

CLYMPING VILLAGE NEWS

AUTUMN 2025



Contents

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Emergency Planning Update 04

A Parish View 05

**What's Happening: A New Chapter for the Land Around
Climping – *With Deep Roots*** 06

**A Message from St Mary's: Summer Highlights and
Excitement for the Season Ahead** 09

**A Day in the Life of Keith Halsey: Aircraft Maintenance
Engineer** 10

Puzzle Page 12

Wild About Climping: High Flyers - *A Promising Start!* 14

Beach Survey Results 16

Climping Beach Community: Environment Agency Update 17

**A Message from: Justin Murray Head of Climping CoE
Primary School** 18

Diary Dates 19

Emergency Planning Update

Over the last year the Parish Council, along with a number of local volunteers, have been working on an emergency plan for the village. This is now completed and can be found on the Parish Council website: www.clymping.org.uk.

We are also finalising a leaflet to share with all the village which will give further information and tips on how to keep safe in an emergency. The leaflet will be sent out later in the year.

Thanks to all of those who have given up their time to work on the plan.

Jane Mules

Clymping Parish Council

A Parish View

There was a serious accident on Saturday 26th July when a car travelling north on Church Lane collided with another turning left out of Horsemere Green Lane (HGL). Emergency services were in attendance, but fortunately, to our knowledge, no one was seriously injured.

The Parish Council has campaigned for many years for improvements to road safety for all users along HGL and at the blind junction with Church Lane. Our proposals to date have not been supported by West Sussex Highways on the grounds of other higher priority safety concerns across the county and/or cost. Currently, we are seeking approval for improvements the parish could fund itself.

How can you help?

Please let any of the parish councillors know of any incidents that affect you or that you witness across the whole village. Your councillors' and our clerk's details are available on the parish website: www.clymping.org.uk.

All incidents reported to me are noted and reported to West Sussex Highways. All my working life was in an industry where incidents and near misses were meticulously recorded to justify acting before a serious incident occurred.

We need to build a case for change. We record traffic numbers and speeds. A village-wide incident log would be a useful addition.

Councillors would also like to hear your views about the beach. A survey report is included in this edition. The response rate was low, and we

understand there are often just too many surveys impinging on our busy lives. Do have a look at the results, however, and let councillors know the extent to which you agree or disagree with the results as they stand, to help us build a wider view.

I'm afraid another consultation is available on the Parish website relating to the reorganisation of local government in West Sussex. It's about the creation of a single, unitary council, merging the district councils (in our case Arun) with the current County Council. Would bigger be better and more efficient, or will the decision-makers be further remote from the small parish communities such as ours? How this all might change the responsibilities of parish councils is very unclear for now.

Finally, at a local level, it was good to be reminded that small efforts by individual(s) can make a huge difference in our village. In this case, it was cleaning some filthy road signs. Others have included the bulb planting, work on the meadow, Wild about Clymping, all the activities at the Village Hall, Community Speed Watch, the litter pick, and the beach bund. You can make Clymping a better place to live. Power to the People!

C.J. Humphris

Clymping Parish Council



An Evening with a Local Novelist

6.30pm, Thursday 11th September, 2025

Clymping Village Hall

£15 per ticket - to include signed book and light supper

Join us for a fun and fascinating evening of true stories and tall tales from our resident author. Sarah Waights (also writing as Rosie Howard and Poppy Alexander) promises to reveal shocking details of real-life events that have inspired her writing; to share amusing anecdotes about her path to publication; and to give insights into her writing life, including how local places feature recognisably in her books.

She has more than ten novels to her name(s), has had books optioned for film/TV and published in various languages. She is currently published by Harper Collins in the USA and worldwide.

All guests will come away with a copy of *'The Homecoming'*, signed and dedicated on the night.

(A limited selection of her other books will also be available to buy.)

Pre-booking is essential. To purchase your ticket, please contact Anne Miller on anne.miller@clympingpc.org.uk

Don't leave it to the last minute and be disappointed! (BYOB wine/alcohol and glasses)

What's Happening: A New Chapter for the Land Around Climping – *With Deep Roots*

If you've walked around the beach or fields recently, you may have noticed something new: signs, wildlife, and a name that might catch your eye – **Stroodelande**.

