

# Clymping Village News



March 2022

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# Your Clymping Village News

## Welcome to the March 2022 issue, number 85



Bola Akinola's article about the birds of Clymping Gap in our December issue proved very popular, and I'm pleased to say that he has returned with

another instalment. I wonder if he has inspired any of our readers to keep track of the birds you see each day in your garden? If so, please share your bird diary with us!

The undeveloped Clymping Gap is a local treasure, but it also has a larger role to play. James Baird, whose farm occupies much of the gap, offers an article about returning large parts of his land to nature, and discusses a new project that he is involved with to build wildlife corridors stretching across the county.

We also have an interview with Rev. Richard Hayes, who reflects on his work and plans for the future. Reports from our regular columnists discuss a range of issues important to the village, and Sarah Tyrrell says farewell to beloved Clymping resident Jimmy Bake.

It's always a treat to have some new voices in the newsletter, and I'm hoping for even more in the next one. Thank you to all our contributors, and to our advertisers who support this publication.

– Lisa Eyre, Editor

*Cover photo of a kestrel at the Bailiffscourt by Bola Akinola*

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Please send all submissions and advertising enquiries to **ClympingNewsEditor@gmail.com**. The deadline for the June 2022 issue is 5th May. Submission guidelines can be found at [www.clymping.org.uk](http://www.clymping.org.uk).

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# CHURCH SERVICES

## FEBRUARY 2022 SERVICES

20th	Family Service	Yapton	9:30am
	All Age Communion	Clymping	11am
24th	Holy Communion	Ford	10am
27th	Parish Communion	Yapton	9:30am
	Parish Communion	Clymping	11am
	No Sunday School (half term)		

## MARCH 2022 SERVICES

3rd	Holy Communion	Ford	10am
6th	Family Service	Yapton	9:30am
	All Age Communion	Clymping	11am
10th	Holy Communion	Ford	10am
13th	Parish Communion	Yapton	9:30am
	Parish Communion	Clymping	11am
	Sunday School	via Zoom	10am
17th	Holy Communion	Ford	10am
20th	Family Service	Yapton	9:30am
	All Age Communion	Clymping	11am
24th	Holy Communion	Ford	10am
27th	Mothering Sunday		
	All Age Communion	Yapton	9:30am
	Parish Communion	Clymping	11am
	No Sunday School		

## APRIL 2022 SERVICES

3rd	Family Service	Yapton	9:30am
	All Age Communion	Clymping	11am
7th	Holy Communion	Ford	10am
10th	Parish Communion	Yapton	9:30am
	Parish Communion	Clymping	11am
	Sunday School	via Zoom	10am
14th	Maundy Thursday		
	Holy Communion	Ford	10am
	Holy Communion	Yapton	7:30pm
15th	Good Friday		
	Meditations	Clymping	2pm
17th	Easter Sunday		
	Beach Service	Clymping	6:30am

	All Age Communion	Yapton	9:30am
	All Age Communion	Clymping	11am
21st	Holy Communion	Ford	10am
24th	Parish Communion	Yapton	9:30am
	Parish Communion	Clymping	11am
28th	Holy Communion	Ford	10am

## MAY 2022 SERVICES

1st	Family Service	Yapton	9:30am
	All Age Communion	Clymping	11am
5th	Holy Communion	Ford	10am
8th	Parish Communion	Yapton	9:30am
	Parish Communion	Clymping	11am
	Sunday School	via Zoom	10am
12th	Holy Communion	Ford	10am



**at Clymping**

*Mothering Sunday*



**MOTHERING SPECIAL**  
 Join us on  
**Saturday 26th March**  
 at  
**St Mary's, Clymping**  
**3.00 to 4.30pm**

# COMMUNITY CORNER

## Volunteering for the environment

Our 13-year-old son Jack and his friend Charles (both in Year 9) have recently embarked on their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award and have chosen to look after our local environment as the volunteering



*Litter picking in Clymping*

contribution to this very worthy scheme. They have been litter picking for a couple of hours a week on the weekends at Clymping beach since November and have found it fun and rewarding work. The council provided them with litter pickers and collection bags, and they have been filling four to six bags between them each session. Passers-by have been

interested in their endeavours and have often stopped to chat and thank them for their efforts.

Last autumn, whilst litter picking at Worms Wood in Middleton-on-Sea, we chatted to a lady called Jane who often

supports the Felpham Parish Council with local planting projects. She asked if the boys would be interested in helping to plant 200 spring bulbs in Flansham Park and the boys very enthusiastically agreed. So, with spades and trowels in hand, they dug and planted on Saturday, 11th December, and will be so excited to see the gorgeous daffodils emerging in the spring.

If anyone knows of any Clymping-specific projects that the boys could get involved with on a regular weekend basis, please e-mail [ClympingNewsEditor@gmail.com](mailto:ClympingNewsEditor@gmail.com).

*— Julia McIntyre, Clymping resident*



*Planting bulbs in Flansham Park*

## Donations for plant sale

I will be hosting my annual BIG Plant and Bake Sale on Saturday 28th May, in May Close, in aid of Care for Veterans. If you enjoy gardening and are sowing seeds now, please pop a few extra seeds in for the sale. All proceeds will support the care and rehabilitation of disabled veterans. To get in touch, please ring me on 07931 125854 or e-mail [crossbushchris@live.com](mailto:crossbushchris@live.com).

*— Christine Gillott*



## Interview

# Rev. Richard Hayes

*E. Cordingley speaks to our local rector about his work and his hopes for the future.*

The Rev. Richard Hayes is approaching his 20th year as rector of the Benefice of Clymping and Yapton with Ford.

**E.C.: How did you start in ministry and where did you train?**

*Rev. Richard Hayes:* I started 33 years ago and trained at St John's Theological College, Nottingham. I also had an interest in classical music, but I decided that I would like to reach out towards other people. I spent two years in Hastings, then three years in Nottingham, followed by Tunbridge Wells, Bristol and Gravesend. Along the way I got married and have two daughters and two sons, the youngest being born whilst in Yapton.

**What do you hope for in your ministry?**

My hope is that I can encourage people in their spiritual journeys, to discover God or uncover what they already believe.

**What changes did you have to make during the Covid pandemic?**

We had to find a way to stay connected, so we turned to online services through YouTube. It was a challenging time for everyone and I had to learn new skills, but it became an important mechanism for our followers to engage with God. We attracted a wide audience across the world, as friends old and new tuned in. It became such a success that we continue to provide an online service now.

I also normally visit the local schools every week, so during Covid restrictions I had to provide a video for them instead.

When our congregations could return to the churches in person, there was a real



*Rev. Richard Hayes*

pleasure in meeting again and worshipping together, even though we're still wearing masks out of mutual respect.

### **What does the church community represent?**

Our community represents a glimpse of Jesus in us all as we strive for love, grace and mercy. Our motto is 'Living worshipfully, living contentedly, living together, living for others', which sums up how we would like to be.

