

Dear Parishioners,

We know from the news that these have been deeply troubling times in the Middle East. A conflict which was being waged on a relatively local scale is now impacting more directly upon a much wider region and indeed upon the whole world.

It can be hard to know how to pray in desperate times and I found this Church of England prayer a helpful one for us. .



God of mercy, look with compassion
on all who are affected by the present conflict.
Grant insight to hardened hearts,
comfort to the fearful,
protection to those in danger,
and hope to those who are despairing,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Christ himself lived in troubled times and knew what it was like to be oppressed and a refugee. Yet ironically in this area which we often associate with conflict, he loved his enemies and gave up his life in a mission of peace. Through the cross and the empty tomb he opened up a way towards forgiveness, hope and life.

These are the truths which we reflect upon and celebrate in Holy Week and Easter. You are warmly welcome to join us as we stand with Mary and John at the foot of the cross, in wonder at this divine love, and as we worship with joy on Easter morning before the King who is alive and reigns for evermore.

With warm greetings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paddy" followed by a period.



At All Saints

Baptism:: 22nd March, Sophie Florence Stagg

Funeral: 10th March Michael Simmons

All Saints Church, Danehill with Chelwood Gate

April 2026

More information on services can be found at www.allsaintsdanehill.org.uk.

Thursday 2nd April 7pm	Maundy Thursday Passover Food and Holy Communion (Chelwood Gate)
Friday 3rd April 11am	Good Friday Easter Reflective Service with music (All Saints)
Sunday 5th April 8.30am 11am	Easter Day Traditional Holy Communion (Chelwood Gate) Combined Easter Service (All Saints)
Special collections over Easter for ChildAid	
Sunday 12th April 9.30am 11am	Holy Communion (All Saints) Informal Service (All Saints)
Sunday 19th April 9.30am 11am	Holy Communion (All Saints) Informal Service (All Saints)
Sunday 26th April 9.30am 11am	Holy Communion (All Saints) Informal Communion (All Saints)
Sunday 3rd May 9.30am 11am	Traditional Morning Prayer (All Saints) All Age Service (All Saints)

Treasurer

We are looking for a church treasurer as our current treasurer will be handing on the baton soon. If you are interested please contact Paddy at vicar@allsaintsdanehill.org.uk



Community & Social

Pastoral Care

We offer home visits, telephone calls, a warm welcome and companionship, prayer time, Youth groups, Home groups and all of the activities below.

Shelagh Gilliam: 790803



**Monday, 20th April, 12:30pm,
Chelwood Gate Church.**

Lunch, good company and a thought on a Christian theme. Lifts available.!

All Welcome, RSVP Gabriela or Paddy: 790269

Foodbank

There is a foodbank collection point for East Grinstead Foodbank at All Saints Church Danehill.



Ashdown Café



Ashdown Café

Friday 10th April. Come to Danehill Memorial Hall. From 10am to noon, delicious cakes, biscuits, coffee or tea.

All Welcome

Magazines are distributed to all households free of charge. If you would like to donate to help with costs please text 70085 with the message GIVERn, where n is the number of pounds (eg GIVER5), or a cash payment in the church collection box. You can also pay cash or cheque to 'Danehill PCC' via the Chelwood Gate Church letter box or at the Vicarage. A magazine costs around £1 to produce. Ten magazines are issued annually.



Singing, snacks, stories & craft activities for toddlers.
Monday, 9am -11:30am at All Saints | £3 per family.

13, 20, 27th April

Sunday 11am Informal Service

We have action songs, children's instruments, activities and creche, children's microphone at



Covering the Cost of the Parish Magazine

Following positive feedback, we are continuing to deliver the Parish Magazine to all residents in Danehill and Chelwood Gate over the coming year.

The Magazine will be provided free of charge, though donations will be most welcome (see below) to help the Church cover the cost of the magazine and hopefully to enable it to continue in future years.

The Parish Magazine is a handy guide to what's on in our villages, as well as having topics of local interest. The Magazine exists to promote and support our churches, community groups, local businesses and places of learning. Its goal is 'to connect and inform the people of Danehill and Chelwood Gate.'

