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No. 559 AUGUST 2024

# MAYFIELD & FIVE ASHES NEWSLETTER



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Front cover: Wadhurst Park, which opened as part of the NGS Gardens scheme, by Simon Heaton. Thanks to all the organisations for their photographs. Please do send us your images to [mayfieldnewsletter2012@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldnewsletter2012@gmail.com)



# WELCOME FROM THE EDITORS



Welcome to your August Newsletter. August is the month normally considered by the Nation's Press to be a quiet month and "silly" stories abound. We are really going against the grain with this edition of the Newsletter. Just when perhaps the Parish could be forgiven for thinking the proposed Community & Health Centre was (almost) a done deal yet another proposal is being suggested. This is such an important topic for the Parish we are



dedicating a major portion of this Newsletter to the issue, including plans and drawings which were shown to the general public on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> July in the Scout Hut. Another subject of major importance to us all is the consultation on the future of Mayfield's Fire Station. Please do take the time to read everything that has been submitted on this subject. We can't complain if events take a turn in the wrong direction but we have done nothing. Finally, there is an interesting article on St. Dunstan's Pharmacy. Please let's support them - "use them or lose them". **Jeanette Hore & Philip James**

## DEADLINES AND HOW TO CONTACT US

**MONTHLY SUBMISSIONS** to [mayfieldnewsletter2012@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldnewsletter2012@gmail.com) by noon on the 15th. Please include your organisation, name or the topic of your copy in the 'Subject' line of your email. Submissions must show the subject, name of author and a contact number in case of queries. No anonymous submissions will be accepted.

**FOR BLACK/WHITE & COLOUR ADVERTISING** email: [mfanadvertising@gmail.com](mailto:mfanadvertising@gmail.com).

**DEADLINE FOR BOOKING SPACE IS 10<sup>th</sup> WITH PDF ARTWORK BY 16<sup>th</sup>**

**FOR ANNUAL £25 SUBSCRIPTIONS:** You can set up a standing order and pay online as follows:- £25 to Mayfield & Five Ashes Newsletter; NatWest Bank, Sort Code 60-10-30; Account No. 60849975. Please remember to email us your full name and address at [mfansubscriptions@gmail.com](mailto:mfansubscriptions@gmail.com). Or you can pay by cheque sent to Graham Soar, Owl Lodge, Tubwell Lane, Crowborough, TN6 3RJ – again please remember to include your name and address

## USEFUL INFORMATION

**LOCATION OF DEFIBRILLATORS:** **Five Ashes Primary School** - accessible from the pavement; **Woodhill Surgery** - in the entrance porch; **Mayfield Primary School** - on the wall by steps to main entrance; **Telephone Kiosk outside the Rose & Crown**, Fletching Street; **Mayfield Lawn Tennis Club**. Defibrillators are housed in weatherproof boxes and are accessible 24/7. Full audio prompts guide you through as soon as you open the lid.

# FEATURES

## SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST

### Horse Chestnut

Far, far away in the south-east corner of Europe, the Balkan Mountains tower over the landscape. Their valleys were once home to the fearsome Thracian tribes, who made empires tremble when they rode screaming into battle on their wild horses. But even more ancient battles were being fought deep in these majestic mountains.

Here in the Balkans, there grew a strange and mighty tree. Its huge seeds were encased in spiky armour and its leaves

were like giant hands which cast shade all around. But this tree had been cursed. Each year a plague of tiny moths would attack the tree, their caterpillars would burrow inside every leaf. Green leaves turned to brown, leaving the tree apparently lifeless and defeated. Yet each year the tree would return with renewed green vigour, and each year the moths would attack with the same resolve. And so, for centuries the tree and the moth remained trapped in the Balkan Mountains, locked in their epic, age-old battle.

Then one day men came from the west, discovered this magnificent tree, gathered its seeds and planted them in their world. And so it was that the branches and the empire of the Horse Chestnut spread across Europe's parks and gardens. People admired it and reclined in the shade of its broad palmate leaves. Schoolboys used its seeds to fight their own playground battles. The conker tree had conquered the continent. Here in this new world the curse of the moth had been lifted and the Horse Chestnut flourished. Meanwhile, the tree's nemesis, not a particularly strong flyer, remained imprisoned in the remote valleys of the Balkan Mountains for centuries, more myth than moth. Then, one day, the modern world arrived. Construction workers building roads through the mountains were unwittingly building the perfect means for the moth to escape and spread. Now all it needed was a lift. So, the moth stuck out its six thumbs and hitched a ride.

Incredibly, the moth, just 5mm long, was able to disperse by grabbing on to passing vehicles. And so, like the ferocious Thracian tribes, the moth rode into battle. Screaming along highways, motorways, and autobahns on Volvos, Citroens, Fiats and Fords. The ancient battle spilled out from the Balkans as the moth was chauffeur-driven to every Horse Chestnut tree in Europe. The Horse Chestnut Leaf Miner moth was first discovered, identified and named in Greece in 1984. Twenty years later, in 2004, an innocent motorist pulled off the A27 into the University of Sussex car park, unaware they had brought a sinister stowaway into Sussex. Since then, every Horse Chestnut in Sussex has been moth-eaten. Look to the leaves and you'll see the great Balkan battle raging right on your doorstep.

**Michael Blencowe**



Credit: Derek Middleton

## VILLAGE PEOPLE

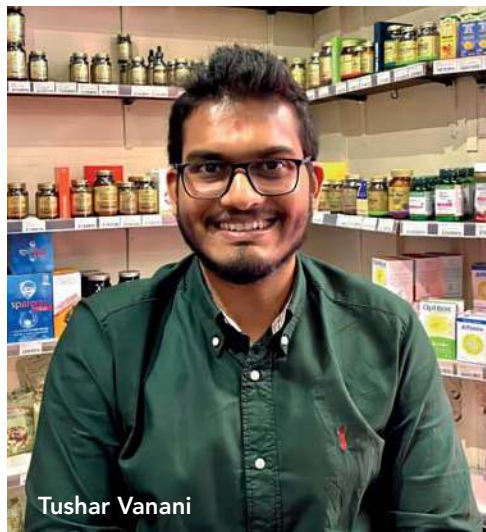
### TUSHAR VANANI - ST. DUNSTAN'S PHARMACY MANAGER

It is nearly two years since our local pharmacy changed hands and became part of what is now Clarity Stores Ltd, a network of seven pharmacies across East Sussex and Kent including Biggin Hill, Ticehurst, Staplehurst, Cranbrook, St. Leonards-on-Sea and Bexhill.

The group is owned and managed by Hardik Desai, Ankit Tyagi and Terjas Avoiya, two of whom are pharmacists. The local Business Manager is Tushar Vanani and I interviewed him to find out what progress had been made since they took over, and to gain an understanding of the issues which have arisen.

Tushar, who has a degree in Chemistry from the University in Gujarat, and a Masters in Business from the University of Hertfordshire, explained that the overall ethos of the pharmacy is to serve the local community and be responsive to the needs of local people. This has become increasingly difficult against a backdrop of core funding reduction of 30% since 2015 and difficulties in the supply chain since Brexit. The recent rise in inflation has made matters even worse. In a recent report it was declared that the Community Pharmacy Funding Framework is not fit for purpose and recommended an overhaul. Although there are no quick fixes, it seems that the new government has pharmacies in their sights, so hopefully help is on its way. In the meantime, there is no doubt that local pharmacies are under threat, with many having closed in the last few years.

In Mayfield we are fortunate that our pharmacy is part of a larger and supportive



network. We can also all play a part in providing support by buying our chemist items locally. There are many products available in the pharmacy, which are well organised and attractively displayed, including ranges such as Simple, Faith in Nature, Infinity foods, professional supports for sports fanatics, make-up and hair products. By using this local resource for presents, cleansers, cotton wool etc we are helping our pharmacy to survive in this ever more competitive marketplace.

Tushar, is supported by Fatima, Jignasha and Debra, who has 18 years' experience and provides an invaluable service preparing blister packs for drugs, making it easy for patients to take the right pills at the right time. The team, which also includes two locums, pull together to provide a wide and useful range of services, all of which take the pressure off the local GPs. Tushar explained that as part of Pharmacy First they now offer diagnosis and treatment for seven common

conditions, which include the use of antibiotics when appropriate. The illnesses and age parameters are as follows:

Ear infections in children (aged 1-17), urinary tract infections (16-64), shingles (18+), Sinusitis (12+), Impetigo in children (1+) and sore throat (5+).

This is of benefit not only to the patients who receive quick efficient advice and medicine for these common ailments, but also to the local doctors who can spend more time on patients with complex and serious complaints. This service is in addition to blood pressure checks, ear wax micro suction and vaccinations for Covid and Flu. They also offer travel vaccinations for which there is a charge. The main service however is the supply of prescription medicines which, due to supply issues and reduction in funding, is currently fraught with difficulty. There are times when demand for certain, often important, drugs, outstrips supply. When this happens, Tushar asks his network if they have the drug in stock, which can relieve the situation temporarily but this is not always possible and ultimately it means paying above the drug tariff in order to secure the supply. The situation is not helped by some pharmacies stock piling certain drugs.

He stressed the importance of the 'human touch' in the pharmacy where they can speak to patients about their issues and, if necessary, work with the local surgery, either to supply prescriptions for appropriate drugs or their alternatives in the event of supply problems, or to refer on for a face-to-face appointment. This, including free delivery, must be preferable to the on-line pharmacy service which has long waiting times and lacks patient knowledge and responsiveness.



**Tushar with his team, Debra, Jignasha, and Fatima**

Tushar confesses, having always lived in big cities, he felt a little anxious when he knew he was coming to rural Mayfield, but has been amazed at how welcoming, friendly and supportive the whole community has been. He is also grateful to his team, and particularly to the local surgery for their flexibility and willingness to work so closely with the pharmacy, ensuring a joined up service. He has left a mum in Gujarat, and his sister is a doctor in New Zealand, so this acceptance has clearly meant a great deal to him and he did admit that: 'Mayfield is my heart'. Hopefully the current difficulties will be tackled, and our wonderful and local pharmacy will have a bright and positive future.

**Barbara Murray**



## MAYFIELD OSTEOPATHS

We are keen to introduce you to our extensive team and share with you the wide range of services we offer to ensure you receive the highest quality care. Our experienced professionals are here to support your health and wellbeing every step of the way.

