

MAYFIELD & FIVE ASHES NEWSLETTER



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Front cover: Mayfield Community Fire Station. Thanks to all the organisations for their photographs. Please do send us your images to mayfieldnewsletter2012@gmail.com

WELCOME FROM THE EDITORS



Welcome to your September Newsletter in which we mark the achievements of our students in their A level results, Olympic gold and drama prizes. We go behind the scenes of Mayfield's Bonfire Society to discover what goes into the annual Carnival and we feature many local artists taking part in the Crowborough Open Studios here in Mayfield. September is the month for new



beginnings and on Saturday, 28th September the Mayfieldians are holding a "Know Your Parish" event where you can discover the many and varied groups, societies and clubs we are so lucky to have. Finally, we bid a fond farewell to John Cluny who for some years has been a member of the Newsletter team, most recently as careful compiler of the monthly diary. We wish John and his wife, Nicky, all the very best in their move. If anyone would like to help out with the Diary, Jeanette for one would be very grateful.

Jeanette Hore & Philip James

DEADLINES AND HOW TO CONTACT US

MONTHLY SUBMISSIONS to 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.

DEADLINE FOR BOOKING SPACE IS 10th WITH PDF ARTWORK BY 16th

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. 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 Village Hall;** **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

"JUST DRESSING UP AND PLAYING WITH FIRE, IT IS NOT!"

Catherine Hawley talks about the work of the Bonfire Society in our community

September is the month for Carnival in Mayfield and Five Ashes, and elsewhere in this edition, there is a full report on what the Bonfire Boyes and Belles have in store on 21st September with the Carnival and Bonfire Procession. The event usually takes place on the third Saturday of the month, which is closest to the date of the 1556 burning of the Christian Martyrs. The Society has been active since 1930 so is a long-standing institution of our villages.

Talking to Catherine Hawley recently, I confessed that, whilst I have been to the procession several times, I find the passionate fervour of the marchers, in dramatic costume and carrying their flaming torches and crosses, somewhat daunting and macabre. She is not surprised by that reaction, which she says is a common one, but she is keen to dispel the belief that the Bonfire Society exists, or its supporters are merely involved, for a day's "dressing up and playing with fire". Having heard what she has to say, I now



Rob Foster with Catherine Hawley

understand that the Bonfire Society clearly also plays a very valuable and important part in the life of our community.

Catherine is one of two Directors, along with Rob Foster (the main Carnival Event Planner and Treasurer), heading a committee of ten, who all work tirelessly throughout the year, planning and undertaking a range of activities to engage the villages and, specifically, to raise the funds necessary to run the annual Carnival. Roughly £10,000 is needed, half of which is made up of £2,500 to insure it; almost as much as the cost of the fireworks, which work out at £2,700. A further £1,000 goes towards employing qualified first aiders, close to £1,000 on the marching bands with the remaining £2,800 being used for the provision of toilet facilities, road-sweepers, bar and catering arrangements and torch and banner materials, amongst other things. Apart from £1,500 contributed by the Parish Council, £500 paid by catering and bar concessions and £1,500 raised from profit on the bar on the night of the Carnival, the remaining £6,500 must be raised during the year.

Rob, a retired industrial project manager, works on the event throughout the year, planning and preparing, booking the



Making the torches



Rocky Horror Show Fundraiser

necessary facilities with the appropriate authorities, making detailed arrangements for the day itself, and the clearing up at the end, so that, with the help of the Scouts, there is no evidence of the Carnival's existence the following day.

Catherine, a former senior manager with BT, with a team of up to 5000 engineers 'going up poles and down holes', is well equipped to manage the 'people' side of fundraising and publicity (such as social media and leaflet designing, printing and delivering around the whole village) for the events and activities which are held throughout the year. She is quick to make the point too that the fundraising goes well beyond financing the Carnival. The Society also aims to collect up to £2,000 a year for distribution to local good causes and this year the aim is to collect specifically for Mayfield Youth Band, the Scouts and MAYFACS Shedders, who are trying to expand their garden.

Events the Society have arranged or supported in recent years include Quiz

Evenings, a summer concert and a Build a Guy competition. This year the Society arranged its own Open Gardens event at 6 houses in The Warren and East Street in Mayfield, in addition to that of the National Gardens Scheme in July. The Warren/East Street event required 40 volunteers to steward the parking and entrance to the gardens and to bake and serve the teas. A showing of the 'Rocky Horror Show' was also held in Five Ashes Hall, for which the Society's Creative Group dressed up accordingly.

This small group, of mainly women and a couple of men, meet regularly to make the large and small banners which one can see around Mayfield during Carnival month and some of the costumes for the marchers in the procession. The banner work involves cutting, sewing, decorating and painting, and each banner, when complete, is water and fire-proofed and hung on washing lines to dry.

Another constant every year, throughout the year, is the torchmaking. Every month volunteers are involved in sourcing and cutting sticks and drilling holes. The torches are then assembled by yet more village volunteers every Saturday in July and August. However, by far the biggest village event organised by the Society, apart from the Carnival itself, is the Christmas Party for up to 100 senior citizens in our villages. Until Lockdown, followed by the closure of the Memorial Hall, this took the form of a 3-course Christmas lunch, served up by 20 people, of whom few were under 60 themselves. Indeed, there is no shortage of volunteers for this enjoyable and heart-warming event, which really spreads the joy and brings the villages together.

During Lockdown, the Committee arranged instead the delivery of 250 hampers throughout the villages, with

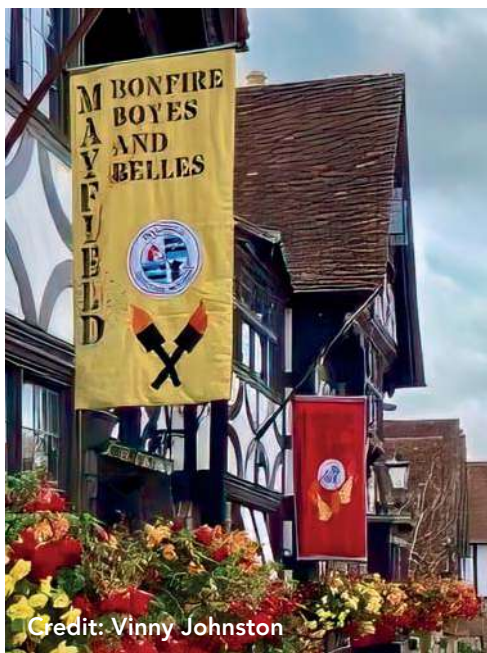


volunteer bakers preparing 1,000 items, including sausage rolls, cheese straws and mince pies. In the last year or so, with the continuing shortage of a large enough venue, a Christmas Tea Party has been held in Colkins Mill Church Hall, with a

similar bakery and serving contribution from the volunteers.

For Catherine and Rob, the Committee and the 60 or so Society volunteers involved during the year, the creation of the banners, the torchmaking, the running of the fundraising events and the Carnival Bonfire procession, and more, are all labours of love carried out with the prime purpose of maintaining the spirit of community in Mayfield and Five Ashes. It is also a very sociable way of being involved in village life.

Whether or not you enjoy the actual Carnival procession itself, the Bonfire Society does play a vital role in the life of Mayfield and Five Ashes. Such is the variety of its activities, there is bound to be some aspect of the Society's work to appeal if you are interested in getting involved, even if that does not extend to dressing up or fire-raising! Catherine would be delighted to hear from you, if you do want to get involved, at bonfire@gawain.online. At the very least she hopes to see you at the procession on 21st. **Sue Smith**



Credit: Vinny Johnston

SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST

Wasp Spider

I never thought I'd say this, but I've fallen in love with a spider. And coming from a lifelong arachnophobe that's quite a claim. Whereas every other spider species sends me screaming in utter terror, the Wasp Spider has melted my heart. They are gorgeous. I met one on the South Downs last weekend and, hypnotised by her beauty, I spent hours with her; lying in the grass, staring lovingly into her eight eyes.

Wasp Spiders' rotund abdomens are delicately patterned with exotic black, yellow and white stripes. Every Wasp Spider looks subtly different – as if each has been individually hand-painted. Their eight legs wear stripy black and white stockings – the sort favoured by the Wicked Witch of the East. This stripy, waspish appearance has given the spider its name and is used as a defence mechanism to ward off predators who equate this colouration with being stung. They're a relatively new resident in England. The first British Wasp Spider was found near Rye in 1922. Since then they have slowly spread across Sussex and you can find them in any areas of grassland. Here inside their long grass lair, they weave their silky circular webs which – like all spider webs – are a masterpiece of arachnoid architecture. As if proud of her accomplishment, the Wasp Spider autographs her web with a unique silken squiggle. The actual purpose of this thick zigzag flourish (the 'stabilimentum') is a mystery; although some believe it reflects UV light, luring in pollinating insects who mistake the web for a flower.

Male Wasp Spiders don't have it easy. Physically they lack any snazzy patterning and at 5mm are a third of the size of their



Credit: Victoria Hume

hulking female counterparts. And when it comes to spider sex, she dominates the male too. During mating she turns her lover into lunch. So, as the female lies enticingly in her web, the male approaches her with understandable trepidation. It's all about timing. After she slips out of her old exoskeleton and into something more comfortable, her fresh body is temporarily soft – and so are her jaws. This is her Achilles heel, an opportunity for the male to jump in, do his business and get out before being eaten. This sort of pressure would affect any fellas' performance, but the male Wasp Spider has a trick up his eight sleeves: he can detach his sexual organs, leave them inside the female and scarper.

