

Bexhill News

OCTOBER 2022 | ISSUE 04

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DANGEROUS PAVEMENTS PAGE 4

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MAN JAILED AFTER SCOOTER HORROR

THE MOMENT A 79-YEAR-OLD WOMAN WAS STRUCK DOWN BY AN E-SCOOTER

FULL STORY - PAGE 2

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EDITOR'S WELCOME



Already, here we are at edition 4 - where on earth have the last three months gone?

In this edition, we celebrate the life of Her Majesty the Queen, following her sad death last month. It was absolutely incredible to see the town come together at this truly sad moment in our lives. I think we've all been touched by flowers and efforts made by the people of Bexhill to remember our Queen.

We've featured some of these stories in this issue as our way of honouring Queen Elizabeth's reign and thanking her for all her decades of service.

I know it's getting a bit boring now, but I'd like to again thank you, our amazing readers for all the feedback we get from every edition of Bexhill News.

It is truly humbling to see so many people picking up a copy and walking down the streets with it under their arms. We've received more readers' letters than ever before in this issue, so please keep them coming. It's great to hear what you think about the stories we publish here each month.

Our main story this month is truly horrific - it almost made me feel sick to see the video footage of the poor lady being run down by an e-scooter.

This is an issue which must be tackled, but we must also understand that is a rare occurrence, and our Police are under so much pressure right now, they simply cannot do everything.

I hope this story will educate those riding e-scooters around town that they have a massive responsibility on their shoulders.

Paul Gibson, Editor



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MAN, 58, SENT TO PRISON FOR KNOCKING DOWN PENSIONER

BY FEATURES EDITOR KIM MAYO

At long last Sussex Police has taken decisive action over e-scooter riders who are a daily menace on Bexhill's streets and pavements, with a constant risk to life and limb.



It follows an horrific collision which saw an elderly woman flattened, sustaining serious injuries after a collision with an out-of-control e-scooter rider. The rider who knocked over the pensioner while trying to evade the police has now been sentenced.

Paul Satchell had been stopped by PC Jason Kemp and PC Daniel Turk in Watermill Lane, Bexhill, after using the powered vehicle.

The officers were in a patrol vehicle that stopped to warn the 58-year-old that he needed to stop riding, but Satchell ignored them, turned away from the police and rode off.

He paid no attention to what was ahead of him.

Myra Wood, 79, was crossing the road when she was struck by Satchell who was riding at speed and looking back towards the police officers behind him.

She was knocked over and suffered extensive injuries in the collision, including a fractured eye socket.

Satchell was also thrown off his vehicle but was

uninjured.

PC Kemp and PC Turk immediately provided first aid to Mrs Wood and arrested Satchell.

They seized his e-scooter and obtained witness details and CCTV, which showed how the shocking incident unfolded.

E-scooters are currently classed as a powered vehicle, but there is currently no way to legally register or insure them. Riding e-scooters in a public place is illegal and users can face having the item seized and being prosecuted for motoring offences.

Satchell, of no fixed address, was charged with Causing Serious Injury by Dangerous Driving.

At Lewes Crown Court on September 9, he was sentenced to 16 months in prison. He was also disqualified from driving for a further three years and eight months.

The court heard how the incident took place at 11.50am on December 1, 2020.

Mrs Wood, who was aged 77 at the time, agreed to the footage being shared to warn other e-scooter users about the dangers the vehicles pose to others and to remind them that the items are illegal to use on a public road or path.

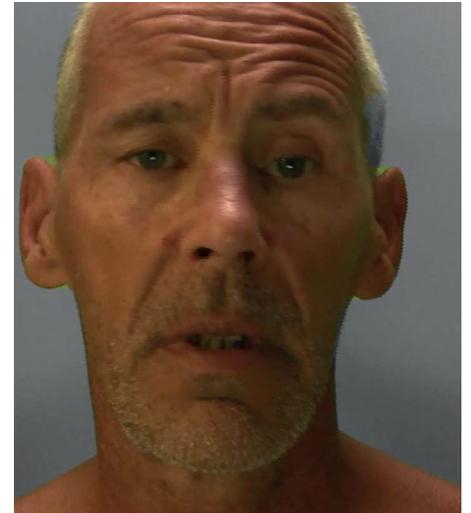
She said she previously enjoyed an active life with regular walks and visits to the shops and to church in Bexhill and Sidley.

But, the injuries she suffered left her in hospital for two days and she was unable to eat solid food for six weeks.

She was left with extreme anxiety and said she felt "terrified" to cross the road.

Mrs Wood said: "I can say that this collision left me with physical and mental scars that have fundamentally affected my quality of life. I know I am a shadow of my former self."

Speaking after the case Collision Unit investigator Chris McGuckin said: "This was a particularly unusual case in as much as it was an e-scooter that was involved. We could only charge Satchell if it was established that the e-scooter was a 'vehicle' within the meaning of the Road Traffic Act.



"The quick actions of PC Turk and PC Kemp to seize the e-scooter, and then the examination and photographs taken by PC Dave Upjohn from our Roads Policing Unit, ensured we were able to show this was a 'mechanically propelled vehicle' to the satisfaction of the CPS.

"Satchell at first pleaded 'not guilty' to the charge and the matter was sent to the Crown Court for trial.

