general church notice boards outside St W or St N



St Nicolas Church



St Wilfrid's Church



Merriel and Clive's farewell at St Wilfrid's

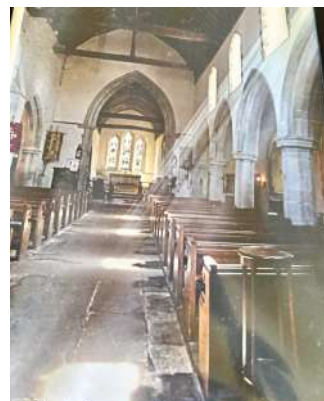
to see where it will be held each month. These services are usually from the Book of Common Prayer, and therefore in the rather beautiful language of the 16th century.

Look out too, for occasional services like the Pet Service on 18th July at 11am, or a Healing service, for example.

The Craft Fair is on the second Saturday of each month, except January and August.

We would love to see you at any of our services or gatherings, and I hope you will always feel that you have been made welcome.

Have a wonderful summer and see you round and about in beautiful Pevensey.



St Nicolas, Pevensey

Jan Say

*Licensed Lay Minister; PCC Secretary
St Nicolas, Pevensey*

St Wilfrid's, Pevensey Bay

07941 077574 / Janeileen.say@gmail.com

PEVENSEY AREA GARDENERS CLUB

Members enjoyed a lovely annual lunch at The Smugglers for our March meeting.

Our April meeting was a fun quiz.

Our May meeting was Gardeners question time hosted by a couple of our more experienced gardeners.

Our membership is down in numbers this year, but we are still enjoying our monthly meetings. New members are always welcome - you don't have to be a gardener.

Happy gardening.

Gill Parsons

PEVENSEY BINGO

Our Friday evenings have been well supported lately. We average 40 people most weeks. Doors open 6.45pm, eyes down at 7.30pm. We usually finish about 9.15pm.

A book of 10 games with entry is £5. The Flyer game is £2 for a strip of 6 tickets. Free tea and coffee in the break.

There are 2 jackpots running all the time. There is also a chance to win £50. Just enter your name on the sheet choice of 100 numbers and when the sheet is full up we draw the winner. Come and enjoy your evening entertainment.

Further details Peter Winter 01323 763520 or 07825 050599.





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www.hankhamschool.co.uk

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PEVENSEY CASTLE

Pevensey Castle is open 7 days a week from 10am to 5pm.

This year is the 960th anniversary of the Norman invasion at Pevensey with the major highlight of the commemorations the arrival and exhibiting of the Bayeux Tapestry at the British Museum in autumn 2026.

At Pevensey Castle our 1066 season has started with the "Norman's are Coming!" with the Vhélío Trophée of solar powered vehicles and their bicycle entourage arriving here at Pevensey Castle in the footsteps of their 1066 Norman ancestors travelling from Normandy. There was a chance to see these open-source solar-powered vehicles and meet the Vhélío pioneers on 15 May on their way to Battle Abbey.



Music and mini-concert 'Days of Beauty'

Musical magic with pieces by Holst, Gjeilo, The Beatles and Cyndi Lauper by Cantando Ensemble, an all female vocal group. Saturday July 11.

Ticket prices apply for this concert. Bring your own picnic to enjoy in the glorious grounds or buy drinks and light refreshments from the castle. Explore the castle, its rich history and enjoy Cantando Ensemble's musical concert in the South tower.



Second Hand Book Sales

Saturday August 8th and Sunday 9th in the Book Bunker, South Tower to mark Book Lovers Day on Sunday August 9th. Visit the Castle to browse and pick up a book to read and enjoy.

Pevensey Castle Food & Drink Festival

A feast of features including a live music stage, real ale and cider bar, street food court, children's entertainment and an exciting range of stalls from great grocery foods to quirky crafts. A brand new fun packed family festival. Free entry to Festival.

Friday August 21st to August 23rd:

Friday: 10am - 7pm; Saturday: 9am - 7pm; Sunday: 10am - 5pm.

Outdoors in the Outer bailey, Pevensey Castle, Castle Lane, BN24 5LE.

Visit the Castle Inner bailey exhibitions, audio and children's trail. Free for English Heritage members and ticket prices apply for non-members.

Please use public transport: bus or train ticket holders or cyclists (please bring your cycle helmet with you) receive 20% off entry to Pevensey Castle Inner bailey over the Festival.

Norman Landing - 28th September 1066

2026 marks the 960th anniversary of the Norman Invasion at Pevensey with activities taking place throughout the year and over the weekend of 26th and 27th September.

Saturday 26th September

Walk and talk. Arrive 10.45am for 11.00am. Ticket prices apply.

Indoor talk: 'The Norman Conquest' by Marc Morris, historian and biographer and author of 'The Norman Conquest' and presenter of The Castle series. Ticket prices apply.

PEVENSEY COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Our ethos is to serve the elderly Pevensey Bay residents who have contributed and enriched our beloved village throughout their lives and our primary activity is hosting a weekly luncheon at Ethel Wood Community Hall.

PCS transforms the Hall into a warm, friendly and welcoming dining room where our diners enjoy refreshments, Bingo or Quiz, Pop-Up craft stalls, free raffle, and a two-course lunch of freshly made main course and heavenly desserts.

In winter, PCS also provide takeaway homemade soups for the diners and, (on occasions) for their relatives, so they may have something to keep the winter chills at bay.

The majority of our diners require our Community Mini-Bus and our volunteers provide a door-to-door collection/drop off service transporting them to the Hall.

From 6 January to 30 June, Tuesday Lunch Club will have served (on average of 22 diners pw) 572 diners and delivered a staggering **1,144** plates of nutritious and wholesome meals.

Our secondary service is the fortnightly shopping trips, where our volunteer driver and escort provide a door-to-door service and facilitated (on average of 7 shoppers per fortnight) 91 shoppers with their fortnightly grocery shopping at Asda maintaining their sense of independence and autonomy.

Profound Gratitude to:-

- Volker Stevin, Tesco, Brewers for their generous donations of Easter gifts elevating our Easter Luncheon tremendously and ALL diners returned home with ample Easter cheer.
- St Wilfrid's Church Craft Fair for donating a table enabling our Tombola and raising £100 towards our diners' lunch/shopping at Hilliers Garden Centre.
- Our team of volunteers for giving us your time and boundless energy in serving our beloved Pevensey Bay Folks.

Finally, we have donated walkers and wheelchairs available for loan in exchange for a small donation.

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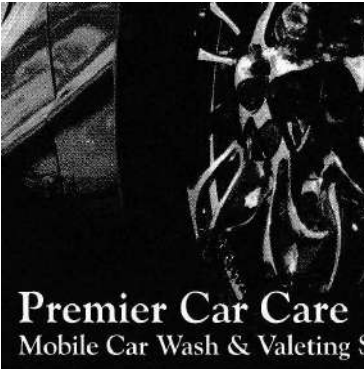
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PEVENSEY PARISH COUNCIL

Following its Annual Council Meeting held on the 12th May Pevensey Parish



Council (PPC) was pleased to announce the appointment of its leadership team for the 2026/27 council year. Cllr Peter Lowton was elected as chairman, and Cllr Shirley Mackinnon was elected as vice chair. We also held the Annual Parish meeting on 12th May. This meeting featured a guest speaker from The Friends of The Mint House, Jo Seaman. Reports were also presented by the chairman of council as well as our district councillors.



