

Dear Parishioners,



Water, water everywhere, nor any drop to drink! These words from Samuel Taylor Coleridge rang true for many of us last month. We had a lot of rain but also faced a lack of running water in many homes. This was a very difficult situation and it was a shock in the year 2026 to be lacking in this basic requirement for everyday life.

I sincerely hope this episode doesn't happen again! However out of the crisis there were some silver linings. One was the kindness of friends, neighbours and village groups who cared for other people in practical ways. We are grateful to them all. Another was the way in which a shared difficulty brought people together and spurred them to look out for each other.

An extra silver lining for me was being reminded to be thankful for the simple things in life. I often take clean water from the tap for granted, but around the world, millions of people do not have access to this resource. It is good to appreciate what we have, remembering how fragile life is and that every day is a gift.

As a Christian, the words of our Lord also struck me with fresh resonance.

Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

A reminder that the Lord can quench our spiritual thirst, both in this life and the next

With warmest greetings,

Paddy .

All Saints Church, Danehill with Chelwood Gate

February 2026

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

Sunday 1st February 9.30am 11am	Candlemas Traditional Morning Prayer (All Saints) All Age Service (All Saints) At the nine thirty service we are invited to light a candle in memory of a loved one.
Sunday 8th February 9.30am 11am	Holy Communion (All Saints) Informal Service (All Saints)
Sunday 15th February 9.30am 11am	Holy Communion (All Saints) Informal Service (All Saints)
Wednesday 18th February 10am	Ash Wednesday Holy Communion (All Saints)
Sunday 22nd February 9.30am 11am	Holy Communion (All Saints) Informal Communion (All Saints)
Sunday 1st March 9.30am 11am	Traditional Morning Prayer (All Saints) All Age Service (All Saints)



At All Saints

Dedication of a Child
30th November Josephine Elliot

Thanksgiving Service
9th January Donald Freeland

Pastoral Care

Community & Social

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, 9th February, 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 13th February. 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.

2nd, 9th and 23rd February

Sunday 11am Informal Service

We have action songs, children's instruments, activities and creche, children's microphone at the front, tea and coffee



Lent Events

Lent Lunches - Mondays 23rd February, 2nd March, 9th March and 23rd March at 12:30pm at Danehill Vicarage.

We explore the Gospel of Matthew together with the help of the diocesan Lent course. Please contact Paddy to attend.

(01825 790269).



Ash Wednesday Holy Communion service, All Saints Church, 18th February at 10am.

For more details contact vicar@allsaintsdanehill.org.uk

Chelwood Gate Village Hall

Consider Your Local Hall When Organising Your Next Event !

Not enough space at home to host a party? Are you thinking of starting a club and require meeting space? Chelwood Gate Village Hall on Beaconsfield Road is a bright, lovely hall with a nice kitchen and modern toilets (including a large disabled facility) and a conveniently large car park. The use of the hall includes plenty of crockery, glassware, tables and chairs to make your event run smoothly. Located under the trees of the Ashdown Forest, it offers adjacent access to footpaths and the village common. It's easy to rent (days and evenings, weekdays and weekends) and at very reasonable rates. Just call Ali on 07771 630000.

Drop in: Saturday 28th February, 10:30 am until noon

On the last Saturday of the month the hall is open 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.



A Bundle of Winter Wrens

by Kerry Williams

Communications Officer: Conservation

Someone once told me if you think you've seen a mouse it's probably a Wren. These diminutive brown birds make a habit of hopping about the undergrowth in stop-motion fashion, feeding on insects, spiders, and occasionally berries and seeds. Despite being the UK's most numerous breeding bird, they can be inconspicuous.

The similarity promptly ends when they open their mouths. Though weighing under 10g, the Wren's voice is bold and loud; a long, high-pitched whistle and trill, cutting through crisp morning air and reaching above that of larger songsters. If you watch a Wren singing, you'll notice the effort on its small body – beak wide and tail upturned.



