

WINCHELSEA PARISH MAGAZINE

1st September 2022



A Garden Tiger, one of the stars among the hundreds of moths spotted by the Winchelsea Wildlife group led by NT ranger, Michael Howard, who set up moth traps in Winchelsea gardens during August. Photographed and recorded in the early morning light, the moths flew off to resume their normal hidden life.

Photo - Michael Howard



Harvest Festival and Brunch

Harvest Festival will be celebrated at St Thomas' on Sunday 18th September. Following the 11am service, there will be a Harvest Brunch in church.

It is essential to book for this event. The cost is £8 per person to include either a ham or a cheese ploughman's with a glass of wine, coffee and mints.

Please let Charlotte Beecroft or Celia King know if you would like to come, and indicating your choice. On receipt of payment a ticket will be issued. The final date for responding is Sunday 11th September.



Reflections from the Rectory

Many of you will have heard of the water outage which occurred at the Rectory over the bank holiday weekend. As everyone will be aware like dogs and small children in need of a vet or medical attention, problems with the water supply always commence early in the evening of the Friday prior to a Bank Holiday weekend. Our little crisis was no exception.

After two visits from Southern Water and an emergency plumber it was ascertained that we had a spring emerging in the front garden. As you can imagine having been advised not to excavate the area, it proved too great a temptation and with the help of a local technician we dug a large hole where it was clear that the cast-iron piping, probably originally part of the water feed to the school was seriously corroded. In fact, it was possible to put one's finger in the hole in the pipe. Having turned the mains off we were able to make a makeshift repair, which enabled us to have enough pressure to fill the tank albeit very slowly.

It occurred to me that I missed an opportunity to re-enact the story Moses of striking the rock in the wilderness. I think quite an effective tableau could have been set up in our front garden with an arrangement of large stones. You will recall that after some particularly protracted grumbling by the Children of Israel, Moses asked God for assistance, the

response came, “Now go! I will stand in front of you on a rock at Mount Sinai. Hit that rock with the staff, and water will come out of it”. I would have played Moses and this would have been the cue for a churchwarden, disguised as a shepherd and standing in the road outside to turn the mains back on, which I hope would have impressed any parishioners in attendance. Like many temptations (there seem to have been quite a lot this week) it was perhaps wise to have resisted this one.

Winchelsea being the friendly place that it is, we had twelve offers of showers in people’s houses and although we could just about manage, it was a huge temptation (No 3) to inspect the variety of plumbing in the town (not to mention the choice of bathroom ware). In fact we were inconvenienced for only two days, but still had just enough water to make a cup of tea, brush our teeth and fill a bucket to flush the lavatory. We were really not in extremis but the problem did make us aware of how much we take for granted. As I said to Shirley as I carried a bucket upstairs, “some people have to walk 5 miles a day each way for their water”.

Surely the lesson is to thank God for good neighbours, resourceful plumbers and the good fortune of living somewhere where we have access to clean water, which is mostly easily available. *Deo Gratias*, as the rule of St. Benedict prescribes the doorkeeper to say as a stranger knocks at the door or a beggar asks for assistance. *Deo Gratias* indeed. *Jonathan*

Church Treasurer and Book Keeper

We have now found someone to take on the role of Church Treasurer and as soon as it is approved by the PCC, we will make a formal announcement. The new Treasurer will take on the task of managing our budgets, money and stewardship but, as is often the case, they will not do the regular book keeping. Subject to the approval of the PCC, the churchwardens and I would like to appoint someone to manage this aspect of the accounts, which involves entering information into a spreadsheet. Having managed it myself for some time last year, I estimate it takes no more than 3 or 4 hours per month. We would be prepared to make a modest payment for this. If you think you might be able to help please contact Jonathan.



Winchelsea Summer Fete 2022

Hot! Hot! Hot! Contingency plans for this event are usually for rain, wind, and storms, but not this year. Heat was the order of the day, and people came prepared.

More stallholders than ever before all with gazebos and good supply of water, a larger P.A. system to enable easier communication with the public throughout the afternoon, plenty of refreshments in a large cool indoor area, plenty of stewards to help people along, and 25 high visibility buckets filled with water dotted all around the field for emergencies.

As a result, the planned system for First Aid, treatment, and recovery was not needed at all. Everyone kept themselves safe whilst having fun, with loads of things to do and the return of some old favourites such as the Silver Band, the Santa Fe Train, and the Mediaeval Games.

The only casualty, unfortunately, was the Fun Dog Show, which had to be cancelled because of the heat. Commiserations, and also congratulations, must go to Crick and her well drilled team for all the organisation that went on leading up to the event and dealing so efficiently and courageously with the impact and aftermath inevitably caused by a last minute cancellation. Also, apologies to the many dog owners who look forward to this much-loved event every year.

With more stalls than ever, there was something for everyone. Whether it be games, ice cream, all sorts of food and drink, handmade bags and clothes, artwork, toys, walking sticks, jewellery, crafts, plants, or items for your pets, you'd have found it here. Our own stalls did particularly well.

The raffle had a range of great prizes generously donated by local businesses thanks to them, Ali, Alice and her team, plus all those who bought tickets; the tea and cakes in the hall again did very well thanks to Bernie and her team along with the army of Winchelsea residents who baked so many delicious cakes; and the tombola which surpassed itself in size and takings thanks to Lyn and her team and, again, the people of Winchelsea who donated over 300 prizes of quality prizes. A brilliant effort by all



The Santa Fe Train tooting and chugging round the field provided a novelty ride for the children, which together with the sound of the Silver Band, the smell of the barbecue, and the laughter from the crowds created a great atmosphere.

