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JUNE 2026

THE WILDBROOKS MAGAZINE



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Events 2026



Sussex Day 2025 - 14th June

HSBA Exhibition - 17th June - 5th July

The Plant Fairs Roadshow - 5th July

Sussex Steam Rally - 11th / 12th July

Bargello Exhibition - 15th - 26th July

Jaguar Day - 2nd Aug

Textile Exhibition - 12th - 31st Aug

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Amberley artists: who lived where - p22-23

This month's front cover



Swan and cygnets on the Wildbrooks by Xenia Coventry



Spotlight on...the Millennium Green - p20-21



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JUNE SERVICES & BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY, 7th JUNE

TRINITY 1 Green Array

9.15am	Holy Communion	Parham
11.00am	Holy Communion	Amberley
6.00pm	Compline	Wiggonholt

SUNDAY, 14th JUNE

TRINITY 2 Green Array

9.00am	Holy Communion	Greatham
10.00am	Café Church	Amberley

SUNDAY, 21st JUNE

TRINITY 3 Green Array

9.15am	Holy Communion	Wiggonholt
11.30am	Holy Communion	Amberley

SUNDAY, 28th JUNE

TRINITY 4 Green Array

9.00am	Matins	Greatham
11.00am	Holy Communion	Amberley

SUNDAY, 5th JULY

TRINITY 5 Green Array

9.15am	Holy Communion	Parham
11.00am	Holy Communion	Amberley
6.00pm	Compline	Wiggonholt

BIBLE READINGS



Sunday, 7th June

Hosea 5:15-6.6; Psalm 50:7-15; Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Sunday, 14th June

Exodus 19:2-8; Psalm 100; Matthew 9:35-10:8

Sunday, 21st June

Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 69:8-11, 18-20; Matthew 10:24-39

Sunday, 28th June

Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Matthew 10:40-end

Sunday, 5th July

Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-15; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-end

Interregnum arrangements

If you need pastoral support and a listening ear, prayer or Communion at home, please don't hesitate to call Amberley churchwardens in the first instance on (07973) 163369; alternatively send an e-mail to amberleystmichael@gmail.com

We seek help from visiting clergy to cover at least one Communion service each week. Elaine Corbett, our Lay Reader (pictured), is taking a number of other services.



For baptisms, marriages and funerals at any of the four parishes within the benefice, please contact the relevant churchwardens (details on page 36).

The best way to stay up to date is to ensure you are on the list for a weekly church e-mail with notices of services and events, readings and prayers for each Sunday. Please e-mail Michael on mpdavey@gmail.com to ensure your name is on the list.



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PEOPLE & EVENTS

Welcome...

To **Matt** and **Julie Layton**, the new owners of Wysh House, New Barn Road. We wish them every happiness in their new home.

Our condolences...

To **Tony Baldwin**, of The Alley, on the loss of **Anne**, who has died after a short but courageous battle with cancer. An appreciation will appear in the July/August issue.

AMBERLEY MILLENNIUM GREEN

Bat talk and walk

A fun and educational evening on Friday, June 19, guided by associate ecologist Dr Sam Kelly, will see the use of ecolocation to identify different bat species.



The evening will start at 8pm with a short talk about bats, with a focus on species we have living in the UK, particularly in West Sussex. Sam will also explain how to use bat detectors to identify different species by listening to calls they make during flight. Armed with a dozen or so bat detectors, participants will head off into the dusk to the Millennium Green and other suitable locations in Amberley.

Tickets cost £15 per adult, with under 16s free. The ticket price includes drinks and nibbles, as well as the talk and the bat walk.

Pre-booking is essential as numbers are limited. Contact: amberleymillenniumgreen@gmail.com for tickets.

Local government shake-up

The long-running shake-up of local government in West Sussex has entered a new phase, with ministers delaying a final decision while a second public consultation takes place across Sussex. The Government wants to replace the current two-tier system – where for the Wildbrooks villages, services are split between West Sussex County Council and Horsham District Council – with new single-tier 'unitary' authorities by 2028.

The original council submissions to the Government in September 2025 contained competing models. West Sussex County Council argued for a single, county-wide unitary covering the whole of West Sussex while the District & Borough Councils proposed to split the county into two unitary authorities, broadly north east and south west.

In its response, the Government supported the two authorities model, but has proposed a modified boundary option, which would move Chichester into a northern authority with Crawley, Horsham and Mid Sussex, stating that their proposed change addresses feedback from earlier consul-

tations and will ensure the new unitary boundaries better reflect the county's rural, coastal and economic identities. Under these proposals, the Wildbrooks villages would fall within a new 'coastal' authority made up of the present-day districts of Arun, Adur and Worthing.

The proposals are currently open for public consultation until June 15. Despite the fact that we are the only county still at consultation phase, the government is optimistic that the planned implementation dates of elections in May 2027, with the changes coming into effect from April 2028, can still be achieved.

You can submit your feedback on the revised proposals here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/modified-proposals-for-local-government-reorganisation-in-west-sussex/modified-proposals-for-local-government-reorganisation-in-west-sussex>

Aspects of Love

The Friends of North Stoke invite you once again to a Midsummer Evening entertainment. For the past few years we have been celebrating Midsummer with poetry, song and strawberries. This year we have Aspects of Love as our theme. Poems old and new, witty and serious, scandalous and charming, to the accompaniment of the Midsummer Singers led by Juliet Robinson.

It starts at 6pm on Wednesday June 24, midsummer evening, and refreshments will follow the performance which ends before 7pm in time for local supper reservations. There's plenty of parking.

No tickets, but donations please for the Churches Conservation Trust which looks after the lovely church of St Mary the Virgin at North Stoke.

All enquiries to Janet Aidin on (01798) 872531 (janet@aidin.co.uk).

Celebrating Sussex Day

A celebration of all things Sussex – local produce, arts and craft – takes place at Parham House & Gardens on Sunday, June 14, from 12 noon until 5pm.

From June 17 until July 5, the Horsham School of Botanical Artists will be staging a three-week exhibition of drawings and paintings in the Seed Room. And the Plant Fairs Roadshow returns to Parham on July 5 when some of the South East's best specialists nurseries will be selling a wide range of locally grown and unusual plants. The nurseries provide a whole spectrum of plants including cottage-garden favourites, shade-loving plants, alpines, trees and shrubs, succulents and more.

The roadshow is open from 12 noon until 5pm (www.plant-fairsroadshow.co.uk for more information).

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AMBERLEY MUSEUM

Dads go free

Families can celebrate Father's Day in a memorable way at Amberley Museum, where dads can enjoy free admission for one day only on Sunday, June 21. As a special thank you to fathers, the museum is offering complimentary entry for all dads when tickets are pre-booked online. Visitors are encouraged to secure their places in advance and remember to include a free ticket for Dad when booking.

Highlights of the day include the chance to drive one of the museum's smaller diesel locomotives, creative workshops in the pottery and print shop where visitors can make a special keepsake to take home, and exploring the extensive collection of industrial heritage, historic vehicles, and working exhibits. With something for all ages, the event offers a blend of nostalgia, discovery, and fun – making it an ideal way to spend quality time together.

The previous weekend (June 13-14) sees a gathering of the emergency services, with hands-on excitement. It's all stations go as the museum showcases a fascinating array of emergency vehicles, from vintage classics to modern-day machines. There will be thrilling Fire Brigade demonstrations, rescue operations and fire extinguishing, as well as meeting the officers to learn about their vital roles. Additionally, there will be a display of classic police vehicles, including Panda cars and the iconic 'Jam Sandwich' patrol cars. This event is a favourite with children.

At the end of the month (June 28) the local Sadcase car club (Storrington and District Classic and Sports Care Enthusiasts) are holding their annual show at the museum. Upwards of 100 cars of every description will be on display, from pre-war Austin 7s to some of today's supercars, and everything in between. A number of local residents will have their cars on show.

There are also two other special events this month. On June 17, a day is set aside for home-educating families, with a range of activities, and on June 18 there is a talk

Amberley Museum is marking a century of world-changing innovation with a special summer offer: 100 days of half-price entry for visitors to experience the home of hands-on heritage. Running until August 30, this limited-time promotion invites families, history lovers and curious minds to explore the stories behind two of Britain's most iconic inventions: the instantly recognisable red telephone box and the birth of television. Introduced in 1926, the red telephone box remains a symbol of British heritage, while that same year saw John Logie Baird give the first public demonstration of television, an achievement that transformed communication and entertainment forever. To celebrate this landmark moment, Amberley Museum is offering visitors half the usual admission price. Offer Discount Code: 100YEARS which must be entered at checkout online to redeem the offer. It is not valid on special event days (including weekend events).

and imaginative painters. Best known for his inventive portraits composed of fruits, flowers, fish and books, Arcimboldo delighted and astonished his contemporaries. After centuries of obscurity, he was rediscovered in the 19th century and later celebrated by the Surrealists as a pioneer of subconscious imagery.

On July 1, South Downs' members will be treated to a talk entitled Wilde About Oscar: Famous for Being Famous (& Infamous). The West Sussex branch's talk on July 7 will be about a founding member and central figure of the Bloomsbury Group, Vanessa Bell, her art and tangled relationships.

National Emergency briefing

Greener Amberley is holding a special briefing on July 8 at 6.30pm at the Black Horse to discuss the impact on climate and nature. The event is free and all are welcome.

from 2pm to 3.30pm on the filming of the James Bond movie *A View to Kill*, Amberley Museum having been one of the main locations. The 1985 film starred Roger Moore as 007.