### **How do you manage three churches?**

I don't really! It is with the help and support of a lot of people, from the office secretary and PCC trustees to lay ministers, readers, musicians and choirs. Everyone plays a part in making our churches a real community act of worship. But we also run as a charity, so we are dependent on a lot of support to ensure we can continue.

### **How do you see the church serving the community?**

It is hard to do everything we would like to. We strive to provide companionship and comfort as well as spirituality. Each of our churches provides a sense of belonging, and all three have beautiful ancient buildings and lovely peaceful churchyards. As the locality gets busier with more cars, houses and people, I like to think we are part of the welcome and a place for people to belong.

### **What inspires you in your ministry?**

This may be surprising, but it is my failings, mistakes and inadequacies, because they mean that I am dependent on God's

grace and love to recognise those in other people as well. Our adopted hymn has become 'Come all you vagabonds', as we reach out to all.

### **How do you see the future of the church in the benefice?**

I envisage that the villages of Clymping, Ford and Yapton will be different in the future, as they will be much larger. I pray that the medieval churches will be places of hope and love for all, but we will also look forward to holding services and activities in various parts of the extended villages. My hope is that we will continue to learn how to be a community that welcomes everyone and reflects God's grace and love.

### **Come all you vagabonds**

Come all you vagabonds,  
Come all you 'don't belongs',  
winners and losers,  
come people like me.  
Come all you travellers  
tired from the journey,  
come wait a while, stay a while,  
welcome you'll be.

Come all you questioners,  
looking for answers,  
and searching for reasons  
and sense in it all;  
Come all you fallen,  
and come all you broken,  
find strength for your body  
and food for your soul.

*By Stuart Townend, Mark Edwards and  
Phil Baggaley*

# Crossword

## Clymping Streets

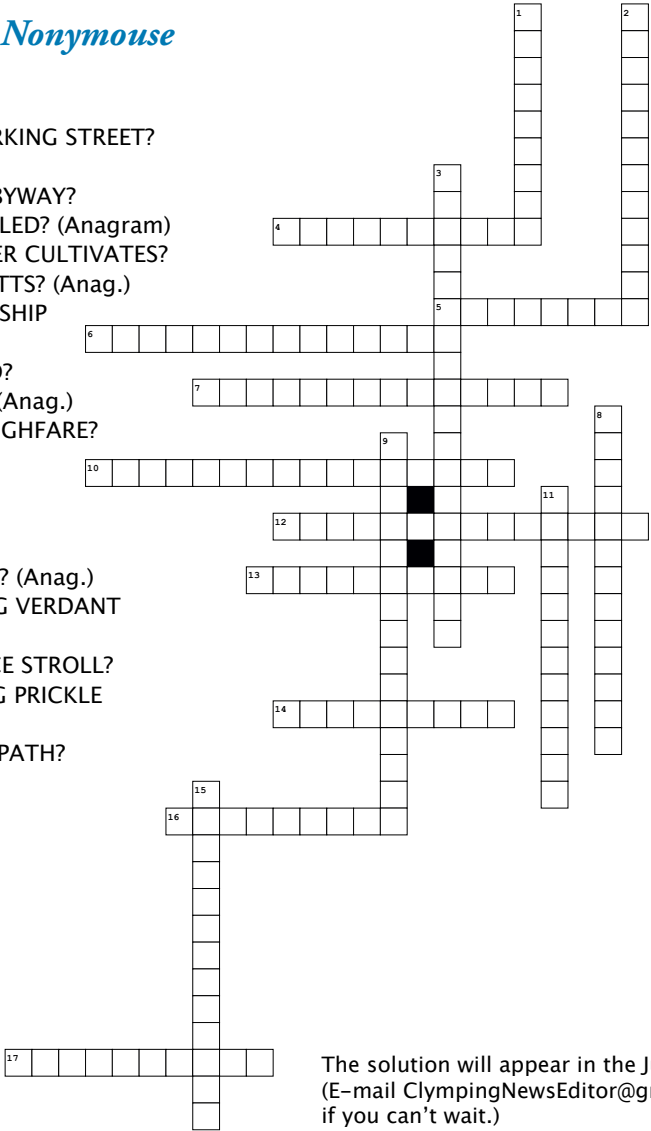
*By Alexander Nonymouse*

**Across**

- 4. CONTINUED BARKING STREET?
- 5. MIGHT SHUT?
- 6. STAFF PRICKLE BYWAY?
- 7. WOODLARK WIGLED? (Anagram)
- 10. CRYSTAL MAKER CULTIVATES?
- 12. CLERGYMEN PITTS? (Anag.)
- 13. PLACE OF WORSHIP WAY?
- 14. BRIOCHE ROAD?
- 16. STONE CALM? (Anag.)
- 17. ARCH THOROUGHFARE?

**Down**

- 1. VESSEL WAY?
- 2. TRAVEL AGENTS? (Anag.)
- 3. EQUINE TRIFLING VERDANT BYWAY?
- 8. STRUDEL SOURCE STROLL?
- 9. PLANT GROWING PRICKLE MOTIVATION?
- 11. STREAM HOLE PATH?
- 15. BONNIE NEAR?



The solution will appear in the June issue.  
(E-mail [ClympingNewsEditor@gmail.com](mailto:ClympingNewsEditor@gmail.com) if you can't wait.)



# CHAIRMAN'S VIEW



*Colin Humphris looks ahead to the coming year and the various issues facing the village.*

A year ago I was writing that it was good to see the back of 2020 and all the Covid restrictions. The trouble is that 2021 wasn't a lot better, despite the vaccination programme. It is a brave man that predicts where the pandemic goes next, but let's hope the worst is behind us, we learn to live with it, and we can enjoy this year of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee.

A year ago the Council's agenda was dominated by proposed housing and industrial developments, highways, offshore wind farms and the flood risk for coastal erosion. If I'm honest, *déjà vu* is how I feel this February, although some things have changed, and the green shoots of spring are breaking through.

The planning application for the incinerator was withdrawn, thanks to enormous public pressure, and the immediate threat of this development was removed.

Our concerns about the local roads, supported by residents' recent helpful feedback, is gaining traction at Arun District Council and West Sussex Highways. A decision on the proposal for 1,500 homes on Ford airfield was deferred in part due to these concerns and the potential traffic impacts on both Horsemere Green Lane (HGL) and North End Road in Yapton (up to the level crossing). We did, however, gain a commitment from the Ford developers to provide a pavement along

the entirety of HGL as a first step once works commence.

The A259 review by West Sussex County Council remains on course. As part of this, the upgrade of the Oystercatcher junction is of key importance if we are to minimize traffic on our local roads when the Ford development proceeds.

For the interest of the golfers amongst you, the Parish Council has been briefed on plans for the relocation of Bognor Regis Golf Club to land south of the A259 between Clymping and Middleton. The planning application should be public very shortly for your perusal.



