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2023



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**Seasons Greetings
and Best Wishes to all our
Readers, Advertisers
and Contributors**

USEFUL NUMBERS

Steyning Library:

Opening Hours: Monday – Friday: 10:00 – 17:00
Saturday: 10:00 – 14:00 – T: 01903 270330
E: steyning.library@westsussex.gov.uk

Steyning Minibus: 0300 772 7735

www.westsussexminibus.org.uk/organisation/

The Steyning Health Centre:

Tanyard Lane, Steyning, BN44 3RJ
Telephone Appointments: 01903 497227
When surgery closed dial new NHS 111 service
Surgery Hours:
Mon: 08:00 – 18:30 Tue 07:00 – 18:30
Wed 08:00 – 20:00 Thu 08:00 – 20:00
Fri 08:00 – 18:30 Sat and Sun: Closed

Steyning & District Good Neighbours

Association: T: 01903 816181
steyninggoodneighbours.co.uk

Steyning Parish Council: T: 01903 812042 –

W: www.steyningpc.gov.uk
E: clerk@steyningpc.gov.uk

The Steyning Centre: T: 01903 812042

Opening Hours: 09:00 to 16:00
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Council to acquire Bramber Brooks to benefit local communities and boost biodiversity



Horsham District Council is excited to announce that it is set to acquire some 34 acres of green space on land in the south of Horsham District for the benefit of local communities and to provide a vital boost to local biodiversity.



At the entrance to the Bramber Brooks site

I to r: Cllr Victoria Finnegan HDC Head of Parks and Countryside, Pete Crawford Cabinet Member for Climate Action and Nature Recovery, Cllr Colette Blackburn Deputy Leader; Cllr John Milne Visitor Experience Officer, Jo Nixon, Cllr Roger Noel Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Green Spaces, Cllr Jon Olson.

The site, known as Bramber Brooks, benefits from public access, a private nature reserve and a community orchard, and is currently enjoyed by many members of the public.



Entrance Bramber Brooks Nature Reserve

This acquisition will secure Bramber Brooks as public green space for the future in order to retain the community benefits of the land and enhance biodiversity on the site, ensuring that it will continue to operate as a well-loved and much enjoyed area for people to enjoy.

The site is already well-used by local people and has strong links with the local community through schools and scout groups.



History of the Bramber Brooks site

Adding Bramber Brooks to the Council's countryside estate will benefit our District by:

- Retaining public access to the land for residents and visitors
- Enhancing delivery of biodiversity improvements via a fully funded Environment Agency approved project to create more wetland areas
- Providing other improvements which could include, the introduction of seasonal cattle grazing, thistle and bramble scrub control, formal rights of way improvements and improved signage for users
- Positively contributing to the Council's existing successful flagship Wilder

Horsham District initiative, delivering improvements to habitats and wildlife along the River Adur, as part of a wider nature recovery network.

Horsham District Council Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Green Spaces Cllr Jon Olson said:

'As a Council we're excited to secure public access to this area of exceptional green space for the continued benefit of the local community and for the opportunities it presents us.'

'Holding this land within our countryside estate should guarantee that proposals to improve the biodiversity of the site can move forward. Our Parks and Countryside team are experts in managing sites such as this and are equipped to both protect and expand

upon the natural habitats at this unique site.

'This opportunity also re-states our commitment as a new administration that listens and represents communities all across our District as we look to inspire greener futures.'



River Adur running around the site.

Make a difference – learn how to save a life



Would you like to have the skills to help someone who has suddenly stopped breathing?

Do you know how to use a defibrillator?

What should you do first?

Over the next few months Steyning, Area First Responders (SAFeR), a local charity which supports our local team of First Responders and provides a network of public access defibrillators, will be offering hands-on demonstrations in life saving techniques.

The first of these sessions will be held on Saturday 2 December at the Steyning Centre as part of the Steyning Arts event.

Two demonstrations will be held – one at 11.30 and the other at 14.00 – each lasts around 45 minutes.

The demonstrations are free, and provide the opportunity to practise the skills you learn. You are very welcome to come along to these – no prior booking is needed.

If you belong to a group, society or organisation in the Steyning area and would like a basic life support/ Defib demonstration, please visit our website to register your interest at:
<https://safersteyning.org.uk/contact-us/>

Steyning Gardening Club.

Come and share your ideas and expertise.

With the sad closure of Steyning Horticultural Society, many ex- members feel there is

going to be a gap in our gardening lives and with that in mind we are excited to announce

STEYNING GARDENING CLUB

Whether you've just begun your gardening journey, or you're an experienced horticulturalist, the Steyning Gardening Club hopes to be the group to bring us all together to share our common interest in a fun, friendly and inclusive way.

The new club will have a calendar full of talks, garden visits, seasonal demos, seed and plant swaps, and even a plant Q & A. There will be the opportunity for us all to share our

knowledge, tips and tricks with each other, and even time for some purely social events, and we look forward to adding even more ideas from our members as we grow.

So, we invite all garden lovers of Steyning, Bramber and Upper Beeding to come and join us on our exciting new journey.

**We would love to hear from you, whether you would simply like to learn more about the club, become a member or join the committee, please do contact us :-
Alison Hamer or Monique Cummings on
steyninggardeningclub@gmail.com**

50 Years Steyning HF Ramblers: 1971 – 2021

In September 1971 a group of friends got together and formed Steyning Ramblers walking group. The group had a quarterly programme of walks normally every Saturday and/or Sunday averaging 6-12 miles.

The group always met at Fletchers Croft at 10:00 to car share to the start of the walk. Everyone took turns in leading a walk and a few days in advance, the leader and a friend would check out the proposed route to make sure it was suitable. For many years the club secretary used a manual typewriter to complete the programme which would include day, date, area to be walked, length of walk and leader's contact details. This job was made a lot easier with the coming of computers!

The group also started having walking holidays together and through this developed an association with HF Holidays who, for a modest investment and inclusion of 'HF' in the group's title gave the benefit of holiday discounts and 3rd party insurance for the walks.

The club thrived for

many years, but sadly the group membership dwindled and eventually the programmes stopped during 2021 when we were not allowed to gather in large numbers.

The club has now closed and in memory of the many happy times spent walking and the many friendships made, the Club's final funds have been used to have a perching bench made and installed on the bank of the River Arun.

You can find it just after the stile on the western side of the riverbank, south of The White Bridge.

Past members, which included two founder members, Joan Ford and Ann Richards, recently gathered there to inaugurate the bench, share memories and celebrate past members.



Everyone loves a freebie: Are you eligible for a Home Energy Grant?

Winter is upon us. Energy prices are still sky high. We all know that investing in energy saving steps to make our homes cosier and more energy efficient would make sense. But where do you find the cash to do it?

You'll be pleased to hear that there are some generous government grants available. But they all have different criteria and target audiences, and they keep changing. So finding out if you may be eligible is a bit of a maze.