THE ARTS SOCIETIES

Talks to broaden the mind

Art lovers are invited to a series of engaging and richly illustrated talks this summer, hosted by the Arts Societies of West Sussex and South Downs, both of which meet at Fittleworth Village Hall.

On Tuesday, June 2, glass expert and broadcaster Andy McConnell presents *The Genius of René Lalique* for members of the West Sussex group. Widely regarded as the greatest glass designer and entrepreneur of the 20th century, Lalique combined an extraordinary artistic vision with a deep technical understanding of glassmaking. His work remains unrivalled for its innovation and beauty. This talk, which starts at 2pm, promises to be a true visual feast, offering fascinating insights into one of the most influential figures in decorative art.

On the following day (Wednesday, June 3 at 10.45am), the South Downs branch will hear a talk on Giuseppe Arcimboldo, one of history's most curious



Vital work completed at RSPB

Major restoration work at RSPB Pulborough Brooks is already transforming one of the South Downs' most important wetland landscapes. The programme has delivered new dams and sluices to help maintain water levels across the reserve, tackling the growing problem of wetlands drying out during periods of low rainfall and increasingly unpredictable weather.

The improvements form part of the wider £2.4 million 'Downs to the Sea' initiative, which aims to restore a network of wetlands and waterways stretching from the South Downs to the Sussex coast. Supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and other partners, the project focuses on creating healthier habitats for wildlife, while improving public access to nature.



The flooded brooks: an important habitat for lapwings

The 258-hectare site at RSPB Pulborough Brooks mainly consists of grazing marsh and a series of ditches, serving

as part of the River Arun's floodplain and is home to species such as lapwing, nightingale, and the rare little whirlpool ramshorn snail. Better water management will create more shallow muddy edges, essential feeding areas for young wading birds during the breeding season.

Visitors are also benefiting from major upgrades around the reserve's pond area, including new viewing platforms, nature trails and accessible seating designed to bring people closer to the wetlands.

Conservationists say the work is an important step towards restoring fragile wetland habitats across Sussex. As more people discover the beauty of the Arun Valley and Wildbrooks, the challenge will be balancing public enjoyment with the careful stewardship needed to protect these internationally important landscapes for future generations.

Picture: RSPB

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Perfect setting for Spring Art Festival

Local artists display their works in the unique setting of St Mary's Church, North Stoke.

It was a great privilege to have the church embraced by the vibrancy and creativity of our local talented artists on Saturday, May 16.

Visitors were able to enjoy paintings evoking the beauty of our countryside in different timescales, including flowers and animals; to contemplate the thought-provoking work of the late Elizabeth Butler; to reflect on the diversity of our world through the photography of Marcus Lyons; and to admire the sensuous sculptures and the perfectly executed tapestries.

Belinda Scarlett, with the assistance of her goddaughter, gave an inspirational talk on her path as a textile artist. Belinda made the beautiful altar cloth at St Mary's. Her tapestry work can be seen in cathedrals throughout the country.



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We really enjoy providing a wide range of experiences for our children at Amberley. Our school vision is to prepare them for the wider world with part of this being to encourage creativity and trying things that may take us out of our comfort zone.

Perform drama workshops

Perform is a company who use a unique mix of drama, dance and singing to bring out every child's potential. Workshops are provided to ensure lots of individual attention by expert teachers – hand-picked for their warmth, energy and professionalism. They focus on children's enthusiasm and engagement in the activities. As well as having fun, children enjoy real benefits: greater confidence, improved concentration and an increased awareness of what they can achieve.

Earlier this term, each of our classes enjoyed a drama workshop, led by Perform. The children enjoyed it immensely, taking part in freeze framing and role play, great activities for sparking creativity.

Freeze frames are such a fun way to express emotions or key moments in a scene and Oak Class particularly enjoyed portraying Arthur pulling Excalibur from the stone. Using their bodies to form the stone added an extra layer of teamwork and imagination to capturing the scene.

With the upcoming end-of-year production, this was a great preparation time for the children and we're looking forward to seeing the children's amazing performance skills in July.

Lizzie Martin

Executive Headteacher, Arun Villages Federation



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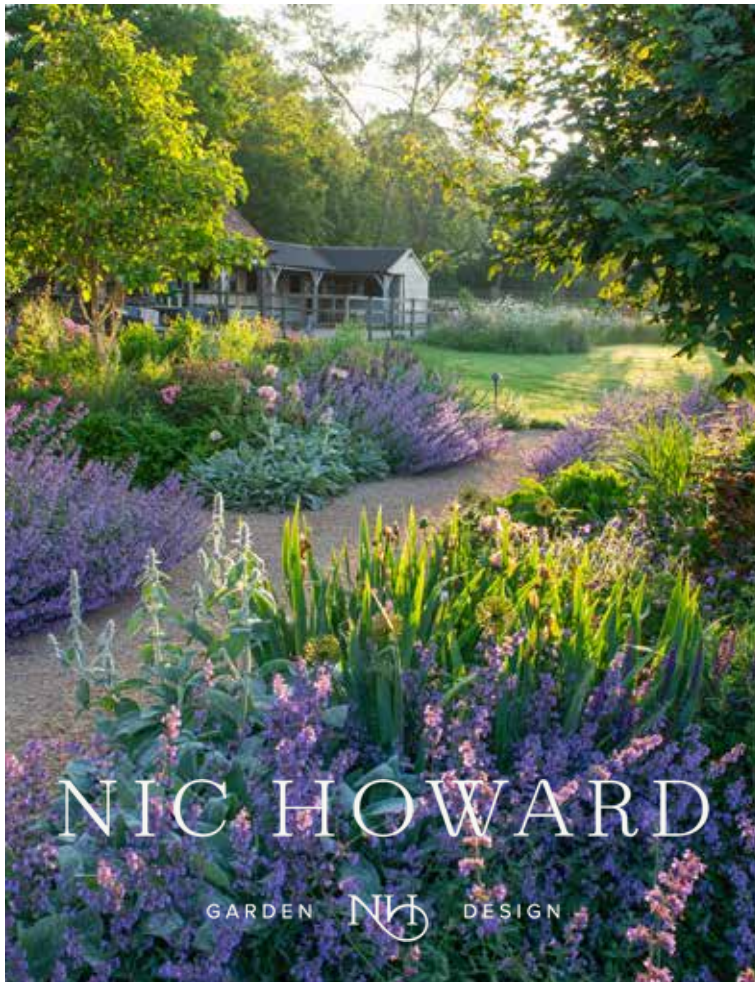
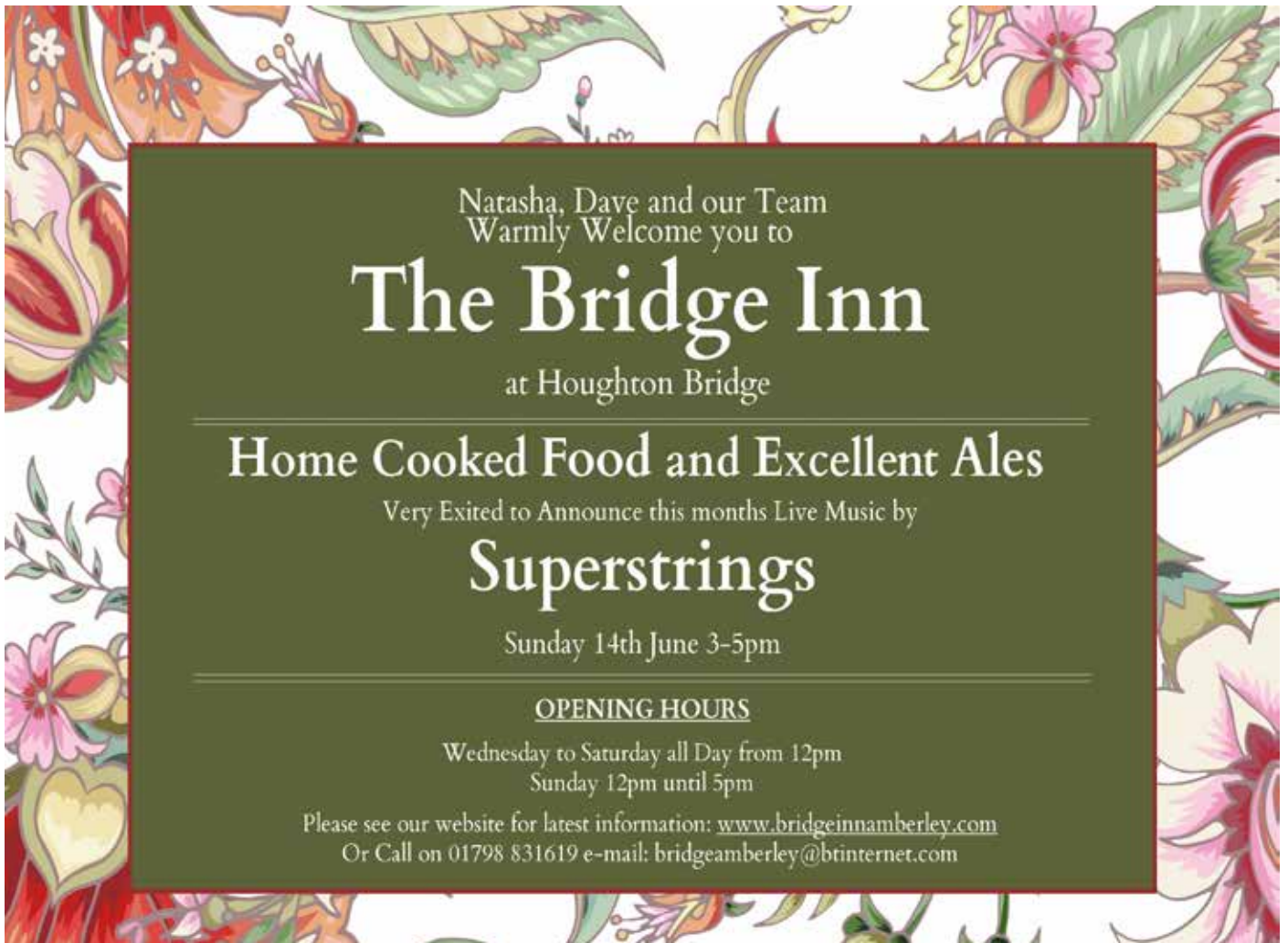
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Hallraisers' Summer Fundraising Events