Donations can be made by bank transfer to Danehill PCC, sort code 30-96-26, account number 82113760 mentioning 'magazine'. Donations can also be made using the enclosed envelope (by cash, or cheques payable to 'All Saints Danehill PCC'). The envelope can be put through the letterbox at Danehill Vicarage or through the one in the white door at Chelwood Gate Church, which adjoins the Village Hall.

As a guide, a suggested annual donation is £10. If you are a taxpayer and can fill in the gift aid section on the envelope, the church will additionally be able to recover the basic rate tax that you have paid. We know that for some it will not be possible to contribute and this is fully understood. However if you can support, this would be a great help.

If you would prefer not to receive the Magazine or if you have further questions, please ring 01825 790269 or email info@allsaintsdanehill.org.uk



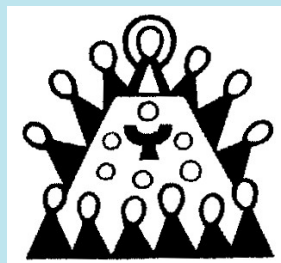
With warm greetings from the Magazine team.

Special Lent And Easter Events

All Saints Danehill with Chelwood Gate

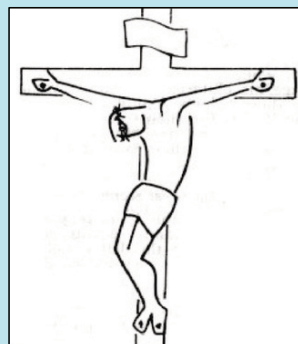
Thursday 2nd April: Maundy Thursday

7pm Passover Food and Holy Communion, Chelwood Gate Church. We explore the links between Passover and the Last Supper.



Friday 3rd April: Good Friday

11am Good Friday Reflective Service at All Saints Danehill
A service of prayers, poems, readings and worship.



Sunday 5th April: Easter Sunday

8.30am Traditional Holy Communion, Chelwood Gate.

11am Combined Easter Celebration, All Saints

With activities for children.
Followed by Easter Egg hunt outside.



Ashdown Café News

Although Friday 13th is often thought to be an unlucky day it hasn't been the case for the Ashdown café. Both February and March cafes have fallen on Friday 13th and numbers have increased. In March nearly 50 people came to Danehill Memorial Hall and enjoyed a variety of teas, coffee and some amazing cakes provided by the PCC.

Ashdown café is a wonderful meeting place and it has been good to see newcomers to Danehill & Chelwood Gate being welcomed by the community.

The next café is on Friday April 10th and although it will be just after Easter there will be an Easter theme, hot cross buns, Easter biscuits and cakes.

Ashdown café is on the second Friday of the month with the exception of August. It is held in Danehill Memorial Hall from 10 am till 12 noon.

Shelagh Gilliam

Organ Appeal



We are looking to raise £8500 for re-conditioning work on the church organ. Your gift towards the maintenance of this beautiful, worship instrument is appreciated. We are grateful to those who have contributed £1700 towards this total so far. Donations can be made via cheque or bank transfer to Danehill PCC, sort code: 30-96-26, account number 82113760, reference 'organ appeal'.

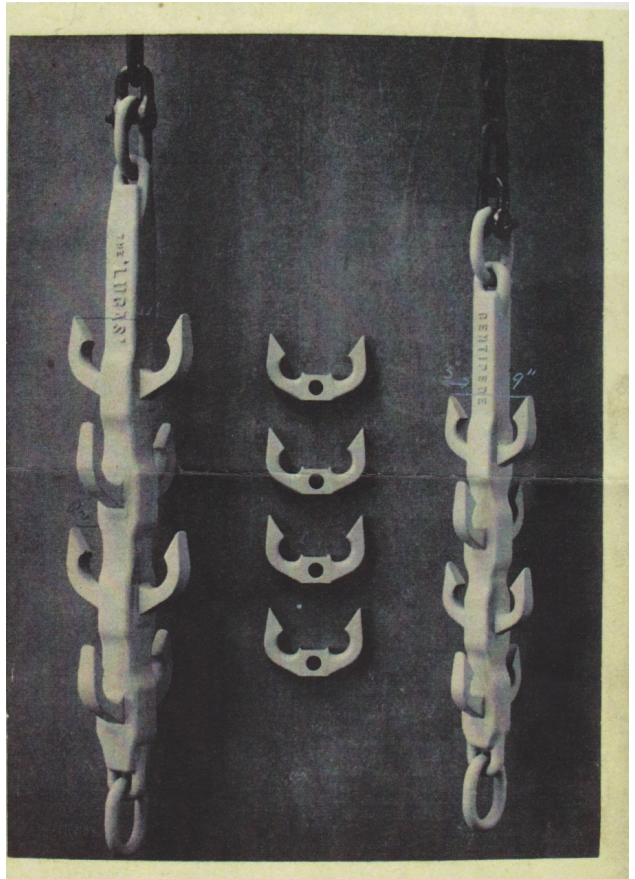
ROUND AND ABOUT IN THE PARISH.....