To make life easier, Greening Steyning has come up with an Energy Grants Checklist which covers the four schemes currently available. It sets out the criteria and shows what you can get for free if you qualify. Understandably, most are targeted at those

on lower incomes who live in the draughtiest homes.

If this applies to you, or you have friends and family who might benefit, take a look at our freshly updated webpage which has all the info, and details of how to apply. See: www.greeningsteyning.org/energygrants.

To chat further about the options, come along our next Home Energy Helpdesk in January 13th.



ENERGY GRANTS CHECKLIST

Scheme	What you can get for free	Eligibility Criteria (both apply)	
		Income related	Home related
Boiler Upgrade Scheme	£7500 towards heat pump	None	House needs to be well insulated
ECO4 Scheme	Wide range of home energy improvements <i>(insulation, solar, heat pump, etc.)</i>	Receiving benefits	EPC of D or worse
Great British Insulation Scheme	Free Insulation <i>(all types)</i>	Either receiving benefits	or in Council Tax band A to D + EPC = D or worse
Warmer Homes Scheme	Up to £25k towards a wide range of home energy improvements <i>(insulation, solar, heat pump, etc.)</i>	Household income under £31k or receiving benefits	Not on gas grid + EPC = D or worse

For more details visit: www.greeningsteyning.org/energygrants

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Upcoming Events!

Steyning Christmas Fair
Sunday 3rd December
12AM - 6PM

Cobblestone Xmas Event
Wednesday 6th December
9am - 8pm

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December: Diary Events

The following nonrecurring events are also in the What's On section on the Your Steyning, Bramber & Beeding website at: www.yourmag.co.uk NOTE: Post nonrecurring events before 10th of the month prior to the print month. roger@barawood.co.uk

Friday 1st December

Vintage Years Club

13:45 – 16:00

Steyning Centre, Fletchers Croft, Steyning

Sundowners Ukelele Band

Our meeting commences at 14:00 but doors are open at 13:45. There will be a Raffle and a Bring and Buy table. After our business section, we welcome the Sundowners Ukelele Band to entertain us in their lively fashion! Tea and a Festive snack will be served from 15:15. Entrance fee is £3 and Annual Membership is £10 (each April). Please contact Bev Francis-Hills 01273 493894 before attending for the first time, other information and transport needs.

Friday 1st December

Steyning Museum Trust

10:00 – 16:00

Steyning Museum, Church Street, Steyning

Museum Winter Exhibitions

Winter Wonderland - snowy images of Steyning and the local area over the years.

Animal Farm - a look at the great contribution made by animals to Steyning's farming community

From Land to Loaf - celebrating foods journey from field to plate

As well as our permanent displays, we have a number of exhibitions currently running over the winter period. Steyning Museum 40th Anniversary - a celebration of 40 years recording and displaying the history of Steyning and surrounding villages

Saturday 2nd December

The Sussex Guild

10:00 – 17:00

Midhurst Rother College, North Street, Midhurst, GU29 9DT

The Sussex Guild Contemporary Craft Show at Midhurst

At this year's Sussex Guild show in Midhurst, you'll find a colourful feast of creativity to brighten the dark days of winter and provide inspiration for unique and personal seasonal gifts. In the airy communal spaces of Midhurst Rother College you'll find over fifty designers exhibiting a wide

range of contemporary crafts. Discover exciting batik, ceramics, furniture, glass, jewellery, knitwear, leatherwork, patchwork, pewter, printmaking, silversmithing, textiles, textile art and woodwork. With free parking and a café serving light refreshments, this event makes seasonal gift shopping as relaxed as possible. Your £3 admission ticket allows re-admission throughout the weekend, so there's time to ponder that extra special purchase or commission.

Saturday 2nd December

Paper Daisy Events

10:00 – 15:30

The Shoreham Centre, Pond Road, Shoreham by Sea, BN43 5W

Shoreham's Christmas Makers Fair

UJoin Paper Daisy Events as we return to Shoreham for our 7th year for our Christmas Makers Fair, a festive extravaganza that celebrates the spirit of the season! Get ready to immerse yourself in a world of creativity and craftsmanship, as talented artisans and makers come together to showcase their unique creations at this curated event. Immerse yourself in the festive atmosphere filling the air, with live performances from Messengers Choir at 12.30 and Shoreham Ukes welcoming you upon entry at 10.30. Take a break in the pop up Artisan Cafe offering delicious treats to tempt your taste buds Take part in interactive workshops for all ages, where you can learn new skills and create your own unique festive treasures, from a Wreath Workshop - Book now <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/bunches-of-sussex-27635486681> and a pottery workshop or creative craft workshops for the little ones (no booking required). Add a huge festive smile or makeover with professional face painter, Polly Chromatik. Don't miss out on this magical event that captures the true essence of the festive season! Free Entry, family friendly. On site car park or street parking/car parks nearby. 5 minutes walk from Shoreham by Sea train station.

Saturday 2nd December

Steyning Arts

10:30 – 16:00

Steyning Centre, Fletchers Croft, Steyning

Christmas Gift Fair and Art Exhibition



Free entry to over 20 stalls selling handmade artefacts, a specially curated art exhibition, and delicious tea and cake.

Saturday 2nd December

Steyning District Churches Together

10:00 – 11:00

Steyning Farmers Market, High Street Car Park, Steyning

Carols at Steyning Farmers Market

Come along and sing carols at Steyning Farmers Market on the 2nd December from 10am until 11am. We'll be there with Lancing Brass making a joyful sound.

Saturday 2nd December

Steyning District Churches Together

10:00

Steyning

Advent Trail

The Advent Trail starts at Steyning Farmers Market on Saturday, December 2nd from 10.00 and continues throughout the month. Find the carol singers and collect your trail pamphlet. (see details below if you can't come to the Market) There are 10 locations to find as you follow the trail around Steyning. You can complete this in your own time on one day or over a few days. All are welcome to participate and children might especially enjoy. The trail guide is also available from the 2nd December on <https://sdct.org.uk/advent-trail>. Leaflets are readily available from the Churches and other locations.

Saturday 2nd December

Steyning Area First Responders

11:30 – 15:00

Steyning Centre, Fletchers Croft, Steyning

Save a life CPR demonstrations - how to use a defibrillator

as part of the Steyning Arts event 2 hands-on sessions (11.30 and 14.00) where you can learn what to do to help someone who has stopped breathing. Our First Responders will show you the three vital things you must do to increase the chance of survival. You will understand how to use a defibrillator and that it is not something to be afraid of. Practice doing chest compressions on a dummy.

Sunday 3rd December

The Sussex Guild

10:00 – 16:00

Midhurst Rother College, North Street, Midhurst, GU29 9DT

Contemporary Craft Show at Midhurst

At this year's Sussex Guild show in Midhurst, you'll find a colourful feast of creativity to brighten the dark days of winter and provide inspiration for unique and personal seasonal gifts. In the airy communal spaces of Midhurst Rother College you'll find over fifty designers exhibiting a wide range of contemporary crafts. Discover exciting batik, ceramics, furniture, glass, jewellery, knitwear, leatherwork, patchwork, pewter, print making, silversmithing, textiles, textile art and woodwork. With free parking and a café serving light refreshments, this event makes seasonal gift shopping as relaxed as possible. Your £3 admission ticket allows re-admission throughout the weekend, so there's time to ponder that extra special purchase or commission.