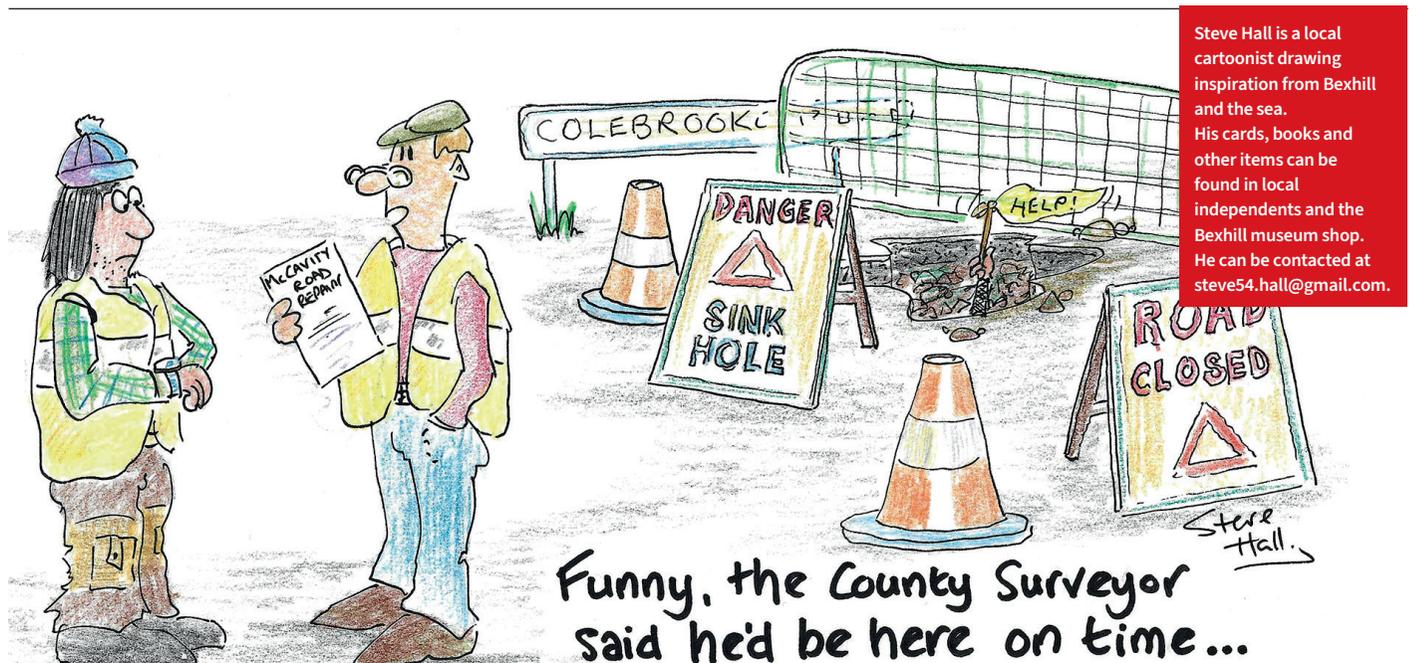
"But he failed to attend court on several occasions. Warrants were issued for his arrest. When he was arrested and appeared in court, the evidence was so strong that he had no choice but to change his plea to guilty.

"We are pleased that we could at last get justice for Mrs Wood with the 16-month prison sentence.

"It also demonstrates the harm that can be caused by e-scooters, which are still illegal to use in public, outside of a trial area."

However, despite the successful prosecution and jailing of the offender, e-scooters continue to be a major problem in our town.

On Wednesday, September 28, Bexhill News spotted three e-scooters being ridden at speed along pavements in Western Road with pedestrians having to take evasive action. Several were also being used along the seafront, proving conclusively there is still plenty of work to do before another person is seriously injured.



Steve Hall is a local cartoonist drawing inspiration from Bexhill and the sea. His cards, books and other items can be found in local independents and the Bexhill museum shop. He can be contacted at steve54.hall@gmail.com.

Funny, the County Surveyor said he'd be here on time...

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BEXHILL'S CRAZY PAVING

BY FEATURES EDITOR KIM MAYO

A former Mayor and intrepid adventurer who has lived in Bexhill for the past decade says the state of the town's pavements is "an absolute disgrace".

Jan Meek, who lives in Sea Road, is a Guinness World Record holder for several endurance events, which include being the oldest person to row across the Atlantic Ocean and trekking to the North Pole.

But that, it seems, is less perilous than walking to the gym via Cantelupe Road.

Jan, who worked as a "continuity girl" in the film industry for many years and became close friends with the likes of Sir Roger Moore and Sammy Davis Jr. She says she had to speak out to Bexhill News because the pavements are "an accident waiting to happen".



The former mayor of Chipping Norton, whose son Daniel Byles was an MP for five years, said: "The pavements are in a terrible state. Every time you go out you are in danger of breaking a leg, especially in Cantelupe and Bolebrooke Roads."

Jan, who is 77 and currently working on a memoir detailing her adventures in the film industry and taking on extreme physical challenges, added: "It is going to be entitled Meek and Wild and I am really enjoying writing it.

"But now is the right time to speak out about the state of our town and, in particular, the pavements.

"This is not just an isolated problem. I go to Stackz gym in Bolebrooke Road regularly and it is like an obstacle course to get there.

"You have to keep your eyes focused firmly on the ground at all times, otherwise you are just asking for trouble.

"As far as I am concerned the council is an absolute disgrace.

"Back in 2012 my mum, who is sadly no longer with us, had a really bad fall outside Sainsbury's in Bexhill and broke her hip. A taxi driver told me that loads of people had fallen there. Not just there but across the town."

"Bexhill has a large proportion of older people and many of them don't go out for the simple reason they aren't because of a fear of falling. And who can blame them?

"Something drastic needs to be done sooner rather than later.

"It is no good saying that we should report pavement problems to the council. They should be proactive and sort it out. That is their job. It is time to stop passing the buck.

"How many more people are going to fall and be injured before something gets done?

"This is not a new problem; it has been going on for years with very little action to remedy things.

Another resident of Bolebrooke Road, who didn't want to be named, told us: "I had a nasty fall in Cantelupe Road a few months ago when I tripped over a raised paving slab.

"I grazed both knees and hands but luckily I managed to slightly break my fall so that my head didn't hit the pavement. It could have



"How many more people are going to fall and be injured before something gets done?"

been a lot worse but I was still very shaken up."

In a remarkable twist, work commenced on repairing an area of pavement in Cantelupe Road recently, which begs the question of whether it is just a happy coincidence, or, as a result of enquiries by Bexhill News to East Sussex County Council, after asking when action is going to be taken to repair the vast number of pavements which need urgent attention. We will probably never know the answer to that.

However, there is no doubt there is still plenty of work to be done.

An East Sussex County Council statement said: "We work very hard to ensure the pavements in Bexhill and across the county which we are responsible for are maintained to a safe standard."

"In response to specific concerns raised about Bolebrooke Road, we will be carrying out further inspections to check for any safety issues."

"While we carry out regular checks of all our pavements, we would always encourage residents to report any concerns directly to us to enable us to carry out the appropriate checks and take any necessary action as quickly as possible."



"With 1,542 miles of footways and cycleways to maintain across East Sussex, it is important we use our limited resources carefully and prioritise work on pavements posing the greatest safety risk and we publish details of how we do this on our website www.eastsussexhighways.com.

