

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, WITHYHAM  
and ALL SAINTS, BLACKHAM



# PARISH MAGAZINE



**August 2025**



EST 1975

**CURTAINS  
SOFT FURNISHINGS  
BLINDS &  
REUPHOLSTERY**

**Appointments: 07957 811 589**  
The Black And White Shop  
Groombridge



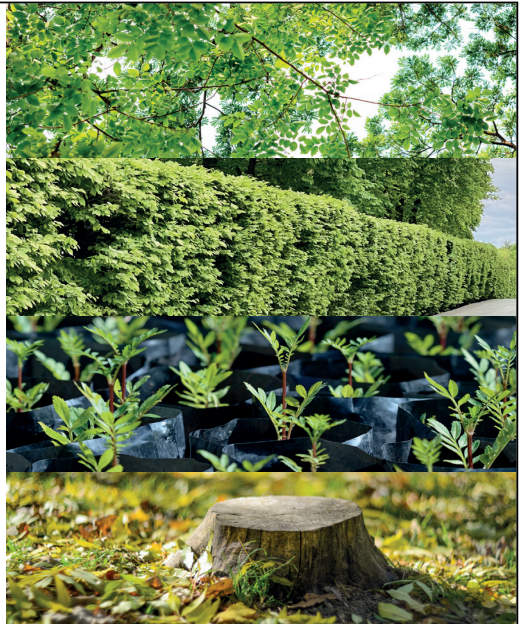
**BEECH GREEN**

TREE SERVICES.COM

**TREE WORK  
HEDGES  
PLANTING  
STUMP GRINDING**

KENT & SUSSEX QUALIFIED TREE SURGEONS  
CITY & GUILDS • FULLY INSURED

DAVID NEWCOMBE 07771 711094



# The Parish of St Michael & All Angels, Withyham, with All Saints, Blackham

**www.withyhamchurch.org**

Rector	<b>The Rev. Canon James Campbell</b> The Rectory, Withyham, TN7 4BA withyhamrector@gmail.com	01892 770069
Churchwarden	<b>Mrs Jill Pardey</b>	01892 661882
Churchwarden	<b>Mrs Gilly Halcrow</b>	01892 770607
Sexton & Verger	<b>Mr John Collins</b>	01892 662389
Licensed Reader	<b>Mr Donald Yonge</b>	07872 529740
Organist	<b>Mrs Sue Stone,</b> <b>GRSM ARCM DipEd</b>	01892 770978
Deputy Organist	<b>Mr Peter Ellefsen,</b> <b>BSc CEng MIEE</b>	01892 653965
Bell Tower Captain		
Hon. Treasurer	<b>Mrs Anne Barker</b>	
Hon. Secretary	<b>Mrs Alison Hunnam</b>	01892 770347
Parish Safeguarding Officer	<b>Mr Donald Yonge</b> safeguarding.withyhamchurch@gmail.com	07872 529740
Blackham Church	<b>Mrs Sue Schooling</b>	01892 740397
Withyham Flower Guild	<b>Mrs Jill Pardey</b>	01892 661882
Withyham Altar Linen	<b>Mrs Diane Pedder</b>	01892 770240
Withyham Church Cleaning Rota	<b>Mrs Anne Radford</b>	01892 770021
Family Support Work	<b>Mrs Miriam Boobier</b>	01892 662780
Church Administrator	<b>Mrs Bridget Clayton</b> withyhamchurch@gmail.com	

## The Dorset Arms, Withyham

A 16<sup>th</sup> Century Inn, open seven days a week, serving excellent local seasonal produce and offering traditional hospitality in the heart of the Sussex

Tel: 01892 770278

[www.dorset-arms.co.uk](http://www.dorset-arms.co.uk)  
[enquiries@dorsetarms.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@dorsetarms.co.uk)



**NEW BUILD • RENOVATION • DESIGN  
CONVERSION • EXTENSION  
ADVISORY • OPEN PLAN • LANDSCAPE**

At Hestia, we specialise in luxury home renovations, offering a stress-free, end-to-end experience. From initial design to final finishes, we manage every detail so you don't have to.

✉ [info@homehestia.co.uk](mailto:info@homehestia.co.uk)  
🌐 [www.homehestia.co.uk](http://www.homehestia.co.uk)  
📷 @myhomehestia

Complimentary consultations with **10% OFF** for Withyham & Blackham residents



**KMJProperty**  
**Sales & Lettings**  
*Your local independent agent*

# SUNS OUT, SOLD SIGNS OUT.

**GET IN TOUCH TODAY!**



# From the Rectory

Dear Friends,

Earlier in the year Mary and I went to the Isles of Scilly. They lie 28 miles off the Cornish coast and comprise five inhabited islands and lots of smaller ones all owned by the Duchy of Cornwall. We stayed on Tresco which has been let to the Dorrien-Smith family for nearly 200 years.

