
FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

June is bustin' out all over!
 The feelin' is getting so intense
 That the young Virginia creepers
 Have been huggin' the bejeeppers
 Outa all the mornin'-glories on the fence
 Because it's June!
 June, June, June
 (Rogers & Hammerstein from "Carousel")

The wonderful, witty words of this song burst with the excitement and exuberance that June brings. Think of June and we suspect that at least some of these will come to mind; gardens a riot of colour and the first roses in bloom, bees buzzing, the aromas of a barbecue wafting over the garden fence, sunrise and the dawn chorus before 5am, the lovely long evenings especially at midsummer, summer hats, garden fêtes, the sweet sound of the cricket bat middling the ball, the whack of tennis balls, the chink of glasses containing something chilled (lager, Pimms, white wine), the jingle of the ice cream van, cream teas, confetti and June brides. As someone said spring being a tough act to follow, "God created June". Another lovely quote – "if a June night could talk it would probably boast that it invented romance".

June is bustin' out all over!
 The saplin's are bustin' out with sap!
 Love he's found my brother, Junior,
 And my sister's even loonier!
 And my Ma is gettin' kittenish with Pap!

June is bustin' out all over
 The moonlight is shining on the shore
 And the girls who were contrary
 With the boys in January
 Aren't nearly so contrary anymore!

There is much to enjoy locally this June – check out the diary page for details – but particular highlights include the Argos Hill Windmill Open Day (2nd June), Mayfield Open Gardens (10-11th June), the Charity Lunch in aid of the Jo Cox Foundation (16th June) and the St. Dunstan's Summer Fête (17th June). Whatever you do may you enjoy June to the full and may the sun shine for you. "Because it's June! June, June, June."

Andrew Watson & Jeanette Hore Editors

MAYFIELD & FIVE ASHES PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Annual Parish Meeting: At the time of writing this article the Annual Parish Meeting on 22 May had not yet been held. In case you were unable to attend the Chairman's report review of the last year follows:

One of our Councillors for Five Ashes had to tender his resignation due to work commitments in 2016 and we fortunately managed to co-opt a replacement Councillor at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May. Eleanor McDonnell-Slater has lived in Five Ashes for around 25 years and is a member of the Five Ashes Village Hall Committee and an honorary member of the Five Ashes Horticultural Society. She is looking forward to getting involved as a Parish Councillor and giving something back to the local community. Welcome on board Cllr McDonnell-Slater.

The overflow car park at the Mayfield Memorial Hall/ Court Meadow is now being well used, enabling residents and visitors to park off the village streets. New signs have been introduced at the entrance to Court Meadow enabling visitors to locate the Scout and Guide Hall, the Memorial Hall and the Pre-school. We have been looking at improving disabled access in Mayfield High Street with the possibility of introducing a dropped kerb opposite the church.

I am sure you will have noticed a lack of local police 'on the beat' since the PCSO was removed and hence the continued parking problems we all are enduring. This includes parking on double yellow lines, parking at junctions, on pavements and overstaying the two-hour parking restriction in Mayfield High Street. Until Civil Parking Enforcement is introduced, if anyone has any new, bright ideas, about how to solve the parking problems in our villages, please let the Clerk know.

The floral displays along the High Street last summer were well received and will continue this year. Thank you to my Clerk and Councillors who did all the hard work for this. This year we will be adding new planters on the barriers in South Street car park, a flowerbed alongside the overflow car park in Court Meadow and a new floral display in Five Ashes. The village sign that was damaged in the storm has been repaired with the final section being installed in time for the Mayfair. A huge thank you to Chris Farmer for all his assistance with this and to Cllr Marsh.

We are trying to reduce the amount of business rates that we have to pay on the South Street toilets. We have asked for our Members of Parliament, Nus Ghani and Huw Merriman to support us with this. The public conveniences continue to be very well used and are kept very clean so many thanks to our Caretaker. Thank you also to our Litter Picker who does an excellent job along the streets, in Court Meadow and South Street car park.

We continue to support the High Street Christmas lights that were much improved this year and the late night Christmas shopping was a great success. A new Village Website is being formulated which we hope will give everyone more insight into what is happening in the villages. It is also hoped it will help to increase visitors and tourism.

In June we arranged a village picnic at Court Meadow to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. The contingency plan for bad weather had to be put in place so the celebrations were held in the Memorial Hall and Scout and Guide Hall instead. Despite all the rain it was very well attended and all who joined in had a good time.

We are still awaiting the reduction in speed limit to 40mph on the A267 to be introduced at Argos Hill. When it is implemented the speed restriction in Bicycle Arms Lane will also be reduced to 40mph with a length restriction for HGV's. We are also looking at ways to calm traffic through Five Ashes.

We continue to liaise with East Sussex Highways to repair potholes, clean drains and gullies etc as they arise. A number of our side roads were resurfaced during the year and we are hopeful that some of the remaining ones that are in a very poor condition will also be repaired.

As part of our ongoing maintenance programme, several of the roadside fingerposts have been either replaced or refurbished. The two traditional telephone kiosks at Love Lane and opposite the Rose and Crown have also been refurbished. We are looking into converting these to tourist information points.

The second tranche of the upgrade of streetlights to LED commenced during the year. The new light units are more environmentally friendly and we have seen our energy costs significantly reduce already. The few final remaining streetlights will be upgraded shortly.

Wealden District Council's new Local Plan continues to be at the forefront of all new planning decisions because of the significant reduction in housing numbers now required due to nitrogen deposition in Ashdown Forest. If approved, the majority of housing will be distributed away from Ashdown Forest to the south of the District. Councillors have been informed that any new planning applications within the District will need to show that they will not generate any additional vehicle movements in order to be considered for approval. The new draft Local Plan stipulates that there are no allocations for housing development being pursued in Mayfield or Five Ashes and we have been informed that each new planning application will have to be considered on its own merits.

We have also worked with Wealden District Council on their Conservation Area consultation and in March they approved the designation of new conservation area boundaries which were more or less what the Parish Council had requested. Five Ashes has a new Conservation Area and there is an extension to the existing Mayfield Conservation Area with the addition of a new one at Coggins Mill. Maps of the new areas can be viewed on the Parish Council or Wealden District Council websites.

Finally, thank you to the Rights of Way Volunteer Maintenance team that has done such a valiant job around the parish. We are sorry to see that Joan Redford has retired from the Rights of Way Committee after many years help and support. Thank you Joan. We would also like to thank Shirley Holland for all the hard work she is doing to set up MAYFACS which is providing valuable support for our residents. Thanks to all my Councillors for the hard work they have put in over the year, especially with regards to speeding, highways and financial control – which is now in a much better state than it has been for a number of years. Thanks also to the Clerk who has continued to do an excellent job.

Cllr Deveda Redman, Chairman
May 2017

Update on the injured bin loader: Many people have been concerned and would like to know how the bin man is who was injured in Mayfield High Street a couple of weeks ago and Cllr Fox has been able to provide an update and it is mostly good news! The Contractor advised that the loader has had some pins and a plate put in his leg and ankle but this appears to be the only injury. He is in high spirits and recovering as would be expected.

Planning application for a telephone mast: Residents will be interested to know of a planning application that has been received from Wealden District Council:

Application No. WD/2017/7506/T

Address: Land To The South Of The Oast House, Little Trodgers Lane, Mayfield, TN20 6PN

Description: The installation of 1 18.0m lattice tower on a 4.0m x 4.0m concrete base with 6 . antennas, 1 dish, 4 equipment cabinets and ancillary development thereto .

Applicant: CTIL Ltd. Telefonica UK Ltd. & Vodafone Ltd

Link to documents on web: <http://www.planning.wealden.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=138302>

Expiry date for comments: 6 June 2017

The Planning Executive will discuss this application at its meeting on 05 June 2017 **PLEASE NOTE NOW at the Memorial Hall**. You can view the plans on Wealden District Council's website either using the above link or by using the reference number on their home page. If you would like to comment on the application you will need to send your opinion to Wealden District Council either via the on-line form on the planning application's webpage or you can write to them at: Council Offices, Vicarage Lane, Hailsham, BN27 2AX.

Information from Action Fraud: Following the ransomware cyber attack on Friday 12 May, the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau has issued an alert urging both individuals and businesses to follow protection advice immediately.

Ransomware is a form of malicious software (Malware) that enables cyber criminals to remotely lock down files on your computer or mobile device. Criminals will use ransomware to extort money from you (a ransom), before they restore access to your files. There are many ways that ransomware can infect your device, whether it be a link to a malicious web-site in an unsolicited email, or through a security vulnerability in a piece of software you use.

Key Protect messages for businesses to protect themselves from ransomware:

- Install system and application updates on all devices as soon as they become available.
- Install anti-virus software on all devices and keep it updated.
- Create regular backups of your important files to a device that isn't left connected to your network as any malware infection could spread to that too.

The National Cyber Security Centre's technical guidance includes specific software patches to use that will prevent uninfected computers on your network from becoming infected with the "WannaCry" Ransomware:

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/ransomware-latest-ncsc-guidance> . For additional in-depth technical guidance on how to protect your organisation from ransomware, details can be found here: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/protecting-your-organisation-ransomware>

Key Protect advice for individuals:

- Install system and application updates on all devices as soon as they become available.
- Install anti-virus software on all devices and keep it updated.
- Create regular backups of your important files to a device (such as an external hard drive or memory stick) that isn't left connected to your computer as any malware infection could spread to that too.

Only install apps from official app stores, such as Google's Play Store, or Apple's App Store as they offer better levels of protection than some 3rd party stores. Jailbreaking, rooting, or disabling any of the default security features of your device will make it more susceptible to malware infections.

Dates of Council meetings this month:

Planning Committee	Monday 05 June	09:30	Memorial Hall
Full Parish Council	Monday 12 June	19:30	Five Ashes Village Hall
Community Development	Monday 19 June	19:30	Parish Council Office
Rights of Ways & Trees	Wednesday 21 June	13:00	Parish Council Office
Planning Committee	Monday 26 June	09:30	Parish Council Office
Finance & General Purposes	Monday 26 June	19:30	Parish Council Office

Please note that minutes of meetings and other documentation are available for viewing online at: www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk and at the Parish Council Office.

Janna Todd
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FEATURES

WILDLIFE SPLASH: HEAVENLY HONEYSUCKLE: The best gardens to sit in on a balmy summer evening are those with hedgerows smothered with clusters of the creamy bugle-shaped flowers of Honeysuckle. Come dusk the most heavenly scent fills the air, designed to attract moths from afar. And what a group it attracts – stunning, large, exotic-looking species such as our biggest native moth, the Privet Hawk-moth, boasting a wing-span of 9-12 cm, the stunning pink Elephant Hawk-moth, or the aptly-named Humming-bird Hawk-moth that hovers like its namesake, its wings a blur.

Big moths have long tongues allowing access to the lion's share of the sweet reward, for the nectar is in a tube (corolla) that is over 2 cm long.

The flowers are borne in clusters growing from a central point. Prior to opening they resemble smooth creamy tubes, all at different sizes of growth and development. The offering of nectar is staggered over the summer season with just one or two flowers opening per cluster each evening to increase the chances of successful pollination. During the day, fuelled by the energy from photosynthesis, the sealed corolla gradually fills with sweet nectar. As dusk falls and the moths become active, the flower bursts open with the tips of the petals peeling back to expose the goblet of sweet fluid with the stigma and stamens standing proud, ready for pollination. This is accompanied by the irresistibly heavenly scent – an advertisement to all near and far. This is beautifully described by Samuel Pepys, the 17th Century diarist, as 'Ivory bugles blow(ing) scent instead of sound'.

