

SUMMER EDITION

JUN – AUG 2025

# CLYMPING VILLAGE NEWS





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Welcome to the Summer 2025 Edition of the Clymping Village Newsletter (CVN). In this issue we look back at Spring in Clymping and local events happening in and around Clymping. We also have the results of our writing competition from St Mary's CofE Primary School. Well done to all who took part, the standard was high and we enjoyed each and everyone.

If you would like to write something for the CVN please contact Jane Mules.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition.

# What's on the Horizon for Clymping

## CHAIRMAN OF CLYMPING PARISH COUNCIL GIVES OVERVIEW OF UPCOMING KEY PROJECTS.

**We wanted to update you on three major projects that could impact the village as a whole.** Foreman Homes' proposals for 300 homes remain to be finalised. A major sticking point is the lack of approved plans for surface water drainage and for the removal of sewage. There has been no recent dialogue with the developers and Council remains keen to engage with Foreman Homes over proposals for the proposed community building. Our preference is further upgrading of existing community facilities in the village building on the recent grant we provided to refurbish the kitchen at the village hall.

The project to upgrade the A259 junctions from Flansham to Littlehampton is yet to be finally approved but is coming closer. At the time of writing, residents will be aware of the preparatory works by the contractor engaged by the county council for the project. Talks are also underway between County and Foreman Homes over the detailed design of a new Church Lane roundabout, a condition of the original housing approval. The A259 proposals also include a new roundabout at the Oystercatcher and upgrades to the Ferry Road junction and the Tesco roundabout.

The Rampion 2 Offshore Windfarm received development consent from the Secretary of State on April 4th 2025. Council played an active role throughout the examination of the proposals by the Government Inspector seeking commitments from the developer to minimise impacts on the village such as noise, vibration, dust, works traffic, and lasting damage to agricultural land as the cable is routed through the village. The focus will now shift to the detailed plans for a works compound close to Clymping Park, the drilling and trench operations, and transport through the village. Council is in discussion with the project, and we will seek a village meeting in the summer to provide you the opportunity to address concerns you may have.

With similar timing for these three developments there is a potential for major travel disruption, something of a perfect storm.

The beach continues to be discussed widely in the village as the coastline continues to erode. The shingle bunds were reinforced in the autumn of last year to provide further protection from over topping and local flooding to the Atherington properties and Bailiffscourt Hotel. This was privately funded. Erosion is expected to continue to the west of the car park and across the old car park frontage as the coast realigns. To the east however there is evidence of beach renewal in front of the Environment Agency's Mill Lane bund. Further to the Parish View in November 2024 CVN, the Parish Council has included a questionnaire in this edition to help us understand what the community feels are the most important beach issues today as ways forward are sought. Please return the questionnaires and share your views with us in confidence.

In addition, residents should be aware that the beach car park is closed. The parking restrictions are also being enforced to ensure free access for emergency vehicles. We are organising updated parking signage with WSCC highways.

We are working through the county association for local councils to have our say on the proposed devolution of local government, the unification of the county and district councils, and the creation for a mayor for Sussex. The expectation is that we will have to resource far more at the parish level. We are advised to ensure we are in good shape financially with a strong balance sheet ahead of this. Watch this space.

*C.J. Humphris  
Clymping Parrish Council*

# Worship, Wonder, and a Walk Through the Gardens

ST.MARY'S CHURCH UPDATE FROM REVEREND RICHARD.

**It's amazing how quickly winter and spring become early summer**, and here I am again, writing for our lovely Clymping village magazine. The past 3 months have been dominated by Lent, followed by Easter, in the Benefice of Clymping, Yapton and Ford. Clymping continued with our regular pattern of Sunday worship - alternating between Parish Communion and Family service and our Thursday Communion at St Andrew's, Ford. It has been lovely to have new folk join us on a regular basis, you are always welcome to give us a try... check out our website for our services - [www.cyfchurches.org.uk](http://www.cyfchurches.org.uk)

Things tend to be quieter and more reflective during Lent, but we did have another great Messy Church in March, which included 'pancake' races in the aisles. We also made a variety of little reminders of the meaning of Easter which we all took home in 'not to be opened until Easter' boxes.

On Good Friday we held a moving service of reflection, based on the last words of Jesus on the cross. We try to time it so that we end at 3.00pm, the moment we remember Jesus breathing his final breath on the cross, which was heralded with the tolling of one of the church bells.