Laura Knight set up the practice in 2007 in Lower Steps and, as the team grew, we moved into the larger premises across the road on the High Street. Over the years we have become integrated in the heart of the village and offer support in community projects and help with many fundraising events.

The practice offers Osteopathy, Acupuncture, Sports Massage & Reflexology and we have also recently introduced Hypnotherapy, Reiki, Kinesiology & Sound Healing.

The primary reason for the new addition of therapies is driven by the big increase in 'post pandemic' stress. So many of us have been affected on different levels since 2021 affecting our mental health, physical health and emotional wellbeing. Alternative therapies are a very welcome form of self-care especially given all the changes we have had to face. With this in mind, we have reached out to therapists who offer a wealth of experience in their fields and here is a brief description of the new additions we offer to support you.

**Reiki** is an ancient Japanese technique for stress reduction and relaxation and has numerous benefits for physical and mental health. It is a gentle, non-invasive therapy, where the therapist can channel energy by means of gentle touch to activate the natural healing process.



Left to right: Kate Raven Receptionist; Helen Armer, Acupuncture; Emily Gayton, Sports Therapist and Laura Knight, Osteopath

**Kinesiology** originates from ancient Greek studies meaning the study of movement using mechanisms of muscle movement to look at what may be causing imbalances in the body.

**Hypnotherapy** is a type of psychological therapy that uses hypnosis to help treat certain mental and physical conditions and habitual changes using CBT (cognitive behavioural therapy) techniques.

### Team Introduction:

**Laura Knight – Osteopath** - Laura has 20 years' experience and qualified at the European School of Osteopathy in 2004.

**Emily Gayton – Sports Therapist** - Emily has 13 years' experience and qualified at Teesside University in 2011.

**Helen Armer – Acupuncture** - Helen has 14 years' experience and qualified at the International College of Oriental Medicine in 2004.



**Ben Leamon - Osteopath** - Ben has 7 years' experience and qualified at the Surrey Institute of Osteopathic Medicine in 2017



**Lucy Hunter - Reiki & Reflexology** - Lucy graduated from the Maureen Burgess school of Reflexology in 2017 and became a Reiki Master in 2023



**Zoe Linden – Kinesiology & Sound Healing** - Zoe has over 20 years' experience as a nurse, has branched out into complementary therapies and is now a qualified Touch for Health Kinesiologist. She is currently training to become a consultant in the field.



**Sue Lee – Hypnotherapy** - Sue has over 10 years' experience in Hypnotherapy and is a Health & Wellness Coach & Life Coach.

**Kate Raven – Receptionist** – Kate does a great job in welcoming our clients and is also a professional curtain maker & fitter, creating beautiful designs.

Our multi-disciplinary team are committed to providing exceptional healthcare services. We are only a phone call away, you can pop into the practice to have a chat or visit our website to learn more of the world of self-care and physical and emotional wellbeing. We are all human and have to deal with different physical and mental issues. Just know you are not alone. We are here for you.

**Laura, Emily, Helen, Ben, Kate, Lucy, Zoe and Sue. Telephone: 873051**

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



# YELLOW PAGES GOING GREEN

After 2023's successful Harvest Moon walk, we are celebrating the Hunter's Moon this year, with a night walk on the evening of 17<sup>th</sup> October. Online registration will open in September as a prelude to the Wild About Dark Skies Festival running across the High Weald National Landscape from 28<sup>th</sup> October to 10<sup>th</sup> November. More details to follow.

Mayfield is one of nine Wealden parishes keen to achieve International Dark Sky Community status. With strong support from the Parish Council and light meter readings confirming that, for the most part, we enjoy truly dark skies, an application is on the cards for 2024/5 but we need your support to make it happen. In particular, the more people who can sign a pledge to five simple principles, the better. They are:

1. Just light the area you need. If you want to light the path to your house, don't also light your neighbour's garden or the wider countryside
2. Shield and point lights down. Upward pointing lights are really bad for creating "sky glow" – the sort of orange glow you see when you look in the direction of Tunbridge Wells where you certainly won't see any stars. Shield your lights and point them downwards.
3. Less bright light bulbs. LEDs use far less electricity than the old incandescent lights but they can be much brighter! Lights that are too bright cause glare which means we can't see as well at night compared with dimmer lights. It may seem counterintuitive, but dimmer lights are more secure than bright ones.
4. Timers and sensors. If you can't just turn outside lights on and off when required, why not put them on a timer? There's really no need for lights to be on all night. And / or use a sensor so the light is only on when it's needed?
5. Warm-white bulbs. A lot of LEDs are bright blue-white. This is the worst frequency range for wildlife and humans too. Warm-yellow lights are much better for the environment, and much nicer to look at as well. One more thing - indoor lights can spill outdoors. Remember to draw your curtains! You can sign the pledge by popping into Burnett's. Thank you!

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

Protecting the night sky starts with **YOU**

1 Light just the area you need



2 Shield & point lights down



3 Choose less bright bulbs



4 Use timers and sensors



5 Use warm-white bulbs



"I pledge to protect our dark skies by following the

**Five Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting"**

...and also by drawing my curtains!

How this data will be used:

- the purpose of the data is solely to provide evidence to the International Dark Sky that the parish has the support of the community
- each parish will send a scan of their pledge sheets to Dark Sky International and nobody else
- the data will NOT be put into a database of any kind
- we are NOT collecting email or phone numbers so there's no possibility of anybody getting in touch

## Will you take the pledge?

# OUR SCHOOLS

## MAYFIELD PRE-SCHOOL

We have had a busy last term, celebrating the children's achievements over the year, and making the most of the beautiful sunshine. The children have enjoyed our nature walks and showed great interest and creativity in our new mud kitchen from the BIG GIVE project, allowing them to use their imagination and past experiences to create pies, potions, teas etc with all natural loose parts.



We would like to wish all our

leavers the very best in their new adventure going to 'big school' in September.

The last fundraising event of the school year was the Open Gardens at Hooper's Farm, which raised another fabulous total for the Pre-School. A big thank you to Andrew and Sarah Ratcliffe for letting the Pre-School run the teas again.

As the end of the school year comes upon us, the Committee would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported the Pre-School and the Committee during the last school year - to all those who have helped, baked, made, donated, gifted and bought - everything you have done has helped us raise much needed funds for the Pre-School and our children and we are incredibly grateful.

Another huge thank you goes to the wonderful staff of the Pre-School who provide such great care and learning for the children. They make it such a special place and we hope that they all enjoy a well-deserved break over the summer.

We still have a few spaces left for September this year so please do get in touch for more details or to arrange a visit - 872523. More information can also be found on our website [www.mayfieldPre-School.co.uk](http://www.mayfieldPre-School.co.uk).

**Charlie Cranch - Pre-School Manager**

## MAYFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Wagtails and Skylarks trip to Brighton Sea Life Centre

On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June a buzz of excitement was to be felt in the Year 1/ 2 and 2/3 classrooms, for the children were off to visit Brighton Sea Life Centre, the world's oldest aquarium.

The coach arrived at school in beautiful sunshine and we were off! Once we arrived,



and of course after the inevitable snack and toilet break, we were ready to explore. From the outset, the children were making exclamations of delight at the stingrays swimming right up to them, showing off their gliding prowess, the octopus using its suckers to climb up the glass and the piranhas prowling around their enclosure. The children loved walking through the glass tunnel, watching sharks swim beside and above them and a myriad of fish darting, resting and gliding all around them.

Lunch on the beach was a definite highlight, despite the attentions of marauding seagulls! What a pleasure it was to see the children delighting in finding different kinds of seashells, digging the deepest holes and basking in the bright sunshine. Upon returning to the aquarium, the children were treated to the beautiful dancing courtship between two green turtles (the biggest creatures in the aquarium) as well as spying tiny baby seahorses, sea anemones as well as lionfish, clown fish and so much more.

The children on the coach on our return journey were all smiles after a wonderful day in Brighton, though there were a few droopy eyes which didn't just belong to the accompanying adults! We will definitely return.

### **Term 6 in Robins Reception**

What a fantastic end to the year we've had in Robins! This term we've been following our children's interests and focused on learning about animals. We have many a budding David Attenborough in our class and we've had such a great time learning about lots of different amazing animals from all over the world. We've learnt about different habitats and how creatures are adapted to the places in which they live. We



also went on a class trip to Drusilla's park where we got to meet a rat, a cockroach, a millipede, a snake and even Miss Hawkridge's favourite animal- an armadillo! To celebrate our fantastic term and our whole year of achievements we had a class dress-up day. We all came to school dressed as animals, or scientists who help animals and took part in a series of team challenges to earn points for our teams. We were great at working together. We finished the day with a class party. What a great end to the year. Well done Robins for all you have achieved this year. I am so incredibly proud of all of you!

### **Library Opening**

It was a very special day at Mayfield Primary School on Friday 21st June, because the newly refurbished and decorated library opened. After almost a year of planning, a generous donation from the Friends of Mayfield Primary School, an order of new furniture, the hard work of a group of Year 5 librarians and a considerable revamp of the books we have stocked within it, we were ready! We had an opening ceremony which culminated in a cutting of the ribbon declaring the library open. All the children then had the opportunity to walk through our new haven of books; it was such a pleasure to hear their exclamations





of pleasure and note the titles they had spotted that they would like to borrow. Following this, throughout the day, each class had an opportunity to visit the library, using their new library cards for the first time to take out a precious book. Even a powercut did not deter each child from taking the text of their choice, be it a book about drawing, a "how to" Minecraft book, a graphic novel such as 'Dog Man', the classic 'The Hobbit' or a book from the Tom Gates series – they were going to borrow a book. We

are so proud of our children as readers; the enthusiasm and passion they have for books and the willingness to talk to each other about the titles they have enjoyed is so valued. We feel sure that our new library with its striking wall art will inspire our children to read for a long while to come!

If you would like to come in to support us with hearing readers in the school, please do contact Mrs Knudsen in the school office – we would love to hear from you!

**Telephone: 873185 Email: [mayfieldoffice@thewealdfederation.org](mailto:mayfieldoffice@thewealdfederation.org)**

This Term we're also saying goodbye to our fantastic Year 6 pupils. We are so proud of all of them, and they have had a fabulous last term at Mayfield including a great residential visit and a brilliant end of year production of Ali Baba and The Bongo Bandits. We wish them all the best on their next adventure.