On the 21st April 2026 PPC marked the Centenary of the late Queen Elizabeth's Birthday by placing a posy of Lily of the Valley and Forget-me-not flowers on the Memorial at the East Gate of Pevensey Castle. The posy was provided by Loveland's flowers from flowers Kevin had sourced from the garden at St Wilfrid's Hospice.

On 9 May 2026 the council was thrilled that it was able to run the very popular Vehicles of Yesteryear event, which showcases the real testament to the enduring craftsmanship of automotive history. The success of the event brought lots of visitors to the village who also benefitted from the local businesses, as well as the monthly craft fair at St Wilfrid's Church Hall and the art group exhibition at the Aqua Bar.



**Vehicles of Yesteryear
Best in Show**

Other events for your diaries include the Community Information Day on the 26th September as well as the community litter picks on the, 25th July and 24th October.

PPC had to make the difficult decision to postpone the popular Pevensey village fete. This is due to the refurbishment works planned on the sports pavilion, which is a key element to the show's success.

The cherished pavilion, a staple of Pevensey recreation ground since 1970, has served as a central meeting point for decades. However, due to age-related deterioration, the facility requires significant refurbishment to meet current accessibility standards, safety regulations, and modern community needs.

PPC has been working actively for the last few months

to secure funding from various sources. PPC are very grateful to have received a successful bid from the John Jackson Charitable Trust (£68,449). Other applications for funding are being submitted to several grant awarding bodies. PPC has already spent nearly £40,000 on the project and has committed a further £75,000 from reserves to meet match funding requirements for current grant applications.



Pevensey and Westham sports club has also been launching public fundraising campaigns. The Pevensey and Westham football club have successfully raised over £5,000 from sponsored events. The Pevensey cricket club are saving from match fees and arranging various fundraising events.

The club has created a dedicated just giving page, inviting local businesses and residents to support the project. Please give what you can to help support this project.

Pevensey Parish Council was pleased to see the visit of the Vhélío trail from Normandy on 15 May where they stopped at Pevensey Castle for lunch.



The Council plans to reissue a Heritage Leaflet this summer to mark the Year of the Normans in 2027 and the arrival of the Bayeux Tapestry to the UK in September this year. It will be displayed at the British Museum until next summer.

We hope that we will have more visitors to the parish who will want to see where it all started.

"Ad Pevenesæ" (To Pevensey) is depicted on part of the Tapestry to mark where William of Normandy landed on 28 September 1066. We hope that all local organisations and businesses will mark this historic event in some way over the next 12 months or so.



Please keep in touch via our website and/or social media at: <https://pevenseyparishcouncil.gov.uk/> <https://www.facebook.com/PevenseyParishCouncil>

Or please feel free to contact the Clerk on 01323 743900 or at: clerk@pevenseyparishcouncil.gov.uk about any matters of concern.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23 ➔

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**VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT ONE OF OUR
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Please give a little time to help your local community.

The next community litter pick is at Pevensey Bay beach on 25 July
(equipment provided)

Please donate a little to help refurbish the Sports Pavilion
Just scan the QR code



For more information or about how you can get involved just
email: clerk@pevenseyparishcouncil.gov.uk
or call on: 01323 743900

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Local Community Organisations' Directory

Churches

Pevensey Bay Baptist Church	07365 723665
St Luke's, Stone Cross	01323 767020
St Mary's, Westham	01323 460176
St Nicolas, Pevensey	07415 580651
St Wilfrid's, Pevensey Bay	07415 580651

Halls - Bookings

Ethel Wood Community Centre, Pevensey Bay	01323 743900
https://pevenseyparishcouncil.gov.uk/#bookethel	
Pevensey Bay Baptist Church	07365 723665
pevenseybaybaptistchurch@gmail.com	
Pevensey Memorial Hall	07710 034087/07787 812829
pevmhbookings@gmail.com	
St Luke's Parish Centre, Stone Cross	01323 767020
St Wilfrid's, Pevensey Bay	07703 524339/
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, cldr.daniel.brookbank@wealden.gov.uk	
Cllr Dan Upton, Stone Cross Ward	
07748 150540, cldr.daniel.upton@wealden.gov.uk	
Cllr Paul Coleshill, Herstmonceux & Pevensey Levels Ward	
07552 621066, cldr.paul.coleshill@wealden.gov.uk	
Cllr Mark Fairweather, Herstmonceux & Pevensey Levels Ward	
cldr.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

Hankham Primary School	01323 763265
Little PAWS Nursery	07344 103121
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
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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	07982 376025
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	07703 524339
Pevensey Bay Art Group	07790 277986
Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club	07562 095349
pevenseybaymrc@gmail.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	07964 675568
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

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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 (1st Sunday Communion Service).
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.

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-10pm 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).
10am-12.30pm Pevensey Community Support. Tuesday Lunch Club. Ethel Wood Community Centre, Pevensey Bay.
1pm-4pm Pevensey Memorial Hall Short Mat Bowls Club. Social group – bowls and bingo.
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+).
7.30pm-10pm The Haven Players. Stone Cross Memorial Hall.
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 (from April).
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. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay (not August).
3rd Tue 7pm for 7.30pm Pevensey and Westham Flower Club, Westham Village Hall.
2nd Wed 2.30pm 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-1pm St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay. Craft Fair. Free entry. (Not August).

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.

JULY

- Thu 2nd** **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Carol White 07759 822692/Diane Parris 07732 341940. Westham Village Hall.
- Fri 3rd** **3pm-5pm** Inkspot creative writing group. Bay Community Hub, Pevensey Bay.
- Sat 4th** British Cactus & Succulent Society: Rother Valley Branch. Cactus Show. Alexandra Park Greenhouse. Hastings. **6.30pm** St Nicolas Church, Pevensey. Summer Concert: Lewes Brass.
- Sun 5th** **12pm-4pm** Stone Cross Windmill. Summer Tea Party.
- Mon 6th** **7.30pm** Pevensey and Westham Historical Society. Talk. 'Eastbourne in 1960s': Kim Adams. Westham Village Hall.
- Wed 8th** **2.30pm** Pevensey Area Gardeners Club. Cream Tea. Guests welcome. Entrance by ticket only, £8. Contact Chairman 07703 524339. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
- Sat 11th** Pevensey Castle. Cantando Ensemble, an all female group. 'Days of Beauty', including pieces by Holst, Gjeilo, The Beatles. Cyndi Lauper. Bring a picnic. Ticket prices apply. **12pm-4pm** St Luke's Church, Stone Cross. Summer Fair. **6.30pm** St Nicolas Church, Pevensey. Summer Concert: Organ Recital: Victor Potter.
- Thu 16th** **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Carol White 07759 822692/Diane Parris 07732 341940. Westham Village Hall.
- Sat 18th** **11am** St Wilfrid's Church, Pevensey Bay. Pet Service. **2pm-5pm** Westham Evening WI. Jan Bailey's Open Garden Afternoon. Free entry. Donation to St Wilfrid's Hospice appreciated. **6.30pm** St Nicolas Church, Pevensey. Summer Concert: Sussex Harmonisers.
- Tue 21st** **7.30pm** Pevensey and Westham Flower Club. Practice evening. Free for first time visitors, then £4. Further information: 07964 675568. Westham Village Hall.
- Thu 23rd** **7.30pm** Westham Evening WI. 'An Unusual Hobby': Elaine Bowdery. Westham Village Hall.
- Fri 24th** **7.30pm** The Haven Players present 'Viva Eurovision'. Stone Cross Memorial Hall.
- Sat 25th** Pevensey Parish Council Litter Pick. Pevensey Bay Beach. **2.30pm and 7.30pm** The Haven Players present 'Viva Eurovision'. Stone Cross Memorial Hall.
- Thu 30th** **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Carol White 07759 822692/Diane Parris 07732 341940. Westham Village Hall.