Wren and blossom © Roger Wilmshurst

Woodland understorey is an ideal nesting habitat for Wrens, and males establish clear territories in early spring, using that powerful voice. They build five or even six nests to try and attract a female and will aggressively deter other males that dare approach.

However, when the chill of winter comes around, the male changes his tune. A balmy summer of successful shouting may have shown that a tiny body is no barrier to being heard, but it won't help with heat loss on cold nights.

So, the male starts collecting bedfellows. Flitting out on short trips, he again utilises his song, letting females and other males know they are welcome to join him for a platonic sleepover, starting after dusk and ending before dawn.



Wren in nest © Alan Price

"Oh, that stuff I said in spring? Water under the bridge."

They gratefully accept, bundling into moss and leaf-lined woven grass, squidging tiny wings and bellies together to make room for just one more. Beaks in, bums out.

Most consist of small gatherings, but records of dozens have been logged, and one count in the 1960s numbered 61 Wrens.

Not just super cute, the warmth-sharing of these communal roosts might be lifesaving. Although as anyone who shares a bed will know, there can be a waste of energy caused by the wriggling of others. Shuffling for space, preening, defecating in the roost; entirely unacceptable sleepover etiquette.

When warmer days thankfully return it's back to spring rules, and the male begins to banish other males from the roost, cosy winter cuddles forgotten until the cold starts to nip around tiny feet once more.

Next time you hear a winter Wren having a good yell, be sympathetic. It's survived the night, thank goodness, but it's had a terrible night's sleep.

Sussex Wildlife Trust is a conservation charity for everyone who cares about nature in Sussex. Founded in 1961, we have worked with local people for over half a century to make Sussex richer in wildlife.

We rely on the support of our members. Please consider joining us. Your membership will help us challenge decisions that threaten wildlife, care for more than 30 nature reserves, and inspire the next generation about the wonders of the natural world. It's easy to join online at :-

sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join

Fletching's 1880 Organ Back In Action

The Forster & Andrews pipe organ is now back in place and was heard for the first time at the Carol Service in December.

During the last six months the organ has undergone a complete refurbishment by organ builders Andrew Cooper & Co. Many of the pipes went to a specialist in Leeds while other major components were taken to the workshop on the Isle of Wight. These are all now back in place and the restored elements are being regulated and fine-tuned as they bed in. In addition, the case work has been re-oiled to give it a fresh glow.

The result is a tribute to the combination of craftsmanship and musicianship of the organ builders and their deep respect for the original work of Forster & Andrews, ensuring the organ will be good for another 100 years.

Celebration Concert 20th March - save the date!

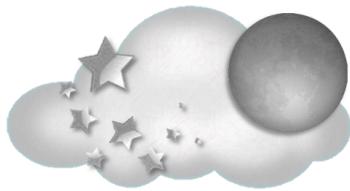
The restored instrument will be put through its paces by distinguished concert organist Daniel Moult (danielmoult.com) at a celebration event on **20th March**. Tickets and further details will be available in February via the organ project website (www.fletchingorgan.org).



Skies Above

A Planetary Parade

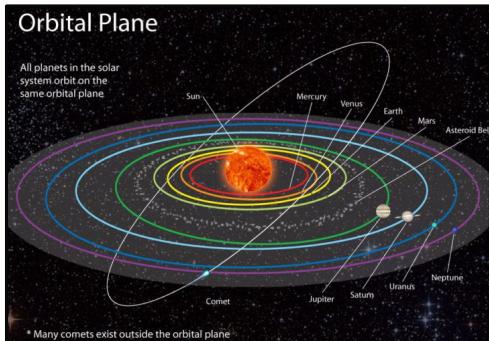
by Wren Martin



Usually there are one or two planets to spot when stargazing, but occasionally four or more planets are visible at one time. These events are known as planetary alignments, and at the end of the month there will be a chance to see six planets at once in the night sky. Mercury, Venus, Jupiter and Saturn can all be seen with the naked eye, but Uranus and Neptune will require a telescope or binoculars to view.

