

# The Valley Diary

Binderton ~ Charlton ~ Chilgrove ~ East Dean ~ Singleton ~ West Dean

thevalleydiary.org ~ June 2026 Edition

SUMMER GUIDE: YOUR LOCAL EVENTS 2026

## SUMMER EVENTS

HIGHLIGHTS 2026

SUMMER FUN LOCAL

### FEATURED THIS SUMMER!

- WEST'S WOOD FAIR**  
Crafts, Music & More
- SINGLETON VILLAGE FETE**  
Traditional Fun & Stalls
- SINGLEFEST**  
Music Festival  
Local Bands
- WEST DEAN SUMMER SIZZLER**  
Food, Drinks & Garden Fun
- EAST DEAN FETE**  
Family Activities & Entertainment

SUNSHINE LOCAL FUN • COMMUNITY

Experimental Gemini

## Ladies Night

Star and Garter  
Tuesday 9th June  
7pm, All Welcome!

**All The Fun of the Fair!**

**West's Wood Fair**  
Fri 19th—Sun 21st (See Page 3)

**Singleton Village Fete**  
Saturday 8th August (See Page 4)

**Singlefest**  
Saturday 13th June (See Page 4)

**West Dean Summer Sizzler**  
Friday 19th June (See Page 5)

**East Dean Fete**  
Saturday 13th June (See Page 7)

Mark Astley, MNAEA  
Director



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## THE FOX GOES FREE



### WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE FOX?

Our **lovely garden** is now open. Tables are first come, first served. Due to the unpredictable English weather we can't reserve the garden tables, sorry.

### Father's Day Sunday 21st June

Treat your dad this Father's Day, don't forget to book your table.

Missed out on your **Sunday Roast**? Don't worry as you can now enjoy it daily.

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WEST'S OF EAST DEAN PROUDLY PRESENTS

# WEST'S WOOD FAIR

*"A WOOD FAIR LIKE NO OTHER"*

19th, 20th & 21st of June 2026 - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This year will be our 10th wood fair and there will be just as much in store for you as previous years, including *Hot Air Balloon Take Offs* (weather permitting), *Crazy Croquet*, *Paint Your Own Totem Pole* and *Lawnmower Racing*, plus many of our annual events will be returning like our *Chainsaw Carving Competition*.

As always there's lots to see and do, take a stroll around over 100 exhibitors, some of which give you the chance to get involved and have a go yourself.

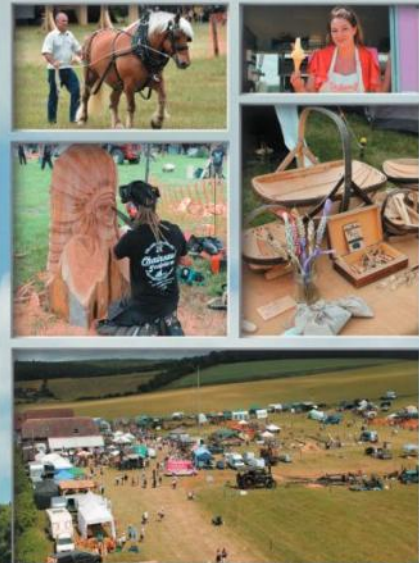
In the arenas we have **Gun Dog Displays**, **The Dorset Axeman**, **Pole Climbing Demonstrations**, our **Chainsaw Race** and **Heavy Horse Logging** demonstrations.

Take a tractor and trailer ride into the depths of the forest, have a go at **Axe Throwing**, **Archery**, **Spear Throwing** or the **Log Roll**. Stop by the **Kids Corner** for **Face Painting**, **Den Building**, **Mud Kitchens** and games. If you're feeling lucky there's lots of competitions or races going on over the weekend like

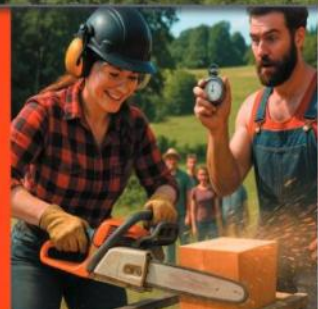
our **Sussex Scrumpty Stakes**, **Timber Identification Challenge** or **Guess the Cubic Foot of the Tree**, all of which are free to enter.

The **Woodturners Rest** will open its doors again with a large selection of locally made real ales to choose from, there will be plenty of food on offer and live music throughout the day and evening. Discounted tickets are available on our website and camping can be booked if you wish to make a weekend of it.

*Entry on Friday is half price as some activities and exhibitors won't be present, please check our website for more information.*



For the first time ever there will be a  
**FEMALE ONLY CHAINSAW RACE**  
on the Saturday



ADMISSION FRIDAY

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ADMISSION SAT / SUN

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**WEALD & DOWNLAND**  
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13-14 JUNE

# MIDSUMMER FAYRE

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## SINGLEFEST

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FAMILY FUN IN THE COMMUNITY!

SINGLETON C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

**SATURDAY, JUNE 13** 12:00 TILL 3PM



### EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

FOOD STALLS - LIVE BAND - CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES - CHILDREN'S SPORTS - BOUNCY CASTLES - DRINKS STALL - TRACTOR ON DISPLAY - RAFFLE

CASH ON ENTRY PREFERRED

## Save the Date!

SINGLETON

Village Fete 2026

Saturday 8th August 1pm - 4:30pm

A fantastic afternoon of family fun, right here in Singleton at the Cricket Pitch.

- ARENA DISPLAYS LOCAL STALLS RAFFLE & TOMBOLA
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More details coming soon!



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## The Tim Calloway Memorial Bench

Most of East Dean were on Pond Green for the unveiling of Tim Calloway's memorial bench at lunchtime on the 16th of May. The bench was made by Tim's long standing friend Peter West (although he credits Heath Lewis with doing most of the work). Star and Garter landlord Jim MacDonald led the tributes, remembering how often Tim was to be seen, riding his mower on the green, keeping it tidy as though it were his own garden.