Final Call for The Hallraisers Opulent Olfactory Extravaganza! Wednesday, June 3rd – Church Hall, Amberley, 7pm

Join me for a Perfume Masterclass celebrating the Rose in her many forms, from the heady sensuality of the Turkish rose to the full-blown glamour of Bulgarian roses. We shall map the development of rose scents across the ages and learn to appreciate the subtle nuances that make this exceptional bloom one of the most versatile in the perfume panoply.

I shall also be presenting some additional summer scents that make my toes curl and discussing the best way to build a summer scent wardrobe as well as how and where to wear perfume in warm weather. It will be so lovely to see you all again and share a little scent history, botany, chemistry and, of course, the all-important smells!



I have worked professionally in the luxury fragrance industry for more than thirty years, learning from some of the finest talents on the planet. I discovered a true passion for perfume that has brought me great joy and it is a pleasure to share this.

I have some lovely goody bags lined-up too, so there will be something to take away and ensure that Amberley is the most fragrant village in West Sussex – was there ever any doubt?!

Contact susan.watson10@gmail.com for tickets (£25 including a glass of fizz) and support The Hallraisers' push to complete the Church Hall renovations.

Great company, great smells and a great cause! **Michael Donovan**

Salad Days – a tasting challenge like no other Wednesday, July 1st – Church Hall, Amberley, 6pm

Think you know your balsamic from your basil? Your tahini from your tarragon?

We are thrilled to invite you to Salad Days – an interactive tasting event dedicated to the crisp, fresh bounty of the season and the art of the perfect dressing.

The Church Hall will be transformed into a hub of culinary mystery and summer socialising for a Blind Dressing Tasting, as each table is presented with a range of exciting and mouth-watering salad dressings. While you'll recognise the staples of a great vinaigrette, our creators have slipped in some truly unusual and unexpected ingredients to keep you on your toes!

Working in your table groups, you'll face the challenge of deconstructing the flavours. Your mission? Identify as many 'secret' ingredients as possible. It's a test of the palate, a bit of teamwork and a lot of laughs. The winning team with the most accurate taste buds will walk away with a chilled bottle of bubbly to toast their victory.



To ensure no one goes home hungry, the dressings will be accompanied by a plentiful supply of fresh salad leaves, artisanal breads and a selection of fine cheeses.

To keep the evening flowing, wine will be available to purchase and we will be hosting a raffle. We've been overwhelmed by the generosity of our local businesses, who have donated some truly fantastic prizes – you won't want to miss out on a chance to win.

To secure your spot at the table, please e-mail Lisa Carey at Lisamcarey.lc@gmail.com. This event is a Hall Raiser, with all proceeds going toward the renovation of the Church Hall. Price: £15 per head

Spaces are limited, so gather your friends, sharpen your senses, and join us for an evening of summer flavours and community spirit.

We can't wait to see you there!



Amberley's Millennium Green: community spirit in action

I moved to Amberley in August 2023 when we bought one of the houses in the Swan Meadows development. One of the things that drew me to the location was Amberley Millennium Green. When we first looked at the development – still very much a building site at the time – we explored the village and sat for a while on 'Val's bench' in this tranquil green space. Birdsong and a view were two 'must haves' on my list – characteristics that so many new build developments sadly lack. The view of Amberley Mount and chorus of birdsong coming from all directions indicated this was a very special location in a very special village. Subsequent visits over the next 12 months confirmed my first impressions and allowed us to meet some dog walkers who wondered why we were skulking among the Green's trees as we tried to assess the glacier-like progress on our new home.



The 'T' team: some of the volunteer tractor drivers (from left to right): Mike Emery, Allister Webb, Graham Smith (seated), Tony Merchant, Russell Anthony, Mark Brown and Tina Bishop

transformed the straggly hedge on the northern boundary. This beautiful structure will, over time, develop into a thick nature friendly barrier. Each year, when the hedge is dormant in the late winter and with the help of village volunteers, we cut back the new growth to encourage the hedge to thicken and throw up new lateral shoots.

South Downs rangers also support our hazel coppicing programme. This ancient woodland management technique is typically undertaken on a seven-to-10-year cycle and involves cutting hazel trees to a 'stool' of around 30cm. It looks dramatic but hazel grows quickly and new shoots soon appear. Coppicing brings many benefits to nature; wildflowers benefit from increased sunlight, while the new growth provides habitats for various species and coppiced wood can be used to create wildlife-friendly log piles.



Volunteers received expert tuition in hedge-laying

Almost three years' later, and having acted as the Green's Treasurer for much of that time, I've been astounded at how much management the Green takes and how much knowledge and enthusiasm there is in Amberley for this work. It's so much more than just mowing the grass, a job shared among our dedicated team of mowing volunteers. Supported by South Downs National Park, the traditional craft of hedge laying has

Also notable during this time has been the construction dead-hedges on the northern and southern boundaries. Not only does this create a secure barrier where the hedging is sparse, it provides a ready home for the dead wood the Green naturally produces as well as a haven for birds, insects and hedgehogs. We even constructed special hedgehog holes to help this endangered creature reach the sanctuary of the Green.



Coppiced hazel (above) and (centre) one year later. Deadhedging not only creates a secure barrier but is also a haven for wildlife



The wildflower meadow is beginning to show results

One of our newer ventures is the creation of a wildflower patch. Stripping off the old turf proved to be a tough job and, disappointingly, we only seemed to grow thistles in the first year. This year, however, we are starting to see some results, with comfrey, purple-flowering honesty, red campion, foxgloves, yarrow, cranesbills, poppies and oxeye daisies among those making an appearance. It's still very much a work in progress, but we are getting there, albeit slowly.

Working in the open air alongside fellow volunteers is great for mental health and I, for one, always feel uplifted when I return from a session on the Green. You don't have to be a trustee to join us, just drop us a line and say you'd like to help and we'll let you know when we're planning the next

working party. You'll be rewarded with coffee and cake, and it's not all heavy lifting or digging. Mike Emery, my co-chair of Amberley Millennium Green Trust, will tell you that the construction of deadhedges is a delicate and precise task – and he should know as he's been mostly responsible for them so far.

So, whether you are one of our volunteers, walking your dog, sitting on the benches in the sunshine, enjoying nature or listening to the birdsong, the Green has something to offer you. We've even had local children constructing their own 'den' this year – something I remember doing myself many, many years ago. Being in the open air is something from which we all benefit – so come and enjoy!



The 'Den' created by local children

Please save the date for **Sunday, July 12**, when we'll be holding our second village picnic.

Kim Smith
Co-chair, Amberley Millennium Green Trust
amberleymillenniumgreen@gmail.com

Spring

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It was the expansion of the railway network in the late nineteenth century that encouraged artists to leave the cities, form art colonies, and seek inspiration from both their surroundings and each other. Amberley, on the Mid Sussex Line — now known as the Arun Valley Line — was one of the first such communities. Other artists' groups established themselves in Staithes in North Yorkshire, and in Newlyn and St Ives in Cornwall.

The leading artist in Amberley was Edward Stott, who attracted many followers. The Art Journal of 1899 records that, after painting in France, '...he returned to England to seek out a path for himself, to fix his eyes on the goal of his ideal. On a wet, miserable day in 1887 he arrived in Amberley, and there he remained, and made the reputation of the village and himself.'

Stott was fascinated by nature, the surrounding countryside, and particularly by light. In those days, before the flick of an electric switch, people were far more aware of the beauty of fading daylight. He has been described as the poetic painter of twilight.

By the 1920s there were ten artists' studios in Amberley. Many newer residents today may be unaware of this significant local cultural heritage, or of where the artists lived and worked.



Amberley artists: who lived where

1. Willow Cottage

Kate Shepherd, artist, lived here. Followed by one of her students, Felicia Lievin-Bauwens in 1927



2. Amberley House (above)

Alfred Parish built the studio overlooking the Wildbrooks about 1907

3. Box Tree Cottage

Fred Stratton, portrait and landscape painter and his son, Hilary Stratton (sculptor), lived here. The house is now called Boxwood.

4. Lindalls

Ista Brouncker, landscape and contemporary artist, lived and worked here from 1920s to 1970

5. Old Place

Simon Elwes, war artist and society portrait painter, lived here until he died in 1975 He converted the adjoining property into a studio in 1970.



