

# HassocksLife

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Local village talk,  
by the village

Issue #5 : Sept. 2019

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Deirdre goes Behind the Counter

page 18

50 years of St Francis Church

page 24

Hassocks Honeez anniversary

page 13



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## EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

Welcome to the 'back to school' issue of the magazine. It's our fifth issue, and I do hope you are enjoying our monthly editions of news and information for the village. Do please get in touch and let us know. An email to [editor@hassockslife.co.uk](mailto:editor@hassockslife.co.uk) comes to both **Deirdre Huston** and myself – we love to hear suggestions for content, people we should speak to and cover photos.



The big thing this month is **Rachel BartlettBundy's** childhood cancer awareness campaign **Hassocks Goes Gold**, which our cover pays homage to. See **page 9** for more details of events taking place in September.

On **page 6** **Jane Barker** laments the sad loss of a huge oak tree in Adastra Park. **Page 13** shares with you the story of **Hassocks Honeez** – the villages social netball club which is looking for more players. On the following page **Stephanie Powell** has written about the bustling youth work programme in Hassocks. It's very encouraging news that the village has such services available on a weekly basis. Read about it on **page 14**.

I'm grateful to **John O'Reilly** and **Lyn Bond** for putting together a history piece on **St Francis Church** – which is a fascinating insight into the development of Hassocks in the 60s. Read the article on **page 24**.

On **page 26 and 27** you'll find two ways that you, dear reader, could easily get involved with the magazine. Firstly – have you read a good book lately? If so, why not share it with the village? We'd love some short (250 words max) reviews to print. Also, if you're planning a post-summer getaway, we always like a selfie with your copy of Hassocks Life – email it to us during or after your holiday to: [photos@hassockslife.co.uk](mailto:photos@hassockslife.co.uk).

Finally, if you need suggestions of **what to do this month** turn to **page 34**. Have a great September!

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The Barn, Hurstwood Grange  
Haywards Heath RH17 7QX  
Telephone 01273 796026  
[www.hassockslife.co.uk](http://www.hassockslife.co.uk)

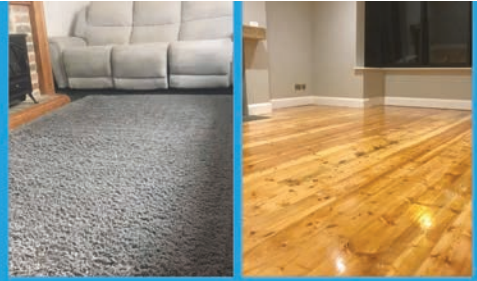
Editor: David Tingley  
Assistant Editor: Deirdre Huston  
[editor@hassockslife.co.uk](mailto:editor@hassockslife.co.uk)  
Advertising: Emily Billson  
[ads@kipperlife.com](mailto:ads@kipperlife.com)

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HassocksLife  
Published by Kipper



 Rachel BartlettBundy  
Hassocks Goes Gold  
this month



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H2SJ32100 05/19

We love to hear from groups, organisations and individuals about what's happening locally. Include a photo if you can. Email your stories to [editor@hassockslife.co.uk](mailto:editor@hassockslife.co.uk)

## Sussex Mother Goes Goldfinch for HGG

As part of this month's Hassocks Goes Gold campaign, a popular café on London Road is organising its own special event for women who want to shop for sustainable fashion in a relaxed way.

The Sussex Mother Café owners, Sarah and Tom Heather, have teamed up with Goldfinch Styling to host a Shopping & Drinks Evening on Saturday 21st September.

Goldfinch Styling has been selling pre-loved clothes at Sussex Mother since July, and when they heard about Hassocks Goes Gold they wanted to support it.

Lucy Thompson, of Goldfinch Styling, explained: "Lots of women find it hard to make the time go shopping for themselves; this event will enable them to shop and spend time with friends in a superb environment."

Tickets for the event, which begins at 7.30pm, are £5 and include a complimentary drink. As well as an opportunity to browse the full Goldfinch Styling autumn collection, there will also be wine, cocktails, mocktails and sharing platters available.

"With so many of our customers having young children, the cause to raise awareness and funds for Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group (CCLG) really resonates with us," explained Sarah. Ten per cent of all proceeds from the evening will be donated to CCLG.

Tickets available from the café, on [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk) or pay on the door.



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# Happy GCSE students

Downlands Community School is celebrating the best ever results on progress with 78% of students achieving a Grade 5 or higher in both English and Maths.

Headteacher Mark Wignall said: "We are delighted with another set of outstanding GCSE results, and I congratulate our students on achieving such incredible outcomes. I would like to pay tribute to our amazing teaching staff and determined students who yet again have made our school a great success. We are also very grateful to our extremely supportive governors and parents, without whom we could not deliver such great outcomes."



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# A sad end to this Turkey Oak

By Cllr Jane Barker,

Chair of Grounds & Environment Committee

It is with regret that the Turkey Oak in Adastra Park has to be felled. At the time of writing we are awaiting confirmation of dates for the work to commence. This landmark tree, part of the Stafford legacy to Hassocks, appeared to be strong and healthy, however, for some years, unbeknown to anybody, it had been decaying inside the trunk despite it appearing to be in good health.

In mid-June, whilst the volunteers were working in the Garden of Remembrance, I wandered around the tree only to notice fungal growth on the lower part of the trunk.

Initial advice was sought from the RHS. The advice was given that an arboricultural consultant should be appointed to assess the tree in situ. The fungus growing on the tree was identified by the RHS adviser as one that grows on decaying wood, and so the process to discover what was wrong with this tree began. Using the latest technology the consultant appointed by HPC discovered that the centre of the tree had decayed and the tree, being situated in a public park, needed to be felled. Thanks to its sheltered position it has been protected far longer than if it had been located in a more exposed part of the park.

