

A Message from our Chairman...

Jill Shaw

Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter for 2024

Was that summer?

Did you blink and miss it?

But at least the wetter weather has meant that all the trees that were planted in Summersdale last year have survived and thrived. We plan to plant six new trees this autumn so hopefully the weather will be kind to them or kind neighbours will assist by watering them.

We certainly need them to keep Summersdale such an attractive, leafy area as many of our established trees are dying either through disease or simply coming to the end of their life. This was emphasised by the death of one of the giant redwoods on Rew Lane which died

suddenly over the summer after 100 years of life.

We were all very sad to see it being felled.

The wet spring made boundary hedges and trees grow like topsy, leaving many pavements around Summersdale obstructed for pedestrians.

We were going to put something in this newsletter encouraging residents to cut them back but, in late August, I think everyone realised the problem, and suddenly the hedge cutters came out and practically all the overhanging hedges were cut back.

A huge thank you to everyone for this and a reminder in advance for next year.

Please think of the pedestrians, particularly the elderly and those pushing pushchairs when you look at the front of your house.

Thanks to two of our members for their articles in this edition on butterflies (Ray McGlone) and autumn birds (Jan Dart) who are now becoming regular contributors.

If you would like to contribute an article that is relevant to Summersdale in future, please let us know. In our last newsletter we had an article about the strong, parent driven campaign to keep Jessie Young Husband primary school in its current location rather than move it to Minerva Heights.

Unfortunately, the campaign was not successful and WSCC decided to go ahead with the move. This was very disappointing news for all the current and future parents living in this area. The school is due to move sometime next year and we wish the staff, pupils and parents good luck in the move and hope the "new" school will remain as excellent as the current one.



Volunteers Needed

We are still looking for a couple of new committee members, so if you are willing to give your support and enthusiasm and a few hours a month of your time and effort please do let us know. We won't load you up with a portfolio straight away, but give you a chance to get your feet under the table and see how we operate and how you could contribute; it is an active, enjoyable and rewarding body to participate in.



Out of Control Dogs - Chichester District Council

If a dog has attacked or injured a person the matter should be reported to the police.

The best way for residents to contact Chichester District Council would be to report it online at: chichester.gov.uk/article/36757/Report-a-dog-control-problem. For advice and information go to: chichester.gov.uk/dogadviceandinformation or call our switchboard **01243 785166**, it will ensure that the issue is addressed by the most appropriate person. This helps us respond to the resident's concerns as quickly as possible.



The Log-Scheme

One of the ways to keep warm in winter, without adding to your carbon footprint, is to use a wood-burning stove. Open fires are much less efficient, but modern log burners are designed improve on this and to keep particulate emissions down. For some, log burners are controversial but they do seem to be growing in popularity.



so, that they have even offered to deliver some logs locally. If the 'Log-Scheme' proves to work, we should negotiate more notice of log availability.

Is there any local interest in forming a group to reclaim logs as a carbon neutral resource, to season it and diversify away from our sole dependence on fossil fuels?

Logs are best split as soon as possible and then will dry much faster in the sun. In some cases they can even be used within a year, without need for kiln drying. Different wood species have their own characteristics, but when logs are local and free and to be used in a closed log-burning stove, those shortcomings can rightly be considered insignificant.

But what fuel to burn?

- * Local wood will have the lowest transport costs.
- * Using the driest wood is crucial for many reasons.
- * Rotten wood is not useful.

We rejoice in our mature roadside trees, which are managed, by the council and here we have many garden trees too. But condemned, diseased or dangerous trees are dealt with by felling, sometimes at short notice. You will have heard the whine of the chainsaws and the chippers reducing the wood to small pieces in seconds. Rarely is the tree suitable for making useful planks, particularly when the tree must be dismembered in place.

Carbon Neutral Heating, what can we do locally?

Some of us have the space to season and store our wood. Free local wood could also help offset the new lack of winter fuel payments and the inflation in energy prices. Even one tree being felled can quickly produce a huge amount of wood. The tree surgeons are usually contracted to remove all the waste debris, using chippers to reduce the volume, as it is of such little value to them. Not having to chip and transport the huge bulk of a whole tree would save them time and costs. So much



For example we could have a phone or WhatsApp group to warn of impending local wood availability and then try to optimise the sharing and cutting, to help it being recycled as self-sufficient firewood? What do you think?

