

# Chailey News

## April 2026

Free



W. H. H. H.

# The Church of St Peter Parish of Chailey



## WEEKDAYS

Monday 8pm Bell Ringing Practice

Friday 5pm Choir Practice

New ringers and choir members always welcome.

Transport to services can be arranged: please contact the churchwardens. The Church is open during daylight hours.

**PRIEST IN CHARGE:** Revd Paul Mundy 01825 723186

**PARISH OFFICE :** The Parish Office will be manned occasionally  
Teresa Wenban 01825 722286  
stpeterschurch12@hotmail.co.uk  
www.stpeterschailey.org  
Web site

**CHURCHWARDENS:** Mr Paul Corver 07770 688618  
paul.corver@btinternet.com  
Mrs Bea Annis 07837859750  
jonathan.a.d.annis@btinternet.com

**PCC SECRETARY:** Mr Chris James 01825 722411

**MAGAZINE ADVERTISING & FLYER INSERTS:**  
Mr Paul Corver 07770 688618  
E-mail paul.corver@btinternet.com

## CHAILEY FREE CHURCH, SOUTH CHAILEY

Please see details of services and weekday activities later in magazine

**Contacts:** Mr Roger Nutley 01273 890114  
Pete Cottingham 07757 388477

## ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

Hérons Ghyll: Wednesday 9.30am Sunday 11.30am Holy Days 12 noon

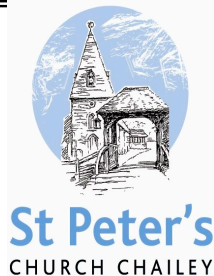
Haywards Heath: Sunday 8.30am 10.30am 5pm

Uckfield: Saturday 5.30pm Sunday 9.30am

Lewes: Sunday 9am 10.30am

For further information about Roman Catholic services and activities, please contact Mrs Mary Butterfield, 01825 724003

(cover illustration by William Hobday. Commissions Taken.  
www.penandinkartist.co.uk. email: williamhobday@gmail.com)



## **APRIL SERVICES 2026**

**Sunday 5th April *EASTER DAY***

**8am Holy Communion (BCP)**

**10am Easter Day Communion**

**Sunday 12th April *The first Sunday after Easter***

**8am Holy Communion (BCP)**

**10am Morning Worship**

**Sunday 19th April *The second Sunday after Easter***

**10am Parish Communion**

**Sunday 28th April *The third Sunday after Easter***

**8am Holy Communion (BCP)**

**10am Parish Communion**

**Sunday 3rd May *The fourth Sunday after Easter***

**10am Morning Worship**

**BCP is the Book of Common Prayer (1662). All other Eucharistic Services are  
from Common Worship: Order One.**

**We welcome everyone warmly and families and children are always welcome at all  
our services.**

# Rector's Ramble

*"Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified.  
He is not here; for He has risen, just as He said"  
(Matthew 28:5-8),*

Dear friends,

Welcome to the April edition of our Church & Community magazine.

As spring continues to unfurl its beauty across our lanes and fields, the familiar rhythm of Chailey and Newick returns, lambs bleating in fields, birds and wildlife in our hedgerows, dog walking moves to our country twittens and byways after what feels like months of road walking, and church bells carrying wedding and baptism chimes across the downland begin again.

In a year when headlines are dominated by unrest far beyond our shores, these small, steady signs of life remind us why our rural communities matter so deeply. They are places where hope is practised as much as professed.

Easter is the heart of the Christian year — a season that confronts loss and fear and answers them with the promise of the Resurrection.

The events of Holy Week and the pain and terror of Good Friday and the silence of Holy Saturday lead, to the surprise of Easter morning: life emerging where death seemed final.

In communities like ours, that pattern resonates. We know what it is to endure hard winters, to care for family members through illness, to receive the unexpected diagnosis, to face personal anxieties about work, schooling and the rising cost of living.

We are no strangers to uncertainty.

Yet in the everyday kindnesses exchanged at the Post Office, the school gates, the Lunch Clubs, Youth Club and Society meetings, we practise a resurrection of its own kind: the resurrection of neighbourliness, patience and practical hope.

The global conflicts that fill our screens and dominate conversations can make us feel small and powerless. It is right to be aware and compassionate for those suffering far away; prayer, charity and advocacy all have their place.

At the same time, our calling invites us to consider how local faithfulness — living out the gospel in the places we inhabit — contributes to healing a fractured world.

The hospitality offered to newcomers, the warm meals shared at community events, the willingness to sit with someone and listen — these are tangible ways in which Easter hope becomes flesh in our villages.