I always assumed that jettisoning his genitalia allowed the spider to survive, but almost every mating session ends in death for the male. Scientists have found that after this self-imposed castration, the spider's sexual organs keep on fertilising the female and block other males' attempts at mating. The spider sacrifices his own life to save his member and ensure he becomes a father. Wow, what a way to go.

Michael Blencowe

MELFORD ARTS

MAYFIELD

PERFORMING ARTS VENUE . THEATRE . LIVE MUSIC . ARTS EVENTS

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'BAD WEDNESDAY' - A PLAY BASED ON THE UNTOLD STORY OF MAYFIELD AUTHOR P.L. TRAVERS, CREATOR OF MARY POPPINS, by Nick Harrison



Melford House is thrilled to announce an exciting, professional production of a brand new play, 'Bad Wednesday' in its intimate, drawing room setting and in the very village where P.L. Travers once lived.

The play promises to be an evening of revelation and surprise as it examines a part of Travers' life not known to most people. What happens when Travers is confronted by the boy she chose not to adopt at birth in favour of his twin brother? Based on real life events, the play explores the fractious relationship between the successful, complex and unconventional P.L. Travers and her adopted son, Camillus. The unexpected arrival of his unadopted brother, Anthony, 18 years later shakes the foundations of all their lives.

Featuring actress Joanna Bending as P.L. Travers, known as a regular on TV's Doctors, Coronation Street and Eastenders as well as the National Theatre and Royal Court.

Ryan Heenan plays Travers' adopted son. Heenan was recently seen on stage in the West End production of Back to the Future as well as on tour with Jersey Boys and Grease. Gabriel Lumsden makes his professional theatrical debut as Anthony. Directing is twice Off West End Award nominee Martin Parr.

Performances take place October 3-6th at 7.30 and 3pm. Tickets are priced at £15 and £20

To book tickets and for more information, visit www.theartsfair.com

VILLAGE PEOPLE

EDGAR JACKSON - MAYFIELD CONNECTION

Whenever I drive home to Mayfield, I always pay close attention to the High Street near Colkins Mill Church and the Mayfield Lawn Tennis Club. For years after I left Mayfield Primary School, I would often see my former teacher, Mrs Catt, walking there, with a bag in one hand and a smile on her face.

This always seemed strange to me. How could my teacher still be walking home from Mayfield Primary when I had long gone? It was an early indication that, while I might have left a place, life there carries on as normal.

The same can be said for all of Mayfield. The High Street, the playground, the winding roads leading to secret childhood hideouts. Sure, the shops might be different. Arguably, a chunk of Mayfield's identity has been recklessly scooped out by capitalism but you can't rob a place like this of its soul. That remains constant, just as Mrs Catt remains constant.

For me, Mayfield is a special corner of the earth. It's the place where I had my first few ideas as a writer. The place where I dreamt of ghouls and monsters. It's the village that goes dark just a little too quickly. It's the woodland paths with strange engravings on the trees. It's the sign near the Church, with Saint Dunstan fighting off a hideous, twisted devil with red hot pincers (this is something else I look out for every time I return, something that never fails to inspire new nightmares). I live in Edinburgh now, and my first book, *Seeing Dead*, has just come out. After publication day, my life has become decidedly different. I'm on an unfamiliar road, heading somewhere never trodden. Yet I can always rely on a familiar place to ground me, give me fresh ideas and make me feel at home. Mayfield. East Sussex. And lovely old Mrs Catt walking home with a smile on her face. Because I'm sure she still does.

Seeing Dead Synopsis:

'It was on a foggy morning in 1988 that Charlie Cooper made his way to the school bus for the last time.



Ten years have passed since then, and what remains is a town scarred by missing person posters. An empty seat in the local police station. A father who has become an unwanted ghost, sipping cold ones in the corner of a woodland tavern.

And, apart from that, there is a girl. Amee Florence is thirteen, with mousy hair and a cool, pale complexion. She's starting her first day at school, but she's nothing like the other children. There's a secret behind her eyes that she keeps hidden. A secret that could help unfog that day in 1988 and reveal the real reason Charlie Cooper never came home.'

Seeing Dead: Out Now – Sign up to my website mailing list:

www.iolandapress.com

YELLOW PAGES GOING GREEN

BRAMBLE

We have a contrary relationship with brambles. They are our late summer passion indulged with purple-fingered blackberry greed. This is one bounty where we all still have the foraging skills of our grandmothers. This hedgerow gathering tradition reaches, bramble-

like, into distant history and is shared by wild and farm creatures alike: with enough grazing pressure there will be a clear nibble-line along a hedgerow.

You will have noticed that the blackberries on your local patch will differ from those in more foreign fields. Perhaps in viciousness of prickle, ripening time or in blackberry size or in its flavour, sweetness, texture, size and number of the shining beetle-black dark drupelets of the fruit (technically it is not a berry but made up of many tiny fruits). The blackberry has huge variety and is an aggregate group rather than a single species. There is scope here for years of difficult study of their biology - the brave few to take on the challenge are called batologists (confusing, but *bátos* is taken from ancient Greek for bramble).

Their complex sex life makes them hard to define. The sweet pink-white flowers attract pollinators that fertilise and cross pollinate in the normal way, but seeds can also form by apomixis, an asexual technique of forming seed without fertilisation. This and simple asexual spread by shoots stretching out to find new ground, making trip wires as they go, produces plants that are clones and genetically the same as the parent. The infrequent sexual reproduction maintains diversity and over 400 micro-species are recognised in the UK. Pick them before the devil-spit arrives, making the fruit mushy and dull after Michaelmas on 29th September. The devil to blame is the flesh-fly that uses enzymes to access an easy fruit juice drink and so ruin our harvest. Briefly mourned, our summer-love is forgotten and our relationship returns to stick-flailing curse as they bite into us, tangle sheep, invade our lands, trip us up.

They are extraordinary plants - a key landscape shaper. The High Weald is patched with small fields created from woodland in the Middle Ages. Today we walked through one as it steadily returns to woodland. Clusters of brambles now have rapidly maturing oak or hornbeam in their midst, protected from deer by thorny nest. Reaching stems cross over our narrowing path and we will not go this way next time. On another route, a hollow way created by centuries of the footfall of herded animals is now blocked by brambles. There is a certain admiration for a mere shrubby plant that can achieve such landscape change after hundreds of years of determined human endeavour. These tree nurseries also offer birds safe-keeping of their nested broods from predators. Declining nightingales, warblers, cuckoos choose these places. Leaves were once used as a cure for stomach complaints in both humans and livestock. Young shoots are worth rootling for by badgers, deer and boar. And many many insects, use flowers for a pollen and nectar source. The berries are rich in vitamins and offer us an array of health benefits. They contain polyphenols, powerful antioxidants which may play a role in the reduction of oxidative damage. Enjoy them now in all their variety and try to retain some affection in the dark days of winter.

Sarah Litchfield



OUR SCHOOLS



MAYFIELD GIRLS SCHOOL A LEVEL EXAMS

We are proud to announce that our students have excelled in this year's A-Level examinations, achieving an outstanding 81% of grades at A*-B, with half of all grades awarded being A* or A. Mayfield's Upper Sixth girls have secured places at prestigious universities across the UK and abroad, including Oxford, Bristol, Durham, York, UCL, King's College, and The Courtauld Institute of Art. The girls will be pursuing a diverse range of courses, from traditional subjects like Economics, English, Maths, Modern Languages, and the Sciences to more specialised fields such as Architecture, Engineering, History of Art, Law, Medicine, Psychology, and Veterinary Medicine. Headmistress Deborah Bligh expressed her delight, saying: "I am thrilled with our latest exam results, which build upon our long-standing tradition of academic excellence. These achievements are a testament to the hard work and commitment of both our students and teachers. Just as important as their fantastic A-Level results, our students leave us with a strong moral compass, lasting friendships, and the confidence to embrace the next stage of their lives with hope and optimism. I am deeply grateful to our students for sharing their many gifts and talents with us during their time at Mayfield, and I look forward to hearing of their continued success in their future endeavours."

Here's an update on how some of our local Mayfield village students have fared: Annabel, the winner of the Royal Geographical Society's Young Geographer of the Year Competition, is set to continue her academic journey at Durham University, where she will



Annabel



Evangeline



Imogen

study Geography. Annabel said: "Thank you so much to all the teachers who've helped me and given me so many opportunities and so much support. It has been an amazing seven years." Evangeline has secured a place at Bristol University to study Biology. Reflecting on her time at Mayfield, she said: "Since joining Mayfield two years ago, I have made many meaningful friendships and unforgettable memories. All my teachers have been incredibly supportive and encouraging when navigating the challenges of studying four A-levels. I have truly enjoyed my time at Mayfield and am now looking forward to studying Biology at Bristol." Imogen is excited about her future plans: "I am thrilled that I will be pursuing my studies in Archaeology and Heritage at York. My time at Mayfield Girls School since year 7 has been incredibly enriching, and I am grateful for the wonderful experiences I've had."

Wishing Annabel, Evangeline, Imogen and their peers every success as they embark on exciting new chapters in their lives!