### Year 6 Leavers



## FIVE ASHES PRIMARY SCHOOL

I say this every year but how quick has this term and year gone. It is a strange combination of emotions when we get to this point of year. The excitement of the summer holidays and a chance to have a rest is always welcome but we have to also say goodbye to our Year 6 children. I feel this is getting harder each year. The group leaving us this year are a wonderful bunch of children who we are all so proud of. Marley, Bella, Barney, Lucy, Tommy, Fraya, Izzy, Lizzie, Maddison, Lucy and Lara, we are truly going to miss you. You have all worked incredibly hard this year, you always represent our school in an outstanding manner and it is going to be hard for all of us to say goodbye.

School life has been slightly busy to say the least. Sports Day, a visit from Heathfield Library, Woodland Days. HASP Mini Olympics, Maple trip to St. Dunstan's, Swimming Gala, Year 6 trip to Knockhatch, leavers' service at All Saints Church, Crowborough, Young at Heart, Maple's Great British Bake off, Race for



Young at Heart



Woodland Outing



Life, Oaks end of year production and lastly Year 6 leavers' service at the Village Hall. So many lovely memories which both the adults and children will not forget.

I would like to say a few thank-yous. Our Friends of Five Ashes have worked hard as always to raise vital funds for the school which has a huge impact upon all the children in the school. Secondly, the staff here at Five Ashes really are a special group of people. The core of everything we do is for the children and ensuring they are as happy as can be whilst giving them inspiring learning experiences. To do this takes a huge amount of energy, commitment and passion. All the staff give their all to ensure this happens and will always go the extra mile for every child. We are very lucky to have them here at Five Ashes. Thank you to all the parents who support us as a staff. You are always willing to support the school and we love teaching your children.

Lastly and most importantly, thank you to all the children. You are an amazing group and we all love being around you. You always make us smile and give your all and make this such a special school which we all love so much.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer making your own special memories.

**Darren Gurr, Head of School**

### **SKIPPERS HILL SCHOOL**

Sports Day is one of the highlights of the school year, as the Skippers community comes together, supporting one another and cheering each other on.

This year, due to the wonderful unpredictability of our British weather, Sports Day had to be postponed and split into two separate events.

We had Pre-Prep Sports Day (Kindergarten to Year 2) which was a lovely and relaxed atmosphere allowing all the children to actively take part and excel. The Parents' and Children's Race at the end turned out to





be very competitive but great fun.

For the Prep School Sports Day the children were incredibly supportive of one another with everyone being given a chance to shine. The Teachers Vs Year 8 Relay Race was so close, with the Teachers just pipping the Year 8s to the post. We even managed to persevere through one or two showers. Such a lovely testament to the Skippers' community spirit, which was perfectly summed up by one parent:

"Team spirit shone through today for sure amongst all those kids; really lovely to watch and something Skippers is so good at promoting."

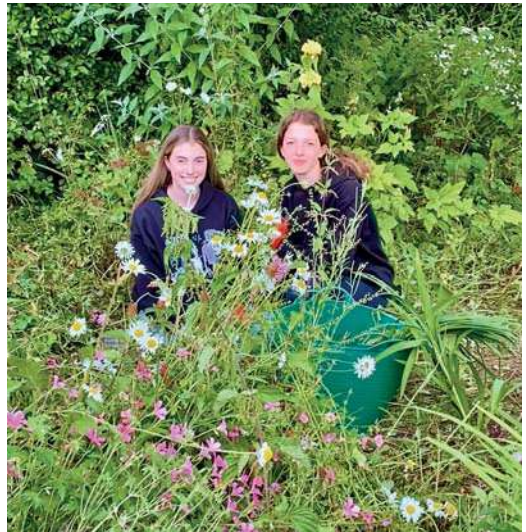
**Phillip Makhoul Skippers Hill Manor Preparatory School**



## **MAYFIELD GIRLS SCHOOL**

### **A Day In The Local Community**

At Mayfield Girls School, our motto, "Actions Not Words," guides us in all aspects of school life and community interactions. We focus on providing an excellent education based on Cornelia Connelly's seven Cornelian Principles: Joy, Compassion, Integrity, Generosity, Gratitude, Respect, and Courage. In the last week of term, Year 10 girls participated in an "Actions Not Words" day. One group visited Holy Cross care home, enjoying a warm welcome from Sr. Delsiya, touring the beautiful site, and engaging with the residents. The girls loved the experience and are eager to return. Another group spent the afternoon at Colkins Mill Church with MAYFACS, entertaining attendees with



musical and dramatic performances. They performed everything from Shakespeare to Disney songs, including original compositions and Flanders and Swann numbers. The event was a hit, and both the performers and the audience look forward to future visits. A third group dedicated their time to clearing St. Dunstan's Church graveyard. Equipped with gardening tools, they worked diligently to remove weeds, uncover headstones, and clean up the area.

These activities embody our commitment to the Cornelian Principles, and hopefully show our students' enthusiasm for serving the community.

# OUR CHURCHES

## COLKINS MILL

Our Kids Camp was blessed with a sunny weekend! A rare thing this year, but we were so grateful. We were 31 young people ages 8 to 18, plus an experienced team of leaders who have been doing this for some years. It was a happy weekend under canvas, enjoying abseiling, BMX, swimming, high ropes, archery, treasure hunt.... We just love the way these young people are kind to each other and get on so well across ages. A lively young couple came along to talk about when some disciples saw Jesus become radiant on a mountaintop.



August is a month of family services at Colkins Mill Church - this year with a theme of looking at gardens in the Bible. We hope to have any sunny August Sunday mornings out in our church garden - so you might see us! If so come and join us.

Have a great summer.

**Steve Harland** [contact@colkinsmillchurch.org.uk](mailto:contact@colkinsmillchurch.org.uk)

## ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

As many of you will have heard, Sister Jean and Sister Maria will be leaving Mayfield at the end of September. After 161 years of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus being in Mayfield, this is clearly the end of an era. We shall miss them as part of our community and wish them well in their move to Harrogate.

### **Masses at St. Thomas' during August**

10.00am Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August

6.00pm Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August

10.00am Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August

6.00pm Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August

You are welcome to join us and please stay for coffee after the Sunday Masses.

For further information please see the parish website. [www.stthomasmayfield.org.uk](http://www.stthomasmayfield.org.uk)

**Mary Brentnall**

## ST. DUNSTAN'S

### **August at St. Dunstan's**

It's holiday time, and whilst we are all off to enjoy the summer (?) so St. Dunstan's choir will also take a well-deserved break from leading our singing at our Sunday services. This year we are planning something unusual, perhaps even unique for St. Dunstan's, and we invite you to join us for a different experience!

### **Sunday August 4<sup>th</sup>**

Our service of Holy Communion, starting at 10.15am, will feature music from the community of Taizé in France. This community, founded mid-way through the 20<sup>th</sup> century, attracts tens of thousands of young people every week of the summer. Their music is very simple but very moving and evocative. During our service we will be singing chants, choruses, from the community, often sung in many languages.

### **Sunday August 18<sup>th</sup>**

Our service of Holy Communion, incorporating popular music from which we can learn about God, starts at 10.15am. With visual presentations we will be invited to think about God listening to songs by Westlife, Gerry and the Pacemakers, Katrina and the Waves and U2 (amongst others). You too can join us in our singing group for this one Sunday if you'd like to sing these songs.

To register your interest, please e-mail Lucy, our Director of Music, at [music.stdunstans@gmail.com](mailto:music.stdunstans@gmail.com) or just come along.

### **Sunday August 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>**

Our service with traditional hymns takes place in St. Dunstan's at 10.15am and a said service in the Cottage Hospice in Five Ashes at 12 noon.

### **And in other news ...**

Steve Lawrence resigned as one of our two Churchwardens earlier this year, and at an Extra-ordinary Vestry Meeting Carl Walters was nominated and elected to succeed him.

Both Carl and Stephen Blurton were admitted to their role as Churchwardens for this year by the Archdeacon of Hastings (Venerable Edward Dowler, soon to be the new Dean of Chichester Cathedral) in June. We all wish them well.



The Lantern House, Wadhurst Park., NGS Gardens by Simon Heaton



# ROUND AND ABOUT THE VILLAGES

## MAYFIELD COMMUNITY & HEALTH CENTRE MONTHLY UPDATE

One hundred and fifty-one parishioners turned out on 7<sup>th</sup> July to visit Mayfield's Scout and Guide Hall where the latest floor plans, external elevations and artists' impressions of Mayfield's new Community and Health Centre were on display. We consider this to be not a bad turn-out since the weather for much of the day was poor and will have impacted attendance levels.

The designs were recently completed by Miller Bourne Architects, who have worked closely with Baxall Construction and the Parish Council team to develop a building that satisfies the design brief and which meets the needs of the community. The latest design is based on the original scheme that received planning approval but which has been made affordable by adopting a 'Design & Build' method of construction along with a number of modifications and necessary compromises to the Community Centre.

The Health Centre has remained at a fixed area of 350m<sup>2</sup> to meet the minimum requirements of the NHS Design Guidelines, while the Community Centre has had to be reduced by over 30% from 685m<sup>2</sup> to 470m<sup>2</sup>, although the Community Hall remains the same size as that of the old Memorial Hall and has most of the original facilities.

Of those 151 attendees, 59 made written observations on the forms provided at the event. We are pleased to report that 81% were supportive of the design and general proposal with almost half (44%) using the word 'excellent design' or similar. We were also pleased that 15% of the respondents

said that they were appreciative of the efforts of the Councillor team in getting the project thus far.

In addition, 58% of the respondees individually took the opportunity to comment on the numerous detailed aspects of the design. Some 8% thought the building design was not in keeping with the vernacular of the village. A very small number thought the building was too large, whereas others thought it too small. A similar percentage (8%) thought the Health Centre should be located elsewhere in the village – not dissimilar to feedback from previous consultation events.

Other comments included concerns over a potential lack of storage space, the flat roof, kitchen location, entrance steps and potential traffic congestion, whilst sports changing rooms, a green living roof, a café rather than community hub and red tarmac instead of bricks for the roadway were deemed by some to be desirable.

The comments will be noted where possible as the design progresses, especially those relating to possible cost reductions or where implementation might be relatively straightforward. However, whilst the input is useful, many people making individual comments on the design, whilst relevant, were not fully cognisant of the numerous design constraints and the fact that designing a new Community Centre is very much a balance of conflicting requirements. Overall, the view seems to be that the design meets the original major design requirements but it is accepted that not everyone will be happy (which unfortunately will never be achievable). However, the overriding message was 'just get on with it'.



