

information and news about your town



ABOUT TOWN

Issued by Burgess Hill Town Council | No. 145 | April 2021

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Burgess Hill
Town Council



THE DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST 2021 ISSUE (BOTH EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISING) IS WEDNESDAY 12 MAY 2021.

Letters, news and other contributions are welcome. Please address these to: *About Town*, Burgess Hill Town Council, 96 Church Walk, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 9AS. Telephone: 01444 247726.

Contact Details:

Advertising – Jennifer O’Grady on 01444 238207, or advertising@burgesshill.gov.uk

Editorial – abouttown@burgesshill.gov.uk

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MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MAYOR

With the rollout of vaccines we can see at last an end to lockdowns. Foremost in our thoughts are those who have died or had their health impaired, those who grieve, and those whose livelihoods have been damaged. We are grateful to the local groups who have worked so hard to support the vulnerable during this crisis.



Over the last year we have had to cancel many of the town’s favourite events.

We have, however, started the **Outdoor Market** and we have filled several empty shops in **The Martlets** while we wait for the regeneration that has been promised.

We have a clear plan for building **The Beehive**, which will provide a stage for the performing arts as well as space for clubs to meet and private gatherings.

We remain thankful for the beautiful countryside that surrounds us and which gives the opportunity to exercise. And now we can look forward to the return of normality.

Roger Cartwright, Town Mayor

A blue rectangular advertisement for Transparency Cleaning Services Limited. At the top is a white circular logo containing a stylized leaf or drop shape. Below the logo, the word 'TRANSPARENCY' is written in large white capital letters, with 'CLEANING SERVICES LIMITED' in smaller white capital letters underneath. Further down, 'WINDOW & SOFFIT CLEANING' is written in large white capital letters. At the bottom, there are three white circular icons: a telephone handset, an envelope, and a globe. To the right of each icon is the corresponding contact information: '07957 999 280', 'info@transparencycleaning.co.uk', and 'transparencycleaning.co.uk'. At the very bottom right, there are two white circular icons for Facebook and Instagram.

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL TRADERS

ANTHONY HOLE & SON – TRADING FOR 125 YEARS

You will find Anthony Hole & Son cycle shop in Cyprus Road – a family run business for 100 years, which even today can trace a direct link to Anthony Hole who established the business in 1896.

It started life on the corner of Mill Road and Cyprus Road, then a shop but now a house, selling bicycles and gramophones. In 1902, the business moved to newly built premises at 50 Church Road.

Anthony Hole was reputed to be the first person in Burgess Hill to drive and own a car – the gramophones were soon dropped in favour of developing a motor side of the business along with the bicycles. As the number of cars increased Anthony installed petrol pumps at the front of the shop.

During World War 1 munitions were made in the workshop at the rear of the shop. Anthony died at the age of 60 in 1936 and his wife and two sons, Wilfrid and Raymond, continued running the business.

In World War 2 most of the staff were lost to military service. Wilfrid and Raymond were exempt because they were members of Burgess Hill & Mid Sussex Volunteer Fire Brigade, being called as far afield as Southampton and London during the blitz. They followed in their father's footsteps as Anthony was a volunteer firefighter for 25 years. After the war, the business was re-established.

Following the deaths of Wilfrid and Raymond three of their sisters, Edith, Gwendoline and Trixie, continued to run the business until their retirement in 1983. They lived over the shop but moved out when they retired and the Church Road premises were sold, with the business continuing to operate from its current location in Cyprus Road, formerly the workshop.



The third generation of the family, Anthony's grandson Peter, then took over. Peter recalls the workshop was initially rented from a builder by the name of Downer. The family stored odd bits of furniture on the first floor of the workshop and if anything was needed someone would say "Oh, it's up at Downer's." The Downer's sign on the wall at the back of the building can still be seen from the car park at the rear of Lloyd's Bank.

For many years Peter was ably assisted by Julie Richards, who continued running the business following Peter's retirement in 1994. Julie still runs the business today, ensuring **Anthony Hole & Son** continues to service, repair and provide cycles and accessories to the residents of Burgess Hill as it has done for the last 125 years.

Find them at 39 Cyprus Road, tel. 01444 233176. Opening hours Tuesday to Saturday from 10am – 3pm.

BURGESS HILL TOWN MARKET

Burgess Hill Town Market takes place in Church Walk on the second Saturday of each month, from 9am – 2pm.