In the lounge of Bailiffscourt Hotel hangs a copy of a Tithe Map dated 1606. It is very interesting for a number of reasons. Not many people will realise that field names from that time have rolled forward over the centuries, and to this day we still use these ancient appellations. One name that stands out on the map is Stroodelande; it offers us a glimpse into how this landscape once looked. We elected to revive this name to honour the land's long history and give the community a meaningful, rooted identity to connect with.

“Strood” has an etymological meaning related to marshy land. The name originates from the Old English word *strōd*, meaning “marshy land overgrown with brushwood,” and as the sea continues to ingress into large swathes of farmland, we are already seeing the early signs

of this long-lost marsh and scrubland being restored by Mother Nature herself.

We've officially launched Stroodelande Climping, a community-facing project that shares the story of the land, its evolution, its history, our farm today, and the natural environment that surrounds the village. It's a new name to many of us, but it's actually a very old one too.

Last month, we launched the project publicly with a summer solstice beach cinema night, where we screened *Wilding* by Isabella Tree (a beautiful story about the Knepp Estate's rewilding efforts) and a short film about our own wildlife journey here in Climping. The event was a great success with around 200 people in attendance. It was a wonderful setting to celebrate the space



that we've allocated to the nature we are working to bring back.

Our goal is to share the journey of the farm and the nature recovery work more openly through signs on walking routes, updates on our new website www.stroodelande.com, and, most importantly, through connectivity with our local community.

Whether you're curious about what's growing in the fields, want to know more about the birds and wildlife returning to the area, or simply want to enjoy the green spaces on your doorstep, we hope Stroodelande becomes something you feel part of.

We hope our community embraces this opportunity. By working together, we can achieve greater success. We are heartened by the initiatives instigated in recent years - the care for Horsemere Green Lane ponds and wildflowers, the focus on Swifts and Swallows, and the Hedgehog campaign. We get a lot of enquiries looking for advice on managing gardens in an environmentally friendly way. All of these efforts cumulatively help to support nature recovery through resilience; it really is great teamwork.

People have asked if we will continue to farm the land, and the answer is of course yes - but things will change. Our management is adapting to nature-friendly techniques, and if land is set aside for nature, we will still have to manage that land - sometimes through mowing, for example, if we want to establish grasslands for overwintering Brent Geese, or we might use livestock to graze the pastures.

This is not a rewilding initiative where the land is simply let go. We will be seeking to establish a broad tapestry of varying habitats to suit biodiversity in many forms.

The Stroodelande biodiversity project is not a stand-alone initiative; it has recently been incorporated into the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and is part of the Weald to Waves corridor initiative: www.wealdtowaves.co.uk.

Going forward, we will be reviewing public access to make improvements to the path networks, with plans to introduce permissive paths in certain areas to give better public access - but in a carefully managed way to avoid harming things like ground-nesting birds.

We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their assistance in keeping our village beautiful. Those of you who help in the unending task of litter clearance are true heroes of the piece, and we want to say thank you for all the positive feedback that we have received - your support is extremely valued.

Warm regards,
The Stroodelande Climping Team
Restoring. Farming. Community.



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since 1834

wolf1834.com

A Message from St Mary's: Summer Highlights and Excitement for the Season Ahead

Things quieten down at church over the summer, but perhaps we deserve a bit of a rest after the superb Open Gardens Festival in June. With no involvement in the planning and running of the day, I feel I can say that it really did seem to be a great event. Colin and Jenn led a large team of volunteers in the planning and running of the day, plus cajoling so many of you to play the key part in opening your gardens to the many visitors. I want to give my personal thank you to everyone - I was a very proud Rector as I watched it all happen!

Here at St Mary's, we love to welcome our school into church on a regular basis, and the building was full of children, staff, parents, and supporters as we said farewell to Year 6. I realised it was my 23rd leavers' service, which makes me the longest-serving vicar here since the school was founded in the 19th century!

While we're on the subject of schools, Bishop Luffa School is keen to let everyone know how popular it is at the moment, which means that the only way you can get your child a place is by meeting the top

criteria, which is regular attendance at a church (defined as 3 out of 4 Sundays a month). You will receive a very warm welcome if you choose us!

Our congregations continue to flourish, both at Family Service (weeks 2 & 4) and Parish Communion (weeks 1 & 3) at 11.00 am, and the beginning of August saw us all getting together for a post-service picnic in the grounds of the church hall.