There are three ways of getting to the Scillies: by boat on the ‘Scillonian’, on the Isles of Scilly Skybus service from Land’s End, Exeter or Newquay airports, or by helicopter from Penzance direct to Tresco; we went out by helicopter and returned by boat on what was, thankfully, a very calm day.

I was there on a scheme arranged for clergy who can rent ‘The Parsonage’ half-price in return to taking Sunday services on the neighbouring islands of Bryher and Tresco; I last did it over 25 years ago. A small boat came to collect us at 8.30am – unlike last time when it was a very low tide I didn’t have to wade out to the boat; then back to Tresco for 11am – with no more duties.

Tresco is known for its glorious sandy beaches and clear blue sea; there are no cars, though there are quite a lot of mainly electric Estate vehicles. The beaches face in different directions so one can usually find one out of the wind. For those who don’t want to walk, there are bicycles for hire.

Like anywhere that one returns to after a long time, things have changed on Tresco. There is now much more holiday accommodation – mainly timeshares – but the development has been concentrated around the two main centres; there are also now four good places to eat. The islands used to be known for bulb growing, but very few farmers continue that on other islands.

All in all, despite the changes Tresco largely maintains its unique, unspoilt character. There is the ongoing challenge in many areas of life, including in the church, as to whether it is possible to both hold onto the best from the past, whilst at the same introducing new things. In the Old Testament, in Isaiah 43:19 we read God’s words, *‘See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland’*, but then in the New Testament in Hebrews 13:8, we read that *‘Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.’*

**James Campbell**



**07490 550 559**

**Nickalls-decor@outlook.com**

All your painting and decorating needs. Interior/ Exterior, domestic & commercial. Wallpapering, dustless sanding, period properties, modern properties, joinery painting, restoring old woodwork, windows and more. Free quotes. Uckfield, Tunbridge Wells, East Grinstead and surrounding areas.

Search Nickalls Decor on Facebook or Instagram.

## **Traditional Mole, Mice, Mink, Rabbit & Squirrel Catcher**

**Traditional methods only  
No poisons used**

**PETER  
KING**

**01892 520287**

**07432 813614**

**pkingmoles@outlook.com**

## **Churchwardens' Notes**

**by Jill Pardey & Gilly Halcrow**

After several days of wonderful sunny weather the Withyham Fete opened at 12.30pm on 5<sup>th</sup> July and rain promptly descended. Fortunately it was short lived, didn't deter the early visitors, and soon the field was full of cars, people and dogs. It rained more heavily later on, at which point the tea tent became even more popular. The event made £8,500 gross, and the proceeds will be divided 50-50 between the Church and the village. Mary and James Campbell later held a party at the Rectory for the Fete helpers where guests enjoyed a beautiful summer evening outside the porch with delicious eats and Pimms.

The Quinquennial (five-yearly) review of the Church fabric revealed nothing serious and it seems our beautiful building is in sound structural shape.

The PCC meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> July greeted new members Anne Radford and Imogen Wedd. The finances showed the Church to be in profit, and that the recently installed contactless card reader had been beneficial.

It will be a relief when repairs to the Chancel are completed and this will begin on 15<sup>th</sup> September, with services taking place in the rest of the Church instead of migrating to Blackham.

## Church Calendar – August 2025

**St. Michael and All Angels, Withyham, with All Saints, Blackham**

*(All services at Withyham unless stated)*

<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup></b> 7 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	9.45 am	Zoom
	11.00 am	Holy Communion
	6.30 pm	Evensong
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup></b> 8 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	11.00 am	Matins
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup></b> 9 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	11.00 am	Pet Service
	6.30 pm	Evensong
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup></b> Bartholomew the Apostle	11.00 am	Matins
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup></b> 11 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	11.00 am	Matins at <b>Blackham</b>
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity		
	9.45 am	Zoom
	11.00 am	Holy Communion
	6.30 pm	Evensong

## Parish Registers – July 2025

### Marriages

On 21<sup>st</sup> June the wedding between Charles Benjamin JONES & Zoe Louise MOSS took place at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Withyham.

On 12<sup>th</sup> July the wedding between Colin William GRACE & Gillian ('Gill') Margaret LAW took place at All Saints Church, Blackham.

### Funerals

On 23<sup>rd</sup> June, the interment of the ashes took place in Withyham Churchyard of Tom WILD who died on 26<sup>th</sup> December 2023 aged 93.

On 15<sup>th</sup> July, the interment of the ashes took place in Withyham Churchyard of Robin Edward HOOPER who died on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2015 aged 69 and Ruth Estelle HOOPER who died on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 aged 77.