Do come along and support your local traders and businesses. For details of stall holders attending each month visit the [Town Council's Facebook page](#).

When visiting the market, please remember to follow the latest government Covid-19 guidance and keep a safe social distance of 2m where possible, and if not, 1m+ with a face covering – **HANDS FACE SPACE**.



OPEN AIR THEATRE RETURNS

Live open air theatre will make a welcome return in June when acclaimed professional theatre company **The Lord Chamberlain's Men** bring their production of Shakespeare's breathless and brilliant tragedy, **Macbeth** to Burgess Hill.

A play of supernatural magic, vaulting ambition and an examination of the dreadful consequences of the insatiable lust for power – with Shakespeare's most chilling power couple and truly stirring poetry this stunning play will keep you gripped.

Bring a chair and a picnic. Covid safety measures will be in place for this outdoor performance. The event is sponsored by Burgess Hill District Lions Club.

Sunday 6 June 7pm, gates open 6pm for picnics.

**Tickets: Adult £13 | Child (under-16) £8 in advance
or Adult £15 | Child £10 on the door.**

Book via ticketsource.co.uk or at Burgess Hill Town Council's Help Point 01444 247726, email helppoint@burgesshill.gov.uk.

TELECOMS BOXES MAKEOVER

Some of Virgin Media's grey telecommunications boxes around the town will be given a makeover. Local artists are being invited to paint suitable designs on some of the street cabinets to brighten them up as well as the town.

The designs will be approved by Burgess Hill Town Council and Virgin Media, who own the cabinets, before painting can go ahead.

Designs should reflect a significant aspect of the community such as its history or activities in the area. Members of Burgess Hill Artists and other artists, including students from local schools and colleges, are being invited to submit designs to the Town Council.

If you would like to take part, please email liz@burgesshill.gov.uk with a written description and drawing of the design and colour scheme, together with the location of the street cabinet and the number on the box.

Our Support continues to be available in lockdown.

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ENABLING ACCESS TO DOMAINS, EMAILS & WEBSITE
SUPPORT AVAILABLE IF REQUIRED

SPRING NATURE GUIDE

A spring Nature Guide has been produced by Burgess Hill Town Council and the Friends of Burgess Hill Green Circle Network.

The guide lists flora and fauna that can be spotted in Burgess Hill's green spaces in springtime, and can be used in any of your favourite walking spots.

Launching in time for the Easter holidays, pick up a free copy from the **Town Council's Help Point** during opening hours, or download and print your own from the Town Council website www.burgesshill.gov.uk.

Happy walking!



CONTACT YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLORS

You can discuss issues with the West Sussex County Councillors representing Burgess Hill as follows:

Councillor Andrew Barrett-Miles

email andrew.barrett-miles@westsussex.gov.uk,
tel. 01444 233081 or 07803 138085.

Councillor Anne Jones

email anne.jones@westsussex.gov.uk,
tel. 033 022 24533 or 07930 133542.

HELPING RESIDENTS FOR 25 YEARS



Burgess Hill Town Council's Help Point and Tourist Information Centre celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2021.

The **Help Point** is run by a friendly, knowledgeable and professional team, dedicated and committed to serving the local community.

Centrally located in the heart of the Town Centre and looking more like a shop than a government building, Burgess Hill Town Council's **Help Point and Tourist Information Centre** provides a single point of contact for all local Town, District and County services.

The **Help Point** successfully resolves more than 30,000 enquiries a year from residents and visitors on a wide variety of issues including street cleaning, broken glass, blocked gullies, overgrown vegetation, potholes, abandoned vehicles and much more. No matter how great or small the enquiries, our team will handle any problems or concerns in a courteous and efficient manner and always go the extra mile.

The **Help Point Team** are able to provide information, advice, guidance and literature on a wide range of matters to residents and visitors alike. We offer a number of surgeries provided by our partners to assist and benefit the local community. Further details can be found in the **Help Point** or on our website.

The **Help Point and Tourist Information Centre** also acts as a Box Office for various local community events and is a local ticket agent for the spectacular **Loxwood Joust**, **National Theatre Tokens** and the **Brighton Sealife Centre**.

The **Help Point** also stocks local guides and literature, local Paynes honey, jams and gifts, a range of local artists' greeting cards and a selection of safety and practical items. There is something for everyone whether you are new to the area or a long-standing resident.