The planets in our solar system all orbit the sun on a single plane. Rather like a plate spinning, with the sun as the stick in the centre, all the planets lay on that plate rather than orbiting in random directions. We see this same pattern with the way moons orbit their planets, and even in the flattened discs of galaxies. It happens because, as the solar system was forming, the large rotating cloud of space dust that would eventually form the sun, planets and moons collapsed in on itself, forming a kind of 'pancake' of space material. This material rotates around the centre of the disc, where matter is concentrated and gravity is strongest. The planets therefore all form on this same plane.

From Earth, we see the effect of this single plane of orbit. The planets all seem to travel roughly along the same line in the sky; a line we call the ecliptic. For us to see multiple planets in the night sky at once, their orbits must have brought them all to the same side of the sun as the Earth. On this occasion, only Mars will be out of view. Last year, we experienced a planetary alignment of all seven planets, something that won't happen again until 2040. Lineups of five or more planets take place every few years, however, and last for a few days. February's event will begin around the 25th February, though the date for viewing changes is best based on where you are in the world For the UK it is the 1st March.



Orbital Plane
Tim Gunther - National Geographic



Mercury low in the sky as the sun sets - Star Walk 2 app

The observation window is short, with Mercury and Venus low on the horizon and dipping out of sight before 7:00pm. It is worth downloading an app such as Stellarium or Star Walk 2 to help make sure you are looking in the correct place in the sky and at the right time. These apps use your phone's GPS to find your exact location and display a matching night sky when you point your phone up.

The moon will also be out and at 90% brightness, adding to the beautiful display. Let's just hope for clear skies!

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

BUCKLER'S REEL
LIVE

High-energy, 4 piece, Folk-Rock Band

The Club Danehill
Sat 7 March
20:45 - 23:00

Tickets £5
Members FREE

Book online at danehill.org.uk

ROUND AND ABOUT IN THE PARISH.....

Still within our parish, but just a little further out than normal, is the Sheffield Arms and this is where the the Fletching and District Corn, Root, Hop, Butter, and Poultry Show took place, which was probably started in 1887. Whilst nowadays shows are held generally on a Saturday, they were then held on a weekday, in most instances on a Thursday. There was fierce competition for trophies, some of which presented by Mr Maryon-Wilson [from Searles] and Mr Hardy [Danehurst].



The postcard, next page, is simply entitled Sheffield Park Root Show, which might indicate all of the show was held in the grounds of Sheffield Park House where they would have been plenty of room. Further research revealed the show took place on the grounds adjoining the Sheffield Arms, Fletching, but when you look at the area today the layout around the former pub is very different.

In 1903 a Horse Show was added and by 1910 competition for agricultural horses was strong. Mr Soames [from Sheffield Park House] was President of the Root Show and he lent one of his paddocks, Trickland Field, for the ploughing competition. It could well be that the postcard shown below was taken around this time. Mr Soames presented a piece of plate valued at 10 guineas for the best cart horse. The Sheffield Challenge Cup was presented by Miss Attenborough together with a cash prize of 2 guineas for the best 3 year old cart gelding or filly. Miss Attenborough also won prizes for carrots and parsnips.



The Vice President's cup was presented by Mr G M Maryon-Wilson for the best cart stallion of any age within a radius of 20 miles of the show. The Danehurst Challenge Cup was presented by the executors of the late Mr Guy Hardy together with a cash prize of £3 for the best mare or gelding over 4 years. The Searles Challenge Cup together with a cash prize of 3 guineas was presented by Mr Maryon Wilson for the best cart mare.

Lord Brassey gave a cash prize of 3 guineas for the best 2 year old cart gelding or filly open to bona fide tenant farmers. It would seem there was competition between local prominent land owners of the time to present trophies and prizes. Amongst some of the prize winners was the splendidly named Captain Firebrace, but I haven't been able to find out anything about him.