It's very easy when doing research to get side-tracked by being given wrong information and at the time there is nothing to suspect something is amiss. This is certainly the case with Francis Lucas of The Barn (now called Long Barn).

I was told that Francis Lucas was of Lucas Lamps fame and when by chance the great grand-daughter of Francis Lucas got in touch and came to see me I thought I was displaying some knowledge by referring to the Lucas lamps. "Wherever did you get that information?" she said "It's totally wrong!"

As the Managing Director of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company Francis Lucas was clearly a man of business, from superintending of the vessels of the Company, some of which he had himself designed, to the laying of thousands of miles of cable to connect up the remotest corners of the earth with European culture. The Great Eastern was one of the most important ships of this time to be involved in laying transatlantic cables.

Amongst Francis' inventions, was the Lucas grapnel which was used in recovering cable from a rough or rocky sea bottom, when it needed repair. When a fault appeared in a cable it was necessary to cut out the defective portion and to splice in a new piece, the severed ends would naturally fall down again to the ocean bed from which they had been raised, making it necessary to fish again for the 'good' end in order that a new piece may be spliced on to it. Francis devised a grapnel which could be made to seize the cable, cut it, drop the bad end and hold the good end, so that the latter could forthwith be hoisted up to the ship for splicing. This greatly simplified and shortened all repair work. Its name is the Lucas Grapnel.



It's very hard to know when something is wrong and often it's so far in the past it is almost impossible to verify, but in this instance I was very grateful to know the truth.

There are very few photos of Francis Lucas, but here he is shown on the far left.



Frank R. Lucas, Henry Clifford, Chas. Crook, Sherwin, Corder, Todhunter, London, Churchill

Although somewhat shaken by going astray I ploughed on with other information I had been given. "Wherever did you get that from?" the great grand-daughter asked "It's totally wrong!" At that stage I decided it was best to keep quiet. However, very kindly, I was sent the correct information and this will form a separate article. My thanks to Mary Benjamin.

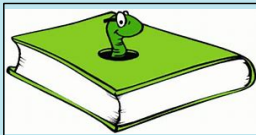
Jill Rolfe 740446

Annual Parish Meeting 8th April

Chelwood Gate Village Hall | 7:30pm

Refreshments, speakers & a warm welcome for all!

Speakers include WDC Head of Waste and East Sussex Vision



Local Book Group Seeks New Members

We are a friendly group that meets monthly to discuss books over coffee and cake. We meet on a Monday afternoon and rotate the meetings between our homes, along with the book choice. We have read a broad spectrum of books over the years including current best sellers as well as classics. Our last five books were: American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins, The beginning of spring by Penelope Fitzgerald, When the cranes fly south by Lisa Ridzen, All the colours of the dark by Chris Whitaker and Sour Sweet by Timothy Mo.

If you would like to join us, or chat further call Jan on 01825 790681.

Skies Above

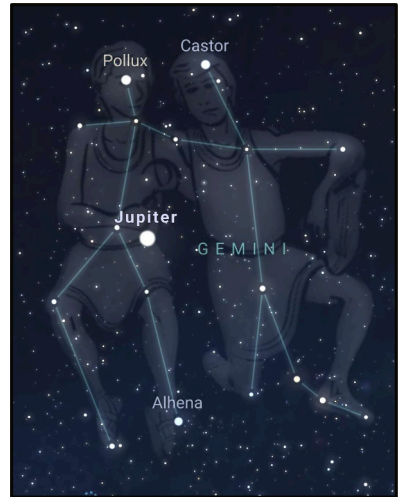
Jupiter

by Wren Martin



There's a particularly bright star in the constellation of Gemini at the moment; one that's not part of the constellation. Sitting below the bright heads of the twins, Pollux and Castor, this super, bright star is actually not a star at all. It is the largest planet in our solar system – Jupiter.