# BLACKHAM VILLAGE MARKET & CAFE

SATURDAY 2 AUGUST 2025  
10AM TO 12.15PM

TEA, COFFEE, AND HOMEMADE CAKES SERVED FROM 10AM  
LOTS OF LOVELY THINGS TO BUY: HOMEMADE PASTIES,  
CAKES AND PRESERVES, LOCALLY MADE BREAD, LOCAL  
HONEY, BIRD FOOD, EGGS, CRAFT ITEMS AND BRIC A BRAC

## ANDY SAYERS

ELECTRICAL SERVICES

DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL

### Electricity in safe hands

- Installations, rewires, board upgrades
- Fault finding, maintenance, repairs
- Inspection and testing reports
- Portable appliance testing (PAT)
- Qualified to BS 7671 2018 18th Edition
- Building regulations part P compliant
- Prompt, reliable and competitive rates

T. 07836 256 146 E. andycsayers@gmail.com

www.andysayerselectrical.com



# RL

## Computer Solutions



More than 90% of issues resolved  
onsite within 1 hour



Appointment at your premises – no  
waiting around



Mac and Windows



Home and small business support



Installation, upgrades & repairs  
including malware / virus removal



Speed-up & performance solutions



Data recovery and back-up solutions



Tuition from experienced teacher



High quality broadband



Wordpress website expert

Call Roger on:

01342 825 209

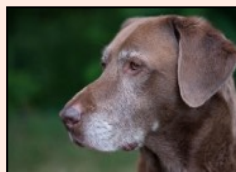
roger@rlcomputersolutions.co.uk

# PET SERVICE

The annual Pet Service will be held outside The Rectory, Withyham  
on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August starting at 11.00am

Animals of all shapes and sizes are welcome; Some may need to remain  
in a suitable cage, others on a lead, and so on

If your pet would rather stay at home, is ill or has died recently,  
you could always bring a photograph along



## *Creative Design & Print*

### **Small format**

business & private stationery,  
cards, order of service,  
high end brochures.

### **Large format**

scanning & printing of plans,  
colourful posters & banners,  
outdoor signage.

Free onsite parking.

Walk in customers are always welcome or  
telephone to make an appointment.

**01342 323700**  
**emsdesignandprint.co.uk**

Medway House, 18-22 Cantelupe Road, East Grinstead







THE SUSSEX CHARITY FOR CHILDREN  
SINCE 1890

# Family Support Work July 2025 update

by Martin Auton-Lloyd ,  
FSW Chief Executive Officer

Dear Friends,

As the school year comes to an end we are pleased that once again the Education Department at Church House has nominated FSW as the charity to be supported at the school leaver services across the diocese, recognising our close link to many of the schools and the support that we give to the school families.

Our practitioners are gearing up for the summer activities with days out planned at, Warnham Park, Agmerhurst House, Berwick Church, and Arundel Cricket Ground as well as many local days in each area. With activities as varied as forest school, archery, swimming, crafts and teddy bear hunts, there promises to be something for everyone over the summer.

Many of our families are kinship care families – one young boy lives with grandparents, he has ADHD, and was really struggling in school and they could no longer support him, so he was excluded but there was no placement for him to go to. He was told there was no special placement, and he would have to go to the local secondary school, they did not want him. They refused to take him, but the school was made to have him enrol whilst an alternative was sought. He got two hours at the local forest school and FSW took him out every week for nine months enabling him to grow in his confidence and his understanding of his condition. We have worked hard to get the county education department to accept the need for a special placement, and at last one has been found, starting in September. Without FSW's perseverance and



and support this young boy would probably still be waiting for a placement.

### June's work in numbers

- 236 individual visits and 812 calls with families supporting 278 adults and 195 children
- 66 supported meetings with other agencies
- 65 group sessions held supporting 678 parents and 329 children
- 65 food deliveries made

### Prayer points

- For everyone who is leaving their primary school this summer and for a safe transition to the secondary school in the autumn
- For the FSW volunteers as they continue to support our families at activities or by fundraising
- Our staff as they prepare for the summer activities that they too have a period of rest

Contact me at [martin@familysupportwork.org.uk](mailto:martin@familysupportwork.org.uk) or on 01273 832963



AMORA CARE

**Regain independence and  
peace of mind with our  
premium home care.**

Personal Care  
Companionship  
Dementia Care  
Live-in and Nights  
Post-Hospital Care  
Therapy dog visits

**Book a Free Assessment Today**

**01892 336 842**

**[www.amoracare.co.uk](http://www.amoracare.co.uk)**





100  
CLUB

AND THE WINNERS For  
July 2025 are:

£20 - Penelope Casely

£15 - Ralph Millington

£10 - Richard Standing

## The Kings' Hall Withyham

We are very grateful for everyone's support but are happy to encourage more local people to become members and help our fundraising for further maintenance and improvements to our hall. Our numbers have risen back to 100 so a big THANK YOU to our new and continuing subscribers!!