Photos Courtesy of Paul Stross

Register for the Log Scheme

To register your interest fill in the form at the end of the website copy of this article on the SRA website. Search for "Log-Scheme".

The only feedback I can give you is it was faultless!

Voluntary Action, Arun & Chichester said it was amazing to see so many people wanting information about various things

On 25 June the Lavant Road GP Surgery's Patient Participation Group (PPG) held a hugely successful 'Supporting a Healthy Lifestyle' Event at the Chichester Rugby Club's Oaklands Pavilion.

One hundred and fifty over 50s attended in two hours, where they had the opportunity to have a coffee in the sunshine on the terrace and chat with, and learn about, a wonderful variety of Clubs, Associations and Groups - ranging from Age UK to the Chatty Café to Slimming World and Lavant Horticultural Society - members of whom kindly gave of their time for free.

The PPG would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who attended, the Clubs and Associations and the local residents. It would not have been the same, or the success it was, without you. This is our second event at the Pavilion and if you are a Lavant Road patient and would like to be involved with the next one and have some time to give, please come and join the PPG. It will give you the opportunity to learn more about how the Surgery works, to bring matters of concern to their attention and try and improve services for patients.

For an informal chat and more information, please contact Sheena.

poohstick@sheena1953.plus.com or 07707 846865. She would love to hear from you.



It was a brilliant event



Would love to take part again



This was by far the best event I have attended with regards to talking to possible volunteers or those interested in the events.

Spotlight on Car Crime - SRA Neighbourhood Watch Representative

Prevent theft from a vehicle

- ◆ **Always lock it**
Fuelling up or popping back into your house to get something are perfect examples of how easy it is to turn your back for a moment and forget your vehicle is unsecured. So get into the habit of locking your vehicle even if you're only going to be away from it for a moment. Criminal gangs are looking for vehicles like these where the wing mirrors are still out because it is clear to them that the vehicle has been left unlocked.
- ◆ **Close windows and the sun roof to prevent 'fishing'**
Leaving windows and the sunroof open invites fishing for items through the gap by hand or with, say, a bent coat hanger.
- ◆ **Secure your number plates with tamper-resistant screws**
The easiest way to change the identity of a stolen vehicle or avoid speeding tickets and parking tickets is to fit stolen number plates.
- ◆ **Fit locking, anti-tamper wheel nuts to secure alloy wheels**
Stolen wheels are valuable, either as parts or for their scrap value.
- ◆ **Secure anything that's on the outside of your vehicle**
Anything left on roof-racks, tailgate racks, holiday top boxes or in tool chests are easily stolen when the vehicle is parked. The use of cable locks, padlocks and self-locking tools chests, which are secured to the vehicle, makes them more secure.
- ◆ **Take it with you or hide it**
Your mobile phone, coins for the car park, sunglasses, packs of medication or other items that can earn quick cash are irresistible to the opportunist thief. Remember, the cost of replacing a window is often much more than that of what's stolen.
- ◆ **Hide electrical items and leave no clues**
Leaving sat nav mounts, suction cup marks on windows or cables on view gives it away that you have left a Sat Nav, smartphone or other device in your car.
- ◆ **Park in well-lit and busier areas**
It can take less than 30 seconds to break into a vehicle. Park in well-lit areas and busy streets.
- ◆ **Take your documents with you**
Having a vehicle's registration and insurance documents could let a thief pretend to be the owner. So, never leave any documents in the vehicle.
- ◆ **Choose your car park wisely**
If possible, always try to park in well-lit and staffed car parks or those with a 'Park Mark' safer parking award. To find one, simply check out [Park Mark](#).
- ◆ **Catalytic converter theft**
The precious metal in catalytic converters has led to an increase in their theft. Find out what [catalytic converter theft](#) is and what you can do about it.