When he wasn't doing that he was taking care of the football pitch; EDFC was his particular passion, besides which he was a referee for many years. He lived in the village from the age of six and was one of the last pupils at East Dean School (now the Village Hall) before it closed down and amalgamated with Singleton. For most of his working life he ran the village garage together with Tony Loten, Tim specialising in the welding, bodywork and painting whilst Tony looked after the mechanical side of things. A lot of us who gathered for the unveiling have reason to be grateful to Tim for dealing with dents and scratches which we had acquired, often as the result of walls and fences being put in the wrong place, and which it would have been a shame to have to bother the insurance company with!

Lesley, his widow, was very moved by how many people had come along and thanked everyone before taking hold of the dust sheet that Peter had put over the bench and lifting it off, together with her daughters Sarah and Helen. Then, as well as admiring Heath's craftsmanship, we were able to read the very fitting words the family had chosen for the dedication plaque: "After the mower fell silent, it was here that peace was found, in the village that he loved".

Tim's family, friends and neighbours were joined, appropriately enough, by the players and supporters of the football club. As if in tribute to the man who did so much to keep the club going for so many years, this year they won their first silverware for over a quarter of a century, the Chichester FC Jubilee Trophy, also known as the Bareham Cup. It's currently on display in the Star and Garter, next to a lovely photo of Tim, smiling broadly. Drop in, and raise a glass of Guinness to him - or just sit on the bench and remember. **Tim Weeks**

**SUMMER SIZZLER**

**WEST DEAN PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Everyone welcome  
Please come and have fun!

**Friday 19th June**

**3pm-6pm**

\*Bouncy Castle \*Food & Drink  
\*Fun Games & Stalls  
\*Live Music \*Children Performances

**FREE ENTRY!**

Event organised by West Dean Primary School Friends to raise important funds for West Dean Primary School



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## AWARDS



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## GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES SECOND CONSULTATION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

The Government has launched a further consultation on options for local government reorganisation in Sussex following feedback from the previous consultation, seeking views on two additional options. The consultation will run until 23.59 on 15th June and can be accessed at

[consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-reorganisation/west-sussex-two-unitary-proposal-modification/](http://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-reorganisation/west-sussex-two-unitary-proposal-modification/)

In West Sussex, the additional proposal involves the creation of two unitary authorities. One authority would bring together Chichester District, Crawley Borough, Horsham District and Mid Sussex District, the second would combine Arun District, Adur District and Worthing Borough. A further option has also been proposed for East Sussex and Brighton & Hove, again based on two unitary authorities. Respondents will be asked whether these modified options would deliver more effective unitary local government arrangements than those previously proposed.

All earlier proposals that were previously consulted on remain under consideration. These include the two options put forward by all eight West Sussex councils. One was for a single unitary authority covering the whole of West Sussex, which was supported by West Sussex County Council. The other was for two unitary authorities in West Sussex – one which would include Chichester District, Arun District, Worthing Borough and Adur District and the other covering Horsham District, Mid Sussex District and Crawley Borough. This option was supported by all of the district and borough councils in West Sussex.

Responses to both consultations will be reviewed by Ministers ahead of a final decision which is expected in the summer. We have provided background information and frequently asked questions at [chichester.gov.uk/devolution](http://chichester.gov.uk/devolution) and [shapingwestsussex.org](http://shapingwestsussex.org)

# EAST DEAN FETE

Saturday 13th June

2.30pm

The Old Vicarage, East Dean

**This year's Fete is soon approaching so get ready to have a fun day in the sunshine!**

As an Organising Committee we feel it is important to support all our village and community assets and to recognise that the Village Hall plays a vital role in the running of the Fete. We use all the tables from the Hall as well as mugs and urns and as such the Village Hall cannot be made available for hire on the day of the fete. In past years, until last year when the Hall stepped in to host the fete there has been no donation to the Village Hall funds for this service and we feel this is long overdue.

As always, **we welcome donations** of gifts, bottles, pre-loved good condition, sellable, household items, books and clothes. All good quality contributions will be very much appreciated.

The **tombola** is always a great attraction and has some excellent quality bottles and jars to be won. Please donate what you are able and then come and buy a ticket to win something in return. There will be a **plant stall** to top up your vegetable patch and flower beds. The **home produce stall** sells out quickly and always has delicious homemade cakes, biscuits, jams and preserves. If the sun is shining the **coconut shy** can make a return and we hope to introduce some new and fun fete games and attractions. The **classic cars** are set to return with a competition and Farmer John and Esther will be running farm corner with a variety of **tame farm animals to pet** and **farm machinery** to view. A mini farm visit. The **Pimms stall** has been a huge success in recent years so come and buy a jug, settle down on a bench in the sun and watch the fete in action. If you don't fancy a tippie then **tea and homemade cakes** from the kitchen is delicious. Hopefully the sun will shine and the **swimming pool** will be full of laughing, happy children.

**Contact Sam 07887 562473 or Susie 07825 336689**

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# EAST DEAN ART FAIR SCORCHER!

The May Spring bank holiday was a scorcher with record temperatures and brilliant sunny days. There were a lot of local events taking place during the weekend and the weather prompted visitors to 'take a look' at what was happening. As for me, I headed for the East Dean Art Fair! An early start on the first day to avoid the heat of the day and other events enthusiasts.



On entering the Village Hall I was met with an amazing sight of a wonderful display of artwork from grand oil paintings to smaller crafted works. I didn't know where to look first!

I slowly worked my way round the various exhibits: oil paintings, water colours, sketches, photographs; then on to tapestry, ceramics and woodcarvings - all for sale. The Village Hall is light and airy and as there was no need to rush I also spent time looking through the archive albums containing details and photographs of the locality dating back to the nineteenth century, by which time many more people were arriving.