Sunday 3rd December

Steyning & District Business Chamber

12:00 – 18:00

Steyning High Street

Late Night Shopping: Christmas in Steyning

Festive food - Fairground Rides - Choirs, Bands and Entertainers. Raffle & Great Prizes www.steyningchamber.co.uk

Sunday 3rd December

Churches Together in Steyning & District

18:00 – 19:00

Steyning Parish Church, Vicarage Lane, Steyning

Darkness to Light Candle-lit Service

The acclaimed 'DARKNESS TO LIGHT' candle-lit service of carols and readings for Advent Sunday, organised through Churches Together in Steyning & District.

Friday 8th December

Steyning Film Society

19:30 – 21:30

Steyning Centre, Fletchers Croft, Steyning

Film: The Peanut Butter Falcon

Zak runs away from his care home to make his dream of becoming a wrestler come true. A humorous and whacky feel good movie.

The Agnes Collective are thrilled to be back and able to share some beautiful and magical Christmas Music with you all again this coming December.

The Voice of Christmas



The Agnes Collective
with John Tolputt

Wednesday 20th of December 2023

@ 6.30pm

St Andrew's & St Cuthman's Church, Steyning

Adult £15 - Child £8 (4's and under free)

Tickets available from **THE STEYNING BOOKSHOP**

or Alexandra Gibson Tel: 07973469113

Saturday 9th December

Steyning young farmers club

19:00 – 22:00

Steyning Centre, Fletchers Croft, Steyning

Christmas Race Night

In aid of Steyning Young Farmers Club – Bar – Raffle. Prize for the best Christmas jumper. Doors open at 19:00 first Race at 19:30

Sunday 10th December

Parish Church of St Andrew & St Cuthman

16:00 – 17:00

Steyning Parish Church, Vicarage Lane, Steyning

Christingle Service

At Steyning Parish Church, aimed at families with primary aged children, and all those young at heart.

Tuesday 12th December

The Ronnie Smith Big Band

20:00 – 22:00

Tottington Manor Hotel BN5 9LJ

Richard Goodman

This 17 piece big band plays jazz standards from the big band era with two great vocalists. Come and enjoy live music from the era of Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman and Count Basie. Entry is free but there is a cash collection – pay what you wish. In order to manage numbers the hotel like to know you are planning to come. You can book a table – either to dine or just to sit and enjoy the music with a drink – they can be reached online or call 01903 815757.

Friday 15th December

Steyning Society in conjunction with Steyning Museum

19:00 – 22:00

Steyning Centre, Fletchers Croft, Steyning

Christmas Supper

There is a short reception at 19:00 before a sit down supper at 19:45.. Catering by Superdoux, Brighton. After-dinner entertainment by magician David Croucher. Tickets:£27 to include refreshments. Available from The Steyning Bookshop and Steyning Museum

Saturday 16th December

Cantatrice

15:00 – 16:45

Steyning Centre, Fletchers Croft, Steyning

Concert : Disney & Broadway Christmas

A programme for kids and adults with Disney and Broadway songs sung by Cantatrice, the Kaleidoscope Singers, Vocal Fusion Acapella and brass ensemble. What fun!!! Mary Poppins, Moana, Elf and so much more! TICKETS £8 adults - £1 under 18yrs

Saturday 16th December

The Cheer Up Mollys

19:00 – 23:00

Beeding and Bramber Village Hall, High Street, Upper Beeding

'A Cheer Up Christmas' with The Cheer Up Mollys

Local band The Cheer Up Mollys are bringing their feel-good live show back to Beeding and Bramber Village Hall for a seasonal celebration of festive folk, **'A Cheer Up Christmas'**. Known for their inventive arrangements of folk, acoustic and Americana music as well as reimagined 70s and 80s pop hits and their own original songs, expect stunning vocal harmonies accompanied by guitar, ukulele, fiddle, mandolin, bass, and percussion. *'An infectious blend of wonderful melody, harmony, musicianship, humour and above all, great entertainment.'* Bluebell Roots. We'll be joined by fabulous local band The Mash Company, playing a well-crafted mix of covers and originals with an Americana, country, folky vibe. NOTE: No bar available – please bring your own drinks (and glasses), and snacks! We'll be holding a charity raffle with proceeds to Wadars animal rescue. Doors 19:00, music starts 19:30. Tickets available online: <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/596370>
</>

Sunday 17th December

Parish Church of St Andrew & St Cuthman

18:00 – 19:00

Steyning Parish Church, Vicarage Lane, Steyning

Nine Lessons and Carols

A beautiful candle lit service telling the story of creation through to the birth of Jesus in words and music, with readers from the local community.

Sunday 24th December

Parish Church of St Andrew & St Cuthman

15:00 – 16:00

Steyning Parish Church, Vicarage Lane, Steyning

Christmas Crib Service



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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HELP WITH GRITTING PATHS IN THE EVENT OF SNOW FALL

Would you be interested in assisting the Parish Council with gritting pavements in the Steyning area in the event of heavy snow or severe ice during the winter months?

The aim is to create a group of volunteers who would sign up to a WhatsApp group. In the event of snow or a severe ice forecast a text via the group would check availability and the agree pathways to be treated with rock salt. The rock salt is available from the many salt bins positioned in the town. Instructions, high viz and insurance will be provided.

If you are interested, please email Steyning Parish Council, hazel.roxby@steyningpc.gov.uk or ring 01903 812042 with your name and contact details for more information.



Parish Clerk: John Fullbrook
Deputy Clerk: Hazel Roxby
Email: clerk@steyningpc.gov.uk
Email: hazel.roxby@steyningpc.gov.uk

Our popular CRIB SERVICE at Steyning Parish Church for children and families. **NOTE:** Two separate services: 15:00 - 16:00 & 16:30 - 17:30

Sunday 24th December

Parish Church of St Andrew & St Cuthman

23:00 - 00:00

Steyning Parish Church, Vicarage Lane, Steyning

Midnight Mass

The traditional start to Christmas. Festal Choral Eucharist with carols led by our church choir. The service will end at midnight.

Monday 25th December

Parish Church of St Andrew & St Cuthman

09:30 - 10:30

Steyning Parish Church, Vicarage Lane, Steyning

Christmas Morning Eucharist

Sung Eucharist for CHRISTMAS MORNING at Steyning Parish Church.

Wednesday 3rd January

Steyning Parish Council: Community Film Night

19:30 - 22:00

Steyning Centre, Fletchers Croft, Steyning

Screening: The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry

is a heartwarming and emotional film that tells the story of Harold Fry, an ordinary man who decides to embark on a pilgrimage to deliver a letter to his old friend Queenie. Jim Broadbent delivers an excellent performance as Harold Fry, capturing the character's quiet desperation and eventual transformation as he walks the 600-mile journey. Penelope Wilton is also good as Harold's wife, Maureen, who is hurt and confused by her husband's sudden departure. Tickets are on sale at the Steyning Centre at £6 a ticket which includes tea of coffee during the interval. Wine can be purchased at £2.50 per glass. Doors open at 19:00 for a 19:30 start.