Above, Artist's Impression of the Front View of the New Community Centre  
Below, Artist's impression of the rear view of the New Community Centre





The drawings and information presented at the event are now on the Parish Council website [www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk](http://www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk) and are also available to view in the shop window of Hayley Cooper Aesthetics in the High Street.

The next project stages include the hosting of a public consultation event by Baxall Construction followed by the submission of a planning application to Wealden District Council.

Further information will continue to be placed on the village Facebook site and the Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council website, as it becomes available.

## **MAYFIELD FIRE STATION**

I hope you are all aware of the possible closure of Mayfield Fire Station. The Fire & Rescue Service does an amazing job. Brave firefighters risk their lives for very little reward, working unsociable hours in often difficult and harrowing situations. Like most public sector services, they are continually being made to look for cost savings.

East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service are expecting a significant shortfall in their budget and one of the options they are considering is to shut the Mayfield Station and sell the land. I have heard their arguments and, while they make some interesting points, it feels like we are not being given all the information and that the Station's closure is a forgone conclusion.

Mayfield Fire Station is an important part of our village, not only there to protect us and our beautiful (often listed) buildings but also an integral part of our community. The people who work there are our neighbours and friends and we must do all we can to save it.

**You can all help.** Go to <https://www.esfrs.org/> and click on the link to Mayfield Options Consultation and complete the survey. If you don't have access to the web then you can write to East Sussex Fire Authority – Mayfield Consultation, C/O ESFRS Headquarters, Church Lane, Lewes BN7 2DZ. The consultation will close on 27th September so please act before then.

We will also be organising a petition. Please look out for this and support. There will be information events hosted by ESFRS and as soon as the dates are confirmed we will share them with you. Please contact me with any questions.

**Ian Parker, Chairman, Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council**

**Note from the Editors:- There is a section in the Parish Council News article towards the end of this Newsletter with more information about the consultation.**

## **MAYFIELD POST OFFICE**

Our plans to reopen Mayfield's Post Office are progressing well. I am most grateful to the local businesses and individuals who have pledged contributions to fund the costs of the move to the new premises, and for continuing contributions. We can always do with more! If you would like to help with this, please contact me (details below). Once the Community Benefit Society is formed and we have opened our bank account, I will publicise widely how you get your contributions to us.



We now have booked 15<sup>th</sup> September with The Post Office as the date to move the safes and other equipment from the old premises to the new ones, three doors down in Ted Handley's office. We are also getting quotes from local carpenters to do the necessary fit-out before then. So, all being well, we should be reopening around the end of September.

We're getting closer! I will continue to keep the village informed of progress on Facebook and through this Newsletter.

**Andrew Ratcliffe;** [anratcliffe@gmail.com](mailto:anratcliffe@gmail.com)

Hoopers Farm Mayfield T20 6BD

### **"KNOW YOUR PARISH"**

The Mayfieldians are planning to hold a "Know Your Parish" event at St. Dunstan's Church on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> September between 10.30am and 1.30pm with the support of the Parish Council and St. Dunstan's Church.

We are aware that many of our local groups and societies would like to attract new members and we think this will be a perfect way to promote your particular activity. There is limited space available so a table will be offered on a first come, first served basis. Be as creative as possible in order to attract new members – perhaps we can have a competition to find the best group! There will be no charge for a table and the event will be free of charge for visitors. A number of groups and societies have already been approached but if you haven't received an invitation, please contact Jeanette as soon as possible on [mayfieldians@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldians@gmail.com)

We will be advertising this event throughout Mayfield and Five Ashes with posters and leaflets as well as in the Mayfield & Five Ashes Newsletter over the coming months.

## **MAYFIELD OPEN GARDENS**

### **National Garden Scheme (NGS)**

We were fortunate to have lovely weather this year, warm and sunny with a gentle breeze. We had an excellent weekend with 610 visitors and we raised £5,321 for the NGS charities. Additional amounts of £1,155 and £1,753 were raised from homemade teas for Mayfield Primary School and Mayfield Pre-School



respectively. This makes a total of £8,229 for charities. Thank you to everyone who came to support us: all the volunteers, cake bakers, tea servers, plant sellers, musicians and especially all the visitors who made the weekend such a success.

There are more gardens open for the NGS in the local area throughout the summer, so have a look in the Sussex NGS booklets which are available in shops around the village and local garden centres. You can also visit [www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk) or use National Garden Scheme app to find gardens to visit in any area of the country.

Last year the NGS donated £3.4million to nursing and health charities. We are so

pleased to be able to make a substantial contribution this year. Well done, Mayfield! We are always looking for new gardens to add to the group so if you would like to open your garden, do get in touch. It doesn't matter what size the garden is. We have had some super courtyard gardens in the group over the years.

**Sarah Ratcliffe** [sarah.ratcliffe@ngs.org.uk](mailto:sarah.ratcliffe@ngs.org.uk)  
07721009549

## **CROWBOROUGH OPEN STUDIOS 7TH & 8TH SEPTEMBER**

Eight local artists will be exhibiting in Mayfield as part of the Crowborough Open Studios on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September. We will feature more information about the artists and their work next month.

## **SCOUT AND GUIDES SUPPORTERS COMMITTEE**

Are you looking for something to do in the Mayfield and Five Ashes Community? If so, the Supporters' Committee of the Dennis Blurton Mayfield Scout and Guide Hall would love to hear from you.

We are a small band of dedicated volunteers who support all the uniformed Sections of the Group (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers) with any requirements that they may have. We also administer and maintain The Scout Hall premises in good order for the Scout Group's use primarily but also for the use of the wider Mayfield Community. This is even more relevant at present in the absence of The Memorial Hall.

If you'd like to find out more information, please do ring our Chairman, Andrew Firrell, on **883253** or our Secretary, Nicky Higgins, on **873054**. We are a fun group of people, and it is not an arduous task but

more volunteers to help us would be great. Hope to hear from you.

**Nicky Higgins**

## **AGNETA SUTTON, ART EXHIBITION**

For those who weren't distracted by the Wimbledon final and the build up to England v Spain in Berlin on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July, there was an artistic treat to be had at London House. Agneta Sutton held a show of her landscapes and seascapes in aid of Mayfacs and 25 - 30 visitors enjoyed her vibrant and colourful paintings which included scenes from France, Ireland, Wales, Sweden and the local area. She was born and brought up in Sweden and for two years lived north of the Arctic Circle which she feels developed a joy in landscape which is obvious in her work. She studied art at school in Sweden and then went into academia and only recently retired from the University of London's Heythrop College where she lectured in Philosophy and Theology. It was during Covid that she decided to distract herself by returning to painting and has been enjoying this relatively new pursuit ever





since. She uses acrylic paint as she finds the fumes of oils and their mediums overpowering in the house. Agneta is now firmly on Mayfield's artistic map and we look forward to seeing more exhibitions of her work in the future.

**Barbara Murray**

### **FRIENDS OF ST. DUNSTAN'S**

We held a very successful and enjoyable garden party for the Friends of St. Dunstan's on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July at Claytons

Farmhouse. We were lucky with the weather, which was lovely, the garden was very colourful and the committee provided a fantastic variety of finger food. The Garden Party raised over £1200 for the charity so thanks to all those who came and to the Committee and helpers for their hard work.

We will hold the Friends of St. Dunstan's AGM on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 6pm in St. Dunstan's Church. All are welcome and we will also serve light refreshments.

The Charity's remit is focused exclusively on raising funds for the *preservation and maintenance* of the church building and it was set up as a charitable trust to enable everyone in the village and beyond to contribute towards this goal. We have so far raised around £250,000 and projects include the repair of the ancient timbers in the church tower, restoration of marble memorials, the cleaning of stained-glass windows, the re-leading of the chancel roof, the installation of French drains and much more.

**Annette Nabavi Chairman, Friends of St. Dunstan's Parish Church - 873476**

### **MAYFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY**

Thanks for all the kind helpers who have come along to the Scout Hut on Saturday mornings in July for torch making. With your help we have been making 750 torches a week and should easily hit our target of 5,000 torches assembled by the end of August. The carnival torch-lit procession is always on the 3rd Saturday of September, so will be on 21<sup>st</sup> September this year, and there will be full details in next month's Newsletter.

We enjoyed two fun and unusual social events in July, with the Rocky Horror Picture Show movie at Five Ashes Village Hall and an afternoon of Shuffleboard at the Shuffle House in Tunbridge Wells. Our



next social drinks will be on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August at the Rose and Crown. There is no need to be a member, do come and join us for a drink and chat.

**Catherine Hawley** [bonfire@gawain.online](mailto:bonfire@gawain.online)

## **MAYFIELD EVENING W.I.**

At our July meeting we were entertained by Colin Bostock-Smith. Colin is a retired comedy writer whose career began as a Fleet Street journalist and, as a result of chance meetings of 'the right people at the right time', developed into writing for television sketch shows and situation comedies. We giggled along to some clips from the past including Not the Nine O'clock News, The Two Ronnies and The Clive James Show. It was a nostalgic return to a long-gone era of television entertainment.

There is no meeting in August, so we will meet next on Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> for a talk by Michael Wachter from Great Dixter, entitled 'Autumn Foraging'.

We meet every second Tuesday of the month (apart from August) at 7.15pm for 7.30pm at Colkins Mill Church, just at the end of the High Street. Please feel free to pop in at any one of our evenings and meet us all. For any further information, please contact **Chrissie Robinson 862825**

**Branch Meeting - Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October Mayfield Cricket Club** - Our speaker will be Rod MacArthur and his talk is entitled 'History of a Medal'. Having heard this talk before I can confirm it is an interesting talk about the bravery of the armed forces and sailors during the operations of the supply convoys of WWII. Licensed bar facilities will be available from 6.30pm and the meeting commences at 7.00pm. There will be a brief session of branch business, including the AGM, at 7.00pm, followed by a fish and chip supper (or chicken or scampi). If you would like to join us, you will be warmly welcomed.

## **The Mayfield and Five Ashes Branch Website -**

<https://branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/mayfield>

Shortly, research is to commence on collecting details of Mayfield and Five Ashes fallen of WWII. Any information available from local family or friends of the WWII fallen will be gratefully accepted by Carole Stilwell or Brian Oldfield ([carolestilwell@hotmail.com](mailto:carolestilwell@hotmail.com)).