"Anyone with concerns can also report these through the website."



Do you have a story to share with our readers about the pavements in Bexhill? Email us at letters@bexhill-news.co.uk

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SCHEME LAUNCHED TO TACKLE HOMELESSNESS

Reducing the problem of homelessness is the aim of a new leasing scheme up and running in Rother.

Rother District Council has set up Rother Leasing which it is hoped will improve housing outcomes and reduce the cost of providing temporary accommodation by preventing homelessness through greater access to quality and affordable accommodation.

The council is calling on property owners to come forward with properties that could be rented to residents across the district.

Benefits to property owners include a three-year lease, with the council taking on full management of the property. Property owners will also receive guaranteed monthly payments even if the property is vacant.

In addition, those offering potential properties that meet the eligibility criteria will receive a one-off payment when joining the leasing scheme.

Councillor Terry Byrne, lead member for Housing and Homes at Rother District Council, said: "In recent years we've seen a stagnation in the lettings market, partly caused by the potential but often unrealistic earnings from short-term holiday lets, resulting in fewer properties available for long term rental.

"And when you add to the mix the continuing increase in the cost of living, you are faced with a greater risk of more

people potentially becoming homeless.

"If you'd like to help us prevent homelessness by putting forward a property, then please get in touch with our team."

The council successfully took on its first property under the scheme recently.

The property owners, who felt that rental costs for private properties were exorbitant and beyond the reach of many people, wanted to redress this situation and help a family in need.

The owners said: "Working with the Housing team saved us time looking for tenants and Rother District Council would, in effect, be our tenant.

"The many incentives of the scheme were a very pleasant surprise and were enough to persuade us to proceed.

"Thanks to the council, the house is now occupied, and we are helping a family in need, at a fair rent."

Properties are subject to an inspection and must pass a check based on the Housing Health and Safety Rating System. They must also have a valid Electrical Installation Condition Report, Energy Performance Certificate and Gas Safety Certificate.

Property owners who would like to find out more about joining the Rother Leasing can call Rother District Council on 01424 787599 or email tenantfinder@rother.gov.uk.

FLYTIPPING CAUSES CLOSURE

Rother District Council has decided to close a recycling point due to misuse.

The recycling centre at Ravenside Retail Park will be closed later this month due to what the authority describes as a 'high level of contamination caused by people mixing household waste in with the recycling.'

Residents have been using the site to fly tip waste and household goods, causing the closure.

Users are being encouraged to visit nearby tips such as the Pebsham and Mountfield Household Recycling Sites.

CASH FOR LOCAL CAUSES

Three local groups and charities received a cash boost recently thanks to the Tesco Community Grant.

In the latest round of funding, Care for the Carers received a whopping £1,500, whilst Community Supporters won £1,000 and the Street Soccer Foundation walked away with a cheque for £500.

The donations are decided thanks to customers dropping the blue tokens into the donation box after their shop.



BRIGHT FUTURE FOR TOWN CENTRE MALL

Business owners at The Mall in Western Road are already preparing for a busy Christmas period as well as welcoming a host of new businesses into the shopping area.

The Community Supporters charity has recently opened its first Eco Hub in the Mall alongside The Watch Shop, Beauty Med, Love Ria Clothing Boutique, Burger Shack and Bexhill Evangelical Book Centre. Mandy's Pocket Money Toys and Bees & Bob's Fragrant Affairs are all now open for business.

Late night shopping events and a Christmas Grotto are all being planned for the coming festive period. The Mall can be found close to the Jempson's Local store on Western Road.



LABOUR MP'S THREAT TO QUIT OVER EDDIE IZZARD'S CANDIDACY

Eddie Izzard's hopes of becoming an MP at the next General Election have been rocked after a Labour MP threatened to resign over the issue.

Labour MP Rosie Duffield has voiced her opposition to the much-loved Bexhill comedian, actor and activist being selected as part of an all-women shortlist for a seat in Sheffield come the next election.

As yet, Eddie has not yet confirmed an intention to run but it has been a long-term ambition to become a Member of Parliament.

However, Ms Duffield has now spoken out at the Labour Party Conference.

She said at a Labour Women's Declaration meeting on Monday, September 26: "I won't lie. I won't say a man is a woman. Eddie Izzard is not a woman."

Ms Duffield also allegedly threatened to leave the Labour Party if Eddie was selected as part of an all-women list of candidates.

But, it appears her rhetoric may not have any credence anyway as apparently, Labour is considering abandoning all-women shortlists, despite party chair Anneliese Dodds refuting the claims.

Ms Dodds said: "Labour has a proud record of increasing women's participation in politics.

"That is why there are now 104 women Labour MPs at Westminster, which is more than half of the Parliamentary Labour



Party.

"The Labour Party is committed to continuing to use positive action, including all-women shortlists, in all situations where it is able to do so."

Eddie, who has long held an interest in politics and is a committed supporter of the Labour Party, prefers the pronouns "she" and "her" but previously stated that "him" and "he" were

acceptable and that no offence was taken.

Although Ms Duffield's comments are at best viewed as a storm in a teacup, it certainly hasn't deterred Eddie from pursuing long-held political ambitions.

The 60-year-old hopes to be selected as the Labour candidate for a constituency in Sheffield, having previously studied at university there, although there has been no confirmation so far.

Clearly, the chances of success would be far greater in South Yorkshire as Bexhill is a Conservative stronghold with current Tory incumbent Huw Merriman enjoying a healthy majority.

Eddie has already stated: "I was very serious in attempting to become an MP at the last election and I am hoping to be an MP at the next General Election.

"I will try very hard to get there and hope the people of the constituency I am going for will elect me. I am very serious about it."

Despite Ms Duffield's comments, Eddie has plenty of supporters willing to back a future bid with Bexhill Central councillor Christine Bayliss stating: Eddie is the perfect candidate to become an MP. He celebrates diversity, is empathetic and would be a major addition to the parliamentary party."

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WARNING OF 'VERY DIFFICULT WINTER' FOR VULNERABLE

Local charity, the Bexhill and Rother Homeless Unity Group (HUG), is warning of a "very difficult winter" ahead for local people who are vulnerably housed, often with sub-standard and costly heating systems.

HUG – based at St Barnabas Church on Sea Road is worried that clients, who are already unable to afford their prepay energy bills, may have no choice but to disconnect from the national grid. One of their clients has already done this.