As with all village hospitality, refreshments were available - donations for them accepted. No doubt many more attended the following two days of the Art Fair. Tim Weeks will be back in the July Edition of The Valley Diary with a full report and hopefully some photos too. The timing was unfortunate this month with the copy deadline looming! *Coral Mather*



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## Summer Wildlife Briefings...



Hungry babies have been eating us out of house and home this spring and summer here at Brent Lodge! All wildlife needs such specific care, including specialised food and individual treatment plans, to ensure their proper development and best chances of recovery. Because of this, a kind and firm reminder to please never be tempted to keep wild animals at home any longer than is required upon finding them in need. Please call us or another professional, registered wildlife rehabilitator for advice and an action-plan as soon as possible.

Each year, we receive several disturbing cases of seemingly well-meaning people keeping and attempting to care for wild animal casualties at home, often housing them in inadequate facilities, over-handling them and feeding them the wrong diets. This is extremely detrimental to their overall wellbeing, development and chances of survival out in the wild again. Getting and following the right advice in the first instance will be the best chance of survival you can give our precious vulnerable wildlife.

*Thank you all so much for your understanding and support. If you would like to donate to help the animals in our care, please visit our website [www.brentlodge.org](http://www.brentlodge.org) for donation links and our Amazon Wishlist.*

## SUSSEXFEST CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL GREEN Sunday 14th June 11am-4pm FREE! No booking required

A free community celebration for Sussex Day, bringing together the best of Chichester and the wider county.

Expect live local music, performances, family activities, crafts, stalls and food vendors in the heart of the city.

Open to all ages – come along, get involved and celebrate Sussex.

[chichestercathedral.org.uk](http://chichestercathedral.org.uk)

## Singleton and Charlton Parish Council

It's the final call for the Singleton and Charlton Annual Parish Council Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting taking place on **Wednesday 3rd June**. All are welcome to attend at the **Singleton Cricket Club** from **6.30pm** for drinks and nibbles.

Parishioners are encouraged to share how you would like to see your Parish Council supporting the local community. The meeting will **start at 7pm** and we're delighted to welcome our guest speaker, **Clare de Bathe** from the **Weald and Downland Living Museum**.

Another date for your diary is **SINGLEFEST** on **Saturday 13th June**, organised by the Friends of Singleton School PTA and supported by the Parish Council. Starting at **midday until 3pm** at **Singleton CofE Primary School**, everyone is invited to enjoy a fun afternoon including free tea and cake, a live band, raffle, food stalls, displays, family-friendly activities and more. Entry is £2 per person.

A meeting has been held with WSCC highways where the **position and size of Charlton Village Gates** was agreed. The design and signage will be the same as the Singleton gates, and the Clerk is in the process of getting quotes. SDNP will need to be consulted.

The Parish Council is also still liaising with **Southern Water** over repairs to restore any damage caused over the winter, and discussions are underway to plan for next autumn / winter.

See our website for more information and news.

[singletoncharlton-pc.gov.uk](http://singletoncharlton-pc.gov.uk)  
[clerk@singletoncharlton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@singletoncharlton-pc.gov.uk)

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# Upwaltham Barns Open Gardens

17<sup>th</sup> June  
11am - 4pm

Entry £10.00 per person (Cash Only)  
Entry includes tea/coffee & a slice of cake.

Proceeds divided between St Mary's Church &  
Macmillan Cancer Support

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★ SINGLETON ★  
Village Fete  
2026  
Saturday 8th August  
1 - 4.30pm

## We need your help!

We need volunteers both before and on  
fete day for assorted jobs  
Before: tombola collectors, cake makers,  
plant growers, bric-a-brac sorters, help  
with putting up & taking down gazebos

On the day: Washer-uppers, stallholders,  
gate and car park team

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[www.singletonfete.co.uk/helpers/](http://www.singletonfete.co.uk/helpers/)



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The Charity seeks to help local people living in difficult circumstances with small gifts that are awarded by local trustees. Help may be given, for example, with the cost of food, fuel, white goods and furnishings. Some grants are given for hospital visits and doctors' appointments. As well as giving grants to individuals, grants may be given to small local charities or community groups providing support to people in need within the area.

Please note that applications can only be accepted from people living in Singleton and Charlton

Any individual or group wishing to be considered for a grant can contact the trustees by emailing [trusteehenrysmithsc@gmail.com](mailto:trusteehenrysmithsc@gmail.com)

Paper copies of the application form can be found in St Mary's Church Singleton.

# The Valley Parish

[www.facebook.com/ValleyParish](http://www.facebook.com/ValleyParish)

Find out more about our services and events on the  
A Church Near You website



## Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June

11am at West Dean

Join us for bible stories,  
songs and games.

(oh and of course cakes and biscuits)

### Contacts

#### Parish Priest

**Rev Sarah Manouch**

priestvalleyparish@gmail.com / 07468 854864  
(Principal working days are Friday, Saturday and  
Sunday. Not available on Thursday)

#### Churchwardens

**John Holt** - 07787 567140 / john@drokefarm.co.uk

**Sarah John** - 07769 887546

sarance@btinternet.com

#### PCC Treasurer

**Lance John** - treasurer.valleyparish@outlook.com

#### PCC Secretary

**Susie Holmes**

pccsecretaryvalleyparish@gmail.com

## Services and Events

7 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	Holy Communion With Choir East Dean
14 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	Holy Communion Singleton
21 <sup>st</sup> June	10am	Holy Communion West Dean
28 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	Holy Communion West Dean
	11am	Children's Church West Dean
30 <sup>th</sup> June	7pm	From Stagecoach to Stagecoach talk Singleton Village Hall Tickets £10

## Standing the Test of Time Buildings Appeal

Work is due to begin on the tower and pinnacles at St Andrew's West Dean in September. Thanks to determined local efforts, we have already secured £86,000 through community fundraising, generous individual donations, and support from the Archdeacon of Chichester. We have also received grants from The Benefact Trust, The Garfield Weston Trust, and The Wolfson Foundation. However, the recent government decision to withdraw the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme has left us £12,500 short of the funds required.

