

The Parish Pump

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



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Issue 161 – Spring 2022

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



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Community News

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

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

I am pleased to include below an item by the Environment Agency relating to the new coastal protection scheme which will take over when the current scheme operated by Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd finishes in 2025 and which will also include Eastbourne. This is the good news for which all of us who live near the sea have been awaiting anxiously.

Nicholas Munro, Editor
07507 480084

Pevensey Bay to Eastbourne Coastal Management Scheme

We are currently in the early stages of this project to take over from PCDL and look at the next 100 years of coastal defences in your area. We have started looking at the possibilities for future coastal defences, taking into account climate change effects, enhancing local nature and helping residents and businesses.

In the spring we are going to share with the community what these potential visions look like. We are still working on the ideas and, at this stage, every viable possibility for the long-term future of the coastline is being examined. This means that there will be scenarios which significantly differ from current practices. Other ideas will look very much like present day practices and others will be more innovative and creative.

Each possible way forward will have its pros and cons. We will be discussing these future possibilities with you – in the spring – so we can listen to your feedback, consider how it might be used to influence ways forward and ensure that your voice is heard.

We will be sharing all the possible ideas for the future of the coastline with you. Please visit the project website for the most up-to-date information and please do contact us by email at PevenseyandEastbourneCoast@environment-agency.gov.uk or visit <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/solent-and-south-downs/pevensey-bay-to-eastbourne/>

Louise Parker & Andy Walker,
Environment Agency Senior Users

PEVENSEY MEMORIAL HALL Volunteer Bookings Secretary

Pevensey Memorial Hall already has a well established schedule of regular bookings ranging from dance classes to a playgroup, however there are still some slots available for hire. The Hall Committee are seeking an enthusiastic volunteer to co-ordinate regular users and one off lets alike.

Tasks include: show round to one off booking enquirers, key handover, issue and return of Booking Form, liaising with Treasurer to ensure hire payment made prior to booking. Attendance at Committee Meetings (approx. 6 per year).

Interested? Please email the Secretary:
Jayne.howard@btinternet.com

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Please make sure you let me know if any of your contact details change. Address, Phone Nos, e mail address.

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PEVENSEY PARISH COUNCIL DEDICATED PAGE

Pevensey Parish Council (PPC) has continued to be very busy with various projects, including the repair and / or replacement of many of the Parish Councils capital assets. We also are pleased to welcome two new Councillors; Roy Jeive and Paul Williams.

PPC has been conscious of the difficult financial times facing local people and so has managed to keep the increase to the annual precept to a minimum for 2022-23 which will add about £0.13 pence per Band D household each week.

Some of the issues that PPC deals with routinely include the following:

- Applying for funding to replace and improve worn out playground equipment. New baby swings were installed in the early New Year at Pevensey playground;
- Creating and launching a new fully compliant parish council website. The address is pevenseyparishcouncil.gov.uk;
- Ensuring that Dog Fouling issues are dealt with. The Parish now has 23 dedicated Dog waste bins and 2 dog waste bag dispensers. Ordinary litter bins can also be used for bagged Dog waste. The Council holds formal Litter picks, but residents are also urged to take litter home or collect litter when they are out walking;
- Installing new safety signs across the Parish;
- Working closely with the Authorities to ensure that a renewal of the Sea Defence Contract beyond 2025 is in place;
- Working closely with the Sports Association to ensure that the Pavilion and Sports Ground are maintained;
- Working to ensure that street lighting is replaced with LED and maintained;
- Ensuring the bus shelters in the Parish are cleaned and maintained. Council is considering the cost implications for a replacement bus shelter in Coast Road by the Kiosk. Council continues to be concerned that the bus shelters are being damaged and would ask that any damage witnessed to be reported to the Clerk or to the police via 101;
- Monitoring the public grass cutting programme. The 2022 urban cuts will be arranged and organised by East Sussex County Council

(ESCC) and their appointed contractor. The first urban verge grass cut will be determined by ESCC and the schedule can be found on their website <https://www.eastsussexhighways.com/our-services/vegetation>. Pevensey will receive 6 cuts spread throughout the year. The Recreation Grounds have regular cuts throughout Spring and Summer paid for by PPC. The rural grass verge cutting and spraying of the weeds on the roads, pavements, drains and gutters remains the responsibility of ESCC.

- Continuing to monitor crime issues, speeding and antisocial behaviour, liaising with local elected Members at WDC, ESCC and Sussex Police.

Plans are underway to hold the return after three years, of the Vehicles of Yesteryear Meeting on 2 April. The Community Information day will be held during the Summer. Our second Dog Show will be held on 26 June 2022.

We are also planning to mark the Accession of HM The Queen in various ways. Businesses and organisations have their own plans and Council will co ordinate and publicise all the events. This includes the Village in Bloom competition to be held from 11 July to 15 July . Look out for the entry forms. This year the emphasis will be on planting using a red, white and blue theme. This colour scheme will be reflected in the various planters in the villages, which are maintained by volunteers and by local sponsors. If anyone is willing to help with Council events, please contact the Clerk.

A second questionnaire was issued by Council at the end of 2021 to find out what local residents think is important. Results are still being assessed and this will lead to a revised Business Plan for Council from April 2023-26.

Lastly, Council also has an active Facebook page, where you can find regular updates from the Parish Council <https://www.facebook.com/PevenseyParishCouncil>

Contact the Clerk on 01323 743900 or at clerk@pevenseyparishcouncil.gov.uk about any matters of concern.

The Parish Pump

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ALAN EVERARD AND THE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Many residents and visitors to Pevensey will have seen over the last 20 years the boards showing a painting completed by Alan Everard about the local Fauna and Flora in the area. The Government Welcome Back Fund enabled Pevensey Parish Council to have some of the boards refreshed.

This was most timely as Alan celebrated his 90th birthday in October and was very pleased to have his photograph taken with Peter Lowton, the Chairman of the Council. As well as being a prolific member of Pevensey Bay Art Club, Alan writes regular Nature articles in the local magazine, The Parish Pump. He maintains daily records of the local natural world and says that all the species he painted 20 years ago are still here locally.



Peter Lowton said "It was a pleasure to meet Alan and to learn a little about nature from him. The painting depicts the Painted Lady butterfly which has an amazing journey in Spring from Tropical Africa to the UK and then on to the Arctic Circle. It returns in Autumn laying its eggs on the way, so in fact, the Butterfly which gets back to Africa is the 6th generation from the one that started out! I am glad that we have been able to ensure the nature boards are here for the next 20 years at least!"

ANDERIDA BORDER MORRIS

Anderida Morris would like to wish you all a Happy New Year for 2022. We have been practising since September 2021 ready for the coming Morris season in the spring of 2022. Anderida Border Morris danced out for the Castle Inn, Pevensey Bay back in October at their successful craft fair. We had a lot of positive feedback about our performance and hope to be dancing at the Castle Inn again this year. We now look forward to Pentacle drummers Wassail at the Royal Oak and castle on 15th January at which they have kindly requested us to dance.

Anderida are always interested to hear from anyone wishing to join our happy band of dancers and musicians. If you would like to have a go at Morris dancing or if you are a musician and would like to play for a Morris side contact Jane! It's an excellent way to get fit, and to meet new friends at our new venue. The Ethel Wood Community Centre, Pevensey Bay.

Our email is anderidamorris@gmail.com. Or search for us on Facebook under Anderida Border Morris

ANDERIDA WI

Anderida WI (Pevensey Bay) was sixty years old in 2021. A lot of water (and ladies) have passed under the bridge during this time. Speakers by the dozen, memorable outings, social afternoons, lunches out and our very successful Craft and Games afternoons plus our monthly coffee mornings.



There have been a lot of Presidents during that time (you can see them named in St. Wilfrid's Church Hall). I have been honoured to be the President for the past ten years and have loved every minute. But, we have reached an abyss! At our Annual Meeting in October 2021 we were unable to find a Treasurer! Our present Treasurer has done her duty for the past six years and she wants a break - understandably! She has agreed to stay until March 2022 which is the end of the National Federation of WI's year. COVID-19 has reeked havoc in many organisations during the past two years, NFWI is one of them. Many of our ladies left Anderida WI in 2019 because of the policies set by National. They did not go down well with many WI's. Anderida W.I. was determined to carry on and subsidised their remaining members.

I think I can safely say, we are a very friendly and welcoming group of ladies. We meet each month on the fourth Tuesday at 2.30 pm. in St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay. We have Games and Craft afternoons in Ethel Wood Community Centre and monthly coffee mornings at the Ocean View Restaurant. That is until MARCH 2022. We will have to close if we cannot find a Treasurer. Is there a lady out there who would like to join us that maybe has book-keeping skills that could stop us from closing our doors! In spite of the 'woke' issues, it has to be a lady (confirmed by our Financial Advisor). Please come and join us and stop sixty years of companionship from 'going under'! Anderida W.I. provides friendship and companionship to a lot of ladies based in and around Pevensey Bay.