Reflecting on this majestic tree and its life in Adastra Park I wondered about the tales it could tell, the poems it could write and the pictures it could paint. Planted soon after the end of WWI, as a young tree it would have witnessed Hassocks and the surrounding area slowly recovering from that war and the loss of so many lives. Then it saw WWII go by and again the community pull itself up despite more loss of life. It will have overseen many football, cricket and stoolball games and given shade to picnics and friendly gatherings. During its lifetime Adastra Park has changed significantly. Various new and replacement buildings and play areas have come into use and lately it will have seen the building of the skatepark and witnessed its popularity.

However, it will also have witnessed the havoc brought by the 1987 hurricane and the loss of many trees around and within the park. After the initial sadness over the loss of some fine trees it was soon



realised that a tree planting opportunity had arisen.

Thus I will quote from the Grounds and Environment Committee minutes from 25th July this year: 'The Parish Council is very much in favour of continued planting and it was fully agreed that further trees would be planted in Adastra Park, in particular to replace this special tree'.



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## Charity creates magical memories at Disneyland

Last month pop star Michelle Heaton joined 21 children from the charity Kangaroos in Disneyland Paris to enjoy their chosen 'Memory of a Lifetime'. The visit was part of local charity Kangaroos 25th Anniversary as it celebrates 25 years supporting children in Sussex.

Michelle Heaton and her family joined the Kangaroos group in Disneyland Paris where they started an unforgettable day meeting Mickey & Minnie Mouse in Walt Disney Studios, followed by practising their cooking skills, producing a Tutti Frutti dish, and harnessing their creativity by customising Mickey ears during two workshops.

Michelle commented: "I was delighted to be asked by Kangaroos to join them on their celebration trip. To spend time with the children, and the Disney VoluntEARS and charity workers that endeavoured to make this experience memorable, was humbling and I was honoured to be involved."

The children, all members of Kangaroos, range in age from nine to 18. All of them have a learning disability and several of them have additional complex medical needs. The children were accompanied on the trip by a team of Kangaroos highly trained care staff. For many of the children it was their first trip outside the UK and their longest trip away from home without their parents or carers.

Kangaroos was established in 1994 to provide support and fun activities for young people with a learning disability, many of whom have very limited opportunities to enjoy a social life and make friends. The charity decided to celebrate its 25th Anniversary by enabling all of its 200+ members to go on a very special trip that they would remember for the rest of their lives.

"Over the years many of our young people have said they would like to go to Disneyland, but we never thought it would happen," said Jenni Herrett, the founder of Kangaroos who still works to raise funds for the charity. "The Disneyland team have been just wonderful, and so generous, in helping us realise this dream."

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

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# Hassocks Goes Gold

BE PART OF IT

As promoted in last month's magazine, the family of the late Pearl Dixie Bartlett Bundy have created Hassocks Goes Gold to highlight awareness of childhood cancer – and it takes place over the next few weeks.

Hassocks resident Rachel Bartlett Bundy has worked tirelessly to drum up support and is very pleased to see numerous events being hosted; some shops have even created special products to sell! Here's what you need to know (correct at the time of going to print):

- Bake Out is creating special **GOLD GINGERBREAD MEN** and donating 10p from each one sold.
- A. Twine Butchers is creating **GOLD SAUSAGES**
- Join in the competition to find all the **GOLD POSTER FACTS** and vote for your favourite **GOLD WINDOW DISPLAY**

## Events

**Sat 7th September**

Caz Houghton is running a special **GOLD PARENT & CHILD YOGA CLASS** at Profiles (cjyoga@yahoo.co.uk)

**Fri 13th September**

**GOLD ZUMBA CLASS** at Hassocks Sports Centre 6-7pm (£6, 01273 841348)

**Fri 20th September**

Hassocks Netball Club's **GOLD PUB QUIZ** at The Hassocks Hotel (teams of up to 8, £5 each Contact Jan 07940 226717)

Follow Hassocks Goes Gold on Facebook to find out more....



**Fri 20th September**

**CHILDREN'S GOLD SUNFLOWER PICTURE COMPETITION EXHIBITION** opens at Sussex Mother Café (runs until 29th Sept)

**Sat 21st September**

We Run! Hassocks is organising a **GOLD FUN RUN** with Gold Running Teams filling the streets. With **GOLD GLITTER MAKE-UP STALL** (teams of any size, starts outside Bella & Meg's)

**Sat 21st September**

Goldfinch Styling **CLOTHING & CANAPÉ EVENING** at Sussex Mother Café (£5, info@sussexmother.co.uk)

**Thurs 26th September**

**GOLD TAPAS EVENING** at Kitchen de la Casa, 6-9pm (01273 845 655)

**Fri 27th September**

**ALL DAY GOLD COFFEE MORNING** at Reflex@42

**Sat 28th September**

**FREE GOLD CRAFTS** at the Hassocks Market (9am-12noon)

**Sun 29th September**

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HassocksLife

# Countryside group resumes

The Hassocks Field Society has resumed its programme of Monday evening talks at Adastral Hall with speakers covering a diverse range of subjects. The next talk will be on 23rd September by Anne Winney on the subject of 'Hurst Haven for Hedgehogs'.

The Field Society has a long history in Hassocks, having been established in 1965 by an enthusiastic group of local residents with the aim of promoting interest in the countryside and care for the environment. It has built on this early ambition with many activities arranged for members which today include:

- Talks on a wide range of subjects covering all aspects of countryside, wildlife and environmental matters, local history and travel. (Meetings are held twice a month from September to April on Monday evenings in the Adastral Hall.)
- A programme of local walks – walks of up to four miles on Wednesdays and shorter, more leisurely, ambles of no more than three miles on alternate Thursdays.
- Day trips to places of interest – National Trust properties, gardens, historical sites etc. Recent outings have included visits to Rye, Sissinghurst and Hampton Court - all greatly enjoyed by members.
- Two coffee mornings a year which help raise money for local good causes.

The Society is a welcoming and friendly organisation where people who enjoy the countryside can meet and



share the company of others with similar interests.

