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**FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR**


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This is the first 'commissioned' feature piece of our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year to enlighten readers about the real story behind one of Mayfield's great institutions...

**MAYFIELD BAND – OLDER THAN YOU THINK**

As the Yellow Pages marks its 40th anniversary, we shall also reflect on the last 40 years of banding in Mayfield. The exact date of the band's inception is not clear, but we are definitely older than the YP, at somewhere between 100 and 120 years old. During that time we have been variously known as St Dunstan's Church Band, Mayfield Silver Band, and of course Mayfield Band.

Old photographs show that a variety of instruments were played in the early days before we became brass only, which was probably around 1920. The article submitted to this newsletter in 1977 noted that the membership stood at 32, aged between 10 and 70, plus a learners group of 12 boys and girls. That was of course at a time when there was something of a resurgence in banding, as it was also the year in which Sir Terry Wogan and the Brighthouse and Rastrick band were in the charts with The Floral Dance, and Peter Skellern had also had several hits backed by the Grimethorpe Colliery band. So, we are pleased to report that whilst it is more of a struggle to find players in today's world of multifarious digital entertainments, we currently have a membership of 22 players in the senior band, aged from early teens to late seventies, and a further 10 in the junior/training band. We still have some players that were in the band when the Yellow Pages were launched. We have players from all walks of life, and players of all abilities. Whilst we are an amateur band, we always aim for the highest standards, but at the same time we are here for the village and everyone is welcome. Not only is it very much a big family, but there are also several families within the family, and having parents and children playing together makes for a very special and warm dynamic.

We have our own practice room on Court Meadow, built by band members back in the early seventies, and we own a full range of instruments. This means that in return for a very modest subscription, we offer a low-cost way to get into music, which is a fantastic amenity for a village the size of Mayfield to have. We welcome players of all abilities, from complete beginners upwards, and from 8 to 80. Our adult learners are as important to us as our junior players, and we have several players that only started in later life.

We play at fetes and fairs all over the county and beyond, and also have several regular concerts every year. As our numbers are presently slightly down, we do not currently take part in contests, but we have enjoyed many notable contest successes in recent years. Most notable of all was when the band reached the finals of the national championships held at the Albert Hall in 1984, a very proud moment in our history.

We firmly believe that music plays a critical role in the development and education of children, so our junior section is very important to us. Our younger players invariably go on to forge highly successful careers having been high achievers at school and university. Banding encourages hard work, concentration, discipline, teamwork, and social skills. The children that are committed to their practice can easily become highly competent players by their early teens, and make a significant contribution to the senior band. But as they then move on to university when they are 18, we always work with our local schools to ensure a good supply of new players.

The band rehearses on Friday evening, with a beginners group at 6.45, the youth/training band at 7.15, and senior band from 8-10. If you would like to join us, or just come along and have a try, contact the band secretary, Simon Rudge on 872007, or the training band director Jenny Pursglove on 01892 653422. You can find further details of the band on our website [www.mayfieldband.co.uk](http://www.mayfieldband.co.uk), or on our Facebook page. It's a brilliant and very accessible way to get into music, and probably the best way, as you are with a like-minded group who are keen for you to succeed, and there are parts for everyone to play. So, come along and become part of a great British tradition, part of Mayfield history, and help us to keep the soundtrack to village life playing on into the future.

Simon Rudge

*Oh, yes - we've always thought that Mayfield Band are very good – at blowing their own trumpet!*

John and Brenda Holding – Editors

**NOTE TO ADVERTISERS AND CONTRIBUTORS: Kindly aim to submit material for the March issue of the Newsletter by close on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> February so that we can get the March issue out on time. Thank you.**

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**MAYFIELD & FIVE ASHES PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

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The Parish Council Chairman, Cllr Deveda Redman and I had a very lovely time visiting Mayfield Primary School just before they broke up for Christmas. We were there to ask some of the younger children what sort of equipment they would enjoy playing on in the bottom play area in Court Meadow. The Parish Council has decided that it is getting a bit tired and could do with some refurbishment. The school was very welcoming and the children were ever so well behaved and polite. They were given choices of different items of climbing equipment, swings, slides and a den to look at to choose their favourites. They gave us some valuable feedback on what they liked the look of best of all and why. The Pre-School staff talked to their pupils and provided feedback too and we would like to thank all involved for their assistance towards this future project.

**Councillor Vacancy:** As mentioned in the December and January issues of the Newsletter, the Parish Council needs to co-opt a councillor to represent the Ward of Five Ashes. At the time of writing this article prior to publication there had been no applications received.

As the Newsletter is circulated shortly before the beginning of the month there may still be time for you to apply but you will need to hurry! If you are interested, you should forward your CV to the office with a covering letter outlining why you think you would be a valued member of the Parish Council and any areas of expertise that you could offer **by 31 January 2017**. These will then be circulated to Councillors for consideration. Prospective Councillors will be invited to attend the Parish Council meeting on 13 February 2017 to speak for three minutes.

**Walk on our Rights of Ways:** A reminder that the Guides to Walks around Mayfield and Five Ashes are still available for sale in the Parish Council Office for £5 a copy. The booklet starts with an informative village walk through the centre of Mayfield including some local history. There are also walks that encompass the Mayfield Gun foundry with additional information supplied on its history. The walks vary in distance between 3 – 9.5 km. If you would like to purchase one please visit the Parish Council office in the High Street on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday morning.

**East Sussex welcomes Syrian refugee families:** East Sussex district and borough councils have agreed to support the resettlement of vulnerable Syrian families who have fled war zones. Many refugees have experienced traumas such as torture, the deaths of loved ones and the loss of everything they own. They have fled in a desperate search for safety, the majority with young children.

Eastbourne, Lewes, Wealden and Rother councils have each agreed to resettle 40 people, with Hastings Borough Council pledging to resettle 100 people over the next five years.

Since November, working closely with the Government and a range of key partners including health, education and voluntary and community groups, the East Sussex Syrian Resettlement Programme has resettled 22 people including grandparents and children. This January, a further 22 people including extended families should have been resettled in East Sussex.

Finding suitable affordable accommodation to resettle Syrian vulnerable families into this area is difficult. If you are a private landlord with family sized accommodation available at the local housing allowance rate that you would be willing to let to a Syrian family, please contact Wealden District Council at [housingoptions@wealden.gov.uk](mailto:housingoptions@wealden.gov.uk) to find out more."

**Housing information:** From time to time, Wealden District Council's Housing Register and Allocations Officer sends details of properties in Mayfield and Five Ashes that will be available to rent. This information is always displayed in the noticeboards and posted on the Parish Council website and Facebook page.

To increase your chance to be considered for council housing in the Parish here are just a few suggestions of what you can do:

- Apply to join the housing register as early as possible – before home/s are advertised - so you are actually in a position to bid when the home/s are available. Remember that It takes around **four weeks** to register a new application for housing.
- Applicants who are considered vulnerable, or don't have internet access can sign up for a personalised property list called My Homemove, which lists the properties available that applicants may be eligible to bid for.
- Inform Wealden District Council about your local connection because after the home has been advertised is too late!
- Make sure you tell Wealden District Council about any change in circumstances, before a home is advertised.
- Do make sure you bid even if you are in a low priority band – you never know, you might be successful
- Familiarise yourself with the Homemove bidding process so that you understand the process.

For more information visit [www.wealden.gov.uk](http://www.wealden.gov.uk) telephone 01323 443322.

**Local meeting with East Sussex Highways representatives:** There will be a public meeting with 3 senior members of ESCC Highways and CH2M (a major civil engineering contractor). They will give a presentation which will be followed by a Q&A session.

If you have an interest in highway matter or been affected by roadworks, etc. feel free to come along: the meeting is being held on **Tuesday 28th February at 7.00pm at Hadlow Down Village Hall** which is situated at the bottom of Hut Lane, this is a turning off of the A272 between the New Inn and the red telephone box. Further parking is available in School Lane. It is worth bringing a torch as there is no street lighting.

For any enquiries contact Helen Johnson, Clerk to Hadlow Down Parish Council, (860959) or email: [hadlowdownpc@btconnect.com](mailto:hadlowdownpc@btconnect.com)

**Recent reported fraud:** Sadly, there are always new scams of be aware of – I myself am fed up with being telephoned numerous times a week by the 'Microsoft Windows Technical Department' despite the fact that I don't even use that operating system. Also, bizarrely, my son had a telephone call concerning his prosecution involving the crown and to 'press 2' to speak to his solicitor! Needless to say, he didn't.

Action Fraud has received several reports from victims who have been sent convincing looking emails claiming to be from Amazon. The spoofed emails from "service@amazon.co.uk" claim recipients have made an order online and mimic an automatic customer email notification.

The scam email claims recipients have ordered an expensive vintage chandelier. Other reported examples include: Bose stereos, iPhone's and luxury watches.

The emails cleverly state that if recipients haven't authorised the transaction they can click on the help centre link to receive a full refund. The link leads to an authentic-looking website, which asks victims to confirm their name, address, and bank card information.