September will hopefully see everyone returning safely from their holidays, as we look forward to Harvest Festival, on 5th October. You are welcome to join us for this celebration at our Parish Communion. Traditionally, Harvest is a day when we decorate the church, and we are looking for volunteers to help with flower arranging and decorating in church Sunday by Sunday. Enthusiasm is more important than experience, and you don't have to be a regular attender to help. Do email the church office for more information - cyfbenefice@gmail.com

Rev Richard Hayes
St. Mary's Church

A Day in the Life of Keith Halsey: Aircraft Maintenance Engineer

Tell us a bit about yourself

I have lived in Climping for 30 years, with my wife and two daughters, and now two dogs - a Labrador and an anxious Irish Setter. I enjoy cycling around the South Downs and have completed the SDW several times - over 100 miles, the last in a day. I also enjoy walking the dogs on the beach and spending time with my family.

What is your role?

I have been an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer for British Airways for 48 years! I first started as an apprentice when I was 16 at London Heathrow (LHR). I've been based at Gatwick (LGW) for 41 years, with a short interlude working as cabin crew, which was a very different experience.

My current role, although it hasn't changed much, also involves managing a small team of engineers.

Last year I reduced my hours to part-time working to help my wife with the care of my autistic eldest daughter.



Tell us about a typical day at work

I work 12-hour shifts for two days and two nights each week. At Gatwick, we have a mixed fleet of long-haul and short-haul flights. During the day, we concentrate on the long-haul flights - usually three aircrafts per team. The planes start landing from 5am, and we have to turn them around

for their departure the same day, normally within a 4-hour turnaround. We do routine maintenance and sort out any arrival defects. These can be anything from a flying control problem to a blocked toilet! Every day is different.

The night shift involves looking after short-haul aircraft which have night-stopped - usually around

six aircraft per team - with the same routine maintenance, getting them ready for their morning departure.

What do you love about the role?

Working with a great team. Every day is different, and I've had some unique experiences - from working inside fuel tanks (which vary in size, but the opening is always a squeeze at about 18") to flying with decommissioned B737s to America to be scrapped.

Is there anything you don't like about the role?

4am - whether it's getting up for a day shift or trying to get everything finished on a night shift - it's not natural to be awake and functioning at that time.

“

Every day is different, and I've had some unique experiences - from working inside fuel tanks, to flying with decommissioned B737s to America to be scrapped.

CHRISTMAS IN CLYMPING!

CLYMPING VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



AT BAILIFFSCOURT:

Festive wreath making from £125*

Dec 2 / 3 / 4 - starts at 9.45am

Your two hour workshop will be followed by a delicious two course lunch, complete with a glass of wine.

Festive line drawing and lunch from £69*

Dec 11 - starts at 9.30am

Create a hand-drawn inkwork masterpiece to take home, then enjoy a delicious lunch with festive fizz.

