SIDLESHAM SPREAD NO 122 FEBRUARY 2024

INDEPENDENT - SELF SUPPORTING - DELIVERED OR ON-LINE FREE TO EVERY HOME IN SIDLESHAM

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THERE MAY STILL BE SOME TICKETS AVAILABLE DO GET IN TOUCH IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COME.

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in the Sidlesham Spread are not necessarily those of the editorial team. The Editor reserves the right to edit and rearrange articles, but will endeavour to to so only where space is limited or where the information will be enhanced.

All information is published in good faith but we take no responsibility for errors or omissions. We are happy to publish letters as 'name and address supplied' but will not include anything sent anonymously that is clearly defamatory or hurtful to a named individual.

The Editorial Team

Copy should be sent by 23rd of the month to allow for printing for the first week of the following month.

IF ANY VILLAGE GROUP IS NOT INCLUDED AND WOULD LIKE TO BE,

PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITORIAL TEAM

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Clerk to the Council – Alison Colban parishclerk@sidlesham.org www.sidlesham.org

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See Box 3rd column

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STAG Sidlesham Traffic Action Group

Vacancy for a contact person

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Fr. Chris Brading 01243 641775 father.brading@gmail.com www.stmary-sidlesham.org.uk

The Cat and Rabbit Rescue Centre

01243 967111 info@crrc.co.uk www.crrc.co.uk

2nd Tues	Quiz with George Torrance as quizmaster.	The Anchor	7.30 pm
Thurs.	Tea and cake at Mary's Place. For details Contact Carolyn on 07983 701015 or carolyn@brading.net	Church rooms	From 2.00 -4.00 pm
Thurs.	Short mat bowls Contact Marilyn Sharp	School Sports Hall	4.30 - 6.30 pm
2nd Wed	Women's Institute	Church rooms	2.15pm
Sat Term time	Lizzie's Craft Club. for children aged 4—11 years. £5 session per child. Contact lizzie@lizziebaily.com Spring Craft Club starting on 24th February for 5 weeks.	Applefield	2.30 - 4.00 pm

ADVERTS TO BE FOUND ON PAGES 10 - 12 PLEASE USE THEM, THEY ENABLE THIS MAGAZINE TO BE FREE TO YOU ALL

SIDLESHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
THE TRUSTEES

ACTING CHAIR: RIACH RYDER 07798774729

riach.ryder@gmail.com

TREASURER: NORMAN ROBSON SECRETARY: CORINA HALL

DAVID BLACKFORD LEWIS RAMM PAUL DEVONSHIRE WENDY DEVONSHIRE BILL MARTIN

www.sidleshammemorialhall.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS
2nd WEDNESDAYS

No meeting August and December Annual Parish Meeting 4th Wednesday in May in the Church Hall at 7 pm

Planning included in above meetings. Details of Planning to be discussed can be obtained from Alison Colban, parish clerk, details on this page. YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

MARTIN MELLODEY - CHAIR

01243 649075

martinmellodey@hotmail.co.uk

NICK WADE - VICE CHAIR

CORINA HALL
ADRIAN HARLAND
LEWIS RAMM
DAVID GUEST

MARY MONNINGTON TRACEY PARSONS TRICIA TULL

SELSEY MOBILE REFUSE SITE EAST BEACH CAR PARK -

OPEN BETWEEN 8.15 and 3.00 on ALTERNATE THURSDAYS: **1ST, 15TH, 29TH FEBRUARY**

THESE SITES ACCEPT

GREEN GARDEN WASTE, WOOD, METAL ITEMS SUCH AS POTS AND PANS, CARDBOARD, PAPER AND SHREDDED PAPER, SMALL ELECTRICAL ITEMS SUCH AS IRONS, TOASTERS, AND HAIR DRYERS.

NON HAZARDOUS WASTE.

NO TVS OR WHITE GOODS CAN BE ACCEPTED.

WITTERINGS MOBILE REFUSE SITE - MARINE DRIVE CAR PARK—OTHER ALTERNATE THURSDAYS.