Amazon says that suspicious e-mails will often contain:

- Links to websites that look like Amazon.co.uk, but aren't Amazon.co.uk.
- Attachments or prompts to install software on your computer.
- Typos or grammatical errors.
- Forged (or spoofed) e-mail addresses to make it look like the e-mail is coming from Amazon.co.uk.

Amazon will never ask for personal information to be supplied by e-mail.

You can read more about identifying suspicious emails claiming to be from Amazon by visiting <https://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=201489210>

To report a fraud or cyber crime, call 0300 123 2040.

**Wealden Dementia Action Alliance:** Wealden District Council's 2017 Dementia-Friendly Film screenings which begin at 2pm are:

24 February – *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*

24 March – *Top Hat*

21 April - *Easter Parade*

26 May – *On the Town*

23 June – *Hjgh Society*.

The film screenings are just one in a number of activities provided by the Wealden Dementia Alliance. Further details of the 2017 season of dementia-friendly films in Wealden can be found on Wealden District Council's website in the Communities and Safety pages.

#### Dates of Council meetings in February:

Meeting	Date	Time	Venue
Full Parish Council	Monday 13 February	19:30	Mayfield Memorial Hall
Planning Committee	Monday 20 February	09:30	Parish Council Office
Finance & General Purposes	Monday 27 February	19:30	Parish Council Office

Please note that minutes of meetings are available for viewing online at: [www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk](http://www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk) and at the Parish Council Office.

Janna Todd

Parish Clerk to Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council

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## REGULAR FEATURES

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**WILDLIFE SPLASH: THE BIG FARMLAND BIRD COUNT:** The Big Farmland Bird Count is a relatively new initiative, similar to the Big Garden Bird Watch (28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> January), but based on farms. The Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust (GWCT) organise it in order to track trends in farmland birds and to establish the impacts of different types of farmland management. It has been going for just four years, with the number of farms participating rising year on year.

Farmers and landowners are asked to take part on any day between the 3rd and 12th February for thirty minutes. During this time the species and number of each species seen on one particular area of the farm are recorded. Details of the habitat types and the farm management in the area are required so the results can be put into context.

In 2016 over 970 farmers took part and recorded 130 species across 900,000 acres. Blackbirds chirped in at number 1 with Woodpigeons flapping in at number 2 and the cheery little Robin hopping along at number 3. A total of 25 species on the Red List were also recorded. (The Red List is not a good list, for it is reserved for birds that are globally threatened or that have suffered a 50 % reduction in breeding range or breeding population in the last 25 years.) Moreover, 5 Red List species were in the top 25 of all the birds recorded – Fieldfares, House Sparrows, Starlings, Yellowhammers and Song Thrushes.

Fieldfares are frequently seen in the wintry fields around Mayfield, sometimes forming loose flocks of a hundred birds or more with other species including Starlings, all busily preoccupied probing about for tasty invertebrates. Yellowhammers and House Sparrows are more partial to seeds, and so they can be seen in stubble fields or feeding on wild bird seed mixtures. Song Thrushes love to probe about for worms, though when the ground is frozen they search crevices for snails instead, and cleverly use an anvil, such as a rock, to smash the shell. Unfortunately, the Number 1 rated Blackbird waits in the wings and will often attempt to steal this juicy meal once removed from its packaging!

'But I'm not sure how to tell the difference between a Mistle Thrush and a Song Thrush or a Yellowhammer and a Cirl Bunting' I hear you cry! Don't panic Mr Mainwaring, for the GWCT has a handy identification guide to download and use. There's just no excuse, so wrap up warm, grab the binoculars, and get counting!

<http://www.gwct.org.uk/farming/big-farmland-bird-count/>

Jacqueline Thompson

**SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST: LOVE IS IN THE AIR:** Sussex is beginning to bloom and, in the absence of pollinating insects, hazel, one of our first flowering plants, is depending on a February breeze to deliver its Valentine's message. You'll all know male hazel flowers. They're the catkins; those droopy 'lambs' tails' which cast their sulphur clouds of dusty love into the countryside. These clouds are made of a multitude of lonely pollen grains; each cruising on the wind hoping to find the female hazel flower. Look closely on the branches and you'll see her desperately trying to grab a grain with her bright pink tentacle tassels.

This windswept romance has occurred ever since the end of the last Ice Age when our defrosting land was a botanical blank canvas. There were rich pickings for any plant that ventured way out west and hazel was one of the first pioneers. In an empty landscape, under open skies, it established its vast nutty empire becoming our most abundant tree species. But therein lies the problem. Hazel's just not very good at being a tree. It doesn't grow very tall. So, when the big boys started muscling into Britain, its claim to the canopy crown ended. Giant oaks blocked the sun and banished hazel to the shadows – an understory underdog.

And there, Gollum-like, hazel waited, until we showed up. Mesolithic man, foraging around for food, acquired a taste for hazelnuts. If you've ever witnessed me poking around with a spoon in the bottom of a Nutella jar it's clear that this love of hazelnuts, and our table manners, have changed little in the last 10,000 years. Hazelnuts were a vital protein source for our ancestors and each nut is individually packaged in a little container for easy storage.

But hazel took care of us in other ways too. It has a magical power of regeneration. Whatever doesn't kill it just makes it stronger. Hack down a hazel and, like the Hydra, it'll bounce back mob-handed, sending up an army of new shoots. Cutting hazel and allowing it to regrow (the art of coppicing) gave us a crop of strong, flexible poles. Coppiced poles have a multitude of uses; firewood, fences, fishing rods, shepherd's crooks, walking sticks, water diviners and magic wands. Hazel poles were the wattle in the 'wattle and daub' that held together our early homes. Hazel helped us build Britain.

And it built a Britain full of burly men with axes who marched into the wild woods and cut down those big oaks. And as our woodlands were cleared hazel rose again and regained its place in our developing countryside. Perhaps we were part of its comeback plan all along?

Michael Blencowe - People & Wildlife Officer  
[www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk)

**THE JOINT AND BACK CLINIC: VITAMIN D:** As we enter the short and darker times of the year sunlight and the good and bad things that can arise because of its absence is a topic to consider.

Our bodies create vitamin D because of skins exposure to sunlight, although how much exposure we need depends on how dark or light our skin is and how much we cover ourselves up with clothes and or sun creams. Obviously, we will get the majority of our exposure during the summer and spring months from April to September and this should carry us through the rest of the year, in theory. We also get some Vitamin D from red meat, fish, eggs and when fortified in breakfast cereals or as direct supplementation from the health food shop.

Vitamin D is essential for healthy bones and is part of the bodily process of absorbing calcium and phosphate from our diets, which are then used for building and maintaining the structure of teeth, bones and muscles.

Vitamin D deficiency can cause bones to become soft and weak as in Rickets which then leads to bony deformities in children. In adults, it causes Osteomalacia (softening of bone) which causes pain in the joints and obviously, the bones themselves. Other Vitamin D Deficiency Symptoms include- weight gain, low bone density/ osteoporosis and history of fractures, fatigue and generalized weakness, muscle cramps and weakness, joint pain (most noticeable in the back and knees), blood sugar issues, low immunity, low calcium levels in the blood. Low levels of D are known to cause Sarcopenia (muscle weakness) and consequently instability and falls. To me the muscle weakness is interesting as the deficiency induces 'muscle atrophy' which is a loss of muscle bulk and power compromising its contractile abilities, producing weakness and a 'swaying of posture when in movement'.

Some groups are at greater risk of deficiency such as expectant mothers, babies and children up to 4 years of age and people who are infrequently exposed to sunlight such as the infirm, the housebound, those in institutions or those who habitually wear clothes that cover a lot of their skin. For children and mothers there is a government scheme in operation to address this issue. Medications of certain types can also cause the condition, as can hypoparathyroidism and kidney disorders.

There is an increasing awareness among osteopaths and doctors regarding Vitamin D deficiency and the symptoms and signs of the conditions it can cause; there is also an increasing level of testing but it has yet to become commonplace among health professionals. How widespread the problem is – well, no one knows, but from where I stand it seems to be increasingly common.

Nigel Kettle BSc(Hons) Ost, Registered Osteopath  
The Joint and Back Clinic, Roseland's Avenue  
tel: 07939129626 for appointments or advice or [www.jointandback.com](http://www.jointandback.com) for more information

**FEBRUARY TRAVEL NOTES:** In case you have not heard, there are major changes happening at Gatwick Airport. From 24th January, all EasyJet and Virgin Atlantic flights will depart from the North terminal and British Airways flights will depart from the South Terminal. For all other airlines, it is advised to check before travel on the Gatwick Airport website: <http://www.gatwickairport.com/flights/which-terminal>

Well, despite all uncertainty surrounding Brexit and the effect this will have on the value of the pound, I have been very busy with bookings in January. The prices seem to have held, largely helped by the British Airways and Virgin Atlantic sales, but please note that this will not last. I booked a couple to the Caribbean this week and got almost the exact same price as last year, like for like, despite the fall of the pound against the dollar. Prices will go up and capacity has been cut, so if you are thinking of grabbing a last-minute bargain, you will be disappointed. My advice is to book your 2017 holiday early.