Carols by Candlelight from £85*

Dec 14 / 15 / 16 - performances at 12noon, 3.30pm and 7pm

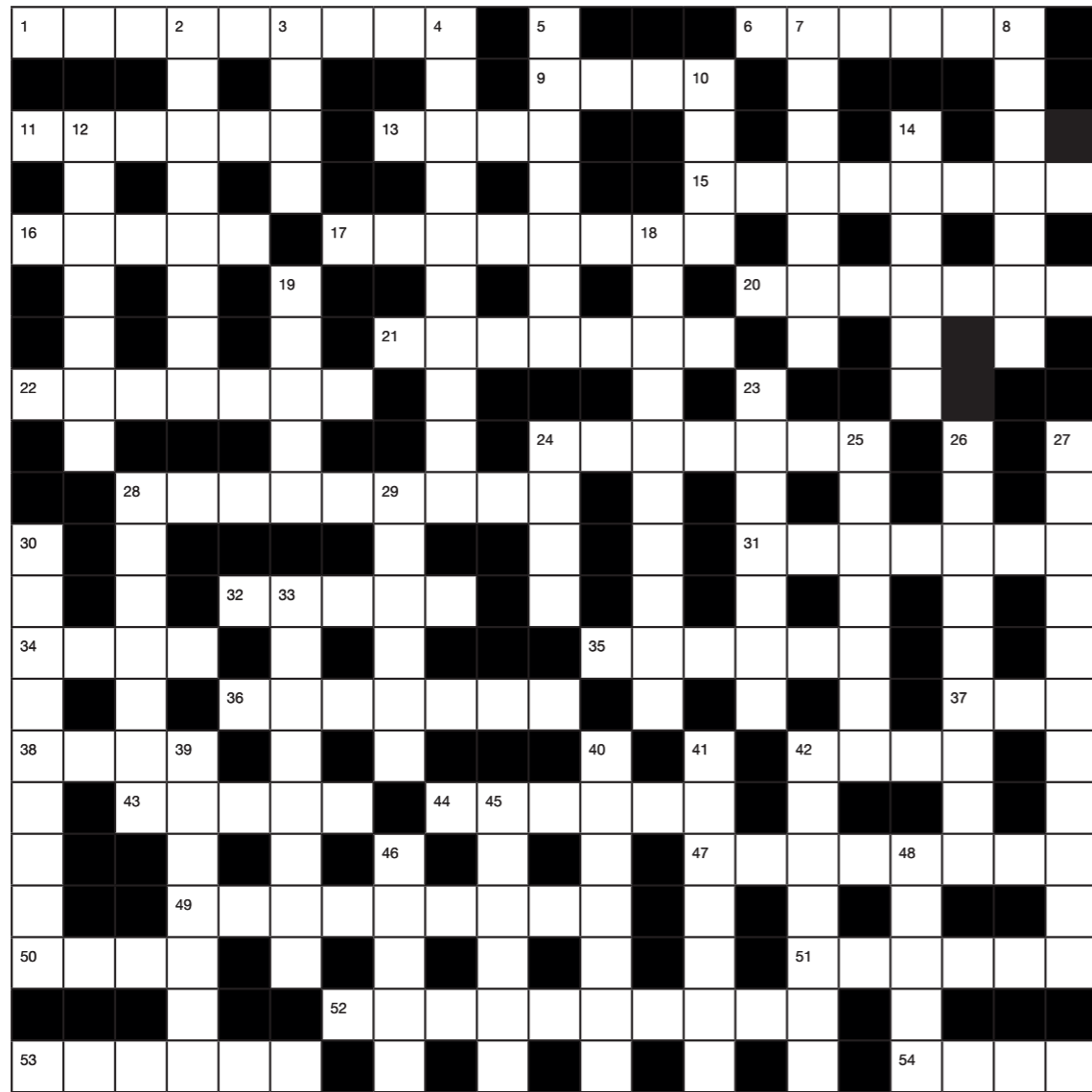
Beautifully sung carols in the intimate setting of our glorious 13th century chapel (incl lunch with a glass of wine, afternoon tea with mulled wine or dinner with sparkling drinks, subject to performance time).



Bailiffscourt Hotel & Spa
01903 723511
Climping Street,
Climping BN17 5RW

hshotels.co.uk

*For terms and restrictions see event details on our website. Part of Historic Sussex Hotels.



ACROSS

- 1 Solstice time (9)
- 6 Eight notes in a scale (6)
- 9 Male deer (4)
- 11 Longest river in England (6)
- 13 Sound reflection (4)
- 15 Withdrawing (8)
- 16 Trademark or label (5)
- 17 Moon phase (8)
- 20 Candied nut filling (7)
- 21 Aegean summer wind (7)
- 22 Mentally prepared (7)
- 24 Woodlice, e.g. (7)
- 28 Set free (9)
- 31 Finger guard (7)
- 32 It bites without teeth? (5)
- 34 Moral weakness (4)
- 35 Pest or to pester? (6)
- 36 Pilot (7)
- 37 Whiskey grain (3)
- 38 Scarce (4)
- 42 Pinned-up hair (4)
- 43 Mother-of-pearl (5)
- 44 Large reptile (6)
- 47 Daffodils, e.g. (8)
- 49 Digit end (9)
- 50 Asian citrus fruit (4)
- 51 Sweet-scented flower (6)
- 52 Half of the globe (10)
- 53 Divided house US (6)
- 54 Christmas (4)