In the evening the Sheffield Arms hosted a dinner at which Mr Maryon-Wilson was present, as too was Mr Cautley, MP. In the course of his speech, in reply to the toast of The Houses of Parliament, Mr Cautley said he thought it would be better if Parliament did not interfere with agriculture.

My thanks to the late Peter Kirby.

Jill Rolfe 740446

Chuckle Time

A middle-aged couple were on holiday in Jerusalem when the wife suffered a heart attack and died. The undertaker offered the widowed husband to arrange a beautiful funeral for \$50 in Palestine, or a repatriation to Britain for £500.

The widower considered and then chose repatriation saying "There was a resurrection after 3 days following another Palestinian death and I couldn't possibly take the risk of that happening again."

Staying Safe on WhatsApp and Other Messaging Apps

Recent advice from national cybersecurity agencies confirms that the strong protection offered by established apps such as WhatsApp, Signal or Telegram can be bypassed on a device infected with harmful software. The focus is on protecting your device as a whole.

Keeping apps up to date is one of the simplest and most effective safety measures. Security researchers have occasionally discovered a bug in one or other of the messaging apps that might allow an attacker to bypass security restrictions by sending a specially-structured message—even without the receiving user tapping on it. These issues were quickly fixed by updates.

The same advice applies to the operating system: using out-of-date versions of MacOS, iOS, Android or Windows makes your device more vulnerable.

How you use your device matters as well. At the risk of being tiresome, be cautious about links and attachments in messages, just as we are with emails.

Here are some simple, free (and dull!) ways to keep you safer:

- 1. Keep your phone and apps updated**

Updates usually include security fixes. Turning on automatic updates makes this easy.

- 2. Be cautious with unexpected messages**

If you receive a link, file or message from an unknown number—or even from a known contact but with unusual wording—be cautious before tapping.

- 3. Use the security features built into the apps**

WhatsApp, for example, offers two-step verification, which adds an extra layer of protection if someone tries to take over your account.

- 4. Protect your phone with a passcode or biometric lock**

This prevents anyone who gets hold of your phone from accessing your private messages.

- 5. Avoid installing unfamiliar apps**

If you like a quiet life then stick to well-known apps from the official app stores.

- 6. Occasionally review which devices are linked to your account**

WhatsApp and other apps allow you to see where your account is logged in. Remove anything you do not recognise.

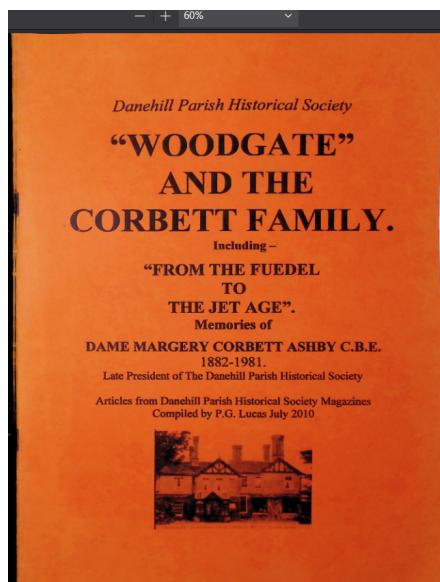
Danehill Parish Historical Society Scanning Project: A Leap Into The Twenty-First Century

Late in 2025, committee members Elaine Saunders and Nicholas Coleman made a successful bid for a grant from Wealden District Council to purchase a book scanner. The scanner can produce a flat, undistorted image from a book and even more importantly carry out optical character recognition of the text, so that the entire scanned document can be searched electronically.

So why was the scanner needed? The society was formed in 1972 and over more than 50 years a large amount of research has been carried out. The society archive holds all the quarterly magazine produced in the early years and seventeen project booklets, mainly edited by the late Phil Lucas, a founder member. These have already been scanned by Elaine and have recently been published in the Archive section of the society website (www.danehillhistory.org).