6. Stotts Corner (above)

Edward Stott, A.R.A., painter of rural and biblical scenes lived here until he died in 1918. He also owned Old Place, Ivy Cottage, Brooks, April Cottage, Perriley and the peat barn which became Sideways, and is now Brookside. He bought them to protect them from architectural harm and being owned by weekenders.

7. The Old Bakery

Fred Mayor, son of Fred Mayor, artist and manager of the Mayor Gallery in London, lived here.

8. The Studio

G. M. Burn, artist, took over the studio from Rose Barton of Dublin in 1904 and let it to A. Hugh Fisher in 1920.

9. Easter Bartons

Elsa Noble Dalglish, artist, converted the derelict barn and outbuilding into a house and studio in 1925. She lived here until she died in 1948. She also owned Wisteria Cottage and to solve social housing problems in Amberley built End (her initials) Cottages on Turnpike Road.

10. Brook Hill (now Brookside)

Mr Ruff's father built this studio on the edge of the Wildbrooks. Felix Andrews, commercial artist, lived here followed by Ethelbert White, painter in oil and watercolour, wood engraver and poster designer who lived here until he died in 1972.



11. Brook Green

Constance Pott, printmaker, writer and teacher and her student, Jan Daum, painter and printmaker, lived here about 1930. Professor Joad stayed here.

12. Carlisle House

G. M. Burn, specialist marine artist and etcher, lived here for over 20 years.

13. The Studio

Mr Ruff's father built this studio about 1900. Later it was renamed Wheeler's Yard because of confusion with No. 8. Two artists shared the studio: Mr Shepherd and Mr Shaw (not Winter Shaw of No. 16), each taking one end of the room. The studio is now part of the house called Ruffs Barn.

14. Wildbrooks

Harold Latham, artist, lived here until he died in 1971, his studio being the adjacent barn. His daughter, Helen, continued to live in the house until her death in 2016

15. Studio Chalet

William Luker Jnr, artist, lived here. The house burned down when he was repairing the roof in 1945 and was rebuilt. His daughter and her husband, Hilda and John Marshall, also artists, lived here after William died in 1948.

16. Cross Gate House

A. Winter Shaw, landscape, figure and cattle painter in oil and watercolour lived here from 1905 to 1925. Olwyn Bowey, R.A., landscape and still life artist, in particular the interiors of glasshouses, lived here until she moved locally to Barlavington.

17. Primrose Cottage

C. Ross Burnett, artist, built this thatched cottage about 1910 and lived here until he died in 1933. The house was renamed Whiteoaks in 1956 and was demolished and rebuilt in 1971. (The house was again rebuilt around 2010 and is now known as The Rook.

18. Spion Kop

Freda and St Clair Marston, artists, lived here about 1927


19. Meadow Cottage (near Amberley station and since rebuilt)

Jose Weiss, landscape artist in oil and an aviation pioneer, lived here from the early 1890s, later moving to Houghton House, Houghton. He built the 'Amberley glider' the first man carrying glider to gain altitude in soaring flight in 1909.



20. Castle Cottage

Elizabeth Butler, contemporary artist, mural and fabric painter lived here until she died in 2020. She designed the crib scene for North Stoke Church (pictured above).



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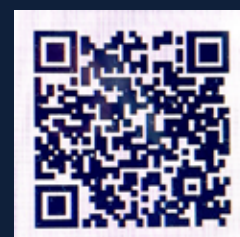
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Keep dogs close, keep plovers safe

Big eyes, short legs, and frequently described as ‘rotund’; there’s no denying it. Ringed plovers are adorable. Our UK residents are joined by over-wintering migrants and can be found all around our coastline and some estuaries, in shingle and wetland habitats.



Charismatic wader: the ringed plover is a master of disguise, its nests barely visible



Picture: Alan Price

Picture: Roger Wilmshurst

These charismatic waders possess spectacular acting talents. Little orange feet stamp sandy ground to mimic falling raindrops, tempting out tasty subterranean crustacean snacks. Mates are wooed with marching high-kick dance routines. Shingle nest preparation involves an umbrella of wings and much flinging of shells in a dramatic ceremony.

Being masters of disguise, ringed plover nests are inconspicuous, with both dappled eggs and fluffball chicks seamlessly blending into their sand and stone surroundings. This is optimum for ground-nesting predator evasion, and chicks will freeze, Jurassic Park-style, should a marauder enter their midst.

Hiding in plain sight, however, leaves the species incredibly vulnerable to disturbance, especially on our over-populated and well-trodden coastlines. Eggs can easily be crushed under the flimsiest of flip-flops, and chicks are hard to spot until very close by. And a bigger problem still: free-roaming dogs.

It doesn’t matter if your beloved pooch is the best-behaved dog in town, with great recall and no prey drive. Domestic dogs replicate natural predators, and even if they aren’t likely to take a chick or investigate a nest, they can easily and unintentionally cause disturbance when off the lead.

Ringed plover parents are fiercely committed to nest protection, even theatrically feigning a broken wing to lure predators away from their precious offspring. But feisty though they be, they weigh only 65 grams (2¼ ounces); no match for a snuffling hound.

An increase in these acts of disturbance, habitat loss and climate change have contributed to a significant decline in numbers of UK ringed plovers since the mid-1980s, and the species is now on the UK Red List.

To help, you can keep your dog on a lead while walking around our coastlines, especially during March to August, the breeding season for these, and many other bird species. You can keep your distance; good practice for all wildlife watching, but especially with ground-nesting birds. And you can tell other people, to help raise awareness of the otherwise unknown perils of simply letting your dog off the lead.

In highlighting these issues, we hope the ringed plover performance may long continue. They just need less audience interaction.

Kerry Williams
Communications Officer – Conservation,
Sussex Wildlife Trust

Beetlemania!

If every living creature was set out in a row, one in four would be a beetle – there are 50 times as many species of beetles as there are mammals. The overwhelming number and variety of beetle species once led evolutionist J. B. Haldane to say “the Creator, if he exists, must have an inordinate fondness for beetles”.



Green tiger beetle

At this time of year I tend to switch my attention away from birds and towards butterflies, bees and, of course, beetles. About 4,000 of the 400,000 known beetles can be found in the UK so whether you are exploring during the daytime or having a midsummer night’s stroll, June is a great time to look for some brilliant beetles.

I shall start by the pond where, under the surface, magnificent great silver beetles, screech beetles (which make a loud and rapid ‘zip’ noise if handled) and smart great diving beetles can be found. But it is on the surface where you’ll find my favourite of the aquatic beetles – the whirligig. Whirligigs, also known as ‘whizzabouts’ are small black beetles that gyrate madly around leaving circular ripples in their wake – if translated to human size they’d be moving at 180mph. They are buoyed up on the surface by an air bubble carried beneath the wing cases and can secrete a defensive chemical with a tangy scent if alarmed. But to me, it’s most impressive adaptation is its eyesight – they are unique in that they have split eyes which allow the beetles to see above and below the water simultaneously – awesome.

Wandering over to the sandy paths on the heath I encounter both one of the speediest and one of the slowest moving beetles. A blur of metallic blue-green reveals the presence of a green tiger beetle – an active predator who pursues its

continued overleaf



continued from previous page

prey by chasing them down and crunching on them with its se-cateurs-like jaws. It has been clocked at 5mph which, scaled up, would make it one of the fastest animals on earth.

At the other end of the scale is the dor beetle who bumbles bulldog-like along the paths searching out a pile of dung. It needs to digest its own weight in dung each year so over a lifetime of about a year it will move and recycle a pretty good-sized mound. Despite its diet, the dor beetle is surprisingly clean and when it is not feeding, it is normally grooming.

Staying out as the midsummer sun sets and the evening turns dusky, another two very special beetles could be discovered. The Stag Beetle is perhaps one of our most iconic insects – it is the only one to have appeared twice on a postage stamp – and it really is an impressive beast who is sometimes referred to as a horse pincher, oak-ox, hornbug and devil's imp. Allegedly, stag beetles have the power to summon thunder-

storms, and, if you keep one under your hat, it will protect you from lightning strikes! On warm June evenings you could spot the males flying in clumsy fashion (they are built in the image of a sumo wrestler and lack aerodynamic prowess) as they go in search of a female with whom to mate.

As it gets darker still I'll be on the lookout for twinkling goblin lights and fallen stars amongst the grasses. Often spotted on the edge of the heathland paths or even the car park at Pulborough Brooks, the green fairy lights belong to my final beetle of the evening – the glow worm. It is the female who 'glows' – a result of the oxidation of a chemical luciferin – and with her light she beckons in any passing males. The female is wingless and looks rather like an elongated woodlouse that has had the tip of its bottom dipped in luminous paint.

You can probably guess that I'm rather enthusiastic about beetles and I hope that perhaps now you'll have a greater fondness for them, too.

