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Heathfield
& District Chamber of Trade & Commerce

Winter is on the way out and Spring is here, with gardens coming back to life and Easter eggs in the shops.

Once again the Christmas Family Day was a great success and St. Wilfrid's raised a substantial sum. We have a number of businesses in the town which have changed ownership, have expanded or are in the process of expanding, all of which brings fresh customers and keeps interest in the High Street. We are still one of the few towns that has free parking – this is great news – so support your local shops and businesses and keep Heathfield alive and kicking!

Also keep the editorials coming – it can either be about your business or any organisation/club you belong to – we want to hear about it.

Should you wish to advertise in the forthcoming issues, don't hesitate to contact Anne on 01435 867928 / 07901558236 or email: chamberads@hotmail.co.uk.

Heathfield First is produced by the Heathfield & District Chamber of Trade and Commerce.

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Have you ever thought ..?

Me - join a flower club? You never know where it might lead! If you are pro-active and want to do flower arranging but have never known how or had the opportunity - now is your chance - join our club.

Little did I know when I joined a club thirty odd years ago, when the children were small, that it would change my life. This hobby of mine has given me all kinds of challenges. Admittedly you do need to know some of the basic rules but once learned it enables you to be as creative as you like. Flower arranging competitions are not for everyone but flower festivals are a different matter allowing you to interpret titles as you wish - it makes you think and be creative. There is fun amongst the arrangers and there are no competitive restraints to worry about. As you become more confident and adept there are opportunities to arrange flowers in illustrious venues, maybe an abbey, National Trust house, castle or other such place. It's magical to be there when

the public are not.


Church flowers need arranging and this can be a meaningful experience whether you do it regularly or just occasionally - Church flower ladies are always on the lookout for additional help!

Fancy a new hobby for 2011 then give me a call.

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YOUR LAWNS AND GARDENS

What a lovely thought. Spring is here once again, bulbs are pushing through the soil, shrubs are rapidly coming into bud and the grass is growing! But mainly are you worried whether you will be able to cope with all the work!

HOW CAN WE HELP? To relieve you of some of the work we would like to offer the following throughout the growing season. We specialise in lawn mowing and strimming either on a regular basis or to get you started, also holiday relief.

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We very much look forward to hearing from you and hope we all have a very good summer.

John Cottingham

Heathfield police team update

Like everyone our usual business over the December period was interrupted by the snow.

You may have seen in the local papers that the Station may no longer have fixed front office opening hours, but will be available by appointment only. Should this happen, full details will be advertised. I must stress it is only the front office opening hours that are proposed to be reduced and the team, as it stands, will still work out of Heathfield and there are no plans for this to change.

One of the meetings that Neighbourhood Policing Teams are involved with is the Joint Action Group (JAG). JAG gets together the community partnership groups and local issues are discussed so all the agencies can work together to resolve them. Currently the neighbourhood policing areas of Wealden are divided into 5 and JAG meets in a different area each month. Heathfield is part of an area with Herstmonceux, Horam, Mayfield and Wadhurst. The other areas are based around Polegate, Hailsham, Uckfield and Crowborough – these areas also take in the surrounding villages.

JAG was held in Heathfield in November. One of the initiatives that came out of the meeting was to hold

a community clear up day in Heathfield – this was titled “OPERATION QUALITY STREET”. The area chosen was Heathfield skate park and the twittens in and around the Cuckoo Walk and Newnham Way and was held on 15 December organised by the local policing team and included the Parish, District and County Council all doing their bit to assist by graffiti removing, adding and improving public seating areas, cutting back bushes, trees and rubbish removal. They were joined by members of the Youth Services, some pupils from Heathfield Community College and local residents.

Budgens, Co-Op and Tesco all donated drinks and food to keep the workers going and the Fire Station, Goldsmith and Allcorn and Mary Burfield all allowed their facilities to be used during the day. Jewsons Building Supplies donated some road stone to improve pathways. Despite the cold everyone worked together well and a marked improvement could be seen. By the end of the day over a ton of rubbish had been collected.

If you know an area in the locality which could do with the “Operation Quality Street” treatment or have any questions, comments or suggestions for us at Heathfield Neighbourhood Policing Team, please contact us.

There are at least 2 officers working out of the Police Station every day, and each PCSO has at least 2 public meeting dates each month so please do contact us with any of your community queries or concerns.