Last month, I talked about Canada as a desirable destination. Touch wood, largely trouble free, it is vast country where you could just imagine escaping from the madness. On the east coast, you have Montreal and Quebec City, all very chic and French with excellent food! There is also the wonderful ski resort of Tremblant, great for beginners and families as it has wide open pistes and great accommodation. A fairly short flight away and good value. Further north, you can explore Newfoundland, which is similar to New England and you can visit the home of Anne of Green Gables and explore the Gros Morne National park for its wildlife or explore Halifax, Digby and St John's for an insight into history of the first settlers and the slave trade.

Out west, Vancouver and Vancouver Island are the gateways to the Rockies, which you can visit by car (an easy drive) or on the famous Rocky Mountaineer train from which you may spot black bears, elk, deer and eagles. Canada is full of incredible wildlife. The train takes you to the Rocky mountains where there are the great ski resorts of Banff and Jasper in the winter, but the fantastic lakes and national parks beckon the rest of the year. Excellent for family holidays, especially if you like the great outdoors.

So, one idea to inspire you. Next month, I shall be talking about Costa Rica. I look forward to your enquiries.

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

**BOOK REVIEW: *The sense of an ending* by Julian Barnes, 2011:** To compose a novel which deals deftly with painful issues sometimes afflicting old age can never be an easy undertaking. The sense of a wasted life as well as the belated realisation of hurt inflicted in long-ago adolescence and its lasting effects, these are themes superbly handled in Julian Barnes' polished and riveting short novel which rightly won him the Man Booker Prize for 2011.

The protagonist in this story is Tony Webster who narrates in the first person. Tony, now retired, looks back over his life and recalls how he and his group of teenage schoolmates, befriended Adrian Finn in the nineteen-sixties. Adrian is by far the most brilliant and precocious of the clique and greatly admired by the others. When a fellow pupil commits suicide after getting a girl pregnant the tragedy provides stimulation for the clique's philosophical discussions as to what motivated the tragedy. Adrian goes on to Cambridge University while Tony goes to Bristol where he meets Veronica, a girl from a more socially elevated background than his own. On being invited to her home he is treated with condescension by family members and the romance ends acrimoniously. Eventually, Tony hears from Adrian and learns that he is now dating Veronica. Later he hears of Adrian's suicide and that he has left a note to the coroner stating in a manner typical of Adrian that "the thinking person has a philosophical duty to examine the nature of life and the conditions it comes with and has the right to renounce the gift no-one asks for."

Tony admires Adrian's free-thinking. Looking back over the forty years which has since passed. Tony, now in his sixties, begins to feel a sense of disenchantment with what he feels to have been his own mediocre existence. He has been married to Margaret, a more uncomplicated individual, and although the marriage has failed, he at least has a family to whom he is attached.

Now in his later years, Tony suddenly receives a lawyer's letter informing him of the death of Veronica's mother, bequeathing him £500 and a diary of Adrian's. He recalls that during that disappointing weekend spent with the family, Veronica's mother, a fey-seeming and enigmatic woman, warned him in a curious way about Veronica. Eager to claim Adrian's diary in a bid to reassess his past, Tony persuades Veronica to meet up with him again, this time in London. She agrees but her manner is cold and unforgiving. Tony has been annoyed that she retained the diary but Veronica tells him she has burnt it anyway. There is a further meeting in London but Veronica's attitude remains unbending and she hands him a photo-copy of a letter Tony had written to her at the time of her romantic affair with Adrian, and on re-reading this, Tony is confronted with the harsh facts of his own behaviour at the time and his adolescent cruelty. Veronica agrees to meet up with Tony on a third and final occasion but at all times she leaves him to guess at the secret behind Adrian's suicide and the role in which Tony had played, albeit unwittingly. An event occurs and the truth appears to become blindingly clear except that at the end of the novel there is another twist to the story which leaves the reader guessing. One does invariably form one's own ideas but I for one rather wished the story had concluded with more clarity. More learned critics however would not agree and one of the many favourable reviews of this book comes from *The Independent*, which states: "the concluding scenes grip like a thriller – a whodunnit of memory and morality."

This novel has been highly praised for its distinctive writing skill, its psychological perceptiveness, and its gripping theme.

I recommend it.

Cynthia M. Baker

## **NEWSLETTER 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY FEATURE PIECE: REMINISCENCES OF MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES – BY DAVID GRAY: PART 2.**

Directly opposite the Baptist Chapel front door is the Corner House which, in the 1800s, was a beer house called The Plough; then, later, our telephone exchange; and then I remember Parkers Electrical business moved in there. But a short walk along the raised pavement in West Street is a private house called Little Shirley which, up to the early 1900s [date provided by current resident], was yet another pub, called The Sawyers' Arms. Before The Railway Hotel was built, the Sawyers was the nearest licensed establishment to the construction site of the new railway line and new station buildings. So, it was a welcome thirst-quencher for all the many labourers working on that line.

Now, coming back to the Baptist Chapel, I'm going to turn (in my mind) into South Street, which was then – in those days – called Back Lane. Just around the first bend in South Street is a cul-de-sac on the right called Shirley Road, at the end of which is St Mary in the Fields, which was developed in the 1920s as a home for disadvantaged children, and it flourished until the 1940s. In the early-1940s, I went to the kindergarten there, run by Mrs Ellison, who was in one of the buildings, probably the little chapel. Incidentally, the last of the Sisters at St Mary's departed Mayfield in 1975.

Directly opposite Shirley Road is a garage, on top of which used to be Rogers Cycle & Wireless Workshop, and many Mayfield people had their wireless accumulators charged regularly here. Access was also by a narrow twitten, down from the High Street.

The next building in South Street is Brewer's Grove, on the site of yet another pub, The Brewers' Arms. The original was really a hang-out for travellers - it was demolished in the 1930s. My parents advised me not to frequent even the new Brewers Arms, when I was old enough, but this is also now demolished and the houses there are modern town houses.

Richmead Gardens, of course, wasn't invented then.

South Street – Back Lane still – divides soon, with Vale Road off to the right and on the very corner of that division was Mrs Hall's sweet shop and, further up South Street, was – and is – September Cottage which was, I think, Mrs Bachelor's general shop that became an Oxfam shop briefly after that; but that's modern stuff – I don't remember that.

But opposite Laurel Cottage was – and still is – a green door which led to steps up to our busy Fish & Chip shop then, in my day, run by Mr Sherlock – very good they were too!

Now, returning back down South Street to the Baptist Chapel: after the Corner House and wandering (in my mind) up West Street, the first shop on the right was the Smockery (?) which I think became a foot clinic, briefly, before it moved to the High Street. The Smockery sold baby clothes and also, next door to it, was of course the long-established April Cottage Tea Room, which only closed at the end of 2011.

Next to April Cottage was – and is – May Cottage; then June Cottage. But our vet in those days, Mr Garden (?) insisted on retaining the name Oak Croft for his house, the top cottage. Sadly, he should have called it, I think, July Cottage.

...to be continued.

**ERRATA to Part 1 (January):** (i) Wood Hill should be all one word: Woodhill, (ii) Shackle should be spelled Shackel. The GP who was called up was Dr. Edward Shackel, the second of the 3 Shackel GPs who practiced in Mayfield, (iii) Earley is should be spelled Erleigh, (iv) Bill Medhurst lived at Lower Crabb not Lower Cramm.

Thanks to Geoffrey Shackel for pointing these out.

Editors

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### **FIRST WORLD WAR CENTENARY**

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**MAYFIELD AND THE GREAT WAR - NO. 35 - FEBRUARY 2017:** No large-scale attacks were undertaken by the British army along the Western Front during February 1917. The German army commenced a secret withdrawal of their troops to the new Hindenburg Line, which was not completed until April 1917.

Locally, in respect of the new War Loan much was made in the local newspapers of the fact that in the Tunbridge Wells area (which included Mayfield) a sum of £1 million had been raised. No definitive total was provided for Mayfield but it was noted that the Mayfield Post Office, one of the collecting agencies for the War Loan, had received subscriptions amounting to £3300. This compared to Tunbridge Wells which collected £35,000. One of the features of the public response was noted as the amount of gold coins amongst the subscriptions. It was further noted that this pointed to the fact that a considerable amount of gold was being hoarded and not deposited in any Bank.

Cigarettes were much in demand to send to soldiers/sailors and the Mayfield Men's Sick Benefit Club sent a quantity to its own members. Similarly, a collection at the Royal Oak Hotel by the Mayfield Slate Club was used to send cigarettes to local men. Lance Corporal A. Fuller, who was home on leave from France, was entrusted with 500 cigarettes from the Royal Oak to share among local men in his RS Battalion. He was reported as writing home to say they were 'much appreciated.

In spite of the increasing demands of the war a substantial sum of money was contributed by Mayfield for the furtherance of missionary work in various parts of the world. Contributions amounting to £189.2.5d (today perhaps £12,000) were given to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel; the Church Missionary Society; Missions to Seaman; and the British and Foreign Bible Society.

The Bowling Club meeting revealed a satisfactory financial position with a balance of £1.5.10d. Two matches were lost during the season against Tunbridge Wells clubs. Winner of the tournament competition was E J Bish and Runner Up E J

Whapham. The future of the club was to be decided at a future meeting.