The event could not take place, however, without the committed support from the volunteers who worked so valiantly throughout the day. Special thanks should go to the bucket rattling gatekeepers, the stallholders, Peter Cosstick and his team for safely guiding the traffic and pedestrians

throughout the day, and our Mayor whose reliability and flexibility (always with a smile), helped keep the whole thing on track.

Don't forget the Fete sub-Committee (Rosemarie, Laurie, Graham, Crick, Robert and Carol) who worked tirelessly for over six months to make it such a success. Finally, of course, the main thank you to all the people who braved the heat to attend and support the whole event, whilst providing much needed help to local charities. From stall lettings, admissions, and our own stalls, the fete brought in £2,699.37, the beneficiaries of which, after expenses, will be the Rye, Winchelsea & District Memorial Hospital, the Rye Food Bank, Rother Responders, and the New Hall Development Fund. A full breakdown of the Fete accounts will be presented at our AGM in October

*A big thank you to you all from John Davidson,
Chair of the New Hall Management Committee*

Thank you to all of you who donated to the tombola at the Fete. What a success it was because of your wonderfully generous donations. It was 'Fun,' it was 'Hot,' it was 'Profitable'. The profit this year was £552, nearly double that of previous years, so thank you! All profit from the Tombola will go towards the chosen charities for this year.

We hope that if you came to the fete you enjoyed it and in particular we hope you won a tombola prize in good spirits. There were only a few prizes left out of over 300 donated and they have been stored ready for 2023 Tombola.

Thank you to all for your donations and support.
Lyn and the Tombola Team '22.



The future of the Summer Fete

Can you or your group take it on?

The much loved Winchelsea Town Fete on the cricket field every August has been an integral part of the Winchelsea calendar for well over a century. The fete has been run by different groups over this time. For many years by the garden society as part of their summer show, with a marquee, flower festival and evening dance providing the centrepiece. Carried forward by other groups, it began incorporating the very popular fun dog show, and it has continued to develop.

The New Hall committee has had the privilege of organising and benefitting from the fete for the last five years and the time has now come to pass on this particular baton to somebody else.

Could your organisation take it on? What could you do? If you think you might be interested, or if you want more information, or if you would like us to come and have an informal chat with your group about what is involved – please contact me on 01797 223754 or email john.davidson47@outlook.com

*John Davidson
Chair of the New Hall Management Committee*



Winchelsea Annual Art Exhibition

Natasha Robinson reports on the launch of the 2022 exhibition.

Today, 26th August, is my name day and despite this, for once, I'm not going to talk about myself. Instead I'm going to talk to you about my friend and neighbour Geraldine I'Anson. She has sent me an invitation, because today, Geraldine is doing something she hasn't done in two years. Not since a time when furlough was synonymous with a sabbatical, when masks were fancy dress and social distancing was an oxymoron.

We're in the Court Hall, a building which is thought to be, in parts, as old as the town itself. Since 2017, she has been the Honorary Secretary of the Winchelsea Millennium Artefacts Society. Through fundraising, the committee preserve and maintain the Town Sign, the Beacon and the Millennium Tapestry which is displayed in St Thomas' Church.

When all events stopped, so did the valuable revenue that they raised. But the onerous task of caring for these living Artefacts didn't. The Beacon, one of 3,500 spread throughout the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, was at the centre of the Jubilee celebrations on June 2nd this year. Leading up to this landmark date, the basket needed costly restoration in order for Winchelsea to be part of the coordinated lighting.

So finally Geraldine has been able to organise the launch party for the 2022 Art Exhibition. Mayors past, present and

probably future are in attendance, along with many of the featured Artists and Town residents.

She has rallied her eight troops, fellow committee members, four of whom are accomplished and successful exhibitors and one, an artist. Together they have curated their biggest exhibition yet; 144 works by forty-two different local Painters. These range from professionals like Neil Eastell, Ant Parker, Tricia Bowler and Shirley Meyer, to gifted enthusiasts, Sunday painters and even four pupils from St Thomas' Primary School, including William Norton, pictured above.

This last category makes Geraldine particularly happy. Dee Rampling, the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator, SENDCO, also finds time in her busy schedule to teach pupils Art and Music. Geraldine loves seeing the expression on the faces of parents and children as they search the walls for their pieces.

Three months in the planning, the event runs for just three days over the Bank Holiday Weekend, but through the sale of paintings, ensures the protection of historic town assets, showcases the vibrancy of the present and nurtures a future generation of talent.

"It's such a joy, or relief, I'm not sure what expresses it best, that after two years of having to cancel the exhibitions, we are once again able to present the excellent work of so many of our regular artists and to introduce fifteen new ones", says Geraldine above the noise of the crowd.

The Court Hall is a unique setting, a little small, a little awkward, very warm, full of charm, full of art. And on this summer's evening, full of happy people, enjoying being able to mix again and gather together for a good cause.



Residents' Association AGM

Winchelsea Residents' Association held its first AGM on 20th August with a good attendance of 73 members.

The co-chairmen explained the progress which had been made in setting up the association. The committee had been meeting every month and supporting arrangements included the website winchelseaRA.com becoming increasingly active and containing the minutes of all members' and committee meetings, and a bank account being opened.

