

SIDLESHAM SPREAD NO 116 AUGUST 2023

INDEPENDENT - SELF SUPPORTING - DELIVERED OR ON-LINE FREE TO EVERY HOME IN SIDLESHAM

Editors - Please send copy to all

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ADVERTISE with us for £30 a year: email your advert to dancingdevonshire@hotmail.com

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Manhood Miscellany

- An evening of entertainment and camaraderie

with
The Selsey Shanty Men
Grove - a female close harmony trio
John & Jeff - a guitar duo playing 60s & 70s blues & rock

Sidlesham War Memorial Hall
Friday 18th August

Bar open for drinks 7.00pm Bring your own nibbles
Tickets: £10

Available from Paul & Wendy Devonshire (641457)
or David Blackford 07714 205377

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in the Sidlesham Spread are not necessarily those of the editorial team. The Editor reserves the right to edit and rearrange articles, but will endeavour to do so only where space is limited or where the information will be enhanced.

All information is published in good faith but we take no responsibility for errors or omissions. We are happy to publish letters as 'name and address supplied' but will not include anything sent anonymously that is clearly defamatory or hurtful to a named individual.

The Editorial Team

Copy should be sent by **23rd** of the month to allow for printing for the first week of the following month.

IF ANY VILLAGE GROUP IS NOT INCLUDED AND WOULD LIKE TO BE, PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITORIAL TEAM

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Sidlesham Parish Council
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Alison Colban
parishclerk@sidlesham.org
www.sidlesham.org

Sidlesham Community Association (SCA)
See Box 3rd column

Sidlesham County Primary School
Head Teacher
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Sidlesham Walk and Lunch Klub (SWALK)
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billm89@hotmail.com

Sidlesham Womens' Institute
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01243 641299
annholloway42aol.com

STAG Sidlesham Traffic Action Group
Vacancy for a contact person

St Mary's Parish Church
Fr. Chris Brading 01243 641775
father.brading@gmail.com
www.stmary-sidlesham.org.uk

The Cat and Rabbit Rescue Centre
01243 967111 info@crrc.co.uk
www.crrc.co.uk

Monday	The Open Door Choir belindagannon.musicforall@gmail.com	Sidlesham Memorial Hall	7 - 9 pm
2nd Tues	Quiz with George Torrance as quizmaster.	The Anchor	7.30 pm
Tuesday	Lucy's Pilates - All abilities welcome To book and check details call Lucy on 07906058062	ON ZOOM	6.00 pm
Thursday	Afternoon Tea	Church Rooms	From 2.00 pm
Thursday	Sidlesham Short Mat Bowls £3.00 per session Contact Marilyn Sharp on 641437	School Sports Hall	4.30 - 6.30 pm
2nd Wed	Women's Institute	Parish rooms	2.15pm
Saturdays Term time	Lizzie's Craft Club. for children aged 4—11 years. £5 session per child. Contact lizzie@lizziebaily.com	Applefield Chalk Lane	2.30 - 4.00 pm

**ADVERTS TO BE FOUND ON PAGES 10 - 12
PLEASE USE THEM, THEY ENABLE THIS MAGAZINE
TO BE FREE TO YOU ALL**

SIDLESHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

THE TRUSTEES

CHAIR: DAVID BLACKFORD 077714205377
d-blackford@hotmail.co.uk

TREASURER: NORMAN ROBSON
SECRETARY: CORINA HALL

RIACH RYDER
LEWIS RAMM
PAUL DEVONSHIRE
WENDY DEVONSHIRE
BILL MARTIN

WWW. SIDLESHAM.ORG.UK

**SELSEY MOBILE REFUSE SITE
EAST BEACH CAR PARK -**

OPEN BETWEEN 8.15 and 3.00
on ALTERNATE THURSDAYS:
3RD , 17TH AND 31ST AUGUST

THESE SITES ACCEPT
GREEN GARDEN WASTE, WOOD, METAL ITEMS SUCH AS POTS AND PANS, CARDBOARD, PAPER AND SHREDDED PAPER, SMALL ELECTRICAL ITEMS SUCH AS IRONS, TOASTERS, AND HAIR DRYERS.
NON HAZARDOUS WASTE.

NO TVs OR WHITE GOODS CAN BE ACCEPTED.