My interest in Butterflies was re-kindled when I found a mass of Cinnabar Caterpillars on a Ragwort plant in the hospital car park last year. Something I had not seen since I was 7 yrs old on the coast of Northumberland. Alright Cinnabars are Moths, but I decided to be an expert with possibly 61 species of Butterfly in the UK as opposed to 2.5 thousand moths! Incidentally any hairy caterpillar will be a moth.

Butterflies have declined in the UK due to habitat loss over my lifetime and before. If you visit some rural areas of Slovenia you will experience what our Victorian ancestors saw. Flocks (Kaleidoscope) of thousands of butterflies. This year in the UK was the 14th National butterfly count and the lowest numbers of butterflies were counted. Other insects such as bees were also hit by the poor weather this year.

So what can we do?

I have been breeding butterflies in my garden since last year and releasing them. The eggs or caterpillars can be bought off the internet even eBay. They have to be protected from parasitic wasps and flies in netted pots or butterfly cages. I started with the species that eat stinging nettles as there are many clumps growing in the area. So raised Peacock, Small Tortoiseshell and Comma in small butterfly cages with cut nettles standing in water bottles.

This year I moved onto other species. Brimstone, Duke of Burgundy, Glanville Fritillary, Marbled White, Black Veined White, Large Tortoiseshell and lastly White Admiral.

I potted some Buckthorn in roots in pots last autumn. By the time the Brimstone caterpillars arrived this year

the plants were ready. After placing them on the plants I enclosed them in netting. To my surprise two weeks later my caterpillars had trebled in number! I had spotted one female Brimstone flying past the window and it must have laid eggs on the Buckthorn as it ticked all the boxes. Garden Centres sell their plants as favouring butterflies, but these are

generally foreign plants that are good for the adult butterflies to nectar on.



Brimstone butterfly on buddleia

Butterflies however need specific native UK plants to lay their eggs on for the caterpillars to feed off the leaves.

So Brimstone need Alder or Common Buckthorn and without these the Brimstone can't reproduce.

Incidentally this species gives us the name "Butterfly". Our ancestors called them a "Butter Coloured Fly". They are one of the 6 species that overwinter as adult butterflies, so you can occasionally see them on a warm winter's day!

My Project for next year is breeding the rarer White Admiral. The picture of the booklet on Breeding UK Butterflies has a White Admiral on the cover. One group of caterpillars are on a Snowberry (Honeysuckle family) bush and the other on Honeysuckle. One thing I have quickly learnt is, "don't put all your eggs in one basket!". The caterpillars overwinter as caterpillars. In the autumn whilst still very small they fold a leaf on themselves as a sleeping blanket for the winter. The dead leaf is attached by a silk thread onto the plant. So when you go for a walk in the woods if you see a dead leaf dangling from some honeysuckle there might be a caterpillar inside. See this clip:

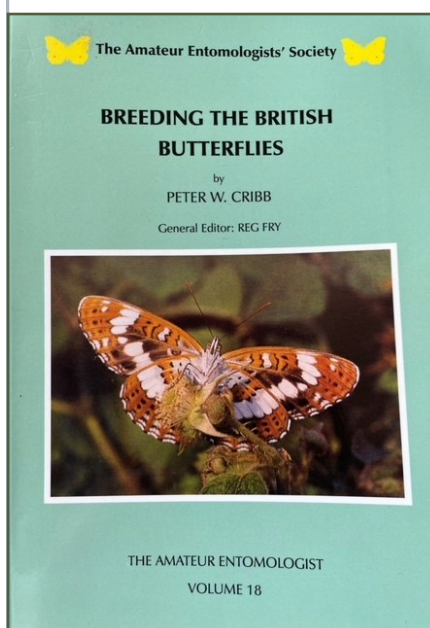
<https://youtu.be/v3p7EjWGQig>

In summary our woodland neighbourhood should have lots of butterflies as long as you don't keep your gardens too tidy and give some space for UK plants used by our butterflies (UK Butterflies - Larval Foodplants) and avoid insecticides. Wildlife needs Wild Gardens. If you want to see a Green-Veined White or Orange-tip Butterfly you need a patch of Garlic Mustard.