Total membership now stood at nearly 200 residents. Members heard reports from the committee on the priority issues pursued over the first year. On traffic calming, members heard that, following the consultation exercise earlier in the summer, the consultant commissioned by the parish council was progressing with detailed design work on the preferred option of no left turn out of and no right turn into the bottom of Strand Hill.

On the public toilets, it was explained that the successful opening of the central disabled toilet was being followed by assessments of the scope for reinstating the women's toilets, although this involved significant challenges; on pavement maintenance, the re-setting of loose bricks in the High Street had been achieved, together with the clearing of over-growing vegetation alongside the A259 and the case was now made for dropped curbs to be installed throughout the town;

a new working group for A259 improvement had been provisionally established, with research carried out and the group would shortly discuss how best to advance improvement of the very bad conditions and provisions for the trunk road as it passed through and around the town; finally, the launch of a series of Film Nights, as part of a new programme of social activities, was reported on.

The Association's accounts for 2021-22 were presented and approved. Looking ahead, the Treasurer reported that the funds raised for the first membership subscriptions in 2021 would be exhausted in the next few months, with the main expenses being for the website, public liability insurance, printing and hire of the hall for members' meetings. It was also evident that creating a small fund for contingencies would be prudent. Consequently, a new membership fee of £10 was prosed for collection in April 2023 and this was approved by members.

The ten members appointed to the committee for the first year indicated their willingness to serve for a second year and, with no other nominations having been received, they were approved by members in those roles. Members were reminded that any resident who might wish to join was encouraged to express interest and discuss this with any of the committee or via the association's email info@winchelsea.com. There was the possibility of co-opting a new member at any time, as well as at AGMs.

It was confirmed that the anticipated priorities for the coming year would mostly involve continuation of work on the issues begun in the past year, although the association would remain alert to any new issue affecting members' interests and members were invited to raise any matter which they thought should be considered.

The meeting concluded with a brief presentation on what the 2011 census told us about people in Winchelsea and how they lived plus a some of the results for Rother District which had recently been published as part of the first stage results from the 2021 census. This selected data will be put onto the WRA website and further information emerging from the 2021 census will also be put there when it is available.

winchelseaRA.com

WINCHELSEA FILM NIGHT

Winchelsea Residents Association
in conjunction with Winchelsea New Hall
Presents Alan Parker's...



Come early.
Enjoy a drink
or two.
Doors open 6pm

Admission free
Refreshments
Pay Bar
Screening starts 7pm

SATURDAY 17th September
6.00pm for 7.00pm
WINCHELSEA NEW HALL

The WRA social committee along with the New Hall Committee premiered their inaugural Film Night showing 'The Italian Job' in August. It was a great success and attracted 50 attendees. Admission is free, but contributions to the costs are encouraged by purchasing wine, beer, soft drinks and snacks to enjoy during the evening. Donations are also welcome and any profits will be shared by the New Hall and Rye Food bank.



Alison Moncrieff-Kelly *cello*
Stephen Coombs *piano*

Saturday 3rd September at 7.30pm



Pagano Quartet

Italian Composers Past and Present

Puccini, Verdi, Morricone and more

Saturday 8th October at 7.30pm

Tickets for the September and October Winchelsea Arts concerts cost £20 (free for under 18s) and are available at winchelsea-arts.org.uk

[Click here](#) to see the September concert programme.



Autumn Show

Winchelsea Garden Society will be holding their Autumn Show on Saturday 10th September in the New Hall. Categories include flowers (with a separate section for dahlias) floral art, vegetables, fruit and handicrafts.

Full details and entry forms are in the Schedule. If you don't have one yet, contact Sally and Graham Rhodda, 01797 226062. Completed entry forms must be with Sally and Graham at *Cleveland Place* in Friars Road by 5pm on Thursday 8th.

Though hosepipe bans are in force all around us in areas served by South East Water, Southern Water haven't yet imposed one in the area they supply around Hastings, Winchelsea and Rye. Our water comes from the deep wells under the river at Brede - famous for the 'Steam Giants' - the pumps installed in 1904 to bring water up to the treatment works.



Hærfest

Two days in the life of a would-be heroine

Shirley Meyer writes: I always wanted to play the role of Bathsheba Everdene, Thomas Hardy's turbulent heroine in *Far from the Madding Crowd*. Today I came as close to that as I am ever likely to come, albeit sadly, without the long dress.

Today is Friday 26th August, exactly one year since we first outlined the flower circles with yellow string. Today, we had our first hay-making session under a hot, sunny, August sky. Using an Allen Scythe, Paul and his lovely friend Alan worked in tandem cutting the grass and flowers down. I like to think that Bathsheba would have been proud of my raking ability, but I'm not sure I'd be as enthusiastic about dipping sheep as she was.

The grasses and flowers were dry and crisp and took surprisingly little time to cut. I think we are all rather disappointed to see them go and there won't be a chance to see the long, low sun's rays of September streaming through the dried seed heads. They will now be left in situ for a couple of weeks to dry out and release those seeds and will need to be turned several times. Then comes the issue of baling.

Discussions are afoot on how to do this, some more sensible than others! If you are interested in having some free churchyard hay, maybe for pets or to glamorise your compost heap, then please get in touch with me at shirleymeyer@btinternet.com. Once the hay is removed the whole process can start again. Scarification of the dry ground, sowing of new seed, introduction of new flower species, the coming of rain (hopefully). A new agricultural year will begin.

