

SPRING EDITION

MAR - MAY 2025

# CLYMPING VILLAGE NEWS



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*Cover Photo Taken by Pete Mules  
Newsletter printed by Simon Wolf*

# Editor's Note

Welcome to the Clymping Village News, Spring Edition 2025. We hope you all have had a fantastic start to the year, despite the gloomy weather!

This issue takes a look back to the past 3 months, discussing our Christmas festivities hosted around the village. Alongside this, we look forward to the next 3 months, which include exciting events to come and a couple of spotlights on our local community.

A big thanks to the contributors this newsletter and if you'd like to get involved in anyway, please email myself or Jane Mules (contact info on the back).

*Words by Alisha Patel*



**THE BLACK HORSE**

Q&A with Chris Alger, General Manager, on The Black Horse's 1<sup>st</sup> birthday after re-opening.  
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**FIONA HOWARD**

Spotlight on our amazing local resident, Fiona Howard.  
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**OPEN GARDENS**

Clymping open gardens will return this year for their 25th anniversary of the first such event in 2000 and promises to be very special. We already have approximately 15 gardens opening, including several new ones. If you would like to join them or help in any way please contact Colin Morris (contact details on the back).

A minibus service will transport people around the gardens, and there will be a number of attractions at the Church Hall as well as an all day café serving tea and coffee, ploughman's lunches, cakes and scones, an art exhibition and sale by Arundel Arts in the church and an exhibition of Childrens' Art at Clymping School.

# Funding Our Village: Where Your Money Goes

**CHAIRMAN OF CLYMPING PARISH COUNCIL GIVES INSIGHT TO NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET AND HOW IT WILL BE SPENT.**

**The start of the year** meant the Parish Council had to focus on next year's budget (2025/26) which comes from the precept that is charged as part of the council tax we all pay. This year there will be an increase in the precept to £21,000. The rise is to accommodate the now fully occupied new housing in the village (6% growth in total number of homes), inflation, and new and increased demands on the Parish Council. The precept equates to an average annual charge of £48.28 per property in the village, with the actual amount determined by your council tax band.

So how do we expect this money to be spent? Whilst the councillors are volunteers, our Clerk and Financial Officer are our employees. We benefit from having a highly qualified and experienced part-time clerk. Her salary together with the administrative costs of the Council are expected to total £8745, a rise of 5%. The administrative costs include the website upkeep, audit fees, councillor training, hire of halls and insurance for all the council activities. Overall, 42% of the precept is the cost of running the Parish Council.

The council expects to make grants of £2475, which is up from £1375 this year, to worthy local organisations who support individuals in the village, to the school for extracurricular activities, and to the church. We have seen increasingly large grant requests because funding from other sources is constrained in these tough economic times.

We expect to spend £4000 on activities around the village including upkeep of the green and pond in Horsemere Green Lane, projects such as bulb planting and seed-funding of new activities such as "Wild about Clymping".

New items that we have budgeted for include planning support as we face more complex questions arising from the Foreman Homes development and the possibility of the Rampion 2 windfarm proceeding with significant onshore activities in the village.

The Parish Council partially funded the new children's playground at the village hall and will now be responsible for annual safety inspections and maintenance. Similarly, we have partially funded the installation of defibrillators around the village, with hopefully one to be installed in Climping street shortly. We remain responsible for any maintenance that may arise with these installations.

In addition, the Council is also close to completing a resilience plan to address safety of the community in the event of emergencies. Also, we are budgeting for safety issues arising from our changing coastline.

The Council holds reserves which have grown recently as we benefit from 25% of the levy on new developments, a result of our valid Neighbourhood Plan. Some were used as a contribution to the new playground. We have three major projects under consideration:

**Horsemere Green Lane/Church Lane safety:** Following our failure to attract funding from WSCC, we are preparing more focused projects that we can fund directly ourselves.

**Horsemere Green Lane Pond:** The pond, an integral part of the drainage system needs desilting as part of the works along the lane to reduce the risk of flooding.

**Village Hall:** We are considering possible investment and modernisation.

We feel it prudent to hold reserves equivalent to half the precept as a contingency in uncertain times. Some of this uncertainty relates to the possible changes in role and responsibility due to the local government devolution proposals for Sussex. Others relate to the uncertainties that remain for the Foreman Homes development and the Rampion 2 impact on the village. The Rampion decision is due on April 4th.