Breanna Shines On Stage At National Conference

Breanna, a Sixth Form student at Mayfield, recently performed her award-winning scene, "Sonnet 34: Director's Cut," at the Pearson Edexcel Lit in Colour Student Conference at Birmingham Rep Theatre. After winning Bloomsbury's national scene-writing competition, Breanna was invited to bring her script to life before an audience of over 400 students and educators. Her performance highlighted her exceptional talent, both as a writer and performer, making Mayfield Girls School proud. The Lit in Colour initiative, which promotes diverse voices in the English curriculum, provided a fitting stage for Breanna's work. Her success is a testament to her dedication to drama and literature, inspiring her peers and underscoring the power of creative expression. Congratulations to Breanna on this outstanding achievement!



Breanna

Olympic Success For Former Mayfield Girls Pupil

Emily Craig, a former Mayfield Girls School pupil, won a gold medal in the Women's Lightweight Double Sculls at the Paris Olympics alongside her rowing partner, Imogen



Grant. This victory comes after finishing agonisingly close to the medals at the Tokyo Olympics, where the pair missed out on a bronze by just 0.01 seconds. The pair's win was one of 14 golds won by Team GB at the Paris Olympics. Reflecting on her win, Emily said, "This entire Olympic experience has just been incredible. I'm just so grateful for the support from everyone over the last three years - to spend the Olympiad unbeaten and to top it off with being crowned Olympic champions is more than I ever dreamed I could achieve." Congratulations Emily, we're so proud of you!

Open Morning & Sixth Form Information Evening

Want to find out more about Mayfield Girls School? If you are interested in Year 7 or Year 9 entry then please join us for our Open Morning on Friday 20th September at 10am. If you would like to find out more about life in our Sixth Form, then we would love to see you at our information evening for prospective students and parents on Wednesday 25th, from 5pm. For further information on these events, or to book, please visit our website www.mayfieldgirls.org or contact Shirley Coppard, our Director of Admissions, on **874600 x418**.

OUR CHURCHES



COLKINS MILL

I hope you had a good summer. We celebrated August with some happy outdoor services in the Church garden: our family worship focused on a theme of gardens mentioned in the Bible - can you think of any?

We are back inside for September now. Everyone is welcome to join us for our buffet breakfast from 10am on Sundays, with the service starting at 10.30am. We will be beginning a ten-week series looking closely at the apostle Paul's warm letter to the Church in Philippi.

Finally, our youth clubs will be starting up for the new academic year towards the end of September. Young people from school years 4 to 6 are welcome from 6.30pm on Thursday evenings, and school years 7 to 9 on Fridays from 7pm. The clubs are open to all. Get in touch if you would like to know more.

Steve Harland contact@colkinsmillchurch.org.uk

ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

The parishioners of St. Thomas of Canterbury, Mayfield and The Sacred Heart, Wadhurst wish Sister Jean and Sister Maria many happy years in Harrogate. We will miss you.

Masses at St Thomas' during September

10.00am Sunday 1st September

6.00pm Saturday 7th September
10.00am Sunday 15th September
6.00pm Saturday 21st September
10.00am Sunday 29th September

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

Mary Brentnall

ST. DUNSTAN'S

Some dates for your diary from St. Dunstan's

Sunday, 22nd September– our Harvest Festival Sunday starts with a Harvest Communion service at 10.15am with traditional Harvest hymns. This will be followed by our Harvest Lunch in St. Dunstan's church from 12noon. If you would like to come and join us then please pre-purchase a ticket from a member of our Social Committee on a Sunday morning from 1st September. Tickets are £12 for adults and £6 for children and there will be a vegetarian and gluten free option available so please mention this when you buy your ticket. Spaces are limited so please buy your ticket early if you would like to join us.

Sunday September 29th - Our monthly Choral Evensong services start again on September 29th. We invite you to join us for this traditional service in which our choir sing the service and the psalm at 6pm.

Sunday, 6th October – Come along and join us for a Parish Walk in the Village. This will be a very gentle walk and will start from the Church Porch at 2pm. Dogs are most welcome. We will return to St. Dunstan's at about 3pm for tea and cake when Fr. Michael will take a short Service (and we invite dogs to stay for the service too). There will then be a chance to have a get-together and chat. Please feel free to join us for either the walk or the tea, or both, - you will be made most welcome.

Saturday, 7th December – We will be holding our Christmas Market again this year from 10am until 2pm in St. Dunstan's. This is always a chance to 'shop locally' and we will have more fabulous stallholders with us again this year. If you would like more information or would like to book at stall then please contact Nicky in the Parish Office on 873484 or by email: office.stdunstans@gmail.com. More details to follow in the coming months.

Nicky Higgins

Parish Administrator

ROUND AND ABOUT THE VILLAGES

"KNOW YOUR PARISH"

The Mayfieldians are holding a "Know Your Parish" event at St. Dunstan's Church on **Saturday, 28th 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 on mayfieldians@gmail.com as soon as possible.

detailed information about the routes and road closures below. Look out for the new set of Bonfire banners hanging in the High Street throughout September, made by our creative team of sewing Boyes and Belles.

As always, we will be collecting for local charities on the night so please do remember to bring cash and give generously. This year we are collecting for Mayfield Youth Band and MAYFACS Shedders, as well as the Scouts, Cricket Club and Senior Citizens Christmas party. You can also donate online at the Bonfire Bar.

We need to raise around £10,000 to put on the Carnival procession and would like to thank the Parish Council for their grant and continuing support for the Bonfire Society. We would also like to thank our members, patrons and friends for their generous support.

You can help us raise funds by using our Bonfire Bar, which will be in its usual place in the High Street beside the cannon, serving Harvey's beers, plus cider, wines and soft drinks. This year we will have an extra small bar outside the Scout Hut from 9pm to help quench thirsts at the end of the processions. There will also be various food stalls in the High Street and the Fun Fair on Court Meadow, together with fireworks at 9.45pm.

Thank you to all our many kind helpers who have made the 5,000 torches in preparation for the torchlit processions, and to all those who work tirelessly over the weekend to put on the village's largest event, and then to clear up again afterwards. An army of volunteers help put up the signs and marshal the roadblocks, set up the radio communications and liaise with the police, set up and man the all-



**MAYFIELD BONFIRE
SOCIETY**

Your Bonfire Boyes and Belles are delighted to announce our next annual Carnival and Torchlit Procession will be held on Saturday 21st September. Mayfield Bonfire Society has held a carnival almost every year for nearly a century, except during times of war, typhoid and Covid. At over a mile long, with 5,000 burning torches, the Mayfield procession is believed to be the longest in Sussex, other than the Lewes Grand United Procession on 5th November. Thousands of people flock to the village each year to take part in the Carnival and watch this spectacular event. The Map shows the procession routes and approximate timings and there is more

important bar, make cakes and sandwiches and serve refreshments for visiting societies, and carry collection buckets to raise funds for local charities. Most of the members and volunteers are helping behind the scenes, whilst a small group of Boyes and Belles will dress up to lead the procession.

The Society is looking to recruit more members and volunteers who can help in any way. Whether you love dressing up and walking in the procession, can help the working party make torches, perhaps help out at a fundraising event, or just offer an hour or two of support on the day.

Road Closures And Parking

As usual, most roads in the village will be closed to all vehicles. Road Closures begin at 6pm and affect Tunbridge Wells Road, High Street, Fletching Street (down to Alexandra Terrace junction), East Street (to Sandy Lane junction), The Avenue, and Station Road (including the junction with Stone Cross and Love Lane). Some roads will be opened to traffic once the procession has passed, but the High Street and parts of Tunbridge Wells Road will remain closed until 11.30pm, or until it is safe to open them.

Please respect the Barrier Marshals as most of them are volunteers giving up

their time for this fantastic community event. This is an official Road Closure Order and if contravened may result in prosecution by the Police.

We are asking residents and visitors to please observe the parking restrictions in order to allow unobstructed processions and to avoid damage to parked vehicles. Please do not park anywhere on the procession routes (see map). We cannot accept responsibility for any damage to vehicles or property left on the procession route.

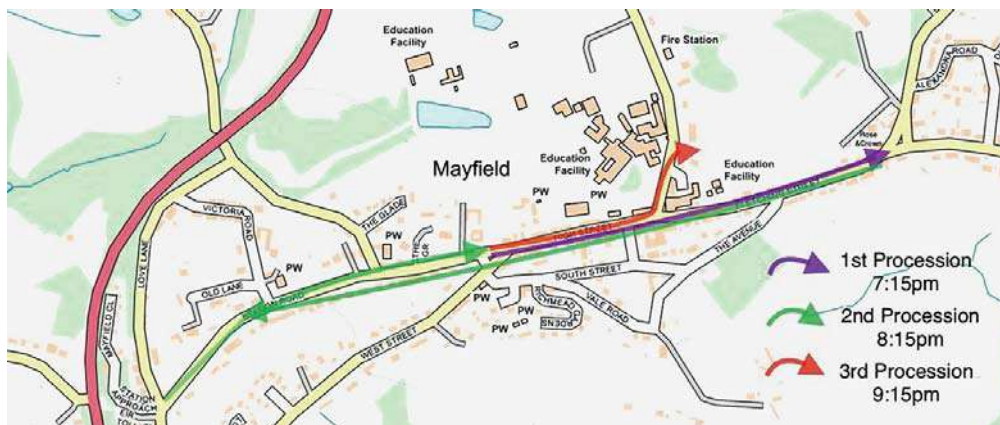
For visitors, parking will be possible along one side of the Tunbridge Wells road, and this road will become one-way, heading away from the village, from 9pm.