St Peter's, Chailey and St Mary's, Newick, have long been anchors for such hope, with centuries of prayer-soaked walls and centre's of God's love on our beautiful yet broken world. Our services this Easter will offer welcome spaces to name sorrow and to celebrate renewal. From reflective services that hold the weight of grief, to joyful Easter communions and children's activities that fill the churchyards with laughter, we gather to remember that light can — and does — break through.

Our two churches are places where the ancient story of death and rising is told anew in every generation, offering a map for how to live with courage amid confusion.

This Easter we also celebrate the small but profound signs of resurrection in our own midst. The return of our Churchyard Gardening Day's, at St Mary's on Saturday 11th April and at St Peter's on Saturday 18th April - both mornings will be followed by lunch and an abundance of cake!

Children remind us of the simplicity of Easter joy. Their egg hunts, craft mornings, school services with exuberant songs are not a trivialisation of faith; rather, they point to the heart of the gospel: wonder, trust, and a capacity to see life anew.

As churches, we are called to nurture that outlook in them and in one another, especially

when adult conversation is dominated by anxiety. In doing so, we act as a local antidote to despair, modelling steadfastness and offering a harbour of rest.

Looking forward, St Mary's Newick will be holding our Deanery Confirmation Service on Monday 8th June at 7:30pm. If you have questions about Faith and would like to discuss this further, please be in touch with me or the church offices at St Peter's and St Mary's.

Practically, if you are feeling overwhelmed by world events, consider small steps: come to a weekday or Sunday service to pray with others; to share your concerns, or simply sit on one of our beautiful church benches and take in the greening fields.

Each of these actions is a way of saying, "I will not let fear define me." They are small resurrections that, multiplied, change the character of a place.

On Easter morning, when the sun lifts over our churches and the bells ring out across the Downs, we will be proclaiming more than a historical claim.

We will be confessing a way of life — one that refuses despair, loves its neighbours, and looks for signs of new life even in broken places.

For the people of St Peter's, Chailey, and St Mary's, Newick, that confession is lived every day in the kindnesses we offer and the hope we carry together.

May this Easter bring renewed courage to each household, fresh compassion for those beyond our borders, and a deep, quiet joy rooted in the promise that, in Christ, life overcomes. may we be inspired by the example of Jesus, and may we be renewed in our faith, our hope, and our commitment to love and serve others, and I encourage you all to join us in one of our many services across at St Peter's Chailey & St Mary's Newick, this Eastertide.

Have a great month, and a blessed Easter. Be joyful, keep the faith and keep doing the little things that make a difference to those you love and those in need.

Rev Paul x

God of Mission  
Who alone brings growth to your Church,  
Send your Holy Spirit to give Vision to our planning, Wisdom to our actions,  
And power to our witness.  
Help our church to grow in numbers,  
In spiritual commitment to you,  
And in service to our local community,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*Amen*

## Pastoral Care Fund

St Peter's church has set up a specific fund to help families in Chailey who are suffering from hardship and difficult circumstances. Help is available to anyone in the village, not just to church members. If you know of anyone who needs financial or material help and who would benefit from access to this fund, please contact Rev'd Paul Mundy, one of the Church Wardens, or email 'stpeterschurch12@hotmail.co.uk'. This fund is ongoing and if you feel you can contribute, however little, it would be very much appreciated.

Donations can be made at any time to the Treasurer or directly to the bank. (Chailey P C C, Sort Code 09-01-55 Account 06923088. Please state 'Pastoral Care Fund'). Cheques can be posted in the letterbox outside St Peter's bell tower or handed to a Church Warden.

If you are able to gift aid your donation, please include a note with your name, address and postcode, or you can email a note to the Treasurer via:

'stpeterschurch12@hotmail.co.uk'.



# April Diary

Thursday 2nd - Craft & Chat 6.30pm-8.30pm

Join us for our monthly meet-up at the church.  
Bring along a craft you are working on or join in with our 'craft of the month'.  
All are welcome but under 18s must be accompanied by an adult.

Friday 3rd - Good Friday Service 10.30am

Followed by tea & hot cross buns.

Sunday 5th - Easter Sunday Family Service celebrating the Resurrection  
10.30am

Monday 13th - Messy Church 4.30pm-6.30pm

For the whole family (children must be accompanied by an adult)  
Crafts, games and activities, singing and stories. Finishes with a meal together.  
Suggested donation £2 per family.

Wednesdays - Open Doors 11am-3pm.

Come along for chat, cake and a cuppa! All ages welcome.

