

# The Valley Diary

Binderton ~ Charlton ~ Chilgrove ~ East Dean ~ Singleton ~ West Dean

[www.thevalleydiary.org](http://www.thevalleydiary.org)

More of what you're looking for. Locally.

February 2025

## WATER WATCH!

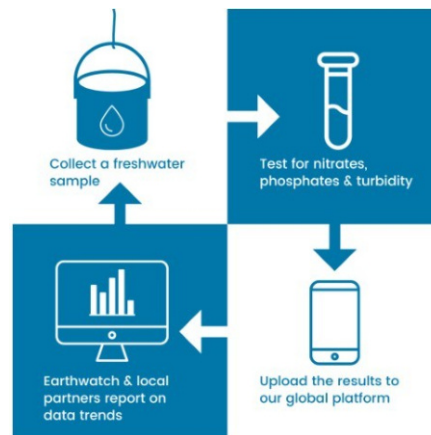
### FRESH WATER WATCH

Fighting for healthy freshwater habitats across the UK

Pollution, climate change and over-exploitation have brought our fresh water systems to crisis point. Many rivers are no longer fit to swim in and our water supplies for drinking and growing food are threatened. Working together with local communities and partners, we have created a growing network of concerned local citizens who care about the health of their precious freshwater resources: FreshWater Watch. This involves training community groups across the UK to use our FreshWater Watch toolkit to detect nutrient pollution and fight for real change. Only 14% of the UK's rivers are considered to be in good ecological health, and every single one of them fails to meet the required chemical standards.

The FreshWater Watch toolkit helps to uncover the secrets hidden underneath the surface and makes the invisible, visible. Our community groups turn into citizen scientists as they learn how to test a freshwater sample for nitrates, phosphates and turbidity. By submitting a simple survey, they can see their data mapped in real-time, with automatically generated feedback explaining what their results show. Not only is the toolkit easy to use, but it is accessible to everyone, regardless of their education or background. Many of our FreshWater Watch community group members in the UK come to us with no prior research experience or scientific qualifications, but that doesn't stop them from participating directly in citizen science.

For see how you can get involved/contribute head for the EarthWatch Europe website... [earthwatch.org.uk/program/freshwater-watch-in-the-uk](http://earthwatch.org.uk/program/freshwater-watch-in-the-uk)



Singleton from the Plantation at Charlton. *HG*

### PLEASE HELP US WITH DELIVERIES

We desperately need someone who can spare about 3 hours a month to deliver The Valley Diary to 4 locations in Singleton, Binderton House and 2 pubs in Lavant. I used to do these, but due to personal circumstances I just can't any longer. Please help us to get The Valley Diary out to local people.

**Chris Kelly**

**01243 811833**

**[chriskelly7043@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chriskelly7043@yahoo.co.uk)**

Mark Astley, MNAEA  
Director

Curious about the **value** of your property?

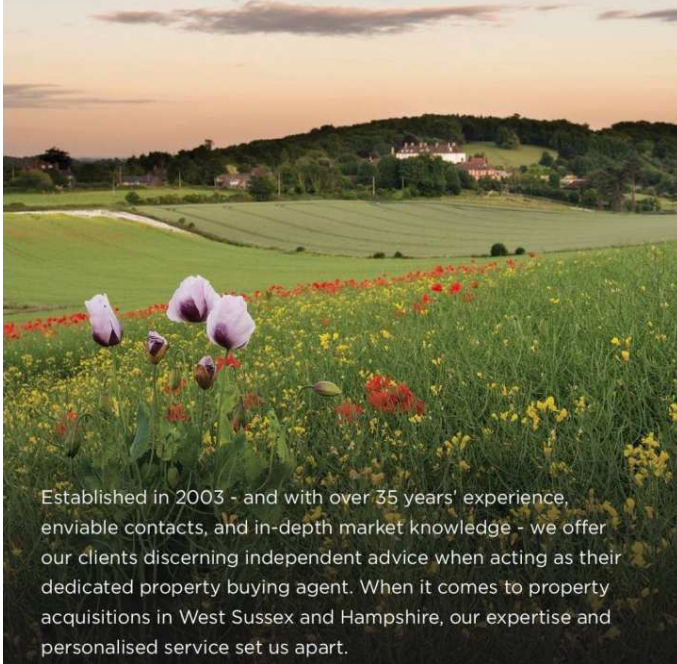
**JACKSON-STOPS**  
PROPERTY EXPERTS SINCE 1910

To book your free, no obligation market appraisal contact Mark Astley on **01243 786316**.

[chichester@jackson-stops.co.uk](mailto:chichester@jackson-stops.co.uk)  
[jackson-stops.co.uk](http://jackson-stops.co.uk)



## The Home Buying Experts for West Sussex and Hampshire



Established in 2003 - and with over 35 years' experience, enviable contacts, and in-depth market knowledge - we offer our clients discerning independent advice when acting as their dedicated property buying agent. When it comes to property acquisitions in West Sussex and Hampshire, our expertise and personalised service set us apart.

**pa** Property Acquisitions

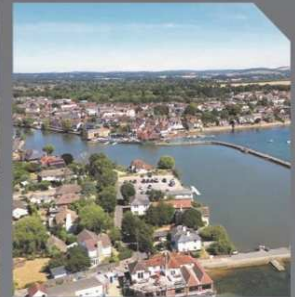
E: [info@propertyacquisitions.co.uk](mailto:info@propertyacquisitions.co.uk)  
T: +44 (0)1243 531133

## EXPERT LETTINGS AGENTS IN SOUTH DOWNS & CHICHESTER HARBOUR PROPERTY

At Borland & Borland, Every Landlord's an Individual!



- > Flexible or Tailor-made Lettings Service
- > Fully Managed, Rent Collection, Introduction Only
- > Independent, Local, Professional & Knowledgeable



Contact us today for **FREE LETTINGS ADVICE!** Call 01243 379000, email [lettings@borlandandborland.co.uk](mailto:lettings@borlandandborland.co.uk) or visit [www.borlandandborland.co.uk](http://www.borlandandborland.co.uk)

**Borland & Borland**  
Independent Estate Agents

50° 50' 40.2" N 0° 56' 14.7" W

6 High Street, Emsworth, Hampshire PO10 7AW

## Companionship and Help At Home



*A reliable, friendly face at your door.*

Just the help you need around the house plus keeping you connected out and about.

*Abbeyfield At Home*, part of Abbeyfield Chichester, is non-profit making so we help you keep your costs down.

**Call Becky, our At Home Manager: 01243 773221 / 07731 889019**



**The Henry Smith Charity**  
founded in 1628

**Henry Smith Charity**  
Singleton and Charlton  
(Charity number: 214103)



**NEED HELP?**

The Henry Smith Charity, founded in 1628 is one of the oldest parish grant schemes in the country. Most of these parishes are in Sussex and Surrey.

The charity seeks to help local people living in difficult circumstances with small gifts which are awarded by local trustees. Help may be given, for example, with the cost of food, fuel, white goods and furnishings. Some grants are given towards transport costs for hospital visits or doctor appointments. As well as giving grants directly to individuals, gifts may be given to small local charities or community groups providing support to people in need within the area.

To find out more about the charity please visit [www.henrysmithcharity.org.uk](http://www.henrysmithcharity.org.uk)

Any individual or group wishing to be considered for a grant should contact the trustees at [trusteehenrysmithsc@gmail.com](mailto:trusteehenrysmithsc@gmail.com)



**Let's make financial advice** *personal*

Adam Smith

Wealth Management

We recognise that talking about money and finances can be tricky. It's a personal topic. So it's reassuring to know there's someone on hand who can help you address your needs, understand your goals and realise your dreams.

Our friendly and approachable service is backed by the strength and security of a FTSE 100 company, St. James's Place Wealth Management. What's more, being local means we're here to help whenever you need us.



**Adam Smith**  
Dip CII  
Principal

**We can help with all aspects of investment management, retirement planning, inheritance tax planning strategies, and later life care costings.**

**Get in touch for a chat.**

07803 794376  
[adam.smith@sjpg.co.uk](mailto:adam.smith@sjpg.co.uk)  
[www.adamsmithwm.co.uk](http://www.adamsmithwm.co.uk)

Associate Partner Practice



SJP Approved 27/02/2022

14/07/2021/02/2021

## THE SELSEY ARMS IN WEST DEAN

**PUB ... DINING ...ACCOMMODATION**



The perfect venue after a long walk with the dog or a cycle along Centurion Way, kick off your boots & warm your toes next to one of log burners. Relax & unwind enjoying a hot cuppa, pint of local ale or a soothing glass of wine, whilst we cook up a hearty breakfast, delicious lunch or 3 Course dinner.

**Thank You For Your continuing support  
WISHING YOU A HAPPY,  
HEALTHY & PROSPEROUS  
2025**

**The Selsey Arms, West Dean, PO18 0QX  
Call 01243 811465 or e mail us at  
[thebar@selseyarms-westdean.co.uk](mailto:thebar@selseyarms-westdean.co.uk)**

**HOME&DRY**  
GARMENT CARE & HOME SERVICES

**20% off in store! \***

Coupon must be shown in store.



- Wet cleaning
- Laundry
- Alterations
- Holiday let cleaning
- Leather cleaning
- Commercial linen hire
- Ironing
- Domestic cleaning
- Repairs
- Oven cleaning
- Carpet cleaning
- One-off cleaning

[www.homeanddry.biz](http://www.homeanddry.biz)  
01243 543877

\*In store only, coupon must be shown, one coupon per household.



# BE PART OF SOMETHING

# Historic

Experience 1,000 years of rural life in one remarkable site, with 40 acres and over 50 historic buildings to explore.

[wealddown.co.uk](http://wealddown.co.uk) Tel: 01243 811363



## The Repair Shop: Open Days

Open to Visitors in February: Wednesday 5th, Saturday 8th, Sunday 9th, Tuesday 25th and Thursday 27th (10am - 3pm)

With the skilled experts and crew now having finish filming at the Museum for the year, we are able to offer on selected sneak peek dates where you can see inside Court Barn and explore where the magic happens.