**WITTERINGS MOBILE REFUSE SITE -
MARINE DRIVE CAR PARK—
OTHER ALTERNATE THURSDAYS.**

**FUTURE DATES FOR PARISH COUNCIL
MEETINGS 2ND WEDNESDAYS**

**No meeting Dec and August
Annual Parish Meeting
4th Wednesday in May**
in the Church Hall at 7 pm

Planning included in above meetings.
Details of Planning to be discussed can be obtained from Alison Colban details on this page.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

MARTIN MELLODEY - CHAIR
01243 649075
martinmellodey@hotmail.co.uk

NICK WADE - VICE CHAIR

CORINA HALL MARY MONNINGTON
ADRIAN HARLAND TRACEY PARSONS
LEWIS RAMM TRICIA TULL
DAVID GUEST

**Chichester Farmers' Market Location: Town Centre
Time: 9.00 - 14.00 1st and 3rd Friday of each month**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES



THE ANCHOR IS OPEN EVERY DAY

TELEPHONE 641 373 FOR DETAILS OR TO MAKE A BOOKING

How Rational is the Brain?



or

If people are so clever, why do they do stupid things?

with

Paul Devonshire - retired clinical psychologist

**Memorial Hall, Selsey Road,
Sidlesham.**

7.30pm, Friday 25th August

The bar will be open and other refreshments will also be available.

There will be a retiring collection which will go towards refurbishment of this building.

For further information, contact Paul Devonshire at pauldevonshire@hotmail.com



Mini-quilt exhibition

'Near to Nature' mini quilt Exhibition & Sale. In March 2019 the Near to Nature mini quilt competition was launched locally to raise money for the RSPB.

The challenge was to make a mini quilt featuring an RSPB pin badge. Unique and imaginative designs were produced based on the pin badge entrants were given.

Every quilt tells a story, while collectively they showcase the talents of so many creative individuals, and highlight the array of stunning wildlife the UK has to offer.

Where RSPB Pagham Harbour Visitor Centre

Date 21 - 28 August, 10am - 4pm

Cost Free

**TALKS AT 6 - THURSDAYS - BETWEEN 6 AND 7PM
BASSIL SHIPPAM CENTRE - TOZER WAY, PO19 7LG**

Retiring collection for Speaker's choice of charity: Advised donation £5+ (by card at the venue)

Organised by Marilyn Humphrey

**Thursday 7th September 2023 -
The GoldenAge of Islamic Science**

Craig Gershater will show how 8th – 14th Century Islamic Science, Mathematics and Medicine have been the foundation of many aspects of our high-tech lives today. This talk will introduce some of the key characters and their work from that time.

Chosen Charity : British Heart Foundation – who research and treat people with heart conditions.

Please book on line bookings@talksatsix.co.uk or see the full programme on www.talksatsix.co.uk

FOOTBALL FIXTURES AT SIDLESHAM MEMORIAL RECREATION GROUND

30th July - FFC Charity match kickoff 09.30

AUGUST

5th - Infinity vs Stockbridge - kickoff 15.00

9th - Infinity vs Hayling Utd -kickoff 19.30

13th - Selsey Women - kickoff 14.00

20th - FFC Charity match - kickoff 09.30

26th - Infinity vs Hook - kickoff 15.00

27th - FFC Charity match - 09.30

28th - Infinity Home vs Harvest - kickoff 15.00

FOODBITES SUMMER 2023

Although this is not a food related matter, we want to help spread the word about the Ticks and Lyme disease awareness campaign run by the UKHSA. This year there have been higher than normal incidents of tick bites and tick-borne infections locally. Tick activity increases during spring, peaking during April to June each year when the number of tick bites is the highest. Activities in areas such as green spaces, particularly in grassy and wooded areas in the countryside increase the risk of being bitten by a tick. Being bitten does not necessarily mean you will definitely get Lyme disease as not all ticks carry the bacteria, but awareness and prompt removal is a good way to reduce risk. UKHSA has created a [leaflet](#) with some key messages on how to spot and remove ticks or symptoms of [Lyme disease](#).

Jane Cunningham CDC

NEW ADVERT (page 10)

My name is Matt Jolly and I am a personal trainer now based in Sidlesham.

I have worked in health & fitness for over 20 years, helping people of all ages and abilities to become fitter, stronger, healthier and happier. I have both the qualifications and experience to help clients physically and nutritionally change their lifestyle habits to create positive change.