If you can help in anyway, please contact Rev Sarah Manouch or  
check out the justgiving page -

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/standingthetestoftime>

# The Diary

Here's a quick overview of what's actually going on, in and around the villages of the Lavant Valley in the coming months. Do please let us know if we've missed anything and we'll add it next time for the benefit of all.

## thevalleydiary.org

### June 2026

**Wed 3rd** Singleton and Charlton Parish Council Meeting and AGM, 7pm (Drinks/ Nibbles at 6.30pm), Singleton Cricket Club

**Fri 5th** Goodwood's Three Friday Nights

**Sun 7th** Goodwood Horseracing

**Mon 8th** Singleton Community Cafe: 10.30am - 12noon: Singleton Village Hall

**Tue 9th** Ladies Night at The Star & Garter at 7pm

**Fri 12th** Goodwood's Three Friday Nights

**Sat 13th** Singlefest: Singleton School: 12noon - 3pm

**Sat 13th** East Dean Fete, The Old Vicarage: 2.30pm

**Sat 13th & Sun 14th** Midsummer Fayre: Weald & Downland Museum

**Thu 18th** Singleton & East Dean WI: Cross-Dressed to Kill: Vivienne Morgan: East Dean Village Hall

**Fri 19th - Sun 21st** West's Wood Fair, East Dean

**Fri 19th** West Dean Summer Sizzler: 3pm - 6pm: West Dean Primary School

**Fri 19th** Goodwood's Three Friday Nights

**Sun 21st** Father's Day

**Mon 22nd** The Valley Diary Copy Deadline: 12noon

**Sat 27th** East Dean Archive Film Day: Village Hall: 2.30pm & 7pm

**Tue 30th** From Stagecoach to Stagecoach: Singleton Village Hall: 7pm

### July 2026

**Tue 7th** Selsey Shantymen at East Dean Village Hall

**Thu 9th - Sun 12th** Goodwood's Festival of Speed

**Mon 13th** Singleton Community Cafe: 10.30am - 12noon: Singleton Village Hall

**Wed 15th** Singleton and Charlton

Parish Council Meeting, 7pm, Singleton Village Hall

**Thu 16th** Singleton & East Dean WI: Summer Party: East Dean Village Hall

**Tue 28th - Sat 1st (Aug)** Goodwood Horseracing

### August 2026

**Sat 8th** Singleton Village Fete: Cricket Pitch: 1pm - 4.30pm

**Mon 10th** Singleton Community Cafe: 10.30am - 12noon: Singleton Village Hall

**Tue 28th (Jul) - Sat 1st** Goodwood Horseracing

**Fri 28th - Sun 30th** Goodwood Horseracing

### September 2026

**Mon 14th** Singleton Community Cafe: 10.30am - 12noon: Singleton Village Hall

**Wed 16th** Singleton and Charlton Parish Council Meeting, 7pm, Singleton Village Hall

**Thu 18th** Singleton & East Dean WI: From Marching to Mulching!: Maggie Haynes: East Dean Village Hall

**Got something to add to the Diary?**

**Please let us know...**

*Lots more dates and events can be found in the Diary Online at...*

**thevalleydiary.org/diary**

Deadline for the...

### July 2026 Edition

All information for to arrive by **12.00hrs (noon)** please on...

**Monday 22nd June**

**editor@valleydiary.org**

*Submissions, news, reviews, event information, photos and anything you have to share with your community should arrive **as soon as possible**.*

## The Team

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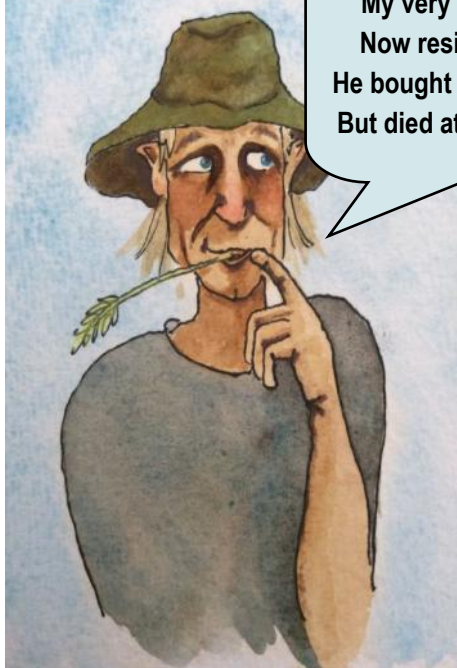
## Useful Telephone Numbers

CDC Councillor, Henry Potter	07792 857973
East Dean Football Club	07944 036709
East Dean PC Clerk	07710 098512
East Dean Village Hall	07785 740625
Goodwood Security	07909 876823
Lavant Road Doctors Surgery	01243 527264
Lavant Road Pharmacy	01243 380185
Local Police	101
Singleton & East Dean WI	07770 822067
Singleton Fete	01243 818037
Singleton Parish Clerk	07702 240126
Singleton School	01243 811679
Singleton Tearooms	01243 811899
Singleton Village Hall	07711 573276
Weald & Downland Museum: Office	01243 811363
Weald & Downland Museum: Shop	01243 811020
West Dean College	01243 818300
West Dean Gardens	01243 818318
West Dean PC Clark	07596 884847
West Dean School	01243 811247
West Dean Stores	01243 818222

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 377302, stuarteburn@icloud.com  
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### Albert says...



My very unlucky uncle,  
 Now resides in heaven.  
 He bought a box of After 8s,  
 But died at half past seven.

## Register of Local...

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**B&B - Ring Sophie** on 01243 811465  
**Harper's Cottage**, East Lavant. Ring Caroline 01243 278659  
**Flint Cottage**, 47 Mid Lavant, Lavant Road, PO18 0AA: Sue Kemble 01243  
 785883 / 07814903541  
**The Shepherds Barn**, Chilgrove: Lucy 07775 934999  
[www.shepherdsbarnsussex.co.uk](http://www.shepherdsbarnsussex.co.uk)  
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## How the Knight Flies

### A Poem by Francis

Pegasus being a winged horse,  
Was not allowed to run a race.  
Unless of course his wings,  
Were tied tightly around his waist.