Carnival Timetable

Commemoration 6.45pm. The evening begins with a service to remember the dead at the War Memorial, where a wreath will be laid accompanied by a short Eulogy, followed by a minute's silence and lighting of the fiery Poppies.

Processions:

First Procession 7.15pm. Forms up along Station Road (Bands form up at the top of West Street), lights up at the horse trough, then proceeds up the High Street, down



Fletching Street, and stops at the Rose & Crown.

Second Procession 8.15pm. Leaves the Rose and Crown, up Fletching Street, down the High Street, along Station Road to beyond Old Lane, and then turns on itself and returns up Station Road to stop just before the horse trough. Vehicles in the procession will continue to the junction with Love Lane and turn there.

Grand Procession 9.15pm. Lights up at the Horse trough, proceeds up the High Street and around to the gates of Court Meadow where it de-torches.

Fireworks 9.45pm: The fireworks display will commence as soon as the end of the procession has cleared the Court Meadow gates, which we anticipate will be around 9.45pm. Please note no fireworks are permitted by members of the public at our event.

We look forward to seeing you at another spectacular torchlit carnival.

Catherine Hawley bonfire@gawain.online

MAYFIELD COMMUNITY & HEALTH CENTRE

The project is now progressing with momentum as the project team spend quite a few days per week monitoring progress, providing the design detail requested by the contractor and attending progress review and workshop meetings.

The general design was shared with the public at the 7th July Information Event and for those who were unable to attend, it can also be found on the Parish Council website. Feedback from the event has been useful with some 80% still supporting the project. A good number of people provided useful suggestions and some, especially relating to how to reduce costs further, are being pursued in some detail.

The joint Wealden District Council/Parish Council Project Board agreed at its 22nd July meeting that the project should now progress to what is known in the trade as RIBA stage 3. This means providing more detail to the design, together with producing supporting information for the forthcoming planning application. There is considerable pressure on the contractor to make the submission by the end of August in order to achieve planning approval in December, and thereby maintain the overall programme schedule.

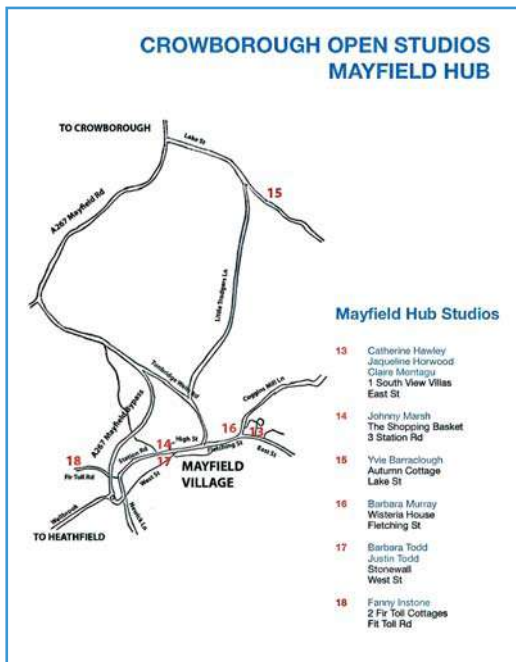
Specialist meetings have been held to address options for cost savings and in particular the more expensive elements of the mechanical and electrical aspects of the design. Firming up on the design means detailed costings can be undertaken and we can confirm that the current budget will meet the anticipated expenditure.

The legal documentation needed for the Development Agreement with WDC and also the Agreement for Lease with WDC, are now both in the hands of the respective lawyers. On completion a recently formed organisation, known as Mayfield Community Centre CIO, will take a lease on the Community Centre and operate the new Centre once completed - in much the same way as for the old Mayfield Memorial Hall. Trustees have been appointed and anyone interested in helping run the CIO should contact them via the Parish Clerk.

Further information can be found on the village Facebook site and the Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council website www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk, as it becomes available.

Several artists in Mayfield have exhibited over the years as part of Crowborough Open Studios but until now it has always been necessary to show work at premises and studios in Crowborough. We have always received a warm welcome and plenty of visitors but this year we have had the green light to exhibit here in Mayfield. Nine local artists are looking forward to showing their work on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th September in six local venues. We are all hoping that as many of you as possible will come and enjoy looking at the huge variety of work produced. Information leaflets and maps will have been delivered through many doors and will also be available in shops, pubs and other locations. Full information with examples of work can be seen on www.crowborough-arts.org.uk A summary of Mayfield venues and artist's statements can be seen below.

Catherine Hawley: Contemporary Oils/
Mixed Media



The three artists showing at this venue have all studied painting under Tanya Eccleshall, the well-known miniaturist who has recently left the area having lived in Mayfield for many years. They are now developing their practice individually.

Catherine Hawley: Contemporary Oils/
Mixed Media



My work is a reflection of my fascination with the interplay of colour, light and shadow, form and texture. Nature serves as my muse, from the delicate beauty of a flower in bloom, to the raw power of a stormy sky, I find inspiration in the rhythms of the natural world.



Left to right: Claire Montagu, Catherine Hawley, Jacqueline Horwood, Barbara Murray, Johnny Marsh and Yvie Barraclough

Jacqueline Horwood: Acrylic paintings

I am a local artist working in acrylic paint on a range of subjects, with a style influenced by the impressionists.

Claire Montagu: Pastel/Acrylic/Graphite

I am an established portrait artist and have exhibited work in Rutland, Kent and Sussex. I specialise in pastels and undertake commissions, mainly of animals. My pictures have a strong realism and capture the personality of the subject. My passion for art began at school and in recent years various teachers have encouraged me to use different media and techniques, leading to more abstract work exploring textures and colours.

Studio 14 The Shopping Basket, 3 Station Road, Mayfield TN20 6BL

Johnny Marsh: Works on Paper

I am a visual artist who has lived and worked in Mayfield for many years, working within a figurative tradition influenced by the landscapes and

mythologies of the Weald, often combining images and texts.

Studio 15 Autumn Cottage, Lake St, Mayfield TN20 6PP

Yvie Barraclough: Landscape and Still Life
Arts and craft have always been an important part of my life and I have sketched and drawn since young. I now enjoy putting colour to canvas in both oils and acrylics. I focus on still-life, sea and landscapes, mostly inspired by photos I have taken during my travels and walks. I particularly enjoy painting interesting skies with moody clouds but I also like to experiment with different styles and more impressionistic and abstract work.

Studio 16 Wisteria House, Fletching St, Mayfield TN20 6TE

Barbara Murray: Landscape/Seascape painting

For me, making work is a process which often starts with a walk or a journey. Feelings of connection are then developed through drawings and photographs which

are used as a basis for a painting. I enjoy the challenge of painting the sea and open water but am equally happy working with landscape and the elements. I have exhibited in London, Sussex and Kent.

Studio 17 Stonewall, West St, Mayfield, TN20 6DR

Barbara Todd: Mostly Oil on Canvas with some Mixed Media I have a passion for invented landscape based on memories and imagination, inhabited by poetic wild life, birds, moths etc in exotic locations. I am influenced by Ravilious, Paul Nash, Samuel Palmer and Surrealists like Max Ernst. My Abstractions are inspired by Picasso, Klee, Kandinsky and purists like Ben Nicholson etc. I work intuitively with only a vague idea which gradually develops throughout the process, an exciting approach, if a little nerve wracking.

Justin Todd: Oil Paintings on Board, Illustrations, mostly Gouache

I have been an illustrator all my working life: children's books, histories, magazines, multimedia. Large murals for Morley College and various corporate buildings. Exhibitions of original illustration at the National Theatre, the Barbican, Brighton University and smaller galleries in London and Sussex. Now, I have the freedom to choose my own subject matter, and though still quite illustrative they reflect my bizarre imagination, full of life and colour, humour and the joy of being alive.

Studio 18 2 Fir Toll Cottages, Fir Toll Road, Mayfield TN20 6NE

Fanny Instone: Paintings in Gouache, Still Life and Natural Forms

I have lived in the country all my life apart from brief spells in Eastbourne and Birmingham where I attended art college. I am a nature lover and paint found and everyday objects and forms in a range of



Fanny Instone

media including gouache, watercolour and charcoal.

So please put time aside on 7th and 8th September to come and view the work of this diverse range of local artists along with 12 other studios across Crowborough, Rotherfield and Fairwarp. Hopefully you will be surprised and delighted by what you find.

Barbara Murray

SATURDAY PICNICKERS

Weekends tend to be family orientated which means that Saturdays can be a bit too quiet, especially for those who live alone. Picnickers has been running in London House, since 2022. People bring their own snack or pop into a local shop and buy a sandwich, pasty or pie and we make tea or coffee.

If you would like a bit of cheerful company on Saturdays, do come along and join us. We are in London House from 12.30 until 2.30 p.m. and everyone is welcome.

Valerie Donovan 873253

WOODHILL SURGERY

The Editors thought our readers would like to hear of a well-deserved accolade given

to our treasured Woodhill Surgery by NHS England. A patient survey was conducted, unbeknownst to any of the practitioners at Woodhill and the following has recently been sent to the Practice:-

"Achievement on General Practice Patient Survey"

We are writing to congratulate the practice on its excellent scores in the 2024 GP patient survey, which are amongst the best in the country. We are especially pleased to be able to highlight your achievements at a time when media, political and public attention is so focused on healthcare, and on primary care in particular. This result is a testament to the effort and dedication of everyone in the practice.