DOWN

- 2 Meaning of a word (8)
- 3 Fragrant secretion (4)
- 4 Leisure activity (10)
- 5 Multiple options (7)
- 7 Coffee substitute root (7)
- 8 Levelling out (7)
- 10 Sharp tone in pastry? (4)
- 12 Crop yield (7)
- 14 Grownups (6)
- 18 Ice cream trio (10)
- 19 Points on a saw (5)
- 23 Composite of images (7)
- 24 Object of worship (4)
- 25 Rider's foot support (7)
- 26 Large seabird (9)
- 27 Canvas embroidery (11)
- 28 Scottish national animal (7)
- 29 Trouser measurement (6)
- 30 Opponent (9)
- 33 Clergyman (8)
- 39 Lengthy lecture (7)
- 40 Primitive wind instrument (7)
- 41 Lavish meal (7)
- 42 Solve (7)
- 45 Medieval style (6)
- 46 Watch face border (5)
- 48 Shade of white (5)

WORD SEARCH



- AMBER
- CONKERS
- DECEMBER
- PUMPKIN
- EQUINOX
- FALLING
- LEAVES
- RUSSET
- GOLD
- HARVEST
- OCTOBER
- SEPTEMBER
- MELLOW
- MISTS
- FRUITFULNESS

SUDOKU

	3	5				9				
2				4						
		1		5						
	4	9	2	3				8		
6	1		8					3		
	9	3	7	2		5	6			
8		7			9					2
	2			8	6					7

CHURCH FARM HUB
COMMUNITY & CHARITY

APPLE FAYRE

SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2025
10AM - 2PM

Church Farm
Church Lane, Climping
BN17 5RR

- Hot Drinks & Cakes
- Apple Juicing
- Crafting
- Crumble Making
- Nature Walk & Apple Picking

Karen Baird | Church Farm Hub

The Apple Fayre is on again this year, we are excited about getting folk together to enjoy a relaxing Saturday; it is a chance to bring community together and to raise some funds for a couple of charitable ventures.

It is a free event where everyone is welcome.

There will be **beverages and cakes for sale**, **crafting tables**, **crumble making**, some fun games, a campfire with **tasty cooked treats**, a nature walk, and lots of **apple picking and juicing**.

There is a token price for crumble making and donations are welcome, payments will be **cash only**.

This year we will be supporting **Soup from Heaven** (supporting poor areas in South Africa) and our very own **Cavalry Group** (taking vehicles and aid to Ukraine).

Volunteers to help for the event are always appreciated
07979 255 189



Wild About Climping High Flyers - A Promising Start!

A heartfelt thank you to all Climping residents who've taken part in this incredible community conservation effort by installing swift boxes, house martin, and swallow nests.

With the help of a generous grant from the Sussex Ornithological Society, their Hirundine Champion Paul Stevens (who installed all the boxes/nests), and the support from Clymping Parish Council, we've now installed

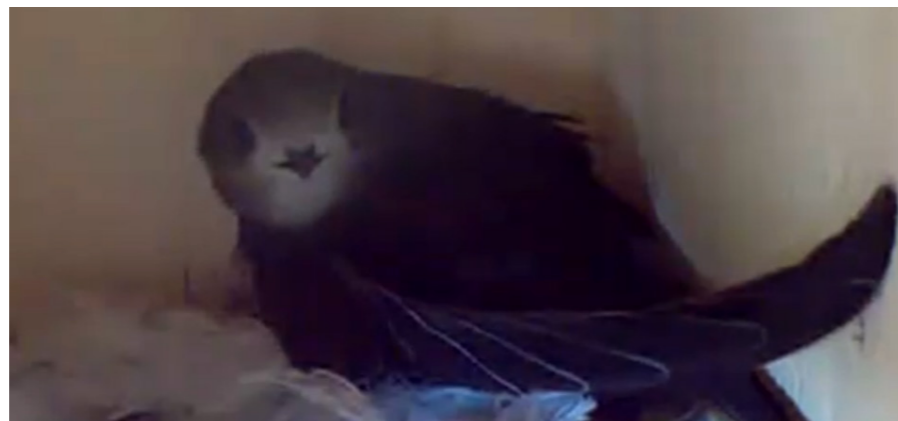
30 swift nest boxes, 28 house martin nests, and 3 swallow nests during Phase 1 (Spring 2024) and Phase 2 (Autumn 2024). The response from our village has been amazing.

The Swifts Came... And Stayed!