**We are awaiting revised proposals from Foreman Homes for the approved 300-home development in Clymping.** The Parish Council remains in discussion with them, and we are pleased to see changes to the details emerging relating to northern boundary treatments reducing the impact for existing residents, and to the house designs, which are now far more varied and sympathetic to the local area. The original

proposal looked rather like a uniform, dormitory suburban estate. The good news is that the design provides a much safer route for pedestrians, cyclists and those of limited mobility from HGL to the A259 cycle way, together with a controlled crossing of the A259 and new pavement on the southern side to give access to the primary school.

Outstanding issues for the development are the drainage, the use and therefore design of the proposed community buildings, and recreation facilities. The latter is important, as we are advised that some of the play equipment on the Village Hall playing field is at the end of its usable life. On drainage, many of you will be aware of maintenance and proposed works along HGL to ensure the drainage ditch and culverts can function as designed.

**The Parish Council has logged its** concerns on the proposed Rampion 2 wind farm, and is waiting to see the details of any application and the impact that construction will have on the village and coast.

Meanwhile, work has continued, led by the landowner, to explore options to improve the resilience of the coastal defences and avoid future flood events, such as happened in 2020. Plans for a secondary bund unfortunately appear impractical, and we remain reliant on the Environment Agency maintenance of the shingle bund in the car park and along the line of Mill Lane. The landowner has meanwhile embarked on a significant rewilding initiative, and I know he is keen to engage the village in this.

**A high point for me last year was to be** part of the volunteer effort led by Wendy

Robinson to replant the wildflower meadow on Horsemere Green, and the restoration of the pond by the Council's contractor, 'Pete the Pond'. The Parish Council remains keen to see both well maintained and for another colourful flower display.

Another resident-proposed project to plant flowering trees on Church Green to celebrate Her Majesty's Jubilee has unfortunately hit a significant snag. Trees were purchased and the necessary license to plant them was obtained from WSCC, but this required

the avoidance of any underground services or infrastructure that may be present by some distance.

It turns out that there are services in the planned planting area, forcing

a complete rethink. The Parish Council has therefore made the trees available for planting around the village by the organisations that have public open spaces. This can create a village-wide celebration of the Jubilee and the Queen's Green Canopy.

**We have two vacancies for councillors** if you would like to contribute your time and thinking to the Council. Please contact the Clerk through our new website at [www.clymping.org.uk](http://www.clymping.org.uk) if you are interested.



*Crabapple trees are available for planting in public open spaces around the village.*

*Colin Humphris is Chairman of Clymping Parish Council. Tel: 01903 733848*

# PARISH COUNCIL



*Nadine Phibbs, Clerk of the Council, discusses the Parish Council precept for coming year.*

## Parish Council precept

Annual council tax notifications will be dropping through our letterboxes soon. Part of the charge that you will see on your bill is a local precept set by Clymping Parish Council and collected on our behalf by Arun District Council.

The Parish Council sets its precept for the coming financial year in January. The precept provides most of the council's income for the year and enables us to deliver Parish Council services, maintain and enhance the village environment and provide for the day-to-day running costs of the Parish Council.

At the Parish Council meeting on 18th January, we were able, for the third year in a row, to agree to maintain the precept at the current level of £16,760. In individual household terms, this means that those who pay council tax in Band D, for example, will be contributing £38.89 for 2022–2023.

Any changes to other charges that make up the total council tax bill will be publicised by Arun and West Sussex councils.

## Meetings

Scheduled Council meetings for the rest of this year are as follows: 22nd March, 17th May, 26th July, 20th September, 29th November. Meetings start at 7:30pm in St Mary's Church Hall, except for May, when the Annual Meeting of the Parish

will be held at 6:30pm prior to the meeting of Council. See [www.clymping.org.uk](http://www.clymping.org.uk).

## Parish Council Members

### Henry Burrell

Atherington Farm, Climping Street,  
BN17 5RN; 01903 718755

### Ann Findlay

5 Crophorne Drive, BN17 5GG  
01903 732574

### Christine Gillott

35 May Close, BN17 5TF  
07931 125854

### Colin Humphris (Chairman)

16 Crophorne Drive, BN17 5GG  
01903 733848

### David Miranda

20 The Hamlet, Waterford Gardens,  
BN17 5RY; 07768 981923

## Two vacancies

## Parish Clerk

### Nadine Phibbs

25 Fittleworth Garden, Rustington,  
BN16 3EW; 07776 194192  
E-mail: [clympingpc@gmail.com](mailto:clympingpc@gmail.com)

## Parish Council website

<http://www.clymping.org.uk/>

## Farming

# Returning the land to nature

*Local farmer James Baird discusses an exciting new project called Weald to Waves, which aims to connect nature across Sussex.*

Many of you will have noticed that there are some major changes taking place in the fields south of the A259. At Home Farm we are returning large swathes of land to nature as part of a project to



*James Baird at his farm*

rebuild local ecosystems. The most exciting bit is that we're not working in isolation. I have joined with other farmers and land-owners on an initiative called Weald to Waves, which will create wildlife corridors running across the county, from Climping up to the Knepp Castle Estate and east over to the Ashdown Forest.

### Nature in pockets

As our society has developed, nature has increasingly been compartmentalised into pockets of reserve. Railways and roads traverse our landscapes, severing previously established wildlife foraging and migration routes. Encounters between cars and large mammals can be fatal, and not just for the poor deer, foxes and badgers who are simply trying to sustain their lives in this spaghetti of alien pathways.

The problem is compounded when new housing developments block unseen wildlife routes and nature has to try to find a new go-around. At the planning stages maybe nobody saw, for example, that hares covered a particular course way, but for the hare this sudden mass of blockage means there is no choice: either find a way around or be added to the long list of local extinctions.

This conundrum of human development pitting itself against our ecosystems is being played out around the globe. We are all touched by it, and we all have a responsibility to find ways to mitigate the damage.

For a long time now I have been aware of the conflict between some of our farming practices and nature, being responsible in part for our diminishing ecosystems. In fact, it is no longer appropriate to describe the nature we have left here in Clymping as an ecosystem, when the reality is that the diminished nature we do have clings on by a thread in isolated pockets as we continue to record declines in animal populations and see local extinctions.

Our local birdwatching and recording community can attest to this. They have witnessed more than 50 years of landscape change and have recorded first-hand the dramatic declines. This dedicated bunch of enthusiasts are traditionally the arch-enemy of farmers, whose priority has been feeding the nation at all costs. I'm thankful to say those battle lines no longer exist. I would

like to pay tribute to their work and am pleased that we can work together on turning things around.

Around 15 years ago I began a hedge and tree planting programme, and it continues to this day. If you walk from St Mary's Church of England Primary

School down Bread Lane to the beach, you will see a recently planted hedgerow beside the track. I'll grant you it's not much to look at today, but I guarantee in a few short years it will become another important summer nesting and winter feeding station for a variety of birds, reptiles and mammals – another pocket of habitat, a small step in a long journey to restoring a fully functioning ecosystem, but it connects two other pockets (Ryebank Rife to the south and the copse near the primary school

to the north), so in time it will become an important foraging route for bats and birds.