Jupiter is the third brightest object in our night sky after the moon and Venus. It is one of the five planets that we can see with the naked eye (the full list being Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn). With a small telescope or good pair of binoculars, you can even spot Jupiter's four largest moons Ganymede, Callisto, Io, and Europa. These four moons are known as the Galilean moons, and are named for Galileo Galilei who first observed them in 1610. Ganymede is the largest moon in our solar system and is even larger than the planet Mercury!



Jupiter in Gemini - Stellarium

Jupiter itself is eleven times wider than Earth and, if it were a hollow shell, more than 1,000 Earths could fit inside. It is a swirling gas giant, rotating at incredible speed. A day on Jupiter is only 9.9 hours, despite it taking 12 Earth years to orbit the sun. Made up of mostly hydrogen and helium, Jupiter's composition is very similar to the sun itself. As the oldest of our planets, it took the majority of the leftover ingredients from the formation of our star, giving it more than twice the mass of all the other planets combined. In fact, due to its huge size, the pressure towards the centre of Jupiter is strong enough to compress its hydrogen gas into liquid. This massive sea of liquid hydrogen makes Jupiter home to the largest ocean in our solar system.

The famous red spot is a storm 1.3 times as wide as the Earth, that has been raging for over 300 years. Winds blowing clouds of ammonia ice particles can reach up to 432 kilometres per hour. Despite this, the great red spot is



Jupiter by Hubble's "Outer Planet Atmospheres Legacy"

shrinking, with some scientists suggesting it could disappear completely within the next 20 years.

Though Saturn is the planet most known for its beautiful rings, it has recently been discovered that Jupiter has a ring system of its own. Discovered in 1979 by the Voyager 1 space probe, Jupiter's ring system is thin and faint, made mostly of dust particles. More impressive is its total number of moons, up to 97 at the last count, overtaking Saturn to have the most moons in the solar system.

It is appropriate that this planet is named after the Roman king of the gods.

Find all the Skies Above articles, along with links to sources and further reading at <https://skiesabove.substack.com/>



Goshawk: Phantom of the Forest

by Kerry Williams
Communications Officer:
Conservation



Goshawk juvenile © Pete Richman



Goshawk on nest © Paul Marten

For many of us, film and literature may be the closest we get to experiencing the sharp detail of certain charismatic wildlife goliaths; the breath of a Bengal Tiger, the splashing breach of a Humpback Whale or the down-the-barrel fire-eyed stare of a Goshawk. If you've watched this year's film adaptation of Helen Macdonald's bestseller, *H is for Hawk*, you'll

have been treated to some beautiful close-ups of these impeccable birds. Cherish these shots – they're not common.

Nicknamed 'Phantom of the Forest', Goshawks are extremely secretive, flying under the radar and shrouded in mysterious woodland wonder. It's said their name was bestowed upon them by medieval falconers; Goose-hawk, for their apparent ability to take down geese. Anyone who's ever had a run in with a farmyard goose will know they're quite a contender, and the name immediately conjures images of the Goshawk's mighty strength and hunting prowess.

Goshawks share a similar barred chest, yellow legs, and bright eyes with their cousin, the Sparrowhawk. But the similarity ends with size, and with a wingspan of up to five feet, a female Goshawk can easily weigh four times as much as a female Sparrowhawk.

Despite their impressive bulk, Goshawks are tricky to spot, and surprisingly agile. Preferring to nest and hunt in deep forest, they whip through thicket and glade at speeds of up to 38 miles per hour to dispatch unsuspecting birds and small mammals silently with spearing golden talons.

Like many awesome predators, these magnificent birds get a rough reputation. Historically persecuted, by the late 19th century Goshawks were all but extinct in the UK. Due to accidental escapees, and perhaps some deliberate releases, these birds have bounced back. Although, their trauma is not as much in the past as you would like to assume, with vilification and very real crimes against the species still happening. Along with added threats of habitat loss and climate change, this serial oppression has slowed their steely return.