Friday 5th January

Vintage Years Club

13:45 - 16:00

Steyning Centre, Fletchers Croft, Steyning

Neil Sadler 'Gongoozling for Beginners - Life On The Canals'

Our meeting commences at 14:00 but doors are open at 13:45. There will be a raffle and a Bring and Buy table. After our business section, we welcome

Neil Sadler to entertain us with his delightful film and amusing commentary. Tea and biscuits will be served from 15:15. Entrance fee is £3 and Annual Membership is £10 (each April). Please contact Bev Francis-Hills 01273 493894 before attending for the first time, for other information and for transport needs.

Thursday 11th January

Henfield Theatre Company

19:30 - 20:00

The Henfield Hall, Coopers Way, Henfield, West Sussex, BN5 9EQ

Henfield Theatre Company presents The Wizard of Oz pantomime

This Christmas, Henfield Theatre Company and its Youth Theatre join forces in The Wizard of Oz pantomime, like never seen before. Dorothy and her friends follow the yellow brick road to escape the evil clutches of the Wicked Witch. With familiar characters, plus some new, they will travel to the Emerald City with some unexpected songs, and maybe even some rapping! A challenge for our musical director, Dave Barnett, but he is braver than the lion and up for the challenge. With comedy and your usual pantomime dame, it's a '*no-brainer*'. Directed by Karen Blunden, known for roles in many productions but also the hugely popular director of our Youth Theatre productions, she said, '*The Wizard of Oz is a fabulous show bringing together the wide age range and experience of all our members ... from our 92-year-old 'lumberjack' down to our teenage all-dancing, singing trees! The cast will bring the yellow brick road into the hearts and minds of our audiences. So join us 'somewhere over the rainbow' and be sure you'll 'laugh your day away in the Merry Old Land of Oz!'*' Kindly sponsored by The Wheatsheaf pub, why not enjoy pre-show drinks and dinner? Performances are on 11th and 12th January at 19:30 at The Henfield Hall, and, by popular demand, 2 matinees are scheduled for 13th January at 13:30 and 17:30 to cater for younger audiences. Tickets cost £13 per person for floor seating and £15 for raised seating. On sale at Steven's Estate Agents in Henfield High Street and now via www.henfieldtheatrecompany.com

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Pumpkin Patch Nursery Steyning 'Where The Magic Happens'

We are proud to introduce Pumpkin Patch Nursery, our beautiful new facility in the stunning Steyning countryside. We have been open at this new location for 6 months now and are excited to offer the highest quality childcare to our Steyning families.

Our Steyning Pumpkin Patch Nursery is truly unique, featuring an onsite Forest School, meadow, huge gardens, resident artist, and teacher-led education, all managed by the passionate and experienced Sam Gunning. *'When I saw that Pumpkin Patch was opening in Steyning, I knew that was where I wanted to be. I was so delighted to be offered the opportunity to manage such a remarkable nursery and be part of Pumpkin Patch',* said Sam.

We believe in delivering a bespoke early years experience for all our babies and children, inspired by the Reggio Emilia Approach from Italy and the Forest Schools from Scandinavia. By exploring children's passions together and using the natural world as a classroom, we believe that *'magic happens'*.

Recently, we worked on a long-term project themed around crocodiles, after two boys were interested in what might lurk in the river at Steyning. Pumpkin Patch's Atelierista, Fay Mugridge, explains, *'The creativity and exploration in this project was truly breathtaking. The children sewed 'crocodile skin' on a sewing machine, discovered 'real crocodile eggs and teeth' in the meadow, spun 'crocodile skulls' out of clay on the clay wheel, and so much more.'*

We are currently offering viewings and taster sessions ahead of the new January term. Please get in touch, and we would love to show you around our inspiring new nursery.

Contact us at:
steyning@pumpkinpatchnursery.com
or call 01903 810100.

The Steyning Downland Scheme

The equivalent of the State Opening of Parliament happened today, with the grand opening of our brand new entrance gate and designer fire pit!

An enormous crowd of well-wishers gathered in 'classical' autumn weather to watch Richard Goring, Chair of the Trustees cut a environmentally friendly nature-ribbon, woven by SDS volunteers Mike & Jane, to formally declare our new gate open. The day was the culmination of two years of dedication by an array of skilled artisans.

A huge 'thank you' to Ben Goldsmith, who built the *'backbone'* of the gate from locally sourced hardwood; to local blacksmith, Lee Portwain for the fire pit and the ironwork for the gate; to Mike Ford for hanging the finished gate, to Tom Simmonds for all the finishing touches and last, but definitely not least, the students and staff from Steyning Grammar School who helped with the manufacturing process for both items, and made all the decorative creatures, supervised by the ever-

present Kathleen Lamb.

Lastly a very special 'thank you' to our funders, the Anchor Foundation, Steyning Arts Society and Robin & Jan Hobson - none of this could have happened without you!



Inspired by the Reggio Emilia Approach from Italy and the Forest School's of Scandinavia.

At the heart of our approach at Pumpkin Patch Nursery is a 'Powerful Image of the Child' who is strong, full of potential and capable of leading their own learning



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While the topic of one's own mortality may not be the most pleasant of conversations, it is a crucial one. The creation of a legal Will is an essential task that far too many of us procrastinate or overlook altogether.

The impact of not having a Will in place can be both frustrating and detrimental, especially to the loved ones left behind. First and foremost, without a Will, the distribution of one's assets becomes a complicated and often contentious affair. In the absence of clear instructions, intestacy laws take over, and this can sometimes result in assets being distributed in ways that may not align with the deceased's wishes. Without a Will, there can be significant delays in the probate process too, this can tie up the deceased's assets for months or even years depending on the complexity of the estate being left.

For those with children it is really important to have conversations with those people you would choose to take care of them in the event that anything happens to you. Without a Will, you have no say in who or how your children will be raised in your absence. In today's world of blended families, ensuring that you have officially documented who you want to inherit and when is even more important.

Making your Will is a simple process in most cases, you can use your Solicitor, a dedicated Estate Planning service like us or even go online. I tend to find that due to the nature of the subject, most people feel more comfortable talking through their options with a real person and we can do this either in our office or in your home- wherever you feel most comfortable.



01903 821010
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Emma Cohen **FIPW**

In 2020, Emma became the youngest ever fellow of the Institute of Professional Willwriters, showing her dedication to the profession.



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GET IN TOUCH



2023

Anna & Tom



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Upper Beeding Parish Council News

Update on the White Bridge, courtesy of Steyning & District Community Partnership.

The footbridge over the River Adur just north of Bramber Bridge was closed by West Sussex County Council in late August, after a safety inspection.