Annual membership is £5 per person or £8 for a couple and includes a biannual newsletter. Entry to the evening meetings is £1.50 for members and £2 for visitors.

If you are interested in joining, Jeanne Swaine, the Society's Membership Secretary, will be very pleased to hear from you (01273 842516). Or simply turn up to a meeting.

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



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## Social players wanted for Hassocks Netball Club

Back in the summer of 2009, Jan Macnamara was disappointed by the lack of opportunities to play netball locally so she placed an advert in a local magazine and Susanne Spivey responded. With the help of Talkabout, the pair set up a throwabout session at Downlands' netball courts. They realised they'd hit on something worthwhile when as many as twenty people turned up, some of whom soon settled into a regular team.

The Hassocks Netball Club was born, and that September they played their very first match as the Hassocks Honeez. They lost fifty to one but didn't let that put them off. The team began playing in Burgess Hill but soon moved to the Brighton Midweek League (or BMW), which takes place at the back of the Amex stadium where there are eight courts and a real buzz at matches through all four divisions. The Honeys play in Division Three.

The Club has organically developed to enable players to dip in and out and to enjoy the social side of the game as much as the fun and fitness of training. Some players come from other teams so they can enjoy the training and social benefits. The club is lucky enough to be sponsored by Hassocks Hotel, which makes a friendly base for the team's social gatherings. The team have also enjoyed several weekends away at Bournemouth and Bognor Regis.

The team are looking for players of all ages. At present the youngest player is eighteen, and the team are also proud of their oldest player who is 60 this year and has been with the team since the first season. "We've all forged really strong friendships. Your netball friends are the family you would choose." Jan is clear about the positive spin-offs: "The team offers a release from work and family stresses. When you play netball for that hour, you forget everything else and just enjoy the moment and when you finish the session, you feel completely different. And we all say that."

A number of the ladies are 'social players' but the club does put out a full team for the Tuesday Brighton League: The Hassocks Honeez. There's also the Hassocks Bumblebees, who train on a Sunday and play matches on a Monday, and there could be scope for new players for this team.

If anyone wants to come along, search on Facebook for 'Social Netball Hassocks'. Each event is posted weekly and you simply add yourself to the event if you want to attend. It's £7.50 per training session, which is good value. All players are welcome and Jan is passionate about making netball accessible to all. This is why the team was set up and is no doubt why it has flourished over the last ten years. Any enquiries email: [hassocks.nc@btinternet.com](mailto:hassocks.nc@btinternet.com).

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## Youth Hangout goes from strength to strength

**By Stephanie Powell**

Thank you to everybody who shared our social media posts or read about the youth club in this magazine and promoted us to others. As a result we had a lovely influx of new members coming in July as well as our existing members going on annual summer camp, so July was an exciting month for Hassocks Youth Hangout.

Our taster sessions included a DJ Workshop, smoothie making and skate park hangout as well as a graffiti art workshop. The feedback young people gave was extremely positive and they are excited to return when we start up again on Wednesday 18th September.

In June the group were working on an Adastra Summer Trail for families to take part in at the Hassocks Play Day on 5th August, a project which was generously funded by the Turner-Dumbrell Foundation. I'm pleased to report that it was a success with just shy of 100 children taking part in the trail with the support of their family or guardians. Everyone that completed the trail was awarded with a little goody bag to take away with them. Thank you to everyone that came to Adastra Park and took part in the trail as well as the T-shirt making that Sussex Clubs for Young People were offering too.

This year the youth club has received funding from Clarion Futures, and they kindly invited us to Birmingham to celebrate the work we have been doing in Hassocks with other youth groups that have been funded by them. This was a networking and training opportunity for the workers and the young people as well as a celebration of the work that had been done. I took one of our young leaders with me, and he said that he really enjoyed the event and it was good to meet other people from different areas that are doing similar things to him to make friends with. Our work was recognised nationally and we received an award for the support, services and space we provide to young people.

When we return on 18th September we will be asking young people what they would like to do as a fun project for the remainder of the year. They will gain an accreditation for taking part in their chosen activity, which can be as silly or as sensible as they like! The remainder of the year will also include a trip to Jumphin



Fun (date tbc), a Halloween Party on 30th October and a Celebration Event with festive food on 16th December.

Multiple members of the community have expressed an interest in supporting the youth club, so keep your eyes peeled as we will be doing an online crowdfunder, launching in October, where we would be really grateful for individuals and businesses to make a pledge showing their support for the youth club.



We would love for more young people to join in the fun, so please let them know they are welcome to come down to youth club on Wednesday evenings at Adastra Hall, 6.30-8.30pm for only £1.

For more information please contact Steph on 07504 516312 or [stephanie.powell@sussexcyp.org.uk](mailto:stephanie.powell@sussexcyp.org.uk).



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Photo: Deirdre Huston

## Threat to our Library

Local concern has grown that Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint Libraries could be closed amidst County Council plans to cut up to £500,000 from the library service. Residents also fear reduced opening hours for remaining local facilities and an end to the mobile library service.

Local resident Margaret Evans was keen to let the maximum number of people know about the potential chance of closure. "I couldn't believe that I, a regular library user, wasn't aware of the possible closure. I just wanted people to know that there was a threat of our library being closed before it was too late."

The response has been overwhelming. Word has spread around the village and there are now petitions which can be signed at QD Stationery, Bella and Megs café, Hassocks Pet Centre and Proper.

Russell Allen, Lead Manager of the Library Service states: "The local press reporting around 'library closures' was a little misleading as it implied all of the smallest (Tier 6) libraries in West Sussex were being considered for closure, whereas the actual proposal for budget savings from the library service was a much wider range of options, e.g. including reducing late evening opening hours at our largest libraries like Crawley or Horsham."

He continues: "Councillors do not want to close libraries, although the budget savings document which was published (and led to the local press reports) did include information on savings that would be generated should a library be closed."