Quite a few of you have been inspired by the efforts in the churchyard and have included a wildflower lawn in your own garden so we helped cut some of these as well. It was a hard day's work all told, but very rewarding and great to work as an enthusiastic team.

On the 27th August we had our Churchyard working party which brought in people from all over Winchelsea for a community effort in tackling issues such as overgrown graves, weeding, removing ivy from the church and perimeter walls and strimming some remaining areas of long grass.

Hard work was rewarded with sandwiches, biscuits etc and hot and cold drinks in true Church of England style. Due to a water supply issue at the Rectory, Jonathan could not be there to supervise, and I am pleased to say that everyone behaved themselves with me at the helm!

Extra thanks must go to Natasha Robinson for providing some delicious rolls at very short notice and to Sergio for bringing me blackberries freshly picked from the brambles he cut down. Bathsheba would have been delighted.



Trip to Chatham Naval Dockyard

Conservation Society are organising a trip to the Naval Dockyard and Museum on Tuesday 27th September.

There is at Chatham dockyard the world famous, still active “Ropery”, a major exhibition of the RNLI, old warships plus a submarine and now artefacts recently discovered in the wreck of the 18th century warship *Invincible*. Also there are multiple historic buildings and even the set of the TV serial about midwives!

Anyone who would like to come on this trip to see how conservation has given new life to this impressive site, please initially let Judith Payne or Chris Chapple know. Places will be available on a first come first served basis.

If on discussion you decide you would like to make a firm booking, payment should then go to our treasurer Judith Payne as soon as possible, either as a cash payment or by cheque, delivered to *Evans*, Rectory Lane Winchelsea. 01797 224861.

The cost is £33 to include the coach, entry fee and coffee or tea and biscuits on arrival.

New members very welcome.

John Spencer and the committee.



Ukraine Reborn Concert

A Concert of Words and Music to raise funds for the injured children of Ukraine will take place at St Thomas' on the afternoon of Sunday 2nd October.

Internationally-renowned cellist, Raphael Wallfisch will play and the narrators will be Emilia Fox and Freddie Fox. All three are giving their services free and the object is to raise funds to support the medical needs of injured and traumatised children of Ukraine, and the St Nicholas Hospital for Children Lviv, through *Action for Humanity*.

Tickets cost £25 and are available from the Winchelsea Arts website. winchelsea-arts.org.uk

[Click here to find out more](#)



Rye Arts Festival

A Winchelsea and Rye Musical Pilgrimage

Sunday 25th September

Join us for a magical musical pilgrimage, starting from St Thomas' Church, where The Victoria Consort, a professional choral ensemble specialising in pre-Reformation choral music and Gregorian chant, will perform newly discovered works from the Royal court of El Hechizado "The bewitched" King Charles II, the last Habsburg ruler of the Spanish empire.

The Victoria Consort is returning to the Festival with Chamber Organ and Theorbo to perform the music of Jaun del Vado y Gomez, (1625-1691). These lost works have recently been transcribed from the royal manuscripts. They are full of delicious harmonies that signify the arrival of the baroque style music from the Spanish Royal Court. This first half of the performance will last approximately one hour and there will also be time to explore the wonderful church dedicated to St Thomas.

We will then set out on our pilgrimage to St Mary's Church in Rye, walking through Winchelsea, under the Strand Gate, following a route that takes us along Sea Road, past Castle Farm towards Camber Castle and Castle Water, heading towards Rye. We will walk at a comfortable pace and the walk should take around an hour and a half to complete.

At St Mary's, The Victoria Consort will perform further music from the Spanish Royal Court. The combination of great music, medieval architecture and countryside all come together in this bi-located extravaganza.

Rye Community buses will be available from approximately 2pm to transport people from Rye to Winchelsea to arrive in time for the first concert at an additional cost of £1 per passenger. Buses will leave from the Bus Stop at Rye Station. You are strongly advised to book a bus trip well in advance.

Gather at St Thomas' Church, Winchelsea from 2.30pm.
First concert begins at 3pm in St. Thomas' Church,
(one hour).

Pilgrimage to Rye (approximately one and a half hours)
Refreshments in St. Mary's Church, Rye from 6.30pm
Second concert begins at 7pm (one hour)

Tickets cost £25 from the online box office
box-office.ryeartsfestival.org.uk/sales/

Thanks from Robbie Gooders

Robbie would just like to say a big thank you to all my friends and neighbours for all the good wishes and kind gestures and flowers since her return from hospital on 21st August. That's what I love about Winchelsea!



Winchelsea Anniversaries

250 Years Ago

1772 was the year in which John Wesley visited Winchelsea for the first time. He preached at eleven in the morning on 30th October, in what he described as 'the new Square,' to 'a considerable number of serious people'.

Wesley's influence in Sussex was never extensive but in the far east, Rye, Winchelsea, Northiam and Brede, it was considerable. It was quite in character, indeed probably much less than his normal day's travelling, that he returned from Winchelsea to Rye to preach again the same evening.

His sermons that day would have included, as they always did when he was in this part of Sussex, his strongest, most persuasive, disapproval of smuggling. In this respect he was disappointed to record that his ministry failed. Of his Rye and Winchelsea hearers he wrote: 'They do many things gladly, but they will not part with that accursed thing smuggling, so I fear with regard to these our labour will be in vain'.