**Kevin Swaine 872197 / 07970 787465**  
[kevinswaine@btinternet.com](mailto:kevinswaine@btinternet.com)

## **MAYFIELD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

The Society's summer outing took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> July to the National Trust Property, Standen House, a few miles south of East Grinstead. 14 members travelled by car. A short introductory talk was received shortly after arrival.

The house and gardens were created in the 1890's/early 1900's by James and Margaret Beale, who developed the property into a comfortable family home, with electric power, the very latest of interior designs and new plants in the

**ROYAL BRITISH LEGION -  
MAYFIELD, FIVE ASHES  
AND HADLOW DOWN**



**Summer Garden Party** - It was most unfortunate that this had to be cancelled due to the forecast for rain and wind that afternoon. This turned out to be the case. If you purchased tickets from Sew Inspired and have not yet applied for a refund, please contact our secretary **Rosemary Lillywhite on 872130**



gardens. The house is one of the finest examples of the Arts and Crafts with Morris and Co. interiors and decorative art. Stationed throughout the substantial property are numerous knowledgeable guides who will willingly give information and answer questions.

The estate covers almost 100 acres of hillside, ancient meadows and woodland. There are extensive walks and far reaching views over Weir Wood reservoir and the Ashdown Forest. The gardens are made up of outdoor "rooms" used for leisure, growing fresh produce, and showcasing the plant collection developed by Mrs. Beale. No longer owned by the Beale family, the National Trust has preserved Standen very much as the family would have known and loved it in the early part of the 20th century.

Refreshments and light snacks are available in the Barn Cafe. Picnics can be enjoyed in the grounds. A shop and plant centre offer the opportunity for purchases. Easily accessible by car, the house and estate are well worth a visit or two.

**Evening meetings will resume at 8pm in the Mayfield Scout and Guide Hut on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October**, when members will hear a talk about Pevensey Castle, its history and changing fortunes. Visitors will be most welcome.

**Brian O'Connor, Chair 873477; Gill Marengi, Secretary; John Buddle, Treasurer 872229**

## **MAYFIELD BAND**

August is traditionally a quiet month for us, which is a bit of a relief after a busy June/July. We particularly enjoyed playing for the wedding of our trombone player Arthur, and wife Helen. It was a lovely day, they are a lovely couple, and we wish them every happiness. That was followed by the Eridge Park fair, which was also a lot of fun,

but that marked the end of our fête season. So now we have time to practise a little concert music rather than fête music. We are planning an autumn concert with our friends at Lingfield Silver Band, which we will repeat in Mayfield once we have agreed on a venue and time. Watch this space.

## **Youth Band**

"Only the rich will be able to learn an instrument, fears Proms composer". This was the headline referring to composer Errolyn Wallen's recent appearance on Desert Island Discs. She was, of course, talking about the provision of music education in state schools, or lack of it, and how this feeds into the perception that orchestral music is elitist. I wouldn't disagree with her, but we cannot expect schools to be a one stop shop for developing every aspect of our children's lives. As parents, it's up to us to give our children wings and enable them to fly, and learning to play a musical instrument is a critical part of that process. So don't wait for your school to deliver, or for your child to ask. Instead, ask your child if they would like to learn to play an instrument. The answer will almost certainly be yes. Then you have to consider the best way to deliver on that request, which will mean not only looking at the cost of lessons and instruments, but also the availability, as well as the most effective and enjoyable method. A brass band ticks all the boxes – we offer instruments on loan, group tuition as well as individual help to get started, and we are here on your doorstep. And elitist we are not! You should at least give it a go, and if brass turns out not to be your child's thing, then if nothing else they will have learnt a bit about music and rhythm and met a few new people. It all helps to put feathers on the wings. Give me a call. We meet on Friday evenings,

with a beginners' group at 5.15, but we can be flexible on timings depending on demand. For more experienced players, the youth band itself meets at 6.30pm, and we would love to hear from new players.

**Simon Rudge** 872007

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

[simon@mayfieldband.co.uk](mailto:simon@mayfieldband.co.uk)

## **MAYZING SINGS WITH VOLYA VOICES AND SUPPORTS EMERGENCY MEDICAL RELIEF IN UKRAINE**

On 14<sup>th</sup> July, when most of the country was inside watching our English football team battle valiantly against the Spaniards in the European Cup Final, the supporters of our local community choir, MayZing, came to St. Dunstan's to listen not only to us, but also to a most remarkable group of beautiful Ukrainian young women calling themselves Volya Voices, who are based in Bexhill and who all originally met at the Bexhill Hub, having arrived in the UK following the Russian invasion of Ukraine. None of them are professional singers but they all have passion for the songs they learnt growing up in their country, and having left Ukraine, it was very important to them to continue to celebrate and be



Credit: Janet Crossley

proud of their culture and traditions, and to share them over here. Whilst they themselves now felt safe, they recognised that they needed to help those they had left behind, especially those serving in the armed forces, and that the best way to do this was to raise funds for emergency medical supplies to send to the front line. Thus, 'Volya Voices' was born, and the ladies have been performing at various local venues in East Sussex ever since, enchanting audiences by singing and dancing in their beautiful costumes and spreading their deep sense of love for



Credit: Janet Crossley



see their beautiful costumes and hear their charming voices within the hallowed walls of St. Dunstan's, but also to realise that these brave and amazing women are from a country fighting a grotesque and horrific war in modern Europe, at a time when it was thought impossible that this would ever happen again. Not only that, but several, if not all of them, have lost husbands and close family in this war, some quite recently, yet this has not

their country which is being torn apart by the ravages of war.

Each choir sang separately, with MayZing going first, conducted by the inimitable Ginger Millington, and then Volya Voices, introduced by one of their own number, in very good English. The two choirs then sang together a song by Labi Siffre, "Something Inside So Strong", itself a protest song, which felt especially moving, given Ukraine's current situation. Finally, with the whole audience joining in, we all sang and danced to a joyful version of Abba's "Dancing Queen". It was such fun! Watching and listening to Volya Voices was a quite remarkable experience, not only to

deterred them from sharing their love for their country and one another at this desperate time.

We are hoping that Volya Voices will join us in the future at another of our concerts, when you might like to come and support us all, and more particularly support their efforts to provide emergency medical relief in Ukraine in this lovely way.

**Sue Smith**

## **NETBALL SESSIONS IN MAYFIELD Every Thursday - 7-8pm - £8 - Mayfield Girls School**

PH Netball is all about bringing the community together for some fun netball. Our evening sessions are aimed at ladies who fancy getting out of the house to meet new people, play a bit of netball and have fun. Players must be over 18, however our average age is around 30-65. You don't need to be fit or have ever played before. We welcome all abilities! Come and join us.

**[phnetballcoach@gmail.com](mailto:phnetballcoach@gmail.com)**

For more information and to see what other adult and kids' programmes are available – please visit

**[www.phnetball.com](http://www.phnetball.com)**

**Polly Howell**





## **NEWS FROM NUS GHANI, MP FOR SUSSEX WEALD**

I am hugely grateful to the voters of Sussex Weald for their support in returning me to Parliament. It truly is an honour to serve this wonderful area and represent the residents of Crowborough, Eridge, Wadhurst, Mayfield and Five Ashes, Heathfield, Horam, Hailsham and all the villages in between.

Since first being elected as the Member of Parliament for Wealden in 2015, I have always endeavoured to do my best for all our communities. I will continue to be a strong local voice for Sussex Weald and work to improve our lives as well as those of our future generations.

The Conservative Party has suffered a grave defeat at the election, and we must learn lessons from it. I wish the new Government every success in delivering for the country. But a Labour super-majority has diminished our voice as they set out to create new laws and policies on areas that impact our lives, our jobs, our green spaces and access to public services. My work to hold the Government to account in Westminster has already begun and I will do all in my power to ensure that Sussex Weald is protected and continues to prosper as a unique, rural constituency.

Politics should be about making a difference, not making a noise. Too much about politics today is, as Shakespeare wrote, 'full of sound and fury, signifying nothing'. I will stand with those that tell the truth, address people's real problems and face up to the challenges our country faces. I promise to work with utmost integrity, continue to fight for what matters to you, and to make things happen, regardless of how hard it is or even how unpopular.

## **WADHURST AND HEATHFIELD WINDOW**

### **WADHURST AND DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB (NAFAS)**

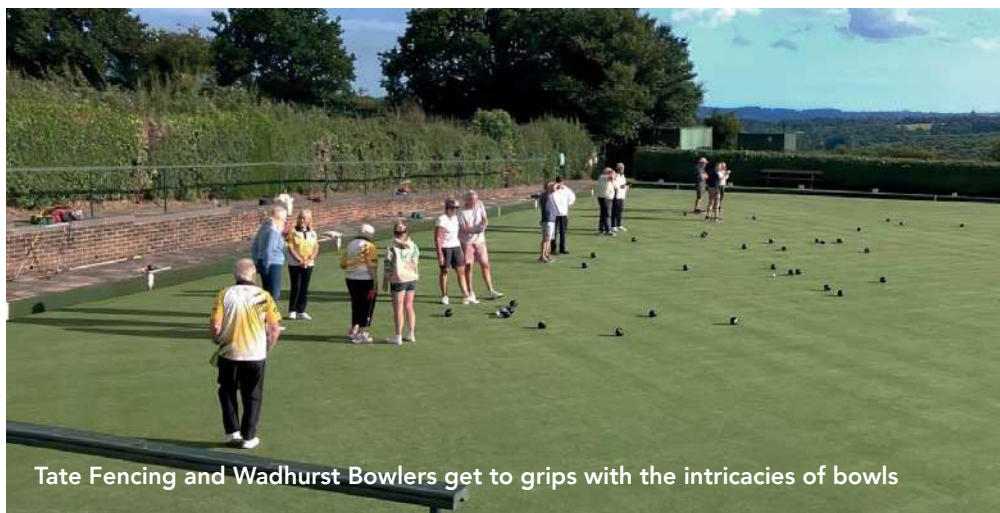
Unfortunately, the meeting planned for June had to be cancelled because of the General Election. The next meeting will be on Thursday September 5<sup>th</sup> at 1.45pm. It will be a Members Meeting but guests are very welcome to come along, meet the Committee, enjoy a cup of tea and admire the floral creations designed by the members, which will be animal inspired!