We recommend pre-booking via [tinyurl.com/276z8s4l](http://tinyurl.com/276z8s4l)

## VE 80 Day Commemoration Flower Show and Local History Display

West Dean Church  
Sat 3rd May - Monday 5th May

A fundraising event for the Valley Parish Churches Buildings Appeal is being planned at West Dean Church over the May Bank Holiday weekend to commemorate the Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day, which falls on the 8th May.

As well as beautiful floral arrangements there will be displays depicting daily life locally during the war and VE Day celebrations in the Valley. Entry will be free with donations welcomed towards the Standing The Test of Time Appeal. Refreshments will be available over the weekend.

To honour those we lost from the Valley it is hoped to obtain as many photographs as possible of these people to create a memorial board which would then become a permanent display. If you have any relevant photographs please contact me.

**Sarah John - Churchwarden - [sarance@btinternet.com](mailto:sarance@btinternet.com)**



Singleton Village Hall  
**Singleton Community  
Café**  
Monday 10th March  
10.30am - 12noon

### FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD

A talk by Community Warden Richard Moorey

Richard's talk will be applicable to people of all ages and help them to spot fraud of all kinds.

If you would like to attend, please let me know. My mobile number is 07776 258230 or landline, 01243 818037, and I shall endeavour to make enough cake for everyone to enjoy with their teas and coffees! **Judy**

**PESTFORCE**  
PEST & ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL SERVICES



For a professional, reliable and experienced service please call Lance on 07799695603 or 01243 624525  
Residential, Commercial and Agricultural  
Locally based

# 100 CLUB

1st... East Dean Football Club  
2nd... Tim Weeks, East Dean  
3rd... Robert Mayne, Charlton

Congratulations to these gentlemen who have shared prize money of £105 in the first draw of 2025. Despite the snow, I do hope that this new year will be happy, healthy and kind to everyone. **Wendy**



THE MARTIN SEWELL  
BUILDING COMPANY

Your vision,  
our expertise.  
Building your dream  
home, together

An Award Winning,  
Chartered Building Company



**ABOUT US**

Having worked in the Sussex area since 1985, our dedicated & highly skilled team are passionate about delivering outstanding results & creating dream homes for our Clients.

MSBC has built a reputation based on an ethos of openness, strong communication and honesty.

**WHY CHOOSE US?**

Experienced in delivering a wide range of high quality building projects, from bespoke new builds to the sensitive renovation of listed buildings or extensions and refurbishments for private & commercial premises.

**CONTACT**

01243 542 056  
www.msbc.uk.com  
admin@msbc.uk.com

**AWARDS**



**SUNDAY CARVERY**  
at The Griffin

**COWDRAY PARK GOLF CLUB**

*Try our fabulous Sunday Lunch menu  
created from seasonal local produce.*



Served between 12 and 3pm  
every Sunday throughout the winter months  
Please call 01730 813599 to book your table.

**Personal Assistant/  
Companion/Carer**

**Could you do with a  
bit of extra help at  
home?**

**HELPING HANDS**  
Companion / Personal Assistant / Carer



**Midhurst Area**  
Kind, Experienced, DBS checked, Fully qualified graduate  
Melanie Griffin **07845 997416**



## Thank you from Singleton CE Primary School...

The PTA, staff and students at Singleton Primary School would like to thank everyone for their support of the Christmas Fair and Raffle last year. Lots of villagers bought raffle tickets and also came along on the day and it was very much appreciated. From face painting to tombola to Santa's Grotto visits, everyone had a wonderful time! The PTA raised just over £2,000 across the raffle and fair, and this will be added to the total we've been raising for a prayer shelter at the school. This should just tip the balance and make the dream a reality after 3 years of saving! A huge thank you as always for your support. We know it is now February and not at all festive, so we'll wish you a wonderful 2025! **From the Friends of Singleton School (FOSS) PTA**



*Cormorant and Canadian Geese amongst other super wildlife and landscape photos from our very own local photographer Nadine Duty. Stunning images again from the lens of Nadine.*

[nadinedutyphotographer.co.uk](http://nadinedutyphotographer.co.uk)

**LADIES NIGHT**

**Star and Garter  
East Dean  
Tuesday 11th February  
7pm  
All Welcome!**



**VISIT OUR SHOWROOM**  
Units 2 & 3 Chilgrove Business Centre  
Chilgrove Park Road, Chilgrove PO18 9HU  
T: 07718 161009 E: [jan@grandwood.co.uk](mailto:jan@grandwood.co.uk)  
[www.grandwood.co.uk](http://www.grandwood.co.uk)

**OPENING TIMES**  
**Thursday and Friday 9am to 3pm**  
**Saturday 9.30am to 4pm**  
Or by appointment with  
Jan Palmer 07718 161009

## Make a Will Fortnight

Getting your Will written is an incredibly important task as it protects your loved ones and the causes and possessions dearest to you.

This March, local solicitors are kindly supporting St Wilfrid's to help the local community have their Will written, while supporting a great local cause.

From March 10th to 21st, select solicitors are offering the local community to get their Wills written in support of St Wilfrid's.

The participating solicitors ask that you redirect their usual Will writing fee as a donation to the Hospice, supporting the vital end-of-life care they provide across your community.

Book an appointment and have your Will written this March: [www.stwh.co.uk/mawf](http://www.stwh.co.uk/mawf)

## Gifts in Wills

**Did you know that one in four of St Wilfrid's patients are cared for thanks to gifts left in Wills?**

With costs rising across the sector, hospices across the country are facing a funding crisis, and need your help to protect their future.

When you have your Will written, please consider leaving a gift to St Wilfrid's Hospice, as this will help to fund their vital care services.

If 38% of the people in our community were to leave a gift of just £300 in their Will, St Wilfrid's would be able to fully fund their Ward for at least seven years.

**You can find out more about the importance of gifts in Wills and how it can help local charities like St Wilfrid's here:**  
[www.stwh.co.uk/gifts-in-wills](http://www.stwh.co.uk/gifts-in-wills)

## FREE LASER LIGHT SHOW & COMMUNITY DAY Saturday 15th February

Two colourful laser light shows will be coming to Petworth House for the first time thanks to a collaboration between **Chichester District Council and The National Trust designed to bring a new and free experience to the local community.**

The free shows - each lasting approximately 20 minutes - will kick off February half term, taking place on Saturday 15th February at 5.30pm and 6.45pm. The beautiful Petworth House will be lit up with lasers, with music synchronised to the lights.

During the day, Petworth House will be open for free from 10.30am until 3.30pm. From 12noon until 4.30pm there will be a special workshop in The Battery House where children will be able to make a paper lantern to take to the shows. In addition, there will also be live music in The Courtyard from local musicians, with performances running 3.30pm – 5.15pm and 6pm – 6.30pm plus local vendors providing food and drink.

The music and lasers are being provided by Showmen Events based in Chichester and are being funded using grants from the UK Government secured by Chichester District Council.

## GLASS ART STUDIO

99 West Dean



- working studio with resident glass artist
- fused glass art and silver jewellery
- open mostly Wednesdays – Saturdays, 10am – 3pm
- opposite West Deans stores and café

Instagram: @artworksstudiouk  
Email: [artworks01@aol.com](mailto:artworks01@aol.com)

## RIDEA TECHNOLOGY

HOME AND OFFICE TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Having trouble with your tech? Ed can help...



- Desktop & Laptop PC Repair, Maintenance & Upgrade
- Home network setup and security (wired & wireless)
- Remote Support
- Virus Removal
- Training
- New & Refurbished Computers
- Laptop Screen Replacement
- Audio Visual Configuration



Tel: 01243 216121  
Email: [help@ridea.co.uk](mailto:help@ridea.co.uk)

[WWW.RIDEA.CO.UK](http://WWW.RIDEA.CO.UK)



[www.facebook.com/rideatechnology](https://www.facebook.com/rideatechnology)



[twitter.com/rideatechnology](https://twitter.com/rideatechnology)

## MILESTONE GARAGE

COCKING  
SERVICING - REPAIRS  
MOTs - TYRES  
CAR SALES

Courtesy Car Available

**01730 813148**

## Francis Ward

Plumbing & Heating Engineer

Qualified, Registered and fully insured in

Oil boiler servicing & maintenance  
Oil tank installation  
Heating system design and install  
Swimming pool oil boilers

Solar heating systems  
Servicing  
Maintenance

Gas boilers  
Cookers  
Swimming pool gas boilers  
New installations servicing and maintenance

All aspects of heating and plumbing covered  
Electrical works undertaken by fully qualified Part P registered engineers  
Commercial & Domestic Spas and Swimming Pools service & repairs



Bletchley Spas & Pools: Brightside, Singleton, West Sussex, PO18 0EX

Phone: 01243 811960

Mobile: 07941 039378





## Rotary Charity Pancake Race Tuesday 4th March

12noon - 2pm

Chichester Cathedral North Field

Teams of four will compete against each other and the clock in a timed relay race, flipping their 'pancake' at various points on the course. Participants are encouraged to dress up (or down) for the event and in addition to the first prize for the fastest team overall, there will be a prize for best fancy dress costume.

60% of the net proceeds will be donated to The Chestnut Tree Children's Hospice with the balance going to support the work of Chichester Harbour Rotary Club's Youth team.

Team entry fees are £50 for business teams of four and £25 for Education, public service and charity teams of four.

For further information and to enter this fun event please contact Jeremy Webb on 07894 128876 or by email to [jeremywebb@gmail.com](mailto:jeremywebb@gmail.com)

Closing date for entries is Tuesday 18th February so book early to avoid disappointment.

## Need some space?

We have the space and support you need. Here at Chichester Community Development Trust, we have an extensive range of hireable spaces.

So, if you, or anyone you know, are looking for somewhere for anything from a business meeting to a book club, a Sound bath retreat to a perfect venue for tutoring, we have the widest variety of bookable spaces in Chichester.

To find out more please do visit our website or email or call us to find out more.