It has launched its first-ever urgent appeal for funds in the hope of raising £2,000 which will keep 17 of the charity's most vulnerable clients warm from October through to February – and pay for heat-keeping survival bags to help rough sleepers through the winter months.

Chair of HUG Pauline Goubert, who was presented with a civic award from Bexhill-on-Sea town council earlier this year for her services to homeless people, said: "Last year was a struggle for many of our guests and we are trying to financially plan ahead for this winter. It is much more difficult to benefit from schemes set up to help if you do not have a billed meter. Couple this with the heating systems in many rented flats seemingly eating fuel and not producing much

heat, and winter is looking rather difficult.

She added: "I know we are all feeling the cost-of-living crisis, with rising energy prices and increasing bills. But we ask you to think about those who are vulnerable in our town – and throughout Rother. Even a £1 donation to HUG would help some of the town's most at risk people through this winter."

HUG opens several times a week to provide help and support to homeless and vulnerably housed people across Rother.

It also offers a range of services and support, including a hot cooked meal, a warm shower, a washing machine, signposting on to support services and friendship. Guests also receive support for mental health and wellbeing and get practical strategies on how to manage everyday life.

Where possible, working with the local council and other agencies, HUG helps to move people into suitable, sustainable accommodation to keep them safe.

As part of the fundraising campaign, Sackville ward town councillor Cllr Elly Gibson is running the Tonbridge half-marathon on Sunday 9 October to raise money for HUG.

VALUED THANKS FROM QUEEN



The postman delivered a very special surprise for a Bexhill resident recently just a few days before the sad death of Queen Elizabeth II.

Rosemary Boyd-Mercer, 79, was shocked to receive this pictured card from Her Majesty thanking Rosemary for her letter congratulating the Queen on her Platinum Jubilee. She received the card just one week before the Queen died last month.



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RECORD LABEL LAUNCH FOR BEXHILL MUSICIANS

Getting physical music released in the current economic climate is no easy task.

Unless you are Taylor Swift, Adele, or artists of similar standing, getting a record deal is at best a combination of perseverance and a large slice of good fortune.

Hence, the reason business partners Oliver Cherer and Del Querns have plunged in at the deep end by launching their own record label and thus far it has proved to be a roaring success.

Del and Ollie already run highly-successful Bexhill-based independent record store Music's Not Dead, which is situated within the De La Warr Pavilion.

Both are accomplished musicians with Ollie having recorded music in many guises for decades.

Ollie said: "I have been making records since 1981. My love of music started when I nicked a record out of my dad's collection, which was Duke Ellington's Festival Sessions. I actually still have it.

"I then bought with my own pocket money Geoff Love's Big Movie Themes for the simple reason that I wanted to own a record... basically any record."

Fast forward to the present day and Ollie has recorded an album "with a proper band" for the first time in two decades.

Debut album *St Leopards*, by Aircooled, is the stunning result. The band comprising Ollie, Katharine Wallinger and Justin Welch, with vocals by Riz Maslen and extra percussion by Pablo Cooke, has already garnered plenty of radio play, including on BBC Radio 6.

Pressed on rather fetching orange vinyl, the album has already sold more than 250 copies, as word of mouth and selected launch gigs pay dividends.

The pair first met via the shop in 2007 when it was situated in Devonshire Road. The business subsequently moved to the De La Warr five years ago.

Del, who has his own band, The Office for Personal Development, said: "It just seemed the right thing to do. It is not the easiest of times economically, but we are cautiously optimistic and it just seemed right to start our own record label. So far, it is paying dividends."

They both admit that starting their own label was "an exciting yet daunting prospect" but it is very much a case of nothing ventured, nothing gained.

"The response so far has been amazing," Del said. "The Aircooled album has really captured people's imagination and it has been flying off our shelves.

"I am very excited to have launched the label with Ollie and it is great that his album is the first we have released.

"But this is not a one-off; it is very much a long-term project for both of us."

Although streaming music remains the first choice for many, sales of vinyl and CDs remain strong, as Del explains.

He said: "Lots of customers are rediscovering the joy of owning physical products, be it vinyl or CDs. We cater for all age groups with some buying the latest Harry Styles album and others snapping up classics such as The Beatles' *Sgt Pepper*, Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon* and Fleetwood Mac's *Rumours*.

"Teenagers are listening to music that their parents loved in the Seventies and Eighties and want to own it themselves. Basically, they want a vinyl starter pack."

Ollie added: "We cannot afford to be snooty. It is not like the old



days when a record shop owner would look at you with complete disdain if you wanted to buy a copy of Abba Gold. Those days have long gone and we need to move with the times."

Air-cooled will be playing their debut album in its entirety at a free in-store gig in the De La Warr foyer at 7pm on November 12.

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BEXHILL RESIDENTS TAKE PART IN QUEEN'S STATE FUNERAL

The manager of Mais House in Hastings Road was invited to London to take part in the Queen's funeral last month.

Susan Barnes (pictured top right) manages the home which is one of five Royal British Legion care homes. She has consistently worked above and beyond at the care home and made huge improvements to better the lives of local veterans.

Due to her work, she was subsequently invited to attend the

funeral of HM The Queen. Susan said: "The past three years during Covid have been difficult to say the least, especially keeping my staff and veterans safe whilst still ensuring that they are having an enriched life at Mais House."

She added: "The Mais House team work around the clock each day and night with compassion, respect and love. I couldn't be prouder as a manager. June 2022 saw our beloved Queen's Jubilee, Mais House, of course, celebrated for four days running it

was truly magnificent and lots of champagne. This was the moment that I received an MBE for work that I love doing! My team gave emotional speeches that will stay with me for a lifetime."

The cabinet office contacted Mais House to inform Susan that she'd been given the honour of attending the Queen's funeral.

She concluded: "Words could never be enough to express my gratitude to have been part of such an emotional and historic time."

Mais House offers care and support for the Armed Forces community and their families.

Another Bexhill resident was honoured to participate in Her

Majesty's funeral.

Ex-Royal Marine, Samuel Fisher worked for London Transport for 44 years, having been made up to Inspector, he served both Ken Livingstone and Boris Johnson before retiring to Bexhill in 2013.