Chichester Farmers' Market Location: Town Centre Time: 9.00 - 14.00 1st and 3rd Friday of each month For information about the Parish, the Parish Council, agenda's minutes, notices of events, information from CDC and WSCC, SCA, Neighbourhood plan etc

www.sidlesham.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES



THE ANCHOR IS OPEN EVERY DAY

TELEPHONE 641 373 FOR DETAILS OR TO MAKE A BOOKING

PUT FRIDAY FEBRUARY 9TH IN YOUR DIARIES FOR OUR BURNS NIGHT IN THE MEMORIAL HALL

SIDLESHAM MEMORIAL HALL WEBSITE

This website is now up and running and the address is: www.sidleshammemorialhall.co.uk



WHAT'S ON	AT THE SIDLESHAM MEMORIAL HALL - SHOTFORD	
Monday	The Open Door Choir belindagannon.musicforall@gmail.com	7 - 9 pm
Tuesdays	Pilates with Jackie Warton Contact: precispilates@gmail.com	9.30 am - 10.30
Tuesdays	Lunch Club once a month see each month for week or contact Wendy Devonshire 641 457	12.30 For 1.00 pm
Fridays 3rd Friday	Villagers' bar open Open Mike Night	7 - 10.30 pm

TALKS AT 6 - THURSDAYS - BETWEEN 6 AND 7PM BASSIL SHIPPAM CENTRE - TOZER WAY, PO19 7LG

Book on line: bookings@talksatsix.co.uk Retiring collection for Speaker's choice of charity Organised by Marilyn Humphrey

Thursday 1st February – A Crime in Rhyme.

by Simon Brett. This is a humorous one-man show, written and performed by Simon. It affectionately sends up all the cliches of so-called Golden Age of whodunnits. Lovers of Agatha Christie and Dorothy L. Sayers will find a lot they recognize in the show. Chosen Charity: NSPCC

Thursday 22nd February – OUR Cherished Democracy and are we about to lose it by Stephen Stacey.

Democracies are a rare experience in human history. Most of the time humans live under some form of oligarchy – some kinder than others. This talk will look at the principles by which they are formed and how they are being purposefully dismantled.

Chosen Charity: Thembeforeus. (an organization that seeks to overturn laws and policies that undermine the well-being of children)

We do hope you can come to all or any of the above at Bassil Shippam Centre, Tozer Way, PO19 7LG at 6-7pm , please book on line bookings@talksatsix.co.uk or see the full programme on www.talksatsix.co.uk

Football fixtures at the Sidlesham Recreation Ground

Tues 30 Jan: Infinity U23 vs Christchurch U23 (Cup match) - 19:45 ko



Saturday 03 Feb: Infinity vs Paulsgrove - 14:00 ko

Sunday 04 Feb: Bognor Regis Town Women Reserves vs Pagham Ladies - 14:00 ko (Cup)

Tues 06 Feb: Infinity U23's vs Locks Heath U23's - 19:45 ko

Saturday 10 Feb: Infinity vs Sway - 14:00 ko

Tuesday 13 Feb: Infinity vs Colden Common - 19:45 ko

Sunday 18 Feb: Chichester City U13 Girls vs Hassocks Juniors U13 Girls - 10:00 ko

Tuesday 20 Feb: Bognor Regis Town Women Res. vs Hawks Women - 19:45 ko (TBC)

Sunday 25 Feb: Bognor Regis Town Women Reserves vs East Preston Women - 14:00 ko

Tuesday 27 Feb: Infinity vs Liphook United - 19:45 ko

If you would like to help with ideas and/or organising events at the Sidlesham Memorial Hall and Grounds you would be very welcome, the more the merrier.

THE NEW REVISED COMMUNITY LUNCH FOR ALL AGES

Please contact us on 641 457 or by email, dancingdevonshire@hotmail.com

TUESDAY 20THH FEBRUARY - CHEFS - DEVONSHIRES

PASTA BAKE WITH LEEK AND BACON. LET US KNOW IF YOU CAN'T EAT EITHER OF THESE.