Anna Allum

Visitor Experience Manager, RSPB, Wiggonholt



Gardens open during June for charity under the NGS (National Garden Scheme), all within about 30- to 45-minute driving distance. For further details, refer to the NGS Yellow Book or visit www.ngs.org.uk

June 2, 6, 16 (2pm-5pm)	Peelers Retreat, 70 Ford Road, Arundel, BN18 9EX	June 16 (2pm-5pm)	Bignor Park Bignor Park, Bignor RH20 1HG
June 4, 11, 18, 25 (10am-4pm)	The Old Vicarage*, The Street, Washington, RH20 4AS	June 19, 20 (11am-5pm)	Nutbourne Village Gardens, The Street, Nutbourne, RH20 2HE
June 5 (2pm-5pm)	Apuldram Roses, Birdham Road, Chichester, PO20 7 EQ	June 20, 21 (11am-5pm)	Alderbury, Church Hill, Pulborough, RH20 1AB
June 6 (2pm-5pm)	Bumble Farm, Drungewick Lane, Loxwood, RH14 0RS	June 20, 21 (10.30am-5pm)	Steyping Gardens
June 6 Knepp Castle*	The Apple Store, off Pound Lane, West Grinstead, RH13 8LJ	June 21, 23 (10am-4pm)	The Aviary Garden, 111, Aldwick Road, Bognor Regis, PO21 2NY
June 6, 7 (2pm-5pm)	Lordington House, Lordington, Chichester, PO18 9DX	June 21 (10am-5pm)	Whithurst Park, Plaistow Road, Kirdford, RH14 0JW
June 7 (2pm-5pm)	4 Hillside Cottages, Downs Road, West Stoke, PO18 9BL	June 21, 22 (1.30pm-5.30pm)	Down Place, Hill Lane, South Harting, GU31 5PN
June 12 (2pm-6pm)	Parsonage Farm, Kirdford, RH14 0NH	June 24 (11am-5pm)	Oaklands Farm, Hooklands Lane, Shipley, RH13 8PX
June 13, 14 (11am-5pm)	The Old Rectory, Old Rectory Lane, Pulborough, RH20 2AF	June 25 (1pm-5pm)	Foxglove Cottage, 29 Orchard Road, Horsham, RH13 5NF
June 14 (2pm-5pm)	Rymans, Appledram Lane South, Apuldram, PO20 7EG	June 26, 27 (2pm-6pm)	St Mary's House Gardens, Bramber, BN44 3WE
		June 27 (10.30am-3pm)	Judy's Cottage Garden, 33 The Plantation, Worthing, BN13 2AE
		June 28 (2pm-4.30pm)	The Folly, Charlton, Chichester PO18 0HU

**Pre booking essential*



Lamb and Beetroot Curry



I wanted to share one of my mum's dishes. It's a family recipe inspired by the flavours of Lahore. She usually cooks by instinct rather than following written recipes, adding a pinch of this and a splash of that, so I've been making an effort to write them down so they don't get lost. She helped me measure and test this one so it could be properly shared.



Prep time:
30 minutes



Cook time:
1 hr 30 mins



Serves: 4

INGREDIENTS

- 500g leg of lamb, diced
- 1 large onion, diced
- 300–400g raw beetroot, peeled, sliced and cut into quarters (reserve the leaves)
- 2 tbsp rapeseed oil
- 600ml water
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp ground ginger
- 1 tsp garlic powder (or 1 clove)
- ½ tsp turmeric
- ½ tsp garam masala
- ½ tsp ground cumin
- ½ tsp ground coriander
- ½ tsp chilli powder
- 20g fresh coriander, chopped

TO SERVE:

- Basmati rice (50g per person)
- Greek yoghurt

METHOD

1. Heat the oil in a large pan over a medium heat. Add the onion and fry gently until softened and lightly browned.
2. Add the lamb along with all the spices. Cook over a medium heat for about 20 minutes, stirring occasionally.
3. Add the beetroot and pour in the 600ml of water. Bring to the boil, then reduce to a medium heat and cook for 30 minutes.
4. Add the reserved beetroot leaves and cook for a further 10 minutes over a medium heat, or until the lamb is tender and the beetroot is soft. This is meant to be lighter and more liquid than a typical thick curry.
5. Stir through the fresh coriander just before serving.
6. Serve with basmati rice and Greek yoghurt.

Shazia Anthony

Seafood & Chorizo PAELLA

SERVES 2

An authentic Spanish-style paella for two



INGREDIENTS

(Serves 2)

- 200g bomba rice
- 500ml chicken stock (Freja recommended)
- ½ chorizo sausage, sliced into 8mm rounds
- ½ tin crushed tomatoes
- 1 tin butter beans
- 2 chicken breasts, cut into chunks
- Seafood of your choice: prawns, squid, octopus, calamari or monkfish
- 1 pepper, chopped into bite-sized pieces
- 1 heaped tsp Spanish pimentón (sweet paprika)
- Handful of frozen peas
- Approx. 70ml olive oil
- A few sprigs of rosemary
- Salt to taste

EQUIPMENT

- Paella pan or large frying pan (about 30cm)
- Long-handled spoon
- Cooking tongs
- Lid or large sheet of newspaper

METHOD

1. Heat the pan and add the olive oil. Fry the chorizo until lightly crisp, then remove and set aside.
2. Reduce the heat and add the tomatoes. Cook slowly until the liquid evaporates to create the **sofrito** – the flavour base of the paella.
3. Add the rice and pepper and cook in the sofrito for 1–2 minutes. Stir in the paprika and season with salt.
4. Pour in most of the stock, reserving a little in case more is needed later. Stir well.
5. Scatter in the butter beans, chorizo, chicken, peas and seafood – but **do not stir** again from this point onwards.
6. Simmer gently for **10 minutes**. Turn the seafood and chicken pieces, then cook for another **8 minutes** over a medium-low heat.
7. Check the rice by gently separating the grains with a fork. The paella should be moist but not wet. Add extra stock only if necessary.
8. Continue cooking until the rice is tender and the bottom develops a slightly crisp layer called **socarrat** – the prized toasted crust that gives paella its nutty flavour. Keep a close eye on it to prevent burning.
9. Remove from the heat, top with rosemary sprigs and cover with a lid or newspaper. Leave to rest for **5–10 minutes** before serving.



SERVING TIP

Paella is traditionally eaten warm rather than piping hot. Any leftovers can be enjoyed cold the next day as **tapas**.

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21st - Father's Day lunch

26th - Quiz Night



Whats on – July

8th Live Music: Luke Elder

25th - Quiz Night

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EDITORIAL

Amberley Gardens Open – community spirit at its best

Exactly 100 years ago, Ms Elsie Wagg – a board member of the Queen’s Nursing Institute – came up with the idea of opening private gardens to the public, to raise funds for community district nurses. Her idea was implemented just seven months later, leading to the official launch of the National Garden Scheme, where garden owners opened their gates, offering a cup of tea and a slice of cake for ‘a shilling a head’. Inspired by Elsie’s novel idea, Amberley has held its own Gardens Open event for 30 years when, for one Sunday on alternate years, private spaces become public ones.

There is something refreshingly democratic about our Gardens Open. Anyone can participate but not every garden resembles a glossy magazine feature. What makes the event so popular is the gardens’ diversity – large and small, formal and cottage style. Alongside immaculate lawns and perfectly staked delphiniums sit gardens full of cheerful chaos and ambitious experiments. Visitors come not only to admire perfection; they come to enjoy personality, individuality and the stories behind each plot.

Yet the event is about far more than flowerbeds. Gardening may be the advertised attraction, but the real joy is the atmosphere – following the garden trail, striking up unexpected conversations and the reassuring certainty that someone nearby is cutting another generous slice of lemon drizzle cake.

Because, of course, no Amberley garden event would be complete without tea, delicious homemade cake and the magnificent plant stall, which remain central to success. Indeed, it could be argued that many visitors attend with as much enthusiasm for Victoria sponge as for verbena!

Community is also at the heart of Gardens Open. It performs that rare and valuable trick of bringing people together, enabling conversations between strangers, as gardening knowledge is exchanged freely and enthusiastically between seasoned experts and complete beginners. It also reflects Amberley’s values: people willingly giving their time and effort for the benefit of others. In a society that often laments declining community engagement, Gardens Open quietly demonstrates that community is still thriving here.

The open gardens tradition also reminds us of something increasingly rare in modern life: trust. Gates are left open. Visitors stroll freely. In an age of locked doors and digital distractions, there is something profoundly civilised about a village that still believes hospitality matters.

Equally importantly, the event raises significant funds for charities – in 2024, we had 1,100 visitors and raised over £15,000 for Action Medical Research, a charity founded in 1952 by Duncan Guthrie who was an Amberley resident for many years. At a time when many voluntary organisations face financial pressures, the willingness of Amberley and its visitors

to provide support through such cheerful, practical means deserves recognition and praise.

By the end of the day, feet may be sore, teapots may be empty and garden owners may be wilting from answering the same questions several times over. Yet there remains a warm sense of achievement. In a time of political and social turbulence and an age increasingly lived online, there is something wonderfully reassuring about a village coming together over roses, raffles and red velvet cake. So, on June 14, embrace the day – and long may our gates remain open.

Susan Watson

Poetry corner

Drifting off to sleep to the hum of the lawnmower on a warm, early summer evening is a vivid childhood memory for many of us – and indeed, mowing the lawn seems to have captured the imagination of British poets for centuries. From Andrew Marvell in 1651, who used mowing (with a scythe) to comment on the violence of the English Civil War to Philip Larkin’s *The Mower* in 1979 which urges us to ‘be kind / while there is still time’ – the simple task of mowing has been used to explore a variety of themes. Here we come right up-to-date with a poem by Norwegian writer Nuri Rosegg, who personifies the life of a lawnmower in this quirky little poem, which won a *Poetry Archive Now* award in 2024.

The seasons of a lawnmower

Winter – fake hibernation in the crowded cellar. Dusty spider nights frighten my starter cord and spark plug. Yet, my red plastic skin endures it all with a lipstick smile.

Early spring – feverish dreams of my prison wall. My motoric legs painfully hold back their silent longing cries.