Sam's military career was cut short in March 1971, when he was injured in Northern Ireland and discharged from 45 Commando regiment. As the official Standard Bearer for the Bexhill branch of the Royal British Legion, many residents would have seen Sam in the Falklands 40 Anniversary Parade earlier this year on the De La Warr lawns.

Just before the state funeral, Sam was selected as one of the 72 Royal British Legion Standard Bearers lining the route at the Cenotaph. Sam said: "I thought that last year's Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance was the tops, but this outstrips that by a mile. This was the last thing I could do for my old boss. May she rest in everlasting peace."

Sam signed the book of condolence at the Ministry of Defence on behalf of the town of Bexhill-on-Sea.

Bow Ties VINTAGE TEAROOMS

With the shortening days and cooler weather comes a new appreciation for warming food. We all need some nurturing during the change of seasons and definitely during the winter! Here at Bowties, situated at 39 Western Road, Bexhill, we are delighted to announce our new Autumnal Menu which commences on Monday 10th October.

The emphasis is on traditional British dishes that can be eaten inside Bowties Café, or taken away to enjoy elsewhere. The cosy interior is full of timeless charm, but don't forget the stylish Victorian Parlour which can be found in the garden! This unique setting is open to everyone who would prefer a little more privacy, yet sheltered from the autumnal elements.

So, what delights do we have in store for you during Autumn?

There are snacks priced from just £4.95, including sweet chilli prawns; faggots in tomato sauce; Welsh rarebit, mushroom pate and soup.

Main courses are £9.95 and are all served with fresh vegetables and potatoes in different style choices including include bubble and squeak, jackets, roast and wedges. Examples from the menu will make your mouth water. You will find steak and kidney pie; roast pork with crackling; baked fish with lemon and dill;

chicken and leek pie; nut roast and macaroni cheese, in addition to specials.

Desserts include delicious apple crumble or syrup sponge with custard; Eton mess; knickerbocker glory; bread pudding and banana custard.

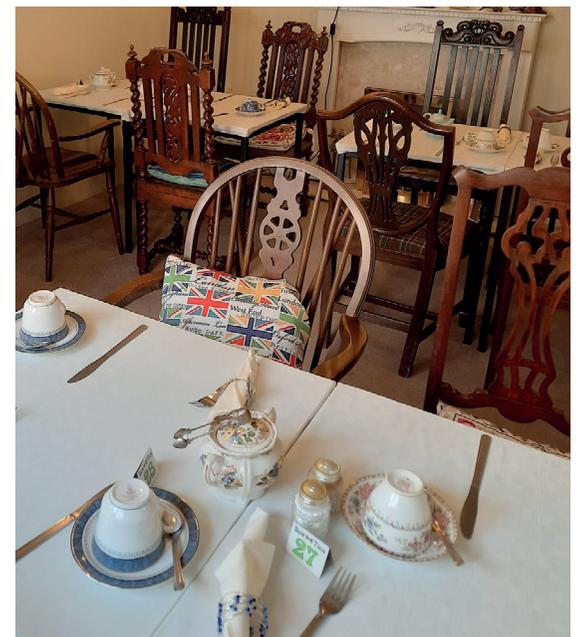
Of course, there will also be freshly made sandwiches available; jacket potatoes and a selection of scones and fabulous cakes too.

How can you possibly resist?

As an added bonus, Bowties will shortly be launching a brand-new sister company called Granny Gills. Commencing Monday 31st October, this will extend the services on offer, providing hot food during the evenings. All dishes will be available for takeaway or for delivery. Granny Gills will be also be open for business on Sundays – perfect for roast dinners! Entertaining friends at home? No problem, allow us to deliver your freshly-cooked lunch and you'll be able to relax.

The opening hours at Bowties are as follows: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 10am to 4pm. Closed Thursday and Sunday.

Visit the website: www.bowtiesbritish.co.uk
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Bexhill - Eastbourne - Hailsham

WALK TO HIGHLIGHT GLOBAL DISASTER FUNDS



Local climate justice activists led a Walk

of Witness around Bexhill town centre on Thursday 22 September, stopping outside town centre churches, the Buddhist Centre and the Mosque and finishing at the Town Hall.

They were calling on the UK government to help set up an international climate compensation fund and to raise money for it by taxing fossil fuel companies.

Barbara Echlin from the Bexhill and Hastings Global Justice Now (GJN) group said, "To those who question why we should pay into such a fund we respond: If someone damaged our car we would expect them to pay for it. Countries like Pakistan face huge financial strain because of climate

change which we have caused with our historic carbon emissions. We are on this Walk of Witness today because we want our grandchildren to inherit a planet they can live on."

The national day of action was organised by the Make Polluters Pay coalition, involving organisations such as Global Justice Now, Christian Aid, Faith for the Climate, Cafod, Green Christian, Stamp Out Poverty, Oxfam and the Loss and Damage Youth Coalition. The protest was part of a national day of action that also saw actions take place in Cambridge, Edinburgh, London, Lancaster, Nottingham, Portsmouth and Rotherham.

Climate vulnerable countries, such as small island states, have long argued that a 'loss and damage' compensation fund is necessary to help them rebuild after climate disasters, and that rich countries (who have contributed the most to global warming) should pay for it.

Youth activists including Vanessa Nakate and Greta Thunberg have previously talked about the need for rich countries to support proposals for loss and damage at UN climate talks.

However, activists say richer countries such as the US, UK and EU nations have been accused of blocking these proposals and refusing to accept their historic responsibility for global warming.

Just five energy companies (Chevron, ExxonMobil, BP, Shell and Total) made £50 billion profit between April and June this year due to high energy prices. Because these companies have collectively contributed more than 10% of global historic carbon emissions, campaigners say that some of those profits should go towards an international loss and damage fund to compensate countries facing climate disasters, according to the group.



A request was sent to volunteers in Girlguiding LaSER (London and South East Region), urgently asking for support from Greater London Authority to marshal specific areas of London for HM The Queen's funeral.

Bexhillian Cathy, volunteered and marshalled along the route on the 19th during the funeral, ensuring crowds were controlled up to and including the time that the procession went past, following the service at Westminster Abbey around the Hyde Park area.

Cathy is a Rainbow and Brownie Leader in Bexhill and was previously a Division Commissioner for Girlguiding Bexhill Division. When Cathy was a Guide herself, she earned the highest award (at the time) for a Guide - The Queen's Guide Award.