This is just the beginning. There is a large filing cabinet containing original research carried out by members as well as hundreds of photographs and maps. The archive holds information on local families and buildings as well as transcriptions and translations of the Sheffield Manor court books and medieval deeds, many written in Latin. These were largely the work of the late Hylda Rawlings.

When the digitising process is complete Danehill Parish should have an online, village, local historical resource second to none.



This booklet, now on the website, is a great read despite the spelling error on the cover! Woodgate is now known as Cumnor House and was the country house of the Corbett family. A large part of the booklet tells us of the remarkable work of the Corbets, especially Dame Margery Corbett Ashby CBE.

Dame Margery even as a teenager was canvassing for her father, who became the first Liberal MP for East Grinstead. She became heavily involved in the Suffragist movement and stood for Parliament herself. She is even thought to have persuaded the Turkish president to allow women in Turkey to vote!

Anne Drewery

Writing the next chapter for Ashdown Forest

Beth Morgan - Head of Engagement



One hundred years ago, a father and son set out from their home at Cottchford Farm near Hartfield for adventures on Ashdown Forest. What followed was nothing less than magical – a series of books containing stories of a boy, his bear and his other stuffed friends with whom seemingly the whole world fell in love.

This year, as we look back 100 years to the publication of A.A. Milne's first collection of Winnie-the-Pooh stories in October 1926, we also look ahead to what the next 100 years will bring.

To mark this special centenary, Ashdown Forest has partnered with world-class creatives, Trigger for 'The Big One Hundred', a series of cultural events that will include a giant mythical puppet, inspiring visitors to connect with this landscape of environmental and cultural significance and help protect it for the next 100 years.

Inspired by Winnie-the-Pooh, Trigger are creating a new tale for the Forest. This project is generously supported by Wealden District Council and The Ashdown Forest Foundation, bringing the Forest and its stories to audiences across the Wealden area and beyond.

From summer this year, visitors will be invited to explore the Forest and discover its newest inhabitant, a large-scale, mythical puppet creature inspired by the landscape and its unique species through a series of interactive performances. Its size is sure to amaze – it will take up to ten puppeteers to bring this wondrous creature to life!

Trigger will also tour the new puppet creature across the Wealden district in summer 2026, with dates and locations to be announced.

Five new walks will open in Ashdown Forest, themed around different unique and threatened species native to the Forest, including the Dartford Warbler, the Silver-Studded Blue Butterfly, the Adder, the Tiger Beetle, and the Dormouse.

Help bring the new creature to life

Ashdown Forest and Trigger invite you to help bring the Forest's new creature to life, by connecting children and young people with nature through play and imagination. Primary schools across Wealden will be offered free workshops,

giving children the chance to draw their own version of the creature or write a story inspired by this new mythical creature.

Members of the public across the country can also get involved by suggesting a name for the creature and submitting their own drawings and stories. Submissions can be shared with Trigger by tagging **@TriggerStuff** on Instagram, emailing **hello@triggerstuff.co.uk**, or using the hashtag **#TheBigOneHundred**. For more information visit: <https://thebigonehundred.co.uk>

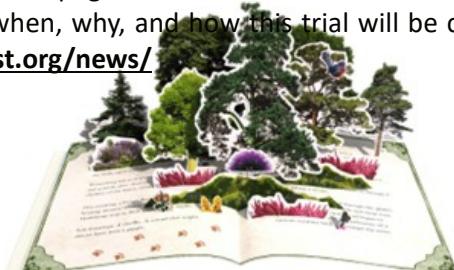
Be inspired by Ashdown Forest

Before the centennial festivities begin, Ashdown Forest invites you to immerse yourself in the landscape through a series of upcoming events:

- On **Sunday 22nd February**, Kari Dunbar leads a free guided walk from Black Hill car park (located off the B2188, TN6 1XE, What3Words: hiring.holds.abandons). This two-hour social stroll starts at 10am. Dogs are more than welcome to accompany their well-behaved owners! There is no need to book; just turn up.
- If you'd like to learn how to differentiate a birch from a beech, or a willow from an oak, on Thursday 26th February,
- Head of Countryside Ash Walmsley presents a naked tree identification workshop. After a brief indoor introduction, join Ash for a slow walk on the Forest to put your new-found ID skills to the test. Find out more and book tickets for this and other events via the Ashdown Forest website: www.ashdownforest.org/whats-on

And finally...