Sundays - We meet at 10.30am for a time of worship and we warmly invite  
you to join us.

Chailey Free Church, South Chailey, BN8 4AN

For more information contact:

Roger on 01273 890114

Pete on 07757 388477



[www.chaileyfreechurch.com](http://www.chaileyfreechurch.com)

# Chailey Parish Leaflet April 1938

April 28th: School Musical Competition

Some fifty of our school children were taken to Lewes for the Annual Musical Festival. They were entered for all the classes gaining two Merits and three Pass Certificates. The Merits were awarded to the Carol Class (seniors) and the Children under 11. We were particularly pleased to have gained 89 marks for Sight Reading, missing a Merit by one mark and mean to try next year to gain that extra mark.

Tea was provided for a particularly thirsty crowd at Holloway's restaurant. Many Chailey parents and friends encouraged us by their presence during the whole of the day's proceedings and stayed to the concert which terminated a long but most enjoyable day.

Note: Holloway's Restaurant was 57-58 High Street next door but one to the White Hart. It survived until the 1950s when it became a bakery and a cafe. It was the most amazing building with a high plastered ceiling and elegant sky light. It must have been able to seat well over a hundred.

Annette Shelford [annette@shelford.net](mailto:annette@shelford.net)

## Bee Swarms

It has been a devastating winter for bee keepers with many hives succumbing to the excessive damp. Bees cope with cold - but not wet! We need to rescue and rehome any swarms and so I would be grateful if you inform me of any seen. They may be in a tree or hedge- or still flying. Bees are safe when swarming, not interested in humans, just a new home. I will remove a swarm and I don't charge.

Thank you

Heather McNiven 07792551413

## Citizens Advice Drop In

Citizens Advice offer a monthly Drop In advice session at Chailey St Peter's Church. The next session will be on Friday April 10th 10am - 1pm. A similar drop in session will be held in the Community Centre in Newick on Tuesday 14th 12.00 - 3.00pm

High quality, impartial and professional advice, support and referrals given on a huge range of topics, including welfare benefits, housing issues, food and energy poverty, debt and much more.

This is a great opportunity to get easy access to advice locally without having to travel long distances for appointments.

Local transport can be provided by Newick Good Neighbours Service from Chailey Newick and Fletching please ring 07933096033 - [www.Lewesdistrictca.org.uk](http://www.Lewesdistrictca.org.uk)

Many thanks

Bea Annis (Church Warden Chailey St Peter's)

## Chailey Commons Society

How good it was to see the sunshine and the warmer spring weather at the start of March; it was like a case of new month new weather! The commons will take a while to dry out but already the paths have improved and the puddles are disappearing.

We have held our AGM and are now into the new year of activities. We were pleased to welcome Sim Elliott whose boundless enthusiasm for all things lichen was so interesting and descriptive. Our winter working parties continued meeting on Red House Common cutting birch and scrub in areas that are tricky for bigger machinery. To protect ground nesting birds, we stop scrub clearance at the end of March. However, over the Summer we are planning some suitable work tasks including

field surveys. These are for members only but do get in contact if you would like to find out more.

As the spring passes, we look forward to the return of the nightjars, and we are planning to reinstate the refuges again on both Memorial and Red House Commons which were so helpful last year in creating the safe areas for these migrant birds to establish territories and besting places.

Those Exmoor ponies have still been really elusive at times presenting the lookers with a long muddy walk without finding them. Chestnut brown ponies in the thick stands of gorse, which is particularly nutritious in the winter months, make them not so easy to see. Please again a reminder not to feed the ponies or put any prunings out for them which can cause serious illness. This applies especially to anything thrown over on to or dumped on the commons as these can be poisonous.

#### Forthcoming Events in 2026

- Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup> – Spring Bird Walk with Adrian from Red House car park 08.00 – 09.30
- Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup> – Migrants Bird Walk with Adrian from Red House car park 08.00 – 09.30
- Wednesday May 20<sup>th</sup> – Spring Flower Walk with William on Red House 2.00.p.m. – 4.00.p.m. Leisurely walk looking at the new season's flowers.
- Wednesday May 27<sup>th</sup> – Nighttime Safari – Red House 8.30.p.m. – 10.00.p.m. Finish in the darkness so torches required – hoping to hear and see Bats, Owls and Nightjars.

For further information, visit our website – [www.chaileycommons.org.uk](http://www.chaileycommons.org.uk) or our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/chaileycommons/](https://www.facebook.com/chaileycommons/) or [friendsofmarkstakescommon.weebly.com](http://friendsofmarkstakescommon.weebly.com)

*William Coleman - 01444 831098*

## Chailey Cricket Club

Welcome to our first report of the 2026 season.