*Words by C.J. Humphris,  
Clymping Parish Council*

# Raffles, Rubbish and Rewilding: Clymping's Latest Events

At Clymping, we love getting our residents involved in various projects, whether that is a fun approach to raise money or actually improving the community in some way.

Two of our locals give us a review on the events hosted over the past 3 months; our regular coffee morning, a much needed litter pick and a sold-out film night.

## COFFEE MORNING

Thank you to everyone that came for our Christmas coffee morning. We had around 40 people gather on Saturday 7th December at the Clymping Village Hall, along with a huge raffle of prizes to be won, which were kindly donated by people around Clymping and local businesses.

The raffle made over £100, which will go into the village account to be used for future events or community projects. For example, adding an additional bench or picnic table at the Village Hall. With these donations and raffle monies, we are also able to keep future events free or cheap, as well as making small differences in our village.

The dates for future coffee mornings have been confirmed and are posted in the "Dates for you Diary" on the back of the newsletter.

Words by Anne Miller

## LITTER PICK

A small group of hardy volunteers gathered on the 25th January. They did a fabulous job collecting 23 large sacks of rubbish from around the village. These were duly collected a couple of hours later by the Arun District Council. Watch this space for any future event and maybe we can get a larger group of volunteers.

Words by Anne Miller



Raffle Prizes from Coffee Morning



Socialising at Christmas Coffee Morning



Successful Litter Pick Results.



James Baird speaks about Re-wilding

## FILM NIGHT

The Clymping Film Night held on 13th February in the Village Hall was a huge success. A sold-out crowd gathered for a buffet supper, followed by a screening of the 2024 documentary Wilding. The film, which is based on the book of the same name by Isabella Tree, follows the transformation of the Knepp Estate, near Horsham, from a struggling farm to a trailblazing 3,500-acre rewilding project.

As the narrator of the film, Tree tells how she and her husband released traditional British breeds of cattle, pigs and ponies onto their formerly farmed land, and let them live naturally, radically reshaping the landscape. New wildlife habitats formed, vegetation flourished and endangered species of birds and butterflies started to arrive. Other animals such as storks and beavers have also been introduced.

The project has particular relevance for our village because of the involvement of Clymping farmer James Baird, who has been working with Knepp since 2019 to develop the Weald to Waves nature recovery corridor in Sussex. He gave a short talk at the conclusion of the film.



Socialising during the interval

The evening was organised by Anne Miller, Alison Baird and their team of volunteers. Keep an eye out for possible film nights in future. If you would like to be added to the notification list, please email [alibairdmail@gmail.com](mailto:alibairdmail@gmail.com). Or if you would like more information about other community events, please email Anne Miller via email on [annemiller.cpc@gmail.com](mailto:annemiller.cpc@gmail.com).

Words by Lisa Eyre

# Celebrating a Very Special Birthday at The Black Horse!

It's been a year since The Black Horse reopened its doors, bringing warmth, community spirit, and plenty of memorable moments back to Clymping. In the face of challenging times for pubs across the country, The Black Horse has not only survived but thrived, becoming a beloved local pub once again. From lively quiz nights to delicious seasonal menus, the past 12 months have been a journey of hard work, dedication, and plenty of laughter.

To mark this milestone, we spoke with the General Manager, Chris Alger, to reflect on the past year, hear some of the team's favorite stories, and get a sneak peek at what's in store for the year ahead - including a very special birthday celebration!



The Black Horse Team

**Q: To start off, how does it feel to reach one year after re-opening?**

A: We can't believe the first year has gone so quickly - it's been a fun year and a steep learning curve, but we've made it to our first birthday in one piece and the team are still smiling!

It's been an absolute joy to see the locals embracing the pub and to see so many of our Spa Members from Bailiffscourt becoming regulars. Luca and his team have worked hard this year and in the face of so many pub closures, we feel like we have succeeded in creating a warm and welcoming local.

**Q: How have customers reacted to the reopening over the past year? Have there been any particularly memorable moments or funny stories you'd like to share?**

A: The reaction has been tremendously positive. From our local community to our regular hotel guests, The Black Horse has been part of so many people's lives over the years - all with some great stories to tell. The renovation has been given a big thumbs up (as well as Sussex Heritage Award) which makes us very happy.

Over this year, we have had some interesting stories, for example goldfish sales in the car-park, but one that is planted firmly in my memory was our opening night in March in 2024. We had a glorious Conga line oscillated around the pub, outside and back in again - I believe led by a member of the fabulous Baird family!