No names are recorded on the Mayfield or Five Ashes war memorials for February 1917. Local newspapers carried much news of Mayfield's serving men, and it was stated that 400 men had now left the Parish. The newspapers also stated that the Roll of Honour contained the names of 25 men killed or died of wounds, but we know from our own records that up to the end of December 1916 there were in fact already 41 deaths of local men.

Other news reported was that "*Corporal Frank Scammell, youngest son of Mrs Scammell of The Warren, has been awarded the Military Medal. He was in Canada when the war broke out and joined the Canadian infantry and took part in the advance on Courcellette, his Company being reduced to 40. He returned to France...having been on leave for 10 days.*"

*"Five Ashes: Private H Knapp Transport Section of the 8th Battalion RSR has had 10 days leave from France and has been at his home at Pitts Cottage, Summerhill. Private Knapp is the fourth son of Mr/Mrs Joseph Knapp and joined the RSR on Sept 3 1914. He went to France on July 20th 1915 and has had several narrow escapes. On one occasion his life was probably saved by his cigarette case, which stopped the bullet and which he is keeping as a memento of the occasion. Before joining the Army, he worked in the stables at Hadlow House."*

Brian Oldfield & Carole Stilwell

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## OUR SCHOOLS

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**MAYFIELD PRE-SCHOOL:** From Pop Quiz and Bingo to Fashion and Jumble, the pre-school has a packed calendar of events this term so please come along and support our fundraising efforts!

Our **Pop Quiz** night takes place on Friday, February 10, at 8pm at Mayfield Memorial Hall. Tickets cost £7.50 and include a hot supper. Drinks will be available to purchase from the bar. The quiz is open to teams of up to six people. Tickets are available from Burnetts Estate Agent or the Pre-School.

Mayfield Pre-School **Jumble Sale** takes place from 10-12 on Saturday, February 25, at Mayfield Memorial Hall. Please take donations of jumble to the pre-school beforehand or to the hall on the morning. Entry will be 50p and refreshments will also be available.

The Pre-School will also be holding its first **Fashion Show** at the Memorial Hall on the evening of Wednesday, March 15, and a **Bingo Night** will take place at the Memorial Hall on Friday, April 28. The Fashion Show is organised in association with Travelling Trends. Entry by ticket only - £8 to include a glass of wine or soft drink on arrival. Lots of High Street clothing names at vastly discounted prices, something for everyone. Doors open at 7:30, fashion show starts at 8pm.

For further information please email [committee@mayfieldpreschool.com](mailto:committee@mayfieldpreschool.com)

Daniel Lee-Billinghurst, Mayfield Pre-School Chair

### LOCAL PUPILS AND COMMUNITY BENEFIT FROM SCHOOL'S WELLBEING WEEK:

Pupils at **Skippers Hill Manor Preparatory School** in Five Ashes, recently took part in their own Wellbeing Week.

Children from Kindergarten through to Year 8 spent the week enjoying a range of activities with a focus on promoting health and happiness, including mindfulness workshops, art therapy, fitness classes, massage and smoothie making.

The school's Key Stage 3 pupils also hosted an Afternoon Tea in the local village hall, in conjunction with **MAYFACS** (Mayfield and Five Ashes Community Services), providing



musical entertainment and delicious sandwiches and cakes, to some of the older members of the community.

Headmaster, Mark Hammond, said: "At Skippers Hill we pride ourselves on providing a warm and supportive, family atmosphere for pupils and we feel that focusing upon our wellbeing and preparing for the challenges of modern life is vitally important. This, our second Wellbeing Week, has been a great opportunity for staff and pupils to focus on their own and others' wellbeing and to learn more about how we can stay healthy and happy, which in turn can support learning and development."

Skippers Hill's next Open Morning takes place on Saturday, 4th February, 10am - 12pm. Prospective families can call the School Office on 01825 830 234 to book.

Amy Hebditch



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## OUR CHURCHES

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**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WORKER:** January at St Dunstan's has been alive with activity- we welcomed Epiphany with our first family Eucharist of the year, complete with a procession of Kings around the church. We also had our "Follow the star" Messy church, which as usual was great fun and we were delighted to welcome new families- despite the hail! Our new baby group, Tiddly winks has started and we welcomed eleven new mummies to London House. I am looking forward to seeing them and more of you all on the 25<sup>th</sup> January at 10am.

Looking forward into February we will be hosting a Big Pancake Party in St Dunstan's on the 28<sup>th</sup> February at 3.30pm. This will be a chance to eat pancakes and have some fun after school, whilst raising money in donations for our new food bank project! If you would like to book your child a place, please contact me using the details below.

Our Together at 9.15 services are becoming ever popular with new families joining us each month. These happen on the third Sunday of each month and are a half an hour service held in St Dunstan's, led by our Deacon, Di Blackden. They are largely informal, without communion, welcoming children of all ages and their families to come and experience a church service with us! These are completed with a craft session in London House. Do come along to our next 9.15 service on the 19<sup>th</sup> February. Our chosen charity, FSW (see Lenten Lunches below) will be coming along to introduce themselves and tell us about the work they are going to begin in our villages, with our support!

My team and I are finalising initial plans for our new church pantry to begin in Mayfield and Five Ashes. This will enable villagers to donate food easily to a variety of outlets in the village. They will in turn be able to obtain the food, should they wish, on an ad-hoc basis, using a simple referral system. I have had many offers of voluntary help from the village, which is very encouraging! There is still time to be involved in this incredibly rewarding village project, for more details please contact me below.

All the team at St Dunstan's look forward to meeting you and your family soon.

Natalie Thomson

Email: [childrensworker12@gmail.com](mailto:childrensworker12@gmail.com)

Mobile: 07889 780 531

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/natalie.thomson.5264?fref=nf>

**LENTEN LUNCHES:** Already starting the 2nd month of the New Year, we begin to think of Easter and consequently the 6-week period of Lent. Once again, Father Nigel has kindly allowed five Charities to produce simple Lenten lunches to be held in London House. As, this year, there will be three new charities taking part, I have added below a short appreciation of all five.

The 1st lunch is in support of Hospice in the Weald which provides specialist palliative care to patients, families and carers in West Kent and North East Sussex. This will be held on WEDNESDAY, 8th MARCH at 12.30 to 2.15pm.

The 2nd lunch is in support of Caring and Sharing in Sussex. This is a Sussex based Charity supporting 14 overseas projects in poorer countries that help to take children off the streets and into a better way of life. One of the Patrons of this Charity is Bishop Nicholas Reade a former Vicar of Mayfield. This will be held on WEDNESDAY, 15th of MARCH at 12.30 to 2.15pm.

The 3rd lunch is in support of Family Support Work, which works with children and families in need of help in Sussex since 1890. This is achieved through qualified field workers working through with children and families helping them address their difficulties. Their date is on WEDNESDAY, 22nd MARCH at 12.30 to 2.15pm.

The 4th lunch is to support The Mayfield and Five Ashes Community Services (MAYFACS) This Charity was established in 2016 to promote community based services and support for residents in our Parish who maybe suffering loneliness and isolation. Many schemes are underway, details of which will be found in our Village Newsletter. The date for this is on WEDNESDAY, 29th MARCH at 12.30 to 2.15pm.

And the 5th lunch is in support of Friends of the Holy Land. This was founded in 2009 to help and support the Christian population of the Holy Land. They work to improve education, employment, health and housing and to develop a resilient and enduring Christian Community there. The date for this last lunch is WEDNESDAY, 5th APRIL at 12.30 to 2.15pm.

All these lunches will comprise a choice of soup with roll and butter, cheese and biscuits, and fresh fruit. No tickets are required but a donation would be gratefully received. These lunches have proved to be very popular, friendly affairs so do come and join your friends.

Jean Olney

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## ROUND AND ABOUT

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**MONTHLY FOOTPATH WALK:** Don't forget, the regular **Monthly Walk:** We meet on the last Sunday of every month to walk along some of the many public footpaths within the parish. This is a great way to find out new routes and enjoy the fantastic countryside that is around us. Walks are usually around 4 miles and we are always back by lunchtime.

This month join us for a winterland walk, leaving from South Street car park at 10am on **Sunday 26th February**. Everyone is welcome (dogs will need to be on a lead for part of the route) and there is no need to pre-book. So, hope to see you there.

Deborah Dixon (01892 853767)  
[deborah.dixon@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:deborah.dixon@hotmail.co.uk)

**MAYFIELD & FIVE ASHES COMMUNITY CAR SERVICE:** Reminder - the telephone number and the timing for contacting the Community Car Service to notify us of your need for transport to be arranged have changed with immediate effect.

The new number to ring is now 01435 874742. The hours for ringing this number are from 10.00am to noon, Monday to Friday. It should be noted that this number will not be manned for Car Service calls outside of these hours.

Rosemary Neal – Chairman, Mayfield & Five Ashes Community Car Service

**MAYFIELD PHOENIX PLAYERS: POSTPONEMENT:** It is with regret that, owing to an unforeseen cast problem Mayfield Phoenix Players have to postpone their production of 'The Prisoner of Second Avenue' which was due to be performed on 9th to 11th March.

Tony Woodliffe (Hon. Sec.)