Wesley's visits to Winchelsea were rare but the group in the town who embraced his Methodism were energetic and soon well-established. He may have known many of Winchelsea's Methodists before this first contact for he began visiting Rye in 1758 and they would eagerly have walked there to hear

him. Certainly he knew some of them personally and at one time stayed with the Jones family who had two small daughters. He took the girls into the garden and, anxious to illustrate an enlightening point, picked two apples, one large and ripe and the other smaller and green.

Wesley offered the choice to the older girl and, understandably, she chose the bigger apple. Wesley then cut it open and there was a maggot in it. "You see, you chose the bigger apple and you left the small green one for your sister and here is a worm." The point was made. Unfortunately, when the other apple was cut open it also had a maggot in it. The Miss Jones who told this story when an old lady was asked, "What did Mr Wesley say then?" With a smile she replied, "Mr Wesley said nothing!"

Undaunted by the failure of this piece of religious education, Mr and Mrs Jones and their friends set about acquiring the land to build a chapel where they could meet; the open air and private houses had to suffice until the work was completed. A sympathetic supporter lived at the house in Rectory Lane now known as *Evens*. He donated land from his garden and reduced costs by allowing the chapel to have a wall shared with his home.

The resulting small building is dominated by the pulpit which stands high on the east wall, probably because the large congregation could only be squeezed in if they stood for the service. It was certainly the type of pulpit which Wesley advocated.

The Winchelsea Methodist community opened their chapel in 1785 and four years later the great man himself preached there. He noted in his Journal, "The new preaching-house was well filled with decent, serious hearers who seemed to receive the truth in the love of it".

Malcolm Pratt



End of Summer Stories

Chair of Second Wednesday, Natasha Robinson writes:
This morning the weather has broken. It's the 15th August. To me, it is, and will forever be, "le quinze août", The Assumption, an important date in France.

As a child, my sister and I would spend three months every year, with our grandmother and great aunt in the South of France. When my mother sent us off, packing was easy. A couple of dresses for my sister, a couple of shorts for me and as many swimsuits as she could find. But she always included a jumper each, just in case.

The days were long and hot, as we roamed blissfully wild on my Great Aunt's estate. Summer seemed endless, until "le quinze août" each year, when the weather would break. The sky was suddenly overcast and the temperature would drop significantly. The season was coming to an end, soon it would be time to go home and worst of all...school. Bored with two months of swimsuits, I'd rush for my jumper.

My grandmother would have none of it and immediately instruct me to remove it. For in those days dear reader, I'm tempted to say, one obeyed one's grandmother. In truth I don't believe that. Some parents and grandparents just have authority, regardless of when you were born and she was one of those.

Of course the couple of days were just a blip and the August heat returned until the beginning of September, when things would start to cool down in time for the grape harvest and our return to London, when we could wear our jumpers on the plane home.

Back in Winchelsea, the same is true. The summer's far from over, with the rest of the month forecast to be in the mid-twenties. The extraordinary heat that we endured for the Fête has subsided and the main concern is a possible hosepipe ban. Even the longest established perennials are suffering and the time, energy and money that we invest in our gardens, is forcing us to become far more creative with water capture, storage and recycling.

In a packed season of events which culminated with the Winchelsea Annual Art Exhibition, we have an enormous amount of things to look forward to this Autumn. As well as the Church Market, we have The Winchelsea Arts Concerts, The Garden Society Autumn Show, Literary Society and the Archaeological Society Walk, to name but a few.

Our first Second Wednesday event is something fabulous too. Dr Patricia Erskine-Hill returns to share her unrivalled knowledge of the Art and History of the Italian Renaissance, with her lecture "Convents and Courtesans: Women's Lives in Pre-Modern Venice".

She will be here to explain all on Wednesday 14th September. So if you fancy spending the afternoon in Venice, without the actual hassle of travelling, the New Hall is the place to meet. Jumpers optional.



Life Drawing Workshop with Shirley Meyer

I will be running a special Life Drawing workshop this month and it will take place on Saturday 17th September in the afternoon in the New Hall, to give those of you who find weekday sessions difficult to attend. On this occasion I am opening it up to a wider audience than those on the mailing list, as it is such a terrific opportunity to try this genre. Observation of the human figure is a good starting place to understanding proportion and anyone of any ability should try these classes.

I will have a real live model (my daughter) who is an art graduate and who understands the need for interesting poses held over a variety of timeframes. We will be concentrating on the Draped Figure and looking at how fabrics behave on the body and can reflect the shape and form of the body underneath.

The class will run between 2pm and 4.30pm with a short break in the middle. I suggest that you arrive about ten minutes in advance to set up. If you have an easel, whether free standing or table, then I suggest you bring that with you. Otherwise, a drawing board leant against a table is fine. Further details of materials needed will follow once you have signed up.

The number of places will be limited to around 12, so if you wish to attend please email me on shirleymeyer@btinternet.com with a confirmation and either pay £20 by BACS (preferred), cheque or cash, to secure your place. Thank you to those of you who have already signed up.

I look forward to hearing from you.