If you want some advice do contact me:

drmcglone@gmail.com

Photograph courtesy of Ray McGlone



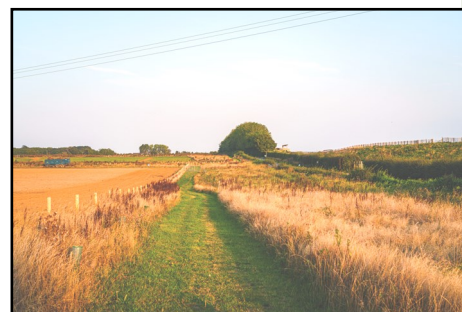
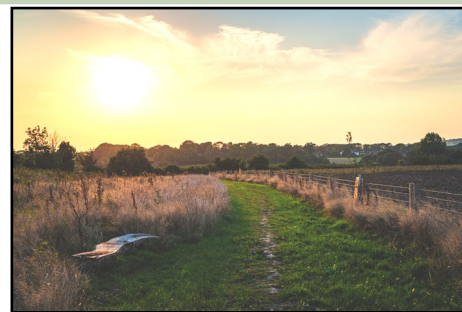
In our 2023 Spring Newsletter we published an article written by Darren Norris, Forestry Manager at Goodwood, that gave details of plans to create a 20 metre wide woodland permissive path from Lavant to Halnaker. The section between Halnaker and Strettington was planted over the winter of 2022/23 and the permissive path opened in March.

The planting schemes are plastic-free with biodegradable rabbit guards being trialled. To combat the problems of deer browsing, they planted the trees at one metre spacings as opposed to the usual 2 metre spaces. In this section alone over 21,000 trees were planted, including fruit and berry rich species for wildlife and understory shrubs to ensure good cover for nesting birds. The reason for this follow up article is to let people know that the Strettington to Lavant section, which was planted over last winter, is now open.



The map shows where it runs and, for those of you who haven't found it yet, the entrance is via a gate opposite the Lavant end of the gravel footpath running between Fordwater Road and the cow fields.

Hopefully lots of you will enjoy walking along it.



Photographs courtesy of Richard Meyer

Summersdale Garage - illegal parking

I know many of you are frustrated with the illegal parking of lorries and tractors, blocking the pavement just to the north of the Co-op garage in Lavant Road, so I just wanted to update you on what is happening.



Last year a group of residents, supported by myself, applied through a Communities Highways Scheme to have bollards erected to prevent this parking. These highway scheme applications - which come from right across the County - are scored and assessed, and only those that score enough points go forward for further assessment. The County Council only has the capacity to actually implement a small number of schemes each year, so not even all the approved schemes go forward into our build programme.

Jeremy Hunt Councillor

Unfortunately, this application was one of the unsuccessful ones, but in discussion with Highways Officers it was suggested that we change this to a Traffic Regulation Order application, which meant that at least we could get parking restrictions - double yellow lines - implemented. I suggested to our officers that unless these restrictions were enforced (CDC are responsible for illegal parking enforcement) they were unlikely to be a deterrent. Unfortunately this has proven to be the case, as has been clearly demonstrated by the many photos you have sent me. Our officers have now accepted that the restrictions are no deterrent (your pictures were very useful, thank you) and so a new Communities Highways Scheme application - installing bollards - was submitted this July, with strong support from our local Highways Officer. I understand this has gone through all the preliminary stages and I am really pushing for a successful outcome this time round. Having said that, the schemes currently being processed are for inclusion in our 2025/26 build programme, but at least if it is approved - and I am trying very hard to ensure it is - it will happen.

I will keep the SRA committee updated on progress.