Shirley Clark
President, Anderida WI (Pevensey Bay)



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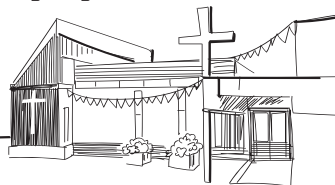
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EAST SUSSEX MOVIEMAKERS

Members resumed meeting in their usual room at St Luke's Parish Centre in January to watch a Showreel of films made by members of the Spring Park Film Makers. The evening proved to be entertaining and enjoyable, made the more so by the usual break for a cup of tea and biscuit!



As programmed, the next meeting focused on projects for the months ahead, this produced some challenging ideas; these included ways in which the Queen's Platinum Jubilee might be captured on film in the lead up to the celebrations in early June. In the following meeting members had the chance to review the edited footage filmed of a performance by Brightlights, a drama group in Bexhill.

With evenings of instruction on 'Special effects', and competition results of 'One Minute' and 'Four Minute' films made by members to look forward to, the coming months provide opportunities for members to learn about, and to share, their interest in film making.

Anyone who has an enquiring interest in watching, and hopefully helping to make, short films, will be very welcome. Come on the 1st or 3rd Wednesday of any month at 7.00 pm and give us a try. (If you want tea please bring your own mug!) For more information contact Malcolm (01323 769016) or Val (07950 904778).

Malcolm Webster

(Co-chairman with Alan Tutt)

EAST SUSSEX VISION SUPPORT

East Sussex Vision Support (ESVS), formerly The East Sussex



East Sussex Vision Support
100 YEARS 1921-2021

Association of Blind and Partially Sighted People was established in 1921 when social inclusion was at the top of its agenda. This is still the case today and we remain dedicated to providing vital services to blind and partially sighted people who live within East Sussex, Brighton and Hove. Whilst aiming to increase the independence, confidence and well-being of blind and partially sighted people, we also work to promote the understanding of sight loss in local communities.

Perhaps one of the worst times in a blind or partially sighted person's life is when they are first diagnosed with sight impairment or when it changes or worsens. Such experiences normally take place at an eye clinic. We are there to help when someone has a new diagnosis or if a sight problem changes or worsens. The consultant can refer the patient directly to ESVS where we are able to provide advice, care, comfort, sign posting, support and ensure they have full advice and guidance at this very difficult time.

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

Our Telephone Helpline is based locally at our Hailsham HQ. The service is available from Monday to Thursday 9.00 am to 4.30 pm.

We currently provide 15 social groups run by 200 volunteers. These offer a vital lifeline to over 500 of our members who would experience social isolation and exclusion without the opportunity to get together once a month.

A new Service to East Sussex Vision Support, the Higher Intervention Service is aimed at assisting clients who have more complex needs or are looking to deal with a range of issues that may be affecting their life.

For further information about any of our services or to get in touch with us please ring our HQ on 01323 832252 or email info@eastsexvisionsupport.org

Daniel Brookbank

Chief Executive

FRIENDS OF PEVENSEY PLAYGROUPS (FOPP)

Our weekly free play events in our local playgrounds were able to resume this year and 9 were run in total in the school holidays. These were paid for by funding received from the National Lottery 25, Wealden District Council and Pevensey Town Trust. Some were affected by poor weather, but still some resilient families turned up!

The events, run by Community Stuff, give children and families the chance to meet up and help to rebuild our community following the pandemic. We will be looking for funding to be able to run events next year.

FOPP was set up in 2019 for our local children and all their families. The recreation grounds and small skate park area are owned and managed by Pevensey Parish Council. More replacement of the equipment is needed and applications to mainstream funding have been made. We understand from the Parish Council that new baby swings are on order.

FOPP can also help manage the running of the playgrounds by reporting concerns and helping to keep them tidy and litter free. We need your help on this and any matters of concern can be reported to the Parish Clerk on 01323 743900 or on the dedicated FOPP Facebook Page.





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You do not need to be a member of the Friends Group to join the events, but becoming a member is easy and membership numbers do help with funding applications. Contact Shirley MacKinnon on 01323 461692 or bobandshirleymac@oulook.com at to register your interest and a few details.

INKSPOT

Inkspot is a creative writing group usually meeting in Pevensey Bay on the first Saturday of each month. We have been meeting in various locations as a house group, but we hope that before too long we can return to a regular meeting date at a regular meeting place. Our meetings, like many others, have been disrupted by uncertainty as a result of COVID. Over last summer we did manage to continue our monthly meetings in the gardens of our members. Each month we write on a different theme, and as well as sharing our written work at our meetings, we bring our stories and poems together in a monthly anthology.

We're on Facebook (inkspotbythesea) where we regularly post details of upcoming meetings and writing themes. We can be contacted by email at inkspot@gmx.com. New members who wish to share their creative writing, or find inspiration to write, in a supportive group are welcomed.

7th October last was National Poetry Day with a writing theme of 'Choice'. Our group embraced the challenge and a collection of our poems went on display in Pevensey Bay library.

Currently our challenge is to write Flash Fiction, which is a form of extremely brief fiction where every word and sentence hints at a story not fully written on the page. It is often the case that what is not said has more of an impact than what is. A very famous short piece of flash fiction is 'For sale; baby shoes, never worn.'

As a group we are thriving albeit mainly online at present. At the time of writing we are unsure when or where we will hold our next meeting but will post details on our Facebook page once finalised. We all miss meeting in person and hope it will be soon!

Jacky Long

PEVENSEY AREA GARDENERS CLUB

The Gardeners Club has a full programme set up for 2022 at our new meeting time of 2.30 pm on the second Wednesday of the month in St Wilfrid's Hall at Pevensey Bay.



For the first time in two years our Spring Festival will be on Saturday 2nd April in St Wilfrid's Hall, opening at 10.00 am. We hope to have a nice display of flowers for you to enjoy plus plants and various stalls for you to peruse and make purchases from. There will also be refreshments for you to enjoy - tea, coffee and cakes.

In May the Club will be having an open meeting to Kingston Lewes, when we will visit Lewes Garden Centre. Early birds may wish to have lunch as well. In June we will hold our small afternoon show. Open to the public after 2.30 pm.

Joining fee for the year is £12.00 and each meeting is just £1.50 to include refreshments. We just need to keep our fingers crossed that COVID doesn't upset it all. Hope to see you. Further information from the Chairman Keith on 01323 460523 or Pevenseyareagardenersclub.webs.com

Denise Morgan-Smith
President

PEVENSEY AND WESTHAM COMMUNITY FOREST GARDEN

During 2021 the concept of forest gardening has gained a lot more publicity and credibility as a way of growing healthy organic food as well as increasing local food resilience and sustainability at the same time as protecting and increasing local biodiversity. Even mainstream gardening organisations like the RHS are embracing practices drawn from forest gardening.

Our keen band of volunteers have had a busy time this winter preparing the forest garden for the spring, clearing away dead undergrowth, planting more fruit bushes and preparing a new outdoor workshop and picnic area to increase the scope for community gatherings. We are very grateful for the recent donation of outdoor furniture.

Last autumn we agreed with Pevensey Parish Council to take over the management of an area of overgrown scrubland south of Pevensey Castle in order to create a new community orchard. The site already has several fruit trees there that we planted 8 years ago and which are now mature enough to produce a healthy crop for local people to forage freely. But now we're planning to plant a lot more fruit trees and to do a lot more maintenance work on site during 2022 in order to stop the brambles taking over again and to increase the biodiversity of the site generally. We will be holding a public planting of the first of those trees, before spring arrives, as part of our contribution to the Queen's Green Canopy Project, to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. We will also be celebrating the Jubilee Bank Holiday Weekend from June 2nd to 5th with various public activities on site. All are welcome to join in.

For more information about us and how to volunteer with us, please contact Andy on 07402 321382 or email pawforestgarden@gmail.com

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PEVENSEY BAY ART GROUP

On 1st January, New Year's Day 2022, people were dipping in the sea at Pevensey Bay! We have not managed cold water swimming yet during our Wednesday meetings but we have carried out some exciting projects since the summer.



Working directly from the model, creating a portrait, was an all absorbing task and produced varied and interesting responses. During another session we used pen and ink to show letter forms to depict images with Jill P. This was a very successful exercise and a new way to observe tonal contrast and form. Making Abstract Geometrical pieces, led by Lynn, was particularly interesting with no representational starting points but with us looking purely at colour and shape.

At our AGM in October, the existing officers were voted in again for the next year. On 27th November, despite appalling weather, we held a very successful exhibition in the Aqua Bar and we thank the management for allowing us to show our work in their space. We look forward to exhibiting there again on 2nd April 2022 and we hope to see you there.

Our "end of term" Christmas party was fun, involving among other activities, guessing who the photographs of our younger selves were, lovely food and a quiz.