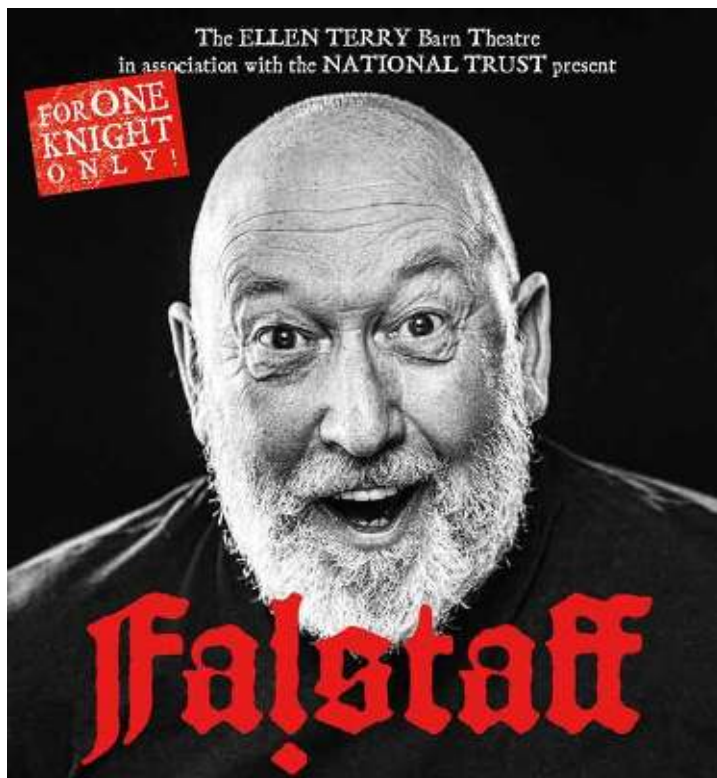
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He's back! By popular demand, Falstaff returns to Smallhythe - one knight only!

Adapted from Robert Nye's acclaimed novel, Falstaff merges Shakespeare's great comic creation with the real-life soldier, Sir John Fastolf. The result is a deeply moving, funny, bawdy romp through the middle-ages.

Agincourt, frogs, slugs and plenty of onions all receive the Falstaff touch, in this living, breathing, warts-and-all tapestry of our favourite, larger-than-life, old knight!

Performed by Mike Stoneham on Saturday 17th September at 7.30pm at the Ellen Terry Barn Theatre, Small Hythe Place

Tickets £12 from etbarntheatre.com



The Royal Touch

Winchelsea Literary Society's September speaker is Dr Stephen Brogan, author of "The Royal Touch in Early Modern England: Politics, Medicine and Sin".

As an imitation of healing miracles, the ceremony helped bolster monarchs' reputations as pious rulers, whose sovereignty had been ordained by God. During political instability such as following a Civil War numerous patients with scrofula received the King's touch.

Friday 23rd September at 7 for 7.30pm in the Lower Court Hall. A glass of wine on arrival. Non-members pay £5.

winlitsoc@gmail.com



Corporation Spanish-Themed Evening

On Friday 4th November the Corporation will be holding a Spanish-Themed Evening in the New Hall featuring flamenco dancers and a guitarist. A substantial tapas buffet will be served and a selection of Spanish wines will be available.

This event will be in aid of the Corporation of Winchelsea and Demelza House Children's Hospice, the charities supported by the Mayor and Mayoress David and Sandra.

We hope you will join us for what should be a very enjoyable evening and tickets will be on sale next month. Further details will be published in the October Parish Magazine.

Save the date!



The future of the Little Shop Association

At the Association AGM in early August, it was announced that all shareholders will be consulted about the future of the shareholders' funds. It must be made quite clear that this consultation is about what to do with the proceeds from the sale of the shop business and has nothing to do with the day-to-day running of the current shop, which is now a private business.

A few years ago, the question of winding up the Association and disposing of the funds was put to shareholders but, at that time, a large majority of shareholders felt that they wanted to see a track record of commitment to running the shop before they were prepared to make that decision. That track record now exists (the shop was sold in 2007) and so the committee feel it is time to ask the question again.

The committee are very keen to ensure that if the decision is made to spend the funds, it should not become a source of division in the town. The shop was set up as an asset for the benefit of everyone in the community and the funds should go to a similarly fully inclusive and accountable organisation.

Those members of the committee who support disbursement of the funds are firmly of the belief that The New Hall would

be the most suitable recipient as a facility run by and open to all members of the community. We were startled to receive an email from Icklesham Parish Council claiming it would be best if the money were given to them to decide how to spend. This view was very firmly rejected by the committee. It is up to shareholders to decide the use to which their funds will be put.

A newsletter will be sent to all shareholders outlining and discussing the options. There will then be an EGM to answer questions and then there will be a full ballot of the entire shareholders register to decide what to do. Shareholders are encouraged to make sure the Association has their up-to-date contact details by e-mailing shopassociation@gmail.com.

It is hoped that the process will be completed by the end of the autumn



WAS Walks

Winchelsea Archaeological Society is continuing its programme of free guided walks on Saturday afternoons. Each one starts at the Town Well at 2.15pm and last about 60 minutes. All are welcome.

August's walk, 'Winchelsea's Architecture and People', will be repeated on 17th September. This sticks to the north-east part of the town.

A longer walk entitled "Winchelsea and Pilgrimage" is planned for 8th October. It will go to the southern side of the town.

These free walks are to introduce both residents and visitors to new perspectives on life in Winchelsea, and to encourage them to take a cellar tour, and visit the Museum or Church.

Andrew Scott



Mothers' Prayers

Our next meeting in on Tuesday 6th September at St Richard's at 10am. All mothers are welcome.