Easter Day began, not on the beach as used to be the case, but outside St Andrew's, Ford, at 6.30am. Perhaps next year we will be back on the beach? We then had a full church at our Easter Celebration Communion. A great way to finish Lent and Easter.

The Open Gardens Festival is the church's big focus for Summer 2025, as we unite with the village. Not only is this an opportunity to peek into your neighbours' gardens it also raises funds for the oldest building in the parish! I will be around all day so do say 'hello'...

*Rev Richard Hayes  
St. Mary's Church*

## Clymping Open Gardens

SATURDAY 14TH JUNE

**Come and join us for what promises to be a great day** on Saturday 14th June. It's 25 years since the first 'Clymping Open Gardens' event took place, so there is lots planned for this special day.

Tickets will be available on the day from outside Clymping Church at £8.50 per person (£20 per family) and at least 16 gardens will be open from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm with minibuses running around the route every 15 minutes.

There will be an Art Exhibition and sale in the church by Arundel Arts Society, as well as a childrens art exhibition at the school on the theme of 'Flowers and Nature'.

There will also be a plant sale, ceramics and pottery stall, bottle and childrens' tombolas, as well as activities for children at the church hall from 2 - 4 pm. A raffle will be drawn at 4.00 pm with lots of fantastic prizes on offer.

An all-day cafe will operate in the church hall offering morning coffee/tea and cake, ploughman's lunches, quiche and salad, pizza and filled baked potatoes. In the afternoon cream teas and cakes will be served. A local 'American Folk' duo will play during the day.

Thanks to all those who have helped bring the day together. Come and join us and enjoy being a part of the local community. See you there!!

# Around and about Clymping

**THIS SEASON BRINGS MORE COMMUNITY EVENTS AROUND CLYMPING, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE WEATHER HAS WARMED UP.**



## VE DAY IN CLYMPING ST

Clymping Street residents got together in Little Acre Allotment to remember the end of the Second World War 80 years ago.

There was a fine turnout despite the weather with plenty of delicious food, tea and cake and even a glass of Pimm's! All contributed by the locals. Thanks to Kay and Wendy for organising the event.

## ALLOTMENT PLOTS FOR CLYMPING RESIDENTS

Clymping Residents are able to rent an allotment plot from Hobbs Farm Allotment and Garden Society (HAGS) and there are a number of plots available currently. If you are interested contact the HAGS secretary, Geoff Martin - [Geoff.martin47@btinternet.com](mailto:Geoff.martin47@btinternet.com)

## CRICKET

Clymping Cricket Club is our own local league affiliated club, having 2 open-age teams, playing in divisions 6 and 12 of the Sussex League structure. Games are played every Saturday, 1pm start. Matches are played both at our excellent park ground situated behind Clymping Village Hall, and away at various local county venues.

Also played are many mid-week T20 (20 overs a side) Slam games, and also some friendly Sunday fixtures. The club is known for its friendly atmosphere with many families coming along to spectate and socialise using the onsite bar facilities.

One of our characters is Chairman Paul Challen. He recently celebrated 50 years of being involved with the club and was presented with a decanter and glass set by the other club members in recognition of his achievement. Paul's wife, all his children, as well as many of his grandchildren have all played for the club.

Both sides hope to do well this season, with our second's just missing out on promotion last year. Players of all abilities, young and old, are welcome to join us. Practice is normally on a Thursday evening, starting at 6pm. Contact the club through their Facebook page for more information.





### VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

If you've been to the Village Hall green recently you might have noticed that there has been a lot of activity inside the building. The committee for the Hall decided earlier in the year that it was time to spruce up the kitchen, applied for and were given a grant of £10,000 from the Parish Council.

Work has now commenced with the removal of the original kitchen over the Early May bank holiday weekend. The following Tuesday work commenced on the refurbishment. At the time of writing this article, the work is still ongoing, but everything is due to be completed by the middle of May. It's very exciting to know that we will have a lovely new kitchen that will encourage new hires and will benefit all those in the village wanting to use the Hall for an event.