**Q: What kind of feedback have you received from the community, and has it influenced any of the changes you've made?**

A: From the start, Luca was confident that we should arrange Quiz nights and Live Music nights for the local community, and these have proved really popular - just this week we had 90 quizzers all vying for the top prize!

Other feedback was to see more variety in our menu. Hence us focusing this year on ensuring we have interesting and seasonal specials on offer, supported by delicious pub classics. Our signature dish - the Clymping Fish Pie - has become one of the firm favourites for locals, and we intend to keep it on our menu, along with our popular home-made soups (particularly the Guinness & Cheddar soup). As well, our Black Horse ale is going down like a treat which is great.



Dinning in at The Black Horse

**Q: Looking forward, what can residents expect for this year? Any other events in the making that you can share?**

A: The Quiz nights and Music nights will continue, and we will be showing the Six Nations Rugby and other key sporting events. Remember to put Wednesday 7th May in your diary when the Sompting Morris Dancers will be joining us! This year, we will be popping a postcard through the Clymping Street residents on the 1st of each month, and keeping you updated through this newsletter for other residents, so keep eyes open for news, exclusive offers and events.



Cosy Nooks inside The Black Horse

**Q: Do you have any special plans to celebrate the pub's first birthday this year?**

A: Yes, we do and we hope that everyone will join us in celebrating on Friday 7th March! Between 5pm and 6pm, we will be hosting a cocktail hour, where we will be handing out a "Taste of Clymping", followed by live music in the bar. Plus, for any Clymping residents booking with us for lunch or dinner that day, we will give you 25% off food too.



One of the Stunning The Black Horse Rooms

Thank you to The Black Horse for being our Local Business Spotlight this newsletter. If you'd like to contribute in our next issue, please contact Jane Mules or Alisha Patel.

# Battling the Elements: Clymping’s Beach Stands Strong

**CLIMPING BEACH HAS WEATHERED THE WINTER STORMS - HERE’S AN UPDATE ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS AND FUTURE PLANS FOR BEACH MANAGEMENT**



*Climping Beach following Storm Bert in November 2024*

Over the winter period, the shingle bund has remained relatively stable and held up well to the strong waves and wind actions brought by Storm Bert and Storm Eowyn. We have continued to monitor the condition and levels of the beach over this time and there has been limited impact. Environment Agency maintenance activities have been minimal as a result.

## BREAD LANE

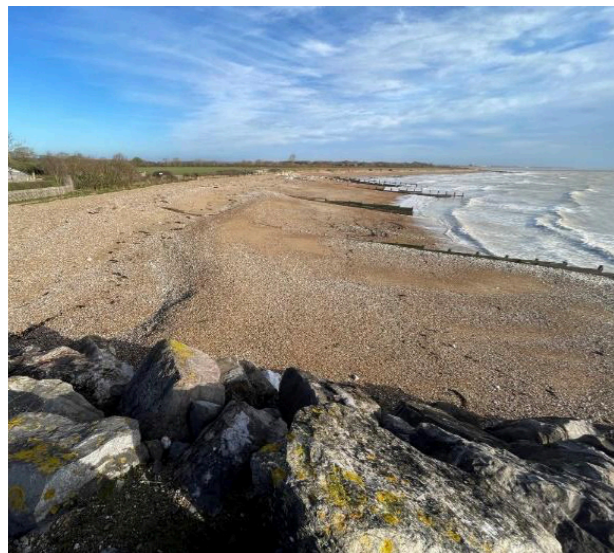
Since April 2024, the natural wave activity, particularly over the winter period, has caused the crest through Bread Lane to roll back, increasing both the height and width of the crest. The Stop Order is still under review by West Sussex County Council Rights of Way team. We are awaiting a decision on this Order, which is due soon, before we can address the existing gap at Bread Lane.



*Gap through Bread Lane*

## BEACH MANAGEMENT

No further work is planned for this financial year, unless required due to storm damage. Shingle re-profiling or recycling will be undertaken, as required throughout the year, and will depend on available funds. A planned survey on the existing groyne will be undertaken in March 2025 to help plan any required public safety works.