Future workshops include "Enhancing our work using Collage" with Sue C, "Utilising Perspective" with Mick, "Illustrating a favourite Poem or Text" with Sue A and "Creating our own Original Compositions" with Sue E. Not all our members are called Sue!

We are a mixed ability, friendly group, who welcome new members. If you are interested in joining us, please come along to our meetings held every Wednesday at St. Wilfred's Church Hall between 9.00 am and noon or contact our membership secretary on 01323 763 578.

Dinah Jones

PEVENSEY BAY AND DISTRICT INFORMATION & CARING CENTRE

It has been extremely quiet at the information centre for several weeks. We have two new volunteers lined up, but have not yet been able to introduce them to our delights. We are currently open only on an ad hoc basis. If anyone urgently needs assistance (of the type we usually offer) please try the office first then try the "emergency" number (01323 740315). We are still offering the "hospital car" service but only via 01323 740315.

I hope you all had a good Christmas and I wish you all a safe and happy 2022. We hope to open more normally in March.

Alan Vaughan
Chairman

PEVENSEY BAY BAPTIST CHURCH

Greetings to all members of our local community and the surrounding areas. We wish you God's protection, good health, and peace in your hearts during this new year, 2022. We are aware that we are facing difficult times with big challenges ahead, however, we want to encourage our neighbours not to be anxious or negative, but on the contrary, to trust in God. The Bible portrays God as a good father that loves his people, cares for them and is willing to help in times of trouble. As a church, we are praying for our village of Pevensey Bay, that in the near future we will be able to enjoy this gift of life, and freely meet together more regularly.

Our Church Activities for Spring 2022

- We have weekly Sunday services at 10:30 am in our church. Everyone is welcome to join us in worship. We will be following the current Government COVID guidelines.
- We have prayer meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7.00 pm in our church.
- At Easter, we have some special events: We have a Passover Celebration on the 14th April at 7.00 pm at the church.
- On Good Friday 15th April we will be joining with St Wilfrid's Church at 10:30 am for a procession around the Village.
- On Easter Sunday 17th April, we have an early celebration Sunday meeting on the beach by the car park at 8.00 am. Then at 10:30am we will have our regular service at the church.

Everyone is welcome to take part in all our celebrations. For more information please call 01323 769002 or 07511 297680.

First Steps Parents & Toddlers Group

Before COVID hit, we were running the First Steps group one morning a week. We would like to carry on serving our local community with this group, however, we currently have a shortage of children's workers for the core team. If you are interested in helping, please contact us on 01323 769002 or 07511 297680.

Pevensey Bay Fitcamp

Pevensey Bay Baptist Church is delighted to offer a Fitcamp to our local community, for those who want to improve their lifestyle through exercise, and make friends. Fitcamp runs on Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. For more information, please search for the group 'S&F Fitness' on Facebook or contact us on 07548 692525.

With love, **Pastor Edwin**



STONE CROSS MEMORIAL HALL



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The Hall was given to the people of Stone Cross and the surrounding area by deed of covenant in 1921. The building consists of a Main Hall, a smaller side room, a kitchen and a Stage.

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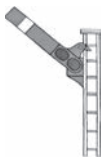
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PEVENSEY BAY MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

Monday club nights at the Ethel Wood centre have all but returned to normal and members are busy catching up on projects that had to be put on hold during the enforced period of lockdown. With one layout nearing completion and ready to exhibit and two other layouts being extended there is plenty to keep everyone occupied for a while.



In both 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic and lockdown the club's annual showcase model rail exhibition held in July had to be cancelled. This was doubly disappointing as a new and considerably larger venue than that of years past had been booked in order to accommodate a much enlarged show. With the same venue again being unavailable this year in July, the club remains determined to stage a show and has booked alternative premises for Saturday 9th July at the Victoria Baptist Church, Eldon Road, Eastbourne, BN21 1UE, 10.00 am to 4.30 pm. Provisionally there will be seventeen exhibits and a good variety of trade stands.

Ours is a friendly and sociable club that welcomes all with an interest in the hobby whether a beginner, novice or experienced. Always feel free to join us on Monday club nights at the Ethel Wood Community Centre, 129 Coast Road, Pevensey Bay, BN24 6NS.

For information feel free to contact the club secretary on 07774185651 or e-mail pbmrc@outlook.com. Further information may be found on the club's website pevenseybaymodelrailwayclub.com

PEVENSEY BINGO

Bingo continues on every Friday evening, doors open at 7.00 pm, everyone welcome for an enjoyable evenings entertainment. Longest running bingo in the area, over 60 years.

PEVENSEY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

It's wonderful to be able to say that our Library is now fully open and providing services to our community again, and that the community is really using it too! We are open on Tuesday and Saturday mornings from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm and on Thursday and Friday afternoons from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm. We have about 7000 books available for loan along with a large amount for sale too. We can lend you jigsaw puzzles, as can photocopy for you and we can even get you a cup of tea and a sit down.

We are very pleased to accept donations of books, so please keep them coming, especially fiction, crime and local interest.

Daniel Brookbank

PEVENSEY MEMORIAL HALL
SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

We continue to operate under safe bowls status. Equipment is cleaned prior to start. We are open Monday afternoon from 2.00 pm, Monday evening from 7.00 pm, Wednesday from 2.00 pm. and Sunday from 10.00 am. Please arrive early. We welcome both new and experienced bowlers of all ages. For further information contact Ann on 650172 or Peter on 763520.

PEVENSEY UKELELE GROUP

The Ukulele group now meets weekly at the Holly Blue near Stone cross on a Tuesday evening at 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm with a break halfway through the evening. The group, lead by Alan Coomber, has many years experience playing together with a full range of expertise.

Prior to Covid the group regularly had 40 players and now is building up again with 35, including beginners and several talented players.

For Two years running they were invited to play in Mojacar, southern Spain where they performed in local restaurants and holiday places once or twice each day for a week.

As Covid gradually recedes, invitations to perform publicly are coming in and the latest performance was with the Trefoil Guild in Heathfield. As usual, the group played and sang well-known songs for an hour followed by tea and biscuits. The group members perform freely and any donations made are saved for a local charity, currently a children's charity.

The ukulele is one of the easiest instruments to play and a beginner usually finds satisfaction within the first hour or two. The group plays from four books of popular songs; there is a small cost for purchasing these, otherwise the evening is free to attend. All the songs have words with the musical chords shown and singing, while playing, is encouraged.

In the run up to Christmas super stores invite the group to perform in the store and members enjoy the ambiance dressing up appropriately.

Contact Alan 01323 763061 or 07986 130034 to discuss performing at a venue or just come along on a Tuesday to the Holly Blue 6.40 pm where you will have a warm welcome and a start at 7.00 pm. A good beginners ukulele can be purchased online, Amazon or Ebay for £20 to £40 but some members make ukuleles and sell them.



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ROYAL BRITISH LEGION (WESTHAM, PEVENSEY AND STONE CROSS BRANCH)

We are pleased to announce that, even under these unusual circumstances, our Branch raised the sum of £8,288.09 for Poppy Appeal in November. Thank you for your support.



Our Branch is following the Corona Virus recommendations so we are still **EVENT CANCELLED** hold our quarterly meetings but we will be able to hold a service at St. Wilfrid's Church Hall on Saturday 10th April 10.00 am – 12 noon. Look out for the posters and hope to see you there.

We are still helping our Members with shopping, hospital visits etc. and will continue to do so as long as is necessary.

Hoping for an easier year for everyone in 2022!

RVS MONDAY LUNCH CLUB

It was lovely when the club reopened to see old and new friends at the Monday Lunch Club at The Ethel Wood Community Centre Coast Road. On the 10th December guests and staff sat down to a full Christmas Dinner, which was enjoyed by all. Father Christmas arrived very early and left their presents on the table.

We've opened on the 10th January 2022 and are looking forward to a full year of meetings.

If you are interested in joining our Monday Lunch Club please contact Christine Wood on 01323 768019.

We do have a Mini Bus pick ups in Pevensy Bay.

Christine Wood

ST MARY'S CHURCH, WESTHAM

Parish life continues afoot even as the pandemic persists around us and it has been wonderful to still welcome back people who haven't been able to attend previously because of this. Christmas was busy and we now look forward to our Easter celebrations. We're still to fully agree all our Easter services, but we're hoping to once more be able to hold our traditional after-school Shrove Tuesday Pancake celebration on 1st March before we mark the beginning of Lent with a service on Ash Wednesday (2nd March).



Likewise, we are planning to hold our usual Easter services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day, but to check service times the best place to look nearer the time is on our website: www.stmaryschurchwestham.co.uk.

We hold several different service styles from a weekly Prayer Book Communion to a monthly All Age Worship service (1st Sunday of the month) and there are many opportunities to discover how Christian spirituality helps our life experiences, such as through the well known Alpha course (next one begins just after Easter). Do take a look at our website, or receive a very warm welcome on a Sunday morning.

ST WILFRID'S HALL, PEVENSEY BAY

Following the pandemic the hall has been reopened and groups have been able to meet again. A variety of activities and meetings are undertaken at the hall, including art, music, health classes and dog training.