One of the largest expenses at the Village Hall is the electricity costs. The committee has therefore been investigating the option to get solar panels installed on the roof and battery storage. Solar panel installation has dropped considerably in price since we had ours installed. That said, with the costs of the kitchen refurbishment currently being paid for plus other urgent work that is required for drainage and general maintenance of the hall work is unable to proceed with this work at the moment. The committee is investigating funding options to see if we can get some assistance with the c£11,000 it will cost.

Additionally, it is worth knowing that if you are a Clymping resident, you can get a reduced rate for hiring the Hall for all kinds of celebrations and functions? Please direct any enquiries to [clympingvh@gmail.com](mailto:clympingvh@gmail.com)

Anne Miller

### ARUNDEL ARTS SOCIETY

If you've ever thought about picking up a paint brush and exploring your creative side, pop on over between visiting the gorgeous gardens on the trail, and come and say hello. We're a friendly bunch, from amateur to professional, with a passion for creating art in all mediums; from pastels to watercolour, acrylics to oil, graphite, pencils and charcoal.

We meet each week in St. Mary's Church Hall, and will be participating with an exhibition in St. Mary's Church, for the Clymping village Open Gardens on the 14th June. Original paintings, prints and cards by 20 of the Society's members will be on display for sale from 10am to 5pm on the day.



### THE LOST VILLAGES TALK

On Saturday, 22nd February, John Mills, a former County Archaeologist, gave an illustrated talk at Clymping Village Hall on a selection of 'washed away' medieval villages along the West Sussex coast. The topic was of particular interest to Clymping residents, as structures that were once part of Atherington have recently been exposed following erosion at Clymping beach.

Mr Mills used contemporary accounts, newspaper articles, historical maps, artefacts and photos from visits to beaches to describe a number of villages and hamlets that succumbed to the sea in the Middle Ages or more recently. The second half of his presentation focussed on Atherington in particular, which disappeared between 1606 and 1772. He showed a map overlay of where Atherington once stood, compared with the topography today, and photos of the bottoms of domestic wells that can now be seen on Clymping beach at low tide.

Mr Mills also discussed the nearby medieval hamlet of Cudlow, which had a manor house and chapel, likewise lost to coastal erosion.

The talk was presented by the West Sussex Archives Society, whose members made the many local residents in attendance feel very welcome.

*Lisa Eyre*



**THE BLACK HORSE**

As you may recall The Black Horse, Climping celebrated its first anniversary in March and thank you to all of those who joined in the celebrations, it was great fun.

Since then, we are delighted to have won the prestigious Muddy Stiletto award for Best Destination Pub in Sussex. We'd like to say a huge thank you to all of you who voted for us. These are coveted awards for independent businesses across the country, and we are so proud of the team to have won this.

*Sophie Tanner*

# Puzzle Page

**HAVE A GO AT THIS SUMMER THEMED WORDSEARCH**

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- SWIFT
- ROYALASCOT
- BADMINTON
- CHIFFCHAFF
- APPLES
- SWALLOW
- THEDERBY
- GOLDFINCH
- GLASTONBURY
- STRAWBERRIES
- ROBIN
- WIMBLEDON
- HENLEY
- DUNNOCK

# Curtains Up, Canvases Out

**A STARRING ROLE FOR ARUNDEL AS WE APPROACH THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL AND GALLERY TRAIL IN AUGUST.**

**Arundel town will be hosting a week and a half Festival of the Arts, Gallery Trail and Theatre Trail, filled with ten days in which to sample the bits you love. Better still, sample bits you have not seen or heard before. Arundel's Festivities are an opportunity to be involved in first class entertainment on your doorstep. So why not make 2025 a Summer to remember?**

Festivities of the Arts includes Theatre, Concerts, Words and Music, Street Entertainment, Walking Tours, Children's Fun, Vintage Cars, Continental Style Cafes on the Hill and Tarrant Street - just a few words to describe these ten days! Some events are ticketed but most are not. Times and dates will be in the Festival Brochure, but for now, everything you need to know is online here - [www.arundelfestival.co.uk](http://www.arundelfestival.co.uk)



The Theatre Trail, we believe the Original Theatre Trail, founded in Arundel in 2001 by resident Bill Brennan. Many towns have followed Arundel's innovative lead in performing short plays in different locations around the town. The Theatre Trail runs for eight days, hosting six plays within six different venues, each walking distance of each other. You may take the Fast Lane and watch all six on the same day, or you could take the Slow Lane and watch one each day - your choice. These are ticketed performances and begin at 11am each day. Follow [www.dripactiontheatre.com](http://www.dripactiontheatre.com) for more information.