The White Bridge Link Working Party has been keeping close tabs on what has been happening. It has been liaising with the three local Parish Councils, Horsham District Council and the County Council, stressing the importance of the bridge to the local community and the urgency of getting it back in action. Here's an update on the story so far.

<https://www.upperbeeding-pc.gov.uk/white-bridge-closed/>

New Pedestrian Crossings.

A new Pedestrian Crossing on the Shoreham Road has arrived, greatly improving the ability to cross the road and giving residents in Shoreham Rd, Dacre Gardens, the Business Park (Including Happy Days Nursery) safer access to the village. Watch this space, as a Downlink crossing is coming to the A283 opposite the Fodder Box, plus improvements to the crossing at Dacre Gardens.

<https://www.upperbeeding-pc.gov.uk/new-crossings-in-the-village/>

Riverside Path Upgrade.

The Parish Council has taken ownership of some land along the river, between Adur View and Dawn Crescent. The plan is to improve the surface of the footpath along this stretch to match the White Bridge Link. This will commence during 2024. Please check this link:

<https://www.upperbeeding-pc.gov.uk/riverside-pathway-upgrade/>



Christmas Dementia Friendly Lunch.

The Parish Council along with The Rising Sun PH have organised a Christmas Lunch on December 5th at 12.30 for those in the Parish living with Dementia and their Carers.

The PC, with the help of the Rising Sun, are inviting you to a 3-course lunch at a cost of £10 per person. More details advertised in village and on this link.

<https://www.upperbeeding-pc.gov.uk/dementia-friendly-christmas-lunch/>

Bulb Planting and Litter Pickers.

The verges in Small Dole will look a little brighter in Spring 2024 as the Parish Council, along with some of the volunteer Litter Pickers, have planted nearly 1000 bulbs.

Co-option.

The Parish Council now has five vacancies. Closing date for application is 3rd December 2023.

If you are interested in becoming a Councillor, you are very welcome to our next Council Meeting in the B&B Village Hall, 19:00 on 19th December.

<https://www.upperbeeding-pc.gov.uk/parish-council-vacancy/>

The PC would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

If you found this information useful, please let us know on

01903 816911 or:

Clerk@upperbeeding-pc.gov.uk

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Front Cover: Wendi Olofson

Wendi Olofson is an artist based in Steyning, working primarily in watercolours, inks and acrylics. She has explored many avenues of creativity throughout her life, from jewellery & silversmithing to textiles to interior design, but is concentrating on painting nowadays.

Wendi creates artwork that is deeply emotive, drawing inspiration from her appreciation for the world around her and her emotional inner world and personal experiences.

During the pandemic she found that painting was the only thing that would soothe the sharp pain of grief after the loss of her long term partner in 2020. It became a daily practice and an opportunity to experiment with many techniques as her artistic voice started to emerge.

Wendi's process involves exploring colours and textures in a loose, intuitive way, which reflect the chaos and beauty in everyday moments, and translating these into vibrant, vivid pieces.

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Late Summer One - one of a series of ten watercolours painted with a three colour palette.







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December 2023 Book Reviews



The Winter Spirits, Ghostly Tales for Frosty Nights

£16.99, Sphere, hardback
A spine-tingling collection of twelve new ghostly stories by celebrated gothic & historical fiction authors including Jess Kidd, Stuart Turton, Bridget Collins, Kiran Millwood Hargrave, and Natasha Pulley. Every story is set around Christmas or

the Advent, with atmospheric settings including a haunted Tuscan villa, a remote Scottish island with a dark secret, and an accursed play...Light the fire, pull a blanket over your knees, and prepare to be chilled to the bone!



The Future by Naomi Alderman

Fourth Estate £20 hardback
The new novel from the Women's Prize-winning, bestselling author of The Power - if you liked The Power, you'll LOVE this one! A compelling, well-written thriller in which tech billionaires hole up in their bunkers as the world crumbles... and the resistance movement in the form of feisty Chinese lesbian survivalist Lai Zhen & her cohorts try to avert catastrophe. Twisty, plausible and prescient cli-fi.



And So This Is Christmas, 51 Seasonally-Adjusted Poems by Brian Bilston

Macmillan £12.99, hardback
Yes! A new collection of poems for the festive season from the warmly witty Brian Bilston, a firm favourite at the Steyning Bookshop. From bizarre family traditions to the office Christmas party,

from voting day for turkeys to the agonising art of gift-giving, no element of Christmas is left unobserved. Pithy and hilarious!



Roast Figs & Sugar Snow by Diana Henry

Octopus, £22 hardback
I'm obsessed by food writer Diana Henry's recipes - she truly is the heart and soul of oven-based, winter cooking! A welcome return to print for this cookery classic, revised and refreshed with

8 new recipes and a foreword by Nigel Slater. Full of comforting dishes from the world's colder climates, celebrating seasonal ingredients like pumpkins, game, smoked fish, and warming spices, this is an essential tome for every kitchen and a wonderful gift for any keen cook!



How Does Santa Go Down the Chimney? By Mac Barnett

Walker Books hardback £12.99

The award-winning duo of Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen tackle a perennial question: how does Santa go down the chimney? When

Santa arrives at a child's house on Christmas Eve, does he go down the chimney feetfirst or headfirst? What if he gets stuck? What if there's no chimney? Maybe he slides under the door, as thin as a piece of paper? Or is it possible he pours himself through the tap? What happens once he's inside? Deadpan humour with hilarious illustrations.



Santa's Marvellous Mechanical Workshop by Vashti Hardy

Scholastic Books, paperback £7.99
We LOVE local author Vashti Hardy's inventive fantasy novels, most famously the Brightstorm Chronicles,

which are full of steam-punky gadgets and feisty female explorers and engineers. This festive story is her picture book debut, deliciously illustrated by Katie Cottle. Budding engineer Lily is missing her old house, it doesn't feel like Christmas, being surrounded by boxes ... but then she is whisked away to



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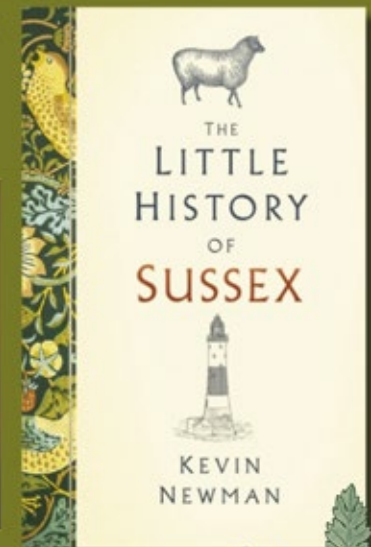
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Santa's Marvellous Mechanical Workshop to help the elfbots repurpose old toys into new... A celebration of creativity and upcycling! Come and meet Vashti and get a signed copy on Sunday 3rd December!