*RUTH HAMMERTON, NPT SERGEANT
HEATHFIELD POLICE STATION*

Neighbourhood Policing Team

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**HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON
TWINNING ASSOCIATION**

Another year, another opportunity to visit our friends in Forges-les-Eaux and to welcome them here. We shall be going over there in June or July and they will be visiting us in September. In addition, there will be a Marché Européan in Forges in April where there will be a number of stalls from Sussex, including Heathfield. Sadly the visit of La Chorale, planned for March, has been postponed for a year because of the sudden death of their musical director just before Christmas. Waldron Village Croquet Club will be going to Catenay for the annual challenge match in the summer and we hope that one or two other sporting exchanges will be arranged. Le Marché is here in Heathfield at the end of August.

So the Twinning Association remains active and successful. We continue with our friendly Soirées Françaises every two to three months when we try to speak French while enjoying some light refreshments. Help is on hand for those who would like it. For further information and enquiries about membership please telephone 01435 812861. Gill Temple, Chairman



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News from The Heathfield Partnership

ICT Committee

All sections of the website are constantly being updated. Please continue to send in information on local events/clubs, etc, and check whether your business is listed on the shops and business directory. We have been successful in a bid to Awards for All for money towards extremely useful technology to help our operation and the production of Heathfield First.

Sports and Leisure Committee

The Committee are currently commissioning design work for a full planning application for an indoor swimming pool and fitness centre scheme at the Heathfield Community College site. The raffle for the brand new Vauxhall Agila 1.0L Exclusive in a solid colour was won by Theresita Caldwell of Bodle St Green.

Transport Committee

The "Youth Express" continues to do well. The demand of use of minibuses by community groups for one off trips is much slower off the mark. If you are interested in using this service, please phone 01892 610314 or email heathfieldpartnership@fsmail.net. Please see the separate article for more information.

Inward Investment Committee

We have been successful in our bid for increased broadband capability in the Cross-in-Hand and Waldron area and are currently finalising the contractor to carry out this work.

Police Local Action Team

The CCTV Scheme, which involves having 3 cameras that can be moved around Heathfield with an integrated monitoring system and hard disc recording data bank is now successfully in operation.

Farmers Market

The Market has been very successful this year. The market is held every third Saturday in the month in The Co-op Supermarket car park, Heathfield, between 9.00am and 12.30pm.

Tomorrow's People

After 3 months detailed research the pilot project is being designed to be launched in the new financial year. A base budget has been attained but further funding is still being sought to ensure a full programme of ideally 12 young people not in employment, education or training who can gain work placement experience that either leads to real jobs or makes a significant difference to their job prospects. Where training is required then this will also be part of the programme. Employers and Young People have been part of the research and the opportunities identified are significant. The Partnership is proud to be associated with this distinguished national Charity with a very impressive track record.

High Street and Town Centre

The final phase of the High Street regeneration at the eastern end of the town including the parade has been completed. Additional bollards have been set on the Library stretch to protect pedestrians from illegally parked cars which should improve safety. The irritation of the subsequent EDF (now complete) and Gas Board works (which commenced January) with resurfacing of High Street in March (over both days of a weekend) will inevitably frustrate traders. These operations, of course, have no connection with the Partnership.

Rupert Simmons

Chairman, The Heathfield Partnership Trust Ltd

Contact details for the Heathfield Partnership Trust Limited are:

c/o 92 High Street, Heathfield, East Sussex
TN21 8JD Tel/Fax No: 01892 610314,
e-mail: heathfieldpartnership@fsmail.net
website: www.heathfield.net

Minibus hire to get clubs on the road

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For further information contact the Heathfield Partnership co-ordinator (details shown in main article).

Our partners in the scheme are Age Concern, Kings Church, Heathfield Community College and Heffle Nursery.

CHILDREN IN PARADISE ADOPT DELMZA HOSPICE CARE

Children in Paradise Ltd, based in Goward Hall, Heathfield, has recently adopted Demelza Hospice Care for Children (Registered Charity Number 1039651) as their Charity of the Year. Demelza cares for over 600 life limited children.

To help their fundraising efforts, they are kindly asking for donation of good quality children's clothes, shoes and toys. The collected items will be sold at The Heffle Cuckoo Fair on Saturday 16 April 2011 and all the money will go to support children and young people who are unlikely to reach adulthood.

If you have any goods to donate, Nadia would be delighted to hear from you on: 01435 868877 or 07828 062787. Your support means we can help more children like Connor.



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Come and join Burwash Monday Painters

The Burwash Monday Painters are now into the winter season. We meet in the Burwash Village Hall every Monday until the 11 April when we have an enforced break of three weeks before embarking on our Summer season, which, as I sit here looking out at all the snow on the ground, can't come soon enough.