An added attraction of Drip Actions is the evening play, which will be shown the Victoria Institute. This is avant garde theatre is sure to entertain with its clever choice of play and superb casting of talented local performers and directors. A ticketed event commencing at 8pm on four evenings. The Arundel Players also have an evening performance at their own Priory Theatre. Check their website for more details - [www.arundelplayers.co.uk](http://www.arundelplayers.co.uk)

the famous Gallery Trail. Claimed to be the longest running and consecutive annual walking Art Trail in the World. Started in 1989, and now in its 36th year - sadly, missing in 2020. Follow intimate, original, spacious or quirky spaces which have been turned into galleries of fascinating art. With the free colour brochure, you'll be guided around the town; make sure to watch out for Venue Flags outside a 'gallery'. There are a few venues on the outskirts of town where you might visit by car or bicycle. This is open all ten days of the Festival between 12pm and 5pm, although some artists in public spaces can be open much earlier. All Gallery Trail venues are free to visit. In the Victoria Institute, marvel (and vote) at the Secret Artist Auction. More information is on [www.arundelgallerytrail.co.uk](http://www.arundelgallerytrail.co.uk)

Clymping's second involvement in the Gallery Trail is Susie Olford's painting on display in The Old Printing Works, definitely one of the quirky venues around town. Her 10th year of Gallery Trail exhibiting. A collection of mainly oil paintings featuring landscapes, the sea (of course!), and skies. Colourful and moody but never sad moods. Chuckle at humorous greeting cards designed for your wine loving family and friends. Opening around 10am.

And the third is the photographer for Drip Action Theatre, Colin Humphris. Colin also runs the Front of House team for evening plays and Theatre Trail. Very visible during the Theatre Trail with the appropriate T-shirt pushing a trolley with play goodies including his umbrella!

Last, and by no means least, Clymping's involvement in the Festival is three-fold. Arundel Art Society, who meet in our Church Hall, exhibit in the spacious Cathedral Centre on London Road. All part of the Gallery Trail. About 30 of their artists will be displaying their art during the Trail. This is definitely worth seeking out as this is the Festival's largest collection of exhibits with many different styles and mediums of painting. A chance to meet artists who will be happy to share some of their working methods. In the hall, you'll have a chance to sit down for a cuppa as well as drinks will be provided. There'll be more details on their website - [www.arundelartsociety.co.uk](http://www.arundelartsociety.co.uk)

The practical things: Saturday 16th to B/H Monday 25th August. Tickets for popular events may sell quickly. Most may be booked on-line. Feel the buzz of Arundel, just come into town. The Farmers Market will be held on Saturday 16th. There are three fields of parking on the main Mill Lane carpark and additionally The Rotary normally have one on the south road into town. It is easy to get into Arundel by train. This may seem odd, but Arundel station is on the edge of town and many do take the train from Ford, Barnham, or Littlehampton and thus avoid the A27.

*Suzie Olford*



# Planning, Progress, and Preservation

## LOCAL DISTRICT COUNCIL UPDATE

**I hope everyone has had a chance to enjoy the beautiful weather** we've been experiencing recently. There are two matters I'd like to update you on in this newsletter: the proposed devolution of the local council, and the two major developments planned for our area.

Next week marks the start of a new Council Year, and I am now entering my sixth year as District Councillor for Yapton, Ford, and Clymping. Normally, the council elections would be held in 2025. However, due to the ongoing plans for Devolution and the potential amalgamation of local councils, it has been decided that elections for the new council will now take place in 2027.

Current Arun Councillors will shadow the new council until 2028. There will also be an opportunity for currently elected District Councillors to stand for election to the new council in 2027. The final structure of the new council has yet to be determined.

Turning to local developments, there are two significant projects currently proposed in our area: the 300 Foreman homes in Clymping, and the 1,500 Landings homes in Ford. Both developments are still subject to conditions that developers must meet. In some ways, this could be seen as positive news—as the longer these conditions remain unmet, the greater the chance the developments may not proceed. We can only hope.

With the wildlife thriving in the warmer weather, birds nesting and raising their young, and the countryside bursting into vibrant green over the past few weeks, I believe it's more important than ever to preserve as much of our stunning natural landscape as we can.