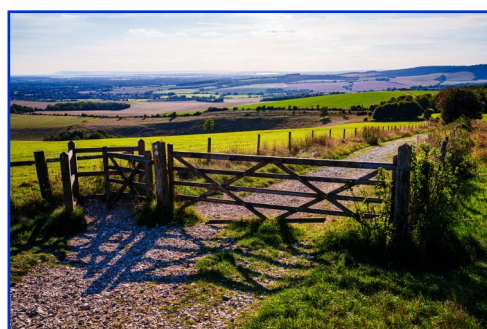
Jeremy Hunt

West Sussex County Council Member for Chichester North

Email: jeremy.hunt@westsussex.gov.uk

The Trundle is located on St Roche's Hill SU877112 206m

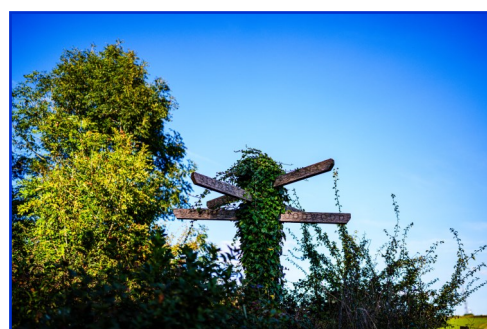
The Trundle (Trynedl old English) circular earthworks, identified as a Neolithic Causeway Enclosure dating from 4400/4200BC and is the first indication of people using The Trundle. It would have appeared as a cleared area within a predominately wooded landscape and it is the first known causeway enclosure in West Sussex. The enclosure consisted of a number of concentric circles of ditches and banks. It is suggested that this was a meeting place for the people living in the area. Speculations suggest it was used to celebrate events in the farming calendar, we can only speculate on the activities and precise purpose of the site.



The site continued to be used during the Bronze Age. In the Middle Iron Age (700BC/43AD) a large Hill Fort was constructed on the older earthworks. These forts were central to the people occupying local farmsteads, where people lived in Round Houses, large dwellings/ subdivided/ thatched or turfed roofs/ wattle and daub walls. Using LIDAR technology- Light Detection and Radar - it is possible to locate platforms where Round Houses would have been placed.

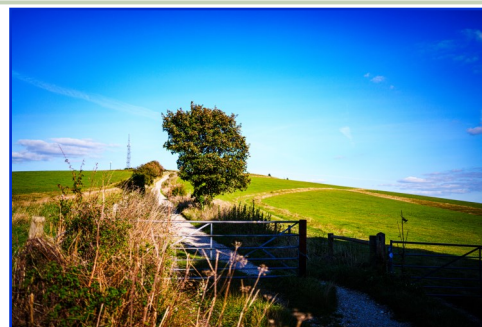
The Trundle Fort would have demonstrated the power of the elite families living in the locality.

The structures were used for agricultural storage, pits have been found. There is also evidence of specialist activities have been located such as metal working.

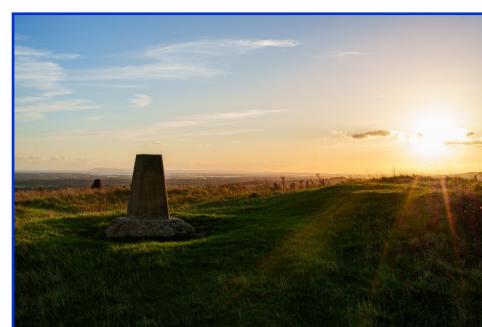


The population migrated to the coastal plain towards the end of the Iron Age . During the Roman Period 43/410 AD historians have suggested that a military camp may have been sited on the hill, evidenced in areas of banks and ditches.

Photographs courtesy of Richard Meyer



In the late 14th Century a chapel was built, dedicated to St Roche. St Roche was venerated as helping travellers and the sick. Travellers and the sick would leave the major route way north/south, Chalk Pit lane to visit the chapel. The outline of the chapel can be seen today in aerial photographs.



In the Post Medieval Period 1500/1750AD chalk pits were dug and quick lime was produced in a number of lime kilns on the hills southern slopes. Timber coming from the Valdoe and other wooded areas.

Valdoe comes from the Old English Weald meaning forest. LIDAR reveals a prehistoric field system beneath the present woodland. One of the Valdoe's enduring characteristics has been the value of it's timber - yielding quantities of coppiced hazel.