We would be grateful if you could pass our appreciation and congratulations to everyone in the practice for all the hard work.

Dr Claire Fuller, MBBS, DRCOG, MRCGP, Medical Director for Primary Care

Alex Morton, Group Director for Primary Care & Community Services Delivery & Support"

[Well done everyone at Woodhill - the Editors]

SAVE THE DATE – FLU CLINIC

The 2024/2025 Flu clinic is just around the corner and our Flu clinic will be held at Five Ashes Village Hall on Saturday 19th October. Appointments will be required and details will follow.

Andrew Cornell Managing Partner
Woodhill Surgery, Station Road, Mayfield,
TN20 6BW 873000

FILM ON FRIDAY – THE NEW SEASON

"SEASIDE SPECIAL" – 20th September
Five Ashes Village Hall - Doors open 7.45pm. Film starts 8.15pm

We're back, with a programme of 12 fantastic films from now until the end of

March. All of them will be shown at Five Ashes Village Hall. Our first film of the season is "Seaside Special" on 20th September; a fly-on-the wall observation of the end of the pier show in Cromer.

Is there anything more clichéd British? But it is good! The film follows the show from initial rehearsals to gala opening and full run. This is interspersed with interviews with the cast and crew, and Cromer residents. This is 2019 and Brexit is on everyone's mind. The anglophile German director has made a film with subtle depth. Not just a variety show documentary, but a portrait of a community that finds itself divided.

Our leaflet has full details of the whole programme. Pick one up from The House Café, the MAYFACS office or Five Ashes Village Hall. If they are all closed, you can get one from our poster on the school railings or the telephone box. Go to our website www.filmonfriday.org to see the trailer for "Seaside Special" together with an interview with the director and links to



reviews. Trailers and interviews are there now for all the season's films. Email me on filmonfriday@gmail.com, or phone 873310 if you would like to know more. We are on Facebook and we are [@filmonfriday](#) on X. **Andrew Ratcliffe**

MAYFIELD EVENING W.I.

The W.I. is a unique organisation which is shaped by its members, connecting, supporting and empowering all women of all generations. Joining the W.I. offers an amazing range of opportunities for making friends, sharing and learning new skills and creating real changes on issues that matter to us and our communities.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday September 10th and will feature a talk by Michael Wachter entitled 'Autumn Foraging'. Michael is an experienced outdoorsman and is on the staff at Great Dexter garden.

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. (Our October meeting will be held at Five Ashes Village Hall as it is a film night).

Do come and join us at any one of our evenings and meet us all. For any further information, please contact Chrissie Robinson on 862825.

MAYFIELD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Evening meetings will resume at 8pm in the Mayfield Scout and Guide Hut on Wednesday 30th 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

commences at 7.00pm with a brief session of branch business which will incorporate the 2024 AGM, followed by a fish and chip supper (or chicken or scampi) at a cost of £8.00. All guests and non-members are very welcome. There is no fee for attendance and we would dearly love to see new faces at this branch meeting. I think you would enjoy the evening in convivial surroundings with bar, speaker and pre-ordered supper. If you are interested or would like more information, please telephone/e-mail me or our secretary Rosemary Lillywhite 872130. Also please let us know if you would like to join us and to advise your meal choice by 21st October.

Our supper will be followed with a **talk by 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. Come along and learn more!

Soup and Social Lunch - Wednesday 27th November - Mayfield Cricket Club. As the name suggests this will be a very simple format of a choice of homemade soups and French bread at a modest price of £3 per head. Doors open at 12 noon and the bar will be open until 2.30pm. We hope that this will provide a welcome opportunity for social interaction between members and guests, without the formality of a speaker or our usual Branch meetings. Please could you contact Rosemary Lillywhite to confirm your attendance, so that we can ensure we have sufficient soup available! (email:

withatwist@btinternet.com or telephone: 872130)



Next Branch Meeting - Wednesday 23rd October at Mayfield Cricket Club. The bar opens at 6.30pm and the meeting

The Mayfield and Five Ashes Branch Website – We have an on-line facility which can be accessed at: <https://branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/mayfield>

Kevin Swaine 872197 / 07970 787465
kevinswaine@btinternet.com

A CAPTIVATING AUTUMN PROGRAMME OF MUSIC EVENTS TO DELIGHT THE SENSES

The Mayfield Festival may be over for another two years but the music goes on. Four events in Mayfield during the autumn provide something for lovers of classical music to look forward to with world class performers once again to the fore.

Following his masterful direction of the performance of all six of J. S. Bach's Brandenburg Concertos at the 2024 Mayfield Festival, the Harpsichord virtuoso Jack Gonzalez-Harding returns to Mayfield to continue his association with the works of the greatest of baroque composers on Sunday 29th September, when he performs the Goldberg Variations. These monumental pieces set a standard to which keyboard players aspire and they showcase Bach's ability to produce compositions of both deep intimacy and profound joy. This concert will take place in the Chapel of Mayfield Girls School by candlelight. Tickets are £20 (free for age 25 and under).

Three weeks later, on Saturday 19th October, MGS once again plays host, this time in the Concert Hall, when we welcome back to Mayfield six of the section winners of this year's Tunbridge Wells International Music Competition. Comprising the best of a strong field, all this year's section winners are already performing at professional concert standard and some could well go on to

become stars of the world of classical music (as many previous winners of the Competition have done). The ticket price of £12.50 (free for age 25 and under) represents a bargain opportunity to see some outstanding young musicians in performance.

On 17th November St. Dunstan's Church plays host to the Mayfield Festival Choir for their autumn concert. With performances of Vivaldi's *Beatus Vir*, Lotti's *Missa Sancti Christophori* and Handel's *Ode to St. Cecilia* this promises to be a



Jack Gonzalez-Harding

special night. The box office will open on the 6th October, when ticket prices will be announced (<https://www.mayfieldfestivalchoir.org/tickets/>).

Concerts by the Choir have a habit of selling out so make sure that you book your tickets early.

Closing the autumn concert programme on 14th December is that perennial and seasonal favourite, Handel's *Messiah*. Featuring the world-famous London Mozart Players, Mayfield Consort, St. Dunstan's Parish Church Choir and superb soloists, all conducted by Jack Gonzalez-Harding, an evening of magnificent music

and outstanding performance awaits in St. Dunstan's Church. Ticket prices are £30, £15 and £10 (free for age 25 and under).

The box office for the Goldberg Variations, Winners Concert and Messiah is already open and tickets can be purchased:

Online: <https://ticketsource.co.uk/mayfieldfestival>

By telephone: 0333 666 3366 (quoting Mayfield Festival)

In Person: Sew Inspired, High Street, Mayfield and Lambert & Foster, High Street, Wadhurst

A booking fee applies to payments made by debit card and credit card and an additional postal service fee applies to tickets that are sent from TicketSource by Royal Mail.

MAYFIELD GOLFING SOCIETY

What a summer we have had weather-wise. 28 golfers ventured down to the lovely Cooden Beach Golf Club near Bexhill, after heavy overnight rain. Although the day was dry, hot and muggy, golf was interrupted by a Typhoon!

This was followed by a very loud Thunderbolt. More evidence for global warming (as if needed)? No, the Eastbourne Air Show was taking place at the same time so we were treated to a succession of war planes flying above us.

Scores were mostly good. In the individual competition for the Mayfield Cup, there were 4 players clustered on 39 points. This wasn't quite good enough because there were 2 better scores. In second place with 40 points was our sometime Sri Lankan visitor Alan Bond. But the surprising winner took the trophy with 41 points. Surprising because it was only Scott Wightman's second event after recently joining the society, and no-one has ever heard of a

Scotsman admitting to having a handicap of 30! Not for much longer.

There were 7 teams of 4 with the best 3 scores on each hole to count to the team score. A poll before the event correctly predicted the winning Dream Team who came in with 130 points. Not so much a competition, but more of a procession as they won by a clear margin of 3 points. The team members were Alan Bigley, Pete Smith, Graham Meadows and Rob Weavers.

Our next event is at Royal Ashdown Forest (West Course) on Thursday 19th September - see Mayfieldgolfingsociety.com for details.

Mark Hughes

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

For more information and to see what other adult and kids' programmes are available - please visit www.phnetball.com

Polly Howell

MAYFIELD BAND

We are now well and truly into our quiet season, with just one wedding to go. We are working towards a concert in October which we will be performing jointly with our friends at Lingfield Silver Band, in Lingfield, and we hope to replicate this in

Mayfield in the autumn. In the meantime, we'll be at the Know Your Village event on 28th September at St. Dunstan's, so come and have a chat if you want to find out more about the band. We'll have a few instruments with us, so you can also have a blow. Be careful though, you might get hooked.

Mayfield Youth Band

As the new term is now upon us, don't forget that the most important part of your child's education by a country mile is learning to play a musical instrument. It's the foundation stone on which everything else can be built. Cellist Yo-Yo Mar said "Music enhances the education of our children by helping them to make connections and broadening the depth with which they think and feel", and there's a truck load of science that backs that up. It's just not worth risking it. Speak to me or speak to your school to find out about the opportunities. If you come to us, we will provide the instruments, and your children can learn in a fun group environment, where they can make new friendships, and open the door to a lifetime of joy. Ideal starting age is 7-8 upwards, but it's down to the individual, and of equal importance, parental support.