- Office Space at The Water Tower
- Spacious and light large room at Community Hall
- 5 well-appointed spaces at The Studio Therapy Rooms
- Beautiful and iconic class space at The Pavilion Studio
- New and Versatile indoor and outdoor options at The Youth Shed

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

**01243 537526**

[bookings@chichestercdt.org.uk](mailto:bookings@chichestercdt.org.uk)



### Live Music!

Let us come and play for you!!

We play 60's and 70's music for parties and celebrations

Contact: Nicholas L. Taylor

Email: [nicholasltaylor@aol.com](mailto:nicholasltaylor@aol.com)



## MOLE CATCHING

"NO MOLE, NO FEE"

## WASPS / HORNETS

CONTACT ANGUS ON

**07828 134086**

[WWW.ASCOUNTRYSIDESERVICES.CO.UK](http://WWW.ASCOUNTRYSIDESERVICES.CO.UK)



THE BRITISH MOLE  
CATCHERS REGISTER  
SUPPORTING TRADITIONAL EXPERTISE AND SKILLS

# WEST DEAN STORES & TEA ROOM

Fresh local produce to eat in or takeaway

Order when you arrive, or pre-order by phone

Local deliveries available - please contact us for more details

Bread, cakes and sandwiches • Hot and cold drinks • Fruit and vegetables • Milk and eggs

Honey and jams • Newspapers and magazines • Greetings cards • Household essentials

Logs and kindling • Pet foods • Card payments only



## Opening Times

Mon - Fri 08:00-17:00 Sat & Sun 08:00-16:00 Bank Holidays 08:00-16:00

West Dean Stores Ltd, West Dean, Chichester, PO18 0QY Tel: 01243 818222

[stores@westdean.org.uk](mailto:stores@westdean.org.uk) | [www.westdeanstores.co.uk](http://www.westdeanstores.co.uk)



# What a Shocker!

## A Poem by Francis

The couple living at number three,  
Are often a frightening sight.  
Especially late in the year,  
When it's time for Halloween night.

They are always up to something,  
It's not just treats and tricks.  
So Philip and Ann Smith,  
Have been nicknamed the 'Antics'.

They don't wait for festive occasions,  
For them any excuse will do.  
They go to extreme lengths,  
To scare the life out of me and you.

But they went too far last year,  
It was April Fool's Day.  
When they startled me so much,  
I very nearly passed away.

I was rushed to A&E unconscious,  
When I came to I saw the doc.  
He said my condition was caused,  
By an 'AnnandPhilAntic' shock.

## World Glaucoma Week Highlights the Importance of Eye Health Checks

**4Sight Vision Support is supporting World Glaucoma Week with the aim of alerting everyone to have regular eye and optic nerve checks to detect glaucoma as early as possible. With early treatment, the damage may be limited and sight may be saved.**

To find out more about glaucoma and the importance of taking care of our sight call 01243 828555 or visit [www.4sight.org.uk](http://www.4sight.org.uk)

For more details about World Glaucoma Week visit [worldglaucomaweek.org](http://worldglaucomaweek.org)

## Goodwoof 2025 A dog event like no other

**A celebration of all that we love about dogs will, once again, take place at the Goodwood Estate over the weekend of Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th May 2025. Set against the spectacular backdrop of The Kennels, Goodwood Members' Clubhouse, the event is set to offer something for everyone – whether they're on two legs, or four.**

Visitors can enjoy wellness workshops including dog yoga and reiki, talks from behavioural and veterinary experts, world class competitions from top canine athletes and plenty of 'have-a-go activities' all of which are included in the entry price. They can meander down the quiet Woodland Walk, stopping off to see the tarot reader or tattoo artist along the way, have a dip in the refreshing Fido's Lido, sip a glass of Taittinger champagne or pre-book a Fortnum & Mason hamper to enjoy in the sunshine. There are plenty of other catering outlets and shaded places to picnic too as well as an off-lead paddock where dogs can let off steam. The Fastest Dog competition is always a popular spot as dogs speed along the 50m track against the clock.

New for 2025 is a crafting area where visitors can take a break from exploring to create canine-influenced souvenirs of the day and there are always lots of perfect areas to take photos for social media, or simply to remember a fabulous outing for all the family.

Free parking and Bark and Ride shuttle service which runs throughout the day. Tickets can be purchased at the Early Bird price of £30 for adults, £15 for young people aged 13-21, children aged 12 and under and dogs go free.

[goodwood.com/goodwoof](http://goodwood.com/goodwoof)



**LOGS** Seasoned Firewood  
Cut and split to your requirements

**LAWN MOWING  
HEDGE CUTTING  
GARDEN CLEARANCE**

*Personal service from a local family business*

**KEITH GOACHER**  
**01243 811746**  
**07976 740748**

  
Singleton Playschool

We are a small playschool in a beautiful rural location with access to Levin Down.

Open 8.30am – 3pm  
Term Time Only  
[www.singleton-playschool.co.uk](http://www.singleton-playschool.co.uk)  
[contact@singleton-playschool.co.uk](mailto:contact@singleton-playschool.co.uk)  
07519 913406

  
JANE WALKER  
FORGE  
FLOWERS

- Flowers for all special occasions
- Wedding and event floristry specialist
- Large selection of fresh flowers always available
- Order service available
- Local, national and international delivery service
- Christmas Wreath Workshops

 [janewalkerforgeflowers.co.uk](http://janewalkerforgeflowers.co.uk)  
 [forgeflowers@gmail.com](mailto:forgeflowers@gmail.com)  
 01243 788484  
 Stane Street, Halmaker, Chichester, PO18 0NQ

  
LLOLLOPOP  
A TREAT TO PRINT  
PRINTING, DESIGN & SIGNAGE

**Business Stationery** - Letterheads and Business Cards  
**Promotional Displays** - Banners and Site Signage  
**Marketing Products** - Leaflets and Brochures  
**Transactional Items** - Books and Pads



5 Phoenix Business Centre, Spur Road, Quarry Lane, Chichester PO19 8PN  
01243 78 22 99 [chichester@lollipopprint.co.uk](mailto:chichester@lollipopprint.co.uk) [www.lollipopprint.co.uk](http://www.lollipopprint.co.uk)

## CHICHESTER NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

**Wednesday 5th February**

Illustrated Talk by Chris Corrigan, CEO of the Sussex Wildlife Trust, on 'Work, Aims, and Ambitions of the Sussex Wildlife Trust' to the Chichester Natural History Society at The Pallant Suite, Masonic Hall, South Pallant, Chichester, PO19 1SY at 7.30pm. Entrance members free/visitors £3: 01243 786079: wheelchair access

## RSPB ZOOM MEETING

**Thursday 27th February, 7pm**

Tom Mabbett from Naturetrek on 'Europe's Best Birding'. The talks are free to all RSPB Chichester Local Group members and £4 each to non-members. Places are limited, so please book your place in advance by email: chichesterbirds@gmail.com, 07402 375257

## THE MULBERRIES

**Saturday 8th February**

The Mulberries present Louise and The Street Party Soul Strut Band 60's - 90's tribute band at Pagham Village Hall, Pagham Road, Pagham PO21 4NJ at 7.30pm. Tickets in advance £9 on 07833 971620 or 01243 262833: Bring your own food and drink: Wheelchair access: Proceeds to local charities

**Maria Wildman**

**01243 262833**

**thewildthings2@outlook.com**

## LAVANT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

12th February: an **illustrated talk by Matthew Biggs of Radio 4 Gardeners' Question Time**. This talk, to be held in Boxgrove Village Hall at 2.30pm, will be followed by Afternoon Tea. This is restricted to members and their guests and will include a raffle in aid of The Sussex Snowdrop Trust.

12th March: **Pamela Holt will talk about Hardy Annuals**. This meeting will revert to our summer meeting time of 7.30pm at Lavant Memorial Hall. Included that evening will be the Spring Flower Competition. Guest welcome at £3.

**After a two-year break Farm Diary is back. Since we last wrote our circumstances have changed considerably. We are still farming at East Dean with our 240-cow organic dairy herd and flock of sheep. However, father and son team John and Harry are now also managing the Home Farm at Goodwood which has been an interesting and challenging journey over the last two years but has also provided Harry with a wonderful opportunity to hone his farm management skills. This diary will now cover both farms.**

Home Farm, Goodwood, consists of around 3500 acres stretching from Westhampnett in the South to Charlton and Singleton in the North. The farm has been organic for many years and supports several livestock enterprises, all using native breeds as well cereal crops using traditional varieties. The hub of Home Farm with the 220 Dairy Shorthorn cows and farm shop is between The Goodwood hotel and Boxgrove. Much of the farm consists of downland pasture where Sussex beef cattle and Southdown sheep graze.

There is also a herd of outdoor Saddleback pigs which rotate around fields on the lower ground. Most of the meat from these enterprises finds its way into the various restaurants and cafes on the Goodwood Estate or sold through the Goodwood Organic Farm Shop. Milk is pasteurised at Home Farm, bottled and delivered round the estate and to numerous local outlets or used to make delicious artisan cheeses. Spring barley is grown successfully at Home Farm which is used to supplement the diets of the milking cows and fattening beef cattle and to provide malt for Goodwood's very popular and locally produced beers. Heritage wheat is now grown on contract which will be used to provide flour to make nutritious organic bread.

Here at East Dean, we are focussing on the winter routine work of milking and feeding the dairy herd and raising the youngstock. All our cattle are housed during the winter months which makes our work a little easier. The sheep of course are outside grazing what grass there is left before moving on to clear up the cover crops ahead of the start of the spring planting season. The rams (tups) have been with the ewes since Bonfire night and will be removed early in January. This month the ewes will be scanned to check they are pregnant, mark the few that are not pregnant to sell and indicate how many lambs each ewe is carrying. This will help us to manage their feed accordingly. Lambing will then start in early April.

While it has been yet another very wet start to the winter it's great that the flooding hasn't reached the village by the New Year and fingers crossed our newly repaired sewer system won't leak when the springs do eventually burst through the ground.

We have lots more news on both farms to share as the year progresses.

Have a good one!