We are pleased to have a new exciting venture to host monthly Craft Fairs for local crafters. These will be held on the second Saturday of the month starting with 12th February and 12th March, from 10.00 am-Midday. They will resume, after building work has been completed, on 11th June 2022. Light refreshments will be served by volunteers from St Wilfrid's Church. Anyone interested in having a stall should contact Revd Merriel Woodward at revd.merriel@hotmail.co.uk or 01323 509891

The hall committee has been working for some years on a full refurbishment programme, which started with the installation of new toilets, including disabled facilities. Funding has at last been obtained to enable a new roof, insulation, lighting and flooring to the hall to be installed. This does mean closure of the hall again from 28th March until the end of May. A full opening and celebration day will be held to mark the occasion, hopefully on the 4th or 5th June with a Lunch to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee for HM The Queen.

There are slots available to hire the hall so do contact our bookings clerk on 01323 460523. Keith will do his best to accommodate your requirements whether for a one off event or a regular booking. He, or one of the Committee, will be happy to show you round.

Shirley MacKinnon
Secretary to Hall Committee

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Local Community Organisations' Directory

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This list is published in good faith and using the information supplied to us. If the contact number for your organisation has changed, or is incorrect, please write to The Editor of The Parish Pump at the Information Centre, Sea Road Car Park, Pevensey Bay. If your organisation is not listed then forward the details, for inclusion in the next issue.

Churches:

Pevensey Bay Baptist Church	769002
St. Luke's, Stone Cross	767020
St. Mary's, Westham	460176
St. Nicolas, Pevensey	765481
St. Wilfrid's, Pevensey Bay	765481

Halls:

Ethel Wood Community Centre	
Ethel Wood Community Centre, Bookings	764877
Memorial Hall, Pevensey	764565
Memorial Hall, Pevensey, Bookings	764565
St. Luke's Parish Centre, Stone Cross	767020
St. Wilfrid's, Pevensey Bay, Bookings	460523
Stone Cross Memorial Hall	769167
Westham Village Hall, Bookings	07821 377110

Medical Centres:

Pevensey Bay, Westham & Stone Cross	761461
Eastbourne D.G. Hospital	417400

Parish Councils:

Pevensey – Clerk to the Council	743900
	or 07849 124319
Westham	461299

Play Groups & Primary Schools:

First Steps Mums & Toddlers	769002
Hankham Primary School	763265
Little Lukes Playgroup	461649
Pevensey & Westham Pre-School	07925 538730
Pevensey & Westham Primary School	762269
Stone Cross Independent Pre-School	740149
Stone Cross Primary School	461002

Public Transport:

National Rail Enquiries	0845 748 4950
Stagecoach	0845 600 2299
South-East Traveline (Bus & Train info)	0871 200 2233
Cuckmere Buses	870920

Social Services:

William Daly Centre	484316
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Emergency Numbers:

Floodline	0845 988 1188
Electricity	0800 783 8866
Gas	0800 111 999
Water	0845 278 0845

General:

Court House, Pevensey	733419
Pevensey Bay Information Centre	766230
- out of hours emergencies	740315
Pevensey Bay Library Enquiries	0345 608 0196
Pevensey Bay Library Renewals	0345 608 0195
Pevensey Castle	762604
Pevensey Coastal Defence	761202

Women's Institutes (WI):

Anderida	769236 (Shirley Clark 07768 567092)
Westham Evening	762374

Voluntary Organisations & Societies:

Anderida Morris	318532 or 07943 839838
Bowls Club	764346
British Red Cross	732471
Care for the Carers	738390
Cats Protection League	440101
Dickens Fellowship	471615
Disability Solutions	763506
	disabilitysolutions8@gmail.com
Eastbourne Stroke Support Group	01273 782715
East Sussex Vision Support	832252
East Sussex Hearing Resource Centre	722505
East Sussex Moviemakers	769016
E/Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service	
	07815 078234
Foxes Hollow Residents' Assoc.	764350/764590
Guide Dogs for the Blind	763206
Haven Players	460174
Kit Wilson Trust	01825 830444
Monday Bingo Club	763583
Monday Lunch Club, Pevensey Bay	469168
Pevensey Area Gardeners' Club	650719
Pevensey Bay Art Group	763578
Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club	07774 185651
Pevensey Bay & District Stroke Club	762591
Pevensey Bingo (Friday)	763520
Pevensey Church Farm Trust	743301
Pevensey Church Farm (Tenant)	762371
Pevensey Community Support	765915
Pevensey Dreamers Social Club	763750
Pevensey Villages Partnership	07511 835408
	(www.pevenseyvillages.org)
Pevensey & Westham Adult/Jnr Football Club	763026
Pevensey & Westham Flower Club	736257
Pevensey & Westham Historical Society	728277
Pevensey & Westham Wives' Group	766019
Pevensey & Westham Cricket Club	01424 773725
Pevensey & Westham Sports Club	469003
Royal British Legion	764641
Royal National Lifeboat Institution	351674
Samaritans	721511
Stone Cross Painting Group	843586
Stone Cross Whist Drive	763246
Stone Cross Windmill	483470
Sussex Wildlife Trust, Eastbourne	07946 753135
The Beach Belles	762187
The Tuesday Club	767615
View Craft	505764
Wealden, Hastings and Rother Lost & Found Dogs	
	01424 490034
Westham Art Group	461433
Yoga Classes (Vicky)	07566 228445

The Parish Pump:

Editor: Nick Munro	07507 480084
email: parishpump13@btinternet.com	

Advertising Manager:

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What's On

PLEASE NOTE THAT ACTIVITIES LISTED BELOW ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT ADVICE AND MAY NOT TAKE PLACE AT ALL. YOU ARE ADVISED TO TELEPHONE THE ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED AT THE NUMBERS LISTED ON PAGE 19 TO CHECK IN ADVANCE OF ATTENDING.

WEEKEND LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES

Sundays
8.00 am St Mary's, Westham – BCP Holy Communion
9.15 am St Wilfrid's Pevensey Bay – Holy Communion
9.45 am St Mary's, Westham – Holy Communion – All ages welcome
11.30 am St Nicolas, Pevensey – Sung Eucharist

Easter Services for the Parish of Pevensey:

Ash Wednesday 7.30 pm Mass at St Nicolas
Maundy Thursday 7.30 pm Mass & Watch at St Nicolas
Good Friday 10.30 am Act of Witness at St Wilfrid's & **2.00 pm** Hour of the Cross and Good Friday at St Nicolas
Holy Saturday 7.30 pm Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter at St Nicolas
Easter Day 9.15 am St Wilfrid's Easter Mass & **11.30 am** St Nicolas Easter Mass

EVERY WEEK

Sundays 10.00 am – 12.30 pm Pevensey Memorial Hall SM Bowls Club – now open

Mondays 10.00 am St Mary's Church, Westham open
 RVS Monday Lunch Club – Ethel Wood Community Centre
2.00 pm – 4.00 pm Pevensey Memorial Hall SM Bowls Club – now open
7.00 pm – 9.30 pm Pevensey Memorial Hall SM Bowls Club – now open
7.00 pm – 9.30 pm Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Centre

Tuesdays 10.00 am St Mary's Church, Westham open
10.00 am Pevensey & Westham Community Forest Garden volunteers meet at Pevensey Recreation Ground Car Park

Wednesdays 9.00 am – Noon Pevensey Bay Art Group – St Wilfrid's Hall, Pevensey Bay
9.30 am Westham Pop-In - Westham Village Hall

10.00 am St Mary's Church, Westham open

2.00 pm – 4.30 pm Pevensey Memorial Hall SM Bowls Club – now open

6.30 pm – 7.45 pm VOICES choir – Christ, The King Church, Princes Road

Thursdays 10.00 am St Mary's Church, Westham open.

10.00 am Pevensey & Westham Community Forest Garden volunteers meet at Pevensey Recreation Ground Car Park

1.00 pm – 3.00 pm Noah's Ark – Parent & Toddlers Group (during term time) – St Mary's Church

12.30 pm – 3.15 pm Stone Cross Painting group – Memorial Hall, Stone Cross

Fridays 10.00 am St Mary's Church, Westham open

7.00 pm for 7.30 pm eye down looking Bingo, Pevensey Memorial Hall – already started

Cuckmere Buses Service 36 (Berwick Station to Beachlands via Polegate, Stone Cross, Westham, Langney Shops, Asda (Crumbles) and Pevensey Bay. (Plus return)

Cuckmere Buses Service 37 (Beachlands to Hailsham via Pevensey Bay, Asda (Crumbles), Langney Shops, Westham, Stone Cross and Ersham Road. (Plus return))

EVERY MONTH

Second Wednesday

2.00 pm Pevensey Area Gardeners Club – St Wilfrid's Church Hall

MARCH 2022

- Tue 1st** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Mon 7th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 8th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Wed 9th** **2.15 pm** Pevensey Area Gardeners Club – 'Tea and the English' with Dr Sally White. All welcome – St Wilfrid's Hall, Pevensey Bay.
- Thu 10th** **10.30 am** Friendship – Plus – Gentles Exercise followed by refreshments – Pevensey Bay Baptist Church.
- Mon 14th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 15th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Thu 17th** **7.30 pm** Sussex Wildlife Trust (Eastbourne & Pevensey Bay Group) – Illustrate Talk – 'BTO Garden BirdWatch – how we help birds by recording them,' Rob Jaques, Garden BirdWatch supporter officer. The talk will be on Zoom and you will need to register. Details will be available later at <https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/whats-on>
- Mon 21st** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 22nd** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Thu 24th** **7.30 pm** Westham Evening WI – Meeting (Depending on government advice on COVID - 19 at the time) – 'A Tour of Rye' – David Clarke - Westham Village Hall.
- Mon 28th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 29th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.