*Amanda Worne  
Arun District Council*

## Shifting Sands, Steady Plans

### CLIMPING BEACH GETS A TIDY UP

**The first few months of this year brought some significant stormy weather** and high Spring tides in April to the Climping area; however, we have seen limited impact and movement to the material along the beach with minimal maintenance activities required by the Environment Agency. Monitoring of the shingle will continue throughout this year and reactive works will be undertaken as required.

Efforts will focus on essential works to ensure public safety and protect the shoreline. This will include shingle reprofiling to manage erosion risks when required and the removal of obsolete groyne structures that pose hazards to beach users.

A detailed groyne condition survey was completed in March, helping to identify structures no longer fit for purpose. Work to remove redundant sections of groyne structures is planned for later in the year when conditions are environmentally suitable and logistically feasible.

We appreciate your understanding as we prioritise safety within the constraints of this year's budget. Further updates will be shared as work progresses.

*John Parsonage  
Environment Agency*





# Circling Back to Climping



**WILD ABOUT CLYMPING GIVES AN OVERVIEW OF THE SWIFTS AND SWALLOWS  
RETURN THIS SUMMER**

**It's been a true delight to see the return of swifts, swallows, and house martins to our skies.** We're absolutely over the moon that a pair of swifts has returned to one of the swift boxes on Climping Street! This particular box is fitted with a camera - if you'd like to keep up with their progress, follow us on Facebook at Wild About Climping and on Instagram @wildaboutclimping.



Breeding swifts are the first to arrive, racing back to reclaim their nests, reunite with their mate, and begin raising a new brood. Swifts don't usually breed until they are at least four years old. While their average lifespan is around seven or eight years, some can live up to 21! These early arrivals are just the beginning - swifts come in waves, each group arriving at different times.

Younger birds undertake the astonishing 5,000 mile journey back to the area where they were born. They're on the lookout for a nest site and a mate, hoping to establish themselves within the loosely colonial territories that swifts form during the breeding season. Attracted by the calls of their own kind, they begin the long process of finding the right nesting hole.

By June and July, the final waves of immature birds return, giving us the highest numbers of swifts in the sky. These non-breeding young birds treat us to some of the most spectacular sights of summer - watch for them on fine evenings as they perform breath-taking aerial circuits, racing and screeching together in tight packs. Occasionally, even breeding birds will join in for a few laps - a social ritual that helps strengthen bonds within the colony, which may span a street or block.

The most important thing a swift needs is a nesting hole. Because swifts are very site-faithful, retaining existing nest sites is vital. Installing a swift box is one of the best ways you can help. Thank you to everyone who has already offered these amazing birds a home!

If you ever find a grounded swift, please visit our Facebook page Wild About Climping or the website [swift-conservation.org](http://swift-conservation.org) for guidance. Keep looking up!

*Wendy Robinson  
Wild About Climping 'High Flyers'*

# Chapters of Joy

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

**Book Week was a true highlight**, packed with activities designed to foster a love of reading across the school. We were delighted to welcome author Gareth P. Jones, who brought books to life through his fabulous readings, rapping, musical instruments and singing. His visit was a real treat for pupils and staff alike.

Throughout the week, we also ran a community café, enjoyed reading sessions at the beach, and even had a cosy pyjama day to celebrate bedtime stories. All of our children also had the opportunity to visit the local library, further inspiring their reading journeys.

In the lead-up to Easter, we were pleased to welcome Rev Rich and his guitar for our Easter Service, where the children sang beautifully and reflected on the meaning of the holiday. A special thank you must go to Shelly Motors / Middleton Garage for generously providing Easter eggs for our much-loved Easter Egg Hunt – this was a great way to end the spring term!

Beyond the school grounds, our pupils have had plenty of opportunities to take their learning further afield. Visits this term included a science exploration at Arundel Wildfowl and Wetlands Centre, a thrilling trip to Chessington World of Adventures to learn about forces, and an inspiring art enrichment day at Chichester Cathedral. These experiences have been a wonderful way to enhance the curriculum and create lasting memories.

Looking ahead, we are excited for a packed summer term. We are thrilled to be hosting our 3rd Annual Arts Evening, showcasing the incredible talents of our pupils. Here, the community can attend school to have a picnic, while a band plays and the school will be turned into an art gallery - this is a real highlight in the school calendar. We also look forward to participating in the Clymping Open Gardens event, where our school will contribute to the vibrant village atmosphere.