**MAYFIELD BONFIRE BOYES AND BELLES:** Now we are into 2017, we are planning our fundraising events for the year. Our monthly Bingo nights have now kicked off for the year, and a big thank you to the new faces that have joined us recently, it was good to see you there, and I am glad you enjoyed yourselves!! Thank you for your lovely comments, and also for all the other lovely comments/feedback, in which we receive from everybody, on a regular basis, about our Bingo evenings.

Our **Next Bingo Night** is being held on **Saturday 18th February, at 7.30pm, in the Scout and Guide Hall**. Please note this is a Saturday, and not our normal Friday evening. Due to the Hall commitments, we are having to juggle a bit this year, so we will be having a couple of our Bingo evenings, on a Saturday night, instead of a Friday. But we will be sticking to a Friday evening, when we can. Our **March Bingo night, will be on a Friday, this will be on St Patrick's day, Friday 17th March**. Please keep an eye on Dates for your diary, at the back of this Newsletter.

So, do come along and join us, if you can, you will be made very welcome, and children are very welcome, too! We do have some young players already! We make it a fun evening, with free refreshments, a raffle, nibbles, music, etc, and also the odd quiz gets thrown in, just to keep those brain cells ticking over! We even have special treats thrown in, at certain times of the year!

And don't forget, we have our free Mini-Bus service, which is available, to those who require it, to and from, the venue.

Our next fundraising event, will be our **Winter Quiz Night, which will take place on Saturday 25th February**. This will be the first Quiz night, of three, we do for the year. This will take place in the Memorial Hall, at 7.30pm. Tickets will be available, to purchase, from Rosina Fabrics, in the High Street, or from The Shopping Basket, or on the door, on the night. Tickets are £8.00 each, which includes a lovely hot supper, for this time of year! There will be a licensed bar available as well. Do come along and join us, it is always a fun evening for all.

For further details of any of the above, please contact me, Kevin, on 872057, or Mobile 07973 727189, or by email on: [kevinleaves@btinternet.com](mailto:kevinleaves@btinternet.com)

Kevin Leaves



**MAYFIELD & FIVE ASHES COMMUNITY SERVICES – MAYFACS: UPDATE:** Logo Competition Winner: Well done to Evangeline Morson from Mayfield Primary School for her design, which has been adapted into this, our MAYFACS logo. The words in the centre were inspired from a slogan Oscar Scott-Taggart put on his entry. We think the logo really sums up what MAYFACS is all about. We were amazed at the quality of the entries so much so that we also awarded two runners up prizes to Libby Poland and Alex Bulley from Five Ashes Primary as their designs were in the final shortlist. Thank you to all the children who took part.

Re. Afternoon Tea on 13<sup>th</sup> January: Thank you to everyone who braved the snowy conditions to attend in Five Ashes Village Hall. The children of Skippers did us proud and we were beautifully catered for with sumptuous sandwiches, scrummy cakes and delightful entertainment! More news is under 'Our Schools'. Thank you Skippers Hill School. We hope it will be repeated later in the year.

Coffee and chat Wednesdays, Singing for Fun & Zumba Gold: Look for February's Dates For Your Diary at the back.

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.

Friends of MAYFACS: Would you consider becoming a Friend of MAYFACS? Please see these leaflets at outlets in the villages or ask me for one. If you are able to make a donation either as a one off or regular standing order, we would be delighted. We want to make as many activities affordable for all so are keeping the attendance cost to a minimum and we will continue to apply for grants for specific projects.

#Breaking News – Computer Buddies#: If you a complete computer novice or simply want to know a bit more about your tablet this might be for you. We are intending to start this monthly activity on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March in the library. The details are still being sorted, but pop into the library on a Tuesday or Thursday after 2.00pm or a Saturday morning (after 10am) to pick up further details. To find the library, come into the primary school entrance by the top of Fletching Street and it's just on the left about 30 yards from the gate. You'll be sure of a warm welcome from Lucy our librarian.

Diary date: You may wish to mark Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July in your diaries as that is the Bewl Water boat trip day with fish and chip lunch. This is incorporating the Tuesday Afternoon Club outing, but as the boat takes 70 people, we will be hiring a coach so there will be plenty of space.

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

**THE MAYFIELD TRUST: MOBILITY AIDS AVAILABLE:** The Mayfield Trust has been given a folding wheelchair and two walkers which are available on either short term or long term loan to anybody in need. If you know of anyone who could make use of such items please get in touch with the Trust's Chairman, Joy Pettit at the Shopping Basket, Station Road, Mayfield TN20 6BL, Tel 01435 873231. or email [odetojoypettit@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:odetojoypettit@yahoo.co.uk)

If you know of anybody who could benefit from the help that the Trust can offer do please get in touch either with our Chairman (details above) or with the Clerk, Brenda Hopkin, Appletrees, Alexandra Road, Mayfield, TN20 6UD Tel 01435 873279 or email [brendahopkin@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:brendahopkin@tiscali.co.uk)

**MAYFAIR:** The Mayfair this year will be held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May\*. We are already starting to plan it and would welcome anyone who wants to help as well as anyone with ideas on how to make it even better than last year!

Roger Stone (872764) / 07776 144056

\* Editors hear that the **Mayfield Fringe Festival** will rear its head during 10<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> May, therefore embracing the Mayfair!

**MAYFIELD COMMUNITY PLAY:** In January a large group of over 40 people met to discuss the inspirational idea of commissioning a community play for Mayfield in 2018.

The project was welcomed as an opportunity to strengthen the community and promote Mayfield. Lots of suggestions we made about how we can reach out to individuals and groups with links to Mayfield and encourage them to get involved.

We heard about what is involved in putting on a community play from people who acted in the Waldron plays and from Stephen Israel (director) and Suzi Hopkins (writer) of 'The Company' (a not-for-profit theatre group based in Sussex) about how they could help Mayfield stage a play. To get an idea of the nature of the project you can see the previous events that The Company have put together at [www.thecompanyuk.com](http://www.thecompanyuk.com)

If you would like to find out more or join our mailing list please get in touch with me, Jo Compton ([mail@jocompton.co.uk](mailto:mail@jocompton.co.uk) or phone 01435 873832). Look out for more news on the Mayfield village Facebook page.

Jo Compton

**COFFEE AND CHAT:** Just to remind you that our little gathering for everyone is at 10.00am till 11.30am on the first Friday of the month - generally speaking: 3<sup>rd</sup> February and 3<sup>rd</sup> March upcoming in London House. Why not drop in? All are welcome.

Dennis Blurton

**CLASSES IN “CHI-LAXATION” AT FIVE ASHES VILLAGE HALL:** To help you relax through coordination of Breath with Mind and Body.

Marcus Bain has been a student of Tai Chi Chuan for over 35 Years. He Teaches Yang Style Short Form Tai Chi, several versions of Standing and Moving Chi Kung Sets as well as some Relaxation Techniques and Well Being. He calls this Blend "**Chi-Laxation**".

Marcus is starting classes on **alternative Wednesday Afternoons in Five Ashes Village Hall from 1.00 to 2.30pm starting on the 8th February**. The Classes are open to all age groups from 16 years old but they are mainly aimed at the older generations.

Chi Kung is many things but to simplify it we could say that by using the Breath in alignment with the Body Posture we encourage Harmony through Inner Balance and Relaxation. There are a lot of different types of Chi Kung; some are used for Relaxation and Health, some for Martial arts and of course healing.

Tai Chi is actually a type of Chi Kung; it is the Graceful Movement from one posture to another, always staying in balance and at One with your Centre. In Tai Chi, the Mind leads and the Body follows as you slowly move through the set of movements that Harmonise Mind and Body with Spirit.

The Benefits of both of the above are re-Learning how to be relaxed in Stillness as well as in Movement. How to use the Breath to re-energise your body and mind as well as to keeping yourself Calm at times of Stress and Disease...to keep the body and mind fit and well and to eliminate the Stress from daily life from affecting us so much. It also aids in strengthening the legs in young and old and can help to re-establish good or better balance.

Please come wearing loose-fitting clothing and flat, soft shoes (trainers or pumps).

For more information please contact Marcus on 07841 367031 or email: [info@chi-laxation.co.uk](mailto:info@chi-laxation.co.uk)

**HOSPICE IN THE WEALD ART EXHIBITION – (AT PEMBURY):** *Discover and Celebrate Art*. This year, Hospice in the Weald will be hosting its very first art exhibition: *Art for Arts Sake*.

The two-day event will feature up to 300 paintings from around 100 local artists and will give guests the opportunity to chat with exhibitors and purchase any piece of work on display, whilst helping to raise funds for Hospice in the Weald.

The exhibition is being held at the Hospice (Hospice in the Weald, Maidstone Road, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 4TA) on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of March between 10.30am and 4.00pm and entry for adults is only £3 and children can come along for free.

On both Saturday and Sunday we will be offering you the chance to exercise your artistry skills learning from professionals in our workshop.

Saturday will be Family Day – the perfect family day out which will include a children's workshop. Children of all ages will have the opportunity to express themselves and have a go at creating their very own masterpiece!