Occasionally, come daybreak, there are crumbs left at the table. A little nectar may be left in the bottom of the corolla tube – an early breakfast for early risers before the daytime nectar producers have got into the swing. Just a couple of bumblebees have tongues that are almost long enough to reach the dregs, and they can be seen clasping the petals and squeezing themselves into the corolla. Others cheat and cleverly cut a hole in the bottom of the corolla to steal the sweet reward.

So tempting is this reward that the word *Honeysuckle* is derived from the nectar, as sweet as honey, tempting children to suck it from the corollas. A heaven scent plant indeed.

Jacqueline Thompson

SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST: NEVER MIND COLDPLAY, HERE'S THE CUCKOO: Is it me or are rock bands today getting less and less offensive? I sometimes find myself harking back to a simpler, happier time when young punks were lining up to shock us. Nowadays, when I feel the need to be outraged, I turn to a bird whose scandalous behaviour still embodies the filth and the fury of The Sex Pistols in their prime.

The cuckoo creates avian anarchy in the UK every summer. If you delight in watching the honest, hard-working attempts of birds to build a home and raise a family then the cuckoo sticks two feathers up to you. Its non-conformist lifestyle is "a monstrous outrage on maternal affection", "a blight on creation".

The male cuckoo doesn't hide his contempt for society. Each spring he announces his arrival by shamelessly shouting his name across Sussex. It's the one bird call in Britain which everyone recognises. Two simple chords (just like all the best punk songs). Cuckoos also utter a callous cackle that would make any panto villain proud. It's almost as if they can't stop the evil within from bubbling out; 'Mwah-ha-ha-ha-ha'.

But save your boos and hisses for the female cuckoo. She coldly targets a couple of unsuspecting love-birds, patiently stakes out their nest and then strikes. After snatching one of their eggs in her beak she fires her own replacement egg into the nest and scarpers. It's over in ten seconds. The parents return to the same number of same-coloured eggs; they suspect nothing. This perfect crime can be re-enacted in a further twenty nests.

With baby cuckoos, there's no nature or nurture argument. They're simply born bad. Upon hatching the evil infant's first instinct is to eject all other eggs from the nest. Once alone this bully incessantly screams 'feed me, feed me' at its bewildered surrogate parents who are so busy finding food they don't have the time to stop and say 'Hey, wait a minute...'. The imposter grows bigger and bigger eventually outgrowing the nest until it resembles a coconut in an egg-cup.

As you read this the parent cuckoos will already be on a carefree cruise back to Africa. Yet despite the trail of chaos and outrage they leave in their wake our cuckoos have recently started doing something that has really upset us all - they've stopped coming back. That distant two-chord call is becoming more and more distant each year. Cuckoo numbers are dropping, possibly due to a lack of food in England, in Africa and on the migration routes in-between.

Could it be possible this wonderful bird with its songs and bad behaviour may, like punk rock, be consigned to a lost era of our history? Now that really would be an outrage.

Michael Blencowe - People & Wildlife Office

www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk

TRAVEL NOTES: I have a few very interesting travel snippets for you this month. Firstly, Scenic Cruises is launching what they are calling the world's first discovery yacht. The Scenic Eclipse will be sold on all all-inclusive basis and, from the first pictures, it does look amazing. From the ultimate Spa Sanctuary to the expansive array of dining experiences, spacious lounges and bars, outdoor terraces, and multiple pool areas, luxury is the word. The 'cabins' are luxury suites and they are enormous, some with their own outdoor jacuzzis.

Also announced is the first regular passenger service to travel non-stop from Europe to Australia, and will take around 17 hours and flies from Heathrow to Perth. Daily flights began on 25 March. I know many of you have relatives in Australia, so I am sure this will be good news for you.

I attended a Canada training evening this month and found out a lot about Canada that I did not know. For example, did you know that you can fly from London to Newfoundland in just 5 hours? The scenery there reminds me of New Zealand and Iceland. So, if you can't hack the long flight, this might be a great choice for those who love mountains, rivers and gorges.

Another discovery was the wonderful monasteries of Meteora. A bus tour away from Thessaloniki, these monasteries are built up in the mountains, looking rather precarious, actually! They remind me of the scenery in Nepal and Tibet, so, along with the fabulous ruins in Thessaloniki itself, this could make a fabulous and inexpensive holiday, again without any long flights.

We are all holding our breath until the election is over, I am sure. Things can then get back to normal and we will know how much money we have to spend on holidays. I look forward, as ever, to your enquiries.

Liz King - Bespoke Travel - 01273 474273
liz@lizkingtravel.co.uk

MAYFIELD VILLAGE SIGN: The newly restored village sign (now opposite the Middle House but originally outside Mayfield Primary School) has finally been re-instated in time for the Mayfair. Mayfield's village sign, designed by Geoffrey Webb, won the £500 second prize in a Daily Mail national competition in 1920, an initiative sparked by a speech from the Duke of York who said "I feel sure that many of my comrade motorists would welcome the revival of the village sign or emblem lettered and conspicuously displayed - a welcome guide to the visitor in a strange land". Mayfield's prize may have been helped by Stanley Bowerman, one of Lord Northcliffe's most energetic assistants, who lived at Rolfe's Farm in Mayfield.

The sign suggests that the original name of the village was 'Maids Field' but there is no authentic record of this. The west face of the sign depicts a maiden holding a ribboned nameplate with two female children holding garlands of flowers, including the rare spiked rampion that is found only in East Sussex and a chalice and the archiepiscopal "pallium", a v-shaped woollen scarf that was the badge of office and which Dunstan had travelled to Rome to collect in 959 AD. (The spiked rampion was the flower which the eponymous character Rapunzel stole in the 1812 Brothers Grimm story, the theft of which led her to being incarcerated in the tower.)

The east face depicts the same image but with addition of a male child seated in front of the maiden. Around the pole just underneath the sign, St. Dunstan is depicted holding the devil by the nose with a pair of pincers. The ends of the cornice bear the shields of the Archbishops of Canterbury, the diocese of Chichester, St. Dunstan and Archbishop Islip. In the 10th Century St. Dunstan was the first in a long line of medieval Archbishops of Canterbury who had an official residence in Mayfield. Dunstan was a skilled metal worker and it was whilst he was working at a forge that the Devil appeared before him in the guise of a young woman. However, he noticed the hooves beneath her skirts and grabbed the apparition by the nose with the first thing that came to hand - a pair of pincers. In his flight to escape, the Devil flew to Tunbridge Wells to cool his nose in the springs, and that's how its famous waters got their reddish tint (don't let anyone tell you it's because of the iron in the water!).

Finally, the text on the sign maintains that the Great Hall was built by Archbishop Islip in about 1350. But modern architectural scholarship ascribes it authoritatively to Michael of Canterbury, the great architect in the time of Edward I and Archbishop Winchelsey. A date of 1310 to 1313 seems likely.

Thanks to Tim Cornish and the Local History Society for their invaluable information and the Wonderful World Wide Web!

BOOK REVIEW: *The Suspicions of Mr. Whicher* by Kate Summerscale: Every now and again a crime is committed which impacts on the public imagination in such a way as in retrospect to almost define the age in which it is committed. One such case might well be that of the notorious Road Hill House murder in 1860. This shocking act of infanticide committed by sixteen-year old Constance Kent is particularly interesting as it reveals much about mid-Victorian England. I find Kate Summerscale's book particularly interesting because of the influence the crime had on the works of several famous contemporary authors.

Samuel Kent was a prosperous Inspector of Factories for the Home Office and had originally been married to Mary Ann Windus by whom he had four surviving children. After Mary's death at 44, Samuel married the children's governess by whom he had three more children. This second family was greatly favoured over the children of the first marriage and the home life was unhappy not least because of the disparaging comments the second Mrs. Kent habitually made about the first.

Francis Kent was almost four years old and doted upon by his father. He shared his bedroom with his nursemaid, Elizabeth Gough, and two siblings, but he disappeared from his room on the night of 29th June. After an exhaustive search the child's body was found in a disused water closet in the grounds. He had been brutally murdered but there was little blood splashed on the surrounding walls which created some speculation that the murder had been committed in the house. There was speculation that Samuel Kent was guilty based on the theory that he had shared Elizabeth's bed and that Francis had awoken and therefore had to be silenced. It was well known that Samuel had been unfaithful to his first wife.

Eventually, investigations were turned over to Scotland Yard and Detective Inspector Jonathan Whicher. Whicher soon became convinced that Constance Kent was guilty of the murder of her half-brother. On visits home she brought her soiled linen which was placed in a laundry basket. It later transpired that one of Constance's three night-dresses went missing. The fact that she now had only two instead of the usual three night-dresses could be explained inasmuch that

the third night-dress had been "lost". This of course was pure hypothesis on Whicher's part but it was the pivot on which he conducted his investigations. Despite exhaustive searches the missing night-dress was never found. Constance was arrested but due to insufficient evidence she was freed, at least for the time being.

There followed enormous outrage against Jonathan Whicher. The fact that he was working-class and had brought a charge against a member of the respectable middle-classes was sacrilege to mid-Victorian sensibilities. The Frome Times declared "this person's audacity and hard-heartedness can scarcely be equalled by the villain who perpetrated the dreadful crime." This statement reveals the depth of hostility and suspicion which had arisen against police detectives in general whose profession was then in its infancy. They were viewed as "low" characters whose work was motivated by the urge to spy and to intrude on the privacy of others, often driven by sexual curiosity. Ironically there began immediately a huge wave of public fascination in detection as well as in crime fiction. The Constance Kent case inspired Wilkie Collins' famous novel, 'The Moonstone', and works by Charles Dickens, Edgar Allen Poe and Arthur Conan Doyle were also influenced. Cheap crime thrillers also became widely read. Moreover, the scene of a crime itself became a source of intrigue.

Five years after Constance's release she went to the police and confessed to the murder of Francis, claiming that after carrying the sleeping boy down to the closet she had stabbed him with her father's razor. She claimed that she bore no malice towards Francis but sought only to wreak vengeance on her step-mother and father because of the way her mother's children had been treated. Constance was sentenced to hang, but this was commuted to twenty years' imprisonment. Later in life, Constance, now freed, joined her brother William in Australia. She lived to be 100 years old.

I found this book to be highly readable and very well researched by the author.

Cynthia M. Baker

NEWSLETTER 40TH ANNIVERSARY FEATURE PIECE: REMINISCENCES OF MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES – BY DAVID GRAY: PART 6.

Just before crossing over and walking down the north side of the High Street, I'd like to deviate for a while just down Fletching Street because opposite The Carpenters' Arms is Pratts Corner, which had been both a butcher and general store. I think it reverted to a private house just before the war.

Opposite the Rose & Crown, in the triangle there, was definitely a butcher, Medhurst's, and a baker, Target, who traded as Warren Bakery and just around the corner in East Street was our printer, Mayfield Press, which later moved into South Street. And while we're that side of Mayfield, way down in Coggins Mill was a very busy general store called Bullkums (?). Although it's now a private house and has been for ages, it's easy to spot that it was then a shop. Finally, I think – as far as Fletching Street is concerned – that Mr Manners, our antique dealer was down there somewhere. I guess – and it's only a guess – that he was in the building occupied today by Mayfield Building Services and that building for a short time did house our fire engine.

Anyway, back to the High Street. The first block of small shops on the north side in my day were the Chocolate Box also known as/or run by a Ms Whiteman, I seem to remember. Then there was Taylor's, the tobacconist, and Taylor ran, as well as his tobacco shop, a library and a gent's barber's shop. Jim Taylor and his wife, Freda, lived in the flat above the shops, which he decided to name Rolyat. Clever people will realise that's Taylor, spelt backwards! It took me weeks to work that out; the name still lives on today above the door to the flat. Jim Taylor was a constant pipe smoker, even when cutting men's hair. The whole library and barbers had a wonderful smell of tobacco – he just kept it going all the afternoon and into the evening. And the ladies' hairdresser, who took part of the premises, was called Fletcher's – but I don't think Miss Fletcher smoked a pipe!