The Flower Club meets on the first Thursday of most months at 1.45pm at Stonegate Village Hall where the adjacent car park enables easy access to the venue. The annual membership fee is £45.00 which covers insurance, hall hire and most importantly the Demonstrators' fees, plus an entrance fee of £3.00 per meeting to cover refreshment costs. During the year a programme of inspiring demonstrations, delicious lunches and creative workshops is arranged.

Come and join us to discover the joy and pleasure flowers can bring to your life; no experience required.

For more information, please contact **Sonia 01892 785671 or Debbie 882851**

We would love to hear from you.



## WADHURST BOWLS CLUB

Wadhurst Bowls, as a Club, continues to make great strides and is pleased to be able to say that following our Open Day, another 19 members have joined the Club making a total membership of 67 - our highest for many years. People obviously know a good thing when they see it! In fact, we have had so many new members in such a short space of time that we have been able to set up their own competition - imaginatively entitled 'The Newbie Cup'.

We had a visit from one of our main sponsors at their end of June - Tate Fencing - who came over en-masse, with wives and families, to have a bash at bowls. For once the weather was reasonable, sunny but chilly in the evening. It was good to see nearly forty people playing bowls all at once and encompassing several generations too. Today's young whippersnapper is tomorrow's bowls champion.

### **Horam League Update:**

What a great start to the season: Played 10, won 9, lost 1. We also have more points than at this time last season. So far 28 members have played in the League, showing the strength in depth the Club is currently experiencing. There have been four matches where we have been a bit short of players, so a really big thank you to those that answered the late calls and came and played. We are in a great position in the League, please continue to put your names on the availability sheets to enable us to continue the great start we have made. As current Champions we want to retain our title

It's not such a positive story in the Tunbridge Wells League (TWL) where Wadhurst have two teams in the top flight. Predominately the reserve of the Club's best bowlers, we have come a cropper this year due to the Sussex County Competition changes which, for the first time, have tied our best bowlers into knockout competitions throughout June, whereas the Kent bowlers have a different system and are mainly free to concentrate on the League. Consequently, we have struggled to get teams together and both sides are in danger of being relegated - the consequences of being a good bowler playing for a successful Club!

By the time you read this we will have played both legs of The Border Cup. An annual grudge match between ourselves and Hawkhurst for County superiority. Will East Sussex prevail or will Kent don the mantle, lift the cup and the bragging rights? Tune in next month to find out.....

## THE ARTS SOCIETY WEALDEN HEATHFIELD

Our talks begin again in September, with another exciting annual programme lined up. We would very much welcome new members from Mayfield and Five Ashes.

Our meetings are held at the Heathfield Community Centre, Sheepsetting Lane, Heathfield, TN21 OXG at 2.15pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Tea is served after the talk. If you wish to apply for membership, please email the Membership Secretary, John Larum at [Johnlarum@hotmail.com](mailto:Johnlarum@hotmail.com). For queries, please contact Anne Greenaway on 408635.

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September - Anne Haworth – ‘Art, Architecture and Style in Old Shanghai’

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October - Steven Barrett – ‘Art, to Smile or not to Smile’

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November - Sarah Ciacci – ‘The Profitable Art of Flattery 2024: Reynolds, Gainsborough & Portraiture in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century’

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December - Patrick Craig – ‘Entertaining Angels Unawares – Angels in the Bible’

We very much looking forward to seeing both current members and new faces in September!

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

## OPEN FORUM

### COURT MEADOW

I was pleased to see that Mr. Driscoll has praised the Parish Council for pushing ahead with the development of a replacement Memorial Hall, but he is less supportive for the installation of a new Medical Centre, aka surgery. He has raised some general queries, relating to the new Hall design, of general interest (e.g. ceiling height).

Having looked in detail at the Compulsory Purchase Order, made in 1935, for the purchase of just over 14 acres of Court Meadow, I have found it significant the Order was not signed by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Sir John Simon, but rather, at that time, by the Minister for Health, Sir Kingsley Wood.

One of the reasons for the then Parish Council seeking a Compulsory Purchase Order, was to exclude the area from a proposed development, by probably the local solicitor F.W. Sprott, and now shown in an annotated 1911 Ordnance Survey map held in Kew record office.

1935 predates the creation of the National Health service by Aneurin Bevan, which now provides the United Kingdom with a free at point of use health service. In 1935 only exercise in public spaces was seen as an effective way of improving the health of local communities. Hence the period saw the rapid expansion of health groups, such as The



Women's League of Health and Beauty, that used open spaces like Court Meadow for mass exercise classes and displays. There are excellent films of these on old Pathé newsreels. (<https://peopleshistorynhs.org/galleries/womens-league-of-health-and-beauty-1930-present>)

We are now 95 years on from the original Compulsory Purchase Order that prevented the development of housing as sketched in on the map held in the PRO at Kew.

We are indeed fortunate that the local District Council has picked up the baton originally signed by Sir Kingsley Wood and offered to create a new medical centre on the land now owned by the Parish Council thanks to the Compulsory Purchase Order. At long last the original desire to improve the health of Mayfield and Five Ashes is coming to fruition.

**Brian O'Connor**

## **OPEN LETTER**

A wise woman in our village told us a few years back, that the only way to save Court Meadow from development was to find an alternative site for our surgery.

That has come to fruition. A dedicated team of local professionals – building contractors, surveyors, architects, design curators, bankers, and environmentalists – have been on a mission to find a site that would accommodate the doctors, patients, schools, traffic, protected green spaces, biodiversity, and well-being of our village.

The Level House site next door to the present surgery fits all the requirements. The new medical centre and its accompanying parking can fit comfortably at the site, and the owners have taken it off the market so that it is not snapped up

before the village can come to a decision on it.

The Level House site would be for the surgery alone, leaving Court Meadow free for a standalone village hall that could be either built on the current footprint, or refurbished by an ever-growing number of architects and builders who know that the most environmentally friendly building is the one that is already there. The Level House site would not interfere with traffic issues near the three schools. The site would not burden the drainage of Court Meadow which has flooded several homes at the bottom of the playing fields in recent years, nor add to the sewage runoff that has made its way down the field in periods of heavy rainfall. The biodiversity that thrives in the scrub land surrounding the mown lawn will also be protected.

Between 1937-1939, the King George V National Memorial Fund set up a trust to generate the purchase and protection of playing fields dedicated to sports and recreation – especially for children and young people. The Mayfield Playing Field was one of them. It has recently been discovered that leasing the land to the GP Surgery would trigger a non-compliance with the local Government Act 1972 (Sections 123 and 127) and that it would need the Secretary of States consent for any change.

The Level House site would be an asset to our village. In the case of the event that the NHS change their structuring in 25 years or less, the village would own a building that could be easily repurposed. Our village has enough money saved from the increased precepts to be able to purchase the Level House site. The village would be able to earn the money from the

doctor's surgery to help pay off any initial investment. The WDC could still help with the build. They are just as interested in helping with Surgeries and Medical Centres with or without the 'community centre' aspect of the build. It is predicted that building the surgery at the Level House site, coupled with a standalone village hall on Court Meadow would not be as costly as the current proposed development. When asked what might happen to the medical centre if it became outmoded, one of our Parish Councillors suggested 'office buildings?'.

To address one last issue – the threat that we will lose our doctors if we do not comply with the build on Court Meadow. When Dr Baseley was asked if we would lose them if the medical centre was not built on Court Meadow he did not say 'Yes.' He replied, 'Well, it is the best site we have come across so far' and of course it is. Court Meadow is aesthetically the best site – the best site for a cottage, a law office, a foreign language centre, a disco, a restaurant, an apartment block, a hotel, an estate agent – because it is beautiful. The view is outstanding, the air is sweet, and the soil is rich. However ethically, it is not the best site for a medical centre. We are proud of our GP Surgery, and we want them to stay. We want to make sure they have a clean, safe, and well-built surgery and that future generations of villagers will continue to have the green space they were gifted.

**Katie Treherne**

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

## **THE PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSE - COMMUNITY AND HEALTH CENTRE**

The current Parish Councillors were elected last May by you, the residents, on the basis we all supported the

development on Court Meadow of a new village hall and combined Doctors surgery. Unfortunately, despite the incredible efforts of a few councillors, the plan on which we had been working before the election could not progress as it was no longer affordable.

Since then, the Council has been working incredibly hard to find a solution: a building that we could afford, that would do all we need it to do and be acceptable for Wealden planners. The plans we presented on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July, which are on the Council website, Facebook and displayed in the High Street meet those criteria. The vast majority of comments that we have received have been supportive of those plans. However, there is a small, determined and vocal minority that opposes locating the Doctors surgery on Court Meadow and are advocating that it should be built on the site of the Level House in Station Road.

They believe that building the Doctors surgery on Court Meadow would be in breach of the Local Government Act. We are advised that this is not the case provided the letting of the surgery is at fair value, which it will be.

In any event their proposal does not work for several reasons:

Firstly, it is not affordable. We would have to find the money to buy the site and WDC have made it clear to us that they would not support the construction of a separate Health Centre building. We have no desire to burden future generations with greater debt than is already planned or to raise the parish precept further to pay for it. The objectors claim costs can be reduced dramatically from those which we

are currently negotiating in detail with contractors. We have seen no support for this claim. Secondly, we do not believe the Level House site is suitable. It is a narrow site and, despite its name, it is not level. We do not believe it would be possible to accommodate the Health Centre building we are planning on that site with the associated car parking spaces; and we have seen no plans to show how this would be achieved. It is also of note that the site is heavily wooded and many trees would need to be felled. No such destruction of trees is envisaged in the scheme we are pursuing.

Thirdly, to change course now would mean starting again. Not only would this be costly, but it would result in further delays of at least 18 to 24 months beyond our current planned completion of December 2025. In our view this would be unacceptable.

For all those reasons, we will not adopt the Level House proposal. I reiterate that the vast majority of residents support the Council's current scheme. Only a small minority oppose it. As a democracy, I urge those against the project to accept that the current scheme is what the Parish want and that they should respect that view. Instead of working against us, they should work with us to get the new Community and Health Centre built for all our benefit and for that of many generations to come.