Our much-anticipated Sports Day is on the horizon, giving our young athletes a chance to shine. Also, Bikeability training will take place for our Year 6 children, learning how to cycle safely and confidently on the roads. Currently, we are preparing for our residential visit to Cobnor Activity Centre, where pupils will enjoy sailing, kayaking, canoeing, and more against the stunning backdrop of Chichester Harbour.

With the beautiful grounds and surrounding countryside of Clymping as our setting, we are all looking forward to a wonderful summer term full of learning, laughter, and community spirit.

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



*Y3 and 4 on a local visit to see how Littlehampton has changed as part of their local history study*



*Summer Art's Evening*

# Short Story Competition

The Spring Newsletter introduced a short story competition so the children at St. Mary's School could show off their learnings from Gareth P. Jones' visit. Thank you for all the children who participated. Every story was reviewed by a panel of judges, allowing each a fair chance. It was a joy to read them all, from evil cats to magical instruments - it was difficult to pick only two!

We would like to congratulate Freddie Beacher and Chloe Chapman! Both stories demonstrated fantastic creativity and left great cliffhangers, so well done. Please see below for both stories.

## Freddie's Story

FREDDIE BEACHER - KEY STAGE 3 - YEAR 5

I've broken my wrist. A dreadful small thing, that I thought would bring me down, turned into something remarkable. I've always loved sport; football, cricket, running, I just cannot sit still! My passion for football caused my injury, which changed my life forever. After a couple of weeks of misery, being told to rest, I suddenly realised that I had become super strong.

On the final day of school with my wrist guard on, I opened the door and it flung back, the hinges flew off! I am unsure what had happened, my eyes wide open, I stood still looking at the door

now on the floor. Soon after it was lunchtime and we were outside. I had an idea, if I could do that to the door, could I move a bench too? I did! With two fingers, I lifted the bench off the ground. Everyone around me stopped what they were doing and were in shock. The boy who had broken his wrist, could now lift up a bench with two fingers.

When I got home I wondered if with one hand I could lift up a person, a car and even more a skyscraper. How will I use this power within me to change my generation?

## The Story

CHLOE CHAPMAN - KEY STAGE 2 - YEAR 2

Once upon a time, there was a Storybook and a little boy called Pen. Once, Storybook said "Pen what-" but before Storybook could finish, a tile fell from the roof. Pen and Storybook were shocked. "What could have done this?" said Pen. "I don't know," said Storybook. They both looked up, they saw a raindrop fall from the space the tile had fallen. Pen ran to get a big big bucket and placed it where the leak was.

And the next morning, it was full. Pen went into the garden and emptied it. But he was too late! Before he could get back, there was a flood! All over the living room! Pen thought it was funny. But Storybook was afraid that his book pages would get soggy so Pen swept it up sadly. "Thank you Pen," said Storybook. "That's okay," said Pen.

After that, Pen and Storybook called Mr Builder and he fixed the space the tile was but he pushed too hard, the roof collapsed. "Oh no!" They both said, but at that time, it had stopped raining. Pen, Storybook and Pen's mum had moved house but it was very cosy. In fact, it was very cosy, on their first night they had... SMORES! They were very tasty. They also put banana pizza and chocolate in them - they were so good.

I wish I were there but this is your imagination so you can change my story. This tale isn't the only one...

## Local resident

**Christine Gillott is a Philanthropy Manager for St Wilfred's Hospice.** She moved to Climping in 2016 and lives with her partner Andy and son Tobias. Christine has been a parish councillor and still sits on the Environment action group.

### What is your background?

I grew up in Bignor in the south downs, and enjoyed a rural childhood, going to school at Duncton Primary, Herbert Shiner in Petworth and then Midhurst Grammar where I stayed to undertaken A-Levels.

I love living in West Sussex, I had a brief move to Brighton, but the longing to return to the West meant that I moved back to Crossbush, where I made great friends and had great neighbours. I have always liked to get involved in where I live, so ended up organising and running an annual plant and craft show for Crossbush residents, which helped bring villagers together, and raise funds for charity.