Simon Rudge 872007

simon@mayfieldband.co.uk

MAYFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Seedy Saturday 2025

If it seems early to remind you of next year's Seedy Saturday seed swap and social on 1st February, it's because September and October are ideal times to start saving your own seed to sow or swap next year. Easy flowers to try are cosmos,

poppies and marigolds; wildflowers: yellow rattle, oxeye daisy and tufted vetch; vegetables: peas, beans, squash and tomatoes. First dry them well and then label and store in a sealed envelope. Don't forget to write down the variety if you know it and date collected!

Summer Show Review

It was a dry and warm day for the Summer Show on 20th July, and the Scout Hall was redolent with the scent of sweet peas and roses. Outside, visitors were seated at tables enjoying the sunshine and our glorious views over Court Meadow while the Friends of the Primary School worked flat out serving their lovely teas.

Such an amazing floral display this year from you all, we were bowled over at the quality and number of entries. It was so pleasing to see so many new entrants and winners of cups and rosettes, we'll be looking out for you again next year! Which just goes to show, having a look around to see what you can enter pays

d i v i d e n d s !

Vegetable entries were down a little, but this was understandable as a result of the abysmal weather we have been experiencing until recently. However, there was some inspired floristry as well as stunning photographs and beautiful craft items. Did you spot the children's fruit animals? So



cute! So many lemon curd entries; what's going on? - has this suddenly become trendy?! And tea bread galore, apparently, they all tasted different!

A big vote of thanks goes to the Show Committee whose preparation throughout the year has paid off in spades to create a fabulous Show - and not to forget our main committee and other helpers, who helped create what is always a very special day.

Here are the cup winners:

Perpetual Challenge Cup (Tray of veg)
Hulbert-Powell Cup (Best veg exhibit)
Perpetual Challenge Cup (Best fruit)
Perpetual Challenge Cup (Sweet Peas)
Wolstenholme Cup (Flowers - Novice)
Margaret Walsh-Atkins Rose Bowl
Dahlia Cup (Best dahlia)
John Hancock Cup (Best rose)
Sneyd-Kinnersley Cup (Best flowers)
Perpetual Challenge Cup (Floral Art)
Monteith Cup (Floral Art)
Godber Cup (Best domestic exhibit)
Allchin Cup (Best Craft Exhibit)
Sew Inspired Children's Cup
Newington Memorial Cup (Best photo)
George Day Memorial Bowl
Perpetual Challenge Cup (miniature garden)
William Wicken Cup (vase wildflowers)
Children's Cup (best exhibit)

Ken Audsley
Ken Audsley
Graham Holland
Sarah Ratcliffe
Emma Dumas - first time winner
Nicky Cluny
Sarah Boorman
Sarah Ratcliffe
Tessa Crowe
Annabelle Lancaster
Mandy Savage - first time winner
Carol Audsley
Alison Robertson - first time winner
Lilly Phillips - first time winner
Andrew Ratcliffe
Rex Wood
Rex Wood
Brodie Wood - first time winner
Sebi Scott - first time winner

It seems hard to believe that our autumn series of talks starts again next month; we've put together some really interesting speakers. Here are the first two:

Tuesday 17th September 7.30 for 8.00,
Colkins Mill Church Brad Draga-Williams,
Conservation Officer, Wadhurst Park -
Putting Nature First. Wadhurst Park have
been leading the way locally for many
years in environmentally friendly gardening
and are keen to engage with the
community in sharing their knowledge.

Tuesday 15th October 7.30 for 8.00,
Colkins Mill Church Len Bernamont,
Bateman's - Kipling's influence and
maintenance of the gardens today

Tessa Crowe

www.mayfieldhorticulturalsociety.org.uk
chair@mayfieldhorticulturalsociety.org.uk





NEWS FROM FIVE ASHES

FIVE ASHES HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

A very successful Summer Show was held at Five Ashes Village Hall on 27th July. Everything went as planned with the weather being almost perfect. Entries were very slightly down on last year with the main difference being in Division 1 (veg, fruit and flowers) no doubt reflecting the difficult (strange) weather this year. We humans haven't known what to expect from one day to the next – confusing for us, let alone plants. An alternate way of looking at it is that it was a victory to overcome those conditions and produce an entry.

The judges remarked on the high quality of the entries in all Divisions and it was a pleasure to see the Hall filled with colour. The trophies were presented as follows:-



Banksian Medal
The President's Cup
Jim Dickson Cup
Warren Floral Cup
Ticehurst Cup
Falkenstein Cup
Wakefield Cup
Alfred Harman Cup
Five Ashes Plate
The Hartfield Trophy

Children's Trophies:

Amy Phillipson Memorial Trophy
Hitchcock Cup
Pennington/Riley Prize
McDonnell Cup
Fenner Cup
A.C. Hemsley Cup

Classes 1 - 46.
Classes 47 - 52
Classes 2 - 25
Classes 26 - 40
Class 1
Classes 54 - 70
Classes 71 - 78
Classes 47 - 52
Classes 79 - 82
Class 102

Class 53
Classes 1-82 & 101-102
Classes 84 - 87
Classes 88 - 91
Classes 92 - 95
Classes 96 - 99

Ken Audsley
Kay White
Karena Wrightson
Karen Green
Ken Audsley
Susanna Parker
Susanna Parker
Kay White
Susanna Parker
Seb Baker

Emily Strong
Emily Strong
Sophie Baker
Emily Strong
Sophie Baker
Sophie Baker

Both inside the Halls and outside on the Playing Field there was lots of entertainment, plenty to eat and drink, Wealden Brass to listen to, a Fun Dog Show, stalls and attractions and sports. All visitors seemed to enjoy themselves. We now look forward to the Village Pumpkin and Schoolchildren's Pumpkin growing competitions followed by our AGM on 9th October in Five Ashes Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Graham Playfoot, 01825 830511

FIVE ASHES HORTICULTURAL SHOW



All images by Bex Kemp

ENERGY EXPO, FIVE ASHES VILLAGE HALL - COME AND MEET "EDDI"

Five years ago, the Village Hall committee introduced a number of energy-saving measures into the building with a view to overall cost reduction for the running of the building as well as reducing the overall demand of the energy required to run it. The opportunity arose to incorporate a number of technologies into the redevelopment of the building after the successful bid to the National Lottery. The most recent investment was the installation of further solar panels to complement the existing ones and battery storage to make use of stored energy to offset some of the demand required to run the building overnight. As part of the new installation an "Eddi" was installed which monitored production from the panels and diverted some of this to the immersion heater to provide hot water for the building. On **Sunday October 6th**, starting at 10.30am, the Hall will be open to anyone who wishes to come and view the various energy saving and generation systems we have in place. There will be a short formal introduction to our strategy in The Ash Hall followed by the opportunity to view the equipment and talk to Energy advisers afterwards. Please come along and take the opportunity to hear about the potential for your own situation. We will be featuring :- Air source heat pumps; Solar panels; Battery storage; Energy Diverter; Led Lighting; Underfloor heating; Motion sensors.

Geoff Gregory

HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

Sign up for Hospice Run – Sunday 15th September

From experienced athletes to families looking for fun on a Sunday, Hospice Run has something for everyone. Setting off from 8am at Lower Common Cricket Ground, Tunbridge Wells, there are four routes including a half marathon, 10k, 5k and Family Fun Run. Special guest Paralympian Will Bayley will be there to offer words of encouragement, followed by a warm-up from fitness trainer Ollie McCarthy and rousing support from Old School Samba. All funds raised support Hospice in the Weald's free care for people facing terminal illness and their loved ones. Register at [hospiceintheweald/events](https://hospiceintheweald.org.uk/events).

Cottage Hospice Update

Hospice in the Weald has temporarily consolidated all in-patient care to the Ward at its Hospice in Pembury. While Cottage Hospice in Five Ashes continues to offer outpatient appointments, counselling and other support, all in-patient care is being provided from Pembury for the time being, rather than across the two sites. Paul Madden, the Hospice's Director of Care Services, said: "Hospice in the Weald finds itself in a similar position to many other hospices and healthcare settings across the UK experiencing staffing challenges. We are actively working to address this and re-doubling our recruitment efforts so that in-patient admissions at Cottage Hospice can resume as soon as possible." The Hospice is seeking staff to join its dedicated team. Paul explained: "We would love to hear from experienced registered nurses and paramedics to deliver outstanding end-of-life care. It's a great opportunity to spend precious time with patients and their loved ones and provide care that counts." To find out more about the roles on offer, visit [hospiceintheweald/joinourteam](https://hospiceintheweald.org.uk/joinourteam).

Sue Massey Communications & PR Manager - (Mon -Thurs) 07563 382427

MEDIEVAL FIVE ASHES

Advance notice of a talk by Tim Cornish on Saturday 9th November at 7.0pm in aid of Village Hall funds. The area has its own distinctive history, even before the first use of the name in 1498.