Each number costs £12 per year, if you would like to join, please contact Rick Hunnam 07851 638634 or email [chair@withyhamvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:chair@withyhamvillagehall.co.uk).

# What's on?

## Forthcoming Events in the Withyham Village

FRIDAY CAFÉ: FRIDAY 8TH AUGUST – 10.30 to 12.00

HALL LUNCH: NONE IN AUGUST

QUIZ: SATURDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER – 19.30 for 20.00

FRIDAY CAFÉ: FRIDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER – 10.30 to 12.00

HALL LUNCH: THURSDAY 18H SEPTEMBER – 12.15 for 12.30

# FRIDAY CAFE

A DEMENTIA FRIENDLY  
COMMUNITY CAFE

WHERE?

Kings' Hall, Withyham

WHAT TIME?

Between 10:30 - 12:00

TEA  
CAKE  
COFFEE  
REMINISCENCE  
CRAFTS  
LAUGHTER  
QUIZ  
TALKS  
CHAT  
FUN



WHO'S IT FOR?

For anyone, any age who would like to meet  
new people or catch up with old friends

WHAT HAPPENS?

Tea, coffee and delicious homemade cakes are  
served in the first half an hour with plenty of  
time to chat, followed by a fun memory  
provoking or craft activity for the next hour

## 2025 Dates

8th August  
12th September  
10th October  
14th November  
12th December

## INFORMATION

Please contact Anne Radford for more information  
on 07885 486733 or just come along on the day

This is a free service, funded by donations and volunteers.  
If you are a carer, please stay with the person you are bringing,  
we do hope that you will also enjoy your time with us.

Open to anyone in the surrounding villages  
PLEASE HELP US TO SPREAD THE WORD



Thanks to the  
following  
institutions  
for supporting  
our cafe.





# WITHYHAM CHURCH AND VILLAGE FETE 2025

Whether you were:

Baking, Making, Growing, Showing,  
Running, Dancing or BBQ'ing  
Flying birds or Basket weaving  
Putting up or Taking down

Opening, Announcing  
Or Giving

Thank you  
You helped to make our Fete  
A GREAT SUCCESS!!



# KINGS' HALL WITHYHAM



**SATURDAY SEPT 6TH**

**7.30 for 8pm start**

**£12 per person (includes supper  
cheese / meat platter and puds)**

**Fantastic raffle and bar  
(cash/card)**

**To book a table:  
call Rick on 07851 638634**



## The Learning Curve

by Kate Phipps



**Learning Beyond the Classroom:** At St Michael's Primary School, we believe that some of the most meaningful learning takes place beyond the walls of the classroom. While phonics, maths, and science form the backbone of our curriculum, it is often the first-hand experiences in woodlands, on local farms, and in village halls that truly bring learning to life and leave a lasting impact on our children.

Our beautiful rural setting gives us unique opportunities to explore nature first-hand. From bug hunts on the Forest Way to bushcraft in local woodlands, we encourage curiosity, creativity, and a deep connection to the world around us. These experiences not only enrich our curriculum but also build confidence, independence, and teamwork.

We're incredibly lucky to have a community that shares our passion for education. Local farmers, artists, business owners, and volunteers generously give their time and expertise to enrich our pupils' learning. Whether it's a visit from a local estate manager, reading outdoors with a grandparent, or a helping hand from a parent at Nature Club, our community partners are a vital part of our extended classroom.

Recent highlights include our 'Come Dine With Me: Celebrity Edition', where local chef Ian Brunsdon joined pupils for a memorable day of cooking, learning, and laughter, combining lessons in hospitality, planning, nutrition, and community spirit. We've collaborated with Withyham Church and Buckhurst Park on a creative embroidery project, giving children the chance to explore local heritage through hands-on craft. And thanks to the team at Highfields Estate, we now have beautiful handmade outdoor furniture, helping us create an inspiring and welcoming space for learning.

We are proud to be a school rooted in the heart of our village, growing learners who are not only academically capable but socially aware and connected to the people and places around them.

In today's fast-paced digital age, we believe that real-life experiences, time spent in nature, and strong community bonds are essential not only for learning but also for nurturing our children's confidence, happiness, and mental wellbeing. These moments of connection and tranquillity empower our students to flourish both inside the classroom and beyond. None of this would be possible without the incredible support of the community around us, so to all those who do so much – thank you.