The **Help Point and Tourist Information Centre** can be contacted on 01444 247726 or email helppoint@burgesshill.gov.uk. Alternatively, visit our website www.burgesshill.gov.uk or follow our social media for the latest updates.



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

TUESDAY 25 MAY 2021

7.30pm start

CYPRUS HALL, CYPRUS ROAD

ALL RESIDENTS WELCOME

££ FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

Each year, Burgess Hill Town Council awards grants to local voluntary groups that benefit Burgess Hill residents.

The applications deadlines for Minor Grants of up to £1,000 are 30 April and 31 August. Applications will be considered for general running costs as well as capital expenses.

Environmental Grants are also available for voluntary groups. The application deadline is 30 April.

The next applications deadline for Major Grants of £1,000+ is 30 September. Major Grants are for capital costs only.

Further information and application forms can be downloaded from the Burgess Hill Town Council website, www.burgesshill.gov.uk.

If you have any queries or would like the forms to be posted to you, please contact 01444 238207 or email grants@burgesshill.gov.uk.

FRENCH MARKET RETURNS



The popular **French Market** will be returning to Burgess Hill on Friday 11 June.

You'll find them in Church Walk from 9am – 5pm. Come and stock up on traditional French croissants and baguettes, French cheeses and sausages, and more.

Try « Tartiflette », a famous cheese, bacon and potato dish from the French Alps or a Crepe made in front of you.

Don't miss the opportunity to come and say "bon jour".



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Email us: info@ssandp.com

Visit us: Jubilee House, 56-58 Church Walk, Burgess Hill
(entrance in Cyprus Road)

Visit our website at ssandp.com



BRIDGE REPAIRS DELAYED

Local volunteers from **The Monday Group** were due replace the rotting wooden slats on the southern bridge at **Batchelors Farm**. However, due to Covid restrictions, this work has been delayed. As a precautionary measure the bridge will be closed until the work has been undertaken.

PRESERVING BURGESS HILL'S HERITAGE

One of the few remaining brick pavements in Burgess Hill has been saved thanks to collaboration between the **Worlds End Association**, the **Town Council** and **The Watermill Inn**.

The path, in front of the pub, is more than 100 years old and made of Burgess Hill bricks that had become uneven after many years of use. There are very few such pavements left in the town to remind us that the major part of Burgess Hill was once occupied by brick, tile and pottery-making firms. The pavement was in danger of being replaced by tarmac to make it safe.

The **Worlds End Association** was keen to preserve this piece of Burgess Hill's heritage so applied for a Town Council grant towards the cost of relaying the path. With a grant from the Town Council, a personal contribution from the pub landlord and top up funds from the **Worlds End Association** the money was raised to carry out the work.

ST ANDREW'S PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENTS

Thank you to everyone who completed Mid Sussex District Council's online survey about the suggested improvements to St Andrew's play area.

The majority of people who replied agreed the play area needs updating and liked all or some of the suggested plan. People liked the plans to cater for young children as well as older children and proposals to make the play area accessible.

There were a lot of requests to make the play area more wheelchair accessible, so the District Council will try to include a wheelchair accessible in-ground trampoline, which was a popular request. This will be instead of the rotating rocking item that was originally suggested. They will also include an upright supportive swing seat, which can be used by everyone, including those with poor core strength who can leave their wheelchair.

Anti-social behaviour was raised as an issue so the new equipment will be tough and there will be no secluded areas. For this reason, a picnic table won't be provided but there will be seating and bins within the play area.

Apart from the popular trampoline, the District Council will try not to duplicate the equipment in other nearby playgrounds so that St Andrew's is a unique and interesting play area.

It is hoped the work will commence this autumn.

FIND US ON INSTAGRAM

Burgess Hill Town Council is on Instagram – tag us for information or to notify us of issues around the town. Send us your photos [@burgesshilltowncouncil](https://www.instagram.com/burgesshilltowncouncil).



THE CENSUS IS HERE

By taking part in the national census you can help inform decisions about services that shape your community, such as healthcare, education and transport.

It's important that you fill in your census questionnaire because it provides the most detailed information we have about our society. Without the information you share, it would be more difficult to understand our community's needs and plan and fund public services.

Ahead of Census Day (Sunday 21 March), the Office for National Statistics will send you a letter in the post with an access code and instructions.

You can do your census online as soon as you receive yours. If your household circumstances change on Census Day, you can let the ONS know.