During her first month, new County Councillor Jacqui Russell has heard from 'many residents concerned about the future of their local library'. In her statement (on display at libraries) she asserts: "I do not want to close libraries and there are no discussions taking place to close specific libraries. I know how important they are to the people who use them and I want to reassure residents across West Sussex that I want to protect services not shut them down." She goes on to explain that all councils have to save significant amounts of money and West Sussex is exploring how it can do things in more affordable ways.

Jacqui continues: "We are taking a look at areas of the library service where we think we can make savings while preserving the core of the service. They include – reluctantly – looking at stopping our mobile library service and reducing our late evening library opening times.

"At the same time, we are also looking at ways of doing more with the money we have. We plan to create more community hubs where a range of council services are run under one roof."

Some local residents might argue that, since previous budget savings, the library is already acting as a community hub. It's used by many different people, from old people without cars who struggle with reduced mobility to families with young children, many users walk to this local service. Being in the heart of the community means the library can help foster social connections and broaden an individual's horizons, regardless of age and income level. As well as providing books, the library is a central hub for information about local events, organisations and agencies. The public can use computers, have items printed out, read the paper, buy cards and advertise forthcoming events. There are copies of local magazines, bus timetables, and copies of local maps. There is free Wi-Fi available, and books, e-magazines and e-newspapers may be downloaded. A wide-ranging big selection of audio books, DVDs, and 'large print' copies of books are also available. Regular groups which use the library include a Hassocks reading group, a U3A group and a weekly Rhyme Time for mums and younger children. Every year the library runs a hugely popular Summer Reading Challenge.

Register your view with the County Council by leaving a comment or complaint at:

[www.westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/have-your-say/compliment-us-or-make-a-comment](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/have-your-say/compliment-us-or-make-a-comment)

Find out more about the County Council's budgeting process for next financial year at this special website:

[www.westsussex.gov.uk/campaigns/budget-202021](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/campaigns/budget-202021)



# WHAT IS HYPNOTHERAPY?



BY SANDRA SLINGER  
HYPNOTHERAPIST

I always get asked two questions  
– “Can you make me cluck like a  
chicken?”

“Will I be under your control?”

The answer to both is no!

I want to tell you about my first client. They had been afraid to visit the dentist for over 25 years due to a dental phobia. They now had to have difficult dental surgery that could not be avoided.

Before the first session they phoned me in a panic, the surgery had been moved to the next week! So, we met and I focused on the client visualising the night before the surgery, going to the hospital, and actually being in the chair having the procedure.

I worked on relaxing the client with these images and feelings so they felt confident about the surgery. They called the next day to say it was amazing, like magic, they felt very relaxed the night before and walked into the surgery and sat in the dentist chair without fear. They felt in control and free from the phobia they had experienced for many years.

I also used Hypnobirthing with all my four children's births and I can honestly say I had four pain free deliveries. The other women who did the Hypnobirthing course with me also had the same positive experience. I am not saying every woman can have a pain free birth but mothers will feel relaxed, in control and able to make the best decisions for a positive birth experience.

Is Hypnotherapy magic? No, it's not. It's a proven therapy for changing patterns of thoughts and behaviours with positive results.

Hypnotherapy is a deep state of relaxation.

## HYPNOTHERAPY CAN HELP

- SMOKING CESSATION
- WEIGHT LOSS
- ANXIETY ISSUES
- STRESS MANAGEMENT
- CONFIDENCE IN PUBLIC SPEAKING
- CONFIDENCE BOOSTING
- SLEEP ISSUES
- PANIC ATTACKS
- EXAM NERVES
- PHOBIAS CONCERNING:  
DENTISTS, HOSPITALS,  
OPERATIONS, SPIDERS, FLYING...  
AND MUCH MORE

Clients can use the power of their imagination and allow their subconscious mind to change their behaviour, thoughts and feelings. The client is in control at all times and the sessions are tailored personally to each client's needs. The only requirement on the part of the client is that they want to change and are motivated to working towards agreed goals.

During the sessions, clients learn essential skills in relaxation, self-hypnosis and positive 'self-talk'. The client will gain a tool kit for positive living, enhancing their confidence, and empowering them to live the life they want to lead.

Hypnobirthing is an in-depth Birthing Training Programme; it releases the fears often associated with child birth, builds deep relaxation skills, which in turn builds the expectant mother's personal confidence, and gives the woman and her birthing partner a positive birthing experience.

Hypnobirthing gives women the ability to remain calm and in control, trusting their own bodies to give birth with confidence. You will learn breathing exercises, positive affirmations, tension release, deep relaxation, and will use your imagination to build strong, positive visualisation.

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AT 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM



Photos: Deirdre Huston

### By Deirdre Huston

Whenever I walk along the High Street my eyes are drawn to the eclectic items in the vibrant window displays at My Vintage, and no wonder! There is always something new to see and many of the objects hint at stories of other places or lives. Many of the items are pre-loved and have been given a new lease of life while others are new but individually customised or created by hand. This month I dropped into My Vintage to meet Elaine Bennett and find out more about how the shop has evolved.

Elaine is the shop manager and took on the business seven years ago. "I've always loved giving things a new lease of life and have a passion for transforming high quality old items into something unique." As a child she loved collecting things, rummaging around for treasures at car boot sales and revamping old furniture, and this passion continued into adulthood. She has a background in fashion: earlier in her career she focused on her shop in Bond Street, Brighton, selling a selection of designer women's wear but she made the choice to give this up when she had children. The family moved to Ditchling for a short while, and then about twelve years ago, in pursuit of more space and a bigger garden, Elaine, husband Pete and their three children moved to Hassocks.