*The beginnings of a hedgerow on Bread Lane. Rotting wood is vital for healthy ecosystems.*



*A sign on the Baird farm notifies visitors that this area 'is being managed for the benefit of wildlife'.*

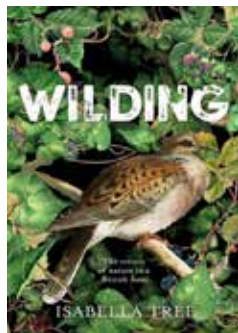
## Building corridors

The tinkering we do here at Home Farm is enjoyable work and I appreciate seeing nature returning, but it does not come



anywhere close to offsetting the sheer amount of loss that I'm sure we have all witnessed in our local area as new roads are widened and sites are cleared for housing.

I highly recommend reading a book called *Wilding*, by Isabella Tree. She tells the tale of the return of nature to the



Knepp Castle Estate near Horsham, and the journey she and her husband, Charlie Burrell, went through before they decided to allow natural processes to take over on

their entire 3,500-acre estate. The results have been spectacular and have been hailed by the likes of Sir David Attenborough as a shining example of the possibilities for recovery if we put our minds to it. Sadly, the reality is that Knepp is yet another isolated pocket, albeit a very large one – it remains disconnected to the surrounding habitat reserves.

I first contacted Isabella and Charlie after walking their estate during the muddy December lockdown of 2020. I was blown away by the transformation of the landscape. I'll grant there was very little to see in terms of small mammals, insects and birds, as they had mostly migrated elsewhere for the season or were hibernating, but the textured scenery oozed habitat.

As I walked the estate, we came across their free-wandering herd of longhorn cattle, a registered rare breed of cattle that

have themselves been saved from extinction by innovative approaches to farming methods such as the Knepp model. I was surprised at how well they looked in the depths of winter. The farmer in me had prejudged what their condition would be, surviving on unimproved grass and thorny scrub, yet here they were in tip-top shape and with calves at foot in midwinter. The Tamworth pigs, Exmoor ponies, and fallow deer on the estate were also content and thriving.

So the initial contact was made, and wheels started turning. Thanks to the Sussex Kelp Restoration Project, our coastal farm will soon about a 300 sq km restored kelp forest. Thinking of this, in conjunction with the Knepp Estate to the north, Isabelle, Charlie and I very quickly decided that we would cooperate on a project to join the Weald hinterland to the Sussex Bay. We realise we have tasked ourselves with a herculean ambition, but we are determined to see this happen, if not in our lifetimes, then to set the scene for generations to come.

We formed a cluster discussion group of local estates, including the Ashdown Forest, Wakehurst Place, Wiston, Barlavington, Arundel and the National Trust at Slindon, with further work happening down the Adur Valley. We reached out to the various agencies, Natural England, district councils and so forth. We gained traction, and the Weald to Waves initiative was born.

The ambition is to re-establish complete ecosystem recovery beyond our own farm gates through a series of connected corridors. This will involve tunnels under roads and railways, cattle grids on rural



lanes and green bridges over the A27 and A24 dual carriageways. Funding is challenging. In this aspect, Ivan de Klee from the Knepp Estate has been instrumental. He has so much energy and leaves no stone unturned in pursuit of funding. He has recently pitched for Weald to Waves to become a WWF UK Exemplar Landscape and to partner with WWF. If he succeeds, it will elevate the project status to new heights, opening additional avenues for funding.

Of course, I'm honoured to be involved, but the benefits for Clymping and the Arun District cannot be overstated. It will be a valuable asset for wellbeing and an economic catalyst for the area.

Some of you will have seen my article in the *West Sussex Gazette* in December which discussed re-wilding and the Weald to Waves initiative. This was the inaugural article in a regular fortnightly feature called 'Second Nature', supported by the Knepp Wildland Foundation. In this series of articles we will track our journey, share inspiring stories of recovery and let people know how they can get involved as volunteers. You can also read about our project on our website, [www.wealdtowaves.co.uk](http://www.wealdtowaves.co.uk). Collectively, we can all make a massive difference.

### Getting the community involved

I have encouraged St Mary's primary school in Clymping to be ecologically focussed. We have provided them with

a forest school so the children can learn outdoors and begin to appreciate the importance of wildlife from a very young age, and they have grasped the opportunity. The new head teacher, Aaron Morrissey, is an advocate for giving children opportunities to play in nature.

I would like to see all Clymping businesses focussing on what they can do to help nature thrive locally. Perhaps they could refrain from mowing grass in certain areas, put up bird boxes or leave deadwood log piles (rotting wood is a vital ingredient for healthy ecosystems). Bailiffscourt Hotel is a shining example of a business using its land to help nature. They now leave large areas unmanaged, and their contribution is undoubtedly doing good.

There are many ways individual residents can help too. You can put up a bird box in your garden, or leave small patches unmown. You could place wood stacks in the back corner of your garden; you don't have to burn or remove anything, but simply let it rot down on site and nature will thrive. If you are out and about, take a bag and pick up a bit of litter. I am always picking up plastic. If we all did it, it would make such a difference. Volunteering for nature is great for the soul, is free exercise and forges community.

If you would like to volunteer to help with nature recovery or with keeping our village tidy, and can spare a few hours



on a Saturday, please e-mail me at jamesdbaird5@gmail.com. All help will be very well received.

## Spreading the word

Clymping Parish Council have invited me to talk to them about the Weald to Waves initiative at their meeting on **Tuesday, 17th May**. I will keep it brief and will take questions, so if you'd like to know more or want to get involved, please come along to the Church Hall at 6:30 pm.

If you would like to see our farm for yourself, please come along to our **Open Day on Sunday, 12th June**, commencing at 10:30 am, south of St Mary's primary school on Bread Lane. The event

is part of the nationwide LEAF Open Farm Sunday. We shall be showcasing what we do here at Home Farm, explaining how we farm and how our methods are adapting to address the



climate and biodiversity crises. There will be a farm walk, so please dress appropriately. There will also be activities for

all ages, with refreshments along the way. The event is free to attend and all are welcome.



## Nursery Rhyme Quiz

by Ann Findlay



- 1 Who went up the hill and what injury did one of them suffer?
- 2 Who took her pet to school?
- 3 Who needs to blow his horn?
- 4 Who was frightened by a big spider?
- 5 Whose dog didn't get a bone?
- 6 Who lost their tails to the farmer's wife?
- 7 What time was it when the mouse ran up the clock?
- 8 Who runs through the town in his nightgown?
- 9 Who sat in the corner?
- 10 Who called for his pipe and his bowl?
- 11 Who had a lot of children?
- 12 Who sat on a wall and had an accident?
- 13 Who made the girls cry by kissing them?
- 14 "Whither shall I wander?" To whom am I asking this question?
- 15 Who lost her sheep?