Our season starts on 3 May, although it will depend on the state of the ground which had a soaking this year and our ability to get on the ground to prepare for the season. If anyone wants to assist in ground prep please do come along. Only an hour or two a week. Whether it be mowing the frontage, mowing or rolling the square it is surprising enjoyable and peaceful. Contact our secretary: James Chaplin or match secretary: Marc Sellis. Contact details are on our website – see below. Back to cricket. Since January many of our cricketers have been enjoying nets at Warden Park, Cuckfield. Let us hope that it will benefit them although the ground will not be as hard as the indoor nets.

Fixtures for May:

3 May home to Cuckfield starting at 13:30

10 May away at Streat & Westmeston (at Middleton Manor, Westmeston) starting at 14:00

17 May home to our groundshare partners: Gully Cricketers (Crawley) starting at 14:00

24 May home to The Sunday Seconds XI starting at 13:30

31 May away at Waldron starting at 13:00

Prior to our first match we are having a late AGM on 10 April 2026. Venue: The Five Bells. Start time: 7pm. All interested folk are very welcome to come and join us.

If you are looking for a friendly club to restart your cricket journey or fancy a change from your current club do come and join us. We play solely on Sundays. Want to umpire or be our scorer you will be very welcome. Again, the relevant contact points are on our website.

Hope to see you at the AGM at The Five Bells.

*Chailey Cricket Club.– your village cricket club [www.chailey.play-cricket.com](http://www.chailey.play-cricket.com)*

# Chailey Litter Pickers

As spring approaches, the Chailey Litter Pickers are continuing to work throughout the village clearing up discarded litter, in an effort to keep our local area as clean and tidy as possible.

The picks take place on different days of the week to enable as many people as possible to take part. In addition, some of the group pick their own areas as and when they are able to.

The next group pick will be on Saturday 25 April at 10.00am, when we will be supporting the Bonfire Society at the St Georges Fete. We will pick the field both during and after the event. You will see us in our high viz vests throughout the day with our grabbers and bin bags. We would be very happy to chat with anyone who is interested in what we are doing and thinking about joining the group. We always welcome new people to the group who are interested in helping to keep Chailey litter free. Bin liners will be provided, as well as high-vis vests, gloves, grabbers, and hoops for those that need them. The more the merrier! Children over the age of 11 years are also welcome, but need to have an adult with them.

More information about the Chailey Litter Pickers and future dates can be found on [www.facebook.com/chaileylitterpickers](http://www.facebook.com/chaileylitterpickers)

*Sarah Droscher*



## FROM HEDGE TRIMMERS TO EGGTIMERS!!!!

We were seriously busy at the last Chailey Repair Café, where we tackled a sewing machine, an egg timer with no sand, a broken Thomas Tank Engine, some dog coats, a guitar with a broken neck, a chain saw, several CD players and more

than 70 other repairs! Our talented fabrics team will always do their best to repair (but not alter) clothing and zips. Please note that, although we don't have time to do zip replacements, we can nearly always fix them for you!

As we head into Spring, we'll now start seeing your cycles which have been loitering in sheds and need some attention, as well as mowers and garden machinery such as trimmers and hedge cutters (you know - those ones where you have accidentally cut through the lead....?!!!!)

Bring us your garden tools which need sharpening and our state of the art sharpening machine will soon sort those out, as well as your kitchen knives and workshop tools.

Our 2026 dates are easy to remember – we are open every 2nd Saturday of each month between 10am – 1pm. St Peter's Church is closed for repairs, so we are in Chailey Village Hall, (next to the Five Bells just 500 yards down the road from the Church) on 14<sup>th</sup> March but look forward to returning to the Church from 11<sup>th</sup> April.

Our 2026 posters and flyers with all our dates are available at the Café, so you won't forget. And do pick up a free car sticker and one of our smart bamboo pens so you can spread the word!

Chailey Repair Café is part of a world-wide movement where volunteer experts repair things free of charge – although a donation towards running costs is invited. Anyone can bring along broken items or clothing needing repair from home, and have a cuppa and a cake while they wait.

Not sure if we can fix your stuff? Contact us at [chaileycrc@gmail.com](mailto:chaileycrc@gmail.com) and we'll see what we can do to help.