Girlguiding has decided to keep the name of the award the same, in honour of Her Majesty The Queen, who was the organisation's Patron during her reign. Up until recently, all members of Girlguiding would make their promise 'to serve the Queen and my community', which is very much what Cathy and all the other Girlguiding volunteers did during recent events.

Photo: Girlguiding London and South East Region.



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PROUD TO BE BRITISH

OPINION BY KIM MAYO

When it comes to pomp and circumstance, no one does it better than the British.

That much is patently clear since the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, leading to a huge outpouring of national grief, which must be admired and respected in all quarters.

I have always had a fairly ambivalent view when it comes to the Royal Family at large, but The Queen always had my utmost respect.

However, we are entering a new era, but the signs thus far are encouraging. King Charles III has responded magnificently to what has been an enormously stressful and emotional time since the death of his beloved mother.

Recent years have seen some tumultuous times for the Royal Family, but Her Majesty always stood firm in the face of adversity.

Her decision to appoint Camilla as Queen Consort to be implemented upon her death has been fully vindicated.

As the new King toured the country to meet his new subjects, Camilla was invariably at his side, with her love and support for him clearly evident. She, to put it bluntly, has been majestic.

The Queen's funeral last month, was heartbreaking yet at the same time breathtakingly spectacular, as dignitaries from the Commonwealth and indeed the rest of the globe flocked to Westminster Abbey to pay tribute.

They included the President of the United States, Joe Biden, who flew into Stansted Airport with his wife Jill on Airforce One.

The service was also attended by all of our living Prime Ministers who had served during her reign, including the current incumbent Liz Truss, who only met the Monarch as PM days before Her Majesty's death at the age of 96.

Tens of thousands had queued for hours to file past The Queen's coffin to pay their own tribute, epitomising everything that makes Britain great.

The day of the funeral itself was one of great sorrow yet also incredibly moving. To see Charles, along with Princess Anne, Prince Andrew, and Prince Edward, walking behind their mother's coffin as it was transported on a gun carriage, certainly brought a lump to the



throat.

Despite reports of a rift, it was also heartening to see Prince William, now the Prince of Wales and Heir to the Throne, walking alongside his brother Harry and their respective spouses Kate and Meghan.

Now that The Queen has been laid to rest in St George's Chapel, Windsor, it is time for a period of reflection by the nation and indeed the Commonwealth.

Anyone who thinks the Monarchy is an outdated institution is patently wrong. Because it clearly is not.

Vivid memories of the funeral service will remain for all who witnessed including the indelible images of the pallbearers, The Queen's beloved corgis and favourite pony standing in line to watch

the cortege heading towards Windsor.

We are heading into uncharted waters but there is every reason for optimism.

The Royal Family seen united at last and long may it continue.

Long live The King.





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MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 8th October, Christchurch, Springfield Road, Bexhill, between 10-12 noon.

We welcome any tombola prizes, coffee & cake, bric-a-brac, books and crafts etc. Admission £1, includes drink.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Wednesday 12th October, Ninfield Methodist Church, Church Lane, Ninfield, between 9-11:30am.

Plenty of cakes, raffle, handmade/gift stall and more. A lovely relaxed morning open to all for this excellent cause. Please come and join us.

Donations of cakes, handmade items to sell and raffle also welcome. Please advise Veronica 07714 327117.

ACTIVE FRIENDS MEET AND MOVE

October 12th & 19th, Pebsham Community Hub, Seabourne Road, TN40 2SW, between 2-3pm.

Improve your posture, flexibility, balance, coordination and stamina in a welcoming and friendly environment. No experience necessary. Everyone welcome. Chair and standing exercises including Pilates and Yoga. Dancing and exercises using physiotherapy balls and stretch resistance bands. Mindfulness and meditation. Please bring a bottle of water and wear appropriate clothing and footwear. £2.50 per class. Call Sally on 07739 082538, or email sal_r_tay@yahoo.co.uk.

BEXHILL MARINA TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD MEET

Every 4th Wednesday, St. Michael's Church Hall, Glassenbury Drive, Bexhill, 7:30-9pm.

For full details ring Susan Neighbour, Phone: 01424 211140. We look forward to meeting you.

NATALIE IMBRUGLIA - LEFT OF THE MIDDLE 25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY TOUR

Friday 14th October, De La Warr Pavilion, Marine Parade, Bexhill at 7pm.



Natalie Imbruglia will be marking the 25th anniversary of her landmark album 'Left Of The Middle' with a series of special live shows in October!

A celebration of the album that made her a global star, the tour will see the Australian/British star revisiting the multi-platinum debut album, as well as hits from her accomplished career to date plus songs from her latest album 'Firebird'.

A quarter of a century on since the alternative-pop singer made waves with hits like "Big Mistake", "Wishing I Was There", "Smoke", and of course "Torn", Natalie Imbruglia will be revisiting her seminal debut 1997 album.

BEXHILL TUESDAY CLUB FOR THE BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED

Every Tuesday afternoon, St. Marks Church, Little Common.

Are you feeling isolated and want to make new friends? Then come and join in with lunches, cream teas, quizzes and entertainment. We can even pick you up and take you home. Call Jane on 01424 729323.

CRAFT FAIRS

Every second Saturday, St. Barnabas Church, Sea Road, Bexhill, between 10am-3pm, Free entrance.

Monthly arts, crafts, gifts and produce fairs. No fairs in January or August. saturdaycraftfairs@gmail.com.

BEXHILL HEALTH WALKS

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. 11am, free to attend.

Free, friendly, regular walks, just an hour, no need to book, just turn up. Monday: Sidley, meet outside the New Inn. Wednesdays: Bexhill Freedom Leisure Centre, 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from outside Bexhill Leisure Pool, Ravenside. Fridays: Bexhill Seafront, meet outside De La Warr Pavilion.

INSIGHT TO CULTURE

Wednesday, 12th October, Bexhill Museum, 2-4pm, free to attend.

Object handling sessions and creative workshops for visually impaired participants. Free to attend, but places are limited. Please book in advance, call 01424 222058.

TABLE TOP SALE

Saturday 29th October, St. Barnabas Church, corner of Sea Road and Cantelope Road,

10am-12.

Coffee, tea and cake with a book stall and bric-a-brac.

LEARN TO JIVE

Every Monday, The Cavern Club, Wilton Road, Bexhill, 7pm onwards.