Our last exhibition was held in the Burwash Village Hall at the end of October when we enjoyed the company of many local people who are regular visitors to our art shows. Some people were attracted by the advertising throughout the area, posters that were generously displayed by local shops in Heathfield, Burwash and surround-

ing villages, for which we thank them very much. We would also like to thank 'Heathfield First' Horam and Vines Cross Parish Magazine and the Burwash Broadsheet for the space given to us to tell all about our group.

We have another exhibition to look forward to on Saturday 9 April 2011, in the Union Church Hall, Heathfield, from 10.00am to 4.00pm, where we will be displaying original framed and unframed paintings, all for sale, at a wide range of prices. There is wheelchair access to the hall and plenty of free parking nearby. Tea, coffee and admission are free. Please come and see what we do and have a cup of tea and a chat. You

will find us very welcoming and ready to answer any questions you may have about our group.

Thank you for all your support in the past.

Contact: Grace 01435 860848

THE PET FOOD SHOP – 40 years on In January 1971 'The Pet Shop' was started by Joan Smith located in the tin hut premises in Streatfield Road, Heathfield. Joan sold primarily frozen meats and minces mixed with a broken biscuit.

In September 1981 Joan was joined by her son-in-law Paul Clark (now known affectionately as 'Pet Shop Paul') and between them they grew the business and in April 1986 they relocated to Station Approach, Heathfield and the business was renamed to 'THE PET FOOD SHOP'. With more space the business expanded into pet accessories as well as food. Further expansion took place in 1995 when they over the adjacent shop premises.

In January 2011 they celebrated 40 years of trading in Heathfield and serving the public of Heathfield and area. The Pet Food Shop now stock a wide range of Quality Pet Foods and Accessories and have access to over 18,000 pet products. The success of the business is down to good old fashioned service and making available the products it's customers want.

If you have not visited THE PET FOOD SHOP before, why not pop in, you will be ensured a friendly welcome. Here's to the next 40 years....

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DID YOU KNOW LE MARCHE IS 15 YEARS OLD?

Well it is - and it just gets better and better – on Bank Holiday Monday August 29 2011 thousands of visitors will flock into Heathfield for this very popular event and IT IS ALL FREE - FREE entertainment, FREE Park and ride and FREE programme of events.

The whole idea is to promote the town of Heathfield by inviting visitors from far and wide to come along and enjoy the day and see what Heathfield has to offer and, thankfully, many are very pleasantly surprised and revisit our town. As usual, Station Approach and part of Station Road will be closed to traffic for the entire day to allow the extravaganza to take place. As in previous years, there will be music and entertainment to suit all ages, together with approximately 80 market stalls (approximately 50% French) selling English and French goodies and more and more shops are opening on the day – and some even reported record takings last year!!

This year we are trying to invite and showcase even more local musical talent than ever before. Rumour has it that the Heathfield Firefighters are holding their Open Day again at the Fire Station, which is always great fun and attracts many visitors and the Youth Centre is planning another BMX/Skating competi-

tion/event at the skatepark in Station Approach. We enjoyed perfect weather at last year's Le Marche and we certainly hope we will again.

This year, we are proud to announce that St Wilfrid's Hospice is organising the street collection on the day. Please give generously and support this very worthy local charity.

Bookings for stalls are being received already and charges are unchanged from last year. If you want a slot then please contact Sarah Mackenzie, the Trade Stall Co-ordinator on 01435 866419 or email s.m.mack@btopenworld.com - slots are allocated on a first come first served basis to make it fair to all.

HELP WANTED - We really are in urgent need of some new volunteers to join our committee to help organise the day, being involved really is great fun and it promotes the town where we all choose to live. A number of the present committee are stepping down after the 2011 event so new blood needs to be found to ensure the event continues in its present format.

If you feel you would like to learn more about what we do then please contact Mike Woodhouse on 0770 353 0111 or email michael.woodhouse6@btopenworld.com

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What is the Heathfield & District Chamber of Trade & Commerce?

We consist of a variety of businesses based in Heathfield and Waldron and we aim to:

- Create a positive business profile for Heathfield
- Build our own businesses
- Support each others businesses
- Work together on joint events for the benefit of Heathfield businesses

What are the benefits of joining the Chamber now?

- Monthly networking meetings – breakfasts and lunchtimes to suit everyone
- Gain advice and knowledge from visiting speakers
- Keep up-to-date on what is happening in your local area
- Opportunity to make presentations at networking meetings
- The chance to host an event showcasing your business
- Listing in the Chamber Members Booklet to be distributed in April
- Listing in each edition of Heathfield First during the year
- Beneficial rates at Chamber events
- Take part in our first Heathfield Business to Business Exhibition in the autumn of this year
- Creation of an active business group to secure grants and other financial support
- Opportunity to get involved and join the Chamber committee
- The Chamber lobbies on behalf of members

The Chamber used to be mainly High Street/retail based, however, now that the local business community has become broader based there are lots of new organisations from a variety of industries joining us. This is, therefore, a great time to join us and help make Heathfield a vibrant business community.