*See you very soon!!*

*Bryan McAlley and the Chailey Repair Café team*

# Chailey Evening WI

Chailey Evening WI meeting last month was very interesting; the speaker was Mark Beazley, Deputy Chief Executive of Raystede Centre for Animal Rescue. This month the group meets on Tuesday April 7th, at 7.30pm in Chailey Village Hall when the speaker will be Mathew Homewood with his talk on Lewes Workhouse. Mathew is a self-employed genealogist and historian, who has always had a great interest in local history. In his early thirties he left an office job to study for a degree in history at the University of Sussex, and ended up studying for a further five years, obtaining an MA and an MPhil. Mathew started up a genealogy business in 2010 and qualified as a member of AGRA (The Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives) shortly afterwards. Researching family histories is rarely dull, and every case he works on is fascinating to him.

This talk reveals the story of the impressive, but long-forgotten Lewes Union Workhouse building. Full of fascinating stories, photographs and plans, the talk takes us from the building's construction in the 1860s, to its demolition during the 1950s. It looks at life in the workhouse and will also delve into the often turbulent lives of the seven workhouse masters. Mathew's talk will undoubtedly be very interesting and informative, throwing light on a fascinating and long forgotten part of our local history. The first visit is free and includes refreshments. For more information visit the group's Facebook page or call Ann on 07779 802855.

## Grantham Close: A Community Legacy That Still Needs Us

Most Chailey residents will know Grantham Close — the Andros Almshouse Charity's development of 35 sheltered flats in South Chailey. Created in the 1950s through the generosity of local people, it continues to offer secure, affordable homes to residents over 50 who have limited savings and low incomes. For a modest monthly contribution of around £500, residents receive warm, safe accommodation with heating and hot water included, paying only their own electricity bills.

But the rising cost of maintaining five ageing oil-fired boilers — and the high price of running them — has pushed the trustees to take decisive action. Grantham Close is now transitioning to a cleaner, more sustainable future powered by solar energy.

So far, enough solar panels have already been installed to heat more than half the flats — 20 of our 40 residents now benefit from this modern, cost-effective system. This first phase cost approximately £230,000. To complete the project for the remaining homes, we still need to raise a further £225,000.

We are asking for your help. Every contribution, no matter the size, brings us closer to ensuring that all our residents can enjoy reliable, sustainable heating for years to come. If you would like to donate, or simply want to learn more, please contact our office manager, Lynn Ticehurst — details are below.

A second, smaller project: A group of enthusiastic residents is working to install a greenhouse on site, as well as some raised beds/planters — a space that will support wellbeing, community, and year-round gardening. They have secured a location and raised some initial funds, but they still need help.

Financial contributions, materials, or even a few hours of practical assistance would make a real difference. If you can support this project in any way, again, please contact Lynn, the office manager, on Email: [officemanager@androsalmshousecharity.co.uk](mailto:officemanager@androsalmshousecharity.co.uk).

Tel: 01273 400466 website: <https://androsalmshousecharity.co.uk>

Thank you,  
*Jackie Hall (Chair of Trustees)*

# Chailey Bonfire Society

We are pleased to announce that our Mexican Quiz night raised an amazing £741. Thank you to everyone who joined us for a great evening. We would also say a huge thank you to everyone who donated jumble for our sale and to those who helped run the event.

Bingo Night on Saturday 28th March at Chailey Village Hall. Doors open at 6.30pm and games start at 7pm. £12 for 6 books, light refreshments and snacks will be available and the chance to purchase tickets for our raffle. If you would like to book a space, please contact us via email [secretarychaileybonfire@gmail.com](mailto:secretarychaileybonfire@gmail.com) or via Facebook.

St Georges Fete i Saturday 25th April at the field opposite Markstakes Lane. The event runs from 12pm to 4pm and offers a great afternoon of entertainment, stalls, dog show, food, bar and much more. If you would like a stall pitch or register a vehicle for our Vintage Vehicle Show, please contact us for further information.

The dog show classes this year are - Pretty Girl/Lady, Handsome boy/Man, Best Trick, Rehome/Rescue, Waggiest Tail, Best Sausage Catcher, Dog most like their owner, Veteran and dog the judge would take home.

Classes are £2 per entry and registration will be at 12pm and classes will commence at 12.30pm There is still time to sponsor one of our events running on the day. If you feel you could help our fundraising efforts in exchange for advertising your business, please get in touch and we can give you more information.

The winner of our March100 Club draw was number 37 – Patience Keet -Harris. Congratulations, and thank you for your support. have a few spaces available for this years draws. Numbers are just £26 and you will be entered into a monthly draw to win £50 and the annual £1000 draw in the Summer. If you would like more information, please contact us.

There is still time to get involved and help with our fundraising events, if you would like further information, please contact [secretarychaileybonfire@gmail.com](mailto:secretarychaileybonfire@gmail.com).