## SUMMERSDALE PHARMACY NEWS

We understand that The Summersdale Pharmacy in Lavant Road has been taken over by a new group of multiple pharmacy operators Mohammed Amiralli and Kardo Ali and we wish them every success. **DM**

**01243 380185 - summersdalepharmacy.co.uk**

*Opening Hours: Monday -Friday: 9am to 1pm & 2pm - 6pm*



# The Valley Parish

[www.facebook.com/ValleyParish](http://www.facebook.com/ValleyParish)

Find out more about our services and events at the A church near  
you website



**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
February**

**11am at West Dean**

Join us for bible stories,  
songs and games.

(oh and of course cakes and biscuits)

## Services and Events

2 <sup>nd</sup> February Candlemas	10am	Holy Communion With Choir East Dean
9 <sup>th</sup> February	10am	Holy Communion Singleton
16 <sup>th</sup> February	10am	Holy Communion West Dean
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	10am	Holy Communion West Dean
	11am	Children's Church West Dean

## Parish (Church) Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll for the Valley Parish is being revised this year, and anyone wishing to be on the new roll has to complete a new form. The electoral roll allows you to attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, vote for PCC members and stand for the PCC. However, it is also a way of showing your support for the Parish, and being a part of the community of faith here in the Valley. If anyone would like to be included, forms can be found in all three of our churches, or can be obtained from The Revd Sarah Manouch.

## Contacts

### Parish Priest

**Rev Sarah Manouch**

priestvalleyparish@gmail.com / 07468 854864  
(Principal working days are Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Not available on Thursday)

### Churchwarden

**Wendy Goacher** - 07974 689907

wendygoacher@yahoo.com

**Sarah John** - 07769 887546

sarance@btinternet.com

### PCC Secretary

**Susie Holmes**

pccsecretaryvalleyparish@gmail.com

## Westbourne Deanery

### Celebration of Faith

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February  
5pm @ St John's Southbourne**

Join congregations from across Westbourne Deanery as we welcome Bishop Ruth to celebrate the history and faith life of our communities.

# The Diary

Here's a quick overview of what's actually going on, in and around the villages of the Lavant Valley in the coming months. Do please let us know if we've missed anything and we'll add it next time for the benefit of all.

[www.thevalleydiary.org](http://www.thevalleydiary.org)

## February 2025

**Tue 11th** Ladies Night: The Star & Garter: East Dean: 7pm  
**Wed 12th** Pub Quiz: The Fox Goes Free at Charlton  
**Sat 15th** Fox Clay Shoot: The Fox Goes Free at Charlton  
**Mon 17th - Fri 21st** School Half-Term  
**Thu 20th** WI: Jeremy Rigby: Historic Dockyard Harbourmaster: Singleton Village Hall: 7pm  
**Sun 23rd** Charity Pub Quiz Night: The Star & Garter  
**Mon 24th** The Valley Diary Copy Deadline: 12noon

## March 2025

**Thu 6th** VGC Horticultural Quiz: 6pm: East Dean Village Hall  
**Mon 10th** Singleton Community cafe: Fight Against Fraud Talk: 10.30am  
**Wed 12th** West Dean Parish Council Meeting: West Dean College: 7.30pm  
**Mon 17th** Singleton & Charlton Parish Council Meeting: Singleton V/Hall: 7pm  
**Thu 20th** WI: Annual Meeting & Chris Williams on Edward James' Mexican Home: East Dean Village Hall: 7pm  
**Sat 22nd** Fox Clay Shoot: The Fox Goes Free at Charlton  
**Sat 29th** VGC Spring Show: 2.30pm: Singleton Village Hall

## April 2025

**Mon 7th - Mon 21st** Singleton School Holidays

**Mon 7th - Tue 22nd** West Dean School Holidays  
**Mon 28th** VGC Bacon Bap Morning: 10.30am: East Dean Village Hall  
**Mon 28th** East Dean Parish Council Meeting: 7.30pm: AGM at 7pm: East Dean Village Hall

## May 2025

**Sat 3rd - Mon 5th** VE Day 80th Anniversary: Flower Show and Local History Display: West Dean Church: 10am - 5pm  
**Sat 17th & Sun 18th** Goodwoof!  
**Mon 19th** Singleton & Charlton Parish Council Annual Meeting: Singleton Village Hall: 7pm  
**Mon 26th - Fri 30th** School Half-Term

## July 2025

**Fri 18th** End of School Term  
**Mon 21st** Singleton & Charlton Parish Council Meeting: Singleton Village Hall: 7pm

## August 2025

**Sat 9th** VGC Annual Show: 2.30pm: East Dean Village Hall

## September 2025

**Mon 15th** Singleton & Charlton Parish Council Meeting: Singleton Village Hall: 7pm

**Got something to add to the Diary?**

**Please let us know...**

*Lots more dates and events can be found in the Diary Online at...*

[thevalleydiary.org/diary](http://thevalleydiary.org/diary)

Deadline for the...

## March 2025 Edition

All information for to arrive by **12.00hrs (noon)** please on...

**Monday 24th February**  
[editor@valleydiary.org](mailto:editor@valleydiary.org)

*Submissions, news, reviews, event information, photos and anything you have to share with your community should arrive **as soon as possible**.*

## The Team

**Ted Salmon, Editor & Accounts**

[editor@valleydiary.org](mailto:editor@valleydiary.org), 07903 017910

**David Mather, Advertising**

[davidmather0@gmail.com](mailto:davidmather0@gmail.com), 01243 774385,  
07973 820877

**Chris Kelly, Distribution**

[chriskelly7043@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chriskelly7043@yahoo.co.uk), 01243 811833

## The Distribution Team

**East Dean:** Tim Weeks, Wendy Heather

**Charlton:** Penny Buchan, Valerie Tapley

**Singleton:** Penny Spence, Jane Penny, Judy

Fathers, Gay Godfrey, Vicky Gillespie

**West Dean:** Tony Boxall, Sandra

Muggeridge, Micky Johns, Carol Corbett

**Binderton:** Barbara Boxall

**Goodwood:** Tony Boxall

**Lavant:** Sheila Sims

**Chichester:** Penny Buchan

**The legal bit:** We (The Valley Diary Team) make every effort to ensure the accuracy of entries & adverts in The Valley Diary (TVD). Content is based on the latest info at the time of printing. This may change. Every effort will be made to circulate info as soon as possible in subsequent editions. This edition will not be reprinted and re-circulated if any details change during its period of validity. In no circumstances can TVD accept any liability for loss and damage which may arise or result from any error in or omission of any entry or advert whether relating to wording space, position, artwork, or telephone number. TVD is not an agent for any Business or individual within its pages and is unable to vouch for advertising claims, professional qualifications, trade certifications, membership of trade association or content of web sites whose addresses may be shown in individual entries or adverts published anywhere within its pages. TVD advises readers to satisfy themselves as to the type of goods or services offered or qualifications held by the businesses or individuals appearing in its pages. In short, we're grateful to advertisers for providing funds to keep The Valley Diary going but cannot be held liable in any way by readers if advertisers don't live up to their claims and we won't get involved in any dispute between advertisers in TVD and their customers. Lastly, we don't publish anonymous submissions and contributor articles remain exclusively the views of the author. They are not endorsed by, and don't necessarily reflect the views of, the volunteer editorial team at The Valley Diary.

**J W SMITH**  
**CHIMNEY &**  
**LOG BURNER SWEEP**  
CHIMNEY SWEEPS (Power Sweep & Vacuum System)  
CAMERA SYSTEM USED | BIRD NEST REMOVAL  
STOVE MAINTENANCE FULLY INSURED AND CERTIFICATED  
CALL NOW **07769 211143** **NCSSA**  
[www.jwsmithchimneysweep.co.uk](http://www.jwsmithchimneysweep.co.uk)



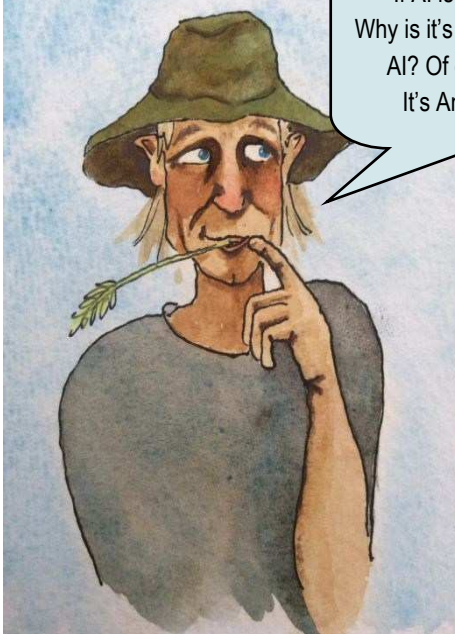
# Useful Telephone Numbers

CDC Councillor, Henry Potter	07792 857973
East Dean Football Club	07944 036709
East Dean PC Clerk	07712 647511
East Dean Village Hall	07785 740625
Goodwood Security	07909 876823
Lavant Road Doctors Surgery	01243 527264
Lavant Road Pharmacy	01243 380185
Local Police	101
Singleton Fete	01243 818037
Singleton Parish Clerk	07702 240126
Singleton School	01243 811679
Singleton Tearooms	01243 811899
Singleton Village Hall	TBA
Weald & Downland Museum: Office	01243 811363
Weald & Downland Museum: Shop	01243 811020
West Dean College	01243 818300
West Dean Fete	01243 811247
West Dean Gardens	01243 818318
West Dean PC Clark	07596 884847
West Dean School	01243 811247
West Dean Stores	01243 818222

# Lineage Ads.

**FOOTPATH WARDEN** Clive Jackson, 07740 308125  
**HOME FOOT CARE** 01243 811442.  
**DOG GROOMING - SMART DOGS** Lesley Pollard 811805  
**PILATES CLASSES** Jo, 07917 177404  
**FERNS RESTORATIVE YOGA** 818058  
**STANDBY NANNY** Josie, 07747 867652  
**PAINTER AND DECORATOR** Arthur, 07936 082626  
**YOGA WITH CARA** 07787 512283  
**YOGA WITH JACQUI** 01243 535223, 07854 441010  
**YOGA WITH KATIE** Tel. Tel 07918 757758  
**REGISTERED NURSE** Dawn, 07876 796034  
**PAINTER** Shaf 07706 105526  
**PLUMBER** Peter 07825 268317  
**DOG GROOMING** Leandra 07944 788727  
**BUILDER** James 07788 532135  
**TAXI** 778499  
**REGIONAL GARDEN TIDYING** Please call 08000 468137  
**MOBILE CAR WASHING SERVICE** Stuart, 07568 377302, stuarteburn@icloud.com  
**SEAMSTRESS** Sewing and alterations. Casual, bridal, prom, suiting & curtains 07391 184605  
**IRONING SERVICE** 531138 or 07773 009241  
**FETCH DOG WALKING** Canine specialist dog Walker, Helen Ferrell, 07765 577290

## Albert says...



If AI is really that good,  
 Why is it's grammar so wrong?  
 AI? Of course it's not AI!  
 It's An !! All day long.