*Climping Beach following Storm Bert in November 2024*

# Big Changes Ahead for Local Government

**AMANDA WORNE SHEDS LIGHT ON THE DEVOLUTION AND REORGANISATION OF DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILS, AND WHAT THAT COULD MEAN FOR YOU**

The main topic of conversation and debate at Arun District Council recently has been the news that the National Government is reorganising local government into a two tier system. This will replace the current three tier system. Both Arun District Council and West Sussex County Council along with all the other local Districts and Boroughs will merge into one unitary authority.

As a result of these changes, there is a lot of uncertainty for everyone. For Parishes, it is important that they decide whether or not they want to take on more responsibility so that there is a direct link between local government and local communities. Councillors will need to be re-elected and officers working for Arun may have the opportunity to move over to the new authority if they wish to do so.

This will bring about an election for a new Mayor for each authority, who will have a range of new responsibilities, including strategic planning, housing and transport systems. This transition will be implemented over the whole of the Country over the next couple of years and will happen in two waves. West Sussex County Council recently voted to be considered for the first wave. This was approved and consequently the County Council elections have been postponed, meaning that the current County Councillors currently in office will remain for the foreseeable future.

Whilst I continue as District Councillor, I want to ensure this major transition takes place as smoothly as possible and that the effect on residents is minimal whatever local government system we operate under. I will do my best in whatever way I can to see that this happens.

*Words by Amanda Worne,  
Arun District Council*

# Planning Applications

The Parish Council plays an important role in monitoring and evaluating all planning applications within the village. Each year, we typically review around 50 applications. This process ensures that any development aligns with both our Arun District Council’s Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan, and also helps to maintain the character and needs of our village.

The Parish Councillors are always happy to hear your views on developments that affect you and the village. Your input is essential in shaping the future of our community.

Local residents will often notice fluorescent notices near proposed development sites, to keep the community informed. To review application details, you can easily visit the Arun District Council website at Arun Planning Application Search. Simply scroll down to the “Applications search” box, select “Climping Parish,” and choose “undecided” to view a list of applications awaiting decisions. You can also see a list of current applications on the Parish Council Facebook page; these are updated regularly.

For more significant planning applications, the Parish Council can raise formal objections to ensure these proposals are considered in public by Arun’s Planning Committee. We also monitor developments to ensure they proceed with the appropriate planning approval.

- CM/4/25/PL A new dwelling west of Crookthorn Bryre.
- CM/3/25/DOC Approval of details reserved as conditions relating to 3 Kents Cottages.
- CM/2/25/CLE Application for a lawful development certificate at Rigates Climping Street.
- CM/1/25/DOC Approval of details reserved as conditions relating to Foreman Homes.
- CM/48/24/DOC Approval of details reserved as conditions relating to development at Mead Cottage, Climping Street.
- CM/47/24/DOC Approval of details reserved as conditions relating to Foreman Homes surface water and foul water drainage.
- CM/33/24/DOC Approval of details reserved as conditions relating to the Dementia Home adjacent to the former Bairds Farm Shop.

# Another busy period at St Mary's CofE Primary School!

UPDATE FROM JUSTIN MURRAY, HEADMASTER AT ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Our Christmas Fayre was a truly magical event, bringing festive cheer to our community and school. Families enjoyed a wonderful Winter Wonderland, where children got to meet Father Christmas in his beautifully decorated grotto. There was excitement in every room, with a huge raffle full of amazing prizes, a teddy and a bottle tombola, and even special reindeer food to take home.

A huge thank you to our newly formed PTGFA, whose hard work and dedication made the event such a success. Thanks to their efforts, along with the incredible generosity of our community, we raised over £1,500 for the school! We are especially grateful to the local businesses who kindly donated prizes and supported us in so many ways. Therefore, we want to give a special thanks to Bailiffscourt Hotel and Spa, The Black Horse, Lagoon Salon, Atlantic Garage, Jewelry Lab, Roly's Fudge Shop and all the other amazing local businesses.

Our festive celebrations continued with a stunning Christingle service at St Mary's Church, hosted by Rev Rich. Over 200 people gathered to celebrate, and the most moving moment of the evening was singing Silent Night acapella, with the lights off and our candles glowing beautifully in the darkness. It was a truly special way to come together as a community and reflect on the meaning of Christmas. Thank you to everyone who made these events so memorable!

As we step into this spring, we have plenty to look forward to! Our Easter celebration at St Mary's Church will be a wonderful opportunity for reflection and joy. Sports enthusiasts will be busy with indoor cricket, the corporate challenge, and golf, giving our pupils fantastic opportunities to develop their skills and teamwork.