The Valdoe has had a long history as an area for military training. The 5th Duke of Richmond purchased the Valdoe in the 18th Century and among other military units the Duke's, Sussex Militia exercised on these slopes. During the Napoleonic Wars troops billeted in the area were visited by worthies such as the Duke of Wellington, Lord Raglan and Sir Charles Rowan. This location continued as a military training area into the 20th Century. During the First World War an extensive area of trenches were constructed which can still be seen amongst the trees today. During the 2nd World War six signal masts were constructed, and Canadian Troops stationed in the area practised for the invasion of Europe, starting with the D Day Landings. Cadets from Chichester High School for Boys continued to use the area primarily for Night Exercises. The tramp of their marching feet in the early 1960s, mingled with the ghostly tramp of warriors going back into antiquity.

In Autumn birds that visit us for summer start to return south to their warmer wintering grounds.

Most of them pause to refuel, before crossing the first hurdle of the English Channel; so West Sussex is a good place to search for those that stop off before making their long journeys.

Look for swallows gathering on the fences and warblers foraging the hedges (blackcaps willow warblers and chiffchaffs are fairly common).

Scan the fields and fence posts, you might be fortunate to find a wheatear, whinchat or flycatcher. Look for yellow wagtails flitting among the cattle or search out rare, pass-through migrants, that include stunning red backed shrike and wryneck.

Some may be in or near Summersdale but a trip into the surrounding countryside or down to Pagham Harbour or Church Norton is good this time of year.

Who knows, with the wide vistas towards the coast, an Osprey or even a Stork on migration is not uncommon.

Late autumn brings northerly migrants south to avoid colder winters further north and east of Britain. Look out for fieldfare and redwing feeding on berries or wintering flocks of geese, ducks passing over and perhaps visit Medmerry to see them settle and feed near the coast in large numbers, along with plover and other waders.

The changing seasons bring many new sights for us to enjoy.

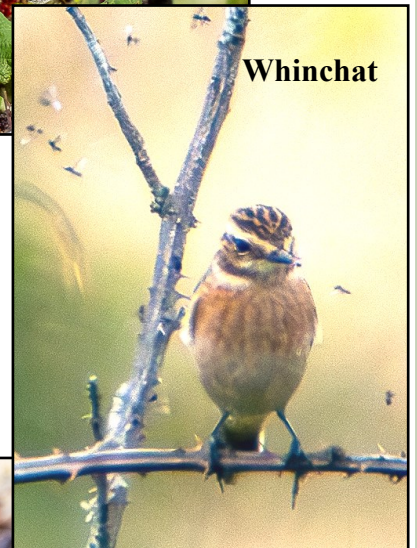
Shrike



Wryneck



Whinchat



Spotted Flycatcher



Wheatear



Yellow Wagtail



Pied Flycatcher



Photographs courtesy of Jan Dart

SUMMERSDALE COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH



Chichester Summersdale Community Speed Watch currently has 11 volunteers, who work occasional 1 hour or 1½ hour sessions, a few times per week, if volunteer levels allow, at a variety of locations. Generally, sessions are at the same time of day, during peak traffic periods.



Dates for Diaries 2024/2025

Committee Meetings 2024	Goodwood 2025	Other information
Meetings will now be held at 7 pm at St Michael's Hall, Chichester 24 October 5 December 16 January 2025 27 February 10 April 22 May AGM 19 June 24 July If any member has an issue that they wish to be discussed please email the Chairman at least two weeks before the meeting.	82nd Members' Meeting Sat 12 - Sun 13 April Festival of Speed Thu 10 - Sun 13 July Qatar Goodwood Festival Tue 30 July - Sat 3 August Revival Meeting Fri 12 - Sun 14 September To contact the motor circuit call 01243 775060 or email on circuit@goodwood.com For noise management go to www.goodwood.com/motorsport/motor-circuit/history/noise-management/	Complaints about Goodwood flights go to www.goodwood.com/flying/aerodrome/noise-management/ fill in the online form, <i>(or get someone to do it for you)</i>, and submit it so that there is a written record of the complaint. For other information summersdaleresidents.co.uk We post information on our notice board by the letter box in The Broadway. We will also advise you of any urgent matters by email No current allocated PCSO Phone 999 if urgent; 101 if non urgent

Your Committee

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