I worked for Sainsburys Supermarkets for over 27 years, not in the same job! But what started out as a part time job on the checkouts so I could run a car, which is needed when you live in Bignor! to taking a full time job in my gap year before I went to university, to not leaving as I enjoyed working and being promoted to Petrol station, to Chief Display Assistant, where I would support new store opening and store refits all over the country, until disaster the Chichester store burnt down! All the staff were allocated to go to other stores, I ended up at Lyons Farm, Worthing, but was then transferred to West Hove, which when I then moved to Brighton!

10 years after leaving full time education, and now working as a Personnel & Training Senior assistant at Sainsburys, I was supported to go to Portsmouth University and achieve Post Graduate in HR & Professional Management. HR sadly was removed from all stores, and we were all made redundant.



This starts my story working in charity, as I was also PR Ambassador for Sainsburys Sussex stores, I had worked with a number of charities, and was seeking a new challenge, because you have to see being made redundant as a positive.

I chose to work at Care for Veterans, as a community fundraising officer, soon to be promoted to Senior Fundraising officer, and then Head of Fundraising & Marketing. Again only to be made redundant because the Royal Star & Garter have taken over.

I found myself again seeking a new position, and I am now currently Philanthropy Manager at St Wilfred's Hospice.

**What made you decide to work in your current role?**

Hospice care is amazing, the support that is given to patients and their family is unwavering and vital. I wanted to work for a charity where my skills and knowledge could support the funding needed.

Hospice care is in crisis, and we betide if we lost the hospice care. We need to keep this resource open for the 190,000 people in the catchment area. St Wilfrid's manage from Emsworth, to Midhurst to Arundel, including Climping!

**Could you tell us bit about your role and the organisation?**

Being a Philanthropy Manager I manage Trust & Foundation applications, and Major Donors. I write funding applications for restricted and unrestricted funding for all areas of the Hospice. I Steward the Major Donors who make such a difference with their donations.

For the last 38 years adults in our community with life-limiting illnesses have been able to depend on St Wilfrid's Hospice to provide them with specialist palliative care. Patients and their families have access to a range of services that provide holistic support, this includes; a 14-bed inpatient ward, a Hospice Community Team, Family Services & Bereavement Support Team, and Rehabilitation Team.

Since receiving our first patient in January 1987, we have been developing our services to meet the complex needs of our growing community. This has resulted in our understanding that - though we primarily existed to ensure as many people as possible are able to die peacefully - it is also hugely important for patients to be able to live joyful & active lives with their families before they die.

As a Hospice, all of the services we deliver have one goal: give people the opportunity to enjoy their life.

I expect there is no thing as a typical day but what might an average day look like Research for funding opportunities, writing applications, meetings about care providing, contacting funders and Major Donors.

I also network in the locality to promote St Wilfrid's and what we do, and how to get involved.

What challenges do you face in your role  
It's a challenge for all charities, but there are fewer Trusts now, and the amount they are able to grant is restricted. Its always searching for another funder to replace those who have closed. I think dispelling what people think Hospices do, we care for so many people in our community, not just a 14 bed Hospice, and that we care for on average 340 people at any one time.

Educating about Hospice care is critical for its future.

**Why do you enjoy your job?**

What's not to love (apart from the trip down the A27!) you make a real difference everyday to people who need support, care and reassurance. Without funding this is not possible, as Hospice care is Free. So I am proud to be part of the enabling fundraising team.

Working in charity is a worthwhile career, and I love a challenge, so I am always there if they need a skydiver, abseiler, trek participant, or holding a plant and bake sale.

I meet so many wonderful people in this line of work, and have made so many friends.

I do want to say a big thank you to those who attended and donated for my plant and bake sale in aid of St Wilfrid's - it all makes a big change!

*Thank you to Christine Gillott for being our Local Resident Spotlight this newsletter. If you'd like to contribute in our next issue, please contact Jane Mules .*

# **Dates for your Diary**

## **UPCOMING COFFEE MORNINGS**

7th June  
20th September  
6th December  
10:30am - 12pm  
Clymping Village Hall  
Contact: Anne Miller

## **VILLAGE DINNER DANCE**

29th November,  
Details TBC

## **CLIPPING OPEN GARDENS**

14th June  
St. Mary's Church  
Contact: Colin Morris

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday 15th July,  
Starts at 7:30pm  
Clymping Church Hall  
Contact: Nadine Phibbs



# Quick Contacts

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**NADINE PHIBBS**

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