## Register of Local...



**Trundlers** Charlton - ask another Helen 01243 811686  
**Hunters Lodge**, Lavant - or indeed another Helen!  
 01243 532415 - 07788 663712  
 B&B - Ring **Sophie** on 01243 811465  
**Harper's Cottage**, East Lavant. Ring Caroline 01243 278659  
**Flint Cottage**, 47 Mid Lavant, Lavant Road, PO18 0AA: Sue Kemble 01243 785883 / 07814903541  
**The Shepherds Barn**, Chilgrove: Lucy 07775 934999  
[www.shepherdsbarnsussex.co.uk](http://www.shepherdsbarnsussex.co.uk)  
**The Blue Bell**, Cocking: 01730 239669  
**The Nest**, Singleton: Self-Contained Accommodation: Julie 07887 943523  
**Barnfield**, Heyshot, Tessa: 07789 888004



THE  
**STAR & GARTER**  
 COUNTRY INN WITH ROOMS  
 EAST DEAN

The Star & Garter is a gorgeous country inn, which nestles in the South Downs National Park, at the heart of the Goodwood Estate.

FOR TABLE BOOKINGS AND ROOM RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

**01243 811318**

INFO@THESTARANDGARTER.CO.UK  
 WWW.THESTARANDGARTER.CO.UK

f t i #followthestar



## Quiz Night the Most Successful - So Far!

**The Star and Garter quiz on Sunday 19th January was busier than any so far this season. In December we had to bring extra chairs in from the patio, this time we needed an extra table!**

Which made it quite snug as the six rounds rolled out: two delivered by co-quizmaster Sarah Mayhead with guest rounds from Ollie Peirson and Kat Jarman, as well as the quiz night staples of current affairs and general knowledge. Sarah had devised one round in which all the answers began with the letter Z and another which consisted of the plots of films and operas, as summarised by ChatGPT. Bang up to date with the latest technology and not something we've ever done before. Kat's was a series of questions about significant events in British military and Rugby history, the answers to the first nine questions leading the date 8/5/1945 - VE Day! Ollie did a music round but with a twist: instead of the usual "Name that tune" format he played part of a well known song but then challenged everyone to say who the song was written about - for instance "Hey Jude" was written by Paul McCartney for John Lennon's infant son Julian.

Halfway through we had a break for supper, consisting of Chef Jake Rapley's butternut squash, coconut and apple soup with chunks of Jim MacDonald's home baked bread. By the way you don't have to wait for a quiz night to enjoy those things; the soup is one of the most popular starters on the Winter Menu and Jim bakes fresh bread most mornings, available to buy from the pub although pre-ordering is advised to avoid disappointment.

The actual result was a very close thing: The Hygiene Bankers came third with 68 points, We Don't Know turned out to know slightly more than that on 69 points with Mya's Mates just pipping them to top place with 70½ points. However it was Chichester Hygiene Bank itself that really won: thanks to the raffle, the generosity of Jim and Julie, and the generosity of the winning team who donated the value of their prize (a food voucher for £60.00) to the fund we were able to send them off with a total of £717.50, which is truly astonishing for a little country pub on a cold night in January of all months - I had expected a bit of a post Christmas dip; East Dean proved me wrong, and I'm very pleased it did! The Hygiene Bank have a role similar to the Foodbank, supplying things like nappies and sanitary products to people who really need them, and also things like toothpaste and soap, things we generally think are just there in the bathroom - until they're not.

The next quiz will be on **Sunday 23rd February** to avoid clashing with Valentine's Weekend and it will be in support of St Wilfrid's Hospice. The Hospice always need support, they are not funded as part of the Health Service. Now they need it more than ever, since they have been hit by the recent increase in employer's National Insurance contributions but don't benefit from the exemption that hospitals have from it. This is not the place to make political points, but if the Government are keen to support care providers this does seem a funny way to go about it! **Tim Weeks**

### New Year's Eve. What a Boar.

#### A Poem by Francis

A Scottish farmer sold his pigs,  
So that he just might,  
Be able to afford to go out,  
And enjoy new year's night.  
But someone stole that money,  
Completely spoiling his day.  
Because that meant for him,  
There was no Hogmoney.



*KLE*  
*Decorators Ltd*  
*Finest Quality Decorating*  
All Areas of Painting & Decorating  
Undertaken.  
Finished to the Highest of Standards.

*Kyle Edwards*  
[kledecorators@gmail.com](mailto:kledecorators@gmail.com)  
**07880 317071**

### Lavant Friendly Club

Wednesday 5th February  
2-4pm, 50p  
**Country Ken with Bingo and  
Traditional Country Western  
Entertainment**  
Lavant Hall (Minibus meets Service  
Bus at Yarbrook)

### Chichester Country Music Club

Friday 14th February  
7.30pm, £10, Bar  
**Mickey Page Concert**  
Lavant Hall

Saturday 22nd February  
**Longshot Duo Singers**  
£10, No Bar

### Lavant Short Mat Bowls Club

Thursday Evenings and some  
Sundays  
**Roll Up**  
September to April  
7pm, £3

[tonybleach@talktalk.net](mailto:tonybleach@talktalk.net)  
**01243 527439**

**Peter Roberts** CTA ATT  
Chartered Tax Adviser  
*Formerly a Tax Adviser for a local  
leading firm of Chartered Accountants for  
many years, now a sole practitioner providing:*

- Personal self-assessment tax return completion
- Personal tax reviews
- General personal tax compliance
- Quick, efficient and personal service including home visits at no extra cost

Telephone: 01243 773580  
Mobile: 07939 819364  
Email: [prpersonaltax@btinternet.com](mailto:prpersonaltax@btinternet.com)  
Website: [www.prpersonaltax.co.uk](http://www.prpersonaltax.co.uk)

*Reynolds*  
Our family caring for yours

**Funeral Service • Memorial Masons**

For more information please contact  
James or Stephen Reynolds:

43 Spitalfield Lane  
Chichester PO19 6SG  
Tel: 01243 773311

27 - 31 High Street  
Bognor Regis PO21 1RR  
Tel: 01243 864745

[www.reynoldsfunerals.co.uk](http://www.reynoldsfunerals.co.uk)



**The ladies of the Singleton and East Dean WI met for the first meeting of the year in Singleton Village Hall on Thursday 16th January. It was wonderful to see so many people back after Christmas (a very distant memory now) but everyone was on top form.**

**WI Report**

We had an incredibly insightful talk by Maggie Jones from The Chichester and Arun Hygiene Bank. Last year the ladies of the WI voted on resolutions and the campaign selected was Dental Health Matters; meaning everyone in the UK should have access to an NHS dentist. Maggie gently explained that some families don't even have access to a toothbrush, or have to share, let alone a dentist. Maggie and her team run a brilliant charity collecting hygiene and cleaning products to distribute to people who may be struggling to get even the very basics. The goods are distributed via food banks, family hubs and other centres, living the vision which is 'tackling hygiene poverty because basic hygiene is not a privilege'. (To hijack the report for a moment the biggest shout out to Jim, Julie and Tim Weeks who very much supported the Hygiene Bank via the pub quiz at the Star and Garter last weekend to raise over £700 for the charity as well - so utterly worthwhile!) Please do check in with their social media page for more information (you can find them on Facebook @ The Hygiene Bank Chichester and Arun).

We also had to vote on the resolution we wished to put forwards for this year's campaign. We voted for Bystanders can be lifesavers, which includes highlighting the need for more support and training aids for people to use community defibrillators.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 20th February 7pm**, in Singleton, where Jeremy Rigby will come and talk to us about Portsmouth Naval Base. A few of us were lucky enough to visit Whale Island a few years ago so it will be great to have some insight on how the rest of the base runs. Do come along and say hello if you would like. We will be delighted to see you there. **Zoe Mann**

**Little Antlers - Join us for hands-on fun with Wild Wednesdays, and Story Time sessions for pre-schoolers at Petworth House**

**Wild Wednesdays**

Roll up your sleeves for our crafts and activities. These activities include make and take crafts, and occasionally take place outdoors, so come prepared! 10.30am - 11.30am on the following dates: 5th February, 5th March, 2nd April, 7th May and 4th June.

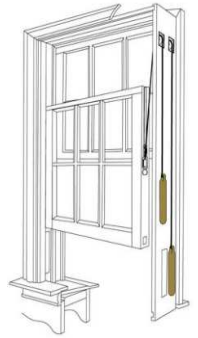
**Story Time**

A special story time at Petworth Park, specifically for toddlers aged 2 to 4 and their caregivers. Learn new stories or enjoy some classics, and afterwards take part in a 'make and take' crafting activity based on the book. 10.30am - 11.30am on the following dates: 7th February, 7th March, 4th April, 9th May and 6th June.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Sessions free but normal admission applies. [nationaltrust.org.uk/petworth](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/petworth)

**TRADITIONAL  
TIMBER  
WINDOWS**

**Bespoke,  
hand crafted  
windows  
made here in  
the Valley**



**07973 399487  
07881 940057**

[valleytraditionalwindows@gmail.com](mailto:valleytraditionalwindows@gmail.com)

**MOBILE  
POST OFFICE**

**THE SELSEY ARMS at  
WEST DEAN**

**MONDAYS: 12.30pm to 2pm  
THURSDAYS: 12.30pm to 2pm**

**THE PARTRIDGE INN at  
SINGLETON**

**MONDAYS 2pm to 3.15pm**

*Mobile Postmaster, Operating from  
Grayshot, 01428 604401 - 07484 526779*



**DYSON KING**

**ARCHITECTURAL  
IRONMONGERS**

*25 Years Supplying Fittings  
for Doors, Windows, Gates,  
Locks & Safes.*

*Service to Architects, Builders  
& The General Public*

**01243 776739  
www.dysonking.com**

**GOSS MINI SKIPS LTD**  
**skiphire@live.co.uk**

**Skips delivered and collected on small lorries to access most properties. Friendly and reliable local drivers.**

**If you require help or advice on you waste needs or requirements call Godfrey on the number's below he will be happy to help.**

**Local family run waste transfer station, based in Duncton.  
Mini & Midi skips available, prices on request.**

**Call us – tel 01730 817750 – mob 07979 820932**

**THE BOOK SHED**  
*Singleton Village Hall*

Now Open...