What will it cost?

Annual membership of the Heathfield Chamber is £50.00 per business commencing on 1 April 2011. This represents great value for money and is competitive with other local chambers.

List of current members

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Cuisines de Classe	Melina Joy	West Wood Estate Agents
Cycle Revival	Metalsmiths	William Hill Interiors
Distinctive Building & Construction	Pennells Carpets	Wood and Pilcher
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Gaston SB	Print Matters	

For more information on the Chamber, events or to request a subscription form, please contact:

Mr Trevor Goldsmith
 Chairman
 Goldsmith and Allcorn
 Station Road, Heathfield
 East Sussex TN21 8DF
 Telephone number: 01435 865858
 Email address: chambersecretary@fsmail.net

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Mon - Fri: 08:00 - 22.00
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Library and Community Help Point

21 High Street
Heathfield TN21 8LU
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Sat: 09:00-16:00, Sun: 10:00-16:00



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Every Day is Playtime in Hailsham Road

The toyshop Heathfield has been waiting for has finally arrived. Nestled amidst the oasis of traditional shops on Hailsham Road is Trumpety Trump, a specialist in quality wooden toys to delight and capture the imaginations of both children and adults alike.

On entering the shop to the sound of the old-fashioned shop door bell, you are presented with an 'Aladdin's Cave' which boasts a plethora of beautiful toys. Trumpety Trump stocks different and exciting merchandise whilst preserving the timeless classics that parents and grandparents will remember. This being the case, don't be surprised if, as well as finding the perfect gift for a birthday or christening, you're suddenly taken back to your own childhood by the flying gliders, marbles, wooden stilts and spinning tops – to name but a few. Trumpety Trump offer a range of innovative products from across the country as well as across the globe: arts and crafts from the USA, baby rattles from Germany, beautiful puzzles from France and much more.

Family run and family orientated, toys are on display and are there to be played with. There is, quite uniquely no need for the usual command for children to look but don't touch and a helping hand is always available to give you advice (usually from personal experience since the owner and manager, Amanda Ranford, has two young children herself).

The toys at Trumpety Trump are made to last, to be passed through generations and whether it is the train sets or the dolls' houses that set your eyes alight, Trumpety Trump understands that when children are concerned, quality is everything.

Visit them at 1 Oxford Terrace, Hailsham Road, Heathfield, TN21 8AA, contact Amanda on 01435 862887 or find out more at www.trumpety-trump.co.uk.

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HEFFLE CUCKOO FAIR - SATURDAY 16 APRIL

A great day out for all the family, don't miss this, come and see the old Heffle tradition re-enacted. Dame Heffle will leave Heathfield Community College at 10.45am with the pageant to proceed to the recreation ground to release the Cuckoo and declare Spring has arrived in Heathfield. Enjoy all the fun of the fair: interesting stalls, entertainment, dog show, gypsy caravans, vintage vehicles, Sussex crafts and refreshments all day. There will be plenty of fun for the children. The fair finishes at 4.00pm. Free admission and park and ride from Heathfield market car park. If you are interested in taking part in the scarecrow competition, the dog show or having a stall or telephone: Audrey Milton on 01435 830504 or email fmilton@btinternet.com

HEATHFIELD & HORAM GUIDES – CHANGE AT 65

Our spectacular Centenary year reached its climax with thousands coming together at vision events all across the UK. Throughout the celebrations members pushed the boundaries and went the extra mile to bring experiences to girls and young women that will change their lives and fill their memories forever. That hard work has created an inspiring legacy for the future and now we go into 2011 fired up with enthusiasm for the next era of Guiding. Heathfield and Horam Guiders are always filled with enthusiasm in all we do with our girls, be it at weekly meetings, away day at Bull River, pack holiday camps and lots more.

CHANGE AT 65 – there will no longer be a retirement age of 65 for Assistant Leaders, and Unit helpers; this is great news as Guiders at this senior age still have so much to give. Feedback from the girls was great. Overwhelmingly they didn't see that age should be a barrier in Guiding. We still need to ensure that we continue to develop new Leaders to take Guiding forward for the year to come. As Olave Baden-Powell said "Hats off to the past, sleeves up for the future". The District always have their sleeves up, roll yours up too and come and join us.