WHATS ON AT FIVE ASHES VILLAGE HALL

Monday	Strength Class	08:30 - 09:30	Tanya tanyarundlept@gmail.com
	Art Club	10:00 - 12:30	Faye fayeheller@btinternet.com
	SoloTones, Singing and Vocal Coach	18:00 - 19:00	Gemma contact@SoloTones.co.uk
	Ideal Performing Arts	18:00 - 20:00	Lucy - 07876 324351 www.idealperformingarts.co.uk
	Table Tennis Club	20:15 - 21:30	Sue suewren@sky.com
Tuesday	Pilates	08:30 - 09:30	Linsey linseyhodgepilates@gmail.com
	Pilates	18:15 - 19:30	Shelley shelleywoodhams555@gmail.com
	Hatha Yoga	19:30 - 20:30	Rose-Zita purposeyoga7@gmail.com
	Mayfield Wine Society	Monthly, Last Tuesday - 7pm	Patrick patrickmason1@btinternet.com
Wednesday	Pilates	09:00 - 10:00	Alex alexorgill@icloud.com
	Discofit Gold - Fitness Dance	10:00 - 11:00	Vicky missvickyhayes@gmail.com
	Mayfacs - Tea and Chat	14:00 - 15:00	2nd & 4th Wednesday of month 01435 873888
	Heathfield Fitcamp	18:30 - 19:30	Ash & Jess jess.bates25@yahoo.com
	Studio Dance	18:50 - 19:50	Natalie - 07787 434162 www.studiondance.co.uk
Thursday	Happy Tai Chi	09:15 - 10:15	Tara happytaichi@btinternet.com
	Pilates	10:30 - 11:30/17:00 - 18:00	Alex alexorgill@icloud.com
	Baby Explorers - multi-sensory classes 0 - 13months		Kate www.babyexplorers.com
	Happy Tai Chi	19:00 - 20:00	Tara happytaichi@btinternet.com
	Mayfield U3A	Monthly - 3rd Thursday 2pm	Mary marybrentnallu3a@gmail.com
	Five Ashes Rifle Club	19:00 - 21:30	Paul pa_1969@hotmail.co.uk
Friday	Film on Friday	Mayfacs 13:30 - 16:30	Mayfacs manager@mayfacs.org.uk
	Film on Friday - Film Club	19:00 - 22:00	Andrew filmonfriday@googlemai.com
	Ideal Performing Arts	18:00 - 20:00	Lucy - 07876 324351 lucy@idealperformingarts.uk

Some dates of events coming up:-

Sunday 6th October 10am:- **Five Ashes Village Hall Open Morning**

Saturday 19th October:- **Mayfield Bonfire Boyes and Belles Quiz Night**

Tuesday 12th November 7pm-8.15pm:- We are delighted to welcome the **UK Owl and Raptor Centre** (based at Groombridge Place) back again with their wonderful presentation "An Evening with Owls". It is a magical evening in the company of beautiful owls. From little to large, step into their world as they fly just inches over your head. Discover the hidden lives of these secretive birds as we travel the world meeting owls from frozen forests and sunbaked grasslands. Book tickets online now at www.owlandraptorcentre.co.uk Five Ashes Village Hall is available for the whole community to hire. Details about the hall can be found on the website: <https://fiveashesvillagehall.wixsite.com/fiveashesvillagehall>

To book the Hall either use the contact form on the website or email:

5asheshallbooking@gmail.com

Penny Kemp 07858 808030

WADHURST AND HEATHFIELD WINDOW

WADHURST AND DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB (NAFAS)

Following the summer break, our meetings will return on Thursday September 5th. This will be a members meeting; all attending have been asked to bring a floral design depicting An Animal! Imaginations may be stretched but it should be fun. In October and November demonstrations featuring Rainbows and Pantomime have been organised. Plans are already being made for the Christmas lunch and demonstration. A full programme for 2025 has been organised. Flowers and friendship are to be enjoyed by all, so why don't YOU come along and see for yourself what joy they bring. No experience is necessary, beginners are extremely welcome. Meetings are held monthly in Stonegate Village Hall at 1.45pm. For more information please contact Sonia 01892 785671 Or Debbie 882851. We look forward to hearing from you.

WADHURST BOWLS CLUB

I usually enjoy writing these reports as it gives me a chance to showcase Wadhurst Bowls as a club with a superb playing surface, and revel in the club's successes in matches and leagues.

However this month, well quite frankly, a wheel or two has fallen off! We lost the Border Challenge Trophy to arch-rivals Hawkhurst over a two legged final and our 'B' team got relegated from the Tunbridge Wells Triples League Division 1. If that wasn't bad enough, we also lost out on our 'A' team winning the same league on shot difference to Paddock Wood. Such are our standards; we feel that last month was a disaster! But it also shows we are human and subject to all the usual human frailties – despair, despondency, humiliation regret and.... Hold on, things aren't that bad! We lost a couple of games, that's all. We still

lead the Horam League going into the final month and have a game in hand over second-placed Cross-in-Hand. Come on Wadhurst, you can do it!

Our twenty new bowlers had their own competition this year and fought out a final, for a big trophy donated by Autumn Financial Planning. Big thanks to Kieron Robertson of AFP for supporting the competition and the club.

One huge thank-you to our club coach, Malcolm. Malcolm contacted all our new bowlers and offered them individual coaching sessions prior to their first game in the Newbie Cup. A mammoth undertaking for one man who devotes his time tirelessly to the club, but more importantly to new members, wanting them to have the best bowls experience they can. Well Done, Malcolm!

Over the next few weeks, we will host the Wadhurst Warriors on their first visit for a 'social' evening of bowls and the Dale Hill Greenkeepers who want to give bowls a go. (Personally, I think they just want to get some tips on how we maintain our green to such a high standard!). Still time to join the fun and have a free bowls session or two – give Laurence a call on 07714 935915 www.wadhurstbc.com

THE ARTS SOCIETY HEATHFIELD & WALDRON

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. For queries, please contact Anne Greenaway on 408635.

Tuesday 10th September - Anne Haworth – 'Art, Architecture and Style in Old Shanghai'

Tuesday 8th October - Steven Barrett – 'Art, to Smile or not to Smile'

Tuesday 12th November - Sarah Ciacchi – 'The Profitable Art of Flattery 2024: Reynolds, Gainsborough & Portraiture in the 18th Century'

Tuesday 10th 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

Penny Spurrell

OBITUARY

JENNIFER BOXALL

(An extract from the Eulogy given by Patrick, son of Jennie and Richard)

Jen, Jennie, the Jenster, "Jennifer". Granny, Mother, Mom. DJB, Jennie Bee, DJ Jennie B. Jen was known by a lot of names by the many people whose lives she touched, across time and across three continents and beyond. How do you distil anyone's life into a few words, let alone someone whose life, like Jen's, touched so many? Let me also say upfront that in trying to think this through, another complicating factor was the close relationship Jen had

with Richard over the last 65+ years. They were a model for me, and I am sure others. Full of sage advice, like don't go to bed on an argument (easier said than done), and an example of how to treat each other (most of the time). I am not sure exactly what their secret was, but they were a team. And, this makes it all the more difficult to know exactly where one's influence stopped and the other's started. That all said, I thought I would focus on three different characteristics that I think capture Jennie.

The first is creativity. I think every one of us will remember fondly the personal flare she brought to everything she did. Whether it was a special brooch. Or scarf. A flash of pink. Or a hat when no one else was wearing one. She had her own style. She loved art and was herself an accomplished artist. Taking up painting when she moved to the United States, she demonstrated a real talent. This echoed earlier artistic outlets – for example, dance and dressmaking. She also loved music and singing. Under the heading creativity, I also put Jen's many entrepreneurial and professional endeavours. Over the years these included modelling, fitness instruction, makeup sales, interior design, and writing a magazine column – all of which she was passionate about and any of which I am sure she could have championed. Frequently circumstances intervened, and putting family first, she moved in a different direction.

Which brings me to the second characteristic, and perhaps the most important – generosity. Jennie was an extraordinarily generous person, giving of her time, good humour, and love, especially when it came to her family and friends.

When work demanded that Richard moved within the UK, then to the USA, then back,

Jennie helped carve out a new life with each move.

We didn't make it easy for her by living so far apart, but Jennie had a gravitational pull that strengthened the bond between the many branches of our family. And, while not as frequent as she would have liked, shared family occasions were really important to Jen. She also showed her generosity in the friendships she forged. Jen was capable of making friends anywhere – in church, in a doctor's office, on a bus, in the checkout at the supermarket. Jennie was the kind of person who drew people in. And she rewarded everyone she met with genuine interest, openness, and sometimes brutal honesty.

Which brings me to the last characteristic I wanted to highlight, and for want a of better word, that is tenacity. Jen was tenacious in everything she did. She had a very clear vision of how things should look, or what people should do, and she was not shy about expressing her opinion and seeing something through the way she saw fit. She liked it the way she liked it. If she was thinking something, you could be pretty sure she'd say it out loud.

Raising children was an area she had lots of ideas that she was glad to express. When we moved into our new house 25+ years ago, Jen insisted on helping us "organise" the cupboard we use to store towels, using a permanent black pen to add labels on the shelves with phrases like "cloaks hands" and "face child" that make absolutely no sense to an American. And, by the way, who writes in pen all over her son and daughter in-law's new house? Every time I see it, Jen's "graffiti" brings a smile to my face.

As we bookend Jen's life, I am reminded of my first living memory, which not surprisingly featured Jen. I must have been

about 3 years old and starting pre-school and I was scared. This was the last thing I wanted to do. As Jen dressed me that morning on the landing, in sunshine, looking through the window toward the pre-school, she said exactly the right things to convince me that while it was going to be hard, it was what I needed to do, and it was going to be OK.

Of course, this is what Mothers do. But what has really struck me over the last few days as I have remembered this "bookend" in my own life is that Jen had reached the same conclusions about her next chapter: while it was going to be hard, it was what she needed to do, and she was going to be OK.

As we say goodbye, the same goes for the rest of us, too.