Personally, I am an endurance athlete having completed many half and full marathons, ultra marathons along with triathlons of various distances. When I am not exercising I am spending time with my wife and children.

www.jolly.fit

mattjollyfit@gmail.com

07834 773589



jolly.fit

Volunteers wanted! Yes, those two words that make people dive for cover, ignore the telephone, hide behind a door if they see someone approaching, "what can they want of me?" "why don't they all go away". Don't panic, nothing onerous or a permanent or regular commitment is being asked of you.

Do you see yourself as bar staff who would like to help run the bar at the Sidlesham Recreation Hall on an occasional basis?

We have quite a few events coming up and it would be great to have some different faces behind the bar and not just the small band of trustees. If you are the slightest bit tempted then please contact the Editor or David Blackford, Chair of the SCA.

YORKSHIRE DAY

A tourist on holiday in England was inside a church in the Lake District taking photographs when she noticed a golden telephone mounted on the wall with a sign that read '£10,000 per call'.

She was intrigued, and asked a priest who was strolling by what the telephone was used for. The priest replied that it was a direct line to heaven and that for £10,000 you could talk to God. The woman thanked the priest and went along her way.

Next stop was in Manchester... There, at a very large cathedral, she saw the same golden telephone with the same sign under it. She wondered if this was the same kind of telephone she saw in The Lakes and she asked a nearby nun what its purpose was. She told her that it was a direct line to heaven and that for £10,000 she could talk to God. 'OK., thank you,' said the tourist.

She then travelled to Bath, Darlington, Burnley, Norwich and London. In every church she saw the same golden telephone with the same '£10,000 per call' sign under it. The next stop was Yorkshire.

She arrived in York, and headed to the biggest and best church she knew of, York Minster. As she entered, she saw it, there was the same golden telephone, but this time the sign under it read '20 pence per call.'

The woman was surprised so she asked the priest about the

sign. 'Father, I've travelled all over England and I've seen this same golden telephone in many churches. I'm told that it is a direct line to heaven, but everywhere else the price was £10,000 per call. Why is it so cheap here?'

The priest smiled and answered, 'You're in Yorkshire now, lass. It's a local call.'

**Happy Yorkshire Day  **

Yorkshire Day Celebration

Description

Yorkshire Day is a yearly celebration on 1 August to promote the historic county of Yorkshire, England. It was celebrated by the Yorkshire Ridings Society in 1975, initially in Beverley, as "a protest movement against the local government re-organisation of 1974". Wikipedia

Date: Tuesday, 1 August 2023

Celebrations: Celebration and promotion of Yorkshire culture

Significance: Battle of Minden and the emancipation of slaves anniversary

WALK THE SELSEY TRAM WAY



In August it will be the 126th anniversary of the first train to run on the Selsey Tramway. To mark the occasion join a walk from Selsley to Sidlesham on **Saturday 26th August** following part of the route of the Selsey Tramway Heritage Trail. **Meet at 10.30am** to walk the 6.4 miles to Sidlesham. Both the start at **East Beach car park in Selsey** and The Anchor in Sidlesham are on the route of the No 51 bus to facilitate your departure and return.

If you would like to join the walk please contact **Bill Martin - Billm89@hotmail.com**

You will pass the location of 8 of the stations as well as the site of the only fatality on the line. You will also learn about the history of the tramway, how it was built and why it finally hit the buffers.

The Selsey Tram Way trail guide has been rewritten by Dr Bill Martin and David Pearce of the Manhood Wildlife and Heritage Group and new orange logo signage attached to footpath posts along the route. Colourful information boards have also been erected at points of interest, including at the 11 stations on the line, telling more of the story of this fascinating, but ill-



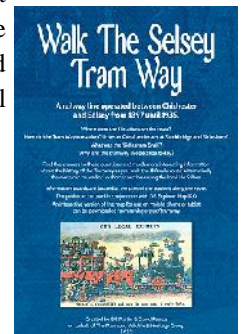
fated local attraction.

The signs have a link to the webpage and there is an interactive map for use on mobile phones in addition to the new leaflet which is available at the Novium Museum, RSPB Pagham Harbour, The Chichester Canal Shop and Selsey Town Hall. For more information visit www.mwhg.org.uk/tramway

The Tramway Project has benefitted from generous sponsorship from the Colonel Stephens Society, The Lady Neville Charity, Ferry Farm Community Solar, Caroline's Ice Cream, Langmead Farms and Natures Way Foods among others as well as the advice and support of the local parish and town councils and neighbouring landowners along the route.