In Spring 2024, we played swift calls - and it worked! A pair of swifts found their way to Box 1 on Climping Street. They soon called to others, and before long, swifts were seen swooping the skies over Climping - the first time this spectacle has been seen here. The same pair returned to

the same nest box in May 2025 and laid two eggs. Sadly, one was damaged, but on 9th June the first Wild About Climping swiftlet hatched. Thanks to a camera installed in Box 1, we've been able to watch this little miracle grow, develop feathers, and be lovingly cared for by its parents - all of them snuggled together in their nest box each night.

Meanwhile, another pair of swifts were regularly seen entering Box 4. Although we don't have a camera in that box yet, all signs suggest they too started a family - we will definitely have a camera there next year!



Swiftlet in the nest box.

Bangers and Partygoers

When the second wave of swifts arrived in early June, we observed lots of "bangers" - younger swifts scouting out nesting sites for future years, finding the installed nest boxes. They use their wings to "bang" on boxes to check if they're occupied - a promising sign that these swifts will be back next year to breed.

The third wave of swifts - one- and two-year-olds not yet ready to nest - joined the fun in early July. These birds form spectacular screaming parties, diving and weaving through the air in joyful flight. This summer, Climping skies have been alive with their acrobatic displays - double and triple power dives included!

A New Generation Takes Flight

Our very first swiftlet in Box 1 fledged on 9th July, at 42 days old. It was a joyful moment. Its parents continue to return to the box nightly, resting and regaining energy before their long migration, which typically begins around 10th August. After that, the skies will fall silent...but they will be back.

Swifts return to the same nest sites year after year, so we're thrilled to witness the birth of what we hope will become the Climping Swift Colony.

Please follow us to read the story of this initiative and keep up to date with further news.

Instagram: @WildAboutClimping
Facebook: search 'Wild About Climping'

Wendy Robinson
Environment Work Group
wendy@wendyrobinson.co.uk
07931 337 496



It's a brilliant example of community spirit meeting conservation success.

Sussex Ornithological Society

Looking Ahead - Phase 3

We would like to prepare more homes before their arrival in the spring so that the swift colony can keep expanding. If you'd like to be part of this exciting conservation project, we're now starting a list for Phase 3 installations - please get in touch if you're interested. Every home helps.

House Martins and Swallows Too

It's not just swifts making a home in Climping! House martins have been successfully nesting in homes on the estates off Horsemere Green Lane, using both the established and the newly-added secure nests.

If this year is anything like last year, we should also expect to see swallows feasting on insects over the beach before heading off on their October migration.

Beach Survey Results

Anne Miller

In June the Parish Council sent out a questionnaire asking the community for their thoughts on the current issues with our beach and how we can best move forward. A summary of the report is provided below. Please see the Parish Council Website for the full report.

The total number of responses received was 35, the equivalent of **7.6% of households in Clymping.**

Those who responded had a good understanding of the issues currently facing the beach.

57%

visit the beach regularly.

71%

had concerns about safety on the beach including metal debris.

80%

respondents said they would be happy to support a Trust Fund in aid of the beach.

97%

said they thought a public meeting about the beach was a good idea.

There was a range of responses to the question of what amenities people would like to see at the beach including: a car park, café, toilets, easier access for all and **11 out of 35 responses suggested no amenities with the beach left wild.**

There was no consensus on who should be responsible for the protection of the beach.

Climping Beach Community: Environment Agency Update

We're pleased to provide an update on the recent public safety improvement works undertaken along Climping Beach, following feedback and advice shared in our last newsletter.



Environment Agency officers conducting groyne maintenance at Climping.

Completed Public Safety Improvement Works

Following our previous update, a package of targeted beach safety works has now been successfully completed. These works were delivered in response to both local feedback and formal safety reviews, and focused on:

- Improving access to the beach by removing unsafe metalworks and redundant groyne planks.
- Maintaining existing groyne structures where possible, helping to prolong their function in managing erosion and providing shoreline stability.

To support these improvements, works were carefully scheduled during low spring tides. This timing allowed our team to access and inspect areas that are normally submerged, significantly improving hazard visibility and ensuring a more effective removal of risks.

Routine inspections will continue in the coming months to ensure safety features remain in good condition and effective for the public.

We'd like to thank all beach users for their patience during the works and the local community for their continued support.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our local Asset Performance Team.