Or you can find us on Facebook – just search Chailey Bonfire Society.

# Friends of Chailey Windmill

The Windmill and Rural Life Museum will open for the first time this year on Sunday the 26th April from 3-5 pm . There is no charge for admission but donations are welcome towards the maintenance of this prominent landmark. The museum features a wide range of exhibits and photographs relevant to Chailey's history .

*John Smith*

# Chailey Horticultural Society

Firstly three dates for the diary. Firstly on Friday 17th April we will be holding a question and answer session at The Five Bells. The session starts at 7.30 and a team of experts will hopefully be able to answer your queries. Entrance is free though contributions to society funds would be appreciated. It would be helpful if questions and queries were submitted before hand. These could either be left at The Five Bells or texted to me or via email.

Secondly there is our plant sale on Saturday 23rd May from 10am to midday in the village hall car park. If you have spare plants please bring them along and we will sell them to help with our finances.

Finally at The St. George's Day Fete on 25th April we will have a stall selling various horticultural related items.and we hope to see you there.

Now to matters horticultural.

April and early May are hectic times in the garden as seeds have been sown and plants are growing but still need protection from the dangers of a late frost.

I feel by mid April it is safe to plant in the borders of the greenhouse or poly tunnel. This of course will be mainly tomatoes. You will hope to get six trusses on each plant so place as deeply as possible which means up to the first true leaves. Saturate the hole before planting to encourage deep rooting.

Also under cover chillies, aubergine and sweet peppers can be potted up. However it is wise to keep an eye on night time temperatures and if they fall below about 5\* try and add a little extra heat. By mid May it should be fine to harden off plants for growing outside.

The big question, especially if space is limited, is what to grow. Some fruit and vegetables are infinitely better home grown and eaten fresh at optimal ripeness. Also some vegetables, even now, are quite difficult to buy fresh such as garden peas and broad beans. Also it is worth remembering that commercially many crops are picked slightly under ripe to prolong shelf life. This applies particularly to tomatoes and soft fruit. It's difficult to say that home grown onions, shallots or garlic are any better than their commercial rivals , but then I just like growing them!

Also the amateur gardener has a far greater choice than the commercial grower and therefore some experimentation is well worth it.

So grow tomatoes, broad beans, peas, chard, sweetcorn and soft fruit.

With potatoes it's a bit more difficult. Over recent years it has become much easier to buy new named varieties the exceptions being Sharpes Express and Red Duke of York which as first earlies are well worth growing. The best second early is Charlotte which is now widely available. I see little point in growing main crop potatoes unless you have lots of space.

Now is the time to plant carrots and parsnips. I've dealt with parsnips in previous articles. Carrots need light well drained soil with no added manure. The main problem is carrot fly which lays its eggs at the base of the root and then the larvae burrow into it. The main danger times are May to June and August to September. Protection is usually via a fine mesh fleece as there are no licensed chemical treatments available to the amateur gardener. However the carrot fly is very low flying so I have taken to growing carrots in deep window boxes and then placing them on staging out of reach of the carrot fly. There are of course carrot fly resistant varieties but I don't think these have as much flavour and with Eskimo it will stand through the winter.

Every year I suggest that you try something different so this year why not give Hamburg Parsley a go? It's been bred to produce a root about six inches long which is sweeter and less woody than those of a parsnip. It is frost hardy and the leaves are parsley. It can be roasted like a parsnip or grated in salads. It's grown in the same way as parsnips and the seeds are widely available and it is not grown commercially.

Leave daffodil foliage to die down naturally. Stone bearing fruit trees will be in blossom and may benefit from a bit of hand fertilisation using a fine paint brush. The trees can also now be gently pruned and shaped.

Please remember our events and good gardening .

*Peter Estcourt*

*page44@icloud.com - 07803179708*

*<https://www.chaileyhorticulturalsociety.com>*

# Newick and Chailey Hospice Support Group

Our annual walk in aid of St. Peter and St James Hospice will take place on Thursday 7th May. It is a four mile circular walk starting at The Anchor Inn , Anchor Lane, Barcombe BN85EA. Meet at The Anchor at 10am for coffee and to order lunch. A guide and map will be provided. The walk takes about 2 hours and is gentle through lovely woods and country side. Dogs are welcome and there is ample parking.  
For further information please contact Peter Estcourt- pge44@icloud .com. 07803179708

## Chailey Parish Council - Small Grants Update

Another reminder that the Council will be welcoming applications to its small grants scheme in May. The process will open on 1st May and close on the 31st May 2026. Application forms can be downloaded from the Website or obtained from the Responsible Finance Officer at rfo@chaileyparishcouncil.gov.uk

## William ‘Bill’ Clarke - 1934-2026

Some of you may remember Bill for his time as the caretaker at St Peter’s Primary School, or maybe you remember him for writing here, in the Chailey News for the primary school, or it could be from growing huge onions for the horticultural society. Either way, Bill was a known face in the village, especially in the early 2000’s & 2010’s.