APRIL 2022

- Sat 2nd** **10.00 am – Noon** - Pevensey Area Gardeners Club – Spring Festival – Stalls and Refreshments. Entrance Free – All Welcome – St Wilfrid's Hall, Pevensey Bay.
- Mon 4th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 5th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Fri 8th** **4.00 pm** Friendship-Plus – A Film about the Easter Story followed by refreshments upstairs – Pevensey Bay Baptist Church.
- Mon 11th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 12th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Wed 13th** **2.15 pm** Pevensey Area Gardeners Club – 'Shepherds of the South Downs' with Ian Everest – St Wilfrid's Hall, Pevensey Bay.
- Sun 17th** **2.00 pm – 5.00 pm** Stone Cross Windmill opens. Easter Sunday.
- Mon 18th** **2.00 pm – 4.00 pm** Stone Cross Windmill is open. Easter Monday.
- Tue 19th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Thu 21st** **7.30 pm** Sussex Wildlife Trust (Eastbourne & Pevensey Bay Group) – Illustrated Talk, 'Pushing Conservation Forward – a story of farming and wildlife on the Pevensey Levels' – Martin Hall of Montague Farm. Depending on COVID situation if online as a Zoom talk please register or book if in the hall. Details on <https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/whats-on>
- Sat 23rd** **10.00 am – Noon** Stone Cross Windmill – Coffee and Cake Morning.
- Mon 25th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 26th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Thu 28th** **7.30 pm** Westham Evening WI – Meeting (Depending on government advice on COVID - 19 at the time) – Speaker / Activity TBC - Westham Village Hall.

MAY 2022

- Mon 2nd** **2.00 pm – 4.00 pm** Stone Cross Windmill – Early Bank Holiday.
- 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 3rd** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Mon 9th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 10th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Wed 11th** Pevensey Area Gardeners Club – Meeting at Lewes Garden Centre, Kingston.
- Thu 12th** **10.30 am** Please call 461923 / 769002 for information – Pevensey Bay Baptist Church.
- Sat 14th** **10.00 am – 4.00 pm** Stone Cross Windmill – National Mills Weekend.
- Sun 15th** **10.00 am – 4.00 pm** Stone Cross Windmill – National Mills Weekend.
- Mon 16th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 17th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Thu 19th** **7.30 pm** Sussex Wildlife Trust (Eastbourne & Pevensey Bay Group) Illustrated Talk – 'Weather Lore – Fact or Fiction?' - BBC Weatherman Ian Currie will tell us. Depending on COVID situation if on line please register or if in hall please book. Details later on <https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/whats-on>
- Mon 23rd** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 24th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Tue 31st** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Thu 26th** **7.30 pm** Westham Evening WI – Meeting (Depending on government advice on COVID - 19 at the time) – Speaker / Activity TBC – Westham Village Hall.
- Mon 31st** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Mon 31st** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.

JUNE 2022

- Thu 2nd** **2.00 pm – 4.00 pm** Stone Cross Windmill – Spring Bank Holiday.
- Fri 3rd** **2.00 pm – 4.00 pm** Stone Cross Windmill – Queen's Jubilee Bank Holiday.
- Mon 6th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 7th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Wed 8th** **2.30 pm** Pevensey Area Gardeners Club – Afternoon Mini-Show. Flowers, vegetables and cookery. Open to the public. All welcome – St Wilfrid's Hall, Pevensey Bay.
- Fri 10th** **10.30 am** Call 461923 / 769002 for information – Pevensey Bay Baptist Church.
- Mon 13th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 14th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Sat 18th** **10.00 am – Noon** Stone Cross Windmill – Summer Fete.
- Mon 20th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.
- Tue 21st** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Ukulele Group – Holy Blue, Stone Cross.
- Thu 23rd** **7.30 pm** Westham Evening WI – Meeting (Depending on government advice on COVID - 19 at the time) – Speaker / Activity TBC – Westham Village Hall.
- Thu 27th** **7.00 pm – 9.00 pm** Pevensey Bay Model Railway Club – Ethel Wood Community Hall.

THE PARISH PUMP

'Providing a voice for local community organisations since 1967.'

The Parish Pump is published three times a year by Pevensey Memorial Hall. It is compiled and distributed entirely by unpaid volunteers. Editor: Nick Munro (parishpump13@btinternet.com)



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

STONE CROSS INDEPENDENT PRE-SCHOOL

Stone Cross Independent Pre-School has charitable status (Registered Charity No 1030338) and have been operating since 1952 from the local Memorial Hall. In 1999, the Pre-School expanded to include a purpose built Nursery Unit within the premises of the local primary school.

The Memorial Hall premises are open Monday to Friday mornings, 9.15am to 12.15 m for children aged two to three years. There is a maximum of 30 children per session. The Memorial Hall premises include use of the main hall, a second smaller room, kitchen and small enclosed garden area.

The Nursery Unit premises are open Monday to Friday mornings, 9.00am to noon and Monday to Friday afternoons, noon to 3.00 pm for children aged 3 to 5 years. There is a maximum of 24 children per session. Morning and afternoon sessions can run consecutively.

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

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

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

To book a visit or for further details please contact the Administrator on e-mail admin@stonecrosspreschool.org or mobile 07864 295888.

Stone Cross Pre-School Staff and Committee

STONE CROSS WINDMILL

Stone Cross Windmill closed in September for the Winter break. This gives time for the maintenance team to complete essential repairs ready for the opening and hopefully begin milling flour. The Windmill like all heritage buildings needs constant attention and sometimes at high costs as there is often a need to hire professional help and guidance.



The season last year was very short and sadly a number of fund-raising events were cancelled. The Trust will re-open on Easter weekend Sunday 16th April 2022 for teas and tours.

The Trust held its first fund raising fair since 2019 at the Windmill in November and hopefully this level of support will continue as the monies raised helps the ever-continuing maintenance and essential bills. The Trust hope to continue using the Windmill for fund raising events during 2022.

The next fundraising event will be a coffee and cake morning at the Windmill on Saturday 23rd April from 10.00 am to 12 noon and hopefully will attract many visitors. There will be a tombola and raffle prizes plus the usual stalls selling home-made cakes and bread.

Please continue to support the Windmill by renewing your membership, providing donations, and joining/renewing the 100 club. If you have recently moved to the area, especially the new estates that are adjacent to the Windmill, help to maintain this iconic building in the heart of our community - a reminder of our heritage. Further information will be on the website www.stonecrosswindmill.co.uk

Please support the Windmill so that it can remain open to the public ensuring that this iconic building in the heart of our community does not fall into disrepair.

Private group visits can be arranged and also talks to local organisations. Please contact the chair if you require further information.

Barbara Molog, Chair, SCMT
scmt2012@yahoo.co.uk

SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST (EASTBOURNE & PEVENSEY BAY GROUP)

A delightful start to 2022 was a spectacular sunrise on New Year's Day, then to see and hear a Great Spotted Woodpecker drumming at the bottom of my garden and a Wren and a Song Thrush singing at full volume! They know the days are getting longer, Spring is coming and territories must be marked out.



Sussex
Wildlife Trust

Thursday 17th March 2022 at 7.30 pm, Sussex Wildlife Trust Eastbourne & Pevensey Bay Group, Illustrated Talk: 'BTO Garden BirdWatch - how we help birds by recording them'

Rob Jaques, BTO Garden BirdWatch supporter officer, talks about the research on garden birds over 25 years and, how we can best provide for wildlife in our gardens.

Thursday 21st April 2022 at 7.30 pm, Sussex Wildlife Trust Eastbourne & Pevensey Bay Group, Illustrated Talk: 'Pushing Conservation Forward - a story of farming and wildlife on the Pevensey Levels'. Martin Hole of Montague Farm asks 'Will it be possible to run a profitable farm while also maximising opportunity for the wildlife so special to the marsh in the future?'