AUGUST

- Sat 1st** **10am-12pm** Pevensey and Westham Flower Club. Coffee morning. Refreshments, flowers, raffle, tombola. Polegate Community Centre. **6.30pm** St Nicolas Church, Pevensey. Summer Concert: Harp Recital: Fiona Hosford.
- Sun 2nd** **12pm-4pm** Stone Cross Windmill. Craft Tabletop sale. £5 per stall.
- Fri 7th** **3pm-5pm** Inkspot creative writing group. Bay Community Hub, Pevensey Bay.
- Sat 8th & Sun 9th** Pevensey Castle South Tower Book Bunker. Second Hand Book Sale to mark Book Lovers Day.
- Wed 12th** **2.30pm** Pevensey Area Gardeners Club. Afternoon meeting with Chris Conlan: 'Pearly Kings and Queens'. Visitors welcome. £3. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
- Thu 13th** **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Carol White 07759 822692/Diane Parris 07732 341940. Westham Village Hall.
- Sat 15th** **6.30pm** St Nicolas Church, Pevensey. Talk. Local historian Peter Harrison: 'The Man behind the Bayeux Tapestry'.
- Tue 18th** **7.30pm** Pevensey and Westham Flower Club. Practice evening. Free for first time visitors, then £4. Further information 07964 675568. Westham Village Hall.
- Fri 21st** **10am-7pm** Pevensey Castle Food & Drink Festival. Free entry. Live music, real ale & cider bar, street food, childrens entertainment, food & craft stalls. Outdoor Festival in the Outer Bailey, Castle Lane, BN24 5LE.
- Sat 22nd** **9am-7pm** Pevensey Castle Food & Drink Festival. Free entry.
- Sun 23rd** **10am-5pm** Pevensey Castle Food & Drink Festival. Free entry.

- Thu 27th** **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Carol White 07759 822692/Diane Parris 07732 341940. Westham Village Hall. **7.30pm** Westham Evening WI. Kathy Johnson: Hypnotherapist. Westham Village Hall.

SEPTEMBER

- Fri 4th** **3pm-5pm** Inkspot creative writing group. Bay Community Hub, Pevensey Bay. St Luke's Church Hall, Stone Cross. Quiz.
- Mon 7th** **7.30pm** Pevensey and Westham Historical Society. Talk. 'Buffalo Bill and Queen Victoria': Bill McNaught. Westham Village Hall.
- Wed 9th** **2.30pm** Pevensey Area Gardeners Club. Afternoon Meeting. Paper Weaving with Somei Back. Visitors welcome. £3. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
- Thu 10th** **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Carol White 07759 822692/Diane Parris 07732 341940. Westham Village Hall.
- Sun 13th** **12pm-4pm** Stone Cross Windmill. Heritage Weekend.
- Tue 15th** **7.30pm** Pevensey and Westham Flower Club. Flower arranging demonstration. 'Golden Days & Mellow Mists': Sue Flight. Open to all. £6 non-members to include refreshments. Further information 07964 675568. Westham Village Hall.
- Thu 24th** **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Carol White 07759 822692/Diane Parris 07732 341940. Westham Village Hall. **7.30pm** Westham Village Hall. Cookery Demonstration: Sue Davies. Westham Village Hall.
- Sat 26th** **10am-12.30pm** Pevensey Parish Council. Community Information Day. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay. **10.45am for 11am** Pevensey Castle. 'Norman Landing'. Walk & talk. Ticket prices apply. Pevensey Castle. Indoor talk on the Norman Conquest by historian and biographer Marc Morris. Ticket prices apply. **3pm** VIEW Craft. Afternoon Quiz, including afternoon tea, at Herstmonceux Village Hall. Each table is for 6 people. Entry £10 per head. Closing date for entries is 12th September. To book, contact Tina Wray on 07709 283620.

OCTOBER

- Fri 2nd** **3pm-5pm** Inkspot creative writing group. Bay Community Hub, Pevensey Bay.
- Fri 2nd & Sun 4th** **10am-5pm** St Mary's Church, Westham. Harvest Celebration with Flowers. Refreshments available.
- Sun 4th** **12pm-4pm** Stone Cross Windmill. Celebrating Harvest. **5.30pm** Supper, **6.30pm** Talent Show. St Luke's Church Hall, Stone Cross.
- Mon 5th** **7.30pm** Pevensey and Westham Historical Society. Talk. 'Eastbourne Roman Villa': Helen Warren. Westham Village Hall.
- Thu 8th** **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Carol White 07759 822692/Diane Parris 07732 341940. Westham Village Hall.
- Sat 10th** **10am-4pm** Westham Art Group. Exhibition. Westham Village Hall.
- Sun 11th** **11am** St Wilfrid's Church, Pevensey Bay. St Wilfrid's Patronal Festival.
- Wed 13th** **2.30pm** Pevensey Area Gardeners Club. AGM and Social Afternoon with photographs and refreshments. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay. Tabletop Sale. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay.
- Sat 17th & Tue 20th** **7.30pm** Pevensey and Westham Flower Club. Practice evening. Free for first time visitors, then £4. Further information 07964 675568. Westham Village Hall.
- Thu 22nd** **1pm-3.30pm** Westham Knit and Natter. Carol White 07759 822692/Diane Parris 07732 341940. Westham Village Hall. **7pm** Westham Evening WI. Eastbourne Responders. Westham Village Hall.
- Sat 24th** Pevensey Parish Council Litter Pick. Pevensey Bay beach. St Luke's Church Hall, Stone Cross. Jumble Sale.

St Nicolas Church, Pevensey

SUMMER CONCERTS

Saturday, July 4th - 6.30pm - Lewes Brass
 Saturday, July 11th - 6.30pm - Organ Recital Victor Potter
 Saturday, July 18th - 6.30pm - Sussex Harmonisers
 Saturday, August 1st - 6.30pm - Harp Recital Fiona Hosford

Saturday, August 15th - 6.30pm 1240
 'The Man behind the Bayeux Tapestry'
 Illustrated talk by local historian Peter Harrison

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PEVENSEY CRICKET CLUB

Pevensay Cricket Club have started the season in excellent fashion down at the rec, with both teams undefeated in the league, the Sunday side happily bringing on junior players and squad members, and the youth sections up and running under the guidance of their specialist coaching team.