As well as offering her own goods and services, Elaine leases space in the shop to carefully selected stallholders. "It's always been important to me to get the right people in the shop. I like things to be high end, good quality and unusual." Everyone undertakes a shift manning the shop. "You need to be a team player to fit into a shop like this and it's important to be mindful about other people's areas and products when organising the shop and talking to customers." Stallholders such as Sue Collins, a Hassocks artist who sells prints, cards and coasters through the shop, and Jamie, who sells antique and collectable glassware and figurines, are local while others come from Brighton or as far away as Arundel. Most have been found through word-of-mouth. Nancy sells antique linens, cutlery, silverware and gifts. "She's the most amazing, lovely lady. At 86 years old, she is everyone's favourite. We all love Nan." Elaine is delighted to have developed a solid group of like-minded people who share the same values. "I've got an amazing team of people here, some of whom have been with me

since 'Day One', including Lou Coates who offers the upholstery service as well as selling bespoke pieces through the shop.

"One thing which I hope draws people to the shop is the additional services we offer. The High Street is really suffering at the moment and we're looking to have something a bit special that brings people in." Elaine herself offers new Victorian nursing style button back chairs in two sizes. The chairs can be made up in a variety of fabrics held in store or in a fabric of the customer's choice.

The stallholder model has the advantage that it enables the shop to offer a diverse range of specialist goods and services. "I like the fact that we can offer really nice services. For example, in terms of textiles we offer upholstery, soft furnishings and designer end of roll fabrics." Handmade vintage and antique Persian, Turkish and Afghan rugs adorn the walls. Annabell Duke mineral paints can be purchased for use on furniture without the need to prep with polish or wax. While some customers prefer to buy the paint and revamp items themselves, others prefer to use the services of two stallholders who specialise in undertaking painting commissions on furniture. This kind of buying choice is also available to customers interested in the handmade silver jewellery as pieces can also be made to order. Elaine explains how My Vintage is keen to help customers bring ideas into being and fulfil quests for specific items: "We have a message book where we communicate to the wider team any items which customers are looking to source, such as a particular size cabinet." Many of the stallholders have more stock at home, so it's always worth asking as there's a lot going on behind the scenes at My Vintage.

An exciting and timely development is the new pre-loved designer clothing boutique at the rear of the shop which now offers a range of vintage and current styles to suit everyone. The interior has been revamped with new rails and shelves to display clothing and accessories to be sourced by three stallholders: Elaine, Maeve and Julie. "I want to make a difference to the planet and give people the opportunity to buy and choose pre-loved clothes." Elaine feels it's important to offer customers the chance to buy high quality sustainable fashion choices. "It was just something I wanted to do. I don't buy many new clothes myself anymore. I tend to buy things from Ebay or secondhand. You've only got to look on the internet to see how destructive the fashion industry is for our planet." Fashion items are sourced from family, friends and eBay. There's a variety of sizes available and a new changing room, so you can try before you buy. The boutique also stocks handbags and shoes, so customers could style a whole outfit.

The boutique also houses a clothing agency which is run by Julie. If you wish to earn some money and revive your wardrobe, then this option may be for you. Julie takes items of designer clothes, with labels such as Joseph, Armani, Jigsaw, Kew, French Connection, Ghost, Monsoon, Karen Millen, Ted Baker, Reiss, Nicole Farhi, Moschino and similar, on a sale or return basis.

"Because these are designer clothes, they're made from beautiful fabrics which can be worn and worn and won't date. I'm hoping that the boutique will enable people to develop their own unique timeless style without resorting to throwaway fashion."

If you fancy delving into the 'Aladdin's Cave' that is My Vintage, you'll find the store open between 9.30am and 5.30pm Monday to Saturday, and between 10am and 4pm on Sundays.



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5 MINUTES WITH...

## Rita Parker

Now retired after a working life in banking and insurance, Rita is passionate about Hassocks – having lived nowhere else. After her children and grandchildren, her passion (and therapy) is knitting – which she loves to do.

**How long have you lived in Hassocks?** 74 years

**What's the best thing about being here?**  
You don't have to go far to be in the countryside

**What would you like to see in Hassocks that isn't here?**  
A bank

**How many houses have you lived in?** Three

**Favourite book, film and album?**  
Wind in the Willows plus any Lee Child book, Labyrinth and any album by Queen

**Most common New Year's resolution?**  
When I was a child, I gave up sugar in my tea so mum could have the sugar for her cakes

**Your most enjoyable event in the village?**  
Anything that involves the community as a whole and brings everyone together

**Do you share your home with anyone?**  
My daughter's two cats and a dog, plus my grandson on occasions

**Song you play the most?** The Lark Ascending by Vaughan Williams, played by Nigel Kennedy

**Which app on your phone do you use the most?**  
Probably the Weather, closely followed by my bank app.

**Your most frequented village shop?** I love the Cat Café at the Pet Shop

**What's your proudest moment?** Getting married to my late husband and the births of my children

**Last present you received?**  
A pair of Murano glass earrings

**Your advice for life?** Try to help others and keep busy

If you would like to provide your own answers for 5 Minutes With, simply email them to [editor@hassockslife.co.uk](mailto:editor@hassockslife.co.uk) along with a photo of yourself, or do please encourage a friend to send their answers in!



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## Experience Wakehurst with your four-legged friend

This month Kew's Wild Botanic Garden, Wakehurst, will be welcoming dogs into the gardens for the first time on a trial basis. The trial will take place on Mondays 16th, 23rd & 30th September from 10am to 6pm.

Wakehurst will be offering its visitors the chance to walk their four-legged friends on a lead in the gardens and woodlands. There will be a designated route for visitors with dogs that will take in the sights, sounds and smells of Kew's wild botanic garden in Sussex.

Staff at Wakehurst, in Ardingly, will welcome up to two dogs per adult visitor. During the trial Wakehurst will be welcoming feedback from visitors.

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## How St Francis Church started in Hassocks

### CHURCH HISTORY

By John O'Reilly

The church began its existence with Sunday morning services in the Guide Hut in Semley Road when the post-war housing estates to the west of the railway line began to be developed in the late 1950s and early 60s. It was thought that newcomers to the area would be better encouraged to become regular churchgoers if they were not required to worship in either of the established but distant parish churches of Clayton or Keymer, and that their spiritual needs should be met nearer their homes.