The ONS aims to make things as easy as possible for everyone, but if you need help taking part in the census, there's a wide range of support services available.

You can request support for yourself, or someone else, including:

- guidance and help in many languages and formats
- a paper version of the questionnaire, if you prefer
- accessible census guidance, for example, in braille

There is a help area on the census website. It covers everything from who to include on the questionnaire to how to answer each question.

If you cannot find what you need on the website, there's a dedicated contact centre where census staff will be on hand to give help over the phone, in a web chat or on social media.

If you need help, visit www.census.gov.uk or call 0800 1412021



Weight Off Workshops

Want to lose some weight but don't know how to start?

The Wellbeing team have put together an 8 week virtual workshop that will guide you through a new healthy topic and helpful tips each week.

Only £20

Checklist

- 8 week workshop
- Private community group
- Weekly nutritional topic
- 6 Free exercise classes
- Goal setting
- Time to put my health first

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE
Please contact us for our April dates -

wellbeing@midsussex.gov.uk
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Summer Competition 2021

www.burgesshillinbloom.co.uk

WHO CAN ENTER?

Any Burgess Hill resident is welcome to take part, whatever their gardening ability.

WHY SHOULD YOU ENTER?

To join others in the community to help improve Burgess Hill's environment.

WHAT CAN YOU ENTER?

Anything from your back garden to your shop front to your hanging basket.

WHEN IS IT TAKING PLACE?

In late July dependent on Covid safety or will be judged online via photographs supplied. Sunflower judging in August will follow the same criteria.

Look out for updates on our website.

Main competition entrants receive a £5 Garden Voucher
(N/A to Sunflower entrants)

SPONSORED BY

SOUTH DOWNS
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Name _____

Address _____

_____ Post Code _____

Telephone _____

This information will be used for Burgess Hill In Bloom ONLY

Please return this form to: Cathy Barnett, 'Summerfield',
101 Station Road, Burgess Hill, RH15 9ED,
Tel: 01444 244617 email: cathybarnett@sky.com



WHICH CATEGORY WOULD YOU LIKE TO ENTER?

Please tick (one entry per person – entrants can however nominate a garden (see 10) as well as their own).

- 1) **Best Environmentally Friendly Garden**
For those carrying out gardening practices that are helping to protect the environment (for example use of water butts, encouragement of wildlife).
- 2) **Best Front Garden**
- 3) **Best Side/Back Garden**
- 4) **Best Garden Design**
- 5) **Neighbours in Bloom**
- 6) **Best Floral Container**
- 7) **Best Vegetable Garden**
- 8) **Best Commercial/Shop Display**
- 9) **Best Pub**

Is there a garden you admire, and you think deserves recognition? If so tick the box below and complete the address and if possible name and contact number of the person who owns the garden and we will contact them to let them know they have been nominated.

- 10) **Best Nominated Garden** (1 x entry per household)
- 11) **Children's Tallest Sunflower** (11 yrs & under)
(seeds donated by South Downs Nurseries)

For the following categories a Garden Voucher for £25 will be given to entrants. This includes Vegetable Gardens.

- 12) **Best Community/Voluntary Project**
- 13) **Best School Project**
Pre School
Primary/Secondary

THE BEEHIVE

A MODERN COMMUNITY CENTRE
AND PERFORMING ARTS VENUE



The Beehive after Phase 3 of the build

WWW.BEEHIVEARTSCENTRE.COM

Led by
Burgess Hill
Town Council

The Beehive is a Burgess Hill Town Council led initiative, working in partnership with the community, which will be located on the site of the former Royal British Legion building. It is designed to be an accessible, modern and welcoming community facility providing much needed modern space for the town's local drama, dance, music and art groups or societies and as a venue for professional touring performers. Phase 2 will provide a dedicated dance and rehearsal studio. Over time, and subject to funds, The Beehive can be expanded (Phase 3) to provide more meeting rooms, a museum area, and breakout spaces providing more facilities for our growing town.

The Beehive will play a major role in signposting the town as a key destination point for local and national performers and artists.



The building will be completed in three phases but will be opened and ready for use when Phase 1 is finished.

Phase 1: This will be the main build featuring all the key aspects including the auditorium, dual purpose rooms (for meetings and as artist dressing rooms) and a bar/café facility (Cost £5.27million).

Phase 2: A dedicated rehearsal, dance and education suite is added. Additional estimated cost of £300,000.