He still won lots of races though,  
'Flying' past all opposition.  
For he had a cunning plan,  
To claim that first position.

His specialty of course,  
Was not in flat racing.  
With Sir Lester Pilot on board,  
He'd enter steeplechasing.

With wings and jockeys feet,  
Tied firmly by his side.  
It made every single fence,  
Such an easy glide.

He might be lagging behind,  
But soon closed the gap.  
For, on reaching every hurdle,  
Lester's arms went flap flap flap.

His prize money was huge,  
So many horses he beat.  
But he did get his comeuppance,  
Well it never pays to cheat.

They would surely ban him,  
If the stewards took a close look.  
But then, in the Grand National,  
He dive-bombed Beechers Brook.

A bent wing caused his retirement,  
Although he is still seen up there.  
Flying very slowly on Sundays,  
Getting by on a wing and a prayer.

### Lavant Horticultural Society

## Annual Flower Show Saturday 1st August

Following a wet and windy, but successful, Plant Sale we now look forward to the Annual Flower Show at Lavant Village Hall.

## Talks

7.30pm at Lavant Village Hall preceded by refreshments from 7pm. Guests welcome at £3

### TREES - A CUT ABOVE THE REST

Tony Kirkham  
Wednesday 10th June

### CUTTING OUT THE MIDDLEMAN - A GUIDE TO GROWING YOUR OWN CUT FLOWERS

Wednesday 8th July

## HANDBAGS TO HANDCUFFS: AN ARRESTING TALK AT THE WI!

The women of the Singleton and East Dean WI met in East Dean Village Hall on 21st May.

We had a brilliant speaker, Sheila Willis, who came to talk to us on the subject of *Handbags to Handcuffs*. This was an amazing story about the formation of the women's police force, how life as a WPC developed and the role of an officer today. I am certain that most of our women particularly enjoyed Sheila's personal recollections of being a WPC.

Joining up in the 1960s (at a height of 5' 4" of course), armed with only a handbag, a book of regulations and a list of the beat for the day. Notes on where to check in (there were no radios), so checking in via public telephone boxes, as well as other responsibilities such as which houses needed checking; apparently, you could request the local constabulary to check on your home if you were away. It's hard to imagine now!

As well as the handbag and regs, Sheila's trusty steed, Nelly the bicycle, played a key role. It was a witty, uplifting and empowering talk, without taking away from the dangers, risks, and threats, which were as real then as they are now (albeit with different methods of tackling the perpetrators).

Our next meeting is on the **18th June**, in **East Dean Village Hall**. Beginning at **7pm**, our talk is **Cross-dressed to Kill**; the story of women who dressed as men to head off to war. Please feel free to come along and join the meeting if you are interested in knowing more about the subject and more about joining our brilliant WI.  
**Zoe Mann**

### Walk of the Dandelion Day Chichester City Centre Saturday 6th June, 10am - 4pm

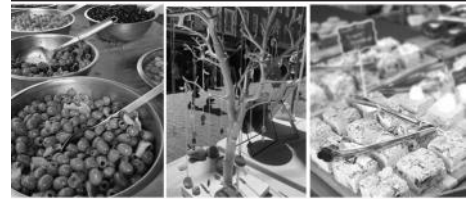
Chichester will be bursting with colour and creativity as part of a collective celebration to mark **Great Big Green Week** and the final day of Chichester Cathedral's spectacular Festival of Flowers. A magical day for all ages - come and be part of the adventure!

[culturesparkchi.co.uk/blog](http://culturesparkchi.co.uk/blog)

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## Mid Sussex Rural Crime Roundtable



This important opportunity was arranged for last month so that Sussex Police could listen directly to those living and working in rural communities. These conversations ensure that the concerns of rural people are heard clearly and reflected in how Sussex Police responds to crime in the countryside.

Livestock worrying continues to have a devastating emotional and financial impact on farmers but stronger legislation and new tools, such as DNA kits, are helping police build better prosecution cases against offenders.

The theft of farm machinery - particularly quad bikes - remains a serious problem, often linked to organised crime. It's clear we need continued collaboration, better prevention measures and stronger intelligence-sharing to tackle it.

Fly-tipping is another persistent issue, with rural communities too often left to deal with the consequences - and concerns around firearms licensing delays.

Other emerging issues were covered like the misuse of catapults and slingshots and the links between rural crime and wider organised criminal activity, including hare coursing.

What came through loud and clear is the importance of strong partnerships. By bringing together policing, rural organisations and local residents, we can target the issues that matter most and deliver better outcomes for victims.

Sussex Police remains committed to making sure rural crime remains a priority - with the focus, resources and collaboration needed to protect our countryside and those whose livelihoods depend on it.

**Katy Bourne, Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner**

### St Wilfrid's Hospice Moonlight Walk Saturday 13th June

A magical evening walk around Chichester, while supporting a great local cause. Tickets are available online until June 8th, but if you miss them then you are more than welcome to buy your ticket on the night!

[stwh.co.uk/moonlight](http://stwh.co.uk/moonlight)

### The Proverbial Twins

#### A Poem by Francis

They are a very friendly bunch,  
The men who live in our street.  
Always up for a laugh and a chat,  
Whenever we happen to meet.

Three of them are brothers,  
Each quite tall and big.  
The eldest is Robert, then Peter,  
And Paul who wears a wig.

I struggled with Peter and Paul,  
In getting their names right.  
Because they are in fact twins,  
And they do look very much alike.

I admitted that to them all,  
When in the pub last night.  
They then shared a cunning plan,  
To help me get it right.

They told me a very clever way,  
On how to remember them all.  
Using that old English proverb,  
Rob, Peter, toupee Paul.