For more information please visit the Hospice in the Weald Website: [www.hospiceintheweald.org.uk](http://www.hospiceintheweald.org.uk) - or contact Ben Greenstreet at [ben.greenstreet@hospiceintheweald.org.uk](mailto:ben.greenstreet@hospiceintheweald.org.uk) or on 01892 820528.

Grace Rutland, Fundraising Assistant

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## CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

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**MAYFIELD EVENING WI:** Our numbers were somewhat depleted at the meeting on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January due to illness which was a pity as our speaker for the evening was Janet Duchesne. She enthralled us with her pictures and talk about "The Children of Nkuringo." She and her husband had gone on a trekking trip to Uganda a couple of years ago and had encountered the village of Nkuringo. There, taken by the smiling children with nothing and who were struggling to get a basic primary education, they decided to sponsor them. Together with friends and organisations raising further money, a bigger school with dormitories has subsequently been built. In addition to this, water tanks have been installed for the benefit of all the villagers. Toni Whewell gave the well-earned vote of thanks.

After tea, a vote was taken to decide which of the six resolutions that we would like to go on the Agenda for the NFWI Annual Meeting in Liverpool in June.

Our secretary announced that headquarters is running a quiz, starting in April. If you would like to take part we need a team of four, please telephone Berenice.

The New Members meeting will be held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at Terrigal, The Warren, at 7.30p.m. Invitations will be sent out to all recently joined members and any others if they haven't been to one before.

Our next meeting is 14<sup>th</sup> February and the speaker is Lesley Negus and her subject is "Living on £1 per day", and she knows as she has had to do it. Meeting is at 7.15 for 7.30pm start. Come along just to see what we do and you might like to join us. We are a welcoming bunch, I can assure you. Or if you would like information please phone our secretary Berenice Blurton at 872039.

Margaret Rae

**MAYFIELD BAND.....YOUR ONE STOP SHOP:** Shortly after I read last month's newsletter, in which a vacancy for parish councillor was advertised, I read a reference to Dickens's Pickwick Papers, in which the local band was employed by one candidate in a local election to drown out the speeches of his rival. And the suggestion was that this was probably

based on an element of fact, as the hustings could be pretty rowdy back in the day. So, if any of you are considering the position, and wish to be guaranteed of success, just give us a call.

And browsing further into the yellow pages, I'm fairly sure there are other local services in which we could be usefully employed. We could deal with a few pooing dogs if my cat's reaction to my trombone practice is anything to go by, and if the wine society would like us to test a few bottles to make sure they are safe for human consumption, you know where to come. And we can certainly compete with Tai Chi for coordination of breath with mind and body! So please take advantage of Mayfield's one stop shop, as we can also offer the add on bonus of learning to play a musical instrument, if we can fit it in.

Sadly, what we can't do is teach you guitar, piano, or singing, which are the things that everybody really wants to do. Having said that, we could teach you those things, as we have some very good guitarists, pianists, and singers in the band. The thing is, that once you have become a musician, and have all the basic skills, you want to do more, so many of our players are multi instrumentalists. And we do understand why you might be drawn to these instruments, as it is difficult to sit down at home and play a soothing tune to your family on a trombone in the same way that you can on a guitar or a piano. Trust me, the trombone is just SO under-appreciated! So, don't be put off by the brassiness of our brass band, and our complete lack of cool. Not only will we hopefully set you on your way into the world of music, but we can also provide a convivial way in which to do it, and a place to do it, rather than sitting at home with a teach yourself book whilst your spouse checks out divorce proceedings on the internet. And which is coolest anyway – playing music or not playing music?

The planning for the spring/summer season is well under way, and the diary is filling up. We will be on the bandstand in Eastbourne again this year, on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 3pm with Warbleton band, so put that in your diaries for starters and have yourself a day out at the seaside. In the meantime, we will hopefully also see you at the Mayfair on the 13<sup>th</sup> May, so I'm off to sew some bells onto my trousers.

Simon Rudge (872007)  
simon@mayfieldband.co.uk

**MAYFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO OUR SOCIETY EVENTS: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February - Lynda Bradford "Plants That Every Garden Should Include Somewhere" Tea, Coffee and Biscuits From 7.30pm. Talk 8pm. Members free. Non-Members £2. In the Scout and Guide Hall, Mayfield.** Lynda Bradford is the owner of the popular Orchard Nurseries at East Grinstead. This articulate and knowledgeable plantswoman is in tune with current trends in horticulture and we are delighted to welcome her back for another of her fascinating talks. **This evening is also an opportunity to bring along any unwanted seeds and gardening magazines to swap or donate.** Wonderful inspiration as we all plan for the gardening year ahead.

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March AGM and Talk by Jim Buttress "Sixty-Five Years in Horticulture". Free Entry. Cash Bar and Membership renewals available from 6.45pm. Swift AGM followed by talk 7.30pm. In the Memorial Hall, Mayfield.** The Membership Fee remains at £5 this year. Cash bar with a free glass of wine or fruit juice for new members and those renewing their membership. Our Chairman Eddie Du Cann and President John Logan are masters of a speedy AGM so we will be able to quickly move on to the talk by our well known and fantastic speaker Jim Buttress. Trained at RHS Wisley, Jim is an RHS Judge, was Superintendent of the Central Royal Parks, judged 'Britain in Bloom' for over 25 years, was watched by millions on the 'Big Allotment Challenge' and is a regular guest gardening advisor answering listeners' questions on 'Digit' on Radio Sussex at 9am on Sunday mornings. Awarded the RHS Victoria Medal of Honour, this highly esteemed but very approachable gardening expert is full of fun and at previous talks has had us in stitches with the tales of his experiences.

Rosemary Bayliss  
mayfieldhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com

**MAYFIELD'S FILM SOCIETY:** Film on Friday will be screening "Court" on 24th February, a satire on the absurdities of the Indian justice system. An ageing folk singer is accused of assisting suicide through his songs. Unlike Bollywood, this film deals with attempts to gag freedom of expression.

*"The film has been rightly festooned with accolades and awards the world over." (Sight and Sound). "This fly on the wall has keen eyes, keen hearing and a keen intelligence." (Financial Times).*

Tickets for the March supper with "Guys and Dolls" will be sent out in February. The meal is sold out, but you can still attend the film. Members have voted to fill the vacant slot on May 12th with "The Eagle Huntress", a documentary about how the nomadic Mongolian tradition of men hunting with eagles is disrupted by a 13 year-old girl, skilled and empowered, who trains her own eagle.

Doors and the bar in the Memorial Hall open at 8.00pm for an 8.30 start on 24th February. Intending guests should phone me on 01435 872165 beforehand. Full details on [www.filmonfriday.org](http://www.filmonfriday.org)

Tim Cornish

**ROYAL BRITISH LEGION: Remembrance:** Many who observe the public occasions may only be aware of what are collectively known as the 'Exhortations' recited nationally and locally by Legion officials at Church services and war memorial gatherings without fully understanding the background.

Although the Legion is the proclaimed 'Custodian of Remembrance' and is a visible presence at all Remembrance occasions, its role is only advisory to the public bodies which have particular organisational responsibility for War Memorials, associated gardens and public spaces. Locally, that is the Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council. The connected religious

ceremonies are exclusively matters for the churches and in Mayfield, although ecumenical, Father Nigel Prior at St Dunstan's leads these.

**Armistice Day** which falls every year on the eleventh day of the eleventh month at eleven am represents the day, date and time when the guns fell silent signifying the end of WWI and its observance has been brought recently to the fore of public consciousness. Prior to the passing of the Act of Parliament which proclaimed Remembrance Sunday, Armistice Day was the principal occasion for the general public to remain motionless and silent for 2 minutes but because 5 out of 7 were working days such observance tended to lapse. Recently this situation has been reversed nationwide thanks to successive Governments' support.

**Remembrance Sunday** has no fixed date but is the Sunday which falls closest to the 11<sup>th</sup> November i.e. **Armistice Day**. Occasionally therefore Remembrance Sunday occurs before Armistice Day which does confuse some people but however they configure they should both be observed.

**Form of Ceremony:** These may differ in minor detail because of location e.g. in Mayfield there is the short service at the War Memorial which includes wreath laying and the Binyon exhortation exclaimed half by an older and half by a younger member of the congregation. Following the 'Last Post' all present move immediately into St Dunstan's Church for the full ecumenical service conducted by all the village church officers. It is extremely gratifying to note the increasing numbers attending/observing all ceremonies.

**Exhortations:** Laurence Binyon wrote 'For the Fallen' from which the Royal British Legion selected as their Remembrance exhortation "They shall grow not old"... in August 1914. It is the fourth verse of a 7 stanza poem which came to him at Pentire Point, Cornwall where a plaque marks the place at which the poem was conceived. The background to the poem was the heavy losses inflicted on the British Expeditionary Force at Mons, Le Cateau and Marne by the Imperial German Army in August 1914.

The second exhortation always used in Remembrance ceremonies is known as the 'Kohima Epitaph'. It commemorates the Allied dead of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division killed in an epic battle of WWII in Burma against the 100,000 strong 15<sup>th</sup> Japanese Army. "*When you go home, tell them of us and say, For your tomorrow, we gave our today*"

The words, attributed to John Maxwell Edmonds, may have been inspired by a Greek poet Simonides of Ceos who wrote after the Battle of Thermopylae (480 BC). "*Go tell the Spartans, thou that passest by, that faithful to their precepts here we lie*".