**Tuesdays and Thursdays  
10am to 4pm**

Access is through the side gate and is the first shed on the right.

The books are free for you to keep or return.

If you have any books you wish to donate please place them on the shelves.

## HALF TERM HISTORY AND ADVENTURE

The Weald & Downland Living Museum has announced an action-packed line-up of February half term activities, filled with fun, exploration and hands-on historical experiences. From Saturday 15th to Sunday 23rd February 2025, families are invited to explore the theme of *Houses & Homes* as they discover the ways of life from centuries past. A wide variety of activities are planned...



### Houses & Homes Trail

Both adults and children will enjoy an adventure of discovery at every turn as they explore the Museum's historic houses, can you unlock the clues along the way?

### I Spy in the Gridshell (Monday 17 February - Friday 21 February)

Visitors can don their detective caps and search for fascinating domestic artefacts in the architecturally beautiful Gridshell Collections Store.

### Folklore Storytelling with Dawn Nelson (Monday 17 February and Friday 21 February)

It may be cold outside, but visitors can get cosy by the fire in Walderton House and experience the enchantment of folklore as Dawn Nelson re-tells spellbinding tales of magic and myth.

### Hands-on Activities

**Rag Rugging and Candle Making**  
**Victorian School Lesson**  
**Wattle and Daub Building**  
**Nature Bags**

In addition to the planned half term activities, visitors can enjoy scenic woodland trails, a children's play area and a chance to meet the Museum's working animals, including heavy horses, sheep and ducks.

Breakfast, brunch or lunch is also served at the delightful waterside café, or refreshments can be enjoyed from the seasonal Shepherd's Huts located across the site. With plenty of picnic spots to choose from, families are also welcome to bring their own food.

Visit the website to find out more and book online to save 20% on entry. [wealddown.co.uk](http://wealddown.co.uk)



Specialists in Flintwork for over 20 years

Stonework-Brickwork-Roofing-Hard Landscaping

Maintaining the very best tradition in Sussex

[www.berry-middleton.co.uk](http://www.berry-middleton.co.uk) Tel: 07771 512012

Email: [mark@berry-middleton.co.uk](mailto:mark@berry-middleton.co.uk)

Chichester Festival Theatre, Rose Theatre and ETT announce a UK premiere

## Beverley Knight in MARIE AND ROSETTA

by George Brant, directed by Monique Touko

**25th June - 26th July**

**Minerva Theatre, Chichester**  
[cft.org.uk](http://cft.org.uk)



## Wine Tasting and Trivia Evening with Hennings Wine at Arundel Town Hall

Friday 14th March 2025  
 at 7pm

*Gather a team of friends, put your tastebuds together and join us a night of vinous fun! Tickets are for two people – £55 per couple. To book your tickets visit [thesussexsnowdroptrust.com](http://thesussexsnowdroptrust.com)*



## L. WEST & SON

CARPENTRY & JOINERY SPECIALISTS



We deal with all aspects of carpentry & joinery, including bespoke windows, doors, staircases, cabinets & more. Please get in touch to discuss your requirements.

*New Barn, Newhouse Lane, East Dean, Nr. Chichester, PO18 0NJ*

Tel: 01243 811354 E-mail: [sales@lwestandson.co.uk](mailto:sales@lwestandson.co.uk)

Website: [www.lwestandson.co.uk](http://www.lwestandson.co.uk)

Provided by



Chichester city centre 9am - 2pm  
 1st & 3rd Friday of every month



[www.chichester.gov.uk/farmersmarket](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/farmersmarket)



# Speed Awareness - A 50mph Motorway?

**So here's what happened: I was driving along the M62 into Liverpool, paying close attention to the SatNav since I'd not been there before and needed to know which exit to take. I was doing 60. Not 80 or 90 or proper caning it, just 60. On a motorway. Whoever heard of a motorway with a 50mph speed limit? Well I certainly hadn't until I got home five days later and the letter from the Merseyside Police was already waiting for me to tell me that they've got one and I'd been caught on it! 50! That's not a motorway, that's a cart track! Still, if you're thinking of re-locating, I suggest moving to Liverpool. There's clearly no real crime there, since the Scouse Rozzers have nothing better to do than persecute honest law abiding motorists.**

And that is what I pointed out to the co-ordinators of the Speed Awareness Course I attended at Avisford Park Hotel. Now they could have said that it was clearly a mistake, a vile travesty of justice, given me my money back and twenty quid out of the petty cash for inconveniencing me. They could have, but they didn't. Instead myself and about 20 other miscreants were re-educated about the reasons for speed limits and common dangers to look out for on the roads and some of it was really quite interesting and not stuff I already knew. For instance; if you go at 80 instead of 70 for 10 miles, you actually arrive at your destination only one minute sooner! I used that as a question in last Sunday's quiz and one clever Herbert pointed out it's actually 64 seconds but whatever; although you feel that you're getting there much quicker you really aren't, or not by enough to make much difference. Another fact to make you think: the extra

stopping distance of a vehicle going at 31 rather than 30mph is eight yards - quite enough to hit the back of a stationary car (or a child) rather than stopping just short of it. And no, they don't give you any leeway these days, perhaps actual policemen used to do that but cameras have no such "oh well, near enough" function built into their programme, which is why there will be a special furnace in Hell for the man who invented them.

Other points that nearly everyone got wrong: apparently a road is only classified as a dual carriageway (70mph) if it has a central reservation - merely having two lanes in each direction doesn't count, it's still only 60! Who knew? And the variable speed limit signs that light up on gantries over motorways are compulsory. I'd sort of assumed they were advisory, a bit like yellow lines and 'use by' dates on tins, but apparently not. Oh and so are the red crosses over lanes, they mean you're not allowed to drive in that lane, not it might be a bit tight in a while so mind how you go. One sign none of us could ever recall seeing was 30 on a square blue background. That's a minimum speed limit, and there are some out there. No, me neither. **Tim Weeks**



**Throughout December, Sussex Police took part in Operation Limit - the annual campaign that aims to reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries caused by people driving under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.**

Officers carried out increased patrols and set up random stop check sites along busy driving routes. More than 8,500 motorists were stopped and checked. Last year's campaign totalled around 6,000 checks so Sussex Police have been even more proactive. There were 270 arrests on Sussex roads and the majority of these were for drug-driving - more than 60 arrests were made following collisions.

**Katie Bourne  
Sussex Police & Crime  
Commissioner**

**THE MILK HUT**  
IDES BARN  
ORGANIC DAIRY



The Milk Hut offers fresh organic milk from our on-farm vending machine. Our milk is gently pasteurised and available in reusable glass bottles. Come and visit us and enjoy fresh organic milk and milkshakes, open 7am - 7pm every day. We look forward to seeing you. Ides Barn, Droke Farm, East Dean

## A.S.M. Carpentry & Joinery Ltd

Over 35 years of experience in all aspects of carpentry  
Professional, Qualified, Insured

**Local and Reliable  
Carpentry Company**

andrew@asm-carpentry.com

**Phone: 01243 278659  
Mobile: 07789 748368**



**Dismantling & Felling  
Crown Thinning & Reducing  
Removal of Deadwood  
Pruning  
Hedge Cutting  
Stump Grinding**

*Full public liability - Certified Arborist  
Free Estimates and Advice*



brushwoodtreeservices@gmail.com  
**07763 844422**

## LASER LIGHT SHOW

Just a quick **Stop Press!** addendum to the information on page 7 about the Laser Light Show at Petworth, to say that the Chichester District Council website says that the Light Show will also be coming to the **Chichester Canal Basin on Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd February** between **6pm and 7.30pm** on both nights. They report that the Friday will be a **Disney** show and Saturday, **Movie Blockbusters**.  
Source: [tinyurl.com/23kezwx5](http://tinyurl.com/23kezwx5)

## INSIDE THE WILDLIFE HOSPITAL

We are seeing a variety of different patients coming through our doors at Brent Lodge Wildlife Hospital this February, including coots, swans, owls, foxes and hedgehogs.



Our new gull enclosure is well-underway and being built by our brilliant site maintenance team and plans are being discussed for a possible future deer paddock too in the old gull enclosure site. All site and enclosure developments are only made possible by generous donations from the public and helps us to keep improving our site and caring for more wildlife casualties. Thank you very much from the team and the animals for your support, we are so grateful!

Please keep an eye out on our website ([www.brentlodge.org](http://www.brentlodge.org)) and social media channels for upcoming events we are participating in, including gift stalls and craft activity workshops. Our school and community group calendar for both adults and children is filling up nicely with lots of assemblies, class workshops and talks, but there's still plenty of room if you'd like to enquire about a visit to your setting! Please email [alex.foster@brentlodge.org](mailto:alex.foster@brentlodge.org) and we'd be delighted to help.

**[www.brentlodge.org](http://www.brentlodge.org)**  
**01243 641672**

### A bonus Albert's says...

Get me a dog book from the book shed. I need to read up on spaniels. People here don't read books like that They are nearly all murder manuals.

## Top tips for buying a country home in 2025...

As we kick off 2025, there is more stock to choose from compared to six months ago, but good quality village houses in West Sussex, Hampshire and the Surrey borders are still incredibly scarce.