## THE BOOK SHED

### Singleton Village Hall

Access is through the side gate and is the first shed on the right.

The books are free for you to keep or return.

If you have any books you wish to donate please place them on the shelves.



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## Explore the Hidden Gardens of Cocking

Saturday 20th June 2026  
11am – 5pm

Visit our many village gardens (some new this year) including the renowned Philip Jackson Sculpture Garden.

Teas, refreshments, art exhibition, flower display, plants and books. A great day out to see this lovely South Downs Village and its 11th century church.

Do visit to help celebrate the village spaces that quietly hold their shared stories. Walk at your own pace, meet neighbours and enjoy corners of Cocking not usually open to the public.

Your booking supports the Blue Bell Community Hub's work and its upkeep of the Blue Bell Pub as a welcoming, historic meeting place for social, cultural and educational events.

**Tickets £10 (children under 12 free) online or on the day.**  
**Free parking.**

**Booking: [tinyurl.com/27tf7b4a](http://tinyurl.com/27tf7b4a)**



West Dean Gardens

## Midsummer Evening Garden Tour with Tom Brown

Friday 26th June  
6pm - 8.30pm

Join us for an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of the gardens with Head Gardener Tom Brown and discover seasonal planting highlights, top tips and answers to your gardening questions.

Tickets: £50 and includes welcome drinks and canapés under our stunning Edwardian pergola. For more information and booking head for...

**[tinyurl.com/2x1hkkpc](http://tinyurl.com/2x1hkkpc)**

# 100 CLUB

1st... Jane Knight, Charlton -  
2nd... Derek Speer, East Deane  
3rd... Jennifer Hull, Midhurst

We were away visiting family at the beginning of the month, so many apologies to the winners of the May draw for the late arrival of their winnings. These three winners shared prize money of £110.

It is not too early to remind everyone that our 'new year' will commence in September so reminders will begin to be sent out during July in the hope of keeping everyone's support for the upkeep of the fabric of our three churches. **Wendy (01243 811608)**

## EXTRA COVER CRICKET COACHING

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## East Dean Archive Film Day Saturday 27th June, 2.30pm and 7pm East Dean Village Hall

**Back in 2008 the East Dean Archive Team produced a number of films about the village including many interviews.**

So for newer (and longer-term) residents who have never see these on the big screen, we are delighted to show three of these films once again.

**Do come to one of the viewings - you will be most welcome. More details on noticeboards nearer the time.**

**Cream Teas and  
Orchid Walk on  
Heyshott  
Escarpment  
Nature Reserve**

**Sunday 7th June  
Cobden Hall,  
Heyshott  
3pm to 5pm**



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## TRAD (Work in Progress)

The Nest, Chichester Festival Theatre  
(Chichester Fringe)

Friday 5th June, 8.45pm

In this new work-in-progress, Kate-Lois explores modern monogamy, fertility, gingham fetishes and how 'the good old olden days' weren't even that good, actually. The show offers an early look at brand-new material currently in development, giving audiences a chance to experience the evolution of what promises to be a standout piece.

[chichesterfringe.co.uk](http://chichesterfringe.co.uk)

**Petworth House & Park**  
[nationaltrust.org.uk/petworth](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/petworth)

### Expressive Line & Mark Making

Saturday 13th June,  
10.15am – 3.45pm

Join Felicity Aylieff, the renowned artist behind our Expressions in Blue exhibition, on her one-day drawing workshop that explores line and mark-making through movement, tools, and creative process. £75 per person.



### Botanical Drawing for Beginners

Tuesday 16th June, 10.30am – 4.30pm

Learn step by step approaches to enable your creativity to flourish in this beginners one day botanical drawing workshop, with local tutor Amanda Duke. £65 per person.

### Indian Block Printing

Wednesday 24 June, 10.30am - 1pm & 2pm - 4.30pm

Experience the joys of Indian Block Printing, and learn how to hand-print fabric and paper creations using designs inspired by nature. Suitable for all levels. £45 per person.

*Booking via the website, above.*

## Diabetes Week: Raising Awareness of the Link to Sight Loss 8th - 14th June

**4Sight Vision Support (4SVS) will be raising awareness as to how diabetes may directly affect sight, and how regular eye health checks can also pick up early signs of the condition.**

4SVS is keen to demonstrate the importance of managing the condition and any associated medication according to the advice of health professionals, along with the importance of regular eye health checks for all.

Richard Deadman is a Vision Support Advisor with 4SVS and knows very well about the link between diabetes and sight loss. Richard was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes at the age of 4 and aged 27 woke up one morning completely blind. This was due to complications which caused both of his retinas to detach due to Diabetic Retinopathy caused by a high blood sugar level damaging the back of the eye. Doctors told Richard that this was due to mismanagement of the disease during his teenage years. Thankfully after numerous operations, surgeons managed to save the sight in one eye but he remains totally blind in the other.

For more information about diabetes and sight loss call 01243 838001, email [fundraising@4sight.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@4sight.org.uk) or visit [www.4sight.org.uk](http://www.4sight.org.uk). Information on Diabetes Week can be found at [diabetes.org.uk/diabetes-week](http://diabetes.org.uk/diabetes-week)

## West Dean Gardens Solstice Walk to the Devil's Jumps Sunday 21st June

Celebrate the summer solstice and Pallant House Gallery's exhibition British Landscape: A Sense of Place with West Dean's former artist in residence Haroun Hayward's exhibition, Path through Trees. Join us as we walk through woodland, pasture and the deserted Medieval Village of Monkton before arriving at the Devil's Jumps to watch the spectacle of sunset on this solstice eve. Tickets: £45

[tinyurl.com/2cpwdr7v](http://tinyurl.com/2cpwdr7v)

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**St Wilfrid's Hospice  
Running Events**

Whether you want to take on a marathon, a 10k or a 5k, you can do so in support of St Wilfrid's Hospice. There are a variety of runs you can do - check them out...