YOU NEED TO BOOK BY FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY IN ORDER TO GET A PLACE. MINIMUM 10 DINERS

FLOWER FANCIES

As we enter the tail end of Winter it's now Daff season, that cheery harbinger of Spring. Much appreciated, but really just something to fill the gap before the 'real' flower season starts a month later? Well, I'd argue, "not at all", as Daff's are one of the most varied flower types, it's just the bunches in Supermarkets are 'Any colour as long as it's yellow'. As well as the obvious yellows there's white such as Ice Follies, red/yellow Red Devon, Lime coloured Carlton and pretty much every combination in between and





that's just the singles. The doubles can stand up to the best of any type of flowers in looks, so it's sad that low production means they're rarely seen for sale. Then there's the multi-headed highly scented varieties, chief, and most prolific of them are Grand Soleil, but there's a host of others during the season. There's even one I swear smells of chocolate! So it's going to be Daffodil Appreciation Year here at Dubbeldam Nurseries, each variety getting it's own photo posted on the new Facebook page, and for those sensible enough to avoid Facebook, there'll be a Daffodil Diversity vase on display. Glasshouse- grown daff bulbs have to be dug up and replanted every few years, so time will tell if a few months spent hand-digging almost a quarter acre of bulbs dulls my enthusiasm for them. If I get fed up with digging you may well see a sign in the Summer -DYO! If I haven't persuaded you to love Daffs, don't worry, Ranunculus, Freesia, Iris, Sweet William, Stocks and a few other tit bits will be along soon.

Aart Dubbeldam

See advert on page 12.

Open mike night
7.30 - Friday 16th February
Villagers' Bar
Sidlesham
Memorial Hall

Come along and sing, play or listen to a variety of music, dependent upon who comes to play.

The bar will be available plus bar snacks.

TAILS CRRC

Hello, it's me Tails, the out-and-abouter reporter for The Cat and Rabbit Rescue Centre.



In my article this month I am excited to share with my readers that we have had a litter of rabbits born at The Centre. We don't often have baby rabbits born here, so it is exciting to see them. The mum rabbit Mini Calzone arrived with us after her owner's child had allergies and they could no longer keep her. My staff suspected she may have been pregnant after she had been living with an unneutered male. However, to their surprise, she gave birth to her babies only two days after she arrived with us. The five baby rabbits known as kits are born helpless and rely completely on their mum to protect them. For the first few weeks my staff had to be so careful not to disturb the nest as it could upset mum. Now they are finally over two weeks old they are starting to emerge from their nest and mum is much more relaxed and letting the staff and volunteers start to handle them. I am excited to watch these kits grow and find their forever homes in the future. For any of our supporters who follow CRRC, you may know about my friend and fellow resident cat Hulk. I am so sad to let everyone know that Hulky Bear, as he was known, sadly passed away in his sleep a few weeks ago. Hulky spent nearly 10 years at CRRC after he was found as a stray with an injured leg. He ended up having to have his leg amputated and because he was so nervous and a little feisty he was let out on site. However, once released, he became the sweetest cat who enjoyed his daily fuss with the staff. He was a special boy who will be very missed by all who knew him and especially all of us resident cats. See you next time.

Love

Tails x

P.S Please keep an eye on our website www.crrc.co.uk and our Facebook page for all the latest news and info regarding Rehoming and Centre Life.

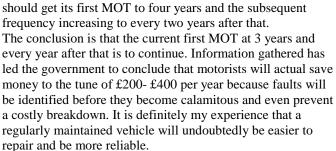
KEN ROBERTS 1948 -2024

Ken and Dorothy lived at No 2 Manhood from 2010 until 2020 when they moved to Fishbourne, four years ago. While they lived here, they were both very involved in the village. Ken used to drive Zoe the minibus until he had his first illness. I shall remember him for his 'crinkly' smile which was never far away, he had a mischievous sense of humour and laughed easily. He was a gentle man and those who knew him were very fond of him. He died last month peacefully, at home. He was small in stature but not in personality, he will be sorely missed. Our thoughts are now with Dorothy and their family.

Ken's funeral will take place at 11.30 on Monday 12th at The Oaks Crematorium, Bartons Road, Havant, Hampshire, PO9 5NA.

MUTTERINGS OF THE MOTORTRADE & whatever else takes my fancy.
SIDLESHAM GARAGE

Well, hot off the press is a Government response to a request for an increase in the Period when a car



Normal service is to be resumed.

A recent AA report states that only 3% of new cars have a spare wheel and that tyre-related breakdowns have escalated to over 200,000 per year. Be warned. Carry a spare.