In other news this month, as part of an ongoing heathland management and restoration programme, the Forest's Countryside team are planning to carry out a controlled burn trial on a small area of heathland near Camp Hill clump on the east side of the Forest. The date may vary depending on conditions. To find out more, please visit the News page on the Ashdown Forest website, where more information about when, why, and how this trial will be carried out is available: www.ashdownforest.org/news/





Ashdown WI

Every month I write a report about the Ashdown WI meeting which we have once a month. I hope you realize that you can attend a WI meeting any time you like. Chelwood Gate WI started in 1974 and Danehill WI with Leonora Messell started in 1917, although Danehill has now closed, Chelwood Gate is still going and we are always open for new members.

The National Federation of the Women's Institute is celebrating 110 years this year, so our meeting in February will be a look at the history of the WI in our area. The meeting is on Wednesday 11th February 1:30pm at Chelwood Gate Village Hall, so dust off your hat! put on your smart clothes and come and find out more.

After the snow, freezing cold weather and then no water, it was very enjoyable to take a walk round Wakehurst gardens at our January meeting. Sarah Oldridge was our guide, a very experienced speaker who has been with the gardens over 36 years. Sarah highlighted the main features and then took us through the seasons. It was delightful. The WI offers a meeting with a wide variety of subjects with tea and cake and a time to chat and get to know your neighbours.

Yvonne Smith

The Arts Society, Ashdown Forest Lecture

Rosalind Whyte will talk about Dame Laura Knight
Thursday, 12th February, 2pm at Crowborough Community Centre
Visitors £8

Lift share, contact Lesley Boase 01825 740233
Visit tasaf.org.uk for more details.



Haywards Heath Music Society

Saturday 28th February at 3pm at Haywards Heath Methodist Church, Perrymount Road, HH.

THE FIBONACCI QUARTET

Tickets: £17, under 18/Student £5.00

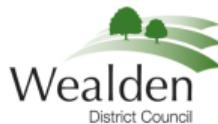
Booking: www.haywardsheathmusicsociety.org.uk and book via WeGotTickets or telephone Christine Colbourne on 01444-456227..



St Peter's Church Chailey, Saturday,
14th February 10am-1pm.
chaileyrc@gmail.com



Update from your Local District Councillor: Cllr. Christina Coleman



Water Outages

At the time of writing, there are significant water outages, low pressure supplies and intermittent water supply across the East Grinstead, Forest Row, Frant, Nutley, Danehill and Chelwood Gate areas. It is extremely concerning that South East Water is failing to secure this most essential resource. OFWAT has been investigating South East Water's supply resilience since November 2023, after repeated failures. This recent outage comes on the back of South East Water's incompetence at the Pembury treatment works at the end of last year, where the wrong chemicals were added to drinking water. That resulted in 24 000 homes being without water for two weeks and residents were advised to boil their water before use. South East Water blames the weather, leaks and more people working from home.

Ownership, pay and investment choices lie at the heart of the problem. South East Water is a private company, majority owned by Canadian and Australian pension funds. It pays out more in dividends and interest than it does on infrastructure, pipes and treatment plants. The company's own leakage page reveals a huge gap: its target was to cut leaks 15% by 2025, but instead leaks climbed 7% above baseline.

The fact that Wealden is a severely water-stressed region is just one of the reasons why having a government-imposed housing target of building 1,457 new houses in Wealden each and every year is unrealistic, unsustainable and unacceptable.