**stwh.co.uk/events**

**BRANDY HOLE COPSE  
WORKING PARTY  
Tuesday 9th June**

Working Party at Brandy Hole Copse Local Nature Reserve from 10am until 12noon. 07788 140698

**Maria Wildman**  
01243 306655  
thewildthings2@outlook.com

**Here Comes  
Summer Again**

**Concert  
Saturday 6th June  
Christ Church, Chichester  
7.30pm**

A music and words mix for Save the Children. Free refreshments, retiring collection.

**CLEANER NEEDED**

I'd like someone to do some cleaning for me on a weekly basis. Immediate start would be perfect. Give me a call please.

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**DEFIBRILLATORS**

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**Singleton Village Hall** (PO18 0HA),  
**the Phone Box at Charlton** (Foxhall Lane, PO18 0HX),  
**behind East Dean Village Hall** (PO18 0JG) and on the front of **West Dean Stores.**



Once activated, the device will talk you through how to use it. A defibrillator gives a high energy shock to the heart of anyone who's in cardiac arrest.

**The Priorities of Country Home Buyers are Changing...**

Modern country living has changed dramatically over the past couple of decades, with buyers now prioritising simplicity, energy efficiency and low maintenance living above all else. Whether upsizing, downsizing, or leaving city life behind, buyers are increasingly drawn to modernised homes that are inexpensive to run, with practical layouts and manageable outdoor space that doesn't require constant upkeep.



Across West Sussex and the Hampshire and Surrey borders, demand for village or edge-of-village properties remains strong. Buyers want the perfect balance between countryside privacy and village convenience, in other words, open views combined with access to good schools, gastro pubs, village shops, dog walks, health clubs and reliable Wi-Fi.

We're seeing this play out in many of the prime villages in the South Downs National Park. Villages that were once considered sleepy rural are becoming far more vibrant as traditional pubs evolve into stylish gastro dining venues with rooms, while new wellness concepts and boutique health clubs opening this summer add to the lifestyle appeal.

We are also seeing a younger generation entering the country market, but they rarely aspire to own large homes with acres to maintain. Instead, they want semi-detached, or smaller detached homes in prime villages. In many cases, these properties are being transformed by talented architects with striking orangery extensions, open-plan living spaces and luxurious principal suites.

This represents a significant shift from the 1990s, when the dream home was usually a grand Georgian house with a swimming pool, tennis court and several acres of land. While still impressive, most buyers today aren't interested in endless maintenance, with teams of gardeners, cleaners and tradespeople required to keep everything running smoothly.

They still value character and lifestyle, but there is far greater emphasis on comfort, flexibility and homes that are just easier to manage. The modern country home is no longer simply about grandeur; it's about creating a lifestyle people can genuinely enjoy without too much pressure on their time or bank balance.

**Jennie Hancock**

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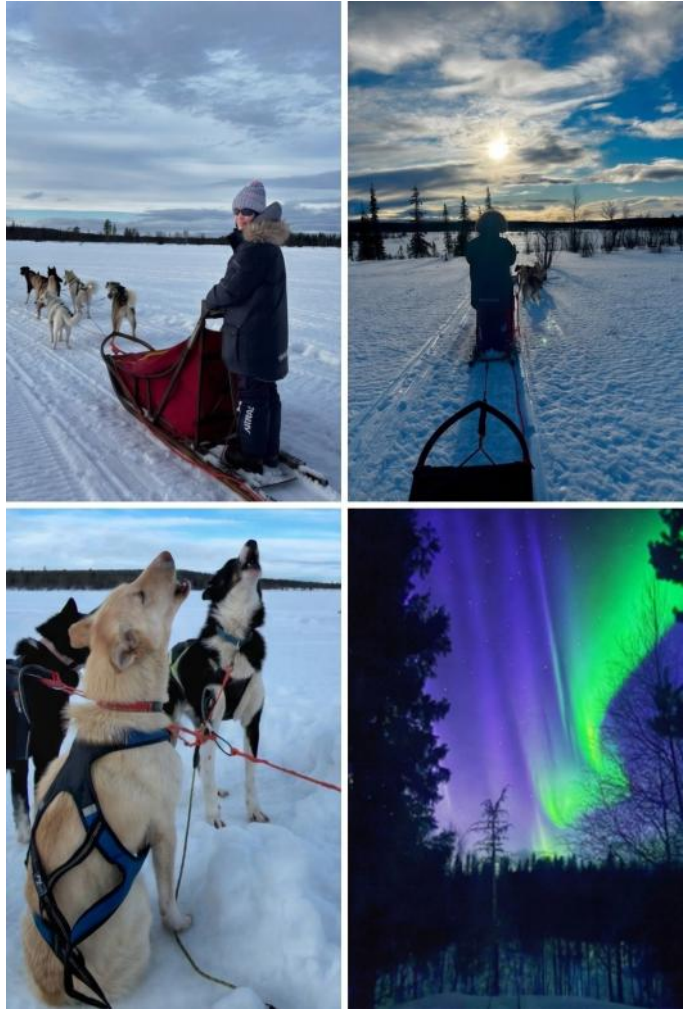
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# Arctic Challenge with Zoe Mann...

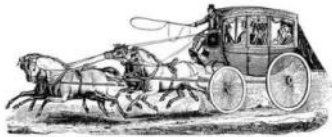
On the 20th March, I landed in Sweden, 200 miles inside the Arctic Circle. I was about to undertake one of the very best things I have ever done, and drive a team of huskies 250km across the Arctic Circle, to raise money for the brilliant **Mountbatten Hospice on the Isle of Wight** (which looked after my mum a few years ago). A team of 18 people and 54 dogs spent a week out in temperatures below -15C, camping in wooden huts and tents (which happened to coincide with massive snowstorms). I came back bruised and exhausted (I may have fallen off many times), weary from pulling the sledge out of the deep snow, but with such a sense of freedom, it is impossible to explain. Sledging across a wilderness puts life sharply into perspective. The vastness and tranquillity of the frozen lakes and the beauty of the alpine forests brought me a peace which I struggle to put into words.