My political gripe this month is: Alan Bates versus The Post Office. A disgrace of monumental proportions. Many years ago some will remember I was the Sidlesham Common Sub Postmaster, 1986 to 1987. It was a part of the business at Sidlesham Garage when I purchased it in 1986, the actual clerical work was done first by my ex-wife and subsequently some of the local ladies did some shifts. This mainly because of my ex-wife Joyce's confinement and subsequent birth of my third daughter Jennifer.

One Saturday morning my eldest Daughter Kathy who has now come back to the fold and is our job sharing receptionist, was sitting in the office. She was, at the time, around 11 years

old and used to tidy the office and make me a cup of tea on Saturday mornings. A customer came in for some stamps and I asked Kathy to serve the lady as my hands were oily. On the Monday I received a call from head office in Portsmouth alerting me to the very serious situation of employing an underage worker in the post office. Being of a bit of a highly excitable young man at the time, I was having none of it and told them to remove all of their funds and stock as soon as possible as I was no longer the Sub Postmaster. Their heavy handed attitude was appalling and thinking of recent events, I say recent, but only recent in the news, that have been going on for decades and possibly longer, when I consider my own experience. Then I thought about the previous Sidlesham Common Sub Post Master who had crossed the line possibly as a temporary fix to carry on with his multi faceted grocery/ post office business who then took his own life rather than suffer the embarrassment to his friends and neighbours. Considering he inherited from his father the business and had probably served the community for decades. Another example of their heavy handed approach. I would dearly love to know his full story, if anyone can help I would be very grateful. I have written to Gillian Keegan requesting information on how many Sub Postmasters have committed suicide since the 1960's. I await a reply.

We continue to be very busy and once again ask that you please book early for your routine service and MOT requirements in order to get a day that is convenient to you. Please call 01243 641391 and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Stay on the Blackstuff

Graham Porrett Sidlesham Garage Ltd.

4SIGHT VISION SUPPORT CHAMPIONS WORLD GLAUCOMA WEEK

4Sight Vision Support is supporting World Glaucoma Week from 10th to 16th March 2024, and at the same time highlighting the importance of regular eye examinations for everyone – this vital health check can detect a number of conditions and prevent avoidable sight loss.

World Glaucoma Week aims to raise awareness on glaucoma, a chronic, progressive, degenerative disorder of the optic nerve that produces characteristic visual field damage. It is the

second cause of blindness, and importantly, it is irreversible. One of *4Sight Vision Support's* key services is to promote the importance of regular eye health checks – in the case of glaucoma, with early treatment, the damage may be limited and sight may be saved.

To find out more call 01243 828555 or visit www.4sight.org.uk or visit https://www.worldglaucomaweek.org/

4 Sight

Brent Lodge Wildlife Hospital Winter Wildlife Briefings



INSIDE THE WILDLIFE HOSPITAL IN FEBRUARY

A warm hello to everybody from the Brent Lodge team. This month, we would really like to highlight the importance of protecting wildlife from our beloved pets. In 2023, over 350 of our patients were suspected cat or dog attacks, which accounts for 20% of our overall admissions last year. Often, these attacks prove to be fatal. This is a very sad and preventable statistic, so here are some top tips for helping ensure your pets remain safely away from wildlife:

- Put bells on your cat's collar.
- If possible, keep your cats indoors at night if they are regular hunters.
- Keep bird feeders up high, away from places where natural predators or pets can reach them.
- Have bird boxes at least 2m high and sheltered by trees or bushes, in an area that is quiet and protected from pets.
- Keep dogs on leads in nature reserves, woodlands and parks, especially during the spring/summer months when animals are having their babies.
- Have a quiet zone in your garden that is cordoned off from pets to allow wildlife to have a calm and safe space to live and raise their young.
- If a family of foxes is living under your shed, create some sort of separation to stop your pets reaching them, but that still allows the parents to go in and out. Make sure to monitor your pets in your garden and keep them away from the area. Families will only be there temporarily so precautions will not have to last forever – as soon as the cubs are old enough, they will all disperse. After this,

holes can be blocked to prevent them returning the next year if desired. We cannot move mum and cubs whilst she is rearing them.

If your pet has caught a wild animal, ALWAYS call us for advice and DO NOT just let them go again. Especially any wild animals that are caught by cats, as they MUST receive antibiotics (even if appearing fine) as cats' saliva is toxic and there will always be an injury of sorts (from teeth or claws). Without these antibiotics, the wound will become infected and they will likely die of sepsis. Wild animals are designed to mask illness or pain, so however "fine" they appear, please always call us.