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Thursday 19th May 2022 at 7.30 pm, Sussex Wildlife Trust Eastbourne & Pevensey Bay Group, Illustrated Talk: 'Weather Lore - Fact or Fiction?' Red sky at night - shepherd's delight and, lightning cannot strike the same place twice: Weather Lore gives us hundreds of such sayings. Are they true? BBC Weatherman Ian Currie will tell us, as well explaining circles around the sun, 'bolts from the blue' and why we should avoid oak trees in a storm.

Depending on the Covid situation: if online as a Zoom talk, please register, or please book your place if in the hall. Details will be posted nearer the date at: <https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/whats-on>

For more information about the Group's events go to the SWT's website or contact Janet Nott on 01424 777291, 07946 753135, email: secretary-swteastbourne@hotmail.co.uk

TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB

Our regular Tuesday Lunch club is up and running again. Over the last few months we have enjoyed trips to The Star and The Kings Head. Also in December we had had a lovely Christmas lunch at Hydro Hotel.

This coming year, hopefully, we are going to go out for more trips and lunch out once a month.

Anyone interested in joining the Tuesday Lunch Club either as a member or a volunteer, please call 01323 767615 or pop in to Ethel Wood Community Hall on Tuesday morning 9.30 am to 1.00 pm.

Thank you.

Gill Parsons

VIEWCRAFT

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

We meet on Tuesday mornings during term times at Herstmonceux Village Hall from 10.00 am – midday. We run five craft classes, including macramé, mosaics, wood carving and cane work, which are taught by experienced tutors.

The members make a small weekly contribution (currently £5) towards the cost of the craft materials. Transport is free and is provided by volunteer drivers some of whom also help with the activities. There is a very friendly atmosphere with plenty of help and support to produce many lovely items.

We are still very short of drivers and we would be very pleased to welcome new volunteer drivers. We pay a mileage allowance of 45p per mile. We have also lost some of our members and so have several vacancies in all crafts, so we would be delighted to welcome more visually impaired people as members. If you are interested or know of someone who would like to join us, please get in touch.

For further information please contact Jean Wilson. Tel No 01323 505764, email: jean.dolmeg@outlook.com or check our website: www.viewcraft.org

VILLAGE IN BLOOM

The year 2022 did not start off that well but this is a special year for our beloved Queen Elizabeth who will be celebrating her platinum jubilee. We should all celebrate this achievement with bursts of colour in our gardens. I read recently that the 'greens' would like to do away with formal gardens i.e. local parks and let the areas grow wild to attract wildlife. Have they sat in their gardens and watched the bees and butterflies making the most of the beautiful flowers. We do not know what is happening in the earth beneath but I am sure the 'Wildlife' thrives in our gardens. Have we also watched the visitors to Eastbourne admiring the formal flower gardens on the seafront?

So, just forget this green policy for a moment and plant up spectacular displays of flowers, possibly in platinum, red, white and blue and enter Village in Bloom 2022. The dates are Monday, 11th July – Friday, 15th July 2022.

There will be the usual categories – Best Front Garden, Best Hanging Basket/Container, Best Coastal Garden and Best Community Display. Businesses are urged to enter this year, very few have entered in past. Everyone, business or parishioners can help celebrate with Her Majesty and enhance Pevensey and Pevensey Bay.

Shirley Clark, Event Organiser,
Village in Bloom 2022

VOICES CHOIR

Voices Choir has had many disruptions, following various outbreaks of Covid -19 and its variants. Somehow, though, the choir managed to rehearse and perform their annual Christmas concert to a small, but appreciative audience. The chosen charity to receive our profits this year was Matthew25Mission, a really worthy cause that feeds and supports the homeless and those in need all year long. We were delighted to hand over to them a donation of £900.

Our other performances were limited to a couple of outdoor shows. Our annual sing at Hilliers moved outside their doors, and then at East Dean Xmas Fair for some Christmas songs and Carols.



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Unfortunately, we have taken the decision to close for the whole of January, in order to protect our members during the huge rise in numbers of people contracting the Virus at the moment. However, by the time you read this, I am hoping and praying that we will have seen the back of this dreadful virus for now, and that future strains will be controlled by new vaccines being developed.

There is good news though! This year is the 10th anniversary of Voices Choir, and I am beginning to plan for a major concert to celebrate. To this end, I am inviting anyone who would like a "good old sing" to come and join us when we reopen from February onwards to help in our celebrations which will hopefully raise record amounts for good causes.

We rehearse once a week at Christ The King Church Hall, Princes Road, each Wednesday from 6.15 pm to 7.45 pm. Further details can be found on our website www.Voiceschoir.co.uk, or you can ring me, Diana Terry, for a chat on 01323 766994.

Even if you don't want a long term commitment in a choir, you can join us until our concert in June, perform, and then go and enjoy your summer! Also, we would love to welcome ex members of Voices for those few months too.

Remember that singing is good for your physical and mental health, you have loads of fun and make new friends. Come and join us for our tenth anniversary celebration fundraiser....you know you want to!

WESTHAM EVENING WI

In line with most others, I suspect, the members of Westham Evening WI had hoped, if not to say anticipated, that by beginning of 2022, the restrictions of Covid-19 would be generally behind us. Unfortunately, due to the Omicron variant that reared its head in December 2021, this has not been anyone's experience.

It has definitely not been all negative thoughts; however, with a new committee taking up the reins from October to support President Pam and planning new speakers and activities for the year ahead. Members who lead the various groups are hoping they will be able to restart too, with these including Gardening, Walking, Knitter/Natter and the Book Club.

Some have enjoyed watching cookery demonstrations and courses via the Denman at Home facility that has continued, following the closure of the college. At county level, East Sussex Federation has their Annual Council Meeting in March, to be held in Eastbourne.

Nationally, the WI are planning for their Annual Meeting in June in Liverpool, with interesting speakers and the chance to discuss the Resolutions and decide which will be the one that needs to be campaigned on during the following year.

Members are looking forward to being able to meet together again and to share ideas and enjoy activities once more.

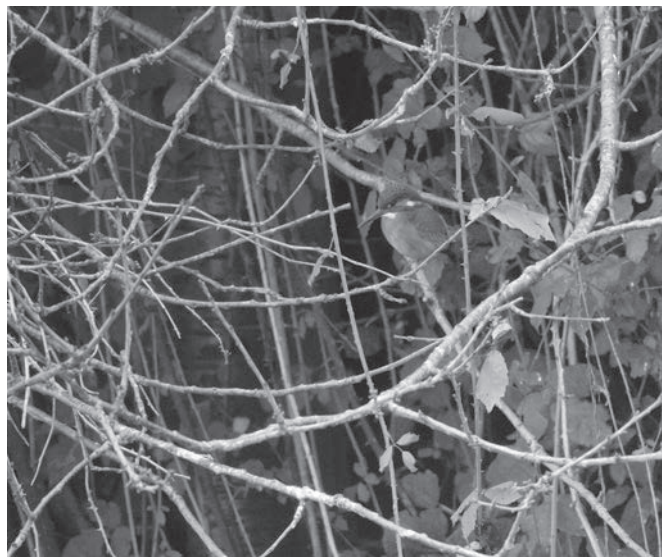
WESTHAM POND

Wildlife is Returning. Since March 2019 volunteers have worked hard to restore wildlife to Westham Pond. Such things take time but already the pond is cleaner, healthier and more alive than it has been for many years.

Plants are fundamental. They oxygenate water, break down pollutants, and trap silt. The volunteers have planted many species that had been lost. Some have beautiful flowers in the spring and summer. Water lilies seem to be surviving. Pretty underwater pondweeds are now growing from seed dormant in the pond for over 30 years. The return of clear water allows light to reach the bottom to wake them up.

Every plant supports different creatures so the more types of plant the greater the diversity of small animals. Many species of dragonfly, water-beetle, moth, butterfly, bee and other insects have now returned.

Lots of tiny animals to eat and more plant shelter now provide good habitat for larger animals. Frogs, toads and newts have returned. Grass Snakes that eat them have also been seen again. 10-Spined Sticklebacks have increased and these little fish attracted birds that feed on them. Heron, Little Egret and even Cormorant have been seen. Kingfishers have started to visit regularly.



The Parish Council has installed bird and bat boxes on bankside tree trunks. The pond is an important area for bats and they can be seen flitting low over the water at twilight taking over from the Swallows and House Martins that zoom down in the daytime.

Thanks so much to everyone for taking notice of the request not to feed ducks at the pond. It is the biggest factor in restoring clean water which is essential in keeping all pond wildlife, including ducks healthy. Volunteers are very welcome. Please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council if you are interested.

STONE CROSS INDEPENDENT PRE-SCHOOL

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WESTHAM POP-IN

Westham Pop-In provides a morning of friendship, chat, tea, coffee and biscuits and we hope that you will join us on Wednesday mornings from 9.30 am at Westham Village Hall. The cost is just one pound and we politely ask if you could bring the correct change to reduce money handling issues. We have a large number of pre-read books for sale at 30 pence a book and a selection of jigsaws too. Look forward to seeing you all soon.