Pride of place at the moment must go to Cam Hoadley, who hit his maiden century in the first league match of the season, scoring 127 not out in the 1st XI's win over local oppo Dicker.

However, very honourable mentions go to Josh Perry and Jack Fryer for each recording their first ever 5 wicket hauls, with all the preseason nets and training coming together nicely for all players.



1st XI v Dicker

New Club Skipper Rob Adams said: "I couldn't be happier for all the players who are getting the rewards, especially as both sides are in higher divisions now."

Our Dynamos juniors have already had their first softball tournament of the season, with new and established players all showing the great enthusiasm and team spirit that we come to expect from our youngest members.

Lead coaching team John and Jake Lambert both report the standard is higher than ever, and say anyone keen to get their youngsters out on the field to please let us know.

The Weather is looking set for a long summer of cricket, with League, Friendlies, Cricket Week and socials all piling up.

Anyone with any questions or queries, please use the email below to contact us, and here's to a happy summer on and off the pitch.

Graeme Corbishley
Pevensey CC Chair
pevenseycc@hotmail.com

PEVENSEY MEMORIAL HALL SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

We finished our winter league in third place this year, and are looking forward to hosting the summer pairs on Monday evenings from 7pm to 10pm.

The league comprises 11 teams from clubs around the County. Teams entered are Crowhurst 2 teams, Laughton 2 teams, Pevensey 2 teams, Old Heathfield, Broad Oak, Chiddingfold, Hailsham and Horam. A very competitive summer is expected.

Looking for something to do on a Tuesday afternoon? We have a social group who meet from 1pm to 4pm and there is bowls and bingo. Come and meet this very friendly group. You are sure of a warm welcome.

We are still open throughout the year, Monday and Wednesday afternoons 2pm to 4pm, and Sunday mornings 10am to 12 noon.

For further info call Peter Winter on 01323 763520 or 07825 050599 or call in when we are open.

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 PUGs have become so large that we struggle to find a suitable venue to hold our practice evenings.



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We perform gigs in many Care homes, village halls, fetes and Sheltered housing so our practices are important. Currently we are at the Holly Blue in Stone Cross on a Tuesday at 7pm, but once a month we must go elsewhere. Just recently we have gone to the Farm at Friday Street where there is an upstairs venue. Both these venues are free as our 40 or so players buy a drink.

Yes, 40 PUG's players are a lot, together with their instruments and. like an orchestra, they all ought to be able to see Alan, our musical director. Certain parts of music include a few players with other instruments like harmonicas, spoons and coconut shells; well, the latter make good clip clop noises of horses, as in the song Rawhide. Alan likes Rawhide!

We normally have gigs once or twice a week and Alan can be contacted on 01323 763061 or 07986 130034.

PEVENSEY BAY ART GROUP

Now that the winter months are behind us we can look forward to summer in Pevensey Bay and all the opportunities it gives us to take our art work outside.



We enjoyed some amazing workshops in February and March. Still life with glass, designing a wine bottle label and in March, Ben Dawson challenged us to capture our iconic pier in art. This produced some wonderful work, some of which you may have seen displayed in our exhibition at the Aqua Club on 9th May.

In April, Lesley Smith, a well known botanical artist shared many hints and tips for botanical watercolours.

These latest workshops were thoroughly enhanced by the use of our new projector system. This has made the whole process much more accessible to all members of the club.

Looking forward we now have two further workshops booked for May and June, one depicting birds and the other will be portrait painting. We also like to indulge in a local outdoor sketching session during the summer months. Fortunately, Pevensey Bay offers numerous opportunities for fantastic outdoor scenery.

Just a reminder that we meet every Wednesday between 9.15am and 12.15pm at St Wilfrid's Hall, Pevensey Bay, and refreshments are on offer. If you are interested in joining us please contact 07790 277986.

If you are unsure, it is always possible to arrange a trial visit and you don't have to necessarily come with experience – members are always here to help. Due to an increased membership, we may have to start a waiting list, but do contact us.

Sue Poore

PEVENSEY BAY BAPTIST CHURCH

Whether you are looking to be involved in a vibrant church family, or are curious about exploring life, faith and meaning with us; we look forward to offering you a friendly welcome.



We are a community of people who believe in the life-changing power of Jesus. Grounded in the Bible, we seek to experience God's love and unity through the Holy Spirit. We aim to love God, care for our neighbours, and serve our local community with compassion and faith.

Our gatherings are for everyone - no matter your age, background, or nationality. We would love to connect with you and get to know you better.

Sunday Services (10.30am-12pm)

We meet every week 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. There will be a time to chat together over refreshments after the service.

Prayer Meetings

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 Groups

Life groups are a place to grow in faith through studying the Bible together, to share our needs, build each other up and pray 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)

Knit & Craft meets together to either knit for charity or bring along our own craft projects to do, whilst having a cuppa and a chat. Everyone is welcome!

Men's Breakfast (1st Saturday of the month 9am-11am)

Men's Breakfast is an opportunity for men to meet up and fellowship over breakfast at a Wetherspoons.

Women's Breakfast (1st Saturday of the month 9am-11am)

Women's Breakfast is an opportunity for women to meet up and fellowship over breakfast at a Wetherspoons.

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.

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
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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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PEVENSEY BAY MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

The Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club (PBMRC) continues to steam ahead bringing together local enthusiasts of all ages who share a passion for railways, modelling, and friendly community spirit.



Whether you are a seasoned modeller, a complete beginner, or simply someone who enjoys the charm of miniature railways, the club offers a welcoming space to learn, build, and get hands-on with layouts of all shapes and sizes.

Members have been hard at work developing several new layouts, each showcasing different eras and styles of traditional railway modelling.

From detailed steam era branch lines to beautifully crafted rural scenes, there is always something new taking shape across the layouts.

The club prides itself on encouraging creativity, problem solving, and craftsmanship—skills that grow naturally when working alongside others who are happy to share tips, techniques, and a good cup of tea.

Visitors are often surprised by the level of detail that goes into each scene - from kit-built buildings to tiny figures placed just so - and members are always happy to explain how it is all done.

The club also continues to support younger modellers, offering guidance and encouragement to help them develop their skills. Model railways are a wonderful way for teenagers to explore engineering, art, electronics, and storytelling all at once, and the club is proud to help inspire the next generation of hobbyists.

We also buy and sell pre-owned model railways items, including locomotives, wagons, coaches, and any model railway accessories.

PBMRC meets at Ethel Wood Community Centre, Monday evenings from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm, and new members are always warmly welcomed.

If you have ever thought about giving the hobby a try, or if you are returning to it after a break, now is an ideal time to get involved.

For more information, please visit the club's new website: pbmrc.club

Email: pevenseybaymrc@gmail.com

PEVENSEY AND WESTHAM COMMUNITY FOREST GARDEN

A very wet winter was followed by a very dry spring, the kind of flip-flopping in the weather that we'll all have to get used to in our new era of extremely rapid climate change.

Fortunately, we had plenty of rainwater butts and cisterns to harvest rain over the winter so we are able to keep our young fruit trees sustained with enough water to get through the current very dry patch.

The spring blossoms have once again been spectacular both in the forest garden and in our ever expanding orchard next to Pevensey Castle, so that hopefully bodes well for a good fruit harvest.