Spring – temper tantrums by the cellar door. My lazy owner doesn’t invite me out to an overdue vegan dinner.

Early summer – forced feeding followed by engine blocks. Appetite for tall grass long gone. But my workshy dictator never listens.

Summer – wild mowing music on holiday mood. My cutting deck, sound abstinent. My blades, grass abstinent with high risk of dying from an overdose after the break.

Autumn – barbaric misery due to binge working till Halloween, disguised as my slavedriver, kidnaps me to the cellar. No oily nightcap before wannabe beauty sleep.

Nuri Rosegg



LOCAL INFORMATION

Refuse & Recycling Calendar – June

Household refuse collections (Amberley/Crossgates/Rackham, Mill Lane, High Titten, New Barn Road, Houghton Bridge, North Stoke, Rackham, Greatham and Wiggonholt): collections for non-recyclable waste will be on **Tuesdays, June 2, 16 and 25**; recyclable (blue top bins) and garden waste (brown top bins for registered users) will be collected on **Tuesdays, June 9 and 23**. Orange top bins (food recycling) will be collected every Tuesday.



For Church Street and Hog Lane: collections for mixed dry recyclable waste (blue top bins) will be on **Wednesdays, May 3 and 17**; garden waste (brown top bins for registered users) will be collected on **Mondays, May 8 and 22**. Collections for non-recyclable waste will be on **Wednesdays, May 10 and 27**. Orange top bins (food recycling) will be collected weekly on Wednesdays.

Amenity Tip Opening Times

Billingshurst: Newbridge Road, RH14 9HZ
9am-6pm (closed Thursday and Friday)

Bognor: Shripney Road, PO22 9SX
9am-6pm (closed Thursday and Friday)

Chichester: Coach Road, Westhampnett, PO18 0NX
9am-6pm (closed Tuesday)

Horsham: Hop Oast Farm Worthing Road, Horsham RH13 0AR
9am-6pm (closed Tuesday and Wednesday)

Littlehampton: Mill Lane, Wick, BN17 7PH
9am-6pm (closed Tuesday and Wednesday). No trailers

Appointments are required at all local recycling sites. Bookings can be made at any time online by visiting www.westsussex.gov.uk/BookToRecycle or by calling (01243) 642106. Proof of residency required on arrival.

AMBERLEY & SLINDON BUS STOP

Village Bus Timetable

On Monday, Wednesday and Thursday every week (plus the first Tuesday each month), the Amberley and Slindon Village Bus can take you to various destinations thanks to our team of volunteer drivers.

We routinely stop at a range of places in Amberley, but as this is a 'hail-and-ride' service the driver will pick up and set down at your door on request (especially useful when you are returning home with shopping), or anywhere else en route.

The fare is a flat-rate £3 per return journey (£2 single fare). Bus Pass Holders, and children under 16, travel free.

To arrange a pick-up from your home, use of the bus for other community activity, or to discuss becoming a volunteer driver, please call Phil Greenwood on 01798 831 803.

The full bus timetable can also be found on the Amberley Parish Council website: www.amberley-pc.org.uk

Please note: The service does not operate on Bank Holidays.

MONDAY AM

Pulborough/Storrington

Out		
Amberley Square	10.00	
Hurst Cottages	10.03	
The Sportsman	10.06	
Rackham Street	10.10	
Storrington	10.20	
Pulborough (Sainsbury's)	10.40	
RETURN		
Pulborough	12.03	
Pulborough Tesco	12.05	
Storrington	12.25	
Rackham Street	12.35	

MONDAY PM

Bognor

Out		
Rackham Street	12.35	
The Sportsman	12.39	
Hurst Cottages	12.39	
Amberley Square	12.41	
Bridge Inn	12.43	
Houghton	12.45	
Slindon Coronation Hall	12.52	
Top Road/Church Hill	12.54	
Havenwood Park	13.01	
Arundel Road, Fontwell Village	13.07	
Bognor Regis (Morrisons)	13.25	
RETURN		
Bognor Regis (Morrisons)	15.30	
Arundel Road, Fontwell Village	15.41	
Havenwood Park	15.46	
Slindon Coronation Hall	15.52	
Top Road/Church Hill	15.56	
Houghton	16.06	
Bridge Inn	16.08	
Rackham Street	16.13	
Sportsman	16.17	
Hurst Cottages	16.18	
Amberley Square	16.20	

FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

Worthing

Out		
Havenwood	9.15	
(via Shellbridge Road)		
Slindon Coronation Hall	9.20	
Top Road/Church Hill	9.23	
Houghton	9.33	
Bridge Inn	9.35	
Amberley Square	9.37	
Hurst Cottages	9.40	
The Sportsman	9.42	
Rackham Street	9.42	
Worthing - South Street	10.15	
Haskins Garden Centre	10.30	
RETURN		
Haskins Garden Centre	12.50	
Worthing (Sea front, M55)	13.05	
Rackham Street	13.30	
The Sportsman	13.33	
Hurst Cottages	13.35	
Amberley Square	13.37	
Bridge Inn	13.40	
Houghton	13.42	
Slindon Coronation Hall	14.00	
Top Road/Church Hill (via Shellbridge Road)		
Havenwood	14.09	

WEDNESDAY

Chichester

Out		
Rackham Street	9.35	
The Sportsman	9.38	
Hurst Cottages	9.39	
Amberley Square	9.41	
Bridge Inn	9.43	
Houghton	9.45	
Slindon Coronation Hall	9.52	
Top Road/Church Hill	9.54	
Havenwood Park	10.01	
Arundel Road, Fontwell Village	10.04	
Chichester Market	10.18	
Chichester Cathedral	10.23	
RETURN		
Chichester Cathedral	13.30	
Arundel Road, Fontwell Village	13.45	
Havenwood Park	13.48	
Slindon Coronation Hall	13.58	
Top Road/Church Hill	14.00	
Houghton	14.10	
Bridge Inn	14.12	
Rackham Street	14.17	
The Sportsman	14.20	
Hurst Cottages	14.21	
Amberley Square	14.23	

THURSDAY

Rustington

Out		
Rackham Street	9.35	
The Sportsman	9.38	
Hurst Cottages	9.39	
Amberley Square	9.41	
Bridge Inn	9.43	
Houghton	9.45	
Slindon Coronation Hall	9.52	
Top Road/Church Hill	9.54	
Fontwell Village	9.57	
Havenwood Park	10.00	
Queens Street Arundel	10.05	
Littlehampton	10.20	
Rustington (Watrose)	10.30	
RETURN		
Rustington (Watrose)	12.15	
Littlehampton	12.25	
Queens Street Arundel	12.40	
Havenwood Park	12.45	
Fontwell Village	12.50	
Slindon Coronation Hall	12.53	
Top Road/Church Hill	12.55	
Houghton	13.05	
Bridge Inn	13.07	
Rackham Street	13.12	
The Sportsman	13.16	
Hurst Cottages	13.16	
Amberley Square	13.18	

£3

RETURN

£2 SINGLE FARE

Bus Pass holders and children under 16 travel free.

♥

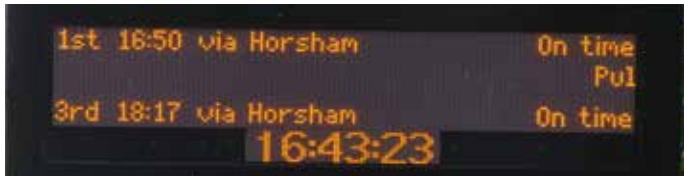
THANK YOU

TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEER DRIVERS WHO KEEP THE COMMUNITY MOVING

30



LOCAL INFORMATION



Southern Trains Timetable
(from December 2025)

Monday-Friday

From Amberley to London (Victoria except here shown): 05.55 and then at 18 and 48 minutes past the hour until 21.48 then 23.05 (change at Three Bridges).

Typical journey time to London Victoria 1hr 27mins

From London Victoria to Amberley: 05:54, 06.35, and then at 05 and 35 minutes past the hour until 22.35.

Typical journey time from London Victoria 1hr 23mins

From Amberley to Arundel and beyond (all Bognor Regis except as shown): 06.42 (PH), 07.13, 07.58 and then at 28 and 58 minutes past the hour until 22.28 then 22.51 (P&S), 23.28, 23.53 (C).

PH – Portsmouth Harbour; P&S – Portsmouth & Southsea; C – Chichester

Saturday

From Amberley to London: 06.29, 06.48 and then at 18 and 48 minutes past the hour until 21.48 then 23.04 (change at Gatwick Airport).

Typical journey time to London Victoria 1hr 27mins

From London Victoria to Amberley: 06.05, 06.35 and then at 05 and 35 minutes past the hour until 20.35 then 21.05, 21.35, 22.05, 22.35.

Typical journey time from London Victoria 1hr 23mins

From Amberley to Arundel and beyond (all Bognor Regis except as shown): 06.43 (PH), 07.28, 07.58 and then 28 and 58 minutes past the hour until 22.28 then 22.51 (P&S), 23.28, 23.53 (C).

PH – Portsmouth Harbour; P&S – Portsmouth & Southsea; C – Chichester

Sunday

From Amberley to London Victoria: 07.58, and then at 58 minutes past the hour until 21.58.

Typical journey time to London Victoria 1hr 24mins

From London Victoria to Amberley: 07.32, 08.32, 09.35 and then at 35 minutes past the hour until 22.35.