We are currently making a film about the Selsey Tramway which will be shown as part of an exhibition to be held at The Novium from June 2024 until March 2026.

Bill Martin & David Pearce
On behalf of the Manhood Wildlife and Heritage Group



Hello, it's me Tails, the out and abouter reporter for The Cat and Rabbit Rescue Centre.

In this month's article I wanted to tell you about a very cute litter of kittens that arrived with us a few weeks ago. The four kittens were found living in a shed just moments before the shed was going to be demolished. The kittens were rushed to The Centre to be checked over by my staff and luckily they were in good condition. Sadly, we could not find the mum cat and although we are still looking we fear she may have moved on now.



From the moment they arrived, my staff knew straight away that they were feral and had probably never had any human contact. They were so nervous of my staff and spent most of their time hiding away and giving little hisses. At 5 weeks, old they are just starting to develop their personalities so we are hoping with lots of love and care they will start to realise that

humans are not so bad.

Over the years, my staff have worked with hundreds of feral cats so we are very hopeful these kittens will come round. We are so thankful that with the help of our supporters we were able to save these kittens from a life on the streets. I am now excited to see them grow and hopefully flourish, ready to find their new homes when they are older.

See you next time.

Love
Tails x

P.S Please keep an eye on our website www.crrc.co.uk and our Facebook page for all the latest news and info regarding Rehoming and Centre Life.

MUTTERINGS OF THE MOTOR TRADE Sidlesham garage ltd.



Well the weather has sort of settled down especially compared to the rest of Europe. Except for the Goodwood FOS, for which I was fortunate enough to receive some tickets, for the Friday, and Linda and I got drowned in the rain late afternoon. Then Saturday cancelled due to predicted high winds so not brilliant. Sunday by all accounts was not a bad day. Bit of a pattern emerging here, unprecedented rain and wind in South Africa and now drowned at Goodwood. Think I'll forget about time off for a while.

June was supposed to have been the hottest since 1976, I was walking backwards up the Falls Road Northern Ireland in the summer of '76 during my military stint in the R.E.M.E .

New receptionist is tackling the electronic diary and we are having some teething problems, it would be fair to say. My humble apologies if you have been affected. All seems to be working smoothly now. I'm telling people that Kaffy, the new receptionist, used to be a doctors receptionist as she is hard to get through to if you want a chat :-/. She wasn't really.

Steve the new MOT Tester/mechanic has been delayed due to the usual house completion issues that seem to blight many house purchases, now not arriving till end July. This has partly

caused some of the booking issues we have had.

Still no news on my Race car wiring harness that is hopefully being constructed and installed as I write this. Will it ever be ready you may well ask?

John has another Mk1 Mini project and is just a shell at moment, let's see how it turns out. He's been working so hard during the week I don't know where he finds the energy to work at weekends.

First year for a good number of years that I have not attended the British Grand Prix. Last year was not that enjoyable as not prepared for the new rule of no Bicycles inside circuit. We had a campsite one side and a Grandstand seat at the other with no easy route and together with double the number of spectators and my brothers hearing issues it all became a bit of a problem. I will go again but need to be better prepared.

There was a large contingency of Electric Vehicles on display at Goodwood with some new models coming out and a lot of luxury E.V's. Are they going to be the next Beta Max or 8 track cassette redundant before their prime? A lot of money has been invested in these cars let's see how it all turns out. My advice still a Petrol Turbo :-). Or a self charging Hybrid, I've heard of good MPG figures on some of those. Need to weigh up the cost against economy especially if you are a low mileage user.

Stay on the Black Stuff
Graham Porrett

Latest News from St Wilfrid's Hospice

August 2023



Inflatable 5k

Take on a fun challenge while raising funds for St Wilfrid's Hospice!

This September 2nd, the world's largest inflatable obstacle course returns to Goodwood. Gather your friends and families and take on either the 2.5K, 5K, 10K or 15K route, tackling all types of inflatables.

Take on the challenge and raise sponsorship money to support your local Hospice now.

Find out how to get your tickets and start fundraising here:
www.stwh.co.uk/inflatable5k

Moonlight Walk

A massive thank you to everyone who walked and supported us for our Moonlight Walk!

We had over 700 walkers set off from Chichester College on June 17th and take on the in-memory walk, exploring areas in Chichester such as Guildhall and Bishop's Palace Gardens in brand new ways.