Westham Pop-In Committee

WESTHAM VILLAGE CONSERVATION GROUP

Westham Village Conservation Group organised a successful campaign against an inappropriate housing development in 2015. This Spring Wealden District Council will issue another Public Consultation concerning the new Local Plan. Most fields in the parish are threatened. Please contribute to the consultation.

Peelings Lane, this wildlife corridor links Westham and Stone Cross. The 'sunken lane', was created over centuries by passing carts eroding the sandy, clay soils.

Our beautiful Westham Pond has many species of birds to watch'

Pickens Wood the privately-owned Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland, near Stone Cross Church evolved over more than 400 years and contains a huge variety of native species.

COUNT - tree and flower species in the ancient hedges, most older hedges have a wider variety of native species. One section of hedge has 9 different species, 900 years old?

The verges are mown infrequently, allowing wild flowers to survive and set seed. Plants unfold with the seasons, Violets, Bluebells, Pink Campion, Ramsons, Hops and Bryony. Verges must kept clear of fly tipped garden waste which smothers native plants. Blackberry flowers provide nectar for insects and butterflies which are food for birds.

Many common bird species declined by over 50% in the last 30 years often because of habitat loss.

LISTEN - Woodpeckers drum on the trees. Birds of prey and Herons hunt across the fields. These fringe our internationally acclaimed Pevensey Levels Wetlands which are managed for wildlife and farming. Threatened birds species, rare spiders, plants, dragonflies, amphibians and snails live here.

LOOK along hedge banks for mammal signs:- rabbit barrows, mouse holes, claw marks, tiny holes of ground nesting bumble bees.

SMELL perfumed Hawthorn (May), blossoms and honeysuckle.

The lane retains some of its wildlife which residents and tourists enjoy. All trees are crucial to the character of the lane. Some have Tree Protection Orders.

WESTHAM VILLAGE HALL

We are delighted that our Hall is once again up and running as a hub for our Community. We have welcomed new Groups, have had family parties and get-togethers and our long-standing Groups have returned. We still have availability, so please get in touch with our helpful booking clerk Julie on 07821377110 if you would like to hire your Hall.

With the start of a New Year, our Chairperson's endeavours to gain grants and following the last few years of disruption, the Committee decided it was time to refresh our Hall. We spent a busy few days clearing the Committee and side room of years of accumulative items and were delighted to be able to assist the charity Mencap by donating to them a number of our orange hall chairs.

The Committee room now has an extensive library of books which can be purchased for 30 pence a book. The bookshelves were kindly built for us, alongside a smart new sink and cupboard unit and a unit to contain electrical boards by our Treasurer's husband Dennis, who we extend our thanks to, as this has created an inviting room for meetings, quiet time or counselling sessions.

The stage will benefit from new curtains and will be re-painted this Spring. We hope these changes will be welcomed by you all and a programme of improvements will continue. The Committee wish you all a Happy, Healthy and Joyful 2022.

ISSUE 162 DEADLINE

Local voluntary groups and societies should send news of forthcoming events and activities for the period 1st July 2022 to 31st October 2022 by email to parishpump13@btinternet.com no later than

14th May 2022.

Brief details (date, time, subject and venue) of any events for inclusion in the 'What's On' section need to be listed separately and sent via a separate email.



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WESTHAM PARISH COUNCIL DEDICATED PAGE

Westham Parish Council takes in the areas of Hankham, Stone Cross and Westham with an electorate of over 6000 in the Parish. There are three wards represented by Councillors: Westham – 5 Councillors, Stone Cross – 6 Councillors and Dittons – 2 Councillors.

In Spring residents are sent a Council Tax payment request from Wealden District Council showing how the final amount is made up different charges from various organisations. One such charge will be the Precept for the Parish Council.

The Precept is a tax that Parish Council's charge their local electors to meet their budget requirements. Parish Councils do not receive any direct funding from central government and rely on their Precept plus any other income they generate from services or facilities they provide. The Parish Council Precept is part of the Council Tax and is collected from local electors via their Council Tax payments.

One of the things that many residents find unclear is exactly which Council – Town, District or County – is responsible for what in the parish.

As a very rough guide:

Parish Council

The Parish Council has responsibility for: Recreation Grounds and green spaces, Westham Village Pond, Allotments, Cemetery and War Memorials, Flowers, Parish Council Noticeboards and Grants.

Tel: 01323 461299

email: clerk@westhamparishcouncil.org.uk

Wealden District Council

Administers Planning, Council Tax collection, Housing Benefits, and other Environmental Services such as Refuse Collection and Recycling. It is also responsible for Wealden DC Car Parks, Street Trading and Licensing.

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- *Building Control*
- *Council Tax*
- *Anti-social behaviour*
- *Environmental Services - Abandoned vehicles, fly-tipping, graffiti, pollution, full litter and/or dog bins, dog fouling, litter, street cleaning*
- *Planning*
- *Waste Services - Missed refuse/recycling collections*

Tel: 01323 443322

Website: www.wealden.gov.uk

email: info@wealden.gov.uk

Note: although Westham Parish Council is consulted on Planning Matters (as a statutory consultee) the Principal Authority is Wealden District Council.

There will be a New Local Plan Consultation by Wealden District Council during the Spring months. Given that developers and planners want to build on most of the remaining fields in the Parish residents should be

encouraged and be prepared to submit comments to Wealden when it is open for consultation.

East Sussex County Council

Is responsible for the major community services such as Blue Badges, Adult Social Care and Health, Education, Social Services and Highways (including street-lighting, potholes) Public Transport, Trading Standards, Registrar, Records and Archives.

Tel: General Enquiries: 0345 608 0190

website: www.eastsussex.gov.uk to be directed to different departments.

You can also contact your local Member of Parliament, **Hugh Merriman**, who is available to meet any constituent who needs his help or advice.

Tel: 01424 734910

www.huwmerriman.org.uk

Last December the Council decided to cancel its Meeting of the Full Council due to Government advice on the latest Omicron variant. The Council puts the health and safety of the Councillors and the public first and it would not have been sensible for Councillors and the public to attend the meeting. Following a written question from the Green Party a Minister of State at the Department of Levelling Up – Housing and Communities confirmed that Councils must continue to meet in person. The government rejected calls to bring in laws to permit Councils to return hybrid meetings despite the spread Omicron variant and said that "We recognise there will be concerns about holding 'Face to face' meetings. It is for Council to apply the Covid guidance and ensure meetings take place safely.

The dates of the next Parish Council meetings are yet to be confirmed and we will be published online and will be displayed in the Councils Public Noticeboards.

The Parish Council has erected new signs at Adur Park, the Car Park next to Stone Cross School and the Hobney Rise recreation ground. More signs in the area will be updated in the coming months as the Council looks to improve its infrastructure.

New goal posts have been fitted in Adur Park during the winter months.

During the winter the road to the Council Allotment site off Rattle Road has been completely overhauled to a very high standard. The site itself is now improved with all plots being worked.

The Parish Council has many beautiful trees to look after and maintain in the area. It would be very beneficial to the Council if a resident would, assist the Council in looking after the trees. This would not be onerous as only periodic inspections are required. Maybe there is a knowledgeable resident in the area that could help?

Finally, the Parish Council has a vacancy for a Councillor. This can be a rewarding job that can involve working with the community. The main topics for a Parish Council are planning matters, allotments, crime prevention, anti-social behaviour and looking after the open spaces in the parish.

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Deaf

by Lorna Baker

I tell myself
I shouldn't complain
There are those
Far worse off
In this growing old game.

Nonetheless, it's very frustrating
To have lost the skill of communicating.

When anyone speaks,
I can't understand
It's as if I am living
In some foreign land

Music is an awful row
And people talk
Like Daleks now.

I yearn to hear
A proper voice
But sadly am left
With only one choice

Mechanical sounds
Or nothing at all
I'm grateful, it's something,
Albeit so small

An English Spring

by Frances Bradley

Had I the blaze of colour of the crocus
If I could voice the song the blackbirds sing
Or gather all the scents of early blossom
I'd give the World a breath of English spring

The bluebell carpets in our woods are blooming
The crows are building high up in the trees
On Sundays you can hear old church bells ringing
And daffodils are dancing in the breeze

Across the Seven Sisters there's a rainbow
No pot of gold, but what you'll find instead
Are here and there some rare endangered flowers
Still growing strong up there on Beachy Head

The sailing boats are racing round the lighthouse
Kite surfers jump the waves in Pevensey Bay
The kids are looking forward to the Egg Hunt
And eating hot cross buns for tea today

In London all the tourist sites are busy
The pink camelias bloom again at Kew
At Hammersmith Bridge the Cambridge boat is
leading
Whilst tow-path crowds cheer on the Oxford crew.

In all the World there's nothing that can equal
An English Spring. No-one could ask for more
No matter where I roam my heart returns here
To country pubs, to cricket greens and pebbled
shore.





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Heavy Horses

by Nigel Sinclair

Have you seen the heavy horses?
Working on the land,
Gentle giants
Most compliant,
Sturdy two in hand.