The Sunday services inaugurated by the then rector, Rev Dick Bell, had uncovered the need for a more permanent meeting place, so in the late 60s the Diocese was approached to set up one of a series of relocatable buildings being provided in new housing estates around the Diocese of Chichester. Thus in 1969 ground was obtained cheaply from the developer of the Friar's Oak Road and Priory Road estates, prior to the development of Shepherd's Walk.

The dual purpose church and church hall was called St Francis Church at the suggestion of churchwarden Cecil Benwell (commemorated on the hymn boards in the church). It was a daughter church of the Parish of Keymer and was so successful that in 1975 a permanent building was erected on the same site. The 'relocatable' building being retained as the church hall. The extension (added in 1992) provides a vestibule and vestry, which in the original design were incorporated within the basic square brick building.

The name (St Francis) came about because of the church's association with the Friar's Oak and the Spitalford Bridge in the village – 'spital' is the contraction of hospital and St Francis cared for the sick.

When St Francis church was built, the parishes of Clayton and Keymer were a 'United Benefice', that is to say they had the same rector but separate PCCs (Parochial Church Council), churchwardens, committees and accounts, and they each arranged their own services.

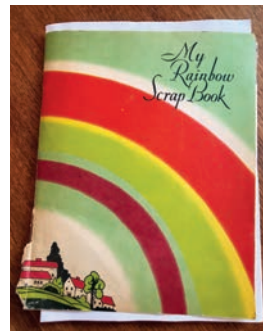
In 1978 the two parishes were joined to become the Parish of Clayton with Keymer. The civil parishes were joined in 1980. The Church of England parishes and civil parishes have precisely the same boundaries. This is because, historically, that's how they came about. Land that was tithed and the tithe came to the church; thus a rector received a tithe but the vicar was paid a stipend (salary) by the diocese.

The Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi is celebrated on 4th October. At the church we celebrate this on a date near this time by having our Patronal Festival.





Where it began – Guide Hut Semley Road, temporary



Thanks to Lyn Bond who shared these treasured photographs from Gladys Anderton's scrapbook which capture community life at St Francis Church since the Sixties.



Members of The Mothers' Union, including Gladys Anderton



Church Hall building ready in 1969

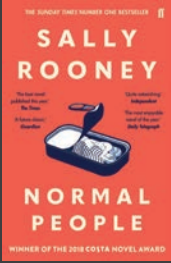
## Golden Jubilee Street Party

**By Lyn Bond**  
It's the 50th birthday of St Francis Church!

To celebrate we are holding a Street Party in Priory Road for everyone in the area and would love you to join us. Starting with a barbecue, there will be events, games, food and activities to entertain the whole family.

Come along on Saturday 14th September between 12.30pm and 2.30pm.

For more information, call 07592 029431 or email: [stfrancisstreetparty@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancisstreetparty@gmail.com).



# Normal People by Sally Rooney

## BOOK REVIEW

By Deirdre Huston

At the book's heart is a simple romance which captures how society can conspire to prevent a relationship being successful. Rooney has a readable style which portrays the nuances of social interaction convincingly. She breaks with speech mark conventions, which readers may find either distracting or refreshing. Her originality has helped her win many accolades, including the Costa Novel Award and a longlisting for the Man Booker.

The author is a young writer in her twenties who began her first novel, *Conversations with Friends*, about an affair between a university student and her lecturer, while she studied for an MA at Trinity College, Dublin. In this, her second book, both characters attend Trinity, so again she writes about a familiar academic world but this time there's a broader cast of characters.

The story begins in a small town in the west of Ireland. At school Marianne's an outsider and Conor conceals their relationship from his peers. His mother, Lorraine, works for Marianne's mother as a cleaner. Will the difference in their backgrounds prevent the couple from forming a long-term relationship or is the barrier more emotional? Rooney's writing is perhaps most perceptive when delving into the psychological. The title of the book poses a question about who and what is normal, about the secrets that relationships and families may conceal. Whilst brilliantly written, the subject matter can be quite dark and the writing slightly understated at times. This novel drew contrasting responses at our book club.

## Hassocks artists host Autumn Fair

A group of artists from Hassocks are holding an exhibition of their collective work next month.

The Hassocks Autumn Fair will take place on 5th and 6th October at Garden Sage on London Road, and will feature a broad range of styles including illustration, paintings, screenprints and photography.

Featured artists from the village are: Sue Collins, Louisa White, John Gilbert, Dinah Beaton, Ashley Hutchinson, Jenny Chaitow, Linda Tucker, Linda Thompson, Dawn Mead, Abi Weatherseed and Clare Bishop. In addition to work for sale at the event, there will also be a range of cards available too.

"In the past we have run an Open Houses event in June, but this year we decided to mix it up and do a group exhibition together instead," explained Clare Bishop. "As there will be a range of techniques and styles on display, it will be a great event to see some artwork created by local artists. We always really appreciate support from the village."



By Sue Collins



By Linda Thompson



By Dawn Mead



By Ashley Hutchinson

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**Holiday snaps**

As ever, Hassocks readers have taken their copy of the magazine away with them. Do send yours in to [photos@hassockslife.co.uk](mailto:photos@hassockslife.co.uk)



George Tingley at Leaning Tower of Pisa, Italy

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# Writing Walk led by Deirdre

Through writing her latest guidebook Day Walks on the High Weald Hassocks resident Deirdre Huston came to love and appreciate this unique Area of Natural Beauty and she is pleased to once again be part of High Weald Walking Festival 2019, which runs from 14th-2nd September.

On Saturday 14th September, Deirdre is leading a Creative Writing Meander for folks who enjoy writing and want to get outdoors. Discover how walking can free up creativity. Elements in nature help us to imagine, explore and understand. This themed walk around stunning Quarry Farm is suitable for writers of all levels, aged ten to adult. Meander through orchards, wander along riverbanks, admire the bridge Turner painted and glimpse the impressive ramparts of a medieval castle. Creative triggers will encourage you to write and be playful with language. The farm has a wild feel and some paths are unsurfaced. Notebook and pen essential. You may wish to bring something to sit on, water and a snack.