Typical journey time from London Victoria 1hr 20mins

From Amberley to Arundel and beyond (all Bognor Regis and Portsmouth Harbour (divides at Barnham) except as shown): 09.02B, 09.58PH 10.58 and then 55 minutes past the hour until 22.56B and 23.55B.

B – Bognor Regis; PH – Portsmouth Harbour.

Compiled by Malcolm Pheasey



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● Tuesday 1pm-4pm ● Thursday 1pm-5pm

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FOREIGN CURRENCY

Euros on demand. All other currencies can be ordered and received within 24 hours

Local Farmers' Markets

Storrington Community Market

Village Hall, West Street Fridays (9.45am-11.15am)

Chichester

East and North Streets First and third Fridays (9am-2pm)

Ford

Ford Airfield First Saturday (7.30am-2pm)

Steyning

High Street Car Park First Saturday (9am-1pm)

Arundel

Town Centre Third Saturday (9am-1pm)

Pulborough Village Market

Village Hall Fourth Saturday (9am-12.30pm)

Petworth

Leconfield Hall and Square Fourth Saturday (9am-1pm)



Property Watch Homes for sale and to rent locally

Amberley

- New Barn Road** 6-bedroom house with pool
(Savills, Petworth) **£1,950,000**
- High Street** 4-bedroom house
(GL&Co, Storrington) **£1,795,000**
- Church Street** 4-bedroom house
(Hamilton Graham, Steyning) **£1,600,000**
- The Alley** 3-bedroom Grade II listed cottage
(GL&Co, Storrington) **£950,000**
- Turnpike Road** 2-bedroom house
(Fowlers, Storrington) **£550,000**

Greatham

Greatham Lane 5-bedroom detached house
(house.Partnership, Cranleigh) **£3,500,000**

Houghton Bridge

Riverside 2-bedroom lodge
(seasonal occupation)
(Lodges and Caravans for Sale, Troon) **£175,000**

Houghton

Off B2139 5-bedroom detached house with pool
(Henry Adams, Storrington) **£1,950,000**

South Lane 4-bedroom detached Grade II listed cottage
(Henry Adams, Storrington) **£795,000**

Off B2139 3-bedroom Grade II listed barn conversion
(Coast & Country Real Estate, Worthing) **£580,000**

Wiggonholt

Church Lane 2-bedroom cottage
(Fowlers, Storrington) **£350,000**

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JUNE DIVERSIONS

1. In which year did the Titanic sink?
2. What is the capital of Qatar?
3. What is celebrated on 2nd February and is also a movie?
4. What was the name of the first man-made satellite launched into space?
5. Which ocean is the largest in the world?
6. What does QUANGO stand for?
7. What is the tallest type of grass?
8. What is the collective noun for whales?
9. What is the name of Harry Potter's pet owl?
10. What is currently the world's busiest international airport?
11. What is the term for three strikes in a row in bowling?
12. Who wrote the book *Chitty-Chitty-Bang-Bang: The Magical Car*?
13. Which Tennis Grand Slam is played on a clay surface?
14. How many strings does a standard or orchestral harp have?
(a) 33 (b) 47 (c) 60
15. What was Istanbul called before 1930?
16. How many actors can you name who have played James Bond?
17. Which actor portrayed Prince Andrew, Duke of York (as he was then known) in *A Very Royal Scandal*?
18. Which country won Eurovision 2026?
19. Which is the only bird that can fly backwards?
20. A screwdriver cocktail is orange juice, ice and which spirit?
21. Whose motto is: 'Nation shall speak peace unto Nation'?
22. Name the five ingredients demanded by one of Basil Fawlty's guests to make the infamous Waldorf Salad
23. What is the official language of Madeira?
24. Gordon Sumner is the real name of what famous British musician?
25. How many keys are there on a piano?
26. Geoff Hurst famously scored a hat-trick in England's 4-2 win over West Germany in the 1966 World Cup final. Who scored the other goal for England?
27. What name was chosen by the current Pope?
28. What does 12 denote on the Beaufort Scale?
29. In which country is the volcano Santorini located?
30. What nationality is Maria Corina Machado, winner of the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize?

Answers on page 35

Quick crossword

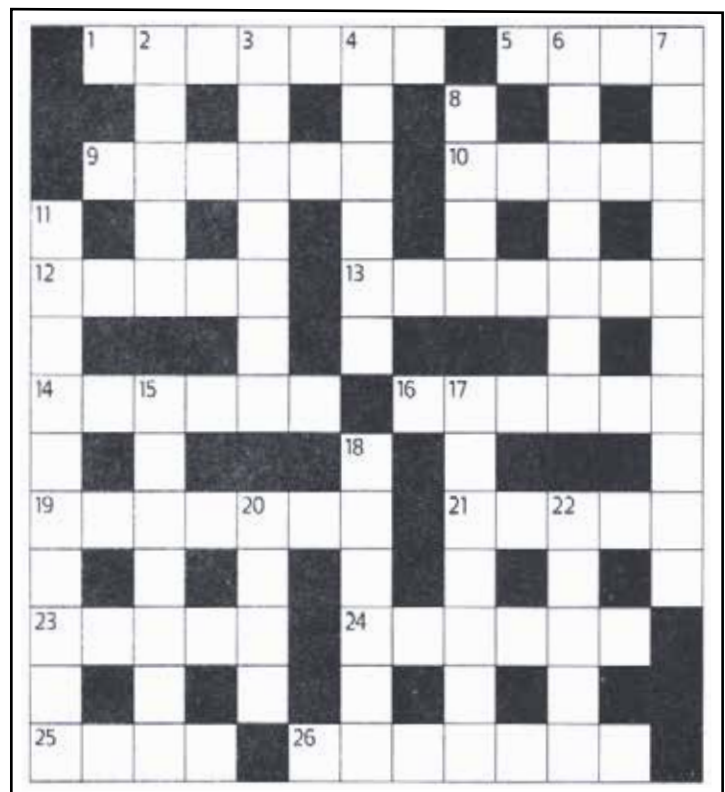
Across

1. Extremely bad (7)
5. Bridgerton star, Hannah _____ (4)
9. Channel (6)
10. ___ Island, former US Immigration Centre (5)
12. Composer Franz Joseph ___ (5)
13. Old-fashioned (7)
14. Joan ____, US comedienne (6)
16. Happy cries! (6)
19. Lacking consistency (7)
21. Edwin ____, Motown singer (5)
23. Leather strap (5)
24. Powerless (6)
25. Prying (4)
26. Pupil (7)

Down

2. Cartoon character ___ Boop (5)
3. William ____, Star Trek actor (7)
4. Of the stars (6)
6. Askew (7)
7. Pharmacy (10)
8. Warmth (4)
11. Popular dance of the twenties (10)
15. Several (7)
17. Spouse (7)
18. Absolve (6)
20. Best clothes! (4)
22. Cricketer, ___ Lamb (3)

Solution: page 35





JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS / TIDE TIMETABLE

1st Monday

Black Horse Supper Club, 7.30pm*

2nd Tuesday

**Talk: *The Genius of René Lalique*,
The Arts Society West Sussex,
Fittleworth Village Hall, 1.30pm**

3rd Wednesday

**Talk: *Arcimboldo at the Court of the Alchemists*, The Arts Society
South Downs, Fittleworth Village Hall,
9.45am**

8th Monday

Quiz night, The Sportsman, 7.30pm*

13th Saturday

**Ecohub and Repair Cafe,
St Michael's Church Hall,
10am-12.30pm**

Emergency Services Weekend,

Amberley Museum, from 10am

14th Sunday

Emergency Services Weekend,
Amberley Museum, from 10am

Amberley Gardens Open,

12 noon-6pm

**Sussex Day, Parham House
& Gardens, 12 noon-5pm**

**Music: Superstrings, The Bridge Inn,
3pm-5pm**

17th Wednesday

**Home Educators' Day, Amberley
Museum, from 10am***

Horsham School of Botanical

**Artists Exhibition, Parham House,
12 noon-5pm (until July 5)**

18th Thursday

**Talk: Filming James Bond 007
A View to Kill, Amberley
Museum, 2pm-3.30pm**

19th Friday

Bat talk and walk: guided tour, 8pm*

21st Sunday

**Fathers' Day, Amberley Museum,
from 10am**

Littlehampton Tide Timetable - June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1st High 00.28 Low 06.27 High 12.51 Low 18.43	2nd High 00.59 Low 07.02 High 13.25 Low 19.18	3rd High 01.30 Low 07.37 High 13.57 Low 19.53	4th High 02.03 Low 08.12 High 14.30 Low 20.29	5th High 02.37 Low 08.46 High 15.06 Low 21.06	6th High 03.15 Low 09.25 High 15.48 Low 21.50
7th High 04.00 Low 10.10 High 16.37 Low 22.42	8th High 04.55 Low 11.05 High 17.37 Low 23.45	9th High 06.01 Low 12.08 High 18.43	10th Low 00.52 High 07.13 Low 13.16 High 19.49	11th Low 01.57 High 08.19 Low 14.20 High 20.49	12th Low 02.57 High 09.18 Low 15.20 High 21.44	13th Low 03.52 High 10.13 Low 16.17 High 22.36
14th Low 04.45 High 11.08 Low 17.09 High 23.29	15th Low 05.37 High 12.03 Low 18.01	16th High 00.22 Low 06.28 High 12.58 Low 18.53	17th High 01.15 Low 07.21 High 13.51 Low 19.45	18th High 02.07 Low 08.13 High 14.45 Low 20.38	19th High 03.00 Low 09.05 High 15.36 Low 21.32	20th High 03.51 Low 09.58 High 16.27 Low 22.25
21st High 04.45 Low 10.52 High 17.18 Low 23.22	22nd High 05.38 Low 11.48 High 18.11	23rd Low 00.22 High 06.34 Low 12.46 High 19.05	24th Low 01.23 High 07.33 Low 13.47 High 20.04	25th Low 02.22 High 08.37 Low 14.46 High 21.04	26th Low 03.18 High 09.39 Low 15.40 High 22.00	27th Low 04.08 High 10.31 Low 16.28 High 22.46
28th Low 04.52 High 11.15 Low 17.11 High 23.28	29th Low 05.33 High 11.56 Low 17.50	30th High 00.06 Low 06.10 High 12.33 Low 18.27				