**Ian Parker Chairman, Parish Council**



**PUBLIC OPENING TIMES**

|           |               |
|-----------|---------------|
| Monday    | 09.00 – 11.00 |
| Wednesday | 09.00 – 12.00 |
| Friday    | 09.00 – 11.00 |

**OFFICE ADDRESS**  
Mayfield & Five Ashes Parish Council  
Old Manor House, High Street,  
Mayfield TN20 6AL

☎ 01435 873784  
F 01435 873726  
✉ clerk@mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk  
www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk



### Councillor contact details

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**Rodney Warren**  
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✉ rodney.warren@mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk

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



# MAYFACS

London House, High Street, Mayfield,  
TN20 6AQ (Accessible entrance to  
the rear of London House)

[www.mayfacs.org.uk](http://www.mayfacs.org.uk) 873888

(answerphone system)

MAYFACS Post Box is at the back  
entrance to the office (please follow  
the signs from outside the entrance of  
St. Dunstan's Church)

**Office Opening Times:** Monday, Tuesday  
and Wednesday between 10am - 1pm  
every week. Helpline phone number is  
monitored Monday to Friday only. Email  
[info@mayfacs.org.uk](mailto:info@mayfacs.org.uk)

**Bank Details:** (for donations, payments of  
trips and activities) Mayfield & Five Ashes  
Community Services (MAYFACS)  
Account No 00029924 Sort Code 40-52-40

## August News

Huge thanks to the amazing Pat Robson  
for supporting MAYFACS with her poetry  
evening "The Voice Behind The Mask". So  
many people attended the evening and  
raised almost £400 for MAYFACS so a  
huge thank you for your support!

**Little Munchkins Baby and Toddler  
Group** – NO SESSIONS IN AUGUST. We  
will resume Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

We have been developing our website and  
now have specific areas focusing on **Youth  
Support and Dementia Support** available  
to everyone within our community and the  
surrounds. This is on top of signposting  
for financial and other support. Please do  
visit our website if you need any advice or  
help, or come into the office and chat with  
the team.

**"Living With Dementia" Training**  
Available for up to 24 people on Living  
with Dementia over a 2-part session (4hr



per session). This training is open to  
anyone wanting to know more  
about living with dementia, and  
supporting MAYFACS and our  
community in being more  
dementia friendly. Suitable for  
businesses, local organisations,  
community groups, schools and  
individuals. Both sessions must be  
attended and will take place on afternoons  
in September and October. If you would  
like to find out more about this, please  
contact [freya@mayfacs.org.uk](mailto:freya@mayfacs.org.uk)

## Create @ The Shed! Youth Sessions

Next Session Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 10am –  
12.30pm for any young people (secondary  
school age suggested) interested in  
getting involved in different forms of  
creative genres including art, music and  
tech and hanging out with like-minded  
people! Sessions take place every 1<sup>st</sup>  
Saturday of the month. Booking is  
essential for each session with limited  
spaces available. Email us on  
[create@mayfacs.org.uk](mailto:create@mayfacs.org.uk) to secure your  
place. Donations to cover basic materials  
are kept to a minimum, with funding  
support which MAYFACS receive (and will  
vary depending on the activity organised).  
If you would like to attend but need  
financial support, please get in touch to  
discuss.

**Art At The Shed** – 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of every  
month. Next Session: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August  
10am – 12pm. Runs every month with our  
wonderful volunteer artist, Hannah,  
leading very informal and friendly art  
workshops at MAYFACS Shed. If you enjoy  
drawing, or just want to give it a go, come  
along to this friendly group. We will be

getting outside as much as possible to be inspired by nature! All materials are provided. Suggested donation of £3-£5 per person, teas and coffees available. Booking required as places are limited.

**MAYFACS Shed** holds 3 sessions every week for anyone to come along and join in. With inside and new external workshop spaces available across all sessions every week, as well as the community garden, bee-keeping and the orchard, there is plenty to get involved in whenever you are available! New Shedders always welcome! For more information please visit our website [www.mayfacs.org.uk/theshed](http://www.mayfacs.org.uk/theshed)

Our next **Repair Café** will take place at MAYFACS Shed on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August between 10am–1pm (last repairs accepted 12.15pm)

We welcome you to come and find out more about our Repair Cafés, join us for some tea and cakes (you do not need to bring a repair to attend) and find out more about the MAYFACS Shed and MAYFACS community.

### Monthly Trips

**Thursday 5th September** Groombridge Owl and Raptor Centre, including display £29

**Thursday 3rd October** Visit the historic town of Battle £10

**Thursday 7th November** Annual shopping trip to Bluewater £10

**Thursday 5th December** Christmas bowling trip £17

Please visit our website [www.mayfacs.org.uk](http://www.mayfacs.org.uk) for updates of weekly activities or contact us at the MAYFACS Office on 873888.

You can also join our monthly eNewsletter mailing list to get full details on everything that we do to support our community by contacting [clare@mayfacs.org.uk](mailto:clare@mayfacs.org.uk)







MAYFACS OUTING TO CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL







# MAYFACS Weekly Activities

**Mon**

**Mayfacs Shed Session:** Monday 9.30am - 12.30pm Mixed Group  
Merrieweathers Farm, East Street, Mayfield TN20 6RJ



**Mon**

**Yarners:** Chat and knit, sew and crochet in Sew Inspired shop in the High Street, £3.50 per person, 1.30-3.30pm.

**Tue**

**Tuesday Chat:** Regular meet up & chat with refreshments in Colkins Mill Church, Station Road. 2-3pm. £2. Every Tues apart from the first Tuesday of the month.



**Tue**

**Tuesday Afternoon Club:** First Tuesday of the month in Colkins Mill Church, Station Road, Mayfield 2-4pm £3 including a Speaker, raffle and a light afternoon tea. Please bring a small prize to share for the raffle.

**Wed**

**Little Munchkins Baby & Toddlers Group:** For all carers, parents and grandparents and under fives. Every Wednesday, term time only in the Scout Hall 9-11 am. £3 per family. Refreshments provided.



**Wed**

**Mayfacs Shed Session:** Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm Men's Shed Group  
Merrieweathers Farm, East Street, Mayfield TN20 6RJ

**Wed**

**Writing for fun:** A monthly group on 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10am - 12pm in London House. £3 including refreshments.



**Wed**

**Middle House Afternoon Tea (MAR - SEP):** 3rd Wednesday of the month by invitation only (rota basis) 2pm. £12.50 for senior citizens living alone.

**Wed**

**Wednesday Chat:** A chance to meet and chat with refreshments, 2-3pm in Five Ashes Village Hall. £2. Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday. Transport available. (Speaker on 4th Wednesday).



**Thur**

**Mayfacs Shed Session:** Thursday 9.30am - 12.30pm Mixed Group  
Merrieweathers Farm, East Street, Mayfield TN20 6RJ

**Thur**

**Poetry:** 1st Thursday of the month 11-12.30 Coach House Cottage, Royal Oak Mews, Mayfield £2.



**Thur**

**Middle House Lunch:** 2nd Thursday of the month by invitation only on a rota basis. £12.50 for senior citizens living alone. Subsidised 2 course meal.



**Thur**

**Community Café Crowborough:** A dementia friendly group for people to come together to enjoy an activity and refreshments. Last Thursday of the month. 2-4pm. Chaperoned transport available from Mayfield.



**Fri**

**MAYFACS Film Club (OCT-MAR):** Five Ashes Village Hall. Please see our programme of films. 1.45-4pm £6. Transport from Mayfield £3

**Fri**

**Games/Scrabble/Cribbage:** 3rd Friday of the month 2-4pm £3 at London House, bring a game or join in with some friendly games.



**Sat**

**MAYFACS Shed Monthly Repair Cafe** 3rd Saturday of every month (except Dec) open 10am - 1pm refreshments available. At MAYFACS Shed

No need to pre book, unless stated. Please visit [www.mayfacs.org.uk](http://www.mayfacs.org.uk) or contact us on 01435 873888.

# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## Mayfield On-Call Fire Station Options Consultation

The concern on the possible closure of Mayfield on-call Fire Station was discussed at the May and July 2024 Council meetings and it was raised for discussion at the recent Annual Parish Assembly. East Sussex Fire Authority held a meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> June to consider responses to their Options Appraisal for Mayfield Community Fire Station. This was attended by Cllr Tibbles and her report from that meeting included disappointment that she did not have an opportunity to put the Council's concerns to the attendees and that the Council's response to their Options Appraisal were not raised for consideration before their decision was made to move to the required consultation stage.

We urge as many residents as possible to take part in their consultation that runs until 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024 so the Fire Authority can be made aware of the community's consternation on its closure. This can be done online with the following link: <https://www.esfrs.org/mayfield>. Information on their options is available in the Parish Council office along with paper copies of the consultation for those not wanting to respond online.

The Fire Authority is asking you to consider the following:

**Option 1** – Maintain Mayfield as a single appliance On-Call fire station and uplift the availability to the Service's minimum standard of 50% from the current 6% availability.

**Option 2** – Closure and sale of the fire station, keep the fire appliance and



reinvest the revenue staff costs. This would enable the Service to reduce risk more effectively through an improved response capability.

**Option 3** – Closure and sale of the fire station and appliance and reinvest staff costs. This would enable a redistribution of staffing resource to reduce risk more effectively through an improved response capability.

**Option 4** – Closure and sale of the fire station and appliance, and removal of the On-Call section as an additional saving to meet budget shortfall if required.

The findings will be considered at a Fire Authority meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024. The Council's response to the Fire Authority's Options Appraisal are below for your information:

## What Do You Consider The Main Risks To Be In Your Local Area?

Fires burning listed buildings and old timber framed buildings in the Conservation Areas.

Flooding due to increased rainfall and consequential surface water run-off  
Road Traffic Collisions (RTC's) on the A267  
RTC's at the junction of the A272/A267

## Q2 Are there any local issues or impacts you feel we need to be aware of?

The volume of traffic, speed limit and accident-prone locations on the A267.

Three neighbouring schools in Mayfield.

High buildings with dormitories at Mayfield School.

The number of listed buildings and the Conservation Area.

The layout and sightlines of the junction of the A267/ A272.

The age demographic of residents.

The large number of local agricultural and equine businesses.

### **Q3 What information do you think we need to consider in developing the options?**

The necessity of a rapid response for child safety at three schools.

The demographic of residents being elderly and requiring quicker response times.

Fires in high buildings in Mayfield Girls School and dormitories needing a fast response.

Listed and timber framed buildings susceptible to burning more quickly and Conservation Areas that should be protected to preserve our heritage.