Local Government Reorganisation

The Secretary of State, Steve Reed, is determined to press ahead with plans to reorganise local government in Sussex, despite widespread unpopularity. In July, Wealden received feedback from its consultation of residents on proposals for Local Government Reorganisation. 5,654 residents across East Sussex participated in the initial survey. The key themes highlighted were: concerns over loss of local representation; the potential negative impact on services; fears over the potential for higher taxes and funding shortages. Having listened to residents through this consultation and discussed the matter at length, including in a Scrutiny and Performance meeting, Wealden concluded that it could not support any of the current local government reorganisation proposals. The Brighton and Hove model,

which proposes five unitary authorities, was the least worst option. The alternative, “One East Sussex” model, which proposes three larger and more remote local authorities was not supported. Ultimately, this will be a ministerial decision.

Mayoral Elections

The Mayoral election for the Sussex Strategic Mayoral Authority was initially due to take place on 7th May of this year. In December, the government announced that it would be delayed to May 2028. The justification was that Local Government Reorganisation needs to be fully implemented before the new Mayor takes their place. Many think it would have made more sense to have a Mayor in position ahead of the Local Government Reorganisation, in order to steer that process, as originally proposed, particularly because an interim chief executive has already been appointed, Mark Rogers. It is my understanding that East Sussex County Council, West Sussex County Council and Brighton and Hove have requested that the Mayoral elections take place in May 2027.

0% increase in Council Tax

Reform UK is facing criticism after several councils it controls proposed council tax rises close to the legal maximum, despite election pledges to cut or freeze bills. Kent County Council is proposing a 3.99% increase. Leicestershire and Lincolnshire are proposing a rise of 5%. I am pleased to inform you that the Green/Lib Dem Alliance at Wealden District Council voted on a 0% increase in council tax. This was in acknowledgement of the cost of living crisis that is impacting all of our residents, and made possible because Wealden’s finances are in sound financial health.

Food waste collections

Biffa will start collecting food waste from our homes on 30th March. The distribution of food waste bins should have started by the time you read this – if not, they’ll be arriving soon. This change is the result of national legislation, and the Council supports it, as it will reduce the amount of waste going to landfill or being incinerated. Both those methods of waste disposal cause pollution, whereas the collected food waste will be turned into soil conditioner that will be used by farmers, gardeners and anyone else concerned with improving the quality of soil without using harmful substances.

Cllr. Christina Coleman

Green Party District Councillor for Danehill and Fletching

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



Local Update - January 2026

Roy Galley

Highways

The bread and butter of my County Council work is trying to resolve local highways issues. There are times when I'm involved with care problems, whether children or adults, but roads are the big topic.

In the last 12 months or so we have made quite a lot of progress and here is what I think we have fixed. You may not agree with my judgement in every case but quite a lot has been done.

These are the successes:

- Goldbridge Weight limit sorted out and bridge reopened
- Five Ash Down Traffic Light Sequencing resolved
- Resurfacing outside Cats Protection on A275
- Potholes on Kiln Lane, Isfield filled
- Drainage, Tanyard Lane, Chelwood Gate fixed.
- Maresfield High Street Resurfacing
- Maresfield Village Hall drainage
- Patching at Herons Ghyll
- Footpath and hedge cutting Pound Green to Howbourne Lane, Buxted
- Hedge cutting near Coopers Green
- Horsted Lane, Danehill- surface and drains
- Freshfield Lane resurfacing
- Danehill- Horsted Lane Barrier- completed April 2025
- Lampool pothole – done March
- Nutley High St pothole April
- Hedge at Heatherwode Farm, Buxted
- Surfacing on A275 Danehill south of Cumnor School
- Batts Bridge, Piltdown -flooding stopped
- Danehill hedges/footpath near the War Memorial
- Grinstead Lane, Tyes Cross. Patching completed Summer 2025. More to be done
- The bridge at Underhill and signage/repairs at Cobdown Lane/Millwood Lane. August 2025
- Coopers Green Drainage . Largely complete
- Jet Patching Fletching - from Trading Boundaries to Spaynes Green
- Nursery Lane/A22 junction – new edging to reduce flooding down Nursery Lane
- Totease House Hedge, Buxted cut
- Sink hole in Hurstwood Road , Buxted fixed
- Millpond Drainage and Budletts roundabout drainage. Mostly complete