TIDAL DIFFERENCE ON THE RIVER ARUN +90 MINUTES AT HOUGHTON

22nd Tuesday

Quiz night, The Sportsman, 7.30pm*

24th Wednesday

**Midsummer Evening entertainment:
Aspects of Love, North Stoke
Church, 6pm**

26th Friday

**Talk: Swifts, swallows and house
martins, St Michael's Church Hall,**

28th Sunday

**SADCASE Car Show, Amberley
Museum, from 10am**

Dates for the diary

Greener Amberley: National
Emergency Briefing **July 8**

Sussex Steam Rally, Parham
July 11-12

Village Picnic, Millennium Green
July 12

**Deadline for the
combined July/August
issue is**

**WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 17**

**Contributions should
be sent to The Editor,
Brooklands, East Street,
Amberley, BN18 9NN**

**or e-mail mike@
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The Sportsman Inn, Amberley 01798 831787

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Amberley Village Pottery, hand-made
pottery, gifts etc 01798 831876

Amberley Village Stores, grocery, wines,
newspapers, Post Office 01798 831171

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ing school for boys aged 8-18 01243 814320

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Storrington Physiotherapy Clinic,
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**To advertise in these columns, or
elsewhere in the Wildbrooks Magazine,
contact: mike@brooklandsamberley.com
or call 01798 831 114**

Answers to Diversions (see page 33)

1. 1912 2. Doha 3. Groundhog Day 4. Sputnik 1 5. The Pacific 6. Quasi-Autonomous Non-Governmental Organisation (funded and regulated by the government but operates independently) 7. Bamboo 8. A pod 9. Hedwig 10. Dubai 11. Turkey 12. Ian Fleming 13. French Open (Roland Garros) 14. (b) 47 15. Constantinople 16. Sean Connery, George Lazenby, Roger Moore, Timothy Dalton, Pierce Brosnan, Daniel Craig 17. Michael Sheen 18. Bulgaria 19. Hummingbird 20. Vodka 21. BBC 22. Celery, apple, walnuts, grapes, mayonnaise 23. Portuguese 24. Sting 25. 88 26. Martin Peters 27. Leo XIV 28. Hurricane 29. Greece 30. Venezuelan

Crossword solution

Across : 1. Abysmal 5. Dodd 9. Strait 10. Ellis 12. Haydn 13. Antique 14. Rivers 16. Cheers 19. Erratic 21. Starr 23. Thong 24. Unable 25. Nosy 26. Student

Down: 2. Betty 3. Shatner 4. Astral 6. Oblique 7. Dispensary 8. Heat 11. Charleston 15. Various 17. Husband 18. Acquit 20. Togs 22. Allan



PARISH DIRECTORY

Churchwardens:	Amberley	Melanie Edge (mel.edge@me.com).....07973 163369
		Michael Davey (Secretary) (mpdavey@gmail.com).....07749 690024
	Greatham	Diana van der Klugt (dianavanderklugt@btinternet.com).....01798 875663
		Robert Englehart.....01798 872502
	Parham	Valerie Myers (vmyers69@btinternet.com).....07909 640948
		Jill Sloan (Secretary) (jill@jsloan.com)..... 07517413481
	Wiggonholt	Cathy Folwell (cathy.folwell@icloud.com)..... 01798 872546
		Jenny Sadler (jen@southernranes.co.uk)..... 01798 874613
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Parish Magazine Distribution & Subscriptions		Pam Keeble (pamwkeeble@gmail.com)..... 01798 831050
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Amberley Good Neighbours Emergency Service		Cyndy Kennett.....07745 407185
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Amberley Parish Council Clerk (locum)		Celia Price (clerk@amberley-pc.org.uk)
Amberley Parish Trust		David Vokins.....01798 839086
Amberley Society		Ian Galbraith (ian@ecomis.com).....01798 839006
		Jeff Feakins (feakster@aol.com).....01798 831538
Amberley Village Stores and Post Office		Colin Woods..... 01798 831171
Amberley Welfare Trust (Village Surgery)		Grahame Joseph (grahamejoseph@gmail.com).....01798 831340
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Cricket Club		Keith Dalmon.....01798 83188
Home Safety Checks		West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service.....03458729719
Member of Parliament		Andrew Griffith (andrew.griffith.mp@parliament.uk).....0207 219 4557
Millennium Green Trust		Judy Agate (judy@greencaterpillar.org).....07525 48474
Neighbourhood Watch		Malcolm Pheasey.....01798 83904
Parham Parish Council Clerk		Vicky Spiers (clerk@parham-pc.org.uk)..... 01903 20894
Police		Non-emergency number..... 101
Rackham Old School Association		Sue Bulloch.....01798 872038
Rackham School Hall Reservations		Jennifer Hooper.....01903 742695
Society of Amberley Garden Enthusiasts (SAGE)		Elisabeth Tooms (toomsfirth@btinternet.com).....01798 839232
Stoolball Club		Sandra Turner.....01243 82125
Village Bus		Philip Greenwood.....01798 831803
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West Sussex County Councillor		Paul Marshall.....033 022 23841

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KNOW YOUR SUSSEX

Happy Sussex Day!

June 16 is Sussex Day – the feast day of Sussex’s patron saint, St Richard of Chichester – which celebrates the county’s rich culture and history. Born in Droitwich in the early 1200s, Richard arrived in Sussex during a turbulent period, clashing fiercely with both King Henry III and powerful nobles over corruption and church rights. Despite his high office, he was renowned for his simplicity, travelling the diocese on foot, caring for the poor and insisting that clergy live honestly and modestly.



Icon of St Richard in Chichester Cathedral

His famous medieval devotion – asking “to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly and follow thee more nearly” – found an unexpected new audience in the 20th century, when its words inspired the song *Day by Day* from the hit musical *Godspell*. Later, Ben Stiller, squirming at the dinner table, draws on St Richard’s prayer when he improvises grace in the iconic comedy, *Meet the Parents*. There are few mediaeval saints who can claim quite such an enduring legacy in popular culture!

Chichester Cathedral is hosting a special Eucharist service for the Feast of St Richard on Sunday, June 14 at 10am, followed by Sussexfest – a free community celebration marking Sussex Day – on the Cathedral Green between 11am and 4pm.



Midsummer on the Downs

June is also the month of midsummer, the official start of summer and longest day of the year. The summer solstice – the moment when whichever hemisphere you’re in is most tilted most towards

the sun – takes place this year in the UK on June 21 at 9.24am, according to the Greenwich Royal Observatory, with well over 16 hours of daylight.

Sussex midsummer traditions stretch back far beyond recorded history, rooted in the ancient rhythms of farming, sunlight and the changing seasons. Long before Christianity arrived in Sussex, Bronze Age and Iron Age communities are believed to have marked the summer solstice on the Downs with gatherings, feasting and fires on the hilltops, celebrating the height of the sun and praying for successful harvests. The landscape itself – with its burial mounds, ancient trackways and hill forts such as Chanctonbury Ring – still carries echoes of those early rituals.

Summer solstice spookery

As Christianity spread through Sussex, many pagan midsummer customs blended into the feast of St John the Baptist on June 24. Bonfires remained popular across rural villages, believed to ward off bad luck and evil spirits, while herbs gathered on midsummer eve were thought to possess special healing powers. In farming communities beneath the Downs, midsummer also marked a pause before the hard labour of harvest began – a rare moment for music, dancing and village celebration during the long light evenings.



An ancient oak on the Parham Estate

According to an old legend, if you go to Broadwater near Worthing on midsummer’s eve and head to an ancient oak tree, you might see a group of skeletons come out of the ground and dance around the tree until dawn. At the Chanctonbury Ring, an old custom states that if you jog around it seven times backwards you will raise Satan himself.

Arundel’s Carpet of Flowers

Arundel Cathedral holds the record for the oldest flower carpet in Britain, a custom that has been running for nearly 150 years and forms the centrepiece of celebrations for the feast of *Corpus Christi*. In 1871, Henry Fitzalan-Howard, the 15th Duke of Norfolk, visited the Italian village of Sutri near Rome. He witnessed the streets carpeted in greenery for a saint’s feast day and was inspired to bring this custom to his newly-built church of Our Lady and St Philip Neri in Arundel.



Initially, the carpet was painstakingly laid by gardeners from the Norfolk Estate. When estate staffing decreased in the mid-1900s, local teachers and parishioners stepped in. Today, a dedicated team of volunteers creates the 90ft masterpiece in a single day, using thousands of chrysanthemums and natural materials. It follows a different theme each year, often commemorating religious milestones or national events. The dates for *Corpus Christi* 2026 are June 3-4.

Susan Watson



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