Soon after the war, next door to these three shops I remember a café called The Old Brewhouse which was on the site which is now Truffles.

Next door to that was Granny Ford's cottage and, beyond that – working down – was Ford's shoe shop. Now, Ford's shoe shop was actually purchased by my father in 1949 to become the third branch of Collins & Gray. Now, of course, both Granny Ford's cottage and the shop are Alan's Hair Salon.

What was our Post Office and now Mayfield Fine Wines is unrecognisable, compared with nearly 70 years ago. The floor of the shop used to be a lot higher – probably the same level as Alan's next door. And this was the home and the workshop of Fenner's, the tailors, who had been established for hundreds of years. I would be a frequent visitor as a boy, and as a youth, taking jackets and trousers etc. from my father for alterations, as he was the outfitter down the road. And right up until 1956, which isn't very long ago, the three elderly Fenner brothers, Harry, Ernest and Evelyn, sat cross-legged on the floor in the front window doing their tailoring work!

Before the war, there was a cottage on the site of the War Memorial, with one path going up to the church.

The next shop, Jason's for a while, was Grinham's the grocer. I remember Harry Grinham, and he had a daughter, Muriel. They lived in the main central part of London House, but the west end of London House was taken over and fortified by Westminster Bank Ltd, which was our first and only competitor to Barclays.

Next door, Sussex House, was the Post Office in my day, run by Mr. & Mrs. Courtman, who had a daughter, Christine. The entrance to the mail sorting room was a just a few yards up North Street, at the back of Sussex House and, on the

opposite side of North Street, now Four Winds, was Mr Coleman's Shoe Repair Shop and Saddlery, with that marvellous aroma that comes out of shops working and dealing and selling leather.

Up a few steps next door, a tiny house now called Church Hole (?) was our small greengrocer and fruiterer, called Smith & Hallwood. Then Bucks/Bunts (?), the newsagent. Well, Bunts had been on the same site for many, many years. Beforehand, it had been our Post Office but, sadly, Bunts went out of business at around 2007/08.

...to be continued.

HERE IS THE NEXT COMMISSIONED FEATURE PIECE OF OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR TO ENLIGHTEN READERS ABOUT THE HISTORY OF...

A POTTED HISTORY OF MAYFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY 1896-2017: One hundred and twenty-one years old! Quite an achievement for our village Horticultural Society. In previous years I have been responsible for having the cups engraved that are presented at our Summer Show and I have often marvelled at the wonderful titles and classes they have been presented for. My favourite cup was for 'Best Bird in Show' and that for some years was presented for rose exhibits. Hear our story dear reader and you will find out why this intriguing cup was necessary for the Society!

The history and development of our Society has followed the social trends and historical events of England. Starting out as The Mayfield Horticultural and Rural Sports Association in 1896, The Cottagers Horticultural Show was held alongside the Annual Athletic Sports in Mayfield for the first time in August 1897. This exciting development was announced in the Mayfield Parish Magazine, and classes in the show were divided between those for 'daily wage earning cottagers', 'cottagers and amateur gardeners' and 'professional gardeners'. The exhibits included honey, butter, needlework and carving. Music was provided by the band of the 2nd Sussex Artillery Volunteers. The Parish Magazine article on the show gave a special mention to exhibits by The Mayfield School of Carving, the thunderstorm and the fine groups of flowering plants. All this alongside the sports events which included the 'Slow riding Bicycling Competition for Ladies'!

By the second show Mayfield Brass Band was providing the music and the event was held at the cricket ground, Stone Cross, Mayfield. The event had grown enormously. The horticultural entries were much improved and the sports events included a 'horse jumping competition' and tug-of-war. There was also a funfair with swing boats, a shooting gallery and coconut shies. The day concluded with an evening of dancing and fireworks.

The title of the Society changed over the years to include Rural or Poultry at various times (which solves the mystery of the 'Best Bird in Show' cup). At the outbreak of World War II the Mayfield Horticultural Society went into abeyance but in 1940 the Mayfield and Five Ashes Allotment Holders Association was formed under the auspices of the 'Grow More Food Campaign'. When peace came, the original Mayfield Horticultural Society was revived with the first post-war show in 1947. Continuing in 1948 as The Mayfield and Five Ashes Gardeners Association, the Society continued to include sports in their shows and were well supported by schools including Rye. The sports continued until 1955 and the Show was moved from the cricket ground to the present Memorial Hall on Court Meadow, Mayfield. In the 1970s it became evident that it was no longer viable to have two horticultural organisations in the village and in March 1980 they were amalgamated with the new title of Mayfield Horticultural and Gardeners Association. Time passed and we are now known to everyone as Mayfield Horticultural Society. It was 1994 when the Society started contributing material monthly to the village Newsletter.

I have lived in Mayfield for ten years and remember the Rose Show and the Autumn Show. As gardening trends and weather patterns have changed over that time those shows no longer take place but we do have an outstanding summer show in July which is open to everyone, whether you are a member or not. The exhibits are a joy to see. We still have wonderful entries just as we did at that first show. I have seen a wooden turned bowl in the craft section one year and wonderful flowering plants on many occasions. The entries range from the horticultural to a fifty-word mini-saga written by the adults to a Lego model for the children. There really is something for everyone. We also have a programme of talks during the winter months, a brilliant plant sale in May and a fantastic Summer Outing.

If you would like to join us we would be thrilled. Our website www.mhs.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk includes a membership form that can be printed off and joining costs £5. For anyone without internet access please phone our Chairman, Eddie du Cann 872705. Our email address is mayfieldhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com and it is checked regularly.

Rosemary Bayliss

FIRST WORLD WAR CENTENARY

MAYFIELD AND THE GREAT WAR - NO. 39 - JUNE 2017: On the Western Front the British Army attempted to overrun a decisive German strongpoint at Messines Ridge. Heavy artillery bombardment, which had been ongoing since the 21st May, led to the main British attack on the 7th June. Huge underground mine explosions began just before dawn beneath German positions. In one day, this well planned offensive by Canadian/British forces captured Messines Ridge and paved the way for the later Third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele). The first days fighting resulted in 17,000 British casualties and 25,000 German casualties.

On the 25th June, the first American troops arrived in France to large enthusiastic crowds. By the end of 1917 180,000 American troops would be on the Western Front.

On the 13th June, central London was attacked in daylight hours by German Gotha bombers, resulting in over 160 dead and 400 injured. No German aircraft were destroyed in the attack, which led to considerable effort in strengthening British air defences. The success of these defences was evidenced by the German attacks switching to night time raids. A further sign of learning from adversity was the success indicated by the recently introduced naval convoy system. A dramatic decrease in losses was clear.

On the national front, much effort and energy was devoted to persuading the general public to reduce the consumption and waste of essential foodstuffs. Alongside these efforts, various government agencies were active in identifying, and bringing into productive use, farm land which had remained fallow for any number of reasons. An important thread in this was the work of the National Service Agency which had the task of finding the work force to help increase land production. One of the schemes promoted the use of older school children to help on farms during school holidays. The Royal Family had already announced the royal household were on strict rations and newspapers helped to promote the idea of the general public joining the 'Royal Pledge'.

Locally, the newspapers found various ways around the censorship rules in identifying Folkestone as having been the target of a bombing raid. Subsequently newspapers carried formal instructions to readers on how to react to air raids and advice on how to recognise official siren warnings of imminent/cessation of air raids.

Early in June the Mayfield Parish Council considered a letter, from the Board of Agriculture, requesting the formation of a Food Production Society to encourage cottagers and allotment holders to keep pigs, poultry, rabbits etc. and instruct them in cropping their allotments. This request, together with a suggestion to form a rat and sparrow club (to contain vermin), was left over for future meetings.

There are no names recorded on the Mayfield or Five Ashes War Memorials for June 1917.

Brian Oldfield & Carole Stilwell

OUR SCHOOLS

NEWS FROM FIVE ASHES CE PRIMARY SCHOOL: It has been another productive few weeks here at the school. Our new Library area has started to take shape. We are so proud of our revamped library and 'Project Paperback' which has taken formation after superb teamwork from staff, parents, friends and children.

Maple and Willow classes have both spent days in our local Woodland, exploring their learning journeys by utilising all that our wonderful local environment has to offer. Maple class created some 'bug hotels' and will go back later next term to review their inhabitants.

A coding and programming specialist has visited Oak class to further develop their ICT skills. The children learnt many new techniques, in particular about microdots and worked at being able to program their own Tamagotchi.

Maple class performed excellently at the Tri-Golf tournament at Beacon Academy this week, finishing second out of seven teams. Both their exceptional teamwork and putting skills were commented on.

Everyone is looking forward to Term 6 which is jam packed full of spectacular learning experiences: STEM activity day, Globe Theatre workshop, Safety in Action, whole school theatre trip, end of year production to name but a few.

Tessa Gregory & Rebecca Josling

FRIENDS OF MAYFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL – UPCOMING EVENTS: Come and join us at our **Summer Fayre** on Saturday 10th June, from 11am to 2pm in Court Meadow, including: fancy dress parade at 11.30; dog show at 1pm (entry forms available from Burnetts); assault course; vintage ice cream van – something for everyone!

We are also organising a **Mum2Mum Market** in the Memorial Hall on Saturday, 8th July from 10am, where you can come and buy or sell nearly new children's clothes and items.

MAYFIELD PRE-SCHOOL: From strawberries in the meadow to cheese & wine at The Pink Cabbage, the Pre-School has a packed calendar of events this term, so please come along and support our fundraising efforts!

Saturday 10th June - Mayfield C.E Primary School Summer Fete – On the day Mayfield Pre-School will be selling fresh Kent strawberries by the punnet or bowls with cream.

Thursday 15th June – Pink Cabbage - Argentine wine tasting & cheese night. The evening will include a wine tasting and talk from a wine professional, followed by cheese. You will also have the opportunity to buy the tasted wine by the glass or bottle. Tickets available to buy at The Pink Cabbage or at the Pre-School. Buy your ticket soon, this event is limited to 45 people.

Friday 7th July – We will be hosting a Quiz Night at the Memorial Hall. Tickets cost £7.50, including a ploughman's supper. Available from Burnett's Estate Agents or at the Pre-School.

Daniel Lee-Billinghurst

committee@mayfieldpreschool.com

OUR CHURCHES

COLKINS MILL CHURCH: We welcome everyone who would like to join us for our family services every Sunday morning at 10.00 am. We have Sunday school for the children and an informal service for everyone else. Tea and coffee and biscuits/cake are served at the end of the service. We also offer to pray for anyone who needs prayer so if you would like to be prayed for come and join us, it would be a privilege to pray for you.

On the fourth Sunday of every month we have our Causeway Service at 6.00 pm. Causeway is for anyone with special needs and their carers. We have fun and games and craft activities as well as a Bible Story. Please feel free to come and see what happens.

Lastly we have COGS on a Thursday evening from 6.30-8.00 for school years 4-6, fun, games, fruit, crafts and a bible story. COGS on a Friday from 7.00 pm for years 7 +

The last weekend of this month we are taking COGS to Carroty Wood in Tonbridge for a weekend away. If any child would like to come along please contact Judy Harland on 873194 and find out all the details.

Terry Steinegger

ST. DUNSTAN'S CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WORKER: Last month saw the launch of our new youth group for **ALL** children who live in Mayfield and Five Ashes aged between 7 and 11 years old. We have a range of activities on offer, including a rather popular Wii console and a table tennis table. Our sessions conclude with the children cooking and then having dinner together. This month we made pizzas and the children enjoyed working together learning some new cooking skills! The group meets on the second Monday of each month during term time from 3.30-6pm in London House. Currently we are asking people to book their child a place until we are more confident of average numbers for our cooking session - it would be awful to not have enough! The group is to be named "The Forge" to connect us with our Patron saint, St Dunstan and also as a reference to the forging of both an identity for the children and a potential relationship with God. Our next session is 12th June - join us!