*Answers on page 33*

# The Birds of Clymping Gap



*Marsh harrier (left) and a pair of yellowhammers*

## *Text and photos by Bola Akinola*

*Editor's note: Bola Akinola is a long-time birder in the Clymping Gap. This is the second instalment in this series, in which he offers a glimpse into the birdlife of the area throughout the year.*

### **November**

Autumn migration can in some years continue into November, although it depends on the weather. This month started with cold, bright conditions, with winds predominately from the north, bringing the first frosts of the winter. Nevertheless, summer migrants contin-

ued to be seen, including blackcaps and whitethroats, which are warblers that are predominately summer visiting birds and breed in this area.

A marsh harrier (bird of prey) flew south over Atherington on the 2nd. The number of yellowhammers recorded peaked at six seen together near the campsite at the month's end.

The first real cold spell brought in the wildfowl, with seabirds featuring strongly. Species such as grebes and mergansers were reported in good numbers. A goosander (species of duck) flew east on the 4th, and



*Whitethroat*



*Barnacle geese*



*Ringed plovers. Photo by A.H.*

an Arctic skua flew west on the 5th, as did a good count of 378 brent geese.

Finches continued to be recorded, with bramblings, redpolls, and siskins on the 8th. Two black redstarts were seen west of Poole Place near Elmer by fellow birdwatcher O.M.

A short-eared owl being mobbed by gulls moving west at West Beach was my

first of the autumn. This species is usually seen sporadically throughout this period.

Mild conditions prevailed mid month. A little gull flew west on the 12th, and two late swallows flew west at Atherington on the 13th. A black-throated diver and a shag (smaller version of a cormorant) was spotted offshore from the car park.

Two long-tailed ducks flew east off Clymping beach on the 19th – a species seen irregularly in the area. Great-northern and red-throated divers were seen moving offshore.

A further cold front on the 22nd saw a whooper swan flying west. A Slavonian grebe and three goldeneyes were also seen that morning. The goldeneye is a duck not seen in the area for over a decade. Three velvet scoters (black sea ducks with a distinctive white wing bar on the male) were spotted on the sea from the Clymping beach car park.

## December

This month started with cold, bright days and winds from the north. December is usually a quiet month generally, but there are sometimes sporadic cold weather movements of birds.

Yellowhammer numbers increased to ten around the set-aside on the 4th, and there were 32 grey plovers on West Beach. It was bitterly cold on the 6th, with a large number of seabirds moving, including red- and black-throated divers, Slavonian grebes and three eiders moving west close inshore (seen by O.M.).

The next few days saw large numbers and a bigger variety of sea birds, with divers again present in good numbers. Slavonian grebes, kittiwakes and eider moved through offshore, with the high winter tides and

Storm Arwen causing further damage to the coastline.

A count of four grey partridges on the 12th was the highest so far this winter. Auks continued to be recorded offshore, and the sea kept on giving on the 14th, when a record count of 330 barnacle geese moved west. Zero were recorded last year.

What made these birds move is a mystery, as the weather was very mild, but it was still a remarkable spectacle. The next day I was hoping for more of the same but saw no barnacles; however, three velvet scoters flew in from the west and landed on the sea opposite the car park. Plenty of divers moved west, many too far out to comfortably confirm the identification of, but at least three were great-northern divers.

A great-white egret (seen by O.M.) flew east along the coast on the 17th – the only one recorded for this year. On the 21st I saw 27 red-throated divers moving west and 60 great-crested grebes on the sea. On the 22nd two lapwings were seen, and finches continued to be present in good numbers, including a flock of around 100 linnets feeding on the sunflower plants in the fields north of Ferry Road.

## January

The new year started with periods of rain and then cold, sunny days from the 9th. With winter in full swing, most birders' attention was still being drawn towards the sea, especially watching for cold weather movements. Such movements can result in something rare, or large numbers of common birds present, called eruptions.

A change duly arrived on the 13th, with at least four jack snipes in the area and three grey partridges in the set-aside.



*Linnets*



*Skylark*



*Stonechat*

Offshore, thirteen red-throated divers flew west, as did an early record of sandwich terns. In and around the bushes, good numbers of yellowhammers, skylarks and meadow pipits were recorded, with four stonechats and a male bullfinch at the bottom of Longwood.

Seabirds featured strongly throughout the month. Cold days produced good numbers of auks moving, including



around 1,500 recorded on the 22nd. One thousand brent geese eventually flew west. Two great-northern divers were seen off Poole Place, and six eiders off West Beach (seen by birdwatcher R.G.). On the 24th, again at Poole Place, two Slavonian grebes appeared offshore.

Since the flooding of the fields in February 2020, and the farmer's decision to re-wild of certain areas of land, there has been a notable increase in wintering species such as buntings, pipits, finches and skylarks.

At the month's end there were still

large numbers of auks moving east, and red-throated divers, great-crested grebes and red-breasted mergansers were present in good numbers.

I am sad to report that Eric Standing, a popular birdwatcher in this area and a personal friend of mine, passed away just before Christmas. He will surely be missed.

*Bola Akinola's blog, The Birds of Clymping Gap & Lower Arun Valley, can be found at <http://climpingbirds.blogspot.com>.*

## Also spotted...



*Redshank at the River Arun, 24th November 2021*



*Sanderling in the snow, Clymping beach, 29th November 2021*



*Shelduck in the farm set-aside, 7th January*



*Flock of Mediterranean gulls in the fields south of St Mary's School, Clymping, 7th January*



*Buzzard over the fields south of St Mary's School, Clymping, 30th January*



*Mediterranean gull over Bread Lane, 31st January. Identification ring reveals sightings in Belgium, Portugal, France and England since 2017.*



# BEACH REPORT

*The Environment Agency provides an update on the beach.*

Storm Barra led to flood alerts being issued between 7th and 9th December 2021. Although the storm caused some impact to the sea frontage, apart from some minor overtopping (see photos) the local area was unaffected.

Following the storm, it was necessary to carry out repairs to the bund (temporary embankment) where a small amount of shingle had been lost.

High tides in the first week of January led to further flood alerts being issued for the Clymping frontage. Our teams monitored the site and reported no causes for concern.

The temporary bund performed well and has helped to protect the area from

the effects of Storm Barra and higher than normal tides.

## Unauthorised works

The Environment Agency is aware that third parties have carried out unofficial shingle movements on the beach. We are extremely grateful to the residents and community of Clymping for bringing this to our attention.

This is currently being investigated and, subject to our findings, could lead to enforcement proceedings.

If anyone witnesses or has concerns about unauthorised works taking place on the beach, please report this to our free



*All photos: overtopping with localised flooding caused by Storm Barra*

National Incident Hotline number: 0800 80 70 60.