We are also thrilled about upcoming school trips, including visits to Brighton Museum, Clymping Beach, and Chessington World of Adventures, plus more exciting adventures to enrich our learning. With so much planned, it's shaping up to be a fantastic term ahead!

*Words by Justin Murray,  
Head Master at St. Mary's Primary School*



*Snowy Photo Scene with Mary, Joseph and the 3 Wise Men!*



*Christingle Christmas Eve Service.*

## SHORT STORY COMPETITION

In light of book week, the kids will have the author Gareth P. Jones visit the school to give a talk on writing stories. The school will be running a competition for each Key Stage to produce the best short story. It can be about anything from superheroes and adventure to comedy or even a thriller.

Only limit is the word count: 200 words for KS2 and 100 words for KS1 (including the title). Winners will be announced and published in the next newsletter, with maybe a prize in store for lucky young authors!

Good luck everyone!

# From Advent to Easter: St Mary's Celebrations and What's Next

ST.MARY'S CHURCH UPDATE FROM REVEREND RICHARD

It might seem a long time ago, but Christmas 2024 was a busy time for St Mary's, and it all started with Messy Church Family Service at the beginning of Advent. A church full of 40 children and 50 adults having breakfast, decorating the church and then joined with yet more people for our special family service. We then had our lovely school Christmas service, with children, family and staff.

For the first time we led folky carol singing at the Ship and Anchor, a full pub with carols as they should be sung, with gusto and a pint in hand! The volunteer Benefice Christmas choir led our Carol Service, which you can be a part of this Christmas if you like singing! Then we had our Christingle Christmas Eve service, with all the candles and scent of oranges. Finally, our Family Communion on Christmas Day, where the congregation voted on the strangest Christmas present brought to the service - a joke dog poo, which I then had to turn into a Sermon!

After all this, it's nice to catch our breath with our regular weekly Sunday services - a pattern of fortnightly family services on weeks 2 and 4, and Parish Communions on weeks 1 and 3, all at 11:00am - before we begin Lent and Easter.

Our Messy Church is back on Saturday 15th March at 2.00pm in Church - fun for all ages, and there MIGHT be pancakes or hot cross buns? We haven't quite finalised our Lent programme but keep an eye on the website - quick link on page # - for details.

There will be a Good Friday service at Clymping at 2:00pm, and then our Easter Communion Celebration on Easter Day at 11:00am. Many of you will know that one of our Easter highlights used to be our sunrise communion on Clymping beach. Last year, we moved this to outside Ford Church due to the parking situation. We are still deciding what to do this year... again, keep an eye out on the website.



*Decorations during Messy Church Family Service.*



*Christmas Folk song-along in the Ship&Anchor, with Lisa Eyre, Rev Richard and James Shears.*

Finally, it's important to me, as your Rector, to be here for you; baptisms, weddings, funerals or other celebrations or life moments, we would love to offer you the opportunity to use the oldest and most used part of the village! Do contact our office - cyfbenefice@gmail.com or me, Richard, - cyfrector@gmail.com

If you would like to get our weekly Newsletter and other bits of news and announcements you can come on our email list, just email me and I'll add you to the list. You can also tune into our weekly YouTube online service, just search for CYFchurches.

*Words by Rev Richard Hayes*



# Clymping in Bloom: A Seasonal Round-Up



WILD ABOUT CLYMPING GIVING US AN UPDATE OF EVERYTHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO THIS SPRING!



## SPRING BULBS

We have planted over 3000 spring bulbs over the past 5 years around Clymping which we hope will make a real impact this year. The first bulbs are starting to flower on St. Mary's Green. There will be bulbs in flower from February right through to the end of May with the main flush in March/April.

We have also planted bulbs by the Clymping gateway sign outside the Rudford Industrial Estate and the gateway sign on Yapton Road to welcome you into Clymping.

## THE COMMUNITY POND

Pete the Pond who helps maintain the community pond opposite the meadow in Horsemere Green Lane is now a television star! He was filmed making a pond for Sandi Toksvik in her series Sandi's Great British Woodland Restoration for Channel 4. If you haven't seen this series, it is definitely worth watching and very interesting. You will notice Pete with his yellow hard hat, wild beard, and parrot on his shoulder - a great character, you can't miss him!

PLEASE TAKE CARE NOT TO RUN OVER HEDGEHOGS OR THE MOORHEN DUCKS!