Some of our apples from last year's harvest that we've kept stored in our workshop cabin are still good enough to eat, which shows how well certain apple varieties can keep over the winter. Why the UK still imports 85% of its fruit from abroad despite our great growing climate for fruit is a mystery to me! Time for fruit independence, perhaps?

We've been busy with repainting our sheds with wood preservative, pollarding overgrowth on our larger trees, keeping access paths clear, maintaining fences and hedges, trimming the bramble bushes, and doing water quality testing on the Langney Sewer that runs alongside the forest garden.

Strandliners, the local citizen science aquatic environment group, revisited us recently to assist us with the water testing, training up a few more of our volunteers. If you would like to be trained up as well, please contact us at pawforestgarden@gmail.com

We recently had some German visitors from a Berlin school, keen to learn about eco projects in the local area. They were so delighted with our forest garden that they pledged to implement what they learnt from us in their own school gardens. Our fame is spreading!

PEVENSEY AND WESTHAM FLOWER CLUB

Pevensey and Westham Flower Club are a fun, friendly, flower-arranging group who meet at Westham Village Hall (opposite the pond!) on the third Tuesday of each month. Our doors open from 7pm, with the meeting starting at 7.30pm.

We have nine 'practice evenings' through the year - where attendees get to make a flower arrangement - having been given a materials list in advance of the evening, and a short demonstration (for inspiration!) on arrival.

The other three meetings of the year comprise a 'demonstration' by a flower arranger 'on-stage' - and prove to be very entertaining and inspirational and are ALWAYS well attended.

Our annual subscription is £30, with entry to the meetings being £3/£4 for Practice Evenings and £5/£6 for demonstrations.

We have a beautiful raffle every month (£1 a strip!) and lovely refreshments, which are included in the price of your entry.

In August, we are hosting a "Coffee Morning" at Polegate Community Centre and welcome you to support us there.

We comprise a happy mix of beginners and experienced members - and there is no judgement on your abilities! Just come along and have a go!

Your first visit to a practice evening is FREE - so what is there to lose!?

For more information, please call Wendy Middleton on 07964 675568.



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Tuesday / Wednesday / Thursday 8.45am - 2.45pm
- Nursery Unit open 9am to 3pm
- 2, 3 and 4 year old funding accepted

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PEVENSEY AND WESTHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Hello Everyone,
Here we are again half way through the year! At the time of writing, the weather is sunny and warm.

Anyway, onto our speakers this Summer :

In July, we have Kim Adams with 'Eastbourne in 1960s'. Just to remind you all, we have our usual Summer break in August.

In September, we have Bill McNaught speaking on 'Buffalo Bill and Queen Victoria', followed in October with 'Eastbourne Roman Villa' with speaker Helen Warren.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the next meeting.

The Committee

RVS MONDAY LUNCH CLUB

Talking to our guests we found the winter months made them more aware of their loneliness.

To make a change we started the new year with a visit to the Haven Players Pantomime, The Wizard Of Oz which everybody enjoyed. We even had an ice cream. The visit brought back many for happy memories of days gone by with their own families.

We also have made two visits out for meals. Now the better weather and lighter evenings are here they can now get out or sit in the gardens with the time going by quicker.

Our plans for the future are to do more outings in the long dark and cold winter months.

We sadly have lost four of our clients due to health issues. We wish them the very best and we will keep in touch.

I have one lady on the waiting list and in June we might be able to help her.

On behalf of the club I would like to thank everybody who donated fruit, veg and lovely goodies. Your donations help us to give our guest extra treats.

Christine Wood
01323 768019

ST LUKE'S CHURCH, STONE CROSS

We enjoyed a holy and uplifting Holy Week and Easter in church. We remain in interregnum and are indebted to Fr Colin Boswell for his enormous amount of hard work over that period. We are pleased that Merriel Woodward will be joining us as Associate Priest from Pentecost Sunday, 24th May.



The Archdeacon, the Ven. Russell Dewhurst visited for Mothering Sunday celebrating and preaching.

We held a messy church afternoon in March with children (and adults!) making stained glass windows and beautiful crosses which adorned the church during Holy Week.

We are also still meeting with St Nicolas, Pevensey, St Wilfrid's, Pevensey Bay and St Richards, Langney, for Evening Prayer/ Evensong on the last Sunday of the month.

We held a successful Spring Fair in March which drew in the local community. The Games Evening with jacket potato was enjoyed by all with a beetle drive, a group quiz, individual quiz and bingo! Jacket potatoes were excellent too!

Our Parish Centre has been very busy over the Spring season. We are open for weekly coffee mornings, children's parties, beavers, cubs and scouts' meetings and Little Luke's baby and toddler group and various dance and keep fit groups, Tai Chi, and lots of other events besides.

Look out for other community events and timings via our website!

We are now actively seeking a new incumbent and hope to welcome a new priest later this year.

Cheryl Gibson and Fiona Jenkins

Churchwardens

01323 767020

Email: saintlukesstonecross@gmail.com

Website: www.saintlukesstonecross.org.uk

ST MARY'S CHURCH, WESTHAM

Our next big event is not until the beginning of October which will be our Harvest Celebration with Flowers beginning 2nd to 4th October.



The church will look beautiful with early autumnal colours alongside wonderful refreshments. Sunday 4th will see our Harvest Celebration, too. Look out for the large advertising signs in the church grounds nearer the time for more details.

Usual Parish life continues as a pace. Our Worship for All Ages services are much appreciated by those who attend. This is our best attended service which happens twice a month, 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, 9.45am. Great for families and those looking to explore Christian belief in a relaxed environment.

Come and give us a try at those or any of our other services. A warm welcome awaits.

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.



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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 the 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 meetings
- Lots of Pilates classes on several days per week and Flexercise classes
- Craft Fairs on every second Saturday of the month between 10am and 1pm
- Table top sales twice per year- the next one will be on 17 October
- For Boys and Girls there is 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.
- 26th September- Pevensey Parish Council Community Information Day - Find out what you can help with or join!

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

We are now looking to replace the kitchen and put in new flooring and redecorate the meeting room.

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

Stone Surgery Services and Friendly Reminders

At our surgery, caring for the health and wellbeing of our community has always been at the heart of what we do. As healthcare continues to evolve, we're pleased to share a few important updates and reminders to help you and your family stay protected and supported throughout the year.

Primary Care Network

Stone Cross Surgery forms part of Eastbourne East Primary Care Network (PCN). PCN's bring together local GP practices to work collaboratively to provide a more accessible pathway to care for our patient population. To support this way of working the PCN employs staff known as ARRS (Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme). Through the ARRS scheme patients can be supported by a multidisciplinary team of clinical and non-clinical roles. Stone Cross Surgery has the following ARRS staff who support their patients on a daily/weekly basis:

- Clinical pharmacists who can review medications and help with any prescription queries and provide expert advice
- First contact physiotherapists (FCP's) who assess and manage musculoskeletal issues without the need to see a GP first
- Paramedics who can respond to urgent care needs
- Social prescribers and health and wellbeing coaches help patients access local services, tackle loneliness, and make positive lifestyle changes
- Care coordinators ensure patients receive joined-up care, particularly those with long-term conditions
- Mental health practitioners and support coordinators are also part of the team, offering early support and guidance for those experiencing emotional or psychological difficulties
- Digital ambassadors can help patients access online services, making it easier to manage appointments and healthcare needs

By incorporating the ARRS staff GP practices are able to offer more timely appointments, improve patient care, and ensure that patients are seen by the most appropriate professional for their needs. *This approach not only eases pressure on GPs but also provides patients with a more personalised and holistic service within their local community.*

RSV Vaccine Available for Eligible Patients

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is a common virus that can cause serious respiratory illness, particularly in older adults and newborn babies.