The junction of the A272/ A267 having had the highest number of accidents in Wealden.

Rescue needed quickly for equine and agricultural accidents.

### **Q4 What are the factors we need to consider when taking the options appraisal out to public consultation?**

Details regarding ownership of the fire station site and valuation of the land.

Incorrect rumours surrounding the financial value of the site and covenants on the land.

To consider all factors when assessing the closure – not just financial reasons.

Is the closure actually due to an insufficient number of recruits and the number of fire fighters needed to man an appliance that could be addressed?

### **Q5 What other ideas can you suggest for us to meet our financial challenges?**

Publicising possible closure effectively would encourage recruitment.

The length of time that has to be taken off work to train as a fire fighter. It is not feasible to require an employed resident to book three weeks off work for example. Reassess your training procedures and programmes so enrolment is accessible to more local residents. For example, provide shorter sessions over a period of time to qualify.

### **Parish Council Grants**

If you are planning to apply for a grant in 2024/25, the latest date your application and requested financial information must be submitted is **30<sup>th</sup> September 2024**. Our grants policy can be found on the Parish Council website at [www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk](http://www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk) in the “Key Documents / Finance” section along with the application form. If you do not have internet access, please contact the Parish Council office on 873784 or email: [clerk@mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk](mailto:clerk@mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk).

### **South Street Public Conveniences**

As mentioned previously, we are looking for someone to take over the caretaking of the public conveniences. It involves unlocking and locking the toilets each day and cleaning which takes about an hour. Please contact the office on 873784/ [clerk@mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk](mailto:clerk@mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk) for information.

### **Temporary Road Closure Warnings:**

The B2100 Wadhurst Road / Best Beech Hill / Mayfield Lane, Mark Cross/ Wadhurst road closure has changed dates to 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024 to 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025.

Tunbridge Wells Road is scheduled to be closed from the junction with the A267 Mayfield Bypass to the junction with the High Street from 13<sup>th</sup> August to the 15<sup>th</sup> August to allow South East Water to carry out Apparatus Repairs works.

Fletching Street is scheduled to be closed from the junction with Tunbridge Wells Road to the junction with Coggins Mill Lane from 19<sup>th</sup> August to 21<sup>st</sup> August to allow South East Water to carry out Apparatus Repairs works.

### **Thefts Of Motorcycles Continue**

Sussex Police has informed that they are still receiving reports of motorcycle theft in various areas of Sussex and urge the public to take extra precaution in ensuring their property is protected from theft.

They suggest: **Lock, chain, cover**

**Lock:** Use a disc lock to help secure the front brake disc, or a grip lock to secure the brake and throttle controls. You could also use a D lock on the front wheel to stop it being wheeled away.

**Chain:** Thieves often steal a bike by breaking the steering lock and wheeling it away. Use a chain lock through the back wheel (the front wheel can be removed). Secure your bike, with the lock taut to an immovable object such as a ground anchor or street furniture. This will stop thieves from cutting a lock trailing on the ground using an angle grinder. If this isn't possible, thread the chain through your bike frame and back wheel.

**Cover:** Thieves often 'shop' for particular bike models. Using a cover instantly makes it less attractive to them. A cover also provides another time-consuming obstacle for the thief.

Unfortunately, security measures cannot guarantee your bike will not be stolen but multiple security measures make it harder and less attractive for thieves. For security products for your scooter, motorcycle or moped search the 'Accredited products' page - (a police-approved website).

<https://www.securedbydesign.com/member-companies/accredited-product-search>

### **Parish Council Office – Summer Break**

There is only one meeting this month and that is for the Planning Committee on 12<sup>th</sup> August. The office will be closed from 14<sup>th</sup> August to 23<sup>rd</sup> August for the summer break. If there is an emergency Councillors' contact information can be found online and on Page 34 of this Newsletter.

### **Instagram - [mayfield.village.life](https://www.instagram.com/mayfield.village.life)**

Available to for Mayfield and Five Ashes, this site can be messaged with details of a local event or alternatively, contact Cllr Sally Ann Tibbles: [sally-ann.tibbles@mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk](mailto:sally-ann.tibbles@mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk) and she will put it information up for you. The site 'mayfieldvillagelife' is a picture book of activities in this Parish. (Press 'follow' at the top of the page and you will be notified of posts as they appear.)

### **Parish Council Meetings**

The meeting schedule on the website: <http://www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk/> shows this month's Council and Committee meetings as well as agendas, minutes of meetings and other meeting documentation

**Janna Todd**, Parish Clerk

Old Manor House, High Street, Mayfield  
TN20 6AL

Telephone 873784 Email:  
[clerk@mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk](mailto:clerk@mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk)



# **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

## **REGULAR WEEKLY ACITVITIES**

|           |  |   |
|-----------|--|---|
| Monday    | Art Club   | Five Ashes Village Hall 10-12.30pm              |
|           | Chair-based yoga   | Scout Hall 10 - 11am Not Aug/Dec/April          |
|           | Yoga   | Scout Hall 6.30 – 7.45pm                        |
|           | Ideal Performing Arts  | Five Ashes Village Hall 6.00 – 8.00pm           |
|           | Table Tennis Club  | Five Ashes Village Hall 8.15-21.45pm (Sept-May) |
| Tuesday   | Pilates  | Five Ashes Village Hall 8.30-9.30am             |
|           | Chair-based yoga   | Scout Hall 10 - 11am Not Aug/Dec/April          |
|           | Circle Dance   | Scout Hall 2.30 – 4.30pm                        |
|           | Pilates  | Five Ashes Village Hall 6.15-7.30pm             |
| Wednesday | Pilates  | Five Ashes Village Hall 9-10am                  |
|           | Discofit Gold - Fitness Dance  | Five Ashes Village Hall – 10-11am               |
|           | Creative Social  | Sew Inspired High Street 10am – 1pm             |
|           | Heathfield Fitcamp   | Five Ashes Hall - 18.30-19.30                   |
|           | Studio Dance   | Five Ashes Village Hall – 18.50-19.50pm         |
|           | The Rose & Crown Quiz  | Rose & Crown, Fletching Street, 7.30pm          |
|           | Mayzing Choir practice   | Mayfield Scout Hut: 8.00 – 10.00pm              |
| Thursday  | Pilates  | Five Ashes Village Hall – 10.30–11.30am         |
|           | Baby Explorers   | Five Ashes Village Hall – TBC                   |
|           | Happy Tai Chi  | 12-1pm  |
|           | Handbell Ringers   | London House, 4-5.30pm                          |
|           | Pilates  | Five Ashes Village Hall – 5-6pm                 |
|           | Cogs – School Years 4-6  | Colkins Mill Church 6.30-8pm                    |
|           | Ladies' PH Netball   | Mayfield School - 7 - 8pm                       |
|           | Happy Tai Chi  | Five Ashes Village Hall – 7-8pm                 |
| Friday    | Art Class  | Five Ashes Village Hall – 10.30-12.30pm         |
|           | Yoga   | Scout Hall 10 – 11.15am                         |
|           | Pre & Post Natal Exercise  | Scout Hall 11.30am                              |
|           | Junior tennis coaching   | Mayfield Tennis Club - 3.30 onwards             |
|           | Ideal Performing Arts  | Five Ashes Village Hall 5.00 – 8.00pm           |
|           | Mayfield Band rehearsal times: The Bandroom, Court Meadow<br>Beginners 5.15-5.45pm; Junior group 6-6.30pm; Youth Band 6.30-7.30pm; Senior Band 7.45-9.45 |   |
|           | Cogs – School Years 7-9/10   | Colkins Mill Church 7-8.30pm Year 10s 7.45pm    |
| Saturday  | Saturday Picnickers  | London House 12.30-2.30pm                       |

| <b>AUGUST</b>    |    |  |                                     |
|------------------|----|--|-------------------------------------|
| Saturday         | 3  | Churchyard Working Party   | St Dunstan's, 10am - 12.30pm        |
| Saturday         | 3  | Create @ The Shed Youth Session  | Mayfacs Shed 10am-12.30pm           |
| Thursday         | 15 | Bonfire Society Social Drinks  | Rose & Crown                        |
| Saturday         | 17 | Mayfacs Repair Café  | The Shed 10am-1pm                   |
| Friday           | 23 | Mayfacs Art At The Shed  | 10am-12pm                           |
| <b>SEPTEMBER</b> |    |  |                                     |
| Thursday         | 5  | Wadhurst and District Flower Club  | Stonegate Village Hall, 1.45pm      |
| Thursday         | 5  | Mayfacs Trip - Groombridge Owl & Raptor Centre   |                                     |
| Saturday         | 7  | Crowborough Open Studios   | TBC                                 |
| Sunday           | 8  | Crowborough Open Studios   | TBC                                 |
| Tuesday          | 10 | The Arts Society, Wealden. Talk by Anne Haworth: 'Art, Architecture & Style in Old Shanghai' | Heathfield Community Centre, 2.15pm |
| Tuesday          | 10 | Mayfield Evening WI: talk by Michael Wachter of Great Dixter                                 | Colkins Mill Church, 7.15pm         |
| Saturday         | 21 | Bonfire Society Carnival   |                                     |
| Saturday         | 28 | Know Your Parish   | St. Dunstan's Church 10.30am-1.30pm |
|                  |    |  |                                     |

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## Herons Folly Garden



### Apple Trees

November through March  
And

### Friday Veg Stall

8:00am – 12:00pm  
During the Growing Season

Apple Juice, Honey, Cider Vinegar and Vegetables  
Available Middle House Deli  
and the House Cafe



All products are organic  
[www.heronsfollYGarden.co.uk](http://www.heronsfollYGarden.co.uk)  
(01435) 873608

## THE ARTISAN DESIGNERS



### Decoupage with a Twist

Commissions welcome



Please call for opening times

**Brigitte 07855 385 824**

[brigitte.theartisandesigners@gmail.com](mailto:brigitte.theartisandesigners@gmail.com)



The Artisan Designers Ltd  
at The Bull House Studio  
off Lake Street Mayfield TN20 6PR



## GA CARPENTRY & KITCHENS

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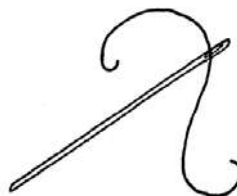
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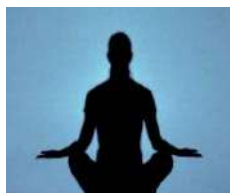
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