## COMMUNITY MEADOW

Unfortunately, despite our best efforts, there is still a lot of grass in the meadow on Horsemere Green Lane which will out compete the wildflowers. In the autumn of 2023, we sowed yellow rattle, which is a semi-parasitic plant and feeds on the roots of grass thereby weakening it. Last year, the yellow rattle flowered and that was a great step forward.

We had a maintenance plan, but due to miscommunication, we will have the meadow mechanically scarified this spring to reduce the grass. We will re-seed it with an annual mix of seeds from a contribution made by Portsmouth Water, after they had driven over and damaged the meadow last year, working on the new house opposite. We should then be able to follow our maintenance plan.

We would really appreciate it if residents could volunteer to be a 'friend' of the meadow. This would require only a couple hours a month to help keep out perennial weeds and wild grass. This is a great opportunity to do some good in our community and get out into nature.

Please email [wendy@wendyrobinson.co.uk](mailto:wendy@wendyrobinson.co.uk) if you would like to volunteer.



## THE POUND, CLYMPING STREET

We never had an official opening for The Pound in Clymping Street, as it was cleared and restored during Covid. However, we will be opening it for Clymping Open Gardens on Saturday 14th June.

The restoration included tackling large buddleia trees and brambles, digging out the planting beds which were full of rubble, new wood for benches to make a rest area for passers-by, plus a new plaque commemorating the inclusion of Clymping (then known as Clepinges) in the Domesday Book on its 900th anniversary. The Village Pound is now also home to the Clymping Street community speed watch group and the Book Exchange.

If you are interested in the history of the Pound, there is a short article in the August 2020 Clymping Village Newsletter which can be found on the Clymping Parish Council website.

## HIGH FLYERS (SWIFTS, SWALLOWS AND HOUSE MARTINS)

We finished the second phase of installing swift boxes and house martin nests in October. We now have 28 swift boxes, 24 house martin nests and 2 swallow nests across the village. Also, I have set up an Instagram account which for those interested can be found at @WildAboutClympingHighFlyers (please note that it is Clymping with an 'i'). There is a Facebook page as well. Both will contain up to date with sightings, advice, etc, with some lovely videos from Summer 2024 on Instagram.

## SPRING BLOSSOM

13 crab apples were planted around Clymping for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Make sure to look out for the blossoms in April and May.



Words by Wendy Robinson, Environment Work Group

In memory of the talented Matt Berry, designer of the 'Wild About Clymping' logo.



# From Climping Street to Your Walls: Fiona Howard's Design Story



Apple Design in Orchard Collection

If you have ever paid a visit to The Black Horse, you have likely admired the beautifully patterned wallpapers decorating the rooms. These are the work of Fiona Howard Wallpapers, created by local designer Fiona Howard. With a career spanning over 35 years, Fiona's work is influenced by the beauty of her surroundings in Clymping, where nature plays a key role in her creative process. We sat down with her to learn more about her business, her design process, and what exciting projects she has in store, that you can look out for!

**Q: Can you tell us a little about your own business?**

A: For over 35 years, I have been designing for the Home Furnishings industry, from wallpapers and bedlinen, to rugs, stationary and even tents. My design work has taken me around the world and brought some really interesting clients, like Sandersons and John Lewis. Over my design career, I have created 4935 designs to date, beginning with wallpapers. Although I am happy designing for any surface, designing wallpaper makes such a wonderful statement. It can create such warmth and character in a room. I also like to tell a story in my designs, and wallpaper gives a bigger canvas on which to do this.

**Q: Have you always been drawn to illustration and design, or was it something you discovered later on?**

A: I have had a pencil in my hand my entire life! I was lucky enough to spend my childhood making things, drawing and painting. My mum is very artistic (she created the miniature village at Leonardslee Gardens) and would stimulate us with ideas in our school holidays.

**Q: Starting a business is no small feat—what challenges have you faced, and how have you overcome them?**

A: Time is my biggest challenge. I would love to spend all day every day drawing and designing - I have so many ideas! But running a business means I'm constantly juggling everything from social media and website updates to accounts, advertising, and more. I'm fairly organised, but not great at knowing when to stop, so I often find myself in the studio late into the evenings and on weekends. That said, I love the entire design process, and the best part is seeing the finished product. The wonderful feedback and photos of my wallpapers decorating customers' homes make all the hard work worth it. After all, if you love what you do, it's not really work, is it?!