If you would like any more advice or information, please feel free to contact us. Our team care very deeply for all animals, including pets, and are not wishing to vilify them at all. However, the shocking statistics from 2023 patients at Brent Lodge shows that we must all do something to help our poor wildlife, who have many other struggles to contend with already, and anything we can do to help them is so important.

Please always feel free to call us if you need any advice/ assistance with wildlife enquiries or how to support us. We are always in need of wet cat/dog food and newspaper donations that can be dropped at our site in Sidlesham, or any of our charity shops (Selsey, Bognor Regis, Hayling Island, Worthing). Thank you.

By Alex Foster, Education Outreach Coordinator

For more information and tips, please visit our website or contact us on the details below.

Web: www.brentlodge.org Tel: 01243 641672 Email: enquiries@brentlodge.org

Address: Brent Lodge Wildlife Hospital, Cow Lane, Sidlesham, PO20 7LN.







THE PECKING WOODPECKER

By Alice McDougall

Woodpeckers aren't just stunning to look at, they have their own very distinctive behaviours and unique



spotted and the green woodpecker. In February you may start hearing the distinctive drilling sound of male great spotted and lesser spotted woodpeckers as they mark out their territories and signal to the females that they are

ready to mate. After a short period of courtship, the next job for the woodpecker is to build a nest. Their superb beaks are perfect for the task of hacking away at the bark and wood of a tree

to make a hole, then flicking out wood to create a cavity for nesting. Green woodpeckers don't 'drum' to communicate they prefer to use their loud 'yaffle' call – instead, they 'tap' quietly as they use their bills to dig in soft ground or bark for food or scrape out a nest.

Another amazing feature of the woodpecker is its very long tongue. The longest belongs to the green woodpecker and reaches up to 10 cm beyond the tip of the beak; when not in use, it curls up around the back of the head.

But perhaps one of the most curious things about the woodpecker, and a question that has occupied scientists for a long time, is why don't they get concussion or brain damage from the rigour of their drilling? If humans were to hit their heads on a hard surface in the same manner that woodpeckers do, they would die.

Up until recently scientists have believed that woodpeckers

have spongy cushioning around their skulls that serves as a shock absorber for their brains. Another theory is that their exceptionally long tongues also act as cushioning for the brain – a bit like a seat belt – which prevents the brain from crashing into the skull.

However, although these hypotheses haven't been ruled out, some scientists have not been entirely convinced. Through analysing high-speed videos of woodpeckers hammering trees, it was observed that the head remains very rigid during drilling, acting in the same manner as a hammer hitting a nail. The head, brain and beak all stop at exactly the same time – and, in fact, it is the small size of their head and brain that protects it from being damaged.

So this February, listen out for the drilling or 'yaffle' call of the

woodpeckers, look out for a flash of green or red, and marvel at their unique talents.

Join us on one or our guided walks this month to see and hear woodpeckers and discover more about your local wildlife. Find out more by visiting our website https://events.rspb.org.uk/paghamharbour or calling 01243 641508.

[caption: 1033072.jpg]February is the time to start listening for the 'drumming' of great spotted woodpeckers. They use their specially adapted beaks to communicate as well as to find food and drill holes to nest in.

[Credit: Tom Marshall (rspb-images.com)]

SENIOR SNIPPETS

Welcome to 'Senior Snippets:' the advisory column with older members of our community in mind, brought to you by Home Instead Chichester & Bognor Regis.

As we get older, a hospital stay can be all too common. It's a great sense of relief being discharged. But it's important to have a sound discharge plan to ensure a safe return home to keep you or your loved one well and prevent any further hospital admissions.