As well as being Assistant Editor for Hassocks Life, Deirdre is the walks writer for Sussex Life magazine and the author of five South East guidebooks, all published by outdoor specialist Vertebrate Publishing and widely stocked online and in bookshops. She is currently updating her first walks book, Day Walks



on the South Downs, for a new print run. She loves to write fiction and is in the midst of writing a gothic thriller woven around a true crime and set in the High Weald in the 1820s.

Whatever sort of writing you enjoy or would like to try, why not go along and have a go at seeing if being outdoors and enjoying the rhythm of walking through beautiful countryside will spark your imagination and have your pen spinning across the page.

No booking necessary for this event, which will include 2.1 miles of walking (accompanied children only, dogs strictly on leads). Meet at 10am on 14th September at The Hub, Quarry Farm, Bodiam TN32 5RA.

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## Rare mower unearthed

An extremely rare lawnmower is the latest exhibit to be displayed at the Museum of Gardening in Hassocks.

Following World War One labour was in short supply, with most mowers requiring two people or a pony to operate them. This resulted in the mower pusher being designed in 1922 to motorise push and pony mowers requiring only one person to operate them.

Clive Gravett (pictured), curator of the museum, unearthed this fine example in September last year, having rescued it from a barn where it had been for over 50 years because the building was due for demolition to make way for the HS2 rail project.

The museum, situated within the South Downs Heritage Centre, is operated on behalf of The Budding Foundation, a charity supporting local young people.



## Are You Man Enough?

One in every two men will have a problem with their prostate at some stage of their lives.

It could be an infection or enlargement, but one in every eight men will develop prostate cancer.

Caught in the early stages, cure rates for prostate cancer are high with over 80% success.

The charity PCaSO (Prostate Cancer Support Organisation), in partnership with Burgess Hill District Lions, is offering free PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen) testing for men aged between 45 and 80 on 12th October at the Triangle Leisure Centre in Burgess Hill.

The simple blood test measures the amount of antigen, produced by the prostate, entering the blood. It is not a direct test for cancer but high readings should trigger further tests.

Book an appointment online at:  
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## RECYCLE THIS...

Colin McFarlin is a Volunteer Waste Prevention Advisor with West Sussex County Council and sheds some light on what can and can't be recycled.



Thank you for all your individual enquiries about your recycling. By the time you read this I will have replied individually to all your emails to the editor on recycling. Do keep the questions coming...

Most popular item in my post bag of questions is Plastic.

We all know that paper, steel/tin cans, aluminium cans and glass bottles and jars can be recycled in your blue top kerbside bin.

So why is Plastic so complicated? Well by the time you get to the bottom of the page I hope I can give you some simple rules regarding Plastic that can go into your blue top kerbside recycling bin.

Complicated – yes, it is. There are over 40,000 different types of plastic, all grouped into seven codes. So, there are many types of plastic in each code.

Here are my five simple rules to what you can put into your kerbside recycling bin.

1. The symbol you find on plastic is nothing to do with recycling, it is one of the seven resin codes – ignore it!



2. Is it a plastic bottle, tub, pot or tray from your bathroom or kitchen? Plant pots are from your garden so cannot go into your recycling bin – B&Q operates a recycling scheme for them.
3. We accept any colour, any thickness
4. Plastic to be Clean, Dry and Loose and with the tops off. Why? The top is often a different plastic to the bottle.
5. If plastic tops are smaller than jam jar lid size – put into rubbish bin or give to a charity that collects milk bottle tops. Why? In our sorting process small items of plastic contaminates our sorted glass.

Recycling made simple. If still in doubt do look up [www.recycleforwestsussex.org](http://www.recycleforwestsussex.org) or write to me with a picture.

Would you like me to give a talk to your local group on recycling? Do you have an individual question on specific items you are not sure how to recycle? One email to the Editor, with a picture if possible, and I can let you know.

Looking forward to hearing from you.  
Keep Recycling!

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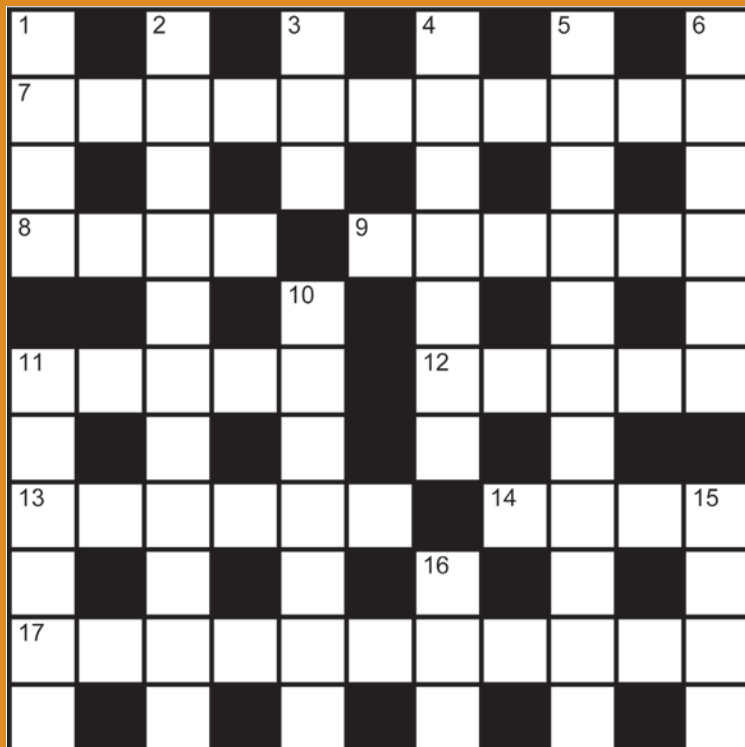