The European Commission has declared 2011 the European Year of Volunteering. There are more than 100 million volunteers across Europe all making a huge contribution to Society and the economy. The aim of the year is to celebrate volunteers, showcase good practice and encourage more people to join the army of volunteers so why not volunteer to Guiding – phone me today to find out more.

Anita Preece D.C. 01435 863435

NEWS FROM SELWYN WOOD

What a shocking winter for anybody who had to work out-of-doors. Luckily our "green team" at Selwyn's Wood are all volunteers, so little work was possible either in the snow or the rain.

None of them is a wimp, but because we work regularly with sharp hand tools which can slip out of one's hand so easily, it is madness to work in such conditions, not to mention regulations of one sort or another. But on one fine day we knocked off early and went to the pub for our annual Christmas lunch.

After that we hardly did anything until the end of January when we coppiced some sizeable hazels on a steep side of one of our ghylls. The work was partly to give our visitors a small view of the streamside and to give the bryophytes – mosses and liverworts to you

and me – a little more light into the banks of the stream. The hazels were about 14 years old, about the limit of their use as poles. Unfortunately, many hazel woods have become derelict in this way because only few people need the wood: it was superseded by plastic many years ago.

We worked to the sound of rushing water from the stream which at that point is joined by another as it wended its way down to the Cuckmere river. Even in the cold of winter that is a lovely sound.

When I was thinking about this article I wondered what I had been doing 11 years ago after I started as volunteer manager of the reserve. Oddly enough in February we were doing the same work further along the stream. And ten years ago in March the dreaded foot-and-

mouth disease occurred. As with all nature reserves we had to close. It was a bad time for all of us in the countryside.

When the weather gets better why not walk around the reserve (friendly dogs are welcome) on a Thursday morning and have a chat with one of our team - you never know you could become involved with us...

John Hall

(To find the reserve take Firgrove Road by Cross-in-Hand Methodist Church for a little more than half a mile and the reserve is signposted on the left. Drive slowly: you might miss it!)

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OPTICIANS

Heathfield businesses serve the local community in many ways and the local community in return, hopefully, supports the High Street in sufficient numbers to enable those businesses to survive. Thus, everyone benefits.

This is particularly evident where a local optician is concerned. In this case the service has to be specific and tailor-made to the needs of each individual, sometimes in close co-operation with the facilities to be found in local specialist centres. Take, for instance the case history of a local resident in his 70s who came to live here nine years ago and who had always needed the close support of an optician ever since he had to be moved to a front desk at primary school because he could not see properly what teacher was writing on the board! After a career and a succession of increasingly powerful spectacles to correct short sightedness in both eyes, came the day in his retirement when the opportunity for 20/20 vision in each eye without glasses became a reality.

His optician identified the need for operations to remove cataracts and started the ball rolling (or, should I say, eyeball rolling!). It was determined that correcting lenses could be fitted and the timing of these operations became an issue when he developed chronic iritis in one eye that had to be controlled before any operation could take place. Happily, everything worked out in the end and all he needs now are reading glasses but the underlying problem of recurring bouts of iritis remains to be investigated fully by all of the specialists involved.

One thankful local resident can now read distant road signs before his wife in the passenger seat. For hospital visits, though, he is eternally grateful for his bus pass between Heathfield and Eastbourne!

Pople & Broad

WHO OR WHAT IS ROTARY?

Who resurrected and has organised the Heathfield carnival for the last three years? Who provided the town with its clock? Who helped send a local scout to the world Jamboree? Who supports our local hospices? Who sent shelter boxes to Haiti and Pakistan?

ANSWER: The Heathfield and Waldron Rotary Club!

Rotary is an international organisation with groups in many places in the UK and worldwide. Its members are local professional men and women who meet weekly to enjoy socialising, usually with a meal, but more importantly to raise funds for local, national and overseas projects which are of a charitable nature.

Your Heathfield Club numbers, some 34, of varying ages and backgrounds, annually donates in the

region of £12k to charitable or deserving cases. This money is raised through a range of fundraising events including the carnival, quiz nights, street collections and similar functions.

At our meetings we have various speakers covering a wide range of subjects as well as presentations from charities and other people looking for support of their various activities or projects. Whilst always aiming to support local causes we also donate to overseas projects including shelter boxes that are used to alleviate human suffering in disaster areas.

We have 'twinning' social relationships with two French Rotary clubs and looking to extend that activity with a South African club.

We try to take an active role in sup-

porting our local schools by physical help and awarding vouchers for special achievement or performance.

Each Christmas we give a party for the older members of our community, especially those who are alone and have difficulty in getting out.