Fellowship Lunch

Fellowship Lunch in September will be on Friday 30th at 12.30 for 1pm in Winchelsea Beach Community Hall. Anyone can come, there is no charge for the meal but donations are invited and we need to know who is coming for catering purposes.

Please ring Mary Parker on 07927 107678 or 01797 229798 to book or for more information.

Mary Parker

Wednesday 14th	pm	Church Market
Saturday 17th	pm	Winchelsea Arts Concert (Church)
Saturday 17th	pm	Garden Soc Autumn Show (New Hall)
Friday 23rd	eve	Second Wednesday Society (New Hall)
Tuesday 27th	eve	WAS guided walk
	day	Film Night (New Hall)
OCTOBER 2022		
Saturday 1st	am	Literary Society (Court Hall)
Sunday 2nd	pm	Conservation Society visit to Chatham D
Friday 7th	eve	
Saturday 8th	am	Church Market
Saturday 8th	pm	Ukraine Appeal Concert (Church)
Wednesday 12th	eve	Winchelsea Wine Society Meeting
Saturday 15th	pm	New Hall AGM
Friday 21st	eve	WAS guided walk
Sunday 30th	eve	Winchelsea Arts Concert (Church)
		Second Wednesday Society (N
		Film Night (New Hall)
		Literary Society
NOVEMBER		

Winchelsea Forward Planner

The 'Forward Planner' comes out every month and is intended as a resource for anyone who is involved in organising and scheduling events in the town.

It started about ten years ago at a time when there was no easy means of knowing who was organising what, and events clashed all too frequently.

If you are a member of a committee or group that would find it helpful to have the planner to hand, please let David Page know and he will add you to the monthly circulation list. Entries for 2023 are already being added and there's always 2024.

ryeview@gmail.com

IT'S A
CHARITY
KNOCKOUT

3 September 2022

RYE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB TN31 7LS

A Great Family Fun Day Out for All Ages

Gates Open from 10.30am
 Adults £5 ~ Under 16s Free

IT'S A KNOCKOUT COMPETITION
 Dog Flyball Display & Have A Go Flyball
 Crafts Corner Frolicked Puppet Theatre
 Outdoor Games Rugbytots Stalls
 Traction Engine Rides Classic Cars
 Delicious Street Food & Glorious Beer!

PLUS... LIVE MUSIC AND BBQ from 6.30pm

WHY NOT ENTER A TEAM? Fancy Dressing & Joint Entry Allowed!







All proceeds go to the Rye, Winchelsea and District
 Memorial Hospital. Charity No. 1014232



Pett Level Rescue Boat

During August we were out and about in the community. On 6th August we attended the Icklesham Fete, displaying our boat and providing first aid assistance. On 13th August we were at the Winchelsea Fete, again with the boat – plus our special Play Your Cards Right game. Then on 20th August we had space outside the Co-op in Winchelsea Beach to fundraise and raise awareness of the services we provide. Our thanks to the organisers and manager at the Co-op for allowing us to take part and to everyone who supported us.

On Sunday 28th August we held our Annual Open Day – our flagship event that helps generate vital funds. Alongside the hugely popular Grand Raffle, BBQ, stalls, live music, games and sea display, this year we introduced a bar and a fun dog show. It's such a wonderful day for everyone at PLIRB and we are always blown away by the support and generosity we receive.

During the hot weather when the beaches were extra busy, the PLIRB team spent many extra hours being on station to support local residents and visitors. From providing advice on tides and weather conditions, giving first aid or simply being there to chat, being on station ensures we are instantly ready to deploy on a shout if needed.

And, talking of shouts, PLIRB has been tasked by UK Coastguard several times over the summer and we are proud of an incredibly fast page to launch response time. Among others, shouts included assisting a casualty stuck in the mud, helping locate misplaced children at Camber and extracting an injured casualty from Camber beach with an incoming tide. Our training helps to ensure that we are ready to respond to any kind of tasking.

Our Charity Stall is still attracting much attention on a Sunday. Open 10am to 4pm with a great selection of goodies – there is something for everyone. We are looking for more donated items to sell on the stall – so if you have any good quality items please do let us know. We have limited storage so preferably smaller items but come and see us on a Sunday if you think you have something we might like.

The Great British Beach Clean runs from 16th-25th September, organised by the Marine Conservation Society. It is a week-long citizen science event, where hundreds of beach cleans take place up and down the UK. Litter data collected drives their conservation work and also feeds into the International Coastal Clean-up (ICC). Visit mcsuk.org and follow the links to the Great British Beach Clean to see how you can get involved.

Although the summer season is drawing to a close, safety awareness remains an important part of our work. Please be vigilant about weather warnings, seasonal tides and currents and stay mindful of the dangers at both the top and bottom of local cliffs, due to continued rockfalls all along the local coastline.

To keep in touch and to purchase our merchandise, please check out our website <https://plrb.com> or our social media: Twitter @PLIRBRescue; Facebook @PettLevelRescueBoat and Instagram @pettlevelindyrescueboat.

The logo for Macmillan Cancer Support, featuring the words "MACMILLAN" and "CANCER SUPPORT" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, stacked vertically against a solid green rectangular background.

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

A successful run for Cancer Support

Thank you to everyone who has thus far kindly donated to Milly's fundraising effort for Macmillan Cancer Support in support of her mother and my wife, Pamela, who has been undergoing treatment for an aggressive breast cancer. Like many other families in this area who are or who have been affected by cancer, we are receiving amazing help and encouragement from Macmillan Cancer Support.