Our next Messy Church is Saturday 24th June from 10-12 in St Dunstan's. This is a free morning for children aged approximately 3-8 years old. This month we will be mainly outside. (Think relay races, picnics, treasure hunts and of course using our beautiful Labyrinth). Everyone is welcome.

Mrs Natalie Thomson (07889 780531)

ST. DUNSTAN'S SUMMER FETE: Saturday, 17th June 12noon until 3pm in the grounds of St Dunstan's Church. There will be a BBQ, Cream Teas, Pimms and a bar – and plenty of things to entertain both children and adults. Our friendly donkeys will be visiting us from 1.30pm to give smaller children a ride; we will have lots of different stalls with things to buy and games to play. Mayfield Beavers, Cubs and Scouts will be with us again and Mayfield Band will be entertaining us. For further details please contact Nicky Higgins, St Dunstan's Parish Administrator on 873484.

ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY SUMMER FAYRE: Saturday 8th July 10.30am until 2.30pm in the garden of Mayfield Convent.

This popular and happy annual event will have many stalls including Nearly New, Fancy Goods, Preserves, Books, Toys, Cakes and our well-known Bottle Stall. Teas and coffees will be available from 10.30 onwards. BBQ and Ploughman's lunch will be available from midday together with wine and Pimms. Live music will be played during the Fayre. Our Grand Summer Draw has many wonderful prizes, including cash as First Prize.

This year, we shall be donating one third of the proceeds to the Friends of Crowborough Hospital. Entrance is free and everyone is welcome.

K.J.Hennessey

FRIENDS OF MAYFIELD CHURCHYARD – CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY: Advance notice that this will be held on **Saturday, 1st July** from 10am to 12 noon. Everyone is invited to come along and help. Ask your friends to join you. Bring stout boots or shoes, gardening gloves and any tools such as secateurs, forks and hoes. Coffee will be provided. Looking forward to seeing you.

Warwick Child

ROUND AND ABOUT

MAYFAIR: A huge thank you to everyone who helped at the Mayfair (too many to list by name) and all of you who turned out to support us. It made it one of the most memorable for years.

The day started auspiciously with the weather improving and then the repaired and repainted village sign being put back in place in time for the fair. Spring decorations were soon evident - beribboned poles and greenery in holders above the shops, the beautifully decorated May Queen's throne and her garland and the headdresses of the dancers.

After the procession had made its way from the west end of the High Street to the arena outside the Middle House, we were then treated to a modern day interpretation of the medieval tradition of spring chasing winter from the village. The Green Man and Primavera sparred verbally and physically with the Ice Queen and Jack Frost and won the day. With their costumes and Johnny Marsh's script, it was a real spectacle.

This year, children from Five Ashes Primary School joined the Mayfield Primary School Maypole dancers and Mayfield School also provided a group of dancers. These, together with the regular groups from Mayfield Pre-school, Skippers Hill School, Bricklehurst Manor School and Pembury School meant we were treated to wonderful displays of Maypole dancing throughout the afternoon. As usual the Mayfield Band provided splendid accompaniment and other music during the afternoon, joined by other musicians including the Mayfield Primary School recorder group.

This year's Silent Auction featured 4 items sold on behalf of the Children's Air Ambulance. We are delighted that the two major items, the Brian May signed guitar and the Dark Side of the Moon canvas signed by Nick Mason of Pink Floyd, raised £1500 for this good cause. Receipts from the rest of the auction, from food, stalls and attractions are still being counted as I write this article so the final amounts will be announced next month.

The fair ended with the "Big Dance" where Simon Rudge orchestrated an attempt to set a record for the number of people dancing round the Maypole at the same time. With Ian Parker encouraging everyone to take part, we soon had someone on each of the ribbons and up to 4 people on some. I tried to count the numbers as they danced round and came to a total of 64. We may be able to verify the figure by examining all the photographs that were taken.

There was so much else going on that I have not mentioned: the Ashdown Forest Morris Men, the Robin Hooders mumming, the stalls, the shops with their special offers, tombola, raffle, traction engine, giant skittles, splat the rat, plant sale, Pimms, BBQ, Hog Roast, Asian food, cakes, strawberries, ... and if I have forgotten anyone, my apologies.

Another memorable event involving so many from our wonderful village.

Roger Stone (872764) / 07776 144056



MAYFIELD SKATE PARK: The skate park extension has begun with the groundworks being carried out by local company CJ Grey who have kindly offered to do this below what they would usually charge and for which we are very grateful. The company building the ramps have been instructed to build and install 2 of the 4 planned ramps and work has already begun. The new ramps will be able to be used in conjunction with the existing ramps.

In order to raise the remaining required funds we have had to review and restructure our plans and as part of that we have formed a Community Interest Company which will allow us to apply for grants previously unavailable. A considerable sum is still required but we are hoping to be in a position to complete the project soon.

If anyone can help in any way please contact me on 07971 979137. Any contribution would be appreciated, whether it's ideas, time or financial we'd love to hear from you.

Ian Parker



MAYFACS UPDATE: (Mayfield & Five Ashes Community Services)

www.mayfacs.org.uk

Firstly a huge THANK YOU to all the organisers of the Mayfield Fringe Festival for putting on such an array of activities which show cased the vast amount of talent we have in our midst. We are very appreciative that you chose MAYFACS as a charity to support.

Thank you too to those people who came to our 1st birthday celebration on Saturday 20th May. We hope you enjoyed the event as well as the cake. Watch out for details of the new activities to be introduced later this year.

Dates for your Diaries:

(Please check the diary pages for our regular activities)

Friday 16th June: The Big Get Together in memory of Jo Cox MP

Bring a picnic and join us from 12.30pm on Five Ashes playing field. Cakes, tea & coffee will be available and donations made will go to the Jo Cox Foundation. If you would like transport from Mayfield please sign up on the list in The Shopping Basket or contact Shirley.

Tuesday 4th July: Tuesday Afternoon Club & MAYFACS Outing

There are some spaces left on the coach if you would like to come along. The outing includes a fish & chip lunch and a 45 minute boat trip. It costs £15 per person and forms are available from Shirley or from The Shopping Basket. Please sign up asap as there are not many spaces left. You don't have to attend the Tuesday Afternoon Club to come on the outing.

MAYFACS Strollers: Would you be interested in joining others for a regular, relatively level, 1-2 hour walk? Anyone interested? Please contact me or sign up in the Shopping Basket if you are interested.

Computer Buddies & Mayfield Library: Don't forget, there are buddies available to help sort out your computer queries. Contact Lucy in the library (873195) or Shirley to book a slot.

Outings: We are planning to start regular monthly outings using a minibus to places that are not on the bus routes, but we need your ideas of where you would like to go. Please take a moment to jot your ideas down on our ideas pad in the Shopping Basket or contact Shirley. The first one will be towards the end of July.

Good Neighbouring Scheme: Please pick up a leaflet in the various outlets in the village and get in touch with me if you or you know of a neighbour, who would like to be part of this initiative.

Zumba: Someone has asked me recently what Zumba was – good question! It is an aerobic fitness programme featuring movements inspired by various styles of Latin American dance and performed primarily to Latin American dance music or some good, rhythmic pop music. Our class is called Zumba Gold and also includes some balance exercises. Anyone is welcome to come along, whatever age, as Vicky, our instructor will give examples of how the exercises can be slowed down or sped up according to an individual's fitness level. It really is great fun and if you would like to just come along one Thursday to have a look, feel free.

Singing for Fun: It is with sadness, that we have to say we have unfortunately had to stop our monthly "Singing for Fun". This is for a variety of reason and the decision has not been taken lightly.

Contact Details – Shirley Holland
Mondays - Old Library – next to the Memorial Hall (look for the sign outside)
Telephone: 07908 516 875
www.mayfacs.org.uk
Email: manager@mayfacs.org.uk
If you prefer to write, please leave a letter at The Shopping Basket

MAYFIELD & FIVE ASHES COMMUNITY CAR SERVICE: The 2017 Annual General Meeting of the Car Service has just been held. At this meeting our Transport Co-ordinator reported on the number of trips made so far this year since taking over this role in late November. Details of how to ask for transport to get to your medical appointments is contained in our Community Car Service advertisement, which appears every month on the first page of the advertisement section in each edition of the Mayfield Newsletter.

As always, we are continuing to look for **new volunteer drivers** to join our existing pool of drivers. We only ask for people to give up their time. Petrol costs will be reimbursed, and you will be providing a greatly needed service for the residents of our villages. The number of trips you make is entirely up to you. It can be as few as once or twice a month to fit in with your other commitments.

Please ring our Chairman, Rosemary Neal on 872113, or e-mail her at rjneal@btinternet.com if you feel you are able to join us, and help our organisation continue to provide such a valuable service to our village residents. It is essential that more drivers come forward to enable us to continue to meet all the requests for transport that we receive.

Rosemary Neal
Chairman

MONTHLY FOOTPATHS WALK: We meet this month on Sunday June 25th for a summer stroll. Each month's walk is different and we try to take account of weather conditions when deciding where to go. Nothing too arduous and predominantly using local footpaths, back by lunchtime.

Everyone is welcome including dogs on leads. We will meet at South Street car park for a 10am departure. Hope to see you.

Deborah Dixon
deborah.dixon@hotmail.co.uk

JOHN ROBSON RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBITION: It is 30 years since the sculptor, John Robson, died. He left a large body of work: three-dimensional, reliefs and works on paper.

This retrospective exhibition focuses on smaller works, often maquettes for larger pieces. Work is cast in both resin and bronze, and is for sale in limited editions. (Special arrangements can be made to purchase work in instalments). However, the primary reason for showing John's work is to celebrate his life, and provide an opportunity to see, handle and enjoy the experience of connecting with his sculpture.

The exhibition is at the Lower Steps Gallery, High Street, Mayfield at the following times: Friday, 2nd June, 6pm-9pm; Saturday, 3rd June and Sunday, 4th June, 12pm-5pm; Monday, 5th June to Thursday, 8th June, 2pm-5pm. Light refreshments served.

Pat Robson.

Monthly Quiz Sheets: The quiz sheets in aid of Mayfield and Five Ashes Primary Schools will now be available from Truffles Bakery, The Pink Cabbage, The Shopping Basket and the back of St Dunstan's Church. They are £1 each with a monthly prize of £5. The new one is a general knowledge one. Thank you to all supporters.

Margaret Neve

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING: London House Saturday 3rd June 10 am - 12 noon We are taking part in the South Coast Mighty Hike in June to help raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. It's a 26.3 mile walk along the South Downs Way from Brighton to Eastbourne - basically a marathon but without the running bit!

Many of our lives have been touched by cancer and Macmillan have been there to support us so if you would like to show your appreciation for them and spur us on in our challenge please come and join us for coffee, tea and cake...

If you are unable to make it but would like to support us there are collection boxes in the Mayfield Podiatry Clinic and the Osteopaths or you can donate online at www.justgiving.com/companyteams/JanetandCatherine. Many thanks,

Janet Crossley & Catherine Hawley
07775 741585

TO ALL LOCAL HORSE RIDERS: I have vacancies for the purchase of riding permits for off-road riding in Hawksden Wood. It is by kind permission of the Glynde Estates that we have this facility.

The permits are £50.00 a year per horse, this is less than £1.00 a week for safe off-road riding.

Deb Findlater 873233

WHY NOT VISIT THE ARGOS HILL WINDMILL DURING HALF TERM? The windmill will be open for visits from 2 - 5 Friday on 2nd June, when there will be the opportunity of milling flour with the quern in the roundhouse. There is a small museum with mill artefacts, photographs and story boards as well as a guided visit to the mill itself. Come and see the newly restored windmill.