Road Safety

- Buxted School. New signage to be installed
- Nutley School . Improved signage and resurfacing works agreed.
- Improved signage in Danehill

Work to be done

- A22 Pippingford to Wych Cross surfacing and road safety
- Crowborough Road, Nutley. Road Safety
- Road safety A275 near Trading Boundaries
- Beaconsfield Road, Chelwood Gate. Surface and drains
- Howbourne Lane, Buxted -drainage

Lots more to be done.

Happy New Year.

Roy Galley

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



Holding on to Jesus in the Face of Heartless Brutality

On a recent trip to Egypt Jack Norman heard how converts to Christ are suffering at the hands of family members yet are standing firm in their faith.

Coming to faith in Christ is a life-changing moment for all of us. We rejoice in the forgiveness of our sin and the hope of salvation. However, for new believers in Egypt who leave Islam behind to follow Jesus it is life changing in another profound way.

They are frequently rejected by parents and siblings, who feel their conversion has brought shame on the family, and are made to suffer for their new faith – often in cruel and brutal ways.

When her family became aware that she was following Christ, ‘Ayesha’* was kidnapped by her brother, along with two of her four daughters, who were just eight and nine years old at the time.

For three days they were held without food as her brother tried to force her to recant her new faith. After three days he gave them a meal, but he made them eat it off the floor. Our partner told me: ‘This is a disrespectful action. It’s telling them: “You will not eat normally, like us. You will eat off the floor like the animals. And why do you have to do this? Because your mother left Islam to

become a Christian. So you are equal to an animal. You are not equal to a human.””

As she watched all this, powerless to intervene, Ayesha felt like she was ‘dying’ as she watched her daughters being beaten, ‘all because of my decision to become a Christian’.

<https://releaseinternational.org>

Report of the Danehill Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd December 2025, 7:30pm at Danehill Memorial Hall

To receive reports from District and County Councillors.

County Report – Cllr Galley’s report had been circulated prior to the meeting. He has no clarification on local government reorganization and the budget had not been finalized. Adult Social Care had been inspected by Ofsted and deemed outstanding. He had no update on the ESCC response to the speed awareness group.

District Report – Cllr Coleman reported on the WDC portion of the precept which was now agreed at a 0% increase. She reported on her grant to the School for SEN provision. She reported on a shortage of drinking water and drought issues which continue. She reported on the Local Plan consultation and the latest update on the Crowborough camp.

To receive any questions from the public (Maximum 15 Minutes)

There was a query on Beaconsfield Road drains and Cllr Galley confirmed they would be reviewed twice a year.

To receive an update on Community Led Infrastructure FundL (CLIF) grant. The Clerk reported the grant had been submitted and she would report back once WDC provided some feedback.

To consider lighting options for Danehill.

Cllr Hogg reported on the lighting quote which would add £125 plus VAT per light to each sleeper.

The Council resolved to proceed on this basis.

To consider the Memorial Hall update and associated costs and plans.

Cllr Hogg reported there was no update on this. This item was duly deferred.

To consider update on village gateways.

Cllr Hogg reported there was a delay with the contractor. The Clerk was asked to look into alternatives.

Planning decisions all available on WDC website.

Councillor Reports.

Cllr Martin reported on the film club events at Danehill Memorial Hall and confirmed there had been no Wealdlink or Parish Liaison meetings.

Items for Reporting or Inclusion in Future Agendas - Emergency Plan.

Next meeting : 4th February 2026