Phase 3: Rebuilds the facade of Cyprus Hall, completely refurbishes the building and links the building to The Beehive to create new space. Estimated additional cost £1.6million.



Phase 1 and the initial part of the project is to build the main theatre, external and internal structures and the community facilities. To view the plans in more detail please visit www.beehiveartscentre.com. The live performance space can accommodate an audience of up to 300 depending on stage configuration. The centre will enable people of all ages to enjoy a variety of events, from the town's local drama groups, the return of the popular Burgess Hill panto, regional exhibitions and professional performers and touring shows. With the ability to expand The Beehive with a Phase 3 extension that incorporates Cyprus Hall, the town will have a venue that can cater for our growing town's needs and serve as a premier community facility and performing arts venue to be enjoyed now and for generations to come.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

Vote in our consultation which runs 22 March - 21 April. Let us know what you think. Visit www.beehiveartscentre.com or www.burgesshill.gov.uk and look out for your consultation form in the post. Have your say!



FUNDING

Burgess Hill Town Council is proposing to take out a loan of up to £4.8million to build The Beehive. The Town Council will not need to increase its element of the council tax to repay the loan which will be funded from existing budgets without the need to cut services.

Cost of Phase 1: £5.27million

The core of the project will be funded by a loan from the Public Works Loan Board of up to £4.8million, with the balance from funds the Town Council has set aside and other already identified third party monies.

The Council will continue to seek funds from other sources to either reduce the amount it borrows or use it towards the cost of Phase 2 and Phase 3.

CONSULTATION

22 March - 21 April 2021

Have your say!

Burgess Hill residents over the age of 16 are invited to comment on Burgess Hill Town Council's plan to take out a loan of up to £4.8million to build The Beehive. Remember - your Council Tax will not increase to repay the loan. We need your support to make this project happen so please take part in the consultation.

Look out for your consultation form in the post during the week commencing 15 March.

**You can also vote online at
www.beehiveartscentre.com or
www.burgesshill.gov.uk.**

Votes will be counted and verified. Only one vote per Burgess Hill resident aged over 16 is permitted.

LIONS LAPTOPS FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS

Pupils without access to a laptop for home learning during the lockdown were helped by Burgess Hill District Lions Club.

The Lions provided £2,000 each to Manor Field School, London Meed School and Burgess Hill Academy to enable them to purchase the much needed equipment. They also supported three schools in Albourne and Hassocks.

John Carter, Chairman of the Lions Welfare Committee said: *"We had the idea of sending laptops to the schools but they all had different requirements, so we decided to give £2,000 to each of them so they could buy the laptops, ipads or apps they needed. The equipment will remain the property of the school to loan to pupils who need them."*



GORGEOUS GARDENS OPEN TO VIEW

Burgess Hill's annual Garden Safari, organised by Burgess Hill in Bloom, will take place in July. Depending on the COVID restrictions, the Safari gardens will either be open to walk round or virtually via the Burgess Hill in Bloom website.

A variety of interesting gardens, new and old, will be open all around Burgess Hill.

Suggested donation £5 per person – all proceeds will go to St Peter & St James Hospice.

Further information will be available nearer the time from the website www.burgesshillinbloom.co.uk, from cathybarnett@sky.com or 01444 244617.

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NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY RESPONSE



COVID-19 has brought its challenges to our communities, but it has also shown what a great nation we are at responding to a crisis. People have volunteered in their thousands and helped others in whatever way they can, and it doesn't have to stop once the pandemic is over. Our communities and local businesses are going to need all the support they can get.

Rotary has responded, as it always does in times of crisis, and with over 100 years of experience in supporting communities it is a well-established global organisation.

If you are over 18 and passionate about helping your community recover, if you have an idea for a project but need help to get it off the ground, or if you can offer your skills and expertise to help others, then Rotary has opportunities for you.

Central Sussex Rotary is a new group, meeting online at breakfast time, to bring local leaders, businesses and individuals together to network, share ideas and develop projects. There will also be social activities and families are encouraged to get involved.

For details of how to attend the breakfast meeting or information on other Rotary meetings in Burgess Hill, Sussex Vale (Hassocks & Hurstpierpoint), Haywards Heath or Cuckfield & Lindfield, please contact **Julie Smyth** on 07759 698831, email jsmythrotary@gmail.com, or visit www.rotary.org.