If you know me, you will know that a few years ago, I climbed Kilimanjaro, also raising money and awareness for the hospice on the island. We are so very blessed to have people who can look after our loved ones in their final days, whether at Mountbatten on the Isle of Wight or the incredible St Wilfred's closer to home. I should imagine that many people who need these amazing teams will say that life is too short and should be lived to the fullest. Adventures are as real as you want them to be, and so, with the greatest of thanks to the incredibly generous people in our beautiful valley, for your unfailing support and sponsorship, I will look for my next adventure, whether it is large or small, overseas or closer to home, inspired to live each day to the max. I will keep you posted!



In aid of the Standing the Test of Time Appeal

## FROM STAGECOACH TO STAGECOACH



An illustrated talk by local historian Alan Green exploring the importance of the Lavant Valley as a transport link north from Chichester towards London.

**TUESDAY 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE**  
**Singleton Village Hall**  
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**Another very dry and rather cold spring has slowed grass growth for a while but the recent rains in the second half of May will spur growth on again.**

At Droke we are now approaching the time when we start to dry-off our summer and autumn calving dairy cows to give them a 2-month rest from milking which allows their udders to repair and prepare them for the next lactation.

These cows work hard for us so we try and do all we can to give back in return a good comfortable cow life. One aspect of our weather that cattle struggle with is the extreme heat which we seem to get more of these days and ambient temperatures above 24 degrees C can cause stress.

To help with this we have installed large cooling fans in the cowsheds and milking areas both at Goodwood and Droke. In time these will be powered from rooftop solar panels to reduce cost and our carbon footprint.

This month sees many farms around the country opening their doors for **Open Farm Sunday** which is celebrating its 20th year. If you would like to visit one go to [farmsunday.org](http://farmsunday.org) to find out which farms in your area are open. Here at Droke we are planning to join with the annual **East Dean Village Fete** at the **Old Vicarage** on **Saturday 13th June** with a **Farm Corner** for you to bring your family to visit with live animals and old and new farm machinery on display.

All our organic crops are looking healthy at the end of May if perhaps a little shorter than we would like due to the dry spring. Some good rain now should ensure a reasonable harvest of our crops of wheat, barley, oats and beans. The oats and beans are growing together (see photo) and these provide protein and energy for the milking cows in the winter. The scent of the beans flowering now is intoxicating. **Farmer John**

# JUNE FARM DIARY



**Pergola Open Air Theatre**  
**29th June - 11th July,**  
**7.30pm, £10**  
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# East Dean Football Club End of Season Awards

General Manager Peter Kearvell opened the awards ceremony at The Star and Garter, main sponsor, by thanking Vice Chairman Jim Macdonald for hosting it. A special thanks went to all the volunteers who have done a fantastic job once again. He also thanked all our sponsors, including the Match Ball sponsors who have supported the club this season.



After a tough few seasons on and off the pitch the team finished fourth in the league and won the Bareham Trophy. Peter Kearvell also added what a great first season new manager Ben Kemp had. He was a breath of fresh air coming in and took on the role with flying colours. It was a pleasure handing him the Sportsclub Trophy for a fantastic season. Other awards went to the following. **Player of the Year: Ash Carter, Players Player: Alfie Barclay, Top Goalscorer: Alfie Barclay, Manager's Player: Jason Houghton, Mick Andrews Award: Finlay Dorday, Miss of the Season : Tom Wilson and Goal of the Season: Ash Carter.** The team are back training on the 24th June.



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## St Wilfrid's Hospice London to Brighton Cycle Ride Sunday 13th September

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[stwh.co.uk/cycle-ride](http://stwh.co.uk/cycle-ride)



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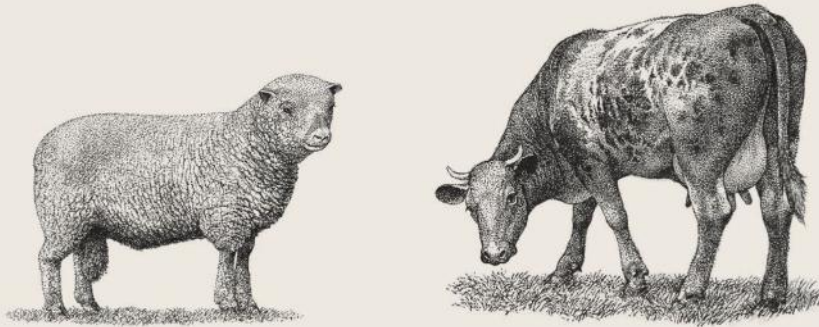
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# SHANTYMEN!

## The Selsey Shantymen at East Dean on Tuesday 7th July

Earlier this year The Selsey Shantymen sold out the Minerva Theatre for two nights running, with a waiting list at the box office for any returns.

On Tuesday the 7th of July they will be singing at **East Dean Village Hall** for one night only, so if the Minerva shows are anything to go by you'll be well advised to get in quick if you want to see them: ideally use the QR code here or phone me up to reserve a seat - tickets are £20 each (£5 cheaper than the Minerva) and this is a **joint fundraiser for Singleton and East Dean Village Halls**.

The show will be in two 40 minute halves, starting at 7pm with a 20 minute interval. But don't arrange to have your carriage waiting at 8.45, the audience are encouraged to join in and this often leads to encores - expect quite a lively evening! There'll be a **fully licensed bar** available throughout (with a system in place for ordering interval drinks) and then afterwards **fish and chips at the Star and Garter**, again with the opportunity to pre-order to avoid having to wait for yours.

As well as performing, the Shantymen will have an assortment of souvenir merchandise available on the night, including T-shirts and CDs - and there will be a raffle featuring prizes with a suitably nautical theme. This is going to be one of those evenings that, if you miss it, you'll get sick and tired of hearing how good it was from everyone who was there! **Tim Weeks 07503 282528 - eastdeanhall@gmail.com**



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