You can receive a free RSV vaccination on the NHS if:

- You are 28 weeks pregnant or more – the vaccine is recommended during every pregnancy to help protect your baby after birth
- You are aged 75 or over
- You live in a care home for older adults

The vaccine helps reduce the risk of severe illness and hospital admission during the winter season.

Eligible patients are encouraged to contact the surgery to book an appointment.

Booking Your COVID-19 and Flu Vaccines for October 2026

We are now offering COVID-19 vaccinations at the surgery for eligible patients. Please contact the surgery from early September to book your winter COVID-19 booster and flu vaccination appointments.

Protect yourself this winter by getting vaccinated early. Our team is available to help you arrange a convenient appointment.

STONE CROSS WINDMILL

The Windmill Tower is looking very sad at the moment and requires extensive re-painting using specialised paint that is suitable for this heritage building.

But like all heritage buildings it is becoming more difficult to obtain grants to complete the work required including the use of a specialist mill wright.

The Trust is indebted to the maintenance volunteers who meet every Monday to undertake essential repairs as this helps to keep costs at a manageable level. The team also help maintain the vast hedge and surrounding area.

Visitors to the Windmill provide essential revenue as they continue to purchase wholemeal flour (from wheat sourced locally), enjoy homemade cakes and scones and generous donations that contribute to utility bills and the rising cost of maintenance materials. Stone Cross Mill Trust also relies on membership monies and 100 club to help boost the income to support the Windmill.

The Roundel of the Windmill has been completely re-vamped thanks to one of our volunteers. All volunteers are unpaid and contribute their time and energy to maintaining the Windmill. All monies raised are used by the Trust to ensure that the Windmill remains a stable and secure building that can welcome visitors on the six afternoons that it is open to visitors and residents throughout the year.

Most visitors do not realise that the Windmill played a strategic role in WWII and full details are available in the Windmill Museum.

Private groups can book the Windmill for mid-week and weekend tours when it is closed and this can also include refreshments or a cream tea. Trustees can also provide talks to local groups for a donation to the Windmill.

Updating information can be found at:

www.stonecrosswindmill.co.uk.

Barbara Molog

Chair

scmt2012@yahoo.co.uk

Charity Registration 1172798

Grade II* Listed Building. Commissioned 1875/6

1066 COUNTRY

The iconic Bayeux Tapestry - depicting William the Conqueror's 1066 invasion at Pevensey - is returning to England for the first time in nearly 900 years - sparking a hive of regional activity to mark the conquest.



The 70m long masterpiece, embroidered in wool thread on linen, tells the story of the invasion by the Normans and the Battle of Hastings.

It is thought to have been made in England in the 11th Century and sent to Normandy - where it has remained.

Now, the Tapestry is being loaned to the UK and will go on show at the British Museum providing a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see it in this country.

Regional activities and events are being co-ordinated by 1066 Country - a public and private partnership - whose brand is built around a stunning 378 square mile area of historic coast and countryside that includes Battle, Bexhill, Hastings, Pevensey, Rye and stretches from Herstmonceux to Camber and north to the Kent border.

With an annual economic value of over £900m and supporting 21% of jobs - tourism and the visitor economy is vital to our region.

The team at 1066 Country is also leading regional co-ordination of the European Year of the Normans in 2027 as part of the commemorations to mark the Millennium of William the Conqueror's birth.

These historic opportunities offer a powerful platform to elevate the story of 1066 and drive national and international visibility for our area.

It is our aim to make the most of the opportunities presented to the region over the next few years. In order to do this, joined up planning across tourism, heritage, culture, education and community partners is essential.

We welcome contact from organisations who would like to host activities linked to the Bayeux Tapestry or Year of the Normans.

If you have an event, project, idea or campaign you would like included in our stakeholder mapping, or if you're interested in collaborating, please get in touch: visit1066country@rother.gov.uk

TEMPLAR AQUILA LODGE NO 9450

Templar Aquila Lodge are the 'local' Freemasons Lodge for Pevensey and Pevensey Bay, and were consecrated in 1992.



Our members regularly contribute money to our Charity Fund of which over ninety percent is donated to Non-Masonic causes; local, national and international.

We welcome approaches from local charities that may require financial assistance.

Please contact the Charity Steward Tony Padley at CharityTAL9450@gmail.com

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 7 – 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.

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 10.00 – 12.00 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 our caning, painting, textile and woodcarving 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 check our webpage: www.viewcraft.org or contact:

Jean Wilson. mobile: 07932 785557; email: jean.dolmeg@gmail.com

WESTHAM ART GROUP

If you are looking for a friendly, creative and sociable way to spend your time, our local art group would be delighted to welcome you. We meet every Wednesday at Westham Village Hall from 1pm to 4pm, providing a relaxed and supportive space for people of all abilities.

Whether you are just starting out or have been painting and drawing for years you will find encouragement, inspiration and good company.

Members bring along their own projects and work at their own pace, sharing ideas, techniques and plenty of conversation along the way.

The atmosphere is informal and welcoming, making it just as much about enjoying the company as it is about creating art.

There is a small fee of £5 per session, which contributes towards hall hire, refreshments and the group's wider activities.

Tea, coffee, biscuits and more often than not homemade cakes available part way through the day helping to make our afternoon together even more enjoyable.

In addition to weekly meetings, we organise a variety of outings and special events throughout the year.

A recent highlight was a visit to Tenterden, where members enjoyed a nostalgic trip on a steam train with the added bonus of traditional fish and chips meal.

These outings are a wonderful way to socialise and explore new places together.

We also occasionally welcome visiting artists, giving members the opportunity to learn new skills, experiment with different styles, and gain fresh perspectives on their work.

We are especially pleased to announce that we will be having an art exhibition on 10th October from 10am till 4pm this will be a great opportunity for the local community to see a wide variety of art created by our members.

If you think you might enjoy being part of our group please contact Brian Gage on 01323 461433 we would love to meet you.



WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

How does the Parish Council work?

Westham Parish Council like all town and parish councils is funded by its residents through what is known as the PRECEPT on the Council Tax charge. It is set annually for the financial year which runs from 01 April to the 31 March.

Wealden District Council require the details of the Parish Council's Precept for the coming year by the end of January so that it can be allocated for the financial year.

Westham Parish Council forecasts how much money it is going to need for the following year and sets its budget at meetings in December or January. Details of the agreement of the Precept by Councillors is forwarded to Wealden District Council.

The Parish Council has to be reasonable bearing in mind the Precept is raised locally through the Council Tax and this decision is not taken likely by Councillors. The Precept will be scrutinised by the Parish Councils internal and external auditors.