But return they do. Although populations are patchy across the UK, those that do persist are strong in number, including here in Sussex, with around 65 breeding pairs now thought to be resident. If you see one, you're ever so lucky. But if you miss out, don't despair. Lean into the mystery, the stuff of film, and tales of the forest. You might not have seen them. But they've probably seen you.



Update from your Local District

Councillor:

Cllr. Christina Coleman



County Council Elections

I am pleased to let you know that I have been selected as the Green Party candidate in the upcoming local elections for the County Council division of Maresfield and Buxted.

The Labour government's approach to the County Council elections has been rather bewildering, so you would be forgiven for being confused! The County Council elections that were due to take place in 2025 were postponed until 2026. The government then proposed cancelling the 2026 elections altogether, as Local Government Reorganisation means that the County Council is expected to cease to exist by 2028. However, they changed their mind again. As a result, the elections will go ahead on May 7th. In reality, the County Council position is likely to have influence for only one year, as there will be further elections in 2027 for the new local authority that will replace both the County and District Councils.

Wealden District Council

Given this change, it is a good time to reflect. Here are some of the things we have achieved at Wealden District Council since I was elected in May 2023. Crucially, none of these projects are funded through debt, but rather through a combination of reserves and the Community Infrastructure Levy. We:

- Voted for a 0% increase in your District Council Tax and no Council Tax at all for those with a terminal illness.
- Saved Uckfield Leisure Centre from closure and refurbished Hailsham and Uckfield Leisure Centres.
- Invested in local schools and colleges, including: more than £200,000 into Uckfield Community College and over £100,000 into Heathfield Community College, both to expand their SEND facilities; nearly £300,000 to Herstmonceux CE Primary School for additional facilities for early years and Key Stages One and Two; £40,000 to Hankham Primary School to improve outdoor space; £100,000 to Stone Cross School; and more than £30,000 to Hailsham Library.
- Secured funding from the Football Association (FA) and invested in the Wealden Sports Hub - a not-for-profit, community benefit facility in Hailsham, featuring playing pitches, state-of-the-art sports facilities, and a play park designed to serve people with disabilities.
- Are investing £200,000 a year (over the next three years) in local sports facilities via the Sports Infrastructure Fund (SIF).
- Are refurbishing the Uckfield Rugby Club.
- Increased social housing provision and expanded affordable homes, with nearly 1,000 delivered in two years.
- Acquired land as the first stage in building a brand new medical facility in Polegate.
- Obtained planning permission for a new medical centre and community facility in Mayfield.
- Attracted and supported new businesses in Wealden through the Economic Development team, resulting in a 15% increase in local employment.
- Established 12 new community orchards.

- Invested £1.2 million in nature in partnership with the Sussex Wildlife Trust through Wilder Wealden.
- Are investing £2 million over the next three years to restore and improve local assets like village halls through our Community Led Infrastructure Fund.
- Allocated each District Councillor a budget of £10,000 per year to be spent on voluntary and community projects in the ward.

I have allocated £5,000 of the Danehill and Fletching Councillor Ward Budget to Special Educational Needs facilities at Danehill School. Other funds went to the Fletching Recreation Ground and village hall, Danehill Historical Society, Isfield Theatrical Society, Fletching Music Festival, and others. I am currently researching allocations for the 2026/2027 budget.

I continue to spend much of my time campaigning to protect local greenfield sites from inappropriate development. By the time you read this, the Local Plan Consultation will have closed, and I will continue to lobby to ensure your opinions are heard.

As ever, if you have any other questions, problems, or concerns, please do reach out to me and I will do my best to help.

Cllr. Christina Coleman

Green Party District Councillor for Danehill and Fletching

cllr.christina.coleman@wealden.gov.uk | 07718 208340



Danehill Parish Council

REPORT OF THE DANEHILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH 2026

County Report – Cllr Galley reported that the road near Pippingford to Long Car Park was due to be resurfaced in 2027. He was chasing up the Road Safety Team as he was concerned it was not as responsive as it should be. He urged the Council to respond to the WDC local plan consultation which he thought would be detrimental to the district with too much housing and little regard to road and public transport improvements. County Council elections were progressing as normal.