There is parking available nearby. Entrance is free though donations are welcome. Hot and cold drinks plus homemade cakes will be on sale to add to the very enjoyable visit. For further information about the windmill please visit the Friends of Argos Hill Windmill's website: www.argoshillwindmill.org.uk

NATIONAL GARDENS SCHEME: Mayfield gardens open for charity Saturday 10th June and Sunday 11th June, 1pm-5pm. There are five gardens to visit this year: Hoopers Farm and Meadow Cottage in Vale Road, Mulberry in Station Road, Oak Croft in South Street (step access) and South Street Plots.

Admission is £6.00 (free for children) to view all of the gardens. Homemade teas will be served at Hoopers Farm and Steven Moore from Rapkyns Nursery will have plants for sale at Hoopers Farm. Dogs on short leads are welcome (except in the South Street Plots). You can start the trail at any of the gardens when you can pick up a map of the route with your ticket.

In 2016 the NGS nationally raised over £3million for nursing and caring charities including Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie and Hospice UK. This year The National Autistic Society is a new beneficiary.

Please make a note to visit in June, in this 90th anniversary year of the NGS, so Mayfield can continue to make a contribution to these very worthwhile causes. Last year we raised just over £3,300!

Sarah Ratcliffe

MAYFIELD ARTISTS OPEN STUDIOS AND ART TRAIL: The Mayfair and the sunny weather certainly contributed to the success of our first Mayfield Art Trail but huge thanks go to all the residents of Mayfield and beyond who supported the event and made time to visit all the venues. Visitor numbers exceeded our expectations and as a result we are planning the Art Trail as an annual event for Mayfield.

We would like to thank our main sponsors Burnett's Estate Agents and Mayfield School for their generous donations that enabled us to promote our event so effectively and to Rusdens Home Interiors for their kind contribution which funded the balloons.

Many thanks also go to The Pink Cabbage, Mayfield Chiropody & Podiatry, Pople Opticians, Mayfield Gallery, The Shopping Basket and St Dunstan's Church for promoting the event and providing venues in the village for displaying various artists' work. As a result of their support, the High Street was a wonderful splash of colour with beautiful artwork in the shop windows showcasing the artistic talent available on the Trail.

The artists really enjoyed meeting new Mayfield residents and visiting each other's studios where new contacts and acquaintances were made. It was wonderful to receive help from the many friends who distributed leaflets and provided invaluable support, making the whole event a memorable example of how well we work together as a village community.

Simon Heaton kindly took some great photos of artwork on display at some of the venues and has posted a selection of them as a slide show on Mayfield Facebook.

Margot Bridger 872497
margot@riverangel.plus.com

FIVE ASHES VILLAGE HALL AND MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD: Five Ashes Village Hall has now been in its present location on the Memorial Playing Field for 40 years and to mark this the committee decided to hold an open evening at the hall, on 6th May. The aim of the evening was to gather and collate memories and photographs of living in Five Ashes.

Villagers, past and present flocked to the hall clutching documents and photographs, eager to share their memories. The hall committee is hoping to have a display of some of the information gathered at the Summer Show on 29th July.

As a result of the enthusiasm of the evening a Facebook group has been created, "A History of Five Ashes", where members can share their photographs and memories.

In 2016, the Village Hall committee was awarded a grant from the Sussex LUND. The Sussex Lund grants programme, launched by Peter Baldwin and Lisbet Rausing, supports small-scale, practical projects that improve the ecology and landscape of the High Weald.

This grant was to fund the creation of a Sensory Garden, positioned beside the children's play area. The hard landscaping has now been completed. There are raised beds and pathways, with places to sit and enjoy the plants, which will shortly be selected and planted. This garden is for all residents to enjoy and the committee believe it will be an asset to our community.

The Village Hall remains the hub of our little village with activities for all ages and abilities available, from dog walking round the Playing Field to exercise and dance classes held within the hall. There really is something for everyone.

All activities are listed in this newsletter but please refer to our website www.fiveashesvillagehall.btck.co.uk for more information.

The hall is available to hire and residents of Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish are entitled to a 30% discount on hire fees. Contact the hall via email at 5asheshallbooking@gmail.com or call Kas Shepperson on 01825 831945.

MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES WEBSITE: The website for Mayfield and Five Ashes (www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk) is in need of an update and the Parish Council has allocated some money to allow this to be done. Over the next few months it will be redesigned to provide:

A more contemporary look and feel with a design that works well on tablets and mobile phones

- Simple navigation to find out about all that Mayfield and Five Ashes have to offer (events, activities, village services, societies) with links to the websites and social media pages of individual groups and societies
- Information for tourists and to encourage footfall in the High Street

More details will be available as the plans develop. If you have any suggestions or enquiries please send them to admin17@mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk

FRIENDS OF ST DUNSTAN'S GARDEN PARTY: The Friends of St Dunstan's Garden Party and Open Garden will this year be held on Sunday, 9th July at Clayton's Farmhouse, Newick Lane, from 12 noon to 2pm by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Richard Nabavi. Clayton's Farmhouse is situated about 1 mile down Newick Lane on the right. The farmhouse dates from about 1420 and is surrounded by garden, orchard, woodland and farmland. It even has its own railway tunnel! Ample parking will be provided.

All are welcome. Tickets are £10 at the gate and include a glass of wine, light refreshments and a walk around the garden. All the proceeds from this event will go to supporting the work of the Friends.

The Charity's remit is focused exclusively on raising funds for the preservation and maintenance of the church building and it was set up as a charitable trust to enable everyone in the village and beyond to contribute towards this goal. We have so far raised around £160,000 and projects include the restoration of marble memorials, the cleaning of stained glass windows, the re-leading of the chancel roof, the installation of French drains and much more.

Come and enjoy a lovely walk around the garden and help ensure the church remains in good repair for everyone in the village to appreciate. Please put the date in your diary as we hope to see as many people as possible.

Annette Nabavi (873476)
Chairman, Friends of St Dunstan's Parish Church Mayfield

THE JO COX FOUNDATION GREAT GET TOGETHER: FRIDAY 16TH JUNE 12.30PM AT FIVE ASHES

VILLAGE HALL: Come and be part of the countrywide 'Great Get Together' to celebrate our wonderful local communities as well as the life of Jo Cox. Jo was a Labour MP who believed passionately in and sadly gave her life for her values of acceptance, tolerance and unity: as she said in her maiden speech, "we are far more united and have far more in common with each other than things that divide us".

A year on from Jo's death, people from Mayfield and Five Ashes are holding one of thousands of events across the country over the weekend. There will be food, singing, children's races and a chance to get to know new people. As Brendan Cox, Jo's widower and the force behind the initiative, says, "close communities are actually the bedrock of our country": what better way to celebrate this than by bringing people together across the nation in one enormous community party?!

Bring a picnic blanket and some food and MAYFACS and Skippers Hill School will provide tea, coffee and cakes in return for a small donation to the Jo Cox Foundation. We hope to see you there! If you are part of a local group and would like to be involved, we would love to hear from you: please give Sarah a ring on 01825 830234.

EVERYBODY WELCOME!

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

MAYFIELD BONFIRE BOYES AND BELLES: Our next fundraising event will be our **SUMMER QUIZ NIGHT** on Saturday 10th June, in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. There will be a licensed bar and the ticket price will include a Ploughman's supper. Tickets will be available from Rosina Fabrics, the Shopping Basket or at the door on the night. Tickets are £8.00 each. Do come along and support us if you can, it is always a fun evening for all!

Our popular Bingo Nights continue, the next is being held on Friday 23rd June, at 7.30pm, in the Scout and Guide Hall, so do come along and join in the fun with us. We have new faces joining us all of the time and don't forget we have our free Mini-Bus service to those that require it to and from the venue. I would like to thank the Pre-School Committee for inviting me back to host a Bingo Night for them at the end of April. We had a fantastic evening, with lots of funds raised for the Pre-School.

After a very successful event last year, we are once again holding another **MIDSUMMER BANDS AND BONFIRE FESTIVAL**. This family event will be taking place on Saturday 22nd July, from 5pm onwards in the Memorial Hall/Court Meadow area, and out on the Terraces of the Hall. We are still planning and so far have "THE CRACKLIN GRIFFINS" headlining for the evening, take a look at them on Youtube! There will be three or more other Bands playing; still to be announced. There will be a licensed bar, with real ales and wine, a BBQ and another Bonfire like last year, not massive

and on the site again of the old Youth Club for those old enough to remember that, I certainly do!!

Ticket prices are £7.50 in advance, or £10.00 on the door; under 16's will be £2.50. Tickets will be available from Rosina Fabrics or the Shopping Basket, or to book in advance, please contact Jo, on 872717 or 07855 231888 or e-mail, info@skytechnical.co.uk.

Our Bonfire is being built on the day, mainly from wood and pallets, so if anybody has any materials they want to get rid of and that we can use, then please contact Jo. It promises to be a great evening, do come along and join in the fun, helping to raise funds for our September Carnival and Firework Display. Make a note in your Diary now.....

Work has already started towards our Carnival in September. Torch sticks are already being constructed; we need over 5000 of them for our big event! We will be having our Torch Making sessions again this year in July/August outside the Scout And Guide Hall, weather permitting. Please watch this space for further details.....

This year's Carnival Day will take place on Saturday 16th September 2017.

For further details on any of the above, please contact, Kevin, on 872057 or 07973 727189, or by email : kevinleeves@btinternet.com.

Kevin Leeves.

MAYFIELD BAND..... MAKE MAYFIELD MUSICAL...THE MAY FAIR LEGACY: Brass, ribbons, steam, bells, sun, Pimms, flowers, music and dancing marked the beginning of our summer season at the Mayfield May Fair. What a fantastic village day this has become. Just having our lovely High Street to ourselves for the day is worth turning up for by itself, but add in everything else and it becomes a joyous occasion. Underpinning the whole event is, of course the music, and it was a delight to be a part of this, working together with the brilliant dancers from our local schools. Live music is critical to this event in so many ways, and recorded music would simply not provide the same vibrancy and texture to the day. It was particularly rewarding to be able to work together with Sue Thomas's primary school recorder group, providing the opportunity for some very young children to perform in public for the very first time.

The poor old recorder is much maligned, but it is a good way into music, being inexpensive and easy to play. But to build on those beginnings you need the right support, and part of that support is providing the opportunity to perform. Performance is the key ingredient that will make the young player want more, particularly when the performance is a shared experience. Having played as part of a real band on Saturday, one of those young debutantes described the experience as "amazing", and was visibly moved, so I think we've got her hooked, and with the right support, we have ourselves a musician of the future. That would not have happened sitting at home with a teach yourself book, or worse still, without a teach yourself book!

But for various reasons, the recorder has its limitations and those young musicians will need to add to their repertoire in order to progress, and indeed some of them already have. In most other villages it would perhaps mean waiting until secondary school, but not in Mayfield, where we are lucky enough to have our own Brass Band to meet the demands of the aspirational musician. It will give them a real head start, even if they choose to switch to other instruments in due course.

At the risk of sounding like a stuck record (for the benefit of younger readers that's a big plastic disc that used to be popular as a means of playing recorded music through a device plugged in to your house – how crazy is that?), this is a unique opportunity in such a small village, but despite the perfect storm of opportunity and potential demand, my rough estimate of the take up from children in our three primary schools is around 1.5%. So 98.5% of our kids have the opportunity to improve themselves in every way by playing band music, effectively for free, but are not getting to do so.

I know brass is not everyone's cuppa, but 98.5%?! What is going on? If you could have seen the delight on those young faces on Saturday, you would perhaps understand how the latest replica football shirt, for example, might well provide your child with a moment of pleasure, but will never give them anything like the joy to be gained from music. It's a gift for life available for just £30 a year and a little of your time, as opposed to a shiny shirt emblazoned with the name of someone you've never heard of and can't pronounce that will be too small within a year.