**Q: Can you walk us through your creative process? Where do you find inspiration for your designs?**

A: I always start with an inspirational pinboard, which might have a theme to it or just be a collection of patterns and colours which are inspiring me at the moment. It's a springboard for my thought process. From here, I begin a design as a loose sketch in one of my many sketchbooks, and re-draw it until the pattern flows nicely across the paper.

These initial drawings are very important to ensure that the design is the best it can be before I take it to the next stage - to trace and transfer it to pieces of lino, as each colour in the pattern needs a separate piece of lino carved. The process of carving and printing lino blocks is a traditional and slow process, but it creates wonderful marks and for all its tiny imperfections, it has the hallmark of the designer's hand embedded in it, which gives it soul and character.



Rosy Arbor/Rosy Posy displayed in one of the The Black Horse Rooms

**Q: Being a local resident, has your surroundings or community influenced some of your favourite pieces?**

A: I feel incredibly lucky to live surrounded by trees and fields; the nature around us inspires me every day and seeps into my designs. This is notable in my rockpool designs, which is influenced by Climping Beach, just a few minutes from my house. I was with my son, Eddie, at low tide and we gazed into the rock pools at crabs, shells, seaweeds and anemones.

However, as much as I love them all, the narratives in my Orchard and Birdsong designs are two particular favourites. I can imagine walking between the trees of Orchard, and gazing outside my studio window at the chattering birds.

**Q: What's next for you? Any exciting new designs or projects in the pipeline?**

A: Last year, I was approached by some established design showrooms in the USA who I have begun working with - it is early days, but it's all very exciting!

I am also working on a very ambitious design at the moment; it's called a 'Secret Garden' but it's a secret for now!

Watch my Instagram for updates (@Fiona.Howard.Wallpapers), or keep an eye on my website: [www.fionahoward.com](http://www.fionahoward.com)



Tuscanny Lifestyle Design in Birdsong Collection

Thank you to Fiona Howard for being our Local Resident Spotlight this newsletter. If you'd like to contribute in our next issue, please contact Jane Mules or Alisha Patel.

# Wordsearch

## ANSWERS IN NEXT NEWSLETTER

B	S	E	A	S	T	E	R	C	G
L	U	L	S	T	U	I	E	H	U
U	N	M	A	H	U	M	G	I	I
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B	H	L	R	S	B	O	I	K	E
E	I	E	B	O	T	B	T	P	A
L	N	N	U	U	C	E	U	S	S
L	E	T	D	I	L	U	R	L	R
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|----------|----------|----------|
| BLOSSOM  | DAFFODIL | MASTERS  |
| BLUEBELL | EASTER   | SHOOTS   |
| BUDS     | EGG      | SUNSHINE |
| BULB     | GUINEAS  | TULIP    |
| CHICK    | LAMB     |          |
| CROCUS   | LENT     |          |

# Quick Contacts

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## ALISHA PATEL

Newsletter Editor  
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# Quick Links

## BLACK HORSE WEBSITE

<https://www.hshotels.co.uk/theblackhorseclimbing>

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

<https://www.arun.gov.uk/planning-application-search>

## FIONA HOWARD WALLPAPERS

<https://fionahoward.com/?v=7885444af42e>

## CHURCH YOUTUBE

<https://www.youtube.com/@cyfchurches5781>

## WILD ABOUT CLYMPING

### FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61565556753372>

### INSTAGRAM

<https://www.instagram.com/wildaboutclimbing/>

# Dates for your Diary

## BLACK HORSE'S FIRST BIRTHDAY

Friday 7th March,  
(Cocktail Hour - 5pm - 6pm)  
The Black Horse, Clymping  
Contact: Chris Alger

## COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 15th March,  
10:30am - 12pm  
Clymping Village Hall  
Contact: Anne Miller

## MESSY CHURCH

Saturday 15th March,  
Starts at 2pm  
Clymping Church  
Contact: Rev Richard Hayes

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 18th March,  
Starts at 7:30pm  
Clymping Village Hall  
Contact: Nadine Phibbs

## MOTHER'S DAY

Sunday 30th March

## EASTER

Good Friday - 18th April  
Easter Sunday - 20th April  
Easter Monday - 21st April

## AGM MEETING

Tuesday 13th May,  
Start at 6pm  
Contact: Nadine Phibbs

## OPEN GARDENS

Saturday 14th June  
10am - 5pm  
Contact: Colin Morris