CLAIRE NASH  
SOLICITORS

## Can we help with your legal matters?

*Your local solicitor  
providing friendly and expert advice  
in Sussex and West Kent*

Caring and professional advice when you need it the most

- Probate
- Wills
- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Equity Release
- Matrimonial

Office and home visits available,  
including out of hours if needed



Call Claire Nash Solicitors today  
for your **initial consultation** on  
**01892 731082**

T: 01892 731082  
E: [info@clairenashsolicitors.co.uk](mailto:info@clairenashsolicitors.co.uk)  
W: [clairenashsolicitors.co.uk](http://clairenashsolicitors.co.uk)

Office 1, Clock House Court, Beacon Road,  
Crowborough, East Sussex, TN6 1AF

 Solicitors  
Regulation  
Authority  
SRA No: 643261

VAT Number 285 152495  
Claire Nash Solicitors is a trading name of  
Claire Nash Solicitors LTD Co. No. 10958514  
Claire Nash Solicitors LTD is regulated by the  
Solicitors Regulation Authority in England  
and Wales. SRA No. 643261

## Withyham Church And Village Fete

by James Campbell

A very big thank you to all those who helped in any way, on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July, and also to those who supported this annual event. One or two visitors from overseas particularly remarked how much they enjoyed such a very traditional English village event, complete with two bouts of rain.

Approximately £8,500 (gross) was raised. At their meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> July, the PCC agreed that the sharing of the proceeds should be amended so that the Church and Village organisations both receive half each, the latter being decided by the Fete Committee.



### **W Smithers and Sons**

**'Building Excellence' since 1955**

Conversions, extensions, listed buildings, joinery, plumbing and heating, kitchens and bathrooms, electrical, roofing, maintenance and repairs and decorating.

Covering all types of building work.

**Old Mill Yard, High Street, Cowden, Kent TN8 7JJ**

Tel: **01342 850559** Fax: **01342 850981**

**colin@wsmithers.co.uk www.wsmithersandsons.co.uk**

## **J & H FRIEND**

## **ESTD 1860**

**Removals – Storage – Self Storage – Packaging Shop**  
**Regular London and Home Counties Service**

**Forest Row East Sussex**

**Tel : 01342 822608 Email : [info@friendsremovals.co.uk](mailto:info@friendsremovals.co.uk)**

**[www.friendsremovals.co.uk](http://www.friendsremovals.co.uk)**

# Hospice In The Weald Moonlight Walk – A Thank You

by Richard Moxham

The 460 'Moonlight Walkers' who navigated routes through Sevenoaks and Knole Park on 14<sup>th</sup> June raised an amazing £130,000, including match funding from the Freddie Green and Family Foundation.

Whilst the walkers are the stars of the show, we owe thanks to a number of other people and organisations who contributed to the event's success – sponsors, volunteers, local publications including the Withyham Parish Magazine, and event sites that help publicise it, plus Sevenoaks Rugby Club who were the hosts, and National Trust Knole Park who provided a memorable route.

All the funds raised from the Moonlight Walk support Hospice in the Weald's care for people facing terminal illness and their loved ones in Kent and East Sussex, at our Pembury In-Patient Ward and Five Ashes Cottage Hospice.

To all of you, thank you for your support.

Visit us at: [www.hospiceintheweald.org.uk](http://www.hospiceintheweald.org.uk)



**BLACKHAM VILLAGE HALL**

# QUIZ NIGHT

**SATURDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2025**

**TEAMS OF UP TO 6 PEOPLE** | **TICKETS £12 EACH TO INCLUDE SUPPER** | **DOORS OPEN 6.30 QUIZ TO START AT 7PM**

**LICENSED BAR (CASH & CARD)**

**RAFFLE**

Tickets from Ruth ☎ 07890 303791

The poster features a dark blue background with yellow and red text. At the top, a lightbulb icon with a question mark is on the left and right. In the center, the title 'QUIZ NIGHT' is in large, colorful letters. Below it, the date 'SATURDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2025' is in white. The event details are listed in three columns: 'TEAMS OF UP TO 6 PEOPLE', 'TICKETS £12 EACH TO INCLUDE SUPPER', and 'DOORS OPEN 6.30 QUIZ TO START AT 7PM'. On the left, 'LICENSED BAR (CASH & CARD)' is written. On the right, 'RAFFLE' is written. At the bottom, there is a red banner with the text 'Tickets from Ruth' and a phone icon followed by the number '07890 303791'. In the center of the poster, there are two stylized figures of a man and a woman with question marks above their heads.