A lot of wonderful, kind people give up a lot of their time to put on the May Fair, and our mission is that all that effort should provide a legacy, not only through the happy childhood memories, but also through inspiring our kids to take an interest in music and dance, and giving them the confidence to perform in public. So come on you 98.5 percenters, we've done our bit, and now it's up to you to take the baton. There are no barriers to anyone taking up a musical instrument in Mayfield, and as a parent there is no better use of your time than getting your children involved. The brass band is on your doorstep with free instruments on loan, the schools have peripatetic teachers as well as their own musical groups, and there are private tutors around, with funding potentially available if you need it through charitable groups. Let the joy of the May Fair live on through music and be part of the legacy. I'm happy to talk to anyone about all the opportunities available locally, be they in brass, folk, or otherwise, so give me a call.

Simon Rudge (872007)

simon@mayfieldband.co.uk

MAYFIELD EVENING WI: It was a busy meeting of The Mayfield, Evening WI on Tuesday 9th May. Members were

asked that bulb orders be returned as soon as possible as the order forms have to be sent before our next meeting on 13th June. Several members said how good the bulbs were that they ordered last year.

WI membership lists will be sent out to members as soon as all the information about new members has been added to the list.

Bridget Blow gave us an interesting report on her course at Denman using her Denman Bursary awarded by our Institute. She chose Arts and Crafts Movement that involved several trips out to relevant buildings in the area as well as lectures at the college. She very much enjoyed it all and thanked the Institute for her bursary.

Members manned a stall at the Mayfield Mayfair. It was a lovely day and we were again grateful to Katy McSundy our local chiropractor, for sponsoring our stall. The total raised will be in next month's report.

Next were the resolutions to be discussed at the NFWI Annual Meeting, in Liverpool.

1. "Plastic Soup: keep microplastics out of our oceans." The discussion was led by Alison O'Neil and the vote was unanimous in favour of it.

2. Alleviating Loneliness: Toni Whewell led the discussion of this resolution and the members voted unanimously again in favour of it.

As our link delegate from Rushlake Green could not be with us at this meeting a letter will be sent to her instructing her to vote in favour of both resolutions. She will come to our meeting in June to tell us about the meeting.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 13th June. It is an informal one entitled "Let's Talk". The aim is to get a chance to sit for a little while and talk to different members that we don't usually get a chance to, and meet new members who have joined us recently. It is at 7.15pm for 7.30pm start. If you would like to join us please come along or if you would like to know anything about us please phone Berenice Blurton 872039 .

In last month's paper I reported how members had found the toilets in South Street very clean but we didn't know who kept them in such a great state. We have now found out that it is local man Norman Bell. The WI would like to thank him for the good job he is doing.

Margaret Rae

MAYFIELD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY: Pitt the Younger and the Martello Towers: Geoff Hutchinson. On 28 April, at the last meeting of the season, Mr Hutchinson gave his usual illuminating and amusing talk on the building of Martello towers to defend the United Kingdom against Napoleon.

The idea of building the towers was first suggested in 1802, to counter the threat of an invasion, and finally agreed in 1805 when construction started. The design was based on a tower in Mortella in Corsica; they were to hold a garrison of 24 men, with one officer. A string of the towers was built along the east and south coasts – 103 in all, of which 46 remain. A two and a half ton revolving gun was on the roof; the next floor held accommodation and the lower floor was for storage. The towers were built 400 yards apart and each cost £2,000-£3,000. They were, of course, not needed as it turned out and after the threat was over several became coastguard stations. There was another "scare" in the 1850s when some were brought back into operation; and again when Hitler posed a threat to the country.

Summer Outing: A few tickets are still available for our outing to Petworth House on June 27th. For NT members the cost is £25.00 and for non-NT members the cost is £35.00. We are scheduled to leave Mayfield at 9am. (with pick ups at the Catholic Church and opposite the Middle House) and to arrive at Petworth House ca. 10am. A tour of the house has been organised (start @ 11:30 tbc) and there is a restaurant. Target departure time is 16:00 hrs.

New Season Meetings: These will commence on Friday, October 27th with a talk by David Martin on Mayfield Inside and Out. Anyone who has an interest in the listed buildings of Mayfield should hear David, as he is an expert on the vernacular architecture of the Middle Ages.

Position Vacant MLHS – Committee Member. If you would like to help decide the future programme of the society, why not join our small steering committee that meets about ten days before each meeting during the winter months. If any member would like to attend a meeting to see what is involved, please speak to Rob Foster or me, Brian O'Connor to find out the dates and times of meetings.

Brian O'Connor, MLHS Chairman – 873477

Rob Foster, MLHS Secretary – 873215

John Buddle, MLHS Treasurer – 872229

MAYFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: EVERYONE WELCOME TO OUR SOCIETY EVENTS: WEDNESDAY 28th JUNE 2017 – SUMMER OUTING TO WEST DEAN AND PARHAM HOUSE, WEST SUSSEX (GARDENS ONLY). BOOKING EXTENDED TO WEDNESDAY 5TH JUNE. Cost £30 per person. Book by phoning Bridget Blow 872829.

SATURDAY 15TH JULY 2017 FROM 2.30pm SUMMER SHOW. CLASSES OPEN TO EVERYONE. Our Show Secretary, Diane Kirkness, warmly welcomes everyone to enter, you do not have to be a member. **Free** Schedules are now available from Lambert and Foster, Mayfield Chiropractic and Podiatry Clinic (Mayfield High Street), Mayfield Library (Fletching

Street) and www.mhs.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk. There are a huge variety of classes to enter, something to capture your imagination, whatever your interests. Please take a look at the Schedule and decide that this is going to be the year to support this colourful and friendly event. Enter, view the exhibits or just come to have a cup of tea and a lovely piece of cake. Diane would particularly like to encourage children to enter their photographs as for the first time they can be directly sent from a mobile phone or iPad to the judge, Simon Heaton. There are two classes in the Show that are for men only. In the Domestic Classes it is 'Five Sausage Rolls' and in the Floral Art, it is 'Sporting Life'. There are Vegetable and Fruit Classes that rely solely on flavour to win and the results should give visitors good recommendations which varieties of carrots, tomatoes and potatoes to grow next year. Please remember to check the Schedule for entry deadlines, the correct number of vegetables/fruit/flowers in each class and remember to see the 'Judges Hints For Exhibitors'. Any queries can be answered by emailing Diane via mayfieldhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com or phoning her on 872705. Have Fun!

ADVANCE NOTICE: Thursday 21st September 2017: Visit to Garden and Nursery of Marchants Hardy Plants.

Rosemary Bayliss

mayfieldhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com

GARDENING TIPS: Some years ago, I swore that I would never again buy plants on a whim because I had seen them when visiting an open garden. I had become a plant junkie, if I saw something that took my fancy I had to have one, regardless of doing any research into its likes and dislikes and its native habit. I would buy it on the spot, bring the poor little thing home, and then wonder where on earth to put it so it would get cramped in far too close to everything else. A year or so later I would find it hidden, yellow and drawn under its more aggressive neighbour. Rescued, they usually survived but never reached their full potential again so, eventually I trained myself to resist temptation. I am sorry to say I have recently fallen "off the wagon"! On the 20th April we went for a walk round Nymans Garden as I wanted to look at their Handkerchief trees to see how mine compared. They are also known as the Dove tree or *Davidia Involucrata* after Pere David who discovered them. Not only have I yielded to temptation but also I am also guilty of the sin of pride because my *Davidia* is much better, covered in creamy white bracts. The plant that caused my downfall was in a rock garden at Nymans and is the *Pulsatilla*. The best known is *P. Vulgari*, usually known as the Pasque flower. It has cup shaped flowers, usually mauve but red and white varieties are available. The feathery foliage will spread to about 10" across and 6/8" high. Given full sun and drainage they are not very hard to grow. There are other varieties such as *P. Alpina* and *P. Vernalis*. My impulse buying has, in the past, been tempered by not being able to find a source of the plant but in this case I found it locally. They are excellent plants and I told myself it was really a planned buy because I have been wondering what to grow to fill a gap in one of my gravel beds for which it is ideally suited.

A few days later we went to Borde Hill Garden near Haywards Heath. They lend you a map of paths that are easier for less able visitors and it is possible to view most of the garden from a hard path although there are a few modest gradients. There are many fine trees and shrubs although they do seem to have a problem with ground elder – don't we all! I spotted a geum in an herbaceous border, which really lived up to its name "lemon drops". Geums seem to have fallen out of favour in recent years but they are easy to grow and quite attractive in a quiet sort of way, though not spectacular. They will tolerate a wide variety of conditions and if deadheaded will flower over a long period. The foliage can get untidy over winter so it is best cut back in early spring to allow a fresh start. They are fully hardy. Two good varieties that you should be able to find are "Lady Stratheden" that is yellow and "Mrs J Bradshaw" that is scarlet.

I know that I do go on a bit about deadheading but it is a very important tool in plant management. Like any organism the instinct of a plant is to reproduce itself so when it has set seed it begins to feel that it has done its job and begins to slow down. Removing the seed heads encourages it to start producing more flowers.

Finally, a big thank you to all of those who supported the Mayfield Horticultural Society Plant Sale in both donations and purchases. It was a highly successful day and a virtual sell out.

John Logan

MAYZING COMMUNITY CHOIR: We would like to invite you to the MayZing summer concert on Saturday 24th June, 7.30pm in St. Dunstan's Church. Tickets are available from The Pink Cabbage, The Shopping Basket or ask a choir member to buy one for you - £8 adults and £4 children. All profits will go towards the Kent, Sussex & Surrey Air Ambulance. As always the programme is varied and there will be the chance to join in!

Shirley Holland

MAYFIELD SCOUTS AND GUIDES: Welcome to June!! Where does the time go!! We had great success at our recent Jumble Sale with a good amount raised. There are still some more funds to come in and added to our final total. Thank you to everybody who donated Jumble to us and I would like to say a big thank you to the team that helped out on the day. It really was a great effort by all with everybody pulling together and working tirelessly and making the event a great success.

Our next fundraising event will be our Coffee Morning and Cake Sale on Saturday 1st July, in London House, starting at 10.00am. There will be a Raffle and a super selection of cakes to be purchased. Our regular cake makers along with the

Mums from the Beavers and Cubs do make some super cakes, so do get there early to get the best! So while you are busy shopping in the High Street, do drop in to see us and support us. We look forward to seeing you.

Kevin Leeves

MAYFIELD & DISTRICT U3A: The May General Meeting began with a few moments of silence while members remembered our Chairman of the past four years, Janet Goldsmith, who died in April after a short illness. Polly Bradford, Secretary, has taken over the role for the immediate future and any enquiries should be made to her on 873946.

Members were pleased to welcome back Brigadier Hugh Willig who delivered a fascinating, and at times highly amusing, lecture on Mary Kingsley, the sister of Charles, author of the children's classic *The Water Babies*. This redoubtable Victorian lady – “the friend of cannibals” – defied all convention and explored areas of the so-called Dark Continent determined to discover the truth about the natives, regarded as savages by European missionaries. Her concession to propriety was in her dress, wearing, in all conditions, the high-necked, full-length, tightly-corseted dress of that period.

The speaker at our June meeting will be Bob Trott, a retired air traffic control officer who will be shedding some light on this vital aspect of aviation.

Visitors are always welcome at our General Meetings, which take place in Mayfield Memorial Hall at 2pm on the third Thursday of each month, with the exception of August and December.

The U3A continues to offer a wide range of interest groups and welcomes new members. For further information contact Polly Bradford (873946) or Sue Petrie, Membership Secretary, (01892 542894).