We stayed in touch with Bill over the years, delivering him Turkish Delight and Pink Wafer biscuits for his birthday. My mum, Christine, helped Bill with appointments, and my dad, Nick, & I would help Bill set up his iPad and wifi. Heather was a very prominent figure in Bill’s life, regularly doing his shopping and looking after him, and Bill referred to Heather as a "Good Samaritan" in the Chailey News in 2008. Heather visited Bill daily over the years & regularly visited him in hospital. Bill lived independently until late last year when he went in to hospital, where he was keen to get back home. When I visited him in hospital he was almost always wearing his embroidered Athens jumper, and he would talk to me about poignant moments in his life, like going to visit Greece and reminiscing about growing peas for the horticultural society. He talked fondly about his brief time on TV, on the Weakest Link. Even towards the end of his life he recalled it being unfair that he was voted off in the first round because they thought he was old! That was back in 2008, when he was 73!

Bill was moved last week to a residential home, and he passed away peacefully on the 16th March 2026, aged 91.

You can find Bill’s memorial page at <https://william-clarke-1934-2026.muchloved.com/>  
I’ll finish this with something he always said to me, “Be Good”.

## OTHER LOCAL NEWS

### Uckfield Lewes and Newick Arts Society

**April 8<sup>th</sup> 2.30 in the Civic Hall Uckfield**

**Britain vs Bauhaus. Modern Design in the 1930’s.**

Julia Musgrave has a Masters in ‘Art, Style and Design: Renaissance to Modernism, and so is more than qualified to talk to us on the subject of Modern Design. Bauhaus, (Bau for building and Haus for house) was a revolutionary German art school (1919–1933.) It was founded by Walter Gropius and merged fine arts with functional craftsmanship and industrial design. Although not Jewish, his association with “degenerate” modern art despised by the Nazis meant Gropius was

obliged to emigrate when commissions dried up. He lived and worked in an artists' community in Hampstead before moving to the States in 1937.

Britain in the 1930's, led by such artists as Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth, was already well on the way to its own brand of modernism which was in some ways more traditional than the Bauhaus model. Gropius declared that England was 'a land of fog and nightmares.' It was soon obvious that the two groups were never going to get along.

We look forward to welcoming you. Guests please pay £8 on the door.

*Annette Shelford - annette@shelford.net*

## **The Bevern Trust - We have Space to Thrive!**

A huge thank you to all who joined us and lent their support to the Bevern Trust annual fundraising dinner and auction and to those who so generously donated auction items. We are deeply grateful to illusionist Bertie Pearce who entertained us during the evening, to our brilliant patron and host Natasha Kaplinsky, and to our exceptional auctioneer Pete Denison-Pender of Barcombe. The warmth and generosity shown by everyone made for a truly magical evening, helping us raise important funds.

Over the past months, our community has come together in truly inspiring ways to help us move closer to our goal of transforming Bevern View for the future. The appeal set out to raise £742,000 to build a new activity space, create a dedicated office building with a staff room, and refurbish our residents' lounge - vital improvements that will enhance daily life for the people we support and the staff who care for them.

We're delighted to share that we have now reached our target - an extraordinary achievement and a testament to the generosity, belief and commitment of our supporters. Thank you all!

We are now in the pre-construction phase and working towards a construction start day of early June. Whilst we move forward with the build, we're continuing to fundraise towards the costs of equipping the new space and refurbishing the lounge area.

Thank you for standing alongside us. With your help, Space to Thrive is not just a campaign - it is now a reality that will benefit our residents and others for years to come.

## **Burgess Hill Symphony Orchestra**

Our May Concert is earlier than usual - on Saturday 9th May at 7.30pm in St. Andrew's Church, Junction Road, Burgess Hill. Included in the programme are:

Haydn's Symphony. No.101. The Clock

Mozart's Symphony. No. 35. Haffner

Tickets in advance are £16. (£18 at the door). Under 16 £5 available from members or our box office. [BHSO.org.uk/box-office](http://BHSO.org.uk/box-office)

We look forward to seeing you and hope you have an enjoyable evening.