NHS discharge teams work hard to develop a plan, and that should range from the practical measures to looking at how healthcare needs can continue to be met. The plan should cover the following areas:

- Short-term needs: the discharge team should ensure that the patient doesn't go home to an empty fridge. This may mean that they need to speak to family and friends to get supplies in. They should have enough food to keep them going before carers can see to that need.
- If you are provided with medication, nurses should make it easy for you to know what medication you should take and when. Otherwise, it can be confusing for you when you're presented with various boxes containing a range of medication. Blister packs or similar devices might be suitable and available and are the best options.
- Care assessment: for some patients being discharged, the care shouldn't stop when you leave hospital. The discharge team may assess you for NHS continuing healthcare, meeting your healthcare needs long-term, or assess you for local authority care if they believe you may need help with day-to-day tasks. They should be able to suggest local organisations that can help, whether that's a full care package or regular prescription collections.
- The hospital might be struggling to get access to state funded care. It's important to know that you may be eligible for direct payments or personal budgets which are funds provided

by the council to meet social care needs and can be put towards alternative community care available. This could speed up the discharge process.

- All parties working together: when the discharge takes place, hospital teams should give families plenty of notice, particularly if the family needs to provide care before a care team takes over. The hospital should also work closely with the care team, especially if specialist care such as catheter care is needed. The ideal scenario is the discharge not taking place until the care package kicks in, to ensure maximum safety.
- Noward referrals: the further support considered as part of discharge plans should include onward referrals for services such as rehab care. Patients and their families, should not assume that the hospital team has done that, so it's always worth asking the question before it gets forgotten about.
- Transport home: it's the hospitals responsibility to organise transport home if family can't do so. The discharge team should consider whether the person can get from the car to the house and even up the stairs to bed if required.
- ▶ Equipment aids: if you're given equipment to aid with recovery, it's important that not only are you confident using it, but that your carer is too. And the discharge team should consider whether the person will be able to accept the equipment once it's delivered; it might be that it can only arrive when a carer is home and can let people in.
- Supplies: you might need regular access to products that you rarely or never required before, eg, incontinence products. Discharge plans should include this.

Discharging patients is a win-win: hospitals can get access to beds taken up unnecessarily by medically fit patients, while people can get back to the home they love. It all comes down to efficient discharge planning and regular communication between the hospital team, social care providers and the person's family.

For further details: val.harper@homeinsteadchichester.co.uk

RTE RADIO 2FM, Ireland

Presenter: What is the name of the long-running TV comedy show about pensioners: Last Of The. .?

Caller: Mohicans.

RICHARD AND JUDY (C4))

Q: Which American actor is married to Nicole Kidman?

A: Forrest Gump.LINCS

FM PHONE-IN

Presenter: Which is the largest Spanish-speaking country in the world?

Contestant: Barcelona.

Presenter: I was really after the name of a country.

Contestant: I'm sorry; I don't know the names of any countries in

Spain.



t Wilfrid's Hospice of the Making a difference to local lives important documents

can make, and yet 54% of adults haven't written their Will. This March 11th – 22nd local solicitors are supporting St By taking on the walk and fundraising, you will help to support to the Hospice. This donation will help support St Wilfrid's ones through a difficult time. Hospice in providing expert care and compassion to local lives. Get your early bird tickets before they go at the end of the There is no expectation for you to remember St Wilfrid's month: Hospice in your Will, however, we would be incredibly grateful if you did consider leaving us a gift. One in four of our www.stwh.co.uk/moonlight patients' care is funded through gifts left in Wills by our kind Charity Shopping

"Please arrange to give or donate or leave a gift in your Will in only a few weeks I went from being a very ill bunny at a general medical hospital to feeling I can get further down the line than I expected and they're all going to help me get there." – Malcolm, a patient who was cared for at St Wilfrid's www.stwh.co.uk/mawf

Moonlight Walk 2024

This is your final month to get your early bird tickets! Our much-loved Moonlight Walk returns this June 15th at www.stwh.co.uk/shops

Your Will is one Chichester College, inviting the local community to join most together and help fundraise for St Wilfrid's.

> legal This in-memory walk is a great way to bring together friends you and family, to walk in memory of a loved one, enjoying a 5 or 10 mile walk around the local area under the Moonlight.

Wilfrid's Hospice and the local community by inviting them to the incredible care given by the Hospice. Last year we raised a get their Will written. During this fortnight the participating whopping £138,082 which could help to pay for our Family solicitors will write your Will and ask that you donate their fee Services Team for over 8 months, supporting bereaved loved

Have you begun a new hobby this year? Maybe started upcycling or taking on some crafts? Then St Wilfrid's Shops are the perfect choice for you!