Polly Bradford

MAYFIELD BUSINESS FORUM: At our May meeting we came to appreciate just how much concerns over nitrogen levels on the Ashdown Forest are driving planning policy during a review of the Wealden Local plan. Currently all new applications for developments that are likely to increase traffic in the district are on hold until measures can be agreed that will counter the effect on nitrogen emissions. The plan now has no new housing (apart from permissions already granted) for Mayfield up to 2028 and a small number suggested for Five Ashes. At the same time, Wealden are keen to promote tourism. So we are waiting to see how attracting more visitors can be squared with no increase in traffic.

After discussion, we have decided to start the next few meetings at 6:30pm. The June informal discussion will be on Wednesday 7th then we will revert to the first Tuesday, 4th, for our July meeting.

Roger Stone (872764) / 07776 144056

UP AND DOWN THE HIGH STREET

CELEBRITY AUTHOR: The 8th June 2017 is a date to remember, not just for the General Election but also because it's the day that Mayfield's celebrity author, Ray Hamilton, launches his new book: “A Short History of Britain In Infographics”. Signed copies are available from Four Winds in the High Street (it will also be available online and in all good bookshops, but obviously they won't have signed copies). We guarantee it is a jolly good read and follows on from Ray's successful “Knowledge – Stuff You Ought To Know”, useful for all the ardent quizzers in Mayfield and already reprinted following its initial success. All eight of Ray's books to date are available in Four Winds and you can find out what they are either by visiting the shop or by checking out Ray's author page on Amazon.

Ray's TV and radio appearances in recent months (to plug his entertaining book about the dreaded M25 motorway) have included the famous sofa on the BBC's Breakfast Show, The One Show, Sky News and Radio 5 Live. He is currently working on books about the Royal Navy and British Army, which will be published later in the year.

FLOWER HOUSE AND HOME: is a new friendly Flower and Homeware business with a difference. Our shop is a mix of romantic rustic flowers and reclaimed industrial.

We specialise in flowers for your home and events and also offer personal interior styling advice.

We have a love of old and new, and take inspiration for our flowers from our beautiful surrounding countryside of East Sussex and Kent.

For our Homeware we source from around the world from small and big antique fairs to reclamation yards, we bring these products into their own by renovating them or adding beautiful plants and flowers to these pieces from by gone years.

Holly & Nathan

NOTE FROM THE EDITORS: If you are a shop or business in the High Street OR a business in the villages and have something special to announce or have been nominated for an award send us a few lines to the usual Newsletter email address. Normal advertising should be sent to Paul Woodley paulwoodley.zagon@gmail.com

OPEN FORUM/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Stewart & Sarah Neve's 15th Wedding anniversary/ Vows renewal: We would like to say a very big thank you to the many friends and family members, who helped to make our 15th wedding anniversary and vows renewal such a special day. Special thanks go to Fr. Nigel for conducting the service for us, The Scout Hall committee members who made the grounds to the Scout Hall look amazing for our day & to Kevin and Sylvia Leeves who helped through the afternoon and evening. Without everyone's help, the day would not been as special as it was for us. We are very grateful to you all.

Stewart & Sarah Neve

REGULAR EVENTS – UPDATE AS AT JUNE 2017

The Regular Events section is only updated on an approximately six monthly basis – **KEEP THIS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.** You can also go to the village website: www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk/Village/v_diary.html for the current update. Please send any amendments to: mayfieldnewsletter2012@gmail.com

NOTES: Phone numbers are to be prefixed by 01435 unless otherwise indicated. "Frequency" is indicated as (w) = weekly, (m) = monthly.

<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location (Contact)</u>	<u>Time / Frequency</u>
Mon.	Intermediate Yoga class	Scout & Guide Hall (Lynne Carroll – 872775/ lynnekarroll@hotmail.com)	9.30 – 11.00am (w)
	Insanity	Five Ashes Village Hall (K2Bfit, 07808 856774)	9.30am – 10.30am (w)
	Gentle Yoga class	Scout & Guide Hall (Lynne Carroll – 872775/ lynnekarroll@hotmail.com)	11.15am – 12.30pm (w)
	Yoga (intermediate)	Scout & Guide Hall (Sarah Ratcliffe – 873310)	6.45 – 8.15pm (w)
	Just Jiu Jitsu	Five Ashes Village Hall (Matt Langridge – 07886 627068)	7.30pm – 9.00pm (w)
	Hospice in the Weald Shop	Hospice Shop Mayfield	9.00am – 4.00pm (w)
	Recreational lane swimming	Mayfield School Swimming Pool (Pool Manager, Gary Jones - 874600) entrance to be pre-purchased	6.30 – 8.00pm (w)
	Monday Tots	Library Corner - St. Dunstan's Church / London House (winter). (Karen Mack – 872607 or karen@mackcapital.co.uk)	9.30 – 11.00am (m – twice a month in term time)
	Youth Group 7-11 yrs	London House (Natalie Thomson 873467)	3.30 – 6pm (2 nd Mon. in month term time)
	Table Tennis Club	Five Ashes Village Hall (Sue Wren – email: suewren@sky.com)	8.00 – 10.00pm (w) Sep to Apr
	Parish Council 'Open Access' Desk	Old Manor House, High Street, Mayfield (873784)	9.00 – 11.00am (w)
	Parish Council Full Committee Meeting	Mayfield Memorial Hall / Five Ashes Village Hall (alternating)	7.30pm (m - 2 nd Monday, except August)
	Fire Station training session	Mayfield Community Fire Station (Alan Summerfield at the station)	7.00 -9.30pm (w)
	East Sussex Dance Studios	Five Ashes Village Hall (07828 131686; email info@eastsussexdancestudio.com)	Various times – contact for details (Term Time only)
	Natwest mobile banking service	Memorial Hall car park	1.15 – 2.15pm (w)
Tue.	Pilates Classes	Colkins Mill Church	9.30 – 12.30pm (w)
	Yoga (suitable for beginners)	Scout & Guide Hall (Sarah Ratcliffe – 873310)	10.00 – 11.30am (w)
	Circle Dancing	Scout & Guide Hall (Ranna Hurst - 873432)	8.00 – 9.45pm (w – 1st Tues only) and 2.30 – 4.30pm (w – all other Tues)
	Mayfield Wine Society	Mayfield Memorial Hall (Crispin Cobb, Chairman - 872398). [Waiting list for membership.]	8.00 – 10.00pm (m – last Tue. excl. Aug. and Dec.)
	Hospice in the Weald shop	Hospice Shop Mayfield	9.00am – 4.00pm (w)
	Cubs	Scout & Guide Hall (Gavin Ross – 873770)	6.00 – 7.30pm (w)
	The Tuesday Afternoon Club (for the over 60s)	Scout & Guide Hall (Shirley Holland 07908 516875)	2.30 – 4.00pm (m – 1st Tue.)
	Middle House Lunch	The Middle House (Bookings Ruth Daniells - 865711)	12.30 for 1pm (m – 3rd Tue.)
	Recreational "lane" swimming	St. Leonards-Mayfield Pool (Pool Manager – 874718)	6.30 – 8.00pm (w)
	Badminton	Memorial Hall (Helen Lane – 872207)	10.15am - 12.15pm (w)

	Short Mat Bowls	Five Ashes Village Hall (Mrs Eileen Morris phone no. 01825 762783)	7.00 – 9.00pm (w) Sep to Apr
	Tuesday Art Club	Garden Studio (Reem Acason - 01892 853963)	4.00 – 6.00pm (w)
	St. Dunstan's Bellringers practice sessions	St. Dunstan's Church Tower (Graham Holland – 872163 or e-mail: graham.h@uwclub.net)	8.00 – 9.15pm (w)
	Mayfield Evening WI	Memorial Hall (Berenice Blurton - 872039).	7.30pm (m – 2nd Tues.)
	East Sussex Dance Studios	Five Ashes Village Hall (07828 131686; email info@eastsussexdancestudio.com)	Various times – contact for details (Term Time only)
Wed.	Mayfield Mother and Toddlers	London House (Natalie Thomson – 873467)	9.30 – 11.30am (w – term time only)
	Art Class	Scout and Guide Hall (Tania Eccleshall – 872452)	1.00 – 4.00pm (w)
	Hospice in the Weald shop Guides	Hospice Shop Mayfield (No Meetings – Leaders needed!)	9.00am – 4.00pm (w)
	Parish Council 'Open Access' Desk	Old Manor House, High Street, Mayfield (873784)	9.00 – 12.00am (w)
	Recreational lane swimming	Mayfield School Swimming Pool (Pool Manager, Gary Jones - 874600) entrance to be pre-purchased	6.30 – 8.00pm (w)
	St. Dunstan's Parish Choir practice sessions	Junior Choir (Andrew Benians - 866485 or e-mail: andrewhbenians@hotmail.com) Senior Choir (as above)	5.00 – 6.00pm (w) 6.00 – 7.30pm (w)
	Pilates	Five Ashes Village Hall (shelbyjo@hotmail.com)	7.00 – 8.00pm (w)
	MayZing Choir	Mayfield CE Primary School (Noel Bannister; email - mail@noelbannister.co.uk Tel: 01892 668059 or 07702 835154)	8.00 – 9.45pm (w)
	MAYFACS Tea & Chat	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30 – 4.00pm (m 2 nd & 4 th Wed)
	East Sussex Dance Studios	Five Ashes Village Hall (07828 131686; email info@eastsussexdancestudio.com)	Various times – contact for details (Term Time only)
	Tai-Chi	Scout & Guide Hall (Peter Phips – 01892 782539)	7.30 – 9.00pm (w)
	Royal British Legion, Local Branch meeting	Mayfield Cricket Club (John Neal – 872113)	7.00pm (quarterly)
	Chi-Laxation	Five Ashes Village Hall (Marcus – email: info@chilaxation.co.uk)	1.00 – 2.30pm (m – 2 nd and 4 th Weds)
Thu.	Pilates	Colkins Mill Church Classes	9.30 – 12.30pm (w)
	Yoga	Five Ashes Village Hall (Donna MacGregor – 07759 088686, email: red.yoga@yahoo.com)	9.30am – 10.30am (w)
	Zumba Gold	Memorial Hall (Shirley Holland 07908516875)	9.45 – 10.30 (w)
	Scouts	Scout & Guide Hall (Mark Thomson – 07810 800 428)	7.00 – 9.00pm (w)
	Mayfield U3A General Meeting	Memorial Hall (Ann & Matthew Scott - 872121)	2.00 – 3.30pm (m – 3rd Thu. excl. Dec.)
	Hospice in the Weald shop	Hospice Shop Mayfield	9.00am – 4.00pm (w)
	Thursday Cogs Club (children in school years 4,5 & 6)	Colkins Mill Church (Steve and Judy Harland – 873194, email judy@harland.org.uk)	6.30 – 8.00pm (w – in term time)
	Mayfield Festival Choir Society	Primary School Hall (Contact Jane Bolger – 874701). Robin Howden, Secretary - 01825 830277; e-mail: registrar@mayfieldfestivalchoir.org ; website: www.mayfieldfestivalchoir.org	7.30pm (w – but no rehearsals between 8th May and Sept.)
	Mayfield Rifle Club	Memorial Hall (Les Wicker – 01892 661338)	8.00 – 10.00pm (w)
	Five Ashes Rifle Club	Five Ashes Village Hall (John Rolfe)	7.00 – 9.00pm (w) (Sep to Apr)
	After School Non-Contact Boxing Classes for children	Mayfield CE Primary School Hall (Aran - ABA Boxing Tutor - 07534 273891)	3.30pm (w)
	Open mic for musicians, singers of any style	Rose and Crown – 872200	1st Thursday each month
	Stoolball Club	Five Ashes Village Hall Playing Field (Sue Wren – email: suewren@sky.com)	7.00 – 9.00pm (w)
	Mayfield Weight Management Support Group	St. Thomas of Canterbury Court Lounge (Jaine Creighton – 07843 656484 / 868810 or e-mail: jaine@hireacamera.com)	7.30 – 9.00pm (w)
	Art Class	Scout and Guide Hall (Tania Eccleshall: 872453)	9.30am – 12 noon
	Handbell Ringers	London House (Shirley Holland - 872163)	5.45 - 7.00pm (w)
	East Sussex Dance Studios	Five Ashes Village Hall (07828 131686; email info@eastsussexdancestudio.com)	Various times – contact for details (Term Time only)