Tis the season: A Lift-the-Flap Advent Calendar Full of Christmas Poems by Richard Jones

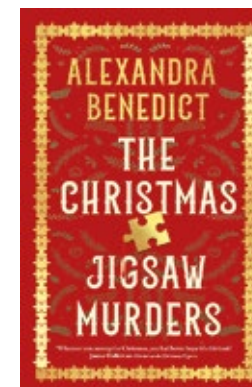
Nosy Crow Books, £19.99

A really cute idea, this concertina-style pull-out book acts as an advent calendar, with a festive poem and a flap to peek

under for every day of Advent, culminating in a big Christmas Tree flap at the end! Peek inside the windows of the house to find a family wrapping presents, take a look behind a holly bush to find a little mouse and see what's happening in the town behind a glittering Christmas tree! Includes well-loved poems by Ogden Nash, Nikki Giovanni, John Agard and Christina Rossetti. A lovely family gift!



More choices..



Christmas Stresses

As we head into the silly season, many people find that the stresses that the Christmas period brings start to take an extra toll on our bodies and therefore our spine and nervous systems.

Mark Jones a local Chiropractor at Well Adjusted Health comments, *'We are always busy this time of year. Aches and pains that have been ignored can get a lot worse, when the physical and emotional stresses of Christmas start to build up. Then our bodies are forced to 'shout' at us to slow us down.'*

Whether it is overindulging in a bit too much Christmas pudding or wine, or lugging heavy pressies around the shops whilst stressing or if you don't have everything organised in time for Christmas day, it can be a stressful period on the body in many ways. So, we have come up with some simple Christmas survival health tips.

- Keep moving! Go for a walk or do some of your daily stretching exercises and make it a regular part of your holiday period.
- Leave Santa and his reindeer some carrots and apples, remember plenty of the good stuff alongside all the treats!
- and remember your posture and lifting techniques when either lugging around heavy gifts at the shops, or decorating the Christmas tree. You'd be amazed how many people *'pull something'*, when twisting to put up decorations!
- If doing things you don't normally do, remember to take it easy and listen to your body for any warning signs that may indicate you have something to address. The sign could be reduced range of motion, stiffness, pain or soreness, etc.
- Remember to keep hydrated, especially if drinking more caffeine and alcohol than usual.
- Anxiety, depression and stress are very



common during the festive season. Take some time out for either yourself or your immediate family. Whether it is a hobby or a quiet getaway, take some time out and remember that stress can have a dramatic impact on your spinal health.

- Get enough sleep. Plan for some early nights as the 'silly' season can cause havoc with our sleeping routines.
- Have fun - togetherness, relaxation and laughter are always the best tonic.

Well Adjusted Health would like to warmly wish everyone a happy and safe holiday period.
Have a fantastic Christmas and an even better 2017!

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Holly

I'm sure you'll agree that these are crazy times, folks. Back in Ancient Rome they had a festival – Saturnalia – which saw their society turn upside down for a week each December. It seems Saturnalia's traditions of chaos and mayhem are now the daily norm for us Brits but, as we career towards Christmas, we have another thing in common with Saturnalia. We will soon be paying our respects to the Holly tree.

Holly has been celebrated in many traditions over the centuries because, as a native evergreen, its vibrancy in the dead of winter could easily be mistaken for immortality. Holly was the sacred tree of Saturn, the Roman god of agriculture.

In pagan tradition, the Holly King ruled over the Oak King from Midsummer to Midwinter. Holly was easily adopted by Christians, who saw many links between the tree and the life of Christ. Today, Holly remains a centrepiece of our Christmas decorations, cards and cakes.

Each Holly tree is either male or female. While both produce delicate white flowers in May, it's only the female Holly that bears a berry as red as any blood. When these berries are produced in profusion, it's taken to be a sign of an oncoming hard winter -although in reality it's the outcome of a successful spring. Holly's prickles provide protection for nesting birds, their flower buds are food for the Holly Blue butterfly's caterpillar and their ripe berries are essential for thrushes.

If you're after a tree filled with folklore then Holly must take a bow. So if you're planning to deck your halls with boughs of the stuff this



Christmas, here's a quick user guide.

First off, never cut down a Holly tree – that's guaranteed bad luck, a superstition which has spared many Holly trees from the woodsman's axe. And make sure you leave Holly trees in your hedgerows to prevent witches from running along the top. If you bring Holly into your home at Christmas, it'll help protect you from those pesky festive faeries. Only female Holly leaves under your pillow will allow you to predict your future in your dreams. Oh, and don't forget to get rid of your Holly decorations before Twelfth Night (but don't burn them, that's bad luck too). Holly trees will protect you against lightning strikes (I'm not sure if this has been scientifically proven so don't blame me if you still get zapped). And don't eat the berries, they're poisonous, but if you have smallpox you can drink an infusion made from the leaves.

Stick to those rules folks and you'll have a peaceful Christmas. Me? I've had enough of the state of the world today. I'm going to pour



some wine, put on my toga and pretend I'm in ancient Rome. Somebody pass me my fiddle.

By Michael Blencowe: Learning & Engagement Officer, Sussex Wildlife Trust.
Sussex Wildlife Trust is an independent registered charity caring for wildlife and habitats throughout Sussex. It's easy to join online at:
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December: Steyning for Trees

The Autumn/winter RSPB Magazine talks about the worrying decreases in abundance and distribution of many species as evidenced in the latest State of Nature report produced by data from more than 50 nature conservation organisations.

But they also highlighted the ways we can tackle the many threats nature faces from human activity. One of these is to strengthen ecosystem restoration and expand protected areas. These areas at present represent 11% of UK land and most are not currently in a favourable condition. Hence the importance of projects like The Lost Woods

We, at SFT, are supporting the increase and the re-naturing of open spaces around town working with the residents at Shooting Field planting trees and mini copses, allowing the grass to grow under the trees. This will soon be repeated at Thornscoft (where a stag beetle was seen). Many thanks to the managing agents for giving SFT permission to do this.

The WSCC land parallel to the by-pass at Canons Way where we have planted SFT trees and cut paths through the natural renewal going on there which is developing into another valuable area for wildlife.

We are so pleased to be working with Shona Halsall and her family again when planting a copse there a few years back with their help. They are turning the field over to nature completely which will be a great asset for biodiversity in Steyning.

We are donating some whips of various tree types to help keep a good mix supporting some of the endangered species that need specialist habitats and trees.

We are also pleased to be working with Beeding Primary School with their hedge planting project and Elfi Gloster again who has previously been such a help to the SDS. We have been carefully choosing suitable



tree types, not prickly, or poisonous, no allergies, we want to be careful with the next generation but also to encourage them to understand the wonderful advantages planting trees give us.

Such as sequestering carbon, providing cooling via transpiration, beautifying our town and as hedges providing homes, food, wildlife pathways for creatures great and small, flowers for pollinators and ecosystems providing for every breath we take and hopefully, for those children's future.

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www.cancerresearchuk.org

Steyning & Ashurst Friends of St. Barnabas House.
01903 814337

The Friends of Steyning Parish Church. 01903 813232

The Steyning Society.
E: cmantsteyningsoc@gmail.com / W: www.steyningsociety.org.uk

The Steyning Friends of Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice.
01903 813901 / 01903 815601

The Royal British Legion Steyning & District Branch.
01903 815176.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES:

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01903 812171.