Coats a sheening, brasses gleaming
Reflect the sun at dawn,
Gentle snorting,
Breath a steaming
In the early morn.

Bells a ringling, buckles jingling,
Truly run the shears,
Ears a twitching,
Tails swishing,
Plodding through the years.

Muscles straining,
Uncomplaining,
Hour on hour they plod,
Furrow straight as an arrow
Through the frozen sod.

Leather squeaking,
Harness creaking,
Two move as one,
You can hear the ploughman speaking,
"Come on lads, pull on".

Old

by Lorna Baker

They used to call me pretty
Once upon a time
That was too many years ago
When I was in my prime

I'm an old woman now
And not quite as tall
Where did all those inches go?
Ageing can be cruel

I remain neat and trim
And I'm grateful for that
But my hair is thin
So I often wear a hat

Serums and jars of cream
Sitting on the shelf
Helps me to make
The best of myself

Not that anyone notices me
I'm just another O. A. P.
If only I was young again
Things were very different then.



Nature Notes

Alan Everard's regular nature column



Hello my friends, it's 7th December and we are watching the effects, on the Sea, of Storm Barra from our, laughingly called, sun lounge. The stormy winds are coming in from the South with the sky a solid dark grey. High tide was 1.03p.m. and although it is well past 3.00p.m. the fierce winds are holding back the tide from fully receding and coating the giant wave tops with thick foam, which the wind, from time, splatters on our windows although it's about 60 metres away.

All that drama we watched from the back of our house where the presence of Birds is limited. We see House Sparrows, Starlings, and Collared Doves who come to our feeders and occasionally, Crows, Rooks and Jackdaws plus the inevitable and beautiful Sea Birds. At the front of the house, again enticed by feeders we are lucky to have (or to "have had") Blue, Great and Coal Tits. Even, on their migration, a flock of some 15 Long-tailed Tits. Green and Goldfinch, Grey and Pied Wagtail, Wren, Robin and Dunnock and of course the ubiquitous Blackbird. They are all much diminished now largely due to the grubbing up of hedgerows to create larger fields for larger machinery and of course, pesticides.

Taking it a step further, we have the stream running between our "lane" section of Coast Road and Coast Road proper which helps empty the Waters of Pevensey Levels into the Sea. Here, we have seen a beautiful, Kingfisher perched on an Apple Tree, (We have two, both grown from the seeds in apple cores thrown there by passers by). Once we had a Mute Swan and a couple of times the beautiful Little Egret, that short legged version of the Heron with white plumage, black beak and legs with, surprisingly, yellow feet. These latter birds have increased their presence in England due to Global warming, lucky us! Whilst on the subject of Birds that inhabit Wetlands and the Sea, one such Bird has always puzzled me. The Cormorant, it is the only Bird I know of who, after swimming has to fly to cliffs or inland trees where they perch, with wings outstretched in order to dry them - not fair is it! We have seen them fly in from the Sea, to perch on breakwaters or over us, to reach trees for this purpose, often in the Shinewater region.

Last year we had a visit from two Magpies both dressed immaculately in their black and white evening suits. Later one came alone and was promptly chased away by a Crow. The Magpies habit of taking eggs and young from other bird's nests, naturally makes them unpopular even with the Crow who also takes eggs from other bird's nests. Both, of course, are members of the "Corvid" family and as I have been asked about this before I'll cover the eight who are seen in the U.K. The ubiquitous Crow is the best known, all black and smart with a grey beak and very intelligent. Most similar is the Rook with its less tidy feathering, paler beak and prominent forehead. The Crow's head and beak are almost a straight line and it has no forehead. The Chough is identified by its red beak and legs and is more often seen in the West Country, usually in rocky, coastal areas. Hooded Crows are only found in Scotland, Northern Ireland and The Isle of Man. They are similar to the Crow but are pale grey with only the head, neck, wings and tail black. Jackdaws are smaller than the Crow, black with grey back of head and shoulders and bluish eyes. It also has the habit of stealing other Bird's eggs. The Magpie which introduced us to this paragraph is black and white as stated and further identified by its long black tail. Jay, this handsome bird is hard to credit with membership of the Corvid family with its pale face with black moustache, pinky brown back and similar breast. Wings blue and black at the front and then black and white pointing to a white rump and black tail. Finally, to the Raven the biggest of them all, just like a crow but much bigger, in fact, not a lot smaller than a Buzzard. Well

Well, I think we can call a halt now with Birds "ruling the roost" I hope to your satisfaction.

I wish you all a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Alan Everard

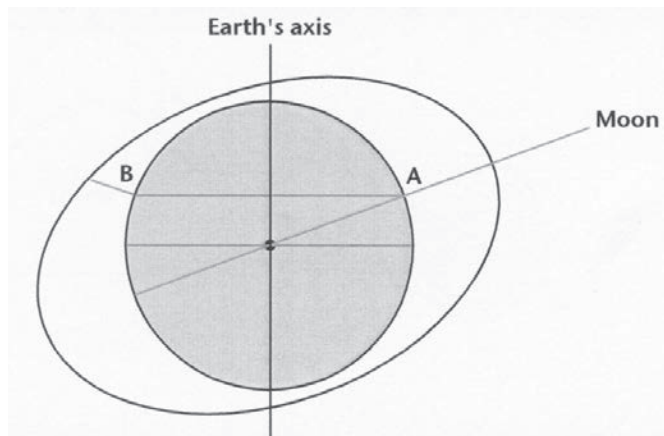
Sea Defences

Ian Thomas, Project Manager with Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd, describes the work being done to maintain our local sea defences.....

TIDES

Anyone who lives near the sea knows that we experience tides, the ceaseless movement of water to and from our coast. Put simply these are caused by the gravitational influence of the sun and moon acting upon the water envelope that surrounds the earth. Because the positions of sun and moon relative to the earth change daily, so does the range of the tide. The moon has the greatest influence, the sun, being so much further away, applies only 46% as much force. When both bodies pull in the same direction, at new and full moon, we get high high tides and low low tides, referred to as spring tides. When sun and moon pull perpendicularly to one another – at quarter moon – we get neap tides. The difference between the two is marked. For instance on March 21st this year Admiralty Tide Tables predicted a 7.8m spring tide. Exactly a week later the lowest neap tide level was 5.7m. Incidentally, the term spring tide has nothing to do with the season of the year, originally coming from the German "springen", meaning "to leap up". The origins of neap are less certain, but it seems to be an Anglo-Saxon word meaning "scanty."

Because the orbits of moon round the earth and earth round the sun vary, not all spring tides are the same. In fact, the two tides in a 24-hour period can be markedly different. The effect is best demonstrated by this diagram.



Here the bulge in the world's ocean has been exaggerated to show the moon's gravitational attraction. Point A, being closest to the moon, experiences a higher water level than it would when 12 hours later the earth's rotation takes it to Point B. If you look at detailed tide tables for Eastbourne you will find that the difference can be as great as 0.2m.

Because earth and moon orbits are not in the same plane, it is rare for all forces to be pulling precisely in the same direction. The Moon's orbit periodically becomes

more round and then more oval; it is never a perfect circle. The point at which it is nearest Earth each month is called its perigee and at its farthest it is called its apogee, both of which change throughout the year. During the final quarter of the 20th century, the Moon was as close to Earth as 216,500 miles at its most extreme perigee and as far away as 247,700 miles at its most extreme apogee. Perigees therefore coincide with spring and apogees with neap tides. To a lesser degree, the Sun has a similar tidal effect, a consequence of its location just 91.5 million miles away in early January but some 94 million miles distant in July. There are cyclical influences all with precise time periods, for instance;

- 12 hours exactly - repeated cycle due to the gravity of the sun
- 12:25:14 hours cycle - due to the gravity of the moon
- 27.21 day cycle - caused by change in lunar declination (Moons angle to the Earth).
- 27.55 day cycle - caused by a regular change in the Earth-Moon distance
- 29.53 day cycle - caused by the phases of the moon

All these things, and many others, need to be considered when generating tide tables. Indeed, the process known as harmonic analysis, can involve 18 or more different variables and needs to take into account local factors such as sea currents, the shape of the coastline and seabed contours.

It can also be imagined how sometimes these cycles coincide and produce the highest of all tides. Highest tides each year occur a day or two after a full or new moon nearest to the spring and autumn equinoxes. Some years have tides that are notably higher than other years. 1997 and 2015 were significant years. For really extreme conditions, we will have to wait until 3182, but even then water levels may only be 1 or 2 cm higher than in 2015.

Water levels are obviously important when it comes to predicting any threat to our sea defences. However, they will not be damaged by sea levels alone. As important are wave height, wave direction and what is known as storm surge. We will look at these in the next issue of the Pump.

Please contact the team by email at PevenseyandEastbourneCoast@environment-agency.gov.uk or visit <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/solent-and-south-downs/pevensey-bay-to-eastbourne>

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