50's style jive evening, lessons from 7pm (£8), 8pm Record Hop (£6), learnt to jive, stroll and bop. Contact Carol or Jenny on 07904 037523.

LOVE PLANTS HAND STITCHING WORKSHOP

Saturday, October 22nd. Blooming beautiful Workshop, 117 London Road, Bexhill. 10am-12pm.

Come and learn the craft of hand stitching in this popular plants and cacti inspired workshop. Create a beautiful and colourful botanical themed wall hoop for your home and learn how a few simple embroidery stitches can create great effects and colour. Aimed at slowing you down in a calm and small group you will learn how to add stitches onto a pre-printed design, and no previous stitching experience is necessary. 2 hour session, £35 includes all materials & starter embroidery pack.

BEXHILL ART SOCIETY AUTUMN ART SHOW

October 25th- 30th, Stade Hall, Hastings 10am-5 pm, Free entry. Exhibition of artwork by members in a variety of media together with unframed browser pieces and greetings cards. We will be raising fund for the RNLI who are opening the show. Bexhillartsociety.com

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Map & Menu



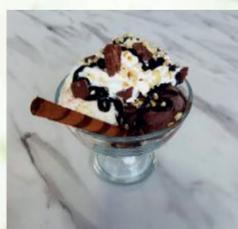
Come and enjoy one of our hot waffles any day of the week. You can choose from cream, sauces, strawberries & a ball of our 100% natural Gelato, if you want. Prices from £5.95.



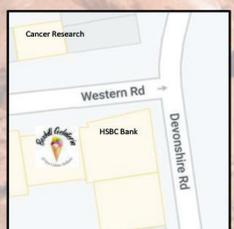
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READERS' LETTERS

Email your letters to the Editor to: letters@bexhill-news.co.uk

MOLLY IS PROFESSIONAL AND MATURE



I read your article (September 2022, Issue 03), featuring Molly Dowling of EW Funeral Services, with interest.

Indeed, a surprising choice of career for a teenager and I imagine some readers may question whether one so young could successfully be entrusted with such an important event. I was one of those people.

However, Molly is a remarkable young woman with a maturity not often found in someone of her years. She organised my husband's funeral, flawlessly and professionally.

This was the first funeral I had had to arrange and I quickly became aware of the myriad of tasks and arrangements that had to be undertaken and brought to a conclusion at just the right time.

No second chances. Molly was always available (even at weekends) and really made a difficult time easier to manage.

I only wish I'd had half that maturity at her age!

Tessa, Bexhill.



SEWAGE LEAK HAS PERSONAL EFFECTS TOO

First may I say how well your newspaper has been welcomed.

Lots of good information for the locals. A great publication and asset to the community.

I am writing regarding the subject of sewage leak after the leak on our beaches.

It has, "as you point out" affected our town and the loss in revenue. What I wish to point out is the personal loss to the residents in our area.

We came to Bexhill as a lovely unspoilt seaside town where we could enjoy the benefits of living beside the seaside. This has all changed for us.

We don't have our usual picnic on the beach, we have advised our family NOT to bring the children down here as they will end up disappointed. In essence it's changed our lives for the worse.

I feel so upset that Southern Water are not being held to account. As a protest I am thinking that on receipt of my next bill from them I am considering refusing to pay the waste water part of the bill. On

the basis that we individuals have a contract with Southern Water to dispose of our waste in a proper manner which they have failed to do?

I wonder what other readers intend to do. It's no good taking no action.

Mike, Little Common.

CYCLISTS MUST SLOW DOWN

I too picked up your paper for the first time on Sunday the 4th of September.

What an informative and great read.

Although my wife and I live in St Leonards we spend a lot of time in Bexhill. We are members of Egerton Park Indoors Bowls club and love to walk on the seafront several times a week and have a spot of lunch along the front. My main concern is how fast many cyclists ride past the cafes without thinking of children running about or the elderly who may not move out of the way very quickly. I suggest signs are put up for cyclists to dismount.

While passing the cafes or slow down. After all, promenades are for people. No offense to all the sensible cyclists.

Victor, St. Leonards on Sea.

ARE GRAFFITI ARTISTS REALLY 'YOBS'?

Firstly, always enjoy the opinions and thoughts that are shared with us all via the Bexhill News.

In response to Mr Jones' letter in your September issue.

The mural opposite Bexhill Station is a fine piece of work and thank you for letting me know who the historical figures are, which is a wonderful sight to welcome all that visit Bexhill as well as the footbridge art which I find exhilarating to walk past on my way to & from the main streets, we need more art to show off Bexhill's wonderful talent, and it is a crying shame that the thoughtless persons that have graffitied on it, I too was outraged to see it.

However, I am a little miffed that you class Banksy to be disfiguring buildings, as I think Banksy's art is quirky and now bringing huge respect for wall art, I think if it wasn't for Banksy, some of our wonderful wall art would not be appreciated, what about the lovely mural in Wickham Road, completed by a local artist.

My main objective would be to suggest that there is a specific space given by the council to the graffiti (jobs as you described) artists to work on so that the other murals are left alone. Maybe under the bridge in Sackville Road would be an ideal candidate for this. In London where I lived for most of my life, in Waterloo there was a specific place "Leake Street" where graffiti artists from all over go to do their graffiti artwork, some of which is quite impressive.

So, why don't we turn something negative into a positive? S. Young

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EVENTS AT THE BULL INN

Sunday Folk Session - 5:30 pm 2nd October & 6th November

Monday Quiz Night - 8:00 pm 10th October

Sunday Karaoke - 5:30 pm 16th October

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RESIDENTS GATHER TO WITNESS KING CHARLES PROCLAMATION IN BEXHILL



A large crowd gathered in Devonshire Square on Sunday afternoon (11th September) to pay tribute to the Queen and welcome the reign of her eldest son King Charles III.

The moving ceremony, which included the reading of the Proclamation of our new King, was led by Bexhill's Mayor, Councillor Paul Plim.

"Mr Plim, resplendent in his red robe and chain of office, said: "We come together this afternoon following the passing of our late Sovereign, Queen Elizabeth the Second.

"Our sadness at this time is shared by people across the globe, as we remember with affection and gratitude the lifetime of service given by our longest reigning Monarch.