## Forward Look

With limited funding available we will continue to look at sustainable beach management options for Clymping beach.

For the coming financial year 2022/23, we intend to undertake one shingle recycle in October, and, subject to our upcoming groyne inspections, carry out safety works where there is significant risk.

## Flood Risk

We recommend that anyone whose property might be flooded to register with our

free flood warning service. To receive flood warnings, please call the Environment Agency Floodline on 0345 988 1188.

Information on what to do in a flood is available at <https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/what-to-do-in-a-flood>.

For the most up-to-date information on flooding, please go to our website <http://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/warnings>.

## Contact

If you have any comments, questions or queries about Clymping beach, please e-mail us at [SSDEnquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:SSDEnquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk).

# DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S NEWS



## *Amanda Worne provides an update on local issues affecting Clymping.*

In my role on the Arun District Council planning advisory group, I am continuing to work with Foreman Homes on their proposed 300-home development south of Horsemere Green Lane to get the best mix of houses, design and layout as we possibly can. I'm pleased to report that the developers are listening.

I am in the process of organising a campaign up to 10 Downing Street to deliver a letter to Michael Gove in person, if possible, to let him know that we have had enough of the overdevelopment in our little rural villages. I will let you know how I get on.

All remains quiet on the threat of the ghastly incinerator in Ford, which is a really positive thing. I hope it remains quiet for good. I continue to battle against Southern Water and issues with them dumping raw sewage into our sea.

As always, if there are any local matters that you would like to discuss with me, please let me know and I will do my best to help.

*Amanda Worne is an Arun District Councillor for Yapton, Ford and Clymping. 01243 554893 or 06955 723232; [cllr.amanda.worne@arun.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.amanda.worne@arun.gov.uk)*

# SCHOOL NEWS

*Mr Morrissey relates some exciting learning opportunities that have been happening at St Mary's this term.*

The start of 2022 has been full of exciting learning here at St Mary's. We continue to learn to live with and manage the demands of Covid on a daily basis, but the teachers have been working hard to make the curriculum as exciting as they can for the children.

Our school clubs have been bursting at the seams, as children enjoy choir, gardening club, netball and football, scooter club, computing and art. Children from across the school have been given opportunities to compete in the Littlehampton Academy Sports Partnership (LASP) events in a wide range of sports and activities. Our choir will be taking part in a countywide concert event at

Chichester Cathedral in late spring.

This spring term we have had a range of exciting visitors and visits taking place as part of each class's curriculum provision. Early in January, the History Man visited Farrant Class (Reception) to show them old toys and to talk about how different they were to the toys we have now. This was part of the Reception class's wider topic learning all about toys.

Jenkins Class (Years 3 and 4) have been learning all about the three R's: reduce, reuse and recycle. They took a visit to the materials recycling facility (MRF) in Ford. Pupils Joe Tidy and Bobby Shears have written about their day:

We have been learning about recycling in our class, and on 24th January we went to the MRF in Ford.

The first thing we did was listen to the instructor telling us all about the recycling sorting centre.

She told us that they get three real fires every week because people throw away items with batteries in them. We did a sorting game where we had to sort the rubbish into the right bin. We were surprised at how many things can be recycled. Then we were split into two groups. Each group took turns going into the sorting area for the rubbish,



*The History Man demonstrates an old toy to the Reception class.*

where there are 110 conveyor belts, while the other group made a recycling-themed tote bag.

Fun fact: a few years ago they used to dig a big hole and fill it up with rubbish and waste, then they would cover it up with soil and grass; it's called landfill. West Sussex no longer uses its landfill sites because we don't have any more space, which is why we started to build MRFs.

All the children got a Biffa pencil and sharpener, and a sheet telling us about recycling.

We really enjoyed our visit and learning about recycling, but we are sad to see our environment in such a mess.

*– Joe Tidy and Bobby Shears*

Normanby Class (Years 5 and 6) had a visit from a Second World War expert from the Novium Museum in Chichester,



*Senior First Officer Andrew Bacon of SAS Connect speaks to Oliver Class about his experiences as an airline pilot.*

and spent a morning exploring what the lives of children were like in Britain during the Blitz. What they learned on the day has contributed to some wonderfully insightful projects all about the home front.

Oliver Class (Years 1 and 2) have been learning all about early flight and things that go 'up'. They were very lucky to have a visit from a real-life airline pilot, who showed them awesome videos about what it is like inside the planes he flies. They had the chance to ask him lots of really interesting questions, such as:

'What makes a plane go up?'

'Can you tell us all the things you have to do to be able to fly a plane?'

'What is the best plane you have ever flown?'

**As you can see, the children have had** many exciting opportunities, and will continue to do so. We are grateful to the visitors who shared their knowledge and expertise with the children.

As a school we are always keen to hear from members of our local community who have a particular area of expertise or interest that would complement the curriculum. Please get in touch on [office@st-marys-clymping.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-marys-clymping.w-sussex.sch.uk) if you'd like to help.

*Aaron Morrissey is Head Teacher at St Mary's Church of England Primary School in Clymping.*

## Speed Watch Group

# Slowing things down

*Ewout Benschop reports on recent efforts to deter speeders in Clymping.*

Last September the Clymping Community Speed Watch group started monitoring drivers on Horsemere Green Lane, as the Speed Indicator Device (SID)



*Horsemere Green Lane*

had showed that 35–40 per cent of all traffic was doing 30 mph or over, with record speeds of over 65 mph. The average number of cars using Horsemere Green Lane (HGL) is between 10,000 and 12,000 per week. For a country lane such as HGL, this is beyond crazy.

With the A259 often congested, HGL becomes a rat run for people who travel from Yapton to the Ford industrial area or Littlehampton. In the afternoon, most of the traffic comes from Church Lane.

Our aim is to make drivers aware that HGL is still a ‘country lane’ and that driving too fast is very dangerous for this road,

as the road is narrow and some parts of it are without pavements. There have been reports of dog walkers and schoolchildren having narrow escapes due to the carelessness of drivers.

Clymping Parish Council is working hard to find a solution for HGL, but until that moment we have to continue our monitoring, and we have noticed that Clymping Community Speed Watch is slowly starting to make an impact. We monitor the road at different times so drivers never know when to expect us, and we hope that this makes them more aware of driving within the speed limit.

I am pleased to report that the Clymping Street speed watch team have now finished their training and are now fully operational to monitor their road. Clymping Street is a 20 mph road, but unfortunately this limit is regularly disregarded. Most speeding vehicles are the staff and guests from the Bailiffscourt and people heading for the beach.

### What are the results so far?

We have completed 13 sessions along HGL and Clymping Street since September 2021. During these sessions we have monitored 2,555 cars, and 116 drivers have been driving too fast. The fastest driver on HGL did 46 mph, and on Clymping Street the fastest was 42 mph.

A number of appreciative drivers stick their thumbs up when they see us, but unfortunately we have also encountered abuse. We even had one driver who stopped, got out and intimidated the group. But this does not stop us continuing with our speed watch group, knowing that the police are backing us up.