District Report – Cllr Coleman reported on the Local Plan. She was also concerned over the lack of infrastructure for transport and the number of houses for the northern part of the district and she was continuing to campaign against the Owlsbury development. She also requested the Parish Council to respond. She reported on the Parish Cluster update on the Local Plan. She reported on a zero raise in the precept and an exemption for terminally ill residents.

She reported on the High Court decision on the Crowborough Camp that there are no grounds for a judicial review after taking legal advice due to lack of grounds and costs. She

has also spent her Cllr grant award for the current year and highlighted it for next financial year and finally she confirmed the speaker from East Sussex Vision Support due to talk at the Annual Parish meeting on 8th April.

Parish Council Meeting

Update on Community Lead Infrastructure Fund (CLIF):

The Clerk reported on recent significant progress. The Clerk would report on the panel meeting this week once she heard back from WDC.

Update on lighting options for Danehill:

The Clerk reported the sleepers were in place. The lighting works would be completed shortly. The Clerk was asked to contact the groundsmen to ask for improvements in the installation to prevent movement and future damage.

Memorial Hall update and associated costs and plans:

Cllr Hogg reported he was discussing the transfer details with the hall trustees to progress matters and would continue to move this forward.

Update on village gateways:

The Clerk reported on the current situation. The Clerk was asked to confirm with the contractor to progress with the increased upfront costs to get the project completed.

Approve emergency plan:

Cllr Ammon reported on the final plan and this final draft was unanimously resolved by the Council.

Speed indicator future / proposal:

The Clerk reported on the current options and was waiting to get further options and costs to report back with solar panels and less movements required. The Chair reported on a possible cost for a new speed laser gun for speed watch for approximately £800 and this was unanimously supported.

Annual meeting arrangements and expenditure:

The Clerk reported that speakers would be from East Sussex Vision and WDC waste and recycling.



Local Update - March 2026

Roy Galley

Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution

Well, the government has changed its mind again and as many may know, we are to have County Council elections on May 7th.

Whether this will be for a one-year term or more is not yet clear. The current plan is to have elections for a new Unitary Authority in May 2027 with the District and Borough Councils being abolished and then elections for a Sussex Mayor in 2028. Who knows what this

government will do. I've never been keen on having a Mayor but I can see a case for a unitary authority, although I can't see it being a game changer.

The Wealden Local Plan

The consultation for this ended on 20th March and I have registered a series of objections.

As I understand the process, WDC will now assimilate and assess the consultation results. Then we will have a new Plan put forward before submission to the Planning Inspector.

The biggest impact will be extra housing. Indeed this seems to be the main objective of the Plan. Build lots of houses regardless of the consequences for water supply, sewage, road systems and a range of social services.

The number of new houses if this goes ahead are Buxted 349, Danehill 35, Fletching 26, Isfield 34, Maresfield 347, Little Horsted 1503

The direct effect on some villages will be quite small but the ricochet effect of the huge proposed Owlsbury Development will be devastating. Our rural environment will be destroyed. It doesn't have to be like this and I have in my response to the Consultation outlined an alternative plan.

The other aspect is employment and commercial development. Despite a lot of weasel words, it is clear that the Ashdown Business Park expansion at Maresfield will be going ahead. Another major blow to our environment.

Some positive County News

County has a lot of issues with the lack of money but, despite that, many positive initiatives do make progress.

There is a lot of demand for improved services for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Part of County's response to this is the development of a new purpose-built school in Crowborough for both primary and secondary school pupils.

Whilst we need more money for potholes, we are going ahead with a replacement for the Exceat Bridge in Cuckmere. This is currently a major bottleneck and we will be spending nearly £20m on a two lane structure. If you know the area, you will appreciate how helpful this will be. The funds have come from a number of government sponsored pots. The pothole money has not been compromised by this expensive scheme.

Roy Galley

cllr.roy.galley@eastsussex.gov.uk | 01825 713018



St Peter's Church Chailey, Saturday,

11th April, 10am-1pm.

chaileyc@gmail.com

Upcoming Drop-In Dates

On the last Saturday of the month volunteers open **Chelwood Gate Village Hall from 10:30 AM until noon** for a gathering of friends and neighbours. Tea and coffee are served alongside homemade cake. It is a relaxed get-together for all ages, even dogs are welcome! Come join us.