Thanks to Mike Ford I can quote a dedication inscribed on a wreath laid in Kohima at the memorial that I, personally, find rather wonderful. It reads: *IN ENDURING GRATITUDE from "Tomorrow" From GUNNER, the regimental magazine of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, author unknown.*

John Macdonald (873138)

**MAYFIELD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY:** Re. January Meeting – Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, Scout and Guide Hall at 8.00pm. Talk on **SUSSEX INDUSTRIAL HISTORY: A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE** by Dr Geoffrey Mead. Geoffrey Mead gave his usual excellent presentation, this time dealing with the range of industries in Sussex, both new and old. We moved from the old industries of the High Weald to new activities typified by the tourist centres along the South Coast. Quite a tour!

Upcoming February Meeting - Friday, 24 February 2017, Scout and Guide Hall, 7:30 for 8.00 pm. Talk on **SUSSEX DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR** by Ian Everest. With its relatively close proximity to the front line, Sussex played a major role in sustaining the war effort. Its ports, its railways, its vast tracts of open Downland and the availability of an assortment of large buildings transformed parts of the county into a warfare supply depot, a training ground for troops and a reception centre for the war wounded. On June 30 1916, this assortment of Sussex men, including farm and estate workers, took part in the Battle of the Boar's Head in Northern France. Seventeen officers and 349 men were killed, with more than 1,000 men, wounded or taken prisoner. The day became known as The Day Sussex Died.

Positions vacant MLHS: **Speaker Secretary:** A volunteer to take on the speaker secretary role would be welcome. It is less onerous than similar roles in many other organisations. To illustrate, booking speakers for 2015 – 2016 took just 45 minutes and other members of the committee are on hand to help.

If any member would like to attend a committee 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 AND DISTRICT U3A (UNIVERSITY OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> AGE):** On Thursday 16th February at 2.00pm in Mayfield Memorial Hall, Ian Gledhill will give a talk entitled 'The Magic of Pantomime' which will cover the history of this enduring and peculiarly British institution interspersed with personal anecdotes from years of working (and appearing) in pantomime. Ian has had a very varied career from designing underground railways as an engineer for London Transport to appearing in pantomime with Julian Clary. He has worked in travel and tourism, music publishing, television and especially the theatre where he has been a director, set designer and opera translator. His interests also include architecture, history, transport and classical music especially opera and operetta. He can be found driving trains on Volk's Railway along Brighton seafront or trams at the National Tramway Museum in Derbyshire.

Visitors are always welcome. For more information about Mayfield and District U3A please contact our new Membership Secretary Sue Petrie on 01892 542894.

**MAYFIELD BUSINESS FORUM:** The discussion on "Development Plans for Wealden" at our January meeting proved highly interesting.

Our next couple of meetings will be at the later starting time of 7pm and on a Wednesday:

**February:** Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Rose & Crown, Informal networking, 7pm - 8:30pm

**March:** Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Rose & Crown, Discussion topic TBA, 7pm - 8:30pm.

Roger Stone (872764) / 07776 144056

**MAYZING COMMUNITY CHOIR:** MayZing starts on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February with singing again at 8pm in Mayfield Primary School Hall. For more information please contact me on 872163 and a reminder, unfortunately we only have space for altos, tenors or bass singers. That is not as daunting as it may appear as we have several people, who cannot read music, sing these harmonies.

Also, on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February - 7.30pm in the primary school hall, Noel is giving his really enlightening, illustrated talk on his walk on the Camino trail across Spain. Everyone is very welcome and no singing is required!

Shirley Holland

**POETRY GROUP:** We have begun the New Year with a flourish. Our group is dementia-friendly but our members represent the local community in a wider sense. Our meetings are held at Coach House Cottage, Royal Oak Mews on the High Street from 11.00am till 12.30pm. You are certain of a warm welcome, excellent refreshments and the opportunity to enjoy poetry with its ability to make us feel less alone and more alive.

Our meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 27<sup>th</sup> April. A small fee of £2 is charged.

Contact Pat Robson (872445) or Johnny Marsh (07555 567873) for more details.

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### SHORT STORY SECTION

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#### ***Chasing the Wrong Socks – by Sue Dixon***

I have always felt that I am running to catch up rather than stay ahead in life.

Last Christmas I gave Husband in a Hurry socks. Not just any socks, but 'Days of the Week' socks. He is the sort of man who enjoys routine and I take great care to make sure that the socks are in his drawer ready for each day. Last Saturday saw the unravelling of this system when, Saturday didn't have a pair of socks. This caused great consternation in the household and at least 20 minutes was wasted in the pursuit of the purple socks (not only named, but colour coordinated as well). At 9am my PA arrived to begin work, she was greeted with a plaintive cry of, 'Disaster, my Saturday socks are missing', rather than, the warm welcome of, 'Good morning, how are you?' It didn't take long for her to locate the appropriate pair. His problem was that he was looking for the orange socks which he had worn on Friday, the day before!

This got me to thinking: why have I never seen women's 'Days of the Week' socks? Would I find them useful? It didn't take much thought to realise that most mums' worlds consist of Monday, gym club; Tuesday, ballet class; Wednesday, football training; Thursday, swimming; Friday is karate and the weekend is filled with birthday parties. We'd be lucky to find a matching pair of socks in our busy lives!

My original plan for the socks was to make mornings a less stressful time of day, but after 'SockGate Saturday' I realised that Husband in a Hurry needed it simplified even further, so I, don't know where I found the time, managed to design and print up a chart, with the corresponding colour to each day, alongside a picture of a sock in the correct shade.

I never expected to be a Usain Bolt, but always hoped to be keeping up with Mo Farrah in life, because life is not a sprint, but sometimes you need a sprint finish to be ahead of the pack.

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### OPEN FORUM/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**HOSPICE IN THE WEALD:** The Mayfield shop of Hospice in the Weald would like to wish all our customers a very happy new year and to thank them for their continuing support. We would also like to thank Colkins Mill Free Church for their recent generous donation.

Linda Bassett, Shop Manager

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### REGULAR EVENTS

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The Regular Events section is only updated on an approximately six monthly basis - in the interests of saving space (and cost) and recognising that very little information changes from month to month. You can refer to the village website: [www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk/Village/v\\_diary.html](http://www.mayfieldfiveashes.org.uk/Village/v_diary.html) for the current update.

Please send any amendments to: [mayfieldnewsletter2012@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldnewsletter2012@gmail.com)

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### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - MARCH 2017 ONWARDS (FOR FEBRUARY 2017 - SEE LAST PAGE OF NEWSLETTER)

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March 2017	Event	Location	Time
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Fri.	3	Coffee and Chat	London House	10.00 – 11.30am
Sat. - Sun.	4 - 5	'Art for Art's Sake' - very first art exhibition – fundraiser to benefit Hospice in the Weald	Hospice in the Weald, <u>Pembury</u>	10.30am - 4.00pm
Tue.	7	The Tuesday Afternoon Club (for the over 60s)	Scout and Guide Hall	2.30 – 4.30pm
Wed.	8	Coffee & Chat Wednesdays – all local residents are welcome. Sponsored by MAYFACS. Shirley Holland (Manager) on hand for advice.	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30 – 4.00pm
Wed.	8	Lenten Lunch in support of Hospice in the Weald	London House	12.30 – 2.15pm
Wed.	8	Mayfield Business Forum: Discussion topic TBA	Rose and Crown	7.00 – 8.30pm
Tue.	14	Singing for Fun singing group	Lounge at Canterbury Court	11.00am – 12.30pm
Wed.	15	Lenten Lunch in support of Caring and Sharing in Sussex	London House	12.30 – 2.15pm
Wed.	15	Fashion Show organised in association with Travelling Trends. Entry by ticket only (£8). Fundraiser for Mayfield Pre-School.	Memorial Hall	7.30 for 8.00pm
Fri.	17	St Patrick's Day Bingo Night – organised by Mayfield Bonfire Boyes and Belles: fundraising event	Scout and Guide Hall	7.30pm
Sat.	18	Film on Friday (note: it's a Saturday and an early start!) - 'Guys and Dolls' (USA 1955)	Memorial Hall	6.00 for 6.30pm
Tue.	21	Middle House Lunch – organized by MAYFACS	The Middle House	TBA
Tue.	21	Mayfield Horticultural Society - AGM plus Talk by Jim Buttress "65 years in Horticulture"	Memorial Hall	6.45 for 7.30pm
Wed.	22	Coffee & Chat Wednesdays – all local residents are welcome. Sponsored by MAYFACS. Shirley Holland (Manager) on hand for advice.	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30 – 4.00pm
Wed.	22	Lenten Lunch in support of Family Support Work	London House	12.30 – 2.15pm
Thu.	23	Poetry Group (dementia-friendly) – all are welcome	Coach House Cottage, Royal Oak Mews	11.00am – 12.30pm
Wed.	29	Lenten Lunch in support of MAYFACS	London House	12.30 – 2.15pm
Fri.	31	Mayfield Local History Society: Talk 'The Social History of Wealden Villages' by Dr John Kay	Scout and Guide Hall	7.30 for 8.00pm