## **View From The Boundary**

**by Suzanne Whiston**

Come and join us at our end of summer party at the Ashurst and Blackham sports field on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August. The gates will be open from 2pm for games and family fun. The BBQ will be fired up for the sale of burgers and hot dogs, along with drinks and Pimms from the bar. Tea and coffee and cakes can also be purchased. Entry is free, with a small charge for some of the activities. We will also have a selection of things to do and things to see, thanks to our local clubs.

The stoolball season is coming to a close this month and the sports field is playing host to an end of season tournament on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Our team is doing very well and with only a few games left to play, currently sits joint second in the league. If you would like to know more about the team or get involved, please get in touch via the email address below.

If you wish to make a book the sports field or pavilions for your event – visit  
**[www.ashurstvillage.org.uk](http://www.ashurstvillage.org.uk)**

Contact us at: **[ashurstandblackhamsportsground@gmail.com](mailto:ashurstandblackhamsportsground@gmail.com)**



**Four Elms Catering**  
**Karen Jackson - Proprietor**  
**07734 007911**  
**Fishersgate Cottage, Buckhurst Estate,**  
**TN7 4BB**  
**Email: [jacksonk60@aol.com](mailto:jacksonk60@aol.com)**

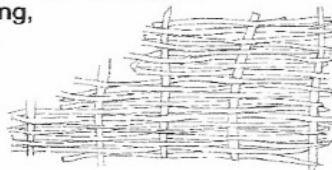
### **John Waller, Underwoodsman Ltd**

Woven Fencing & Hurdles; Living Willow Structures; Baskets; Garden Structures;  
Plant Supports & Trellis; Garden Furniture; Tree Surgery; Hedgelaying; Seasoned Logs

### **Green Wood Workshop Courses at Bore Place, Chiddingstone**

Hurdles & Fencing, Pole Lathe Wood Turning & Chair Making,  
Willow Plant Supports, Hedgelaying, Coppicing, Charcoal,  
Basketry, Fruit Tree Maintenance

4 Mount Pleasant Cottages, Blackham TN3 9UH  
info@underwoodsman.co.uk www.underwoodsman.co.uk  
01892 740303 (eves) or 07788 748618



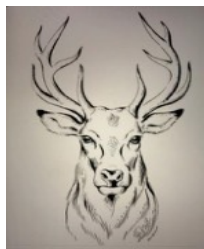
## **MEDHURST Funeral Directors**

**Hartfield: 01892-770253**

**East Grinstead: 01342-315880**

**Email: r-medhurst@hotmail.com**

**Proud to have served the Community for over 150 Years**



## **KINGS' HALL, WITHYHAM**

Your local village hall makes a great venue for Parties, Weddings,  
Anniversaries and Children's Parties. Hire it from only £12 per hour.

Bookings and enquiries 07972 161243 or 01892 770347  
or email Meg Stafford on **bookings@withyhamvillagehall.co.uk**  
or Rick Hunnam on **chair@withyhamvillagehall.co.uk**

## **LAND DRAINAGE & TRENCHING**

**Ditching & Earth Moving**

**Water Supplies & Repair**

**Giles Swift Tel: 01892 864754**



# OPEN STUDIOS

6th & 7th September 2025

**10 am - 5 pm**

Free entry to the studios and workshops  
to over 45 artists in Crowborough,  
Rotherfield, Mayfield and Fairwarp



**Full details of all artists and venues at:  
[www.crowboroughopenstudios.co.uk](http://www.crowboroughopenstudios.co.uk)**



This year there are over 45 artists taking part in Crowborough Open Studios at 19 venues in Crowborough, Fairwarp, Rotherfield, High Hurstwood and Mayfield. There are paintings, pottery, glass work, stone carving, textiles and more. Do please come along and see the wonderful array of creations on display. Some artists will also be demonstrating their techniques, there's always something new to learn. Enjoy chatting to the artists and maybe you will awaken your inner artistic skills too.

For full details visit **[www.crowboroughopenstudios.co.uk](http://www.crowboroughopenstudios.co.uk)**

**OUR COPY DEADLINE  
IS THE 20TH DAY OF  
THE PRECEDING  
MONTH**

withyham.mag@gmail.com



**D. Warmeant**  
Painters and Decorators

Domestic & commercial

14 Mottefield, Hartfield  
East Sussex. TN7 4JF

Tel: 07774 780 020



**Spa Oil**  
SERVICES  
Heating Oil



Competitive prices  
Friendly, helpful service  
Red Diesel

Call : 01892 615400  
[www.spaoilservices.co.uk](http://www.spaoilservices.co.uk)

**Hartfield  
Scaffolding**



Local, Experienced, Affordable Scaffolding Service...