Owners who might consider downsizing are doing the sums and with stamp duty so high, many are making the decision to stay put, so when one does come up for sale – on or off market – buyer competition is strong and professional representation is essential.

These are the key considerations for buyers making their move this year.

### Prioritise location

The area you choose will have a lasting impact on the quality of life and the resale value of your home. Consider factors like traffic patterns, proximity to schools, shops, and public transport, and potential nuisances like farms or busy roads. Living next to a pig farm could lead to unpleasant odours during summer, while a property on a busy main road may disrupt your peace with constant commuter traffic.

Panic buying in the wrong location often leads to costly mistakes, with buyers needing to sell again within a few years – not something anyone wants to do with buying costs currently so high. Take the time to evaluate the area thoroughly, as hasty decisions can lead to overpaying or settling for a home that doesn't meet your needs...

...for the rest of this article and more tips from **Jennie Hancock** of **[propertyacquisitions.co.uk](http://propertyacquisitions.co.uk)**, head for...

**[tinyurl.com/toptipscountryhome](http://tinyurl.com/toptipscountryhome)**



## ROGER GUNN

### Garden Machinery

Sales & Service Specialist

Showroom & Workshop

Located at Binderton Nr Lavant

Main dealers for many makes

Fast reliable service

Advice & Discounted machines

Part exchange taken

Collection & delivery offered

See website

**[www.rogergunn.co.uk](http://www.rogergunn.co.uk)**

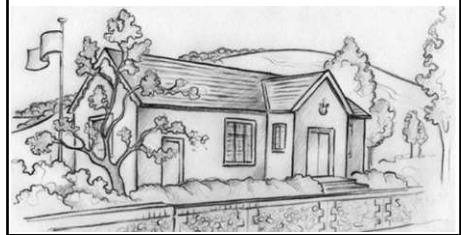
**01243 786003**



## East Dean VILLAGE HALL

**[www.eastdeanhall.co.uk](http://www.eastdeanhall.co.uk)**

*Ideal for celebrations, fitness classes, meetings, parties and wedding receptions. Can accommodate 80 standing/60 seated. Fully equipped professional kitchen, outside grass area with stunning views, car park for up to 15 cars. Disabled access.*



FINESSE  
WOODEN  
FLOORS



SUPPLY / INSTALL / RESTORE

Specialists in installations of new wooden floors and complete renovation, sanding and re-finishing of existing wooden floors.

M: 07939 254998

T: 01243 681066

E: [info@finessewoodenfloors.co.uk](mailto:info@finessewoodenfloors.co.uk)

[www.finessewoodenfloors.co.uk](http://www.finessewoodenfloors.co.uk)

Local, reliable and friendly service.

Free estimates

SIMON PATERSON

*Furniture Restoration*



For confident restoration of antique furniture, clocks boule and marquetry

Phone Simon on:

**01243 811900**







## West Sussex Waste Prevention Community Fund

West Sussex recycles

**Biffa**

The Waste Prevention Community Grant Fund is now open for applications from community-based projects in West Sussex to encourage people to repair and reuse items instead of throwing them away.

The fund is a joint initiative between West Sussex County Council and Biffa to help local groups deliver innovative projects which reduce household waste by encouraging repair, reuse and waste prevention.

Community groups, residents' associations, charities, community interest companies (CICs) and social enterprises in West Sussex with new ideas for relevant initiatives can apply for grants of up to £5,000 for projects that reduce waste at its source by encouraging practices that minimise the production of household waste, support projects that facilitate the reuse or repair of items to extend their lifespan, reduce household food waste in alignment with existing surplus food rescue services and education campaigns and engage the community by empowering residents to take part in waste prevention activities and promote a culture of sustainability.

For full details on the Waste Prevention Community Grant Fund, including criteria, required documents and to apply, please visit [tinyurl.com/2b5yvj3](https://tinyurl.com/2b5yvj3)



## Kingley Vale Lime and Flint

Suppliers of lime, flint and specialist building materials  
[www.kingleyvallimeandflint.co.uk](http://www.kingleyvallimeandflint.co.uk)  
[info@kingleyvallimeandflint.co.uk](mailto:info@kingleyvallimeandflint.co.uk)

01243 767828/07557 515314

### Singleton Cricket Club – Winter Cricket Programme 2025

Midhurst Rother College

Term – £40 per term  
 Every other Thursday 6pm – 8pm  
 Dates: Starting 06/02/2025 – 17/04/2025



Age 11 – 18

For registration, please contact [scricкетclubrebecca@gmail.com](mailto:scricкетclubrebecca@gmail.com)



### Specialists in family law. Helping you find the best way forward.

We are a team of specialist family lawyers and mediators providing you with support tailored to your needs. We assist clients with:

- Divorce and Separation
- Family Mediation
- Financial Issues
- Collaborative Law
- Child Arrangements
- Court Representation

01243 769001 | [info@ecfamilylaw.co.uk](mailto:info@ecfamilylaw.co.uk)  
[www.ecfamilylaw.co.uk](http://www.ecfamilylaw.co.uk)



Chilgrove | Chichester | Petersfield



**LN**  
 LISLE  
 MEDICAL

## Mobile Private GP

- Membership or pay as you go
- Emphasis on face to face care
- All adult and child general practice services
- Appointments usually within 24 hours
- At home or in our clinic
- Full range of investigations, referrals, prescriptions

Tel: 01730 202345

Email: [contact@lislemedical.com](mailto:contact@lislemedical.com)

[www.lislemedical.com](http://www.lislemedical.com)

## Summary of the meeting of West Dean Parish Council held on 8th January 2025 at West Dean College...

Present Cllr Steve Corbett, Cllr John Fleming, Cllr Will de Groot, Cllr Keith Goacher, Cllr Kate Hellyer, Cllr Amy Green, Cllr Ian Graham, Cllr Helen Court. Apologies Cllr Cathy Slade.

In attendance Cllr Jeremy Hunt, West Sussex County Council, Clare Kennett, Clerk to the Parish Council, PCSO Colin Booker, and one member of the public.

**Rural Crime** PCSO Booker was kind enough to attend the meeting to give Council an update, for which many thanks. The Parish of West Dean has been hit particularly hard by rural crime over the last few years, mainly with hare coursing and poaching. He said that raising awareness of the issue and encouraging people to report issues, no matter how small, would help the police enormously. He can be contacted on 07912 895813 or at colin.booker@sussex.police.uk . A full report on his contribution to the meeting can be found on Page XX

**Councillors' Reports** Reports from County Councillor Jeremy Hunt and District Councillor Henry Potter were well received and can be viewed on our website.

**Planning** There are no contentious planning issues at present, apart from the ongoing enforcement complaints at Binderton regarding the renting out of the Pool House as a holiday home.

**VE Day** It was agreed that a commemoration of VE Day, perhaps with beacon, would be organised, and a sum was allocated accordingly in the budget. Further news to follow. The remembrance silhouettes will be installed at the Cemetery once tree and hedge maintenance has been carried out, and before the VE Day 80 commemorations.

**Selsey Arms** Work is ongoing to register the Selsey Arms as an Asset of Community Value

**Website development and email accounts** It was agreed that the Council will prepare a new website in line with local government guidance, and members' email addresses will be changed for better security. Full details will be published when all is up and running.

**Finance** The Parish Council finances are all in good order. The draft budget for the coming financial year was discussed and agreed, with an increase in the precept to help the Council deliver services to the Parish. This entails an increase for a Council Tax Band D property of £8.23 per year or £1.52 per month compared to the previous year.

**Next Meeting** This will take place on Wednesday 12th March, 7.30pm at West Dean College. All members of the public are welcome. westdeanpc@yahoo.com

## Rother Valley Croquet Club Enjoy time outdoors: Try Croquet!

With glorious views across the South Downs, Rother Valley Croquet Club, based in Dunton, is opening its doors for the 2025 season. This friendly, sociable club has members aged 10 to 90+, playing local league competitions, friendlies against neighbouring clubs and social club events - often fuelled by cake!

For those new to the game, golf croquet is a good place to start. A simple concept: hit your ball through a hoop before your opponent and win a point. First to 7 points wins the game. Along the way, introduce as many tactics as you like. You might help your or your partner's ball get into position, move your opponent's ball out of the way or block their path to the hoop - and hope they don't do the same to you before your turn comes around again!

Once that's whetted your appetite, keen players graduate to Association Croquet, aiming to get their ball through every hoop before the other player. Some even manage this in a single turn - just like a 147 break in snooker.

The club is keen to welcome new members and is hosting a **Taster Session Saturday 10th May, 10.30am - 1.30pm**. We'll loan you all the kit you need to play - just bring your flat-soled shoes. There's free parking, tea and coffee. Other dates available by arrangement. Find out more on the website...

**[rothervalleycroquet.co.uk](http://rothervalleycroquet.co.uk)**  
**[rothervalleycroquet@outlook.com](mailto:rothervalleycroquet@outlook.com)**



**What a great place to live, eh! Do feel free to send in your local photos. More super photos here from in and around the South Downs, these by Chris Clayton**



## What's happening at Singleton Village Hall?

Situated in the heart of the Lavant Valley, Singleton Village Hall is a great community asset. Regular bookings include Pilates classes, Community Cafe and WI Meetings. We arrange seasonal events like Christmas Wreath Making and the famous Summer Cream Teas & Ploughman's.

The hall is available to hire for private events: Birthdays, meetings, family gatherings etc. Hire rates are very competitive!

In addition to private hire, the Hall committee are developing a series of 2025 events to interest the whole valley community. Plans in the pipeline include a tabletop sale, (details in next month's copy of The Valley Diary), along with a series of talks and demonstrations. We would also love to exhibit the work of Lavant Valley artists.

If you have any ideas for events to interest and benefit the community, then do get in touch via our email - [events@singletonvillagehall.com](mailto:events@singletonvillagehall.com)

On Facebook you can keep up to date - [facebook.com/SingletonVH](https://facebook.com/SingletonVH) and of course our website has full details of everything hall related - [singletonvillagehall.com](http://singletonvillagehall.com)

If you would like to be notified about future events by email, please subscribe at [singletonvillagehall.com/subscribe-to-emails](http://singletonvillagehall.com/subscribe-to-emails)

We look forward to seeing you at the hall soon!