#### April 2017

Tue.	4	The Tuesday Afternoon Club (for the over 60s)	Scout and Guide Hall	2.30 – 4.30pm
Wed.	5	Lenten Lunch in support of Friends of the Holy Land	London House	12.30 – 2.15pm
Tue.	11	Singing for Fun singing group	Lounge at Canterbury Court	11.00am – 12.30pm
Wed.	12	Coffee & Chat Wednesdays – all local residents are welcome. Sponsored by MAYFACS. Shirley Holland (Manager) on hand for advice.	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30 – 4.00pm
Tue.	18	Middle House Lunch – organized by MAYFACS	The Middle House	TBA
Fri.	21	Film on Friday, 'The Pearl Button' (Chile 2015)	Memorial Hall	8.00 for 8.30pm
Wed.	26	Coffee & Chat Wednesdays – all local residents are welcome. Sponsored by MAYFACS. Shirley Holland (Manager) on hand for advice.	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30 – 4.00pm
Thu.	27	Poetry Group (dementia-friendly) – all are welcome	Coach House Cottage, Royal Oak Mews	11.00am – 12.30pm
Fri.	28	Mayfield Local History Society: Talk 'Pitt The Younger and the Martello Towers' by Geoff Hutchinson	Scout and Guide Hall	7.30 for 8.00pm
Fri.	28	Bingo Night – fundraiser for Mayfield Pre-School	Memorial Hall	TBA

## May 2017

Tue.	2	The Tuesday Afternoon Club (for the over 60s)	Scout and Guide Hall	2.30 – 4.30pm
Tue.	9	Singing for Fun singing group	Lounge at Canterbury Court	11.00am – 12.30pm
Wed.	10	Coffee & Chat Wednesdays – all local residents are welcome. Sponsored by MAYFACS. Shirley Holland (Manager) on hand for advice.	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30 – 4.00pm
Wed. - Sun.	10 - 14	Mayfield Fringe Festival – programme of events to be announced	Usual places	Whenever
Fri.	12	Film on Friday (Program TBA)	Memorial Hall	8.00 for 8.30pm
Sat.	13	Mayfield May Fair	High Street	1.00 – 4.00pm
Tue.	16	Middle House Lunch – organized by MAYFACS	The Middle House	TBA
Wed.	24	Coffee & Chat Wednesdays – all local residents are welcome. Sponsored by MAYFACS. Shirley Holland (Manager) on hand for advice.	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30 – 4.00pm

## June 2017

Tue.	6	The Tuesday Afternoon Club (for the over 60s)	Scout and Guide Hall	2.30 – 4.30pm	Tue.
Tue.	13	Singing for Fun singing group	Lounge at Canterbury Court	11.00am – 12.30pm	
Wed.	14	Coffee & Chat Wednesdays – all local residents are welcome. Sponsored by MAYFACS. Shirley Holland (Manager) on hand for advice.	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30 – 4.00pm	
Sat.	17	Church Fete	Grounds of St Dunstan's	TBA	
Wed.	28	Coffee & Chat Wednesdays – all local residents are welcome. Sponsored by MAYFACS. Shirley Holland (Manager) on hand for advice.	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30 – 4.00pm	

## July 2017

Tue.	4	Bowl Water boat trip day with fish and chip lunch. Organised by MAYFACS and incorporating the Tuesday Afternoon Club outing	Pick-up TBA	TBA
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## September 2017

Sat.	16	Mayfield Carnival courtesy of Mayfield Bonfire Boyes and Belles		
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**April - May 2018** Mayfield Festival will take place from Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018

### **REMINDER: MAIN NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION POINTS**

Five Ashes Inn, Church of the Good Shepherd Church, Pink Cabbage, Public Library, The Shopping Basket, Leppard's Butchers, St. Dunstan's Pharmacy, Mace Stores, Middle House Hotel, Rose and Crown public house, Five Ashes Village Hall, Heal's café plus several other premises round up and down Mayfield where copies are available to browse.

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### **COPY FOR NEWSLETTER / FEEDBACK TO CORRESPONDENTS**

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Copy should be submitted by noon on the 20<sup>th</sup> of the prior month. Please send an e-mail to [mayfieldnewsletter2012@gmail.com](mailto: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. Phone John and Brenda Holding on 872735 for advice on editorial content.

For advertising copy (money with copy please) contact Paul Woodley (873258) or e-mail to [paulwoodley.zagon@gmail.com](mailto:paulwoodley.zagon@gmail.com) or deliver to The Shopping Basket also by 20<sup>th</sup> 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, up to a year hence if available, 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](mailto:manager@mayfacs.org.uk)**

**MAYFIELD LIBRARY OPENING TIMES AS OF JANUARY 2017**

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

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

**FEBRUARY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

<b>February 2017</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Time</b>
Wed. 1	Talk by Noel Bannister on the Camino Trail (Way of St James, Spain)	Primary School Hall	7.30pm
Wed. 1	Coffee & Chat Wednesdays – all local residents are welcome. Sponsored by MAYFACS. Shirley Holland (Manager) on hand for advice.	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30 – 4.00pm
Thu. 2	Zumba Gold - a gentler form of Zumba (every Thursday from now on)	Memorial Hall	9.45 – 10.30am
Fri. 3	Coffee and Chat	London House	10.00 – 11.30am
Sat. 4	Skippers Hill's Manor Prep School Open Morning	School – Five Ashes	10.00am – 12noon
Sat. 4	'Computer Buddies' – new monthly initiative to help improve your computer skills. Details to be advised – check with the Library.	Mayfield Library	TBA
Tue. 7	The Tuesday Afternoon Club (for the over 60s)	Scout and Guide Hall	2.30 – 4.30pm
Tue. 7	Mayfield Business Forum – informal networking (Note the later start time)	Rose and Crown	7.00 – 8.30pm
Wed. 8	Coffee & Chat Wednesdays – all local residents are welcome. Sponsored by MAYFACS. Shirley Holland (Manager) on hand for advice.	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30 – 4.00pm
Wed. 8	Resumption of MayZing choir practice	Primary School Hall	8.00pm
Wed. 8	Mayfield Business Forum: Informal networking	Rose and Crown	7.00 – 8.30pm
Wed. 8	"Chi-Laxation" classes starting (2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of month from now on)	Five Ashes Village Hall	1.00 – 2.30pm
Fri. 10	Pop Quiz Night including hot supper – fundraiser for Mayfield Pre-School	Memorial Hall	8.00pm
Mon. 13	Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council, Full Parish Council Meeting	Mayfield Primary School	7.30pm
Tue. 14	Singing for Fun singing group	Lounge at Canterbury Court	11.00am – 12.30pm
Tue. 14	Mayfield Evening WI meeting with speaker Lesley Negus: "Living on £1 per day"	Memorial Hall	7.15 for 7.30pm
Wed. 15	Coffee & Chat Wednesdays – all local residents are welcome. Sponsored by MAYFACS. Shirley Holland (Manager) on hand for advice.	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30 – 4.00pm

Thu.	16	Mayfield and District U3A Meeting: talk on 'The Magic of Pantomime' by Ian Gledhill	Memorial Hall	2.00pm
Fri.	17	Mayfield Horticultural Society - Talk by Lynda Bradford "Plants that every garden should include somewhere"	Scout and Guide Hall	7.30 for 8.00pm
Sat.	18	Bingo Night (Note: Saturday) – organised by Mayfield Bonfire Boyes and Belles: fundraising event	Scout and Guide Hall	7.30pm
Tue.	21	Middle House Lunch – organized by MAYFACS	The Middle House	TBA
Wed.	22	Coffee & Chat Wednesdays – all local residents are welcome. Sponsored by MAYFACS. Shirley Holland (Manager) on hand for advice.	Five Ashes Village Hall	2.30 – 4.00pm
Wed.	22	Chi-Laxation (4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday of month from now on)	Five Ashes Village Hall	1.00 – 2.30pm
Thu.	23	Poetry Group (dementia-friendly) – all are welcome	Coach House Cottage, Royal Oak Mews	11.00am – 12.30pm
Fri.	24	Film on Friday – 'Court' (India 2014)	Memorial Hall	8.00 for 8.30pm
Fri.	24	Mayfield Local History Society: Talk 'Sussex During the First World War' by Ian Everest	Scout and Guide Hall	7.30 for 8.00pm
Sat.	25	Jumble Sale - Fundraiser for Mayfield Pre-School. (Donations of jumble to Pre-School beforehand or to Hall on the morning)	Memorial Hall	10.00am – 12noon
Sat.	25	Winter Quiz Night – fundraiser for Mayfield Bonfire Boyes and Belles. Hot supper included in £8 ticket	Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Sun.	26	Monthly Footpath Walk	South Street Car Park	10.00am
Tue.	28	Big Pancake Party hosted by the Children and Families Worker Team	St Dunstan's	3.30pm
Tue.	28	Mayfield Evening WI - New Members' meeting	Terrigal, The Warren	7.30pm
Tue.	28	Public Meeting with ESCC Highways representatives	Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hut Lane	7.00pm