### **What happens if a CSW group has found you speeding?**

Drivers found to be speeding are issued with a warning letter requesting that they slow down and observe the speed limit. If the same vehicle is caught again by any Community Speed Watch team, a follow-up final letter is issued. In our records we have noticed that three vehicles have

already been going too fast twice on HGL.

If it is identified that the vehicle has been caught speeding by any Community Speed Watch team for the third time within 12 months, the background of the vehicle will be checked and information will be passed to the appropriate local policing team, who will arrange for the owner of the car to be visited and warned.

### **Come join us!**

If you would like to help us make a change and keep our village safe, please join one of our teams. For inquiries, send an email to [ewout.benschop@gmail.com](mailto:ewout.benschop@gmail.com).

*Ewout Benschop is the coordinator of Climping Community Speed Watch.*

## **Touring**

# **E-biking across Sussex**

### ***Sophie Tanner recounts her experience on a luxury e-bike tour.***

Last spring I was part of a team that carried out a recce for the Cycle Electric Sussex tour organised by Historic Sussex Hotels and Cycling for Softies. The two-day tour covers a total of 105 km, from Ockenden Manor in Cuckfield to Bailiffscourt in Clymping, and then on to The Spread Eagle in Midhurst.

The e-biking tour, which is being offered again this year, showcases the Sussex countryside in all its beauty, with routes that take you past vineyards to the seaside, through rolling chalky hills to verdant polo fields.

Cycle Electric Sussex is the perfect combination of adventure, luxury and fresh air. This is a self-guided tour, but with the reassurance of back-up just a call away. And it's all mixed with the pure pleasure of a well-earned glass of Sussex sparkling wine and delicious



dinner at the end of each day.

For those of you yet to sample the delights of an e-bike, I can't recommend it highly enough – it really is the most glorious way to get out and about. This particular tour is for anyone who is confident on a bike and enjoys the outdoors, is relatively healthy and is happy to explore under their own steam. Lycra is absolutely not a prerequisite (but padded shorts are recommended).

I confess, it was with some trepidation that I first mounted my e-bike – but after a very simple introduction, I found myself flicking between 'eco' and 'turbo' mode with ease – choosing either gentle assistance or something a little more powerful for the Sussex hills (but beware, the latter will drain the battery).

It's 64 km from Ockenden Manor to Bailiffscourt (approx. 3.5 hours ride time) and 41 km from Bailiffscourt to The Spread Eagle (approx. 2.5 hours ride time). The route gives you a wonderful taste of Sussex – the first day is a bit longer but nearly all flat, past Bolney Vineyard, using a long stretch of the Downs Link

cycle route along the banks of the River Adur.

On the way to the coast you can stop at Bramber Castle, and then at Shoreham the route hugs the coastline for the remainder of the ride. Stopping for an ice cream is optional but recommended!

Day two is a route through picturesque Arundel, before crossing through the chalky paths of the South Downs (e-bike assistance much appreciated at this point!). On the other side of these marvellous hills the ride winds through pretty countryside and quaint hamlets. Personally, day two was my favourite stretch – it's quieter and a bit hillier, but that's exactly what the 'turbo' mode is for!

To note: the legal minimum age for use of an e-bike in the UK is 14, so this tour

is really aimed at older teens and adults. And the max speed that an e-bike can take you to is 25 km/h – after that it's down to your own pedal-power!

*Sophie Tanner is Director of Sales and Marketing at Historic Sussex Hotels.*



*Part of the team setting off from the Bailiffscourt*



*On the Downs Link*

## Art trail

# Opening our doors

*Susie Olford invites you to visit local artists' venues on this year's Art Trail.*

The Chichester Open Studios Art Trail is returning this spring, and local artists with exhibition spaces near Clymping hope you will stop by to see us.

I'll be exhibiting a collection of work at my usual venue in Flansham, a charming, spacious barn with room to stand



Early Light, Clymping  
by Susie Olford



Spotted by Fiona Champion

and gaze, fresh air and free parking (PO22 8NJ). There will be a large collection of my contemporary oil and acrylic paintings, with emphasis on colour, warmth and expressive palette knife work – all taking their inspiration from the land and sea.

Close by,

in Bilsham, you'll find the wildlife painter and sculptor Fiona Champion, as well as Rupert Head, a painter and encasutic artist who focusses on land and seascapes. In Elmer you'll find our wonderful

raku ceramicist, Linda Smith. For the first time, she'll exhibit alongside her son, Jasper, a sculptor who finished his Arts degree in 2020. He is excited to be in his first Trail.

The full Art Trail comprises five different trails in and around Chichester, and we are at the eastern end of the trail called 'Regis'. As a visitor, 'trailing' is so much fun, and it's



Hard Frost by Rupert Head



Ceramics by Linda Smith



Ceramic pot by  
Jasper Smith

inspiring to see how the artists work and their materials.

The Art Trail will take place 30th April–2nd May (bank holiday weekend) and 7th–8th May. Venues will be open 10:30am–5:00pm. Watch out for the green arrow signs. For more information

about artists on the Regis trail and other trails, visit [chichesterarttrail.org](http://chichesterarttrail.org) or e-mail me at [smoart@btinternet.com](mailto:smoart@btinternet.com).

*Susie Olford is a member of Arundel Art Society, who meet in Clymping Church Hall.*

## Another Day of Rain

by Lin Lundie

Walking into the blue night, she listened to the silence. Drifting round the garden in the silk kimono so old and soft it was falling to shreds, she smelled the honeysuckle in the night air. The sea gossiped on the beach, and salt air dampened her skin. She had been glad of a day without rain, and had tidied and staked up falling plants amid clouds of butterflies clotting the buddleia and resting on the old flint walls. Rain had fallen from the heavens all summer, and the garden was lush and overgrown. Birds grumbled in the eaves as first light came. She thought, as she often did, of her sisters in Africa, and wished she could pour the rainwater from her overflowing pails and buckets into bowls so the mothers with their thirsty children, eyes and mouths crusted with flies, could wash their babies with this clean blessing of rain, wash away the dust and see them drink until the water ran out of their mouths. Never again would she complain of too much rain

Stroking the chest high lavender bushes, releasing their oily scent, she thought of lighting a fire indoors to keep away the damp, and a light spattering of drops spread on the silk of her dressing gown. She had spoken the day before to the woman thinking of buying the house next door, her only neighbour, and had said “do come, it’s heavenly here”, and knowing that this would be another day of rain she gathered twigs for the fire in the drizzle.

## Housing

# Foreman Homes update

*Katherine Richards of Foreman Homes provides a progress report on plans for their new development.*

We at Foreman Homes continue to move forward with the planning application for the development of the field to the west of Church Lane for 300 dwellings.