SLTSDN.APEast.Hants.Chi@environment-agency.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/environment-agency

A Message from: Justin Murray Head of Climping CoE Primary School

What a fantastic end to the school year we've had at Clymping School! Our annual Sports Day was a joyful and energetic event, bringing pupils together in their house colours to compete in a variety of races and challenges. From sprints to relays to parent and carer daily miles, there was something for everyone. Huge congratulations to the Blue Team, who were crowned overall winners after an afternoon of brilliant effort and sportsmanship from all involved.

The celebrations continued with our hugely successful Summer Fayre, organised by our wonderful PTGFA (Parents, Teachers, Governors and Friends Association). The school grounds were

filled with laughter and activity, as families enjoyed a BBQ, bouncy castle, raffle, and a host of traditional games including welly wanging, hook-a-duck, splat the rat, coconut shy, cornhole and more. It was a lovely community event, well attended and full of summer spirit – and we're delighted to report that it raised a generous amount of money to support school resources and experiences for the children.

Some of our pupils also had the opportunity to visit Cobnor Activity Centre, where they experienced adventurous outdoor activities including sailing, kayaking and archery – developing teamwork, confidence, and resilience.

As the term comes to a close, we bid a fond farewell to our Year 6 pupils. While we are sad to see them go, we are incredibly proud of how far they have come and know they are well prepared to embrace the exciting challenges of secondary school.

If you are interested in coming to volunteer in school then please get in touch. We are always looking for help from the community.

Diary Dates

<p>THURSDAY 11 SEP</p>	<p>An evening with a local novelist 6.30PM</p> <p>Meet Sarah Waights, local Author Includes a signed book and light supper (prebooking is essential) £15 per ticket</p> <p>Contact: Anne Miller anne.miller@clympingpc.org.uk</p>
<p>SATURDAY 13 SEP</p>	<p>Apple Fayre 10AM - 2PM</p> <p>1000-1400 Church Farm</p> <p>Contact: Karen Baird churchfarmhub@gmail.com</p>
<p>SATURDAY 20 SEP</p>	<p>Clymping Coffee Morning 10.30AM - 12PM</p> <p>Clymping Village Hall</p> <p>Contact: Anne Miller anne.miller@clympingpc.org.uk</p>
<p>SATURDAY 27 SEP</p>	<p>ABE Artists and Makers Fayre 10AM - 4PM</p> <p>Barnham Community Hall, Yapton Road, Barnham PO22 0AY Free entry</p>
<p>THURSDAY 02 OCT</p>	<p>Quiz Night 6.30PM</p> <p>Come along for a fun and challenging evening with a buffet supper in the interval. BYOB / Wine and glasses £10 per ticket • Teams of 6</p> <p>Contact: Anne Miller anne.miller@clympingpc.org.uk</p>
<p>SATURDAY 29 NOV</p>	<p>Gala Winter Dinner Dance</p> <p>Dress to impress. Welcome drink, followed by a 3-Course sit down meal and then dance the night away to a live band playing music from the 70s to the 2000s. Grand Raffle. £35 per ticket</p> <p>Contact: Anne Miller anne.miller@clympingpc.org.uk</p>
<p>SATURDAY 06 DEC</p>	<p>Clymping Coffee Morning 10.30AM - 12PM</p> <p>Clymping Village Hall</p> <p>Contact: Anne Miller anne.miller@clympingpc.org.uk</p>

CHRISTMAS IN CLYMPING!

CLYMPING VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



AT THE BLACK HORSE:

Christmas Eve

No booking necessary.

Join us at 4pm for gloriously festive carols (led by a local community choir) with a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie. Why not stay for dinner too?

Christmas Day Lunch from £95*

Head over for a fabulous festive atmosphere! Enjoy a three-course Christmas lunch with all the trimmings. Arrive at midday or 3pm and settle in for the festivities. Make a night of it and book one of our lovely bedrooms.

New Year's Eve from £70*

Welcome in 2026 with a glass of Sussex fizz and a delicious three-course festive dinner followed by live festive music. No dress code but we'd love to see plenty of sparkle! Book one of our lovely bedrooms and make a night of it.