CELEBRATING THE NHS AND FRONTLINE WORKERS

Over the decades the NHS has faced crisis, economic downturns, periods of prosperity, growth and so much more. However, none would argue that these past long months have brought a new respect and affection for the NHS and the people who work for it; we have relied on them to treat us during the coronavirus pandemic and to keep us safe – and they have not let us down.

Let's not also forget the tens of thousands of care home and other frontline workers who have given their skills and service – often putting their own health on the line.

On 5 July, Burgess Hill will take part in a nationwide day to commemorate those who have lost their lives and to give thanks to those who have cared for us and kept essential services running.

Look out for publicity about the day nearer the time in the local media, on the Town Council's website and social media.



Your local town COUNCILLORS' CONTACT DETAILS

Town Mayor: Roger Cartwright , **Deputy Town Mayor:** Anne Eves

Chief Executive Officer: Steven Cridland, 01444 247726 **Email:** council@burgesshill.gov.uk

DUNSTALL WARD

Emma Coe-Gunnell White 07984 197990
E: emma.coe-gunnellwhite@burgesshill.gov.uk

FRANKLANDS WARD

Graham Allen 01444 247316
Email: graham.allen@burgesshill.gov.uk
 Robert Duggan 07808 714180
Email: robert.duggan@burgesshill.gov.uk

Janice Henwood 01444 257408
Email: janice.henwood@burgesshill.gov.uk

GATEHOUSE WARD

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HAMMONDS WARD

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LEYLANDS WARD

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Max Nielsen 01444 235502
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Kathleen Willis 07832 950806
Email: kathleen.willis@burgesshill.gov.uk

ST JOHN'S WARD

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Email: robert.eggleston@burgesshill.gov.uk

VICTORIA WARD

Peter Chapman 07779 968307
Email: peter.chapman@burgesshill.gov.uk

Lee Gibbs 07484 750363
Email: lee.gibbs@burgesshill.gov.uk

BURGESS HILL TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

APRIL	
Planning Committee	Tuesday 6 April – 7pm
Planning Committee	Monday 26 April – 7pm

MAY	
Annual Meeting of Council	Tuesday 11 May – 7pm
Planning Committee	Monday 17 May – 7pm
Annual Town Meeting – Cyprus Hall	Tuesday 25 May – 7.30pm

JUNE	
Planning Committee	Monday 7 June – 7pm
Planning Committee	Monday 28 June – 7pm

JULY	
Council	Monday 12 July – 7pm
Planning Committee	Monday 19 July – 7pm

KEEP IN TOUCH –

Due to COVID-19, Council meetings are currently being held remotely via Zoom. A meeting “link” will be placed on the Town Council’s website and social media pages before the meeting starts if members of the public wish to attend.

Burgess Hill Town Council website: www.burgesshill.gov.uk,
The Youth Zone: www.you-bh.com.

PETANQUE RINK GIVEN THE GO-AHEAD

Pétanque, also known as boules, is a highly accessible sport that can be enjoyed by all. The game originated in its current form in Southern France in the early part of the twentieth century and is now played in more than 50 countries worldwide, with thousands of players in the UK.



Burgess Hill U3A Pétanque Group, who currently have to travel to Haywards Heath and Handcross to play, have been working with the Town and District Councils to develop a rink at Fairfield Recreation Ground. This will enable the group to develop the sport locally, making it much more accessible to casual players and the wider community.

The new rink will provide enough room for four games to take place simultaneously.

Planning permission has been granted and construction is scheduled to take place in April. Burgess Hill Town Council has secured a £13,000 contribution towards the project from Sport England with £17,000 of developer contributions made available by Mid Sussex District Council. The Town Council will oversee the construction and Mid Sussex District Council will manage the rink.

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WHAT'S ON IN THE AREA?

For the latest news of events in and around Burgess Hill throughout the coming months, visit Burgess Hill Town Council's website, www.burgesshill.gov.uk, or contact the Town Council's Tourist Information Centre at 96 Church Walk, telephone 01444 238202 or email touristinformation@burgesshill.gov.uk.

We also stock a full range of theatre brochures along with our ever popular Theatre Tokens.

If you are a local organisation arranging an event, let us know and we will help you promote it by acting as your Box Office.



EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

MID SUSSEX DISTRICT COUNCIL (OUT OF HOURS)	01444 458166
CLARION HOUSING GROUP	0300 500 8000
WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL (HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT)	01243 642105
WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL CONTACT CENTRE	01243 777100
SOCIAL CARE (ADULTS)	01243 642121
(CHILDREN)	01403 229900
PRINCESS ROYAL HOSPITAL	01444 441881
DENTAL EMERGENCIES (NHS DIRECT)	111



HERE TO SUPPORT LOCAL CHARITIES

Mid Sussex Voluntary Action (MSVA) is a Burgess Hill based charity which exists to support volunteers and not-for-profit organisations.

If you would like to volunteer somewhere, they can help. You can look for the right role at www.msva.org.uk/opportunities or simply get in touch with them and they will help you search.

They also support community action. Throughout the pandemic they have been working with local mutual-aid groups, such as **Burgess Hill Helper Army**.

They help charities and voluntary groups to set up, advise them on governance, funding, recruiting and managing volunteers, training opportunities and signpost them to useful resources.

They also run regular Forums, which are a great opportunity for groups to network, share best practice and link up with local business and statutory organisations. Forums are currently offered to groups working in Health and Disability, 3rd Age, and Children, Young People and Families. If you would like to join let them know.

MSVA is a registered charity and their services are provided free of charge.

You can find out more at www.msva.org.uk or by attending one of their monthly Community Drop-ins.

2021 CAR BOOT FAIRS

Car Boot Fairs are planned for the Spring Bank Holiday Monday 31 May and the August Bank Holiday Monday 30 August. Look out for the banners around the town or check the website and Facebook page nearer the time of each event to check whether they can go ahead.

The events are organised by Burgess Hill and District Rotary Club to raise funds for its local and international charitable work. Although all the 2020 events had to be cancelled due to COVID, they were grateful for donations of just over £2,000 from taking out Santa's Sleigh at Christmas.

For more information about joining **Burgess Hill and District Rotary Club** to meet like-minded people, take part in community projects and enjoy fun and fellowship, please contact secretary@burge-hill.rotary1145.org.



To contact them, please
phone 01444 258102
or email
volunteering@msva.org.uk.



READY FOR THE NEXT 150 YEARS OF CRICKET

Preparations for Burgess Hill Cricket Club's ambitious 150th anniversary celebrations in 2022 are well under way. The club aims to celebrate this significant milestone with major improvements to their clubhouse and the playing field in St John's Park amongst other events.

Improvements completed so far include the provision of new changing rooms, funded by Mid Sussex District Council, and a new ground irrigation system, helped by a grant from Burgess Hill Town Council.

The club are preparing to play a full cricket season this summer, even if under some COVID restrictions. New players are always welcome, particularly women, girls and youngsters of all ages. Lack of cricket experience is no obstacle as training and equipment is provided. This year the club will be looking to raise funds for its chosen charity, Burgess Hill Youth.

For further information, please email burgesshillcc@gmail.com or call Geoff on 07860 909237.



THE MONDAY GROUP

If you go walking in the local countryside you are sure to have used the stiles and to have walked on paths cleared by The Monday Group.

Founded in 1961 by Harold Rowling MBE, they work in the area around and mostly to the south of Burgess Hill, north of the Downs, broadly from Albourne to Ringmer. They aim to help maintain and improve good access to our beautiful countryside.

They make all their own stiles, using Sussex green oak, so they are strong and durable. They cost between £150-£250 each in materials. Other structures can be much more expensive. A bridge they installed last year in Wivelsfield cost £650 in materials. The (considerable) labour involved is free of course.

The group has very few regular donors so they were grateful to be awarded a grant of £250 by Burgess Hill Town Council from the Covid Emergency Fund. Burgess Hill Community Runners also generously donated £1,856 last year.

Like everything else, Covid has affected their work and as a result, they built up a huge backlog. Before the third lockdown, they were gradually getting back to work, dutifully obeying social distancing and the rule of six while hauling heavy oak structures into place or slashing back accumulated months of footpath overgrowth.

They sometimes get involved in bigger projects, as in the work of the Jubilee Pathway Trust to improve the footpath network at the foot of the downs around Ditchling and Westmeston. Last year, between lockdowns, they helped the Trust create a completely new footpath along part of a busy lane, creating an off-road alternative for walkers to avoid the traffic. This included the construction and installation of two substantial stairways.

If you would like to support the work they do, you can help by making a donation at any time via their website www.mondaygroup.org. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer they can be contacted on 07510 127161, email hello@mondaygroup.org.