You can get tickets for next years walk at a super earlybird price now. Don't miss out!

www.stwh.co.uk/moonlight

Summer is here!

As we are in the middle of Summer, your wardrobe might need a refresh for cooler clothing, and you might also be interested in sprucing up your garden furniture as we spend more time

outdoors. Our charity retail shops offer affordable, sustainable pre-loved treasures that are waiting for their next owner!

By shopping with St Wilfrid's, every purchase helps support a patient and their loved ones.

Find your nearest shop here: www.stwh.co.uk/shops

Woof for Wilf

Calling all dog lovers!

On October 22nd, St Wilfrid's Hospice are holding a dog walk from 10pm on West Wittering Beach. We would also love to see some dressed up dogs to fit the Halloween theme, with a prize going to the best dressed!

Bring along your furry friends and help fundraise to support the Hospice and make a difference to local lives.

Find out more here: www.stwh.co.uk/woofforwilf

Save the date!

Join us for our first ever Family Fun Day at West Park, Bognor Regis, on **Sunday 6 th August**.

From 11am – 3pm, bring the whole family along for an exciting day, including plenty of activities and games for the kids, live music and entertainment, a dog show and a whole host of shopping stalls from local businesses. Entry is free for everyone.



Get in touch with our friendly fundraising team on fundraising@stwh.co.uk, or call us on 01243 755184.

To find out more about our upcoming events, visit stwh.co.uk/familyfunday



INSIDE THE WILDLIFE HOSPITAL IN AUGUST

We have a variety of wildlife receiving treatment and care in Brent Lodge, including hedgehogs, reptiles, foxes and many garden birds. We have noticed a considerable rise in ringworm cases across species, as well as dehydrated animals that've struggled to find water sources in this heat. Our new Admissions Building is set to open in September! This carbon-neutral and environmentally-friendly building has a 'green roof' and another with solar panels, and will include improved quarantine facilities, spaces for veterinary services and new patient triage, as well as improving our environmental performance!

AVIAN FLU: Please call us on 01243 641672 (option 1) BEFORE picking up any birds so we can ask vital questions about the bird before taking action. We are still restricted regarding high-risk water birds but still please give us a call if you come across ANY sick/injured bird.

Patient Stories

Two house martins arrived to us as nestlings but have now grown into healthy juveniles. Following a few weeks in our care, learning how to fly and self-feed in our purpose-built aviaries, they have been released ready for their migration to Africa in late summer. Their numbers have decreased massively in the last 50 years and they are now a 'Red List Threatened Species' (IUCN). It was a real pleasure to treat and successfully release these wonderful birds back into the wild, contributing towards the UK's conservation



efforts to increase their populations. As they are facing increasing habitat loss, encouraging them to nest in your eaves or putting up artificial nests would help their species greatly!

Helping Brent Lodge Wildlife Hospital

We are in desperate need of all types of wet pet food, particularly kitten and puppy food for our younger patients (non-fish flavoured, as this can upset tummies!) We are so grateful for any and all donations to help the animals in our care.



If you belong to a school, extra-curricular club or community group (of all ages) and may be interested in organising a talk/workshop from our Education Outreach Coordinator about Brent Lodge and what we do, the importance of helping our local wildlife and/or specific topics (e.g. habitats, conservation, hedgehogs, etc.) – please get in contact with enquiries@brentlodge.org and we'd be delighted to arrange something to suit!



Web: www.brentlodge.org **Tel:** 01243 641672
Email: enquiries@brentlodge.org
Address: Brent Lodge Wildlife Hospital, Cow Lane, Sidlesham, PO20 7LN.

By **Alex Foster**, Education Outreach Officer
For more information and tips, please visit our website or contact us on the details above.



The FRIENDS OF SELSEY MEDICAL CENTRE

Registered Charity No 1013456

Come and join the **FUN** on Rounders Day (Sunday 13th August) on the Recreation Ground. Everyone is welcome.

The Friends are a group of Selsey and Sidlesham residents who collect and give funds to enable the Selsey Medical Practice to purchase equipment and services not normally provided by the NHS.

On 24 June we held our Annual General Meeting which was attended by a number of Friends' members. Sadly David Webber announced his retirement after 17 years as our Chairman. We thank him from the bottom our hearts for such devoted service and wish him a happy retirement. The meeting unanimously voted Dexter Williams, previously Vice-Chairman as David's successor. Members also voted new officers and trustees on to the Committee.