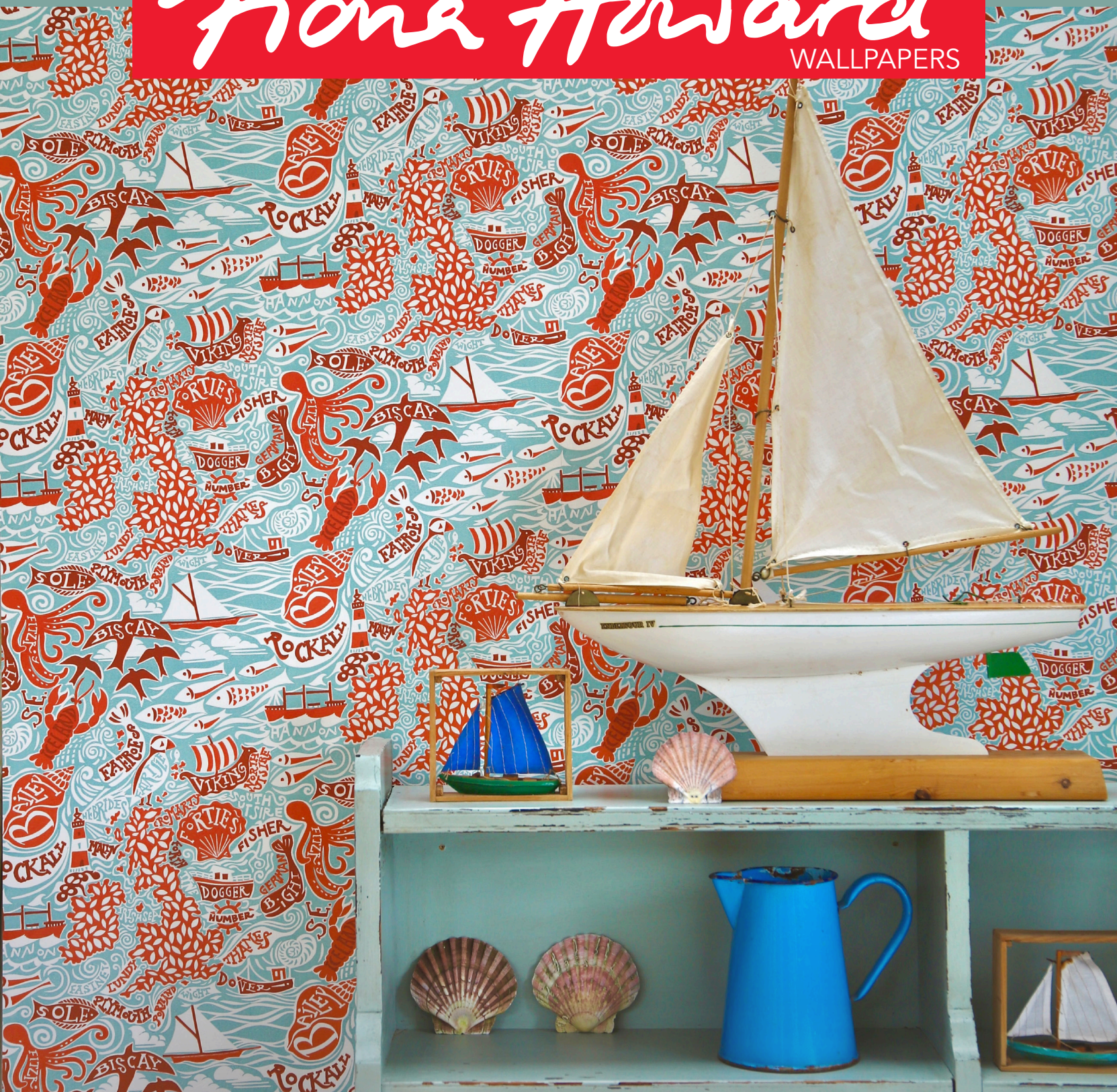
The Black Horse
01903 715175
Clymping Street,
Clymping BN17 5RL

hshotels.co.uk

*For terms and restrictions see event details on our website. Part of Historic Sussex Hotels.

Fiona Howard

WALLPAPERS



To mark 100 years of The Shipping Forecast, Fiona Howard has created a wallpaper that captures the magic of this treasured British broadcast. In two gentle colourways, 'Shipping Forecast' drifts across the wall like the tides themselves, each sea area adorned with swifts, sailing ships, shells, puffins, lobsters, and watchful lighthouses. A poetic homage to the rhythm of the waves and the voices that have guided seafarers for a century.

www.fionahoward.com