After receiving feedback from both the Parish Council and the planning officers, the site layout has had a few tweaks and changes to address comments raised. The team are currently working hard to prepare a new suite of plans, which I hope you can look to support.

The following changes have been made, as shown on the work-in-progress plan opposite (the Parish Council have also posted the plan at [www.clymping.org.uk](http://www.clymping.org.uk)):

- The entrance gateway has been reconfigured to provide a sense of arrival.
- Additional planting has been incorporated along the spine road.
- The Village Green has been enlarged.
- The children's playground (called a 'LEAP' on the plan) has been repositioned and a fitness trail incorporated in the large open space.
- Additional planting will be incorporated

to break up some parking areas.

- The landscape buffer along Church Lane and to the northeast of the site has been increased.
- The buffer along the northern boundary is more natural, and planting details will be in the landscaping scheme. We will ensure minimal impact on the neighbours backing onto this area.
- The community building has now been split into two different buildings and brought into the site to front onto the central open space.

Discussions are ongoing with the Parish Council with regards to the functions of the community buildings, and we would welcome any thoughts that you have to ensure we can try and provide something suitable that can be used by both existing and future residents of Clymping.

Foreman Homes are keen to keep residents and Councillors involved in the planning process. Representatives of the team spoke at the Yapton, Ford and Clymping Advisory Group meeting in January and will attend future meetings to provide updates. We will look to continue with this going forward as we believe that it is crucial that the residents be aware of what is happening in their community.





# PLANNING APPLICATIONS

*The following planning applications for Clymping are undecided by Arun District Council as of 16th February 2022.*

<b>Arun DC ref.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposal</b>
CM/5/22/HH	28 May Close Climping BN17 5TF	Erection of first floor side extension.
CM/4/22/DOC	Langford, Horsemere Green Lane Climping BN17 5QZ	Approval of details reserved by condition imposed under ref CM/64/19/PL
CM/3/22/A	Maidenhead Aquatics Crookthorn Lane Climping BN17 5SN	Installation of 1 x internally illuminated fascia sign.
CM/76/21/HH	1-2 Kents Dairy Cottages, Brookpit Lane BN17 5QU	Erection of single storey detached timber-framed garage. (This application may affect the setting of a listed building).
CM/1/22/L	1-2 Kents Dairy Cottages, Brookpit Lane Climping BN17 5QU	Listed building consent to reconfigure study, kitchen & cloakroom, remove built in cupboards & restoration of a doorway between rear (East) kitchen & front (West) study to allow kitchen & utility set up; change location of cloakroom door; refitting of kitchen as utility room, reinstatement of traditional style ledge & brace doors) to replace hollow core flush hardboard doors on first floor bedrooms, bathrooms & airing cupboard; replacement of obsolete electric night storage dry air duct/vent fan heating system with wet central heating system & refit upstairs bathrooms.
CM/72/21/DOC	Mistletoe Farm Horsemere Green Lane Climping BN17 5QZ	Approval of details reserved by condition imposed under CM/18/21/PL.



<b>Arun DC ref.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposal</b>
CM/70/21/PL	Land at Wren Cottage Horsemere Green Lane Climping BN17 5QZ	Subdivision of the plot and construction of 3 detached bungalows with associated parking, access and landscaping (resubmission of CM/17/21/PL). This application is in CIL Zone 3 and is CIL Liable as new dwellings and is a Departure from the Development Plan.
CM/69/21/PL	Land at Northwood Farm, Yapton Road BN18 0HR	Flexible Generator Plant and associated infrastructure. This application is in CIL Zone 3 (zero rated) as other development and is a Departure from the Development Plan.
CM/68/21/PL	The Bald Kitchen, site of former Bairds Farm Shop Crookthorn Lane BN17 5SN	Variation of condition following grant of CM/16/21/PL relating to Condition No 5 - opening hours. This application may affect the setting of a Listed Building.
CM/57/21/PL	Climping Campsite Brookpit Lane BN17 5QU	Change of use from campsite to 2 No. holiday lets with associated building and landscaping alterations.
CM/48/21/RES	Land to the west of Church Lane south of Horsemere Green Lane Climping	Approval of reserved matters following the grant of CM/1/17/OUT for the erection of 300 No dwellings & a building within use class E, together with public open space, LAPs, LEAP & ancillary works, including car parking & drainage arrangements, with access off Church Lane & Horsemere Green Lane. This application may affect the setting of listed buildings & is in CIL Zone 4 (HSP2) & is not CIL Liable.

To find out about current planning applications made to Arun District Council, visit **[www.arun.gov.uk/planning-application-search](http://www.arun.gov.uk/planning-application-search)** (select the parish from the drop-down box, tick the 'undecided' box and click on search).

### Answers to Nursery Rhyme Quiz

1. Jack and Jill; Jack broke his head 2. Mary 3. Little Boy Blue 4. Little Miss Muffet  
5. Old Mother Hubbard 6. Three blind mice 7. One 8. Wee Willie Winkie 9. Little Jack  
Horner 10. Old King Cole 11. The old woman who lived in a shoe 12. Humpty  
Dumpty 12. Georgie Porgie 14. Goosey Goosey Gander 15. Little Bo-Peep

## Obituary

# Jimmy Bake

*Sarah Tyrrell remembers a beloved Clymping resident and co-founder of this publication.*

The sad news of Jimmy Bake's death was announced on 12th December 2021. He had been ill for some months, so it was not unexpected but, nevertheless, it came as a great shock to his family and many friends, and he will be missed.

Jimmy and his wife, Jill, were amongst the first residents of The Beaches in Waterford Gardens in 2000. They quickly made good friends there and with people who lived in the wider village. They were wonderful hosts, and Jimmy was often heard to remark that The Beaches had its own bottle bank! The millennium celebrations in the village that year benefited from Jimmy's skills with a hog roast on the beach.

Jimmy had worked for much of his life with Xerox and, at some time in his career, had been a journalist. A Clymping

newsletter was just an idea in 2000, but some residents were determined to get it off the ground. Jimmy was quickly (and willingly) recruited for his skills by the others in the group. The first edition of the *Clymping Village News* was published in September 2000: it was truly a community effort. Articles were gleaned from all over the village and edited and put together by the team. Hours were spent at the school photocopier, after which more hours collating and stapling the copies for the postman or volunteers to deliver.

Although those first years' editions were pretty basic and nothing like the current professional-looking magazine, they did give necessary information

to the scattered community. The village has much to be grateful for to Jimmy for his enthusiasm and skills in getting this project off the ground.

*Sarah Tyrrell served on the committee that originally produced the Clymping Village News.*



*Jimmy Bake*



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## Dee West Yoga

My beginner and intermediate yoga class meets at Clymping Village Hall on Saturdays, 9:00–10:00am. Each session is £8 (drop-in).

There are many good reasons to practise yoga: it is simple to learn, it's safe, it gives you energy, it improves your flexibility, and it improves focus and balance.

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For more information, please contact me on 07816 460992.



# Fiona Howard

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