We have 12 charity shops and an online shop that offer all sorts of affordable hobby items, allowing you to fuel your newfound hobby without the high prices. Every purchase made in our shops helps a patient, so by shopping with us you are helping to make a difference to local lives.

Check out our shops here:

FRIENDS OF SELSEY MEDICAL CENTRE NEED YOU!

The Surgery is extremely fortunate to have the valuable support of such a dedicated group of volunteers as the Friends of Selsey Medical Centre.

The Friends raise money from membership fees and donations to provide additional and improved facilities at the Centre over and above those provided by the NHS, for the benefit of all patients in Selsey and the widr community.

On 2 December members of the Committee took a stall at the Selsey Community Forum Christmas Fayre in the Town Hall. We held a raffle with five substantial prizes and welcomed 11 new Friends willing to support the Medical Centre. The raffle was well received and made a valuable contribution to our funds.

Friends Committee members running the raffle and talking to prospective new Friends

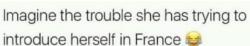
This autumn the Friends have undertaken to cover the costs of Building Alterations to the surgery to accommodate two new staff and make better use of space for existing staff. This involves creation of a stock room, changing an office into a clinic

room and the conversion of a small room into an office. It is hoped this work can all be completed by Christmas, helping further improve our patients' experience.

Furthermore we are contributing for another year towards the Community Advisor who is available every Thursday at the Surgery and otherwise at the Care Shop. She assists any local individual with non-medical issues, such as finance, formfilling, employment and general advice. This service ensures that as many local people as possible receive free, professional assistance with their personal administration and problemsolving.

All funds raised are used to benefit the patients at the surgery, whilst committee members give their time freely. The Friends are always keen to attract new members to support the surgery. If you would like to support the Friends from as little as £5 per year, you will find membership forms at the surgery. Otherwise please phone 01243 606328 and talk to our Membership Secretary, who will welcome your call!

Tim Le-Haye









HOUSES WITH A STORY TO TELL (14)

So far this series of articles has told the story of 21 houses in Sidlesham – 15 Land Settlement Association (LSA) smallholdings and 6 other much older properties.

There are a total of 87 LSA houses in Sidlesham, each with a story that I will tell. There are, however, also 67 listed buildings in the village, many dating back to the 1700s. I am grateful to Chris Bond, (The Old Mill House), Roger Brewster (The Old Doctor's House in Highleigh) and Colin Field (Pondtail Cottage) for sharing their stories. But what about the others?

I got excited when I received an email with the heading 'Houses with a Story to Tell'. However, rather than telling me a story the owners of The Old Parsonage in Church Farm Lane were seeking information. Nevertheless they did have the name of a former owner who turned out to have had an illustrious career.

Now with the help of extensive research undertaken by Jenny Campbell-James, the present owner of Church House, as well as George Torrance and Anwyl Allisstone, whose families have a long association with the local area, we can now tell the following story:

The earliest reference to Church House is 1635 when a survey was prepared for a formal visitation of Archbishop Laud (of Canterbury). Is this the oldest house in the village? At that time the house was the Vicarage of Sidlesham and the vicars may have had the nearby land, including what is still called Glebe Field, where the church fete is held each year, and possibly neighbouring farm buildings to 'supplement' their income.

Between 1847 and 1911 Church House was occupied by John Boniface who managed the farm lands. The fields where houses are now on the southern side of Church Farm Lane were known as Kitchen and Barew Fields and those the other side of the church Kiln and Shephards Fields. (West Sussex Records Office). Another field behind the church, later known as 'The Rough' with a house of that name, was used as a football pitch, both Chalder Farm and The Anchor had their own teams. Sunday morning matches were raucous affairs giving rise to severe reprimands from vicars and church wardens for the colourful language interrupting services!

Church House remained the home of local vicars until 1891 when a new residence (now called the Old Parsonage) was built, Charles Wood lived in Church House in 1899-1905 (Kelly Directory). During World War Two Church House was in continuous use for dances, concerts and social recreation for billeted (Italian, Canadian and English) troops. The house was left in a poor state and the garden was covered in brambles. In the 1940s when George Torrance's father took over the farm and the local vicar, Rev. John Tanner, objected as they were newly-weds and he didn't want noisy children next door to the vicarage where he lived.