Steyning Art Group.
peacefulorchard@iCloud.com
Oakleylucy@hotmail.com

Steyning Bellringers.
01903 813653.

Steyning Bridge Club.
01903 814726.

Steyning Camera Club.
info@steyningcc.org.uk

Steyning & District Flower Club. 01903 895939

Steyning History Society
Secretary: Mrs. P. Blackie,
01903 812283

Steyning Horticultural Society. 01903 814049.

Steyning Museum.
01903 813333.

Steyning National Women's Register
01903 815577 nwr.org.uk

Steyning So and Sews
01903 813467

Sugar and Spice Sugar Craft Club. 01903 695700.

The Arts Society Steyning.
steyning@theartssociety.org
<http://www.theartssocietysteyning.org.uk/>

The Steyning Society.
E: cmantsteyningsoc@gmail.com / W: www.steyningsociety.org.uk

Vintage Years Club.
01273 493884

West Chiltington Bridge Club.
01903 742674 / 01798 813626.

West Sussex Decorative & Fine Arts Society.
01903 411086.

GENERAL:

1140 Steyning Squadron Air Training Corps 01903 815511 -
1140@rafac.mod.gov.uk

Cadet Centre. 01903 813113.

Cadet Centre - Steyning Army Cadets. 07737931010.

Steyning, Beeding and Bramber Trefoil Guild.
01903- 812622.

Steyning Litter Pickers.
susanjglover@outlook.com

Steyning Parish Church.
steyningparishchurch@gmail.com

Steyning WEA Day School.
01903 816190/07713 270806.

SOCIAL:

Cheqoutz Cribbage Team.
01903 815471.

Knit and Natter. 01903 812751.

Ladies Thursday Club.
01903 813082
paulinemhadhebi6@hotmail.com

Singability. 07845 546365.

Steyning & District Good Neighbours Association.
01903 816181.
steyninggoodneighbours.co.uk

Steyning Downland Scheme Group. 01903 812404.

Friends of Steyning Downland Scheme. www.steyningdownland.org/support-us/friends-scheme/

Special Task Force.
01903 765340.

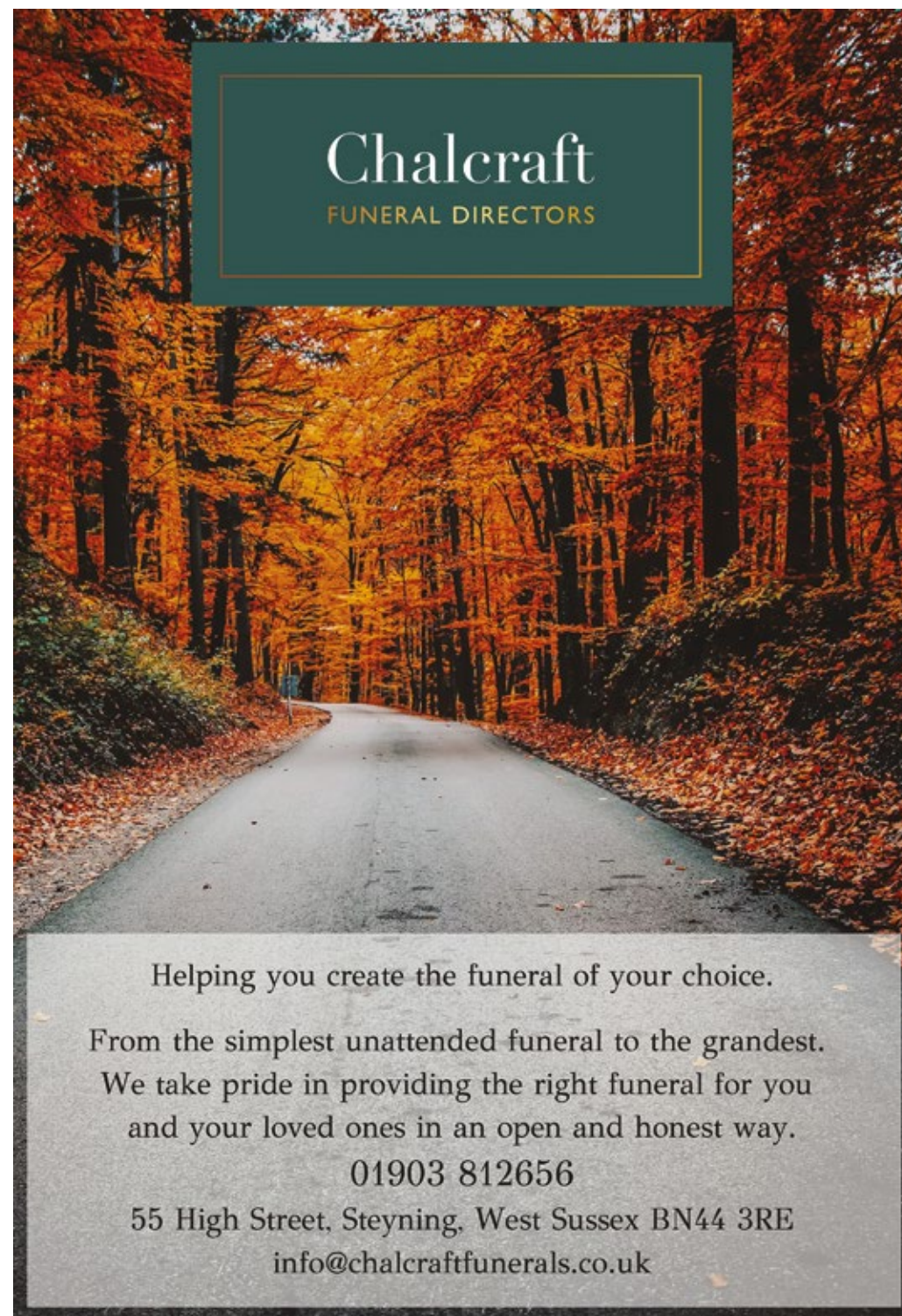
Steyning & District U3A.
www.steyninganddistrictu3a.org.uk

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Steyning Rugby Club.
07719 153971.

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01903 815396.

HEALTH:
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www.girlguiding.org.uk

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Chanctonbury Ring Woodcraft Folk.
steyningwoodcraft@gmail.com

Sussex Clubs for Young People.
jo.bell@sussexcyp.org.uk

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Playing underpins all aspects of a child's development and keeps infants active and happy. Through play, children develop language, emotional, social and motor skills, as well as creativity, problem solving abilities and imagination. Playing together with your child can strengthen your bond and allow you to join their world.

Playing underpins all aspects of a child's development and keeps infants active and happy. Through play, children develop language, emotional, social and motor skills, as well as creativity, problem solving abilities and imagination. Playing together with your child can strengthen your bond and allow you to join their world.