Contact Gavin on 07774 956597

Email: [gavin@hartfieldscaffolding.co.uk](mailto:gavin@hartfieldscaffolding.co.uk)

Website: [www.hartfieldscaffolding.co.uk](http://www.hartfieldscaffolding.co.uk)

# Computer Corner

## Digital Security For Small Companies: Make A Plan by Roger Lyon



Security problems can start in a variety of ways. A lost laptop, a phishing email that sneaks through, or an unpatched machine can all cause trouble. Peace of mind comes from being prepared in advance so that it is just like checking the fire alarms.

Smaller companies are surprisingly attractive to opportunistic attackers. The measures that matter most – strong passwords, multi-factor authentication, secure backups – are inexpensive, with no need for a dedicated IT department to be well defended.

Inexpensive off-the-shelf countermeasures can provide strong security. For example, £2 per month licences for *Microsoft Defender for Business* – or a similar cloud agent – can seal off an infected laptop in seconds. Similarly, changing the way that your computers find websites, using services such as *Cloudflare's* 1.1.1.2 or *Quad9*, means that many malicious links are caught before any harm occurs. Turning to cloud-based accounts such as email, most now offer multi-factor authentication using an app or text message to complement the password. Switching this security is quick and blocks the bulk of password guessing attempts. Simple steps such as these give small companies robust protection.

When looking into how to protect your company, the first step is to write down what should happen if something looks suspicious. Who picks up the phone to the IT provider? Who decides whether to take a system offline? Having a one page cheat sheet that answers those questions removes emotion from these challenging moments and keeps decisions calm and orderly. Consider having a short annual fire-drill-style walk through: the goal is familiarity, not perfection.

A key aim of the plan is to get the company trading again. A great place to start is knowing that data can be restored and where to find it. Regular, encrypted backups stored separately from day-to-day systems are like having a spare key kept with a trusted neighbour. This makes ransomware far less intimidating and can turn a potential crisis into an inconvenience. With a few further simple measures – multi-factor login prompts for staff, routine software updates, and a culture that encourages people to report odd emails without fear of blame – firms will have covered the majority of preventable mishaps.



## **Hartfield Playschool**

Founded in 1965, Hartfield Playschool is set in The Old Station, with beautiful extensive gardens. We take children aged 2-5 years.

Open 9am – 3pm, Monday – Friday,  
term time only. Tel: 01892 770830

**[www.hartfieldplayschool.co.uk](http://www.hartfieldplayschool.co.uk)**  
**[office@hartfieldplayschool.co.uk](mailto:office@hartfieldplayschool.co.uk)**

## **Matt Raybone Painter & Decorator**

**07852 442337**

**[matrraybone@icloud.com](mailto:matrraybone@icloud.com)**

## **Forest Row Repair Café**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August  
from 10am – 1pm**

Forest Row Community Centre,  
RH18 5DZ

Last orders at 12:30pm

**Make sure your fans are fully  
functioning for the warm weather,  
and your punctured lilos are  
patched up for the holidays**

**REPAIR  
CAFÉ** Forest  
Row

## **ADAM C WILES**

Quality Carpentry and Building – Established 30 Years

All aspects of Carpentry and Joinery undertaken

Internal Alterations and Extensions

Withyham, East Sussex

**Tel: 01892 770554 Mob: 07818 434506 [wilesbuild@sky.com](mailto:wilesbuild@sky.com)**

## **HEVER LANDSCAPES LTD**

We offer year-round garden management, regular garden maintenance or a one-off garden tidy/clearance, grass cutting, lawn care, hedge cutting, leaf clearing vegetable patch construction, chicken runs, compost bins, and commercial contracts

We also offer complete landscaping projects, such as patios, paths, retaining walls, all types of fencing, planting schemes, re-seeding, turfing, water features, wooden garden structures, tree surgery, hedge laying and woodland management or clearance.

**01892 740133**

**[www.heverlandscapes.co.uk](http://www.heverlandscapes.co.uk)**

**07909 916909**

**[karl.hever.landscapes@gmail.com](mailto:karl.hever.landscapes@gmail.com)**

## Come and enjoy your fishing with CDAA

We welcome everyone regardless of age or ability, and encompass a thriving junior section. Our waters suit pleasure and specimen fishing across Sussex and Kent, from half acre ponds to a reservoir, plus rivers and canal.

Matches take place throughout the year.

You won't be disappointed.

[www.crowboroughanglers.org.uk](http://www.crowboroughanglers.org.uk)



## LET YOUR CHILD'S DANCE JOURNEY START HERE

Watch them twirl, smile, twinkle, and shine

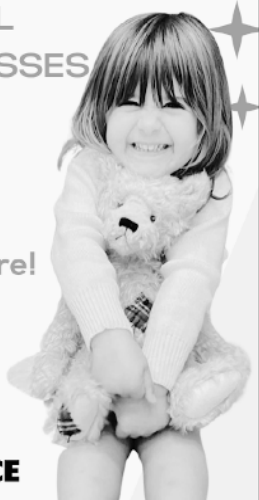
PRE SCHOOL  
DANCE CLASSES



Scan to explore!