This year the Friends are supporting a Care Shop staff member. This person assists any local resident with non-medical issues such as debt, employment, form-filling and other general advice through the Care Shop and the Medical

Centre.

We have also contributed towards an initial 6-month trial for Buddy Support. This provides a private car service to take patients needing assistance from their homes to and from Selsey Medical Practice. The service also extends to hospital appointments at St Richards, Worthing Hospital and Queen Alexandra in Portsmouth amongst others. *This helps the NHS by reducing the number of patients who fail to get to their appointments (DNAs).* We urgently need volunteer drivers (whose expenses are reimbursed) as this service is taking off fast. If you have some spare time and a car, please consider offering to help us. Address any enquiries to the Care Shop in Selsey High Street (next to Raycrafts), telephone 01243 201616.

To become a Friend of Selsey Medical Centre you will find membership forms at the surgery. Otherwise phone 01243 607869 and talk to our Membership Secretary, who will welcome your call!

Join for as little as £5 per year. Perhaps consider including us in your will.

Tim la Haye



Home Instead provide quality care services across the Chichester area and provide anything from companionship, home-help and personal care alongside specialist care for conditions like dementia and Parkinson's. We are passionate about helping older people to remain independent in their own homes.

We are looking for people with kind, compassionate hearts who want to make a difference to the quality of life for our clients.

No two client visits are ever the same. You will support your clients to live happy, independent lives by providing:

- Companionship and help around the home
- Preparation and support with meals
- Prompting and assisting your client with their medication
- Supporting with personal care and to get dressed
- Social visits and support with appointments and shopping trips

No previous experience of care required, but you MUST have a kind, compassionate heart and a driving licence. If you're curious about a career in care or wanting to boost your income, we would love to hear from you.

Please call us on 01243 884111 for an informal chat with our lovely recruiter Freya.

**ARE YOU SCAM SAVVY
WEBINARS AND ONLINE SAFETY UPDATES ?**

To stop individuals becoming victims of fraud and blackmail, we are running two 'Are you scam savvy?' events in August, both online and in person at Horsham and Bognor Regis libraries.

The sessions are for anyone who wants to keep themselves, or friends and family, from falling foul of different types of scams,

including telephone, courier and romance fraud, which have all become an increased concern in West Sussex.

You can book via the training & events page at www.westsussex.gov.uk/staying-safe-online.

Or these are the direct Eventbrite links:

[02 August 2023 10:00 – 11:30](#)

[15 August 2023 10:00 – 11:30](#)

Francesca.Blow@westsussex.gov.uk

THINK BEFORE YOU THROW

A new campaign designed to thank residents and boost recycling rates has been launched by the West Sussex Waste Partnership.

The 'Think Before You Throw' campaign promotes what can and can't be recycled, the importance of putting the right item in the right bin, and tips on how to reduce, reuse and recycle materials more confidently.

A new animated video series has been produced to show what happens after a bin is collected, how recycling and waste are processed, and how to recycle materials that aren't collected within your recycling and waste bins at home.

Cllr Deborah Urquhart, West Sussex County Council Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change, said: "Thanks to our residents, last year we reused and recycle over 200,000 tonnes of waste in West Sussex. This is a fantastic achievement but there are still many items going into rubbish bins that could

be recycled.

"We're asking people to 'Think Before You Throw', especially when it comes to materials such as black plastic pots, tubs and trays, empty aerosols, and other items that can go in special collections at home such as small electricals."

The campaign will also remind people that recycling should be:

CLEAN - free from food and drink leftovers - a quick rinse will often do.

DRY - keep your recycling bin lid shut – soggy paper and cardboard can't be recycled and can stick to other items or clog up machinery when sorted.

LOOSE – not tied up in plastic bags, as the machinery cannot sort these.

You can watch the campaign videos and find out more about reducing, reusing and recycling all you can at

www.westsussex.gov.uk/ThinkBeforeYouThrow

ANAGRAMS

ELECTION RESULTS
LIES – LET'S RECOUNT

SNOOZE ALARMS
ALAS NO MORE Z'S

A DECIMAL POINT
I'M A DOT IN PLACE

THE EARTHQUAKES
THAT QUEER SHAKE

ELEVEN PLUS TWO
TWELVE PLUS ONE

MOTHER-IN-LAW
WOMAN HITLER

FEATHER SHEDDING AND DISAPPEARING BIRDS



The spring and early summer is a demanding and exhausting time for birds, not only have they been occupied with breeding and rearing chicks, some have also undertaken a colossal migratory journey. Feathers can become fragile, damaged and discoloured during this busy season, but as they are not capable of growth or renewal, they undergo a 'moult' – the replacement of feathers with new ones. Although this is something unique to birds, the process evolved among dinosaurs.