25 April 🕒 30 May 🕒 27 June 🕒 25 July 🕒 29 August

On 27 September the hall will host the annual coffee morning to aid Macmillan Cancer Charity.

Next Magazine

Deadline
Wed 15th April

Copy to:
parishmagazine
@allsaintsdane
hill.org.uk

Advertising to
Carol
Williamson

advertiser@allsaint
sdanehill.org.uk

Help Our Pollinators !

Our insects and particularly honey bees are disappearing at an alarming rate due to many factors, climate change and recently, a very wet winter. Since the war we have lost 97% of our wildflower meadows so our surviving pollinators need all the help they can get from our gardens, verges and roadsides. Bee friendly cultivated flowers, flowering weeds and patches of longer grasses are all vital sources of pollen and forage. During this growing season the air will be filled with the sound of mowers and, alas, strimmers, as we seek to tame our gardens. If we are all a little less tidy our insects may thrive. Their importance cannot be understated !

Lesley Boase

New life returns to Ashdown Forest

Beth Morgan - Head of Engagement



Spring continues to blossom on Ashdown Forest, bringing new life to the heath and woodland. Reptiles continue to emerge from their winter slumber, butterflies open their wings to bask in the warming sun, and birds return as part of annual

migration journeys, whether that's from hundreds or even thousands of miles away, or even perhaps from somewhere much closer to home.

One such bird is the woodlark. This brown-streaked bird lives in the UK all year, spending its winter in small flocks on nearby farmland before returning to the Forest to breed. They are ground nesting birds that choose to raise their young on the lowland heath across the south of the UK. Woodlarks are an important species to the Forest. Their success is a sign that the rare lowland heath is well maintained and able to support the rare plants and animals that thrive in this specific habitat.

Woodlarks lay their eggs within a grassy tussock or heather bush, often creating a shallow scrape for the eggs to rest in. This makes their nests incredibly vulnerable



Woodlark - James Pearson

to disturbance. For this reason, visitors to the Forest are asked to stay on the paths and keep dogs under control during the breeding season to ensure that this protected bird continues to thrive following its return to the heathland.

This Easter also sees the return of the Forest's popular holiday clubs, Wild Wednesdays and Nature Thursdays, which include a walk on the Forest, fun activities, natural crafts and games. These family activity days are suitable for children age 5-12, to be accompanied by

an adult. This time we'll be having fun, learning about the tricks animals play to survive; join us on a feather hunt, and find out about the birds that are returning this spring and why the Forest is special for them, and the nests they build – are you as good at nest-building as a swallow? Find out more and book tickets (places are limited so early booking is essential) via the What's On page at www.ashdownforest.org/explore/

If a social stroll is more up your street, join Lead Warden Kari Dunbar on Thursday 16th April for a free guided walk. The walk will leave St Johns car park (located off St John's Road, TN6 1XP, What3Words: young.apprehend.foggy) at 10am and will last approximately two hours. As with any walk on Ashdown Forest there will be hills and uneven ground, so sturdy footwear is a must. Dogs are more than welcome to accompany their well-behaved owners – please remember to bring poo bags and a lead. There is no need to book, just turn up on the day.

Finally, plans for this summer's celebrations of Winnie-the-Pooh's 100th birthday continue apace. The celebrations will begin on Saturday 18th July when a curious

creature inspired by the landscape and the special creatures who live on Ashdown Forest will be revealed. More details will be announced in May, but you can stay in touch with all the latest updates at www.thebigonehundred.co.uk

Handy Features for Computing

Here are some tips of handy features that you may not be using yet.

On a Mac, if you select almost any file and press the space bar, a preview window opens instantly. This works for photos, PDFs, documents and even videos. You can make quick edits here, including rotating or cropping images, or pop some annotations on a PDF.

On a Mac, copy text directly from images and videos is easy. Just open the photo and select the words with your cursor as if they were in a document. This is brilliant for copying information from scanned documents, photographs of signs, or screenshots.

Mac offers several powerful screenshot tools. Pressing **Command + Shift + 5** opens a small control panel that lets you capture the whole screen, a specific window, or a selected area. Handy for demonstrations, quick tutorials or recording problems for your IT support. On Windows you can use the **Snipping** tool.