Do any of these activities sound interesting to you? Would you like to join a club for its social aspects as well as raising money for the good of others? Would it be helpful to you to have a group of local professional and business people to chat to? Would you like to visit our club on an evening or two to see who we are and what we do? Then why not contact our Secretary, George Claydon on 01825 731957 or email: georgeclaydon@gmail.com for more details.

RONNIE'S HINTS FOR THE GARDEN

The month of March.

Mother's day has come our way

With it of course a special day

Flowers and presents to your Mum to give

Lots of love and a will to live

Cheer her up with a gift or two

Maybe a glass of wine will do

Take her out for dinner at night

Fill her world with great delight

Peace and happiness all the time

Helps me to end this little rhyme.

Just to let you know the poem is for Mothering Sunday on the 3 April this year; a bit later than normal.

This month brings spring in full action. Feed your bulbs while they are still blooming and remember to dead head the flowers that are over. Tie any up that have fallen down, you should not tie the leaves up into balls as it breaks them and stops the goodness going back to the bulbs. For half-hardy annuals sow seeds of Ageratum; Dahlia; Tagetes (French and African Marigolds); and Zinnia. Roses, if you did not prune in the autumn, do so this month. Remember a hard prune will encourage strong growth and I recommend two to three shoots on the stems. In the real country gardens rabbits can be a problem,

they will eat the new growth, so cover with a net until the shoots have grown or buy shrubs that will flower later this summer. This is a safe month to plant any new trees, as the ground is still moist. Parsnips; Beetroot; Carrots; Broad beans and Lettuce can all be sown now in open ground. You can still clear up fallen leaves and also half moon and shape your edges around your flower beds. Thank you for reading my hints for the garden. Have a good month. Looking forward to next month.

Ronnie



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HALO'S HEAVENLY NEW SHOP

Most of you will by now have noticed HALO'S stunning new shop – very conveniently located right opposite Tesco Express in Heathfield. Despite the most challenging of weather conditions we managed to open on 4 December as planned. You could be mistaken for thinking you are in a top store in Bluewater. Despite the high end appearance prices remain extremely competitive with skinny jeans from only £24.99 and t-shirts from just £10. You'll also be pleased to know that the staff are as friendly and helpful as ever! Great care has been taken to source brands which offer quality and style at affordable prices and have been selected to enable customers to mix and match across the ranges. Add to that gorgeous gifts, jewellery, hosiery, bags and leather belts and you will understand why HALO really is Heathfield's own little piece of Heaven!

Halo's Station Approach shop is now their CLEARANCE STORE. Open Friday and Saturday 10.00am - 4.00pm there are some amazing bargains as quite simply EVERYTHING MUST GO!



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HORAM AND BROAD OAK THUNDER FOOTBALLERS

Despite the weather limiting the number of matches they have been able to play, the team has made an encouraging start to the season and remain well placed in the league.

A backlog of fixtures means it is going to be an extremely busy conclusion to the season, with mid-week and week end matches likely to test the fitness and strength of the players. However, the hard work and commitment the players have continued to show in training, whatever the weather conditions, should enable them to take this in their stride.

Once all the league matches have been completed, the football will continue with a tour to the Isle of Wight to compete against teams from the island. This will then be followed by a series of summer six a side tournaments, which are always an enjoyable way to conclude things.

Looking forward, we are always keen to hear from potential new players (under 15s, starting school year 10 in September 2011). If you think you have the necessary ability and would like to be part of a friendly and sociable group, then please call Duncan Grant on 01435 830054.

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KIDS DO YOU WANT TO GET MESSY?

Are the children fed up by 4.00pm on Sunday, do they like games and crafts? Well put it together with bible-themed stories and children's songs and you have MESSY CHURCH.

Messy Church is held monthly (generally term-time) at Christ Church, Horebeech Lane, Horam and is one of 200 similar schemes across the country. Its aim is to provide a friendly and relaxed opportunity for families to come into the church buildings, to play and do crafts together, eat together and to explore bible stories together.

"Messy Church is fantastic" said John Timbs who brings his family regularly, "It brings people into church who wouldn't otherwise, it brings the community together". Christ Church often has 50 adults and children come along - mostly with no other church connection. Teams of church members are responsible for the catering, activities and the worship. Sue Price, one of the organisers said "We have as much fun in the planning and doing as all the other folk that come along."

Messy Church starts at 4.00pm and finishes with tea around 6.00pm; it is free of charge and children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. For more information contact Sue on 01435 813151 or email sue.price17@gmail.com.

The dates for 2011 are: 27 March, 22 May, 26 June, 25 September, 23 October and 27 November.