10TH MID SUSSEX MARATHON

After the 2020 Mid Sussex Marathon went virtual due to Covid-19 the Mid Sussex Marathon weekend returns with a bang in May 2021 to celebrate its 10th birthday.

Using undulating roads, trails and pathways in the beautiful Mid Sussex countryside, the races will be run over mainly traffic free routes. The event is suitable for runners of all standards including those new to 10 mile races. The races can be entered individually or as a three-race series.

The three races are:

Saturday 1 May – East Grinstead 10 & 5 Mile

Sunday 2 May – Haywards Heath 10 & 5 Mile

Monday 3 May – Burgess Hill 10K & 5k

Participants completing all three races will receive a special Mid Sussex Marathon Weekend medal and technical t-shirt. The times in each race count towards overall series prizes for those completing all 26.2 miles over the three races.

Each race also features the Mid Sussex Mile, a chip timed 1 mile race for junior runners and adults, which is ideally suited to those new to running. It also includes the Mid Sussex Fun Run, which is ideally suited for families.

There will be medals for all finishers plus finish-line goodies in each race – plus other events, attractions and entertainment throughout the weekend at all three races.

For further information and an entry form, visit www.midsussexmarathon.co.uk, tel. 01797 229955.

50 YEARS SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Congratulations to Burgess Hill District Lion Roger Stevens, who was presented with a Melvin Jones Fellowship Award, the organisation's highest accolade, for completing 50 years of service to the local community.

Roger served for 45 years as a member of Haywards Heath Lions, during which time he was the club's President 4 times and held every officer position on the committee. Since moving to the Burgess Hill Lions 5 years ago he has been active in running the Book Den in Church Walk.

Roger said: *"With the support of my family, I have greatly enjoyed my 50 years of serving the community and helping those who are less fortunate, in accordance with the Lions motto, "We Serve". Here's to the next 25 years!"*

Lion President Ken Saunders presented Roger with a Congratulatory Letter and a 50 year chevron from Lions International President Dr Jung-Yul Choi as well as a Certificate of Appreciation from the Patron of Lions in the UK the Countess of Wessex.



THE MYSTERY OF ONE O'CLOCK CROSSING

The origin of the name **One O'Clock Crossing**, which crosses the London to Lewes railway line, is something of a mystery.

Peter Jeffery relates the following story on the website www.geograph.org.uk:

There was once a very devoted labourer on a local farm, who on his master's death was bequeathed a pocket watch. Although unable to tell the time, he cherished the watch and if asked the time he would study the watch and then announce "One O'clock Sir", no matter whether it was morning, noon or night. Consequently the labourer was known to live at One O'clock Farm.

AH Gregory in **The Story of Burgess Hill** gives a different explanation:

At an inquest on an old man in 1917, the Coroner asked how One O'Clock got its name. Miss Hills of "One O'Clock Cottage" informed me of the following little story told to my late father many years ago by a very old man who said he had known this place all his life, but his name I never knew. In the days when we had a James for a king, he (the King) was riding up the lane with his men, and seeing an old lady at the door he asked her the name of the place.

She said it had not got a name. His Majesty then asked the time. She replied "One o'clock Sire". The King answered "Then One O'Clock it shall be".

If anyone has any other explanations we'd love to hear them.



OPEN GARDENS TO INSPIRE YOU

Four inspirational Burgess Hill gardens will be open on **Sunday 25** and **Monday 26 July**, from 1 to 5pm, as part of the annual National Gardens Scheme.

This diverse group of four gardens is a mixture of established and small new gardens. Each of the 11 year old gardens has been developed to best advantage so there are many useful ideas for people living in new build properties with small gardens and heavy clay soil.

Admission: Adult: £6 (combined entry)

Child: Free.

Home-made teas will be available at 14 Barnside.
The funds raised will support a range of charities.

SALT, PIONEERS AND VILLAGE HISTORY

Hopefully by the time you read this Burgess Hill Heritage & History Association will have been able to resume their monthly meetings at Cyprus Hall.

The April and May speakers have been rebooked after last year's lockdown.

On **9 April** Janet Pennington will talk about **The Salt Industry of the Adur Valley** and on **14 May** Louise Peskett will be talking about **Pioneering Women of Sussex**. There is no meeting in June but on **9 July** there will be a film on the **History of Balcombe** ahead of a trip to the village in August.

Meetings start at 8pm with the museum open before that. Visitors always welcome.



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