For the past few years, the Precept figure has been kept in line with inflation and the Council Budget.

The main expenditure of the Precept is tree maintenance and grass cutting in the Parish. A yearly cost for this maintenance is over £60,000.00.

Unfortunately the Parish Council is not immune to rising costs this year from suppliers and contractors and how these costs develop during the rest of this year may have an impact on this year's Precept and Budget.

The work of the Parish Clerk

The term 'Parish Clerk' can be misleading. In this case the word 'Parish' means the smallest level of local government and not to be confused with the church parish area.

Also, a 'Clerk' is usually applied to someone who undertakes routine administrative duties; however the role of the Town or Parish Clerk is more complex.

A Parish Clerk is often the Financial Officer and is also the Chief Executive and Legal Adviser to the Council.

The Clerk at Westham Parish Council is the Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) and is accountable for all financial records of the Council and the proper administration of its finances. Under Section 151 Local Government Act 1972 every local authority is required to appoint a qualified officer responsible for the proper administration of its finances. A Council cannot operate without one and sometimes the Clerk is referred to as the 'The 151 Officer'.

Some Councils' budgets run to hundreds of thousands, or millions of pounds each year so the Councils accounts are also independently audited both internally and externally every year.



The Clerk is also the Chief Executive officer and provides support, information and advice on Governance, ethical and procedural matters to ensure that the Council conducts its business lawfully and recommend ways in which decisions can be implemented. Essentially the clerk is serving as the 'engine' for the council and is accountable to the full council, not individuals.

The Parish Clerk also has an administrative role in preparing agendas, taking minutes, issuing notices, managing records and handling correspondences. The agenda for Parish Council meetings is set by the Chair of the Council in consultation with the clerk.

The clerk acts independently and objectively for the council, not individual members and often manages significant responsibilities beyond basic administration.

The Clerk for Westham Parish Council works flexible hours as there are some evening meetings and sometimes meetings with contractors are outside normal hours, so the clerk is NOT 'Just a secretary.' The role is much more complicated.

The Parish clerk for the Westham area has an office within the Stone Cross school building so access is through the school. There is no direct access, and the clerk may or may not be there at the time. It is preferable to contact the clerk by Email if possible. Also, the Council website can be visited for Agendas and Minutes of meetings.

WESTHAM EVENING WI

The annual subscriptions have been paid and the Annual Meeting has happened; with the new committee in place, the new WI year has begun.

The year's Programme is a varied one and includes opportunities to learn about local charities and about ourselves, too. Topics include the Eastbourne Responders, a cookery demonstration and an evening with hypnotherapist.

Jan's always popular Open Garden Afternoon has been arranged for Saturday 18th July; a date to enjoy flowers and friendship and raise money for vital work of St Wilfrid's Hospice. So far, the Spring weather has been warm for the time of year/cold for the time of year/windy for the time of year and, so very dry. Rain and then some warmth would be good for the Open Garden, as well as for other green fingered members.

There is a change to the arrangement of monthly meetings for this year's programme; usually, there is no formal meeting in August, however, there is one on this occasion. To ensure the correct number of meetings, there will be no meeting in November.

The Groups continue to flourish, with subjects that will appeal to many, including Book Club, Theatre & Lunch Club, Walking, Gardening and Baking.

The monthly members' meetings take place, usually, on the fourth Thursday of the month in Westham Village Hall at 7:30 pm, where a friendly welcome awaits any newcomers.

For any further information, please contact Jan on 07710 559880.



WESTHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

We seem to have a serious antisocial, dangerous and frustrating parking problem with vans around Westham village.



There are vans parked day and night on double yellow lines along Peelings Lane, from the kitchen bathroom shop on the corner of the High Street down past the village hall.

There are also large Highways maintenance lorries and vans parked on a regular basis along the High Street by the school entrance, slowing traffic flow through the village.

Cars are now parking on the grass verges opposite the vans in Peelings Lane, destroying the verges and making driving along this part of the lane dangerous.

It's becoming a real serious antisocial dangerous problem for residents.

This has been reported numerous times to the police, Highways, Wealden and Westham Parish Council with no action taken yet.

The more it's reported by us all the better chance action will be taken on this dangerous on going issue.

Speeding through the High Street, up the Lanes and around the Village are still a worrying concern, especially now around the Village Pond area.

Please slow down driving around this area, be vigilant and look out for the Ducks, Geese and their young Ducklings crossing the roads.

Have a lovely summer, stay safe.

Remember Westham Neighbourhood Watch are your eyes & ears. WE ARE WATCHING YOU.

WESTHAM POP-IN

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

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

We have a variety of pre-read books for sale at 30p each 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

Your Village Hall continues as a central hub for our village.

Our regular Groups, The Dance Mavericks, Pevensey

and Westham Flower Club, Westham Art Group, The Historical Society, Stitch and Knit Group, Westham Pop-In, Rebel Art Group, perhaps there is something here you might like to attend or join?

If you would like to host an event or have an activity or Group you may wish to hold at your Hall, please give our helpful booking clerk Julie a call on 07821 377110.

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.

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.

Our seating area outside the front of the Hall is a welcome spot to sit with neighbours, family and friends. This area is proving to be an inclusive space for everyone in our community.

Diane on behalf of Westham Village Hall Committee

WESTHAM VILLAGE POND

At the end of Spring the pond vegetation is lush, the Yellow Iris are blooming. An unusually warm dry April with only millimetres of rain means high water temperatures combine with high nutrient levels producing unwelcome floating algae.

No rain means the pond water level will continue to decrease leading to exposure of silt. This may seem unsightly but exposure to air can assist the breakdown of organic silt. There is opportunity for other native plants and creatures which prefer shallow water to colonise.

The geese have 5 goslings which are fun to watch, but the family will increase the amount of faeces in the pond. These nutrients promote algae growth and associated oxygen depletion which is detrimental to pond life such as water boatmen. Please do not feed the wildfowl at all. They can easily forage for healthy natural food which includes plants and beetles.

On the 5th of April a very early spectacular Damselfly was seen on a nearby garden pond. Peak for these and the larger Dragon Fly is July and August.

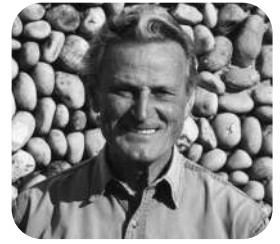
Our pond has a delicate balance of plants and water creatures. In the past people have emptied their aquariums into the pond introducing non native predators such as Terrapins which needed to be captured and removed. Even introducing frogs from another pond may spread Rana Disease. A small piece of invasive non native water plant can spread rapidly covering a large overwhelming area.



Dragonfly

Nature Notes

Alan Everard's regular nature column



Let's start with a very pleasant experience Vi and I had earlier this year. We were walking along the sloping beach top at the end our garden (which, to our good luck, actually extends to the high tide mark – lucky us!).

Anyway, looking out to sea, to our great "good luck" again, a great flock of Cormorants in a loose V formation were flying inland to nest. What a sight! Also, to add to our good luck, a flock of Geese appeared. Not to be outdone three Mute Swans suddenly appeared and flew closely past us along the sea's edge and towards our village centre. To see and be so close to such majestic birds in flight, was a great treat and will live with us in our lovely memories forever.