1st Heathfield Scout Group

Summer Fayre And Dog Show



Fun Dog Show and Summer Fayre being held on Sunday 26 June 2011 at the Heathfield Community Centre.

A number of fun classes including Fancy Dress, Best Biscuit catcher, Prettiest Eyes, Waggiest Tail and Dog-owner look-a-like. There will also be Fun Jumps against the clock and games. Side stalls, BBQ, and cream teas.

The event will be advertised in the local paper and in Heathfield shops nearer the date with times, etc, as these have not yet been confirmed.

The event is being run by 1st Heathfield Scout Group and the monies raised are for the New Scout Headquarters.

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NEWS FROM HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council's budget for the financial year starting 1 April 2011 has now been set at £408,905. There will be an amount of £83,605 taken from Reserves, which means that the Precept requirement remains unchanged at £325,300. This is equivalent to £64.04 for a Band D property, based on the latest available Tax Base figures. All the Committees have worked hard to try and ensure that the budget is set at a realistic level and that services can continue to be provided in the most cost efficient way possible.

In January we were pleased to co-host the car raffle draw and quiz night in aid of Heathfield Swimming Pool, together with the Heathfield Partnership and

Heathfield Area Pool Initiative (HAPI). It was a very successful evening and Beverley Thompson (former BBC newsreader) made the draw.

At the January Council meeting, three organisations within the Parish – Heathfield Street Pastors, Old Heathfield Country Lunch and Heathfield Youth Council were presented with a cheque for £250 each. The funding was made available to us as a result of our Quality Council status and members felt that three well-deserving organisations should benefit in this way.

Plans are being drawn up for a Poppy Party on Saturday 11 June to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Royal British Legion. Details will be available soon but if, in the meantime, you are able to help with the organisation or help on the day, or are part of an organisation that might do so, please contact the Assistant Clerk, Mauricea South,

at the Parish Council office on 01435 865700.

The Annual Parish Assembly takes place on Tuesday 19 April and all electors of the parish are invited to attend. This is your opportunity to find out what local organisations are doing and raise any matters of concern or interest with members of the Parish Council. The evening starts at 7.30pm with refreshments in the Hall at Heathfield Community Centre, Sheepsetting Lane, Heathfield. We look forward to seeing you there.

This year there will be District and Parish Elections on Thursday 5 May. If you are interested in standing for the Parish Council, please contact the Clerk, Diana Francis, on 01435 865700. Polling cards will be issued in due course and we hope that you will take the time to vote.

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AGE CONCERN NEEDS YOU!

Age Concern for Heathfield and District is in desperate need of new volunteer administrators and drivers to help continue to run its minibus and car service.

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CROSS-IN-HAND WI

Cross in Hand WI meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the village hall at 2.00pm. New members and visitors are always made most welcome. We have knowledgeable speakers covering a wide variety of topics, everything from travelling the world to stately homes. Our summer garden party is a particularly special event on the calendar as well as various outings to the theatre, cinema and local restaurants.


If you have an interest in your local area and would like to make new friends why not come along to one of our meetings, just to give it a try. Details are regularly posted in the Heathfield High Street businesses who kindly co-operate with us as well as the library and Parish Council Office.

If you would like to know more call 01435 863881 or go to www.esfwi.org.uk.



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ALL CHANGE AT ST RICHARDS PRE-SCHOOL

St. Richards Pre-School has been established in Heathfield for over 40 years, situated in the church hall on Park Road. We are open Monday to Friday from 9.00am and welcome all children from 2 years old. Since September 2010 we have seen some positive changes and achievements. In September Lisa took over as Supervisor and along with a very supportive team of staff has made some very positive and noticeable changes. Parents have commented on what a welcoming, stimulating and fun atmosphere there is and feel very much involved in their child's pre-school education.

Our pre-school is a registered charity and is run by a committee made up of parents and staff. Since January 2011 our long-standing treasurer was joined by a new chair and secretary who have brought lots of enthusiasm and new ideas. Alongside these members we have parents and staff who organise fundraising events. The committee has secured £6,000 in grants from The Co-operative Community Fund, Grassroots and Heathfield and Waldron Parish Council. We used some of the money to update our indoor equipment. Some of the money was spent on a wonderful summer trip by coach to Drusillas. We have also purchased book bags and sun hats for the children to use in our vibrant purple colour so they can be seen around the community.

The rest of the funding is going towards our next big project. In partnership with the church we have received planning permission to develop the garden behind the hall for our use. We are hoping for this to be open for the beginning of the summer term.

At pre-school our emphasis is on having fun and learning through play and the children can experience a wide range of activities including using the computer, arts and crafts, gardening, role-play, singing, cooking, circle time and outside play.