*Monica Todd. 01825 722660*

## **Play Badminton!**

Newick Badminton Club play every Tuesday evening at Newick Village Hall. We are a friendly club and welcome players of all abilities including beginners. You can drop in anytime between 7.45pm and 10.00pm to try us out. Racquets can be provided and your first session is free! If you are interested in coming along, please call *07801079334* or email [secretary@newickbadmintonclub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@newickbadmintonclub.co.uk)."

*Kind regards, Sara Lawrence*

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## Newick Bowls Club

Newick Bowls Club would welcome new and experienced players. Our season opens in mid April. Please make a note of the following dates:

Saturday 18th April. 10.00 am. Members' Open Drive

Sunday 3rd May. 10.00 am. Open Day for new players

Do come and watch on the 18th and then have a go on the 3rd May. Flat shoes are necessary but bowls and guidance will be provided.

*Membership Secretary Helen 01825 723932*

[www.bowlsnewick.co.uk](http://www.bowlsnewick.co.uk)

## Newick Cinema

**A Community-based Venture for Sunday Evenings**

**Can't make the cinema?**

Our next show is on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026. We hope that many of you will be able to come and enjoy "MOTHER'S PRIDE". As always there is a licensed bar, teas, coffees, cakes and ice cream plus an interval so that there is an opportunity to meet up with friends and have an enjoyable evening out in the village. Booking in advance will secure seats in the front rows. You can also just come along at 7pm and buy a ticket on the door; the film will start at 7:30pm. **(Please note films are now being shown on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, not the 4th)**

**APRIL'S FILM - MOTHER'S PRIDE (12A)**

**STARRING - Martin Clunes, Jonno Davies, James Buckley**

A comedy about a failing pub, a divided community and a grieving family whose lives are changed by brewing real ale and entering the Great British Beer Awards.

**19<sup>th</sup> April 2026 in Newick Village Hall**, Western Road, Newick BN8 4LY

Licensed bar and refreshments from **7.00pm**. Film starts **7.30pm**

**Tickets: £8.00 (cash only)** on the door, or by emailing detailed request to

[newickcinema@outlook.com](mailto:newickcinema@outlook.com)

Sub titles and hearing loop in place

# Fletching Singers' Spring Concert

**Fletching Church, TN22 3SR. Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7.30pm**

Fletching Singers will be celebrating spring with some joyful music by Vivaldi, Durante and Pergolesi. Vivaldi's *Gloria* is a work often performed and much loved by singers and audiences alike, full, as it is, of both dancing rhythms and soulful melodies. Durante's *Magnificat* was, until recently, thought to be by Pergolesi and is similarly filled with a lovely energy. The lesser-known *Laudate Pueri*, by Pergolesi, is for soprano soloist with choir and we are looking forward to performing this with soprano Helen Groves, formerly a member of The Sixteen. We are joined by keyboard, baroque cello and theorbo for what is sure to be a delightful evening. Directed by Ansy Boothroyd.

Tickets £15 on the door or £12.50 early bird until Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April. Available online at <https://www.fletchingsingers.co.uk>, from members, or [info@fletchingsingers.co.uk](mailto:info@fletchingsingers.co.uk) or 07802 855113

## Plumpton Flower Club

We are pleased to welcome Martyn Price from Chailey Iris, a family-run nursery specialising in bearded Iris. Martyn will be giving a talk about Irises and the nursery at Plumpton Village Hall on Wednesday 15th April at 7.30pm after the clubs AGM which commences at 7.00pm. Members £3 visitors £8 which includes refreshments. There will be a raffle at the end of the evening. Every one is welcome to come along. Any enquiries please contact Jo on 07719887590 or Sue on 01273 801701

## Chailey News - May Issue

The deadline for the May issue of Chailey News is Tues 14th April. To avoid problems due to the necessity to filter e-mails for spam please:

1. Send items to [chaileynews@chec.co.uk](mailto:chaileynews@chec.co.uk)
2. Include "Chailey News" in Subject section of the e mail.
3. If a new subscriber or sending from an e mail address for the first time please phone us on 01825 724376 so we are aware and able to look out for it.

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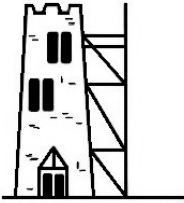


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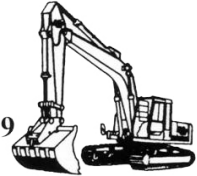


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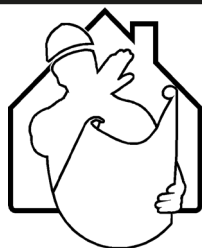
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