Milly completed the 100 km international ultra-trail run on Saturday 13 August. It took place near Fiesch in Switzerland at the base of the biggest glacier in Europe. Her time was 17 hours 50 minutes. I am proud to announce that Milly ranked 4th female overall and 1st British woman to cross the finishing line.

She has to date raised over £11,000 excluding Gift Aid for the Macmillan Horizon Centre in Brighton and donations are still coming in. Her fundraising has featured in the press and on BBC Radio Sussex. If you would like to donate to Macmillan in support of Milly's achievement you may do so online: justgiving.com/fundraising/millyvoiceruns100

Thank you very much indeed

Michael Voice. 01424 813349



Dominic Leahy

Dominic died in August. Living in recent years on the Udimore ridge, overlooking Winchelsea, Dominic served as a member of the Corporation for many years. He worked with Melvyn Pett to produce 'Winchelsea at the Millennium', a pictorial record of everyone who was living in the town at that time. He also wrote the guide book to the Winchelsea Cellars. Our condolences go to Margot in her loss.



Rye Food Bank

I will be making the next doorstep collection on the morning of Tuesday 20th September. If you are donating could you contact me please , so I can draw up a collection plan.

Donald Cameron-Clarke 01797 226414

Monetary donations can be sent to Rye Foodbank at Barclays Bank - sort code 20-54-25 - account number 83501116; through the Jempson Foundation; or cheques to Rye Foodbank c/o 24 North Salts, Rye.

If you donate via the Jempson Foundation and are a taxpayer, gift aid can be applied, If you make a bank transfer, please do send a message (via ryefoodbank@gmail.com) so they know who it is from and can send a receipt, if required.

Winchelsea Church and Town Calendar

September 2022

- Saturday 3rd Church Market 10.30am till 12
Winchelsea Arts Concert - St Thomas' - 7.30pm
- Sunday 4th** **8am: BCP Holy Communion at Winchelsea**
9.30am: Parish Communion at Pett
11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea
- Tuesday 6th Mothers' Prayers - St Richard's - 10am
- Saturday 10th Garden Society Autumn Show - New Hall - from 2pm
- Sunday 11th** **8.30am: BCP Holy Communion at Pett Level**
9.30am: Parish Eucharist at Icklesham
11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea
- Wednesday 14th Second Wednesday Society - New Hall - 2.30pm
- Saturday 17th Archaeological Society Walk - 2.15pm from the Town Well
Winchelsea Film Night - New Hall - 6pm for 7
- Sunday 18th** **9.30am: Parish Eucharist at Pett**
11am: Harvest Festival Eucharist at Winchelsea
followed by Harvest Brunch
- Friday 23rd Literary Society - Court Hall - 7pm for 7.30
- Sunday 25th** **9.30am: Parish Eucharist at Icklesham**
11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea
Rye Festival event - St Thomas' - 2.30pm
- Tuesday 27th Conservation Society trip to Chatham Dockyard
- Friday 30th Fellowship Lunch - WB Community Hall - 12.30 for 1
- Sat 1st Oct Church Market 10.30am till 12
- Sun 2nd Oct** **8am: BCP Holy Communion at Winchelsea**
9.30am: Parish Communion at Pett
11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea
Ukraine Reborn Concert - St Thomas' - 4pm

Further ahead

- Sat 8th Oct Winchelsea Arts Concert
- Sat 12th Nov Christmas Fair



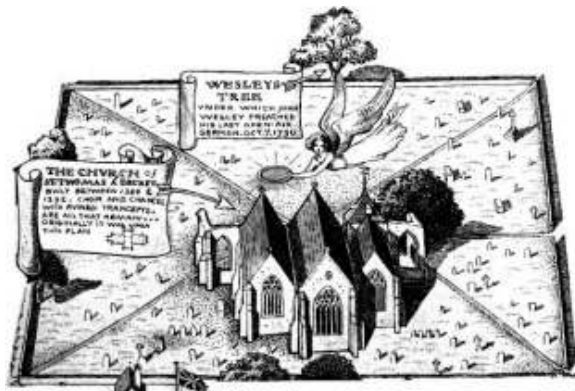
**Please send copy for the October Magazine to
ryeview@gmail.com
before Friday 30th September**

For Winchelsea Beach information go to
winchelseabeachcommunityassociation.co.uk

For Winchelsea information go to
winchelsea.com

For more information about the Church go to
winchelsea-icklesham-churches.org.uk

For weekly news from the local area go to
ryenews.org.uk



Rector of Winchelsea and Icklesham and Priest in Charge of Pett

The Revd Jonathan Meyer

The Rectory, St Thomas Street, Winchelsea TN36 4EB

01797 226254 revdjonathan@btinternet.com

The Rector's day off is Monday

Churchwardens

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Burrin House, North St TN36 4HX

01797 223159 ccmburrin@gmail.com

Celia King

Stargazer, Morlais Place TN36 4LG

01797 227858 sake.king@hotmail.com

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Angela Hill

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Parish Treasurer

Vacancy

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David Birchenough

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Headteacher Carol Gardiner

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01797 226479

office@st-thomas-winchelsea.e-sussex.sch.uk

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Mary Parker

Solstice, Sea Road TN36 4LH

01797 229798 parkermary848@gmail.com

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