In 1945, shortly after his release from Japanese Prisoner of War camp, Major Andre DSO and his family moved into Church House. Daughter Margaret was born in the master bedroom in 1946. You may recognise this name as Major Andre's parents, Toby and Grace, had lived in the Old Doctors House (Story No

2) in Highleigh.

More recent owners of Church House included Dudley Stuart Hunt (1962), Sidney Bacon (1967) Sir Edward Moore, former Chair of BOAC, Baronet, OBE and Fellow of the Institute of Transport (1973) and then the 'infamous' Ernest Saunders of the 'Guiness Four' scandal (1992). He was sentenced to five years imprisonment at Ford Open Prison, but released after 10 months suffering with Alzheimer's, yet shortly after his release made a full recovery!

The present owners David and Jenny Campbell James moved into Church House in 2001. David represented Great Britain in sailing at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics and would have done so in 1980 was it not for the UK government's boycott of the Russia Games at that time. David retains his Olympic connection, officiating at the Games in 2008, 2012, 2016 and again in Paris in 2024.

The Old Parsonage (first known as The Vicarage) was built in 1891 and then became the home of local vicars – a list of their names, dating back to 1275 appears inside the church, including the Reverend Henry Willett Haynes, author of 'Sidlesham Past and Present' in 1946. The last vicar to live in Old Parsonage was the Reverend George Manners who was also the local scout master.

In 1948 the current Vicarage was built on some of the garden of the Old Parsonage and a new entrance to the property was created off Church Farm Lane. The Renwick family purchased the Old Parsonage in September 1964 from the Church Commissioners. George Renwick won a bronze medal in the 4x400m relay at the Athens Olympics in 1924. Another member of that relay team was Eric Liddell of 'Chariots of Fire' fame.

The GB team for the 4x400 metres in the 1924 Paris Olympics: (left to right) E.J. Toms; George Renwick; Guy Butler; Eric Liddell.

George Renwick later became 'headmaster' of the prestigious Dover College. Given the achievements of both George Renwick and David Campbell-James perhaps Church Farm Lane should be renamed 'Olympic Way'.

George's wife Isabella was an Oxbridge graduate, a rare achievement for a woman at that time, as well as a distinguished cellist in her own right. George Renwick died in 1984, but the family remained in the house until 1988 (?). Mr and Mrs Bayliss then bought the house and the present owners, the Davie family, moved in in 2001.

So the moral of this month's article is if you want to know more about your house – let me know, but I may need a few clues – names/dates, etc.

Postscript:

The house on the corner of Church Farm Lane and Selsey Road, opposite Florence's Pond, was built for the village policeman – but that's another story!

Bill Martin

Has your House got a Story to Tell? Billm89@hotmail.com

CHANGES TO CAR PARK CHARGES IN CHICHESTER DISTRICT TO BE MADE FROM APRIL 2024

A number of changes will be made to parking charges in Chichester District Council run car parks from 1 April 2024.

Following consultation with residents, businesses and stakeholders, the council will increase parking charges in line with inflation.

Further changes will include introducing charges in the council's rural and coastal car parks on Sundays where they are not already in place and altering charges within its long-stay car parks in Chichester on Sundays to reflect the charges in place from Monday to Saturday.

Councillors also agreed to extend the charging period in Chichester's shortstay car parks from 6pm until 8pm. The Cattle Market, Basin Road and the Avenue de Chartres car parks in Chichester will continue to remain free of charge after 6pm.

Free parking periods will remain in the council's rural and coastal car parks of between one and two hours, depending on location. For example, this means that for three hours parking at The Grange in Midhurst, customers will pay 10 pence extra, amounting to £1.20. The Sylvia Beaufoy car park in Petworth and Fernhurst car park will also remain free throughout the day. In Selsey's East Street car park the first hour remains free, while two hours will cost 80p. At the town's Marine and East Beach car parks customers will pay £2.20 for up to 10 hours between 1st April and 31st October. Northern Crescent in East Wittering will also remain free for the first hour while two hours will cost 80p.

The inflation increase will also apply to the heavily-discounted season tickets which are in place across a number of the council's car parks.

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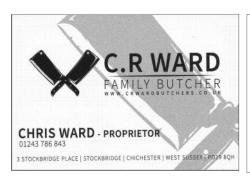
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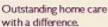
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