Groombridge,  
Ages 1 to 4

**JUST DANCE**



## The Final Word... on ITV4 by Robert Veitch

In the summer of 1993 while on holiday in Tenerife and in a bar one lunchtime, I witnessed a group of people clustered around the TV, transfixed by the Tour de France – I wasn't the least bit interested. Wind the clock forward to 6<sup>th</sup> July 1994 and I became a convert when the Tour descended on this part of the world. All that waiting and waiting preceded 'the caravan' then the two leaders whizzed by, followed a handful of minutes later by the colours of the peloton and then the support cars. The peloton that day contained local hero Sean Yates, 1992 Olympic champion Chris Boardman, that year's victor Miguel Indurain, and a confident young whippersnapper Texan called Lance Armstrong.

Back then coverage was a 30 minute highlights show on Channel 4, but it soon moved to ITV4 where the Tour eventually got the blanket coverage it deserved. I've been lucky enough to see another ten stages in six locations since that memorable first experience.

Once you've been a part of the greatest free show on earth you'll always feel a part of it. Next year UK coverage moves to pay-TV, so thank you ITV4 for a fantastic ride through the decades, you've earned your yellow jersey. Allez, allez, allez... chapeau

# Tester&Jones

*Your local independent funeral service*

Tel 01892 611811  
(24 hours)



Crowborough's SAIF  
Approved Funeral Directors

- Your local independent funeral director - Supporting families in Crowborough and its surrounding villages for 20 years.
- We are a proud and active member of SAIF, the association for independent funeral directors.
- We adhere to SAIF's strict Code of Practice - so you can always be sure of our care and professionalism.
- We can take your call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. From that first phone call to after the funeral service, we will be by your side.
- We offer funerals to suit every budget, including direct cremations.
- After a funeral has taken place, our families benefit from our friendly and dedicated Bereavement Group, and free bereavement support through SAIF Care if required.



London Road, Crowborough  
East Sussex, TN6 2TT

information@testerandjones.co.uk    www.testerlandjones.co.uk

## Local Information

<b>Kings' Hall, Withyham</b>	chair@withyhamvillagehall.co.uk bookings@withyhamvillagehall.co.uk	
Chairman:	Rick Hunnam	01892 770347
Lettings:	Mrs Meg Stafford	07972 161243
<b>Blackham Village Hall</b>	venues4hire.org/venue/details4815	
Bookings:	Mrs Ruth Gubbins blackhamvillagehall@gmail.com	07890 303791
<b>Groombridge &amp; Hartfield Medical Practice</b>	Withyham Road, Groombridge, TN3 9QP Old Crown Farm, High Street, Hartfield, TN7 4AD	01892 863326
<b>Beacon Surgery</b> , Beacon Road, Crowborough, TN6 1AH		01892 652233
<b>Saxonbury House Medical Group</b> , Croft Road, Crowborough		01892 603131
<b>St Michael's Primary School</b>	Mrs Katie O'Shea (Headteacher)	01892 770307
<b>Withyham Art Group</b>	Ali Hunnam	01892 770347
<b>Dorset Arms Angling Club</b>	Keith Grose	01892 652631
<b>Withyham Cricket Club</b>	Peter Hamerton	01892 655932
<b>Blackham Country Players</b>	Linda Weekes	01892 740261
<b>Citizens Advice</b>	Crowborough	08082 787811
<b>Withyham Parish Charity</b>	<i>Trust providing financial help for those in need</i> Applications should be made to Gilly Halcrow	01892 770607
<b>Withyham Parish Council (WPC)</b>	The Old Station, Groombridge, TN3 9RD www.withyhamparishcouncil.org.uk clerk@withyhamparishcouncil.org.uk WPC Office hours: Monday 12:00 - 17:00 Tuesday - Friday* 09:30 - 12:00 *closed on Wednesdays during school holidays.	01892 864557
<b>Telephone numbers for the reporting of incidents</b>	Highway lights and footpath damage (location and problem) Vandalism and Abandoned Vehicles (all relevant details) Waste collection queries Trading Standards Problems can also be reported to: eastsussex.gov.uk/fixmystreet	03456 080193 01243 642222 03456 080193 03456 080197
<b>Magazine Editor</b>	Robert Veitch	withyham.mag@gmail.com
<b>Advertising</b>	Meg Stafford	megstafford@me.com 07972 161243
<b>Distribution</b>	Janet Funnell	janet.funnell@btinternet.com 01892 663512
<b>Circulation</b>	375	