**Singleton Village Hall**  
Great for all sorts of events  
Holding 50 seated or 70 standing  
Bridge Clubs, Yoga and Fitness  
Social Events, Children's Parties etc.  
Free Parking, WiFi, Chairs & Tables  
Skittle Alley and Fully Equipped Kitchen

Singleton Village Hall could be your Perfect Venue!

[SingletonVillageHall.com](http://SingletonVillageHall.com)  
[bookings@SingletonVillageHall.com](mailto:bookings@SingletonVillageHall.com)



## GARDENING TIPS

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

A very helpful way to learn what thrives and what doesn't in our environment is to have a good nose at our neighbour's gardens. Look out for our next Garden Safari which we hope to hold this year where you can tour around one of our Villages and make notes! And often with a glass of wine in hand!

We will also be holding another Gardeners Question Time at some point in the year. **Miranda**

## JANE RICE

**We are sad to record that Jane Rice died unexpectedly of a stroke on Tuesday 21st January 2025 at St Richard's Hospital.**

She was surrounded by her four children and her suffering was thankfully short-lived.

Lucy, Emma, Edward and Hester would like to thank you for your kind words, cards and letters. She will be much missed by so many.

For details of Jane's funeral please contact: [www.reynoldsfunerals.co.uk](http://www.reynoldsfunerals.co.uk). 01243 864745



**TIM JASPER**  
KITCHENS, HOME OFFICES,  
BOOKCASES AND MORE

Hand crafted in  
Goodwood since 1981



[www.timjasper.co.uk](http://www.timjasper.co.uk) 01243 774411  
[info@timjasper.co.uk](mailto:info@timjasper.co.uk) | The Valdoe,  
Goodwood, Chichester PO18 0PJ

# COMMUNICATION!

## Rural Crime

At the last meeting of West Dean Parish Council on 8th January 2025, PCSO Colin Booker was kind enough to attend and speak about Rural Crime. He works in a specialised and unique area of policing which focuses on rural areas only, dealing with agricultural, environmental, heritage and wildlife crime, as well as tackling issues such as fly tipping.

The Parish of West Dean has been hit particularly hard by rural crime over the last few years, mainly with hare coursing and poaching. This is seasonal and tends to happen between August and February each year. It is often combined with aggressive and abusive behaviour. Hare coursing and deer stalking are commonly to do with the betting industry and sometimes filmed for an online audience.

Many crimes and confrontations happen at night in the dark which are scary as there is no automatic right to protect property. Landowners must be very careful as any threat could result in them losing their firearm licence. If a crime is in progress, just call 999. If a crime has taken place, call 101 or report it at [www.sussex.police.uk](http://www.sussex.police.uk)

**Raise awareness** Encouraging people to report issues, no matter how small, is the best way to help the police. This builds up a picture of crime in the area, and reporting incidents gives residents a reference number which can be used as evidence if issues continue. Local farmers should report first to the police, then post the reference number on the WhatsApp group that has been set up with the rural crime team as a means of sharing information. Apply to PCSO Booker for more information about this.

**Vehicles** There are many uninsured and untaxed vehicles, or those with a police marker, using rural roads without cameras to avoid detection. Five people have been arrested in East Dean recently and, although they received a small fine, they now have a criminal record and will get bigger sentences for any repeat offence. Rural crime has a far-reaching impact, as claiming on insurance means higher premiums and, in the case of storage businesses, people are less likely to use them again. The solution is not just claiming on insurance, which is often the response from the police, but preventing incidents in the first place so that businesses are protected.

**The good news** Communication works both ways. PCSO Booker will be providing details of the most recent rural crime incidents for members to note at future Council meetings so that we are aware of issues and these can be more widely circulated.

**More good news** Just in recent weeks [23rd January] a vehicle was seized in the Chilgrove area. This followed earlier sightings, and a report from East Dean followed by police action within the hour. Local reports and police backup in the right place at the right time. Well done everyone!

**PCSO Booker can be contacted on 07912 895813 or at [colin.booker@sussex.police.uk](mailto:colin.booker@sussex.police.uk)**

**West Dean Parish Council  
clerk@westdeanparishcouncil.gov.uk**

THE  
PERFECT  
FAMILY GIFT

# A BOOK ABOUT YOU



I will turn your unique life story into a beautiful book to share and enjoy with your family and friends.

- Professional biographer
- Friendly, personal service
- Short and long book options

*"Wonderful to have a book about Mum that we can pass on to the grandchildren. The best gift ever."*

Contact Katarina 07982 465351  
[katarina@lifestoryinabook.com](mailto:katarina@lifestoryinabook.com)  
[www.lifestoryinabook.com](http://www.lifestoryinabook.com)



LIFE STORY  IN A BOOK

## RESTORING BALANCE WITH SARA



- Full body balancing
- Chakra balancing
- Relaxation session
- Indian head massage
- Facial rejuvenation massage
- Food testing for intolerances
- Menopause support
- Clearing fears and phobias
- Supporting digestive issues
- Sleep support
- Nutrition support

Hand blended organic body & bath oils  
(perfect Christmas gifts)

For more information please head to my website  
[www.kinesiologylife.co.uk](http://www.kinesiologylife.co.uk)  
or call me on 07887 775502  
I'm based in East Dean





# hancock

Lettings & Estate Agents

## Make yourself at home

Buy, sell or let with an independent estate agent – established since 1991

Lettings 01243 531111  
Sales 01243 531155

office@hancockpartners.co.uk  
Hancock and Partners  
5 Northgate, Chichester PO19 1BA

## THE FOX GOES FREE



### FEBRUARY FOXY FUN

Get ready for our new menu coming on Friday 7th  
Join us for another great quiz on Wednesday 12th  
Fox Clay Shoot is on Saturday 15th

### AMAZING DEAL DAYS!

Tuesday: Fish & Chips with a drink deal £19.95  
Steaks for 2 & drink deal £49.95  
Curry & a drink deal £19.95  
Wanting something a bit lighter? How about our Tapas deal: 1 for £4.95 or 3 for £12.95

*Don't forget you can now book a table online via our website & also see what else we have going on.*

**www.thefoxgoesfree.com**  
**01243 811461**

## MacDonald Oates **LLP** SOLICITORS



Residential Property  
Family Law  
Mediation Services  
Wills, Probate & Trusts  
Litigation & Dispute Resolution  
Employment Law  
Company & Commercial  
Commercial Property

### Leading Client Service

#### Petersfield Office

Tel: 01730 268211 | Fax: 01730 261232

#### Midhurst Office

Tel: 01730 816711 | Fax: 01730 816016



**www.macdonaldoates.co.uk**

## L. West & Son

### Plumbing & Heating



BATHROOMS,  
KITCHENS,  
CENTRAL HEATING,  
BOILER REPLACEMENT (GAS/OIL),  
UNDERFLOOR HEATING,  
LEADWORK,  
BOILER SERVICES,  
MAINTENANCE



New Barn, Newhouse Lane, East Dean,  
Chichester, W. Sussex PO18 0NJ

Tel: 01243 811354 or

Email: sales@lwestandson.co.uk



# Tod Anstee

Property Consultants

## 01243 523723

The Old Coach House, 14 West Pallant,  
Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1TB

chichester@todanstee.com

todanstee.com



## Connecting People and Property since 2009

With a wealth of local knowledge, dedicated team,  
and strong connections across West Sussex,  
contact Tod Anstee for exceptional property advice.

Residential and Commercial Sales

Lettings & Property Management | Rural Estate Management

Country Houses | Land and New Homes



# Valley Gardening Club

Hello everyone. I wonder how many of you took part in the 'Big Garden Birdwatch'? I note Starling numbers are still down and tragically the beloved Song Thrush, the herald of the arrival of spring, are 85% down! This breaks my heart, but the good news for all of us lucky Valley dwellers is that I have already heard one in our garden this year. So, listen out! I thoroughly recommend downloading the free 'Merlin' bird App ([tinyurl.com/2caybmpb](http://tinyurl.com/2caybmpb)) as well as reading or listening to Simon Barnes's book and podcast 'Bird Watching with your Eyes Closed' to learn birdsong. It opens a new wonderful world on our doorstep and everywhere you go.



The VGC is looking for new committee members. If you are at all interested in gardens/gardening, do please consider joining our little club. It is not an onerous task by any means and is a very gentle way of being a little immersed in the community, making new friends and doing something positive for the Valley. Like me, you do not need to be an expert at all. In fact, I joined to learn how to grow my first garden!

**Coming Soon... Horticultural Quiz with Potluck Supper:** Thursday 6th March: East Dean Village Hall: 6pm: Quiz starts 6.30pm: Potluck Supper 7.30pm: Small entry fee: Details will be sent out shortly. **Spring Show:** Saturday 29th March: Singleton Village Hall. **Bacon Bap, Plant Sale and Horticultural Bric-a-Brac:** Monday 28th April: East Dean Village Hall: 10.30am. Please bring any Horticultural items no longer wanted. **Annual Show:** Saturday 9th August.

If you would like to join the VGC email list, please email Vicky on [vmm@vickymudford.com](mailto:vmm@vickymudford.com) **Miranda Mayne, [valleygardeningclub.org.uk](http://valleygardeningclub.org.uk)**

## International Mastermind

### A Poem by Francis

Such clever souls on Mastermind,  
To them I offer a toast.  
It is the best of quiz shows,  
The one I watch the most.

Of course it has gone global,  
As you might expect.  
With all that general knowledge,  
And personal chosen subjects.

At the World Cup Mastermind,  
Which was held here in England.  
An international quizmaster,  
Was put in charge, from Finland.

He chose to state his name,  
And nationality in English.  
He said, "Ivor Staarstedso,  
I Finnish."

## Poetic Deadlines

### A Poem by Francis

I need more of your poems,  
Are there any coming my way?  
I asked the editor to be patient.  
Rhyme wasn't built in a day.



# MAKE YOUR MARK

## Arts, Design and Conservation Courses



[westdean.ac.uk](http://westdean.ac.uk)

WEST DEAN