Along with breeding and migration, moulting is one of the most energy draining events in a bird's life, so it needs to happen at the right time. By late summer their young have grown, the weather is warm and there is still plenty of food available; this is the ideal time to moult.

For many of our birds, it is a slow process, with each feather being replaced one-by-one. Most garden birds, for example, will spend 6 – 8 weeks undergoing a moult. The house sparrow is one of slowest moulting species taking up to four months to complete the process. Migrant birds, on the other hand, will moult much quicker so they can begin their long journeys.

During this time you may see some rather scruffy looking birds with an array of mismatching feathers, and you may be thinking - 'what is that bird?' As they go through this process, they become less capable of flying, hence more vulnerable to predators so it's a good time to lie low and stay hidden under tree canopies and vegetation – and this is why we may see less birds during August.

At Pagham Harbour and Medmerry during August, look out for ducks in their 'eclipse' plumage. Drakes moult before their female counterparts, losing their brightly coloured feathers and replacing them with the monochrome browns similar to the female – so for a while it may seem that there's been a sudden spike of female ducks – in fact they are just the males in disguise!

Finding and identifying birds in eclipse plumage can be tricky and it helps to have a good pair of binoculars or a telescope. If you would like some advice on buying binoculars and telescopes, why not come to our free Binocular and Telescope Open Day on Sunday 20th August, when you can try out various makes and models and chat to our experts: <https://events.rspb.org.uk/events/44971>

[caption: 2112625.jpg] Finding birds can be especially difficult in August, but help is at hand! Join one of our guided walks or learn all about binoculars and telescopes at our special events at RSPB Pagham Harbour. Visit our events web page to learn more! <https://events.rspb.org.uk/paghamharbour>

[Credit: Ben Andrew (rspb-images.com)]



Alice McDougall

STOOLBALL

Stoolball is a game made popular in Kent and Sussex. I discovered it in 1981 when living in Kent and loved playing it. So much so, that I managed to get a league going in Berkshire (mixed). We founded the Wine Circle team, the Met. Office team and My Friends team, amongst others. It was great fun.



It is said to have been named after an ancient game where the milkmaids would hold up their 3 legged stools as wickets. The modern wicket is a board on a pole and the bowling is underarm, using a rounders ball. There are 8 balls to the over, but otherwise it is an ancient form of cricket.

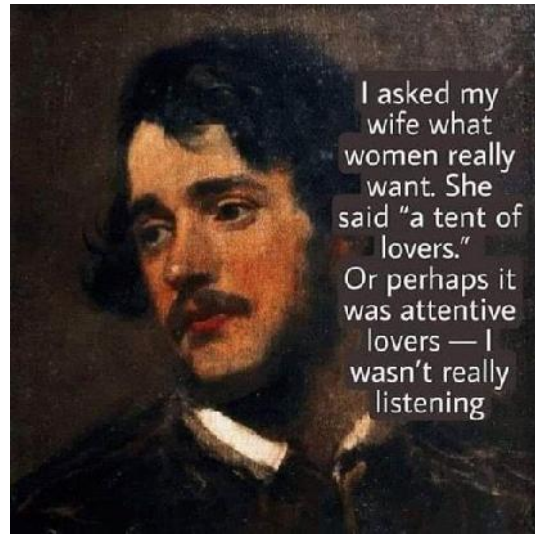
It used to be played at on our recreation ground, but a very long time ago. When we were tidying up the hall we found an old

battered bat which must date back to the 50s when this Sidlesham Team were playing regularly. The initials cut into it are DH.

I have made contact with the local West Sussex Stoolball Association and we are intending to arrange a demonstration match next spring when anyone interested can join in and see if they enjoy the game. It would be really good to put a Manhood team together which could then we join the league. The season runs from April through August.



You will be updated in the spring when we have arranged this event. I do hope that as many people will come as possible, it really is a fun game. **Wendy Devonshire**



Decided to go for a walk on the beach and got freaked out when I thought I ran into a Clan meeting...turns out they're just closed beach umbrellas



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