MAYFACS

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

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

Bank Details: (for donations, payments of
trips and activities) Mayfield & Five Ashes
Community Services (MAYFACS)

Account No 00029924 Sort Code 40-52-40

September News

**Little Munchkins Baby and Toddler
Group will resume Wednesday 4th
September.** Every Wednesday (term time)
from 9am – 11am for just £3 per family! All
carers, grandparents and parents are very
welcome!

**Know Your Parish St. Dunstan's 10.30am
– 1.30pm – Saturday 28th September**

MAYFACS will be attending this event and
would love to chat to anyone interested in

what we do, who we are, how you can get
involved or support us! Please do support
this fabulous idea to find out about all the
opportunities available within our Parish
from many different organisations.

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. If you need any advice or
help, come into the office and chat with us.

"Living With Dementia" Training

Available for up to 24 people 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

Create @ The Shed! Youth Sessions

Next Session Saturday 7th September:
Acrylic Still Life Painting 10am – 12.30pm -





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 or contact us on 01435 873888.

for any young people (secondary school suggested ages) interested in getting involved in exploring new skills, being creative and hanging out with like-minded people. Exploring art, music and tech, sessions take place every 1st Saturday of the Month. Booking is essential for each session with limited spaces available. Email us on create@mayfacs.org.uk to secure your place. Suggested donations cover basic materials and are kept to a minimum with funding support MAYFACS receive (and will vary depending on the activity organised). If you would like to attend but need further financial support, please get in touch to discuss. For more information please visit our website.

Art At The Shed – 4th Friday of every month. Next Session: Friday 27th September 10am – 12pm. **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

Our next **Repair Café** will take place at MAYFACS Shed on Saturday 14th September between 10am – 1pm (last repairs accepted 12.15pm)

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. **Please note change of normal week to avoid clashing with the Bonfire Boyes and Belles Carnival.**

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 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

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

There were no Council meetings in August apart from one Planning Committee meeting. **One of the important matters residents may wish to remember to do in September, if they haven't already, is to respond to the Fire Authority's consultation on the options for our On-Call Fire Station.** The Fire Authority's consultation is open until Friday 27th September and it can be responded to online with the following link: <https://www.esfrs.org/mayfield>. Please also note that paper copies of the background information and consultation forms are available in the Parish Council office in Mayfield High Street if this is your preferred method to respond.

There are two public sessions arranged in September that you can attend should you wish to: **Saturday 7th** in the Scout Hall, Tunbridge Wells Road, Mayfield TN20 6NT (Court

Meadow recreation ground). The first session is at 2pm and the second session at 3pm. To help manage numbers at the venue, please use the link below to book or call during office hours on 0303 999 1000 or Minicom 01323 462 003.

Priority will be given to those living in and around Mayfield. <https://forms.office.com/e/iT8SLkEcq8>

Vandalism

During August the Five Ashes play area was found to have been vandalised with graffiti and black paint over equipment forcing the area to be closed. This is especially upsetting for everyone who enjoy the area during the school summer holidays. It has of course been reported to Sussex Police. If anyone has any information they can share, or saw the damage being done and can help try to identify the culprits, please telephone the office on 873784 or email clerk@mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk

Parish Council grants

One of the important roles of the Parish Council is to provide grants to organisations within the Parish to help them move forward with their own projects. Our grants policy can be found on the Parish Council website at www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk in the "Key Documents / Finance" section along with the approved grant application form. Individual grants may be made available up to a maximum of £500. They must be match funded, so applicants must cover at least 50% of the total project cost.

If you are planning to apply for a grant in 2025/26, the latest date your application and requested financial information must be submitted is 30th September. If you do not have internet access, please contact

the Parish Council office on 873784, so that a copy of the grants policy and application form can be provided.

South Street Public Conveniences

We are still looking for someone to take over the caretaking of the public conveniences while the current caretaker is indisposed. It involves unlocking and locking the toilets each day and cleaning which takes about an hour. Please contact the office on 873784 or please email clerk@mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk for information on what is required and remuneration.

Temporary Road Closure Warnings:

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

Froghole Lane: Information provided at the time of writing this article is that there is a provisional agreement to allow East Sussex Highways to carry out culvert upgrade works to take place from 30th September 2024 to 8th November 2024 (up to 40 days). This will be dependent on further details being finalised for the permit and permit conditions. At this stage, they are unable to confirm the working hours and start / finish dates. Advance warning signs however will be placed on site, advising of actual date of works.

Street Learning – for September 2024 to March 2025 Wealden residents, aged 19 and above, can attend a range of free or low-cost academic, wellbeing, and practical courses. They are designed to help residents boost their confidence, employment opportunities, develop existing skills, learn something new or meet new people. The courses are delivered in community venues located



throughout the district including Uckfield, Heathfield, Hailsham, and Crowborough. Some courses are also available online. The new programme for September 2024 to March 2025 is available using the following link:

<https://adult.escg.ac.uk/adult-courses/community-and-engagement/adult-community-learning>. Alternatively, you can request a hard copy by post by emailing streetlearning@wealden.gov.uk

Electric Blanket Testing This Autumn

Bring your electric blanket along for a FREE safety check at any of the following events. If you are unable to attend, please ask a friend or neighbour to bring your blanket for you.

East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service working with partners for your safety.

Monday 14th October Heathfield Fire Station - High Street, Heathfield, TN21 0UP 10.00am - 12.00pm
Mayfield Fire Station Tunbridge Wells Road, TN20 6PJ 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Free Green Gym Sessions and Health Walks

Wealden has recently partnered with The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) to deliver a series of health and wellbeing focused conservation activities. TCV deliver weekly guided health walks and Green Gym sessions along the Cuckoo Trail, completely free for residents to join and get involved. The programme of activities will be running until 31st March 2025. Every Tuesday, the Cuckoo Trail group health walk will begin at 10.30am, starting at different points along the trail each week. These walks are a great way to get outside, meet new people and learn about the local area. Each walk will be an hour long and suitable for any ability. The Green Gym sessions will take place every Wednesday and Thursday 10am-1pm, from July. Green Gyms are a fantastic way to get

active and meet people in your community, whilst improving the local area. Each Green Gym session will be three hours long with a range of activities at varying locations along the Cuckoo Trail. To find out more or book onto an activity, contact Becky Lewis on 07483045706 or email: rebecca.lewis@tcv.org.uk.

Joint Community Rehabilitation

East Sussex County Council has asked for information to be circulated about this recruitment campaign. If you are a kind-hearted individual who wants to make a real impact, imagine helping someone get back on their feet and regain their confidence after illness or injury and think about joining the Joint Community Rehabilitation (JCR) team as a Support Worker. As a Support Worker, you will visit people in their homes and help them regain confidence and independence after hospital stays. No formal qualifications are needed, just a caring nature and the ability to drive. Contact: <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/jobs/choose-east-sussex> and Adult Social Care.

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

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	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 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

SEPTEMBER

Thursday	5	Wadhurst and District Flower Club	Stonegate Village Hall, 1.45pm
Saturday	7	Crowborough Open Studios	Locations in Mayfield
Sunday	8	Crowborough Open Studios	Locations in Mayfield
Tuesday	10	Heathfield & Waldron Arts Society	Heathfield Community Centre, 2.15pm
Tuesday	10	Mayfield Evening WI	7.15pm Colkins Mill Church
Tuesday	10	The Arts Society, Wealden. Talk by Anne Haworth	Heathfield Community Centre, 2.15pm
Tuesday	17	Mayfield Horticultural Society	Colkins Mill Church, 7.30
Thursday	19	Mayfield Golfing Society	Royal Ashdown Forest
Friday	20	Film On Friday	Five Ashes Hall 7.45pm
Saturday	21	Bonfire Society Carnival	War Memorial 6.45pm
Saturday	28	Know Your Parish	St. Dunstan's Church 10.30am-1.30pm
Sunday	29	Goldberg Variations	Mayfield Girls School

OCTOBER

Thursday-Sunday	3-6	"Bad Wednesday"	Melford House 3pm & 7.30pm
Sunday	6	Energy Expo	Five Ashes Village Hall 10.30am
Sunday	6	St. Dunstan's Parish Walk	2pm
Tuesday	8	Heathfield & Waldron Arts Society	Heathfield 2.15pm
Wednesday	9	Five Ashes Horticultural Society pumpkin competition & AGM	Five Ashes Village Hall 7.30pm
Tuesday	15	Mayfield Horticultural Society	Colkins Mill Church, 7.30
Saturday	19	Flu Clinic - appointment required	Five Ashes Hall
Saturday	19	Music Concert	MGs Concert Hall
Saturday	19	Bonfire Society Quiz	Five Ashes Village Hall
Wednesday	23	RBL Meeting	Mayfield Cricket Club 6.30pm
Wednesday	30	Mayfield Local History Society	Scout Hut 8pm



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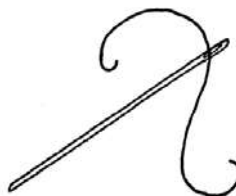
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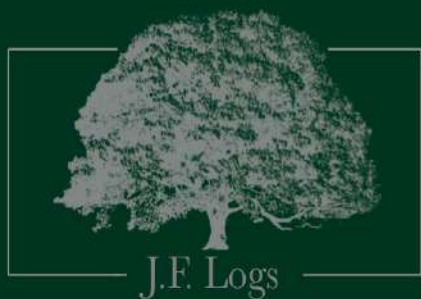
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