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# Family crossword



Got 20 mins spare?  
Have a go at this crossword - which should be varied enough for all ages to answer some clues.  
Answers listed on p.35

## Across

- 7 Mountainous republic (11)
- 8 Anger (4)
- 9 Beam over a door (6)
- 11 Secret organisation (5)
- 12 Collection of maps (5)
- 13 Combines (6)
- 14 Page (4)
- 17 Important (11)

## Down

- 1 Former Russian ruler (4)
- 2 Christ (4,2,5)
- 3 Israeli sub-machine gun (3)
- 4 Craftsperson (7)
- 5 French national holiday (8,3)
- 6 Grownups (6)
- 10 Facial deformity (7)
- 11 Sweet dessert (6)
- 15 Destiny (4)
- 16 Manipulate (3)



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# Sudoku #38

Courtesy of <http://andrews-sudoku.blogspot.co.uk>

6	7	3				2		
		2		6				5
					7			8
			3	1			9	
4	1				2			
9				8				
					8		2	
			5	2			7	3
3						8		

Find the solution to #38 in next month's magazine

## #37 Solution

5	1	9	7	3	4	8	6	2
7	8	4	9	6	2	1	5	3
2	6	3	1	8	5	7	4	9
4	5	1	3	2	8	6	9	7
3	9	6	4	7	1	2	8	5
8	2	7	5	9	6	4	3	1
1	7	5	8	4	9	3	2	6
9	4	2	6	1	3	5	7	8
6	3	8	2	5	7	9	1	4

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# What's on this month

## AT ADASTRA HALL

## AND ELSEWHERE

### Monday

- 7.45pm **Hassocks WI** (3rd week)  
2pm **Scrabble**  
2pm **Table Tennis**  
7.30pm **Table Tennis**

### Tuesday

- 9.30am **Short Mat Bowls**  
1.30pm **Short Mat Bowls**  
2-4pm **Maj Jong** (1st & 3rd week)

### Wednesday

- 6.30pm **Hassocks Youth Club** (term time)

### Thursday

- 2pm **Table Tennis**  
8pm **Debonair Dance**

### September

- 11th **Horticultural Society** – 7.45pm  
'Hydrangeas' by Roger Butler, Golden Hill Nurseries (visitors £2.50, 01273 842516)
- 16th **Hassocks WI** – 7.45pm  
Paracise! An exercise programme for all ages and abilities (free, guests welcome, 01273 846811)
- 20th **Stan and Ollie (PG)** – doors 7pm  
By Star Cinema (Tickets £4.50/£4)
- 23rd **Hassocks Field Society** – 7.45pm  
'A Haven For Hedgehogs' by Anne Winney. Tea, coffee and biscuits included (all welcome, £2)
- 27th **U3A Meeting** – 2pm  
'The History of the Houses of Parliament' by Kevin Gordon (visitors welcome, Barbara O'Rourke 01273 846811)
- 27th **Hassocks Barn Dance** – Doors 7pm  
And Bal Francais with Ça Ribote from Brittany and The Unreel Ceilidh Band featuring Julian Burton on saxophones and melodeons (tickets £5, cash bar)

### October

- 9th **Horticultural Society** – 7.45pm  
British Alstroemeria & the UK Cut Flower Industry by Ben Cross (Visitors £2.50, 01273 842516)
- 11th **Race and Quiz Night**  
By The Rotary Club of the Sussex Vale. Minimum bet: £1. Prizes. Bring your own drinks and nibbles (£10 from Hassocks Hardware or Bowley's)
- 14th **Hassocks Field Society** – 7.45pm  
AGM followed by 'Shall We See the Northern Lights?' (All welcome £2 non-members)

### September

- 14th- **Hurst Festival**  
29th ([www.hurstfestival.org](http://www.hurstfestival.org))
- 14th- **Flower Festival** – 11am-4pm  
15th St Giles' Church, Shermanbury – displays staged by Henfield Flower Club (admission £5/free)
- 16th- **Lindfield Arts Festival**  
22nd ([www.lindfieldartsfestival.com](http://www.lindfieldartsfestival.com))
- 18th **The Arts Society Mid Sussex** – 10am  
Clair Hall - Lecture: The Centenary of the Bauhaus Movement by Anthea Streeter
- 18th **Mid Sussex Franco-British Society** – 8pm  
Clair Hall, Haywards Heath - Retrouvailles/AGM
- 20th **Netball Club Gold Quiz** – 7.30pm  
The Hassocks Hotel Function Room - Teams of up to 8 people, charity quiz organised by Hassocks Netball Club (07940 226717, £5 pp)
- 20th **Concert of the Seasons** – 7.30pm  
Keymer Church - Julie Roberts and Michael Hinton perform (£10 to include interval refreshments, from Hassocks Hardware)
- 20th- **Flower Festival** – 10am-4pm  
21st St Cosmas and St Damian Church - Light refreshments available
- 21st **HH Music Society** – 7.30pm  
St Wilfrids Church, Haywards Heath - Rhythmic Wong (piano) (Tickets £16/£12 members)
- 22nd **Mobile Refuse Collection** – 10am-12noon  
Dale Avenue, Hassocks (01273 842714)
- 27th **Macmillan Coffee Morning** – 10am-12noon  
Bowls Club, South Avenue, Hurstpierpoint (£3.50 to include coffee/tea and cake)
- 28th **September Village Market** – 9am-12.30pm  
National Tyres forecourt, Hassocks – market stalls from independent traders
- ### October
- 1st **Mid Sussex NHS Retirement F'ship** – 10.15am  
Franklands Village Hall - 'Pills, Potions & Patience' by Peter Hill
- 2nd **Hurst Monthly Social Group** – 2pm-4pm  
Guide HQ, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint - Stephen Hand from the Coastguards
- 3rd **Dementia Cafe** – 2-4pm  
Court Bushes Community Hub, Hurst
- 5/6th **Hassocks Artists Autumn Fair**  
Garden Sage, London Road

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