If you and your child would like to be part of our pre-school and be involved in our exciting plans please call Lisa on 07751 072765, email us at info@strichardspreschool.org.uk or just pop in.

We would just like to take this opportunity to thank the past and present committee, staff and parents for their continued support in all our fundraising events.



HORAM NATURAL THERAPY CENTRE

Treat your Mum to a relaxing treatment for Mother's Day or try a new therapy yourself. Wellbeing Day – Saturday 2 April at Horam Natural Therapy Centre, from 9.00am to 5.00pm. Treatments £20 for an hour or £10 for 1/2 hour. All money raised during the day goes to Demelza. Treatments offered include Massage, Reflexology, Reiki, Indian Head Massage, Crystal Therapy, Cranial Sacral Therapy, Aromatherapy, Shiatsu and Bowen Technique. Pre-booking advisable and list is subject to change so please call to check. Also there is a free talk on Bodytalk with Sally Hayes from 10.00am - 11.00am followed by 1/2 hour taster sessions. Call the Clinic for further details or to book phone 01435 812997.

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Clerk: Diana Francis. Open 9.30am to 3.30pm

Wealden District Council

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Vicarage Lane, Hailsham BN27 2AX

01323 442666

East Sussex County Council

County Hall, St Anne's Crescent

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Local Councillors

District:

Heathfield

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Margaret Kirkpatrick 01435 863303

Richard Angel 01435 864977

Jan Dunk 01435 865486

Five Ashes and Cross in Hand

Jonika Fox 01435 872763

Horam

Susan Stedman 01435 813182

County:

Heathfield

Rupert Simmons 01435 813481

Framfield and Horam

Chris Dowling 01825 767695

Heathfield Community College

Cade Street, Heathfield TN21 8RT 01435 866066

Adult Education

Community Education Office, Heathfield Community

College, Cade Street, Heathfield TN21 8RJ

01435 866734

Heathfield Youth Service

Youth Centre, High Street, Heathfield, 01435 862894

Manager Beata Drury

Heathfield Leisure Centre

Cade Street, Old Heathfield, TN21 8RJ 01435 868824

Heathfield and Waldron Twinning Association

Gill Temple 01435 812861

The Heathfield Partnership

Joanne Aldous 01892 610314

Le Marché

Mike Woodhouse 01435 812233 or 07703 530111

michael.woodhouse6@btoopenworld.com

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This independent bookshop and art gallery provides a friendly and knowledgeable service to its customers and would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support during a challenging time for all independent retailers. It offers a quick, no deposit, ordering service for books not already in stock and can source out of print books. The range of greetings cards is carefully selected and includes cards by local artists such as Annie Soudain and James Taverner, as well as those from larger suppliers - Simon Drew, Canns Down Press and Museums & Galleries. It also stocks wooden bookends and jigsaws from Lanka Kade and educational jigsaw puzzles from Orchard Toys. The Art Gallery shows work by local artists and there is always a variety of subject, style, price and medium. See website www.heathfieldartandbooks for details of the artists and their work. A picture framing service is also available, as well as a small selection of art materials.

FOR LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS VISIT WWW.HEATHFIELD.NET

HEATHFIELD SILVER BAND

We had a very busy year in 2010, having taken part in 29 engagements. We finished the year with a very successful Christmas concert at the Community Centre in Sheepsetting Lane, where we supported two charities, these were The Dorothy Kerin Trust and The Prostrate Cancer Charity. Both these charities were supported after the loss of one of our members, Mr Cedric Forward, who passed away earlier in the year.

We currently have a strong band with over thirty members, many young people who are progressing very well. Along with these we have several adults who have started a little later in life, who are also progressing well. We have a strong training band that rehearses before the main band on Tuesday evenings.

We are looking for sponsorship for a gazebo to protect us from anything the English weather can throw at us, sun, rain, sleet, etc. We are also looking to purchase wet weather coats for when we are marching during the bonfire season.

We are currently looking to recruit more new members to train and bring along into the training band. We have recently purchased two very good second hand cornets and are looking to purchase more instruments to train new members.

Musical Director: Mr Richard Sherlock, 01435 866390

Email: richard@heathfieldsilverband.co.uk

Band Secretary: Mrs Sonia Sherlock, 01435 866390

Email: sonia@heathfieldsilverband.co.uk

Treasurer: Mr Mostyn Cornford, 01435 862422

Email: mostyn@heathfieldsilverband.co.uk

www.heathfieldsilverband.co.uk

Photo: Cornet section at Framfield Show, August 2010




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