MacOS also offers text shortcuts for frequently used text, located in **Settings > Keyboard > Text Replacements**. You can set up short abbreviations that automatically expand into longer phrases. For example, typing “addr” could instantly insert your full address.

Turning to Windows, normally when you copy something, the memory of the previous item disappears. By pressing **Windows key + V**, you can open a history of copied items and paste any of them again. You can even “pin” frequently used snippets so they stay available.

Laying out several windows in your preferred pattern on Windows: hover your mouse over the maximise button at the top of a window, several layout options appear. These allow you to organise several windows on the screen quickly when working with several documents.

A rather whimsical feature of Windows allows you to use the (generally much better) camera on your smartphone for video calls, useful when lighting at your computer is poor. To activate it, pop over to Window’s **Settings → Bluetooth & devices → Mobile devices** to connect your phone and use its camera.

Roger Lyon, rlcomputersolutions.co.uk

Haywards Heath Music Society



84th Season. Saturday 28th April at 7.30pm

At St Wilfrid's Church, Haywards Heath. Come and hear **TRIO ARCHAI**, a prize-winning young ensemble and best of their generation who will play works by Beethoven, Brahms and others to thrill us all! **Tickets: £17.** Under 18/Student £5.00 Booking: www.haywardsheathmusicsociety.org.uk and book via WeGotTickets or telephone Christine Colbourne on 01444-456227.

The Arts Society, Ashdown Forest Lecture

Thursday, 9th April 2026 at 2.00pm. Tom Duncan Lecture

The Partnership of Gertrude Jekyll and Edwin Lutyens

2pm at Crowborough Community Centre Visitors £8

Lift share, contact Lesley Boase 01825 740233



Danehill Parish Historical Society

Irene and Alan Marriott + Accompanist (music of local musician, Scan Tester) will be bringing a selection of glass plate photos to be shown by Magic Lantern

24th March, doors open at 7:15pm for 7:30pm start at Danehill Memorial Hall RH17 7HS. Refreshments available.

Members free, visitors £4



Danehill Memorial Hall AGM

All are invited to the Danehill Village Hall AGM on Monday April 13th at 6.30pm. Residents' views welcome.



Ashdown WI

Matthew Homewood is a genealogist, which led him to follow stories about the people who had to live in the Lewes Union Workhouse. When Matthew found there was little information about the workhouse building he started

researching and put together an interesting talk. He even found out that the building was used as a reformatory for women who drank too much! (the men were sent to prison) Matthew is an excellent speaker and I am sure we will ask him back for one of his other talks.

This year is a special year for Christopher Robin as he is celebrating 100 years. Gilly Halcrow, a well known speaker, is asking the question “What ever happened to Christopher Robin?” Gilly will also be bringing her hand-painted cards to sell at our next meeting on Tuesday 14th April, 7.30 at Chelwood Gate Village Hall.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear more tales about Christopher Robin.

Yvonne Smith

Great Crested Newts Road Crossing

I have been aware of a colony of this endangered species on the fringes of Danehill, but I was very surprised to read on a social media page of the Sussex Amphibian and Reptile Group a report of a GCN road crossing point in Church Lane, Danehill. Many local villages have toad crossings and some have toad patrols to reduce the annual carnage when thousands of toads set off from their terrestrial environment to their breeding pond, but GCN crossings are much rarer as GCN numbers are much less than toad numbers.

GCN, like toads, are amphibians and spend the months from August to February away from their pond. On a milder, damper, early February/March evening they emerge from their winter dormant stage under some tree root or similar hideaway and begin a trek (up to 500 metres on very short legs) back to their pond. En route there are many hazards such as predators, but the worst danger is roads with their drains to fall in and their wide-wheeled, fast moving, wagons.

The migration will be finished for this year, but I hope to set up a crossing patrol for 2027. This will need very local volunteers as migration can take off rapidly when the weather conditions are right. We need 'Lookers' who regularly walk Church Lane such as early evening dog walkers, joggers etc to sound the alert on the village Facebook page and 'Bucketeers' to rush to the rescue with buckets, bright torches and Hi-Vis attire. If you are interested in helping with a patrol next year, which can be great fun and rewarding (children love it) drop me a line at drewerycj@gmail.com, otherwise I may be knocking on your door!!



Chris Drewery