	Mayfield Poetry Group	Coach House, Royal Oak Mews (Pat Robson 872445)	11.00am – 12.30pm (m – 4 th Thursday)
Fri.	Kettlebells/Insanity Coffee & Chat	Five Ashes Village Hall (K2Bfit, 07808 856774) London House (Dennis Blurton – 872039)	7.00pm – 8.00pm (w) 10.00 – 11.30am (m – 1 st Fri.)
	Hearing Aid service – by East Sussex Hearing Resource Centre (ESHRC)	Memorial Hall – The Old Library. A volunteer provides batteries and hearing aid maintenance - 01323 722505	10.00am – 12 noon (m – every 3 months)
	Mayfield Local History Society	Scout & Guide Hall (Robert Foster, Hon. Sec. - 873215)	8.00pm (m – last Fri. Oct. to Apr.)
	Hospice in the Weald Shop	Hospice Shop Mayfield	9.00am – 4.00pm (w)
	Beavers	Scout & Guide Hall (Stewart Neve - 01825 830268)	5.00 – 6.00pm (w)
	Mayfield Band: Beginners practice	Band Room (rear of Memorial Hall) (Simon Rudge – 872007)	6.45 – 7.15pm (w)
	Mayfield Band: Junior practice	Band Room (rear of Memorial Hall) (Simon Rudge – 872007)	7.15 – 10.00pm (w)
	Parish Council 'Open Access' Desk	Old Manor House, High Street, Mayfield (873784)	9.00 – 11.00am (w)
	Recreational lane swimming	Mayfield School Swimming Pool (Pool Manager, Gary Jones - 874600) entrance to be pre-purchased	6.30 – 8.00pm (w)
	Friday Cogs Club (children in school years 7, 8 & 9)	Colkins Mill Church (Steve and Judy Harland – 873194, email judy@harland.org.uk)	6.30 – 8.00pm (w – in term time)
	Friday Cogs Plus Club (children in school years 10 and up)	Colkins Mill Church (Steve and Judy Harland – 873194, email judy@harland.org.uk)	8.00 – 9.30pm (w – in term time)
	Short Mat Bowls	Five Ashes Village Hall (Mrs Eileen Morris 01825 762783)	7.00 – 9.00pm (w) (Sep-Apr)
	Club night (social)	Mayfield Cricket Club, Wellbrook Ground (Peter Church - secretary@mayfieldcricketclub.co.uk)	5.00pm (w)
	Colts training	Mayfield Cricket Club (Andrew Watson – 872749)	5.00 – 6.00pm (w – for 5 to 9 year olds). 6.00 – 8.00pm (w – for 10 to 16 year olds)
	Tennis Club	Mayfield Tennis Club (Geoffrey Shackel – 873113)	3.30 – 7.00pm
	East Sussex Dance Studios	Five Ashes Village Hall (07828 131686; email info@eastsussexdancestudio.com)	Various times – contact for details (Term Time only)
	Just Jiu Jitsu	Five Ashes Village Hall (Matt Langridge – 07886 627068)	6.00pm – 7.30pm (w)
Sat.	Hospice in the Weald Shop	Hospice Shop Mayfield	9.00am – 1.00pm (w)
	Tennis Club	Mayfield Tennis Club (Geoffrey Shackel – 873113)	Morning
	Messy Church	St Dunstan's Church (Pam Mather – email p.mather1@tiscali.co.uk)	10.00 – 12.00 (approx. every 6 weeks)
	Writing Workshop	Five Ashes Village Hall (Helen Stockton – mob. 07784 538965, email: stocktonwriting@gmail.com web. www.helenstockton.co.uk)	9.30am – 1.30pm (m – once per month – call for info.)
Sun.	Footpath Walk	Meet South St. Car park	10.00am (m – last Sun.)
	St. Dunstan's Sunday Club	London House (Margaret Neve – 01825 830825)	10.15 – 11.00am (2 nd , 4 th and 5 th Sundays)
	Sunday Cogs Club (children and teens of all ages)	Colkins Mill Church (Nick Voss – 874847)	10.30 – 11.45am (w)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - JULY 2017 ONWARDS

(FOR JUNE 2017 - SEE LAST PAGE OF NEWSLETTER)

July 2017

Sat.	1	St. Dunstan's Churchyard Working Party	St. Dunstan's	10am – 12 noon
Sat.	1	Mayfield Scouts and Guides Coffee and Cake Sale	London House	10am – 12 noon
Tue.	4	Bowl Water boat trip day with fish and chip lunch. Organised by MAYFACs and incorporating the	Pick-up TBA	11am – 3.45pm

		Tuesday Afternoon Club outing		
Wed.	5	Mayfield Business Forum	Rose & Crown	7pm – 8.30pm
		Discussion topic: TBD		
Fri.	7	Mayfield Pre-School Quiz Night	Memorial Hall	TBA
Sat.	8	Mayfield Primary School Mum2Mum Market	Memorial Hall	10am
Sat.	8	St. Thomas of Canterbury Summer Fayre	Mayfield Convent Garden	10.30 – 2.30pm
Sat.	8	Last Night of the Proms Concert	Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Sun.	9	The Friends of St Dunstan's Church: Garden Party and Open Garden	Clayton's Farmhouse, Newick Lane	12noon – 2.00pm
Sat.	15	Mayfield Horticultural Society Summer Show	Memorial Hall and Scout and Guide Hall	8.30am – 10.30am entries. 2.30pm open to public
Sun.	16	Argos Hill Windmill Open Day	Argos Hill	2.00pm – 5.00pm
Sat.	22	Midsummer Bands and Bonfire Festival	Memorial Hall/Court Meadow	5pm
Sat.	29	Summer Show	Five Ashes Village Hall	TBC
Sat.	29	Musical Evening	All Saints Church Waldron	6pm

August 2017

Wed.	9	Argos Hill Windmill Open Day	Argos Hill	2.00pm – 5.00pm
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September 2017

Sat. - Sun.	9 - 10	Argos Hill Windmill – Heritage Open Day	Argos Hill	2.00pm – 5.00pm
Sat.	16	Mayfield Carnival courtesy of Mayfield Bonfire Boyes and Belles		TBA
Thur.	21	Horticultural Society – Visit to Garden and Nursery of Marchants Hardy Plants	Pick Up TBA	
Sat.	24	Mayfield Primary School Boot Fair	Memorial Hall car park	TBA

REMINDER: MAIN NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION POINTS

Five Ashes Inn, Five Ashes Village Hall, Heal's Farm Shop, The Shopping Basket, Pink Cabbage, Leppard's Butchers, St. Dunstan's Pharmacy, Middle House, Mace Stores, Public Library, Rose and Crown, plus several other premises around Mayfield where copies are available to browse.

COPY FOR NEWSLETTER / FEEDBACK TO CORRESPONDENTS

Copy should be submitted **at the latest** by noon on the 20th of the prior month. **Early submissions are encouraged.** Please send an e-mail to mayfieldnewsletter2012@gmail.com with the name of your organisation or the topic of your copy in the Subject line; or deliver hand-written copy to The Shopping Basket (3, Station Road, Mayfield). Whenever possible please try to submit electronic copy - you can type the message in the body of the e-mail or make an attachment. Please show on all submissions the subject, name of author and a contact number in case of queries. Ideally type in Arial (not Arial Black) 10pt.

For advertising copy (money with copy please) contact Paul Woodley (873258) or e-mail to paulwoodley.zagon@gmail.com or deliver to The Shopping Basket also by 20th of the prior month.

Unless otherwise stated the views expressed in MAYFIELD & FIVE ASHES NEWSLETTER are those of the contributors, and not of the Editors and Committee. The Editors reserve the right to omit, cut, or amend any contribution offered for publication.

To Correspondents with diary dates: feel free to provide advance notice of future events for inclusion in the Dates for your Diary section.

Finally, unless otherwise stated, telephone numbers given are those for the Mayfield village area and therefore, from outside, should be prefixed with 01435.

NATWEST MOBILE BANKING SERVICE

The service operates on Mondays (except Bank Holiday Mondays) from 1.15 to 2.15pm in the Memorial Hall overflow car park (near the Band Hut)

MAYFACS (MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES COMMUNITY SERVICES)

(Charity No. 1166647)

Shirley Holland – Manager - Tel: 07908 516 875

Email: manager@mayfacs.org.uk

MAYFIELD LIBRARY OPENING TIMES AS OF JANUARY 2017

OPEN: Tuesday 2.00pm – 5.00pm, Thursday 2.00pm – 6.00pm, Saturday 10.00am – 2.00pm.

CLOSED: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday, Bank Holidays.

JUNE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June 2017

Fri.	2	Argos Hill Windmill Open Day	Argos Hill	2.00pm – 5.00pm
Fri.	2	John Robson Retrospective Exhibition	Lower Steps Gallery	6pm – 9pm
Sat. – Sun.	3 – 4	John Robson Retrospective Exhibition – and Mon. to Thur. 5 – 8 2pm – 5pm	Lower Steps Gallery	12pm – 5pm
Sat.	3	Macmillan Coffee Morning	London House	10am – 12.00
Mon.	5	Planning Committee meeting	Memorial Hall	9.30am
Tue.	6	Tuesday Afternoon Club	Mulberry, Station Road	2.30pm – 4.00pm
Wed.	7	Mayfield Business Forum – Informal Networking	Rose & Crown	7pm – 8.30pm
Thur.	8	NO ZUMBA	Memorial Hall	
Sat.	10	Mayfield Primary School Summer Fayre	Court Meadow	11am – 2pm
Sat.	10	Boyes and Belles Summer Quiz	Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Sat.	10	20th Anniversary Celebrity Organ Concert with Malcolm Archer (Winchester College) and the Choir of St. Dunstan's	St. Dunstan's Church	6.00pm
Sat. – Sun.	10 – 11	Mayfield Open Gardens	Various gardens	1.00pm – 5.00pm
Wed.	14	Tai Chi	Five Ashes Village Hall	1.00pm – 2.30pm
Wed.	14	Tea/Coffee & Chat Wednesdays – all local residents are welcome. Sponsored by MAYFACS. Shirley Holland (Manager) on hand for advice.	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30pm – 4.00pm
Wed.	14	Royal British Legion Branch Meeting	Cricket Club	6.30pm for 7.30pm start
Thur.	15	Mayfield Pre-School Wine Tasting & Cheese Night	Pink Cabbage	TBA
Fri.	16	Charity Lunch in aid of The Jo Cox Foundation	Five Ashes Village Hall	12.30pm
Sat.	17	St. Dunstan's Summer Fête	Grounds of St. Dunstan's	12 noon – 3pm
Fri.	23	Boyes and Belles Bingo Night	Scout and Guide Hall	7.30pm
Sat.	24	MayZing concert	St. Dunstan's	7.30pm
Tues.	27	Mayfield Local History Society – Petworth House	Pick-up TBA	TBA
Wed.	28	Tai Chi	Five Ashes Village Hall	1.00pm – 2.30pm
Wed.	28	Mayfield Horticultural Society Summer Outing to West Dean and Parham House, West Sussex (Gardens only)	Pick-up The Middle House	9.15am – 5.45pm
Wed.	28	NO TEA & CHAT	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30pm – 4.00pm
Thur.	29	Zumba	Memorial Hall	9.45am – 10.30am