Wow! I'm sitting in our sun lounge writing this, and a Fox has just come up our garden path and is now looking in through our glass patio doors, and, to our surprise, a grey Squirrel is following him. The Fox, naturally, turned and then chased him away and up one of our Fir trees. The Fox soon moved away to hunt somewhere else and when we went out to check for the Squirrel we found it had departed too. So, a fascinating wildlife episode had ended.

I am happy to introduce you to my painting of a Painted Lady Butterfly. They appear, but not too frequently, in May and June, having migrated from South West Europe and North Africa. It really amazes me that such a delicate insect can make this journey, but of course, nearly all wildlife can surprise us – and, of course, give us pleasure!



Now for a very interesting article by Hazel Wood:

Hello my friends,

At last, warmer days, lighter mornings and evenings. I think that we all come alive. Everyone seems happier. Smiley faces as they go about their daily lives.

I said that I would keep you all updated about my friend's Hedgehog box and any movement. Sadly, we have nothing to say this spring. There isn't any movement. No baby Hoglets. Ah Shame.

Hedgehogs emerge from March and April. They wake very hungry having shed a significant amount of body weight through the long winter months.

Their foraging instincts kick in immediately looking for food and water and a compact shelter and nesting spots.

Hedgehogs have had a dramatic decline with fragmentation of their natural habitat making survival increasingly difficult, the construction of roads and motorways have consumed space previously used as natural habitat, while pesticides have diminished their food supply.

Additionally, in urban environments the prevalence of fenced and walled gardens restrict their ability to move freely between gardens.

Having said all that most gardeners have thoughtfully solved the problem by cutting out a small hole at the bottom of the fence making entry and exit much easier.

We can all help our Hedgehogs by putting out some dog food, never bread and milk as this upsets their bodies making them ill.

Just a small amount of dog food just to help them out is fine, as we don't want to encourage vermin. If you are lucky enough to have any Hedgehogs they are fascinating to watch and enjoy.

I would also like to share with you a fascinating incident which happened in my garden this spring. A local fox, well known to many of us, came into my garden whilst feeding a cheeky Magpie who proceeded to tug at the fox's tail. In my horror, I thought he would be attacked, but happily the fox just completely ignored the Magpie and continued to eat his supper.

On speaking to my very good friend Steve he told me that he had seen the same thing in his garden.

On researching this amazing incident, I found why they often do this is to line their nests for warmth in raising their own chicks.

So it seems this is a yearly event, and no harm is caused to the fox or Magpie – how lovely.

Have a wonderful summer everyone and I hope to catch up with you all in the autumn. **Hazel Wood.**

Thank you Hazel. I can now introduce you to Barry Erlam's recent wildlife sightings:

With Spring well and truly here and my first sighting of the Swallows on 7th April at Chilley Farm four days later than last year the reed beds come alive and with chitter and chatter, the Warblers are back and having a natter.

Also, the Chiffchaffs return to the Marsh as early as the first week in March and getting back into Pevensy Bay. I noticed a regular at The Bay Hotel in the form of a Peregrine Falcon. I wonder if it will become a bit of a regular like I was? Happy Days.

Thank you Barry.

Alan Everard

Pevensey Bay to Eastbourne **Coastal Management Scheme**

What's been happening and what's next

Short-term (2025-2027):

As the winter season draws to a close, it's clear this has been one of the busiest years on record. With the Sospas Dau recharge, Eastbourne shingle bypass and the Hastings shingle trial having added more than 37,000 m³ of material to the Pevensey Bay area. Over time, this shingle will gradually move east providing benefit across the entire frontage.

Alongside this, the recycling team has been working across the frontage, moving material to areas affected by earlier storm events. As we enter the official bathing season, the team has also reduced steep areas of the beach to improve access to the foreshore.

Safety works are underway on the timber structures, with our team removing any loose parts and exposed bolts. We will continue to monitor the beach as usual through regular surveys.

Over the summer, ground investigation surveys will take place at various locations. You can find more details below and on our website.



Beach replenishment works using recycled shingle from the Hastings trial

Medium-term (2027 - 2037):

The medium-term project is now in the detailed design stage – the final phase before construction begins. We are around halfway through this stage and will submit the full business case later this year, with construction planned to start in 2027. The design focuses on creating a more resilient Pevensey Bay to Eastbourne frontage.

This approach has been shaped by a comprehensive assessment of three key coastal flood risks: breaching, wave overtopping and coastal erosion. We have tested the design using advanced modelling to simulate 540 storm scenarios across Pevensey and Eastbourne. We will be hosting a series of public engagement events later this year to share the design in more detail – keep an eye on our website and social media for updates.

Alongside this design work, ground investigations are now underway and will continue over the summer. We are inspecting groynes and other sea defences below the surface and assessing ground conditions to help inform future refurbishment and maintenance. Work will focus on key groynes along the beach, but access to the seafront

will remain open as normal. We will share regular updates on locations and timings as the works progress via our website and social media.



Typical set-up for ground investigations, including drilling equipment and temporary safety fencing

During this work, we will operate from a temporary site compound in the Sovereign Harbour West car park, alongside our existing depot in Pevensey.

Long-term (future phases from 2037):

In our last update, we shared the success of our community survey, which received over 1,000 responses. To build on this, we now want to ensure we hear from people of all ages as plans continue to develop. Through the Coastal Schools Partnership, we are working with local schools to run pupil-led surveys, helping us understand how young people see coastal change and the coastline they will inherit.

We will also visit Bexhill Sixth Form College to meet A level Geography students. We will introduce the Scheme and explore how existing data and technical studies can support their Non Examined Assessment (NEA) coursework, using real world coastal management as a case study.

We will continue to share updates as this work progresses, along with the technical studies supporting future phases.

Further information and contact details:

See our webpage to find out more information about the Scheme and to subscribe to our newsletter: www.pevenseyandeastbournecoast.co.uk

You can also follow us on social media:

- Facebook: Pevensey and Eastbourne Coast
- Nextdoor: Environment Agency- Solent and South Downs
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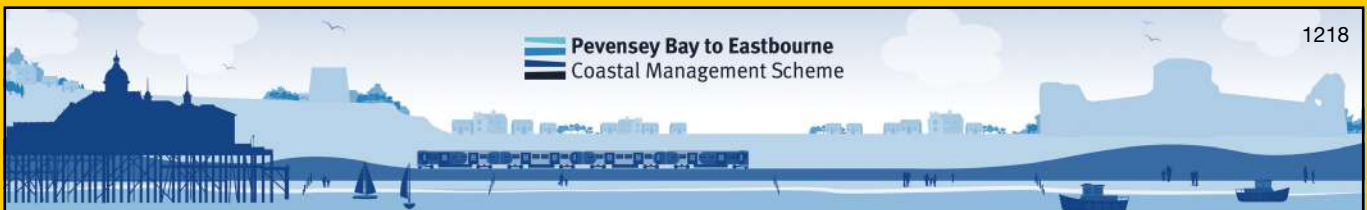
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Pevensey Bay to Eastbourne
Coastal Management Scheme

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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.

 www.pevenseyandeastbournecoast.co.uk

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