Play begins right from birth with those early movements of a baby's arms and legs. Baby massage or swimming are excellent activities. Talking and singing to your little one, as well as frequent tummy time is key at this stage. Using high contrast flash cards and toys helps engage little ones in tummy time and supports their visual and brain development.



As your little one begins to move, they will begin to explore and play independently. This is a great opportunity to introduce board books, and sensory toys to introduce cause and effect. Over time, this independent play begins to involve other children, initially observing, before mirroring and playing alongside others. Eventually, children become interested in playing with others and can construct games and role play involving other children. Throughout these stages, sharing all kinds of play will contribute to your little ones development and enjoyment.

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December Gardening Journal

December is the month when our gardens take a back seat as we are all distracted by the Festive Season. However, it's a great time to plan for the spring, plant the last of those bulbs you have been meaning to get in the ground and give the garden a generally good tidy up. Spreading a bit of mulch on your borders will do wonders for the health of your soil and also make it all look fresh, tidy and ready for those Xmas Guests.

Plant of The Month: Holly & Ivy

For those of us who celebrate and decorate for Christmas, holly and ivy leaves in wreaths and garlands may be among the first signs that the festive season has arrived. Holly and ivy have mythologies dating back thousands of years, in fact, the history of holly and ivy at Christmas dates all the way back to the Romans. In those early times the leaves were believed to have protective powers. Over the centuries, the symbolism of holly and ivy Christmas decorations would continue to change, representing both prosperity and abundance too.

The prickly evergreen holly we see on Christmas cards and within our landscape is English holly, *Ilex aquifolium* and the ivy you're most likely to see growing nearby is English ivy (*Hedera helix*). Both will grow happily in our gardens here in Sussex but there are many other varieties that may be better suited to the garden setting.

Historically, holly represented the male—upright and prickly—and ivy, with its clinging habit, the female. Ivy twined around the holly tree showed the male and female principles in one balanced, evergreen package. Because both were green at a time when everything else turned brown, people brought holly and ivy inside during the long nights of the winter solstice. As Christianity gained traction in Europe, the pagan custom of using holly and ivy was absorbed into decorating for Christmas.

Those wishing to grow Holly or Ivy may initially be drawn to their beautiful ornamental foliage however, they are a valuable food

source and shelter to wildlife too. All hollies are dioecious, with the male and female flowers on separate plants. If you want the berries then you would need to choose a male plant for every three to five female plants to ensure a good crop of berries to decorate your Christmas wreath.

When they are both fully grown, holly and ivy make impressive winter evergreens while ivy can be a little invasive at times, when kept in check it can provide you with a carpet of interesting foliage in areas of the garden where nothing else will grow. Below are some examples of Good Garden Cultivars if you fancy adding some winter structure to your garden:

- *Ilex aquifolium* 'Handsworth New Silver'
- *Hedera colchica* 'Dentata Variegata'
- *Hedera colchica* 'Sulphur Heart'
- *Ilex aquifolium* 'Argentea Marginata'
- *Hedera helix* 'Glacier'
- *Ilex aquifolium* 'Madame Briot'
- *Hedera helix* 'Parsley Crested'
- *Ilex* × *altaclerensis* 'Golden King'
- *Hedera helix* 'Ivalace'
- *Ilex* × *altaclerensis* 'Lawsoniana'

Jobs to do this month include: Ornamental Garden:

- Give the borders one last tidy before Christmas by removing any debris, leaves etc.
- Check newly planted shrubs for wind rock (loosened soil around base) after strong winds firming soil.
- Avoid any pruning when frost or snow is forecast.
- Replenish birdfeeders as soon as they run out.

Article by Alex Bell
T: 01903 815065 M: 07866 747849

- Plant winter flowering shrubs like daphne and sarcococca.
- Prune acer, betula before mid-December to avoid bleeding cuts.
- Mulch if the weather is still mild.

Vegetable Garden:

- Harvest winter veg like sprouts etc.
- Clear any remaining plant debris and compost.
- Prune free standing apples, pears, currants and gooseberries.

- Do not prune stone fruit until spring to avoid silver leaf disease.
- Prune grape vines by mid-December.
- Continue to plant fruit bushes etc.
- Divide and re plant rhubarb.
- Lag outdoor taps and pipes to avoid them freezing.
- Ventilate greenhouse on mild days.



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Crash and Controversy!

The noise of the faltering engine must have filled the dark sky above Steyning as the Heinkel Bomber's pilot struggled at the controls... in vain.

Local resident Mrs. Jean Scragg donated her account of what happened that evening in January 1941 to the museum:

'It was about 8 pm. when the plane crashed in flames near the railway bridge at Wyckham Farm. The following day, among the wreckage, one man was found intact, and the others were unrecognizable.'

In fact, there were five airmen, including three senior officers, in that aircraft. At least two of them had Iron Crosses, the highest German honour. Jean continued: *'They had a lot of money - English, French, and Belgian, but no German money.'*

The news spread across Steyning and beyond, and as Jean Scragg put it, *'There was a lot of debate as to whether our enemies should be able to have a Christian burial.'*

Our vicar at the time, Rev. Cox, was clear in his mind that it was his duty to lay these airmen's remains to rest, so he began to make arrangements for their Christian burial in our churchyard. However, this controversy grew, and it very quickly appeared in the newspapers.

The Kent and Sussex Courier and The Daily Telegraph took up the tale:

'A number of residents in the Sussex village of Steyning are opposed to the burial of five German airmen in the churchyard. The Nazis were fatally burned when their Heinkel bomber crashed on Sunday night.'



Sexton Charles Woolgar, setting a respectful pace...

a member of the British Legion, said on Tuesday: *'Why should they lie among our loved ones? They came here to wreck our homes and murder our kith and kin.'*

The Vicar of Steyning, Rev. E.W. Cox, stated, *'There could be no question that the men should be buried in the churchyard.'*

A member of the Steyning branch of the British Legion took offense to this article, raised it at a meeting, and discussed it with the Vicar.

They jointly worded a reply to the Editor of the Daily Telegraph, protesting that: *'We are in close touch with the people of this parish and... apart from what has appeared in the Press, we have not found the slightest suggestion of the existence of any such opposition.'*

They also revealed that Mr. Holland, quoted in the article, was not a member of the Steyning British Legion.

This response clearly does not take into account Jean Scragg's mention of *'debate'* across Steyning.

However, perhaps those against the Vicar's plan to give the airmen a funeral chose not to air their feelings to either the Vicar or the British Legion.

On the day of the funeral of the five Nazi airmen, their remains were placed in

two coffins, covered by a swastika flag, on a borrowed gun-carriage with a military guard of honour.

They were led by the Sexton, Charles Woolgar, setting a respectful pace, as shown in the illustration. Onlookers stood along the route, and some followed behind.

As the cortege reached the church, the coffins were lifted onto the shoulders of two

British Warrant Officers as a bugler sounded *'the Last Post.'*

After the short funeral service, the five airmen were buried in the churchyard, where they remained until the end of the war. At that point, their remains were exhumed and returned to their families in Germany.

By: Jacquie Buttriss - Steyning Museum.

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