"But, the basis on which our monarchy is built has ensured that through the centuries the Crown has passed in an unbroken line of succession. Today's ceremony marks the formal Proclamation to the people of the town of Bexhill of the beginning of our new King's reign.

"The Accession Council met at St James's Palace to proclaim our new Sovereign. The flags which had flown at half-mast since The Queen's death were raised to their full height to mark the start of His Majesty's reign.

"The Accession Council also made an Order requiring High Sheriffs to cause the Proclamation to be read in the areas of their jurisdiction. The High Sheriff of East Sussex discharged that duty and now, with my humble duty, I now bring the words of the Proclamation to the residents of the town of Bexhill."

The Mayor ended the touching ceremony by stating: "God Save the King", a sentiment which was echoed in unison by all of those present, followed by loud cheers of three hip-hip hoorays.

Since The Queen's passing at Balmoral, many shops have placed tributes in their windows ahead of Her Majesty's State funeral which will take place at Westminster Abbey in central London on Monday, September 19.

The new King and the Queen Consort Camilla will then mark on an extensive tour of the four home nations; England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK CANTY



MOVING VIGIL TO REMEMBER QUEEN ELIZABETH II



The Town Council decided it was important for Bexhill to participate in the National Moment of Reflection on the eve of Her Majesty's funeral, so arranged an emotional evening vigil.

They called together the British Legion branches, uniformed groups, community organisations and clubs from all over Bexhill to remember the life of the late Queen Elizabeth II.

Led by the Royal British Legion Sussex County Standard Bearer, Steve Leonard, a short procession arrived at the De La Warr pavilion to hear the Mayor introduce Deputy Mayor, Claire Baldry and Town Council celebrant, Nuala Geary, with poignant readings to set the mood of reflection.

The crowd fell silent until the Bexhill and Little Common Royal British Legion Concert Band bugler, Ron Linkin, sounded the Last Post and we took part in the national minute silence.

With a verse of the National Anthem, this finished off a truly humbling tribute to Her Majesty from Bexhill.

Photos: JTP53 Photography





SHOP WINDOWS HONOUR QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Care Drug Store



Hearts shop window



Warming Up The Homeless



Mind charity shop

VIKTORIA COWLEY TAKES A LOOK AROUND BEXHILL TOWN CENTRE AND DISCOVERS AMAZING TRIBUTES TO QUEEN ELIZABETH II

It's lovely to walk through the streets of Bexhill and see the number of shops and businesses that have paid their respects to Our Queen, Elizabeth II, who died on 8 September.

Whilst we are all upset by her death we are, at the same time, all celebrating her very full life, and the way in which she positively represented the Monarchy, The United Kingdom and the Commonwealth countries.

I think it's fitting to highlight the businesses that made space in their window displays to show their public respect.

On Western Road, Stars, Mad Expectations, La Maison and Care Drug Store included tributes to The Queen, including flowers, a crown and photos and images of The Queen depicting various key moments throughout her reign.

On Devonshire Road, Hearts and Mind charity

shop made similar displays and Warming Up The Homeless charity included a Paddington Bear and jar of marmalade.

Bexhill Caring Community charity shop and Edge hairdresser, both in Sackville Road showed similar marks of respect in their windows.

Devonshire Road's newest shop, Maybugs completely removed its window displays, replacing a picture of The Queen and a candle in each of its windows, together with a Union Flag.

It's lovely to see this mark of respect towards a public figure who was so well loved and respected, who kept her promise to us, as a 25-year-old girl who was grieving for the death of her father yet was so grown up. She had remained strong, stoic, and devoted to her duties throughout her reign.

However, in the transitional period, as the duties hand over to Charles III, we will rejoice and welcome The King.

Life, again, is changing, forever. Most of us have never lived under another monarch and for some, never believed this time would come.



Stars Hair & Beauty



Maybugs



Edge Barbers



Bexhill Caring Community



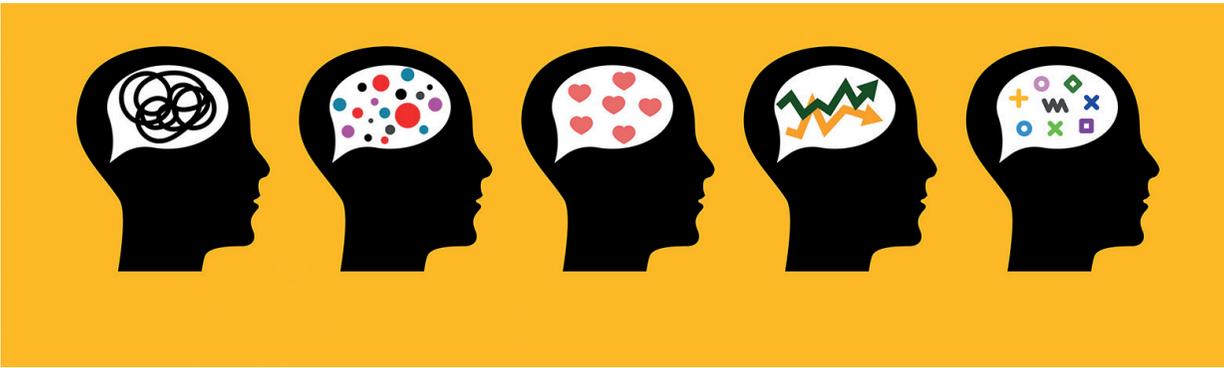
Mad Expectations



La Maison

ECHOING AROUND THE CHAMBER

BEXHILL CHAMBER LAUNCH NEURODIVERSITY EMPLOYMENT SEMINAR.



**Bexhill Chamber
of Commerce
and Tourism**

BUSINESS • PROSPERITY • COMMUNITY

BY HOWARD MARTIN, PRESIDENT OF BEXHILL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM

When most people think of GCHQ, the Government Communications Headquarters in Cheltenham, they think of Spooks-type global surveillance operations harnessing satellites, drones and CCTV to direct real-life James Bonds onto their evil terrorist targets. Nobody ever thinks of GCHQ leading on euro-diverse employment strategies that our Chamber would like to see embraced more widely in Bexhill.

Almost every business, across all sectors, is struggling to recruit staff. While the hospitality sector has been hit particularly hard, other sectors as varied as transport logistics, tourism and light manufacturing are suffering from a shortage of job candidates.

The Office of National Statistics reports the number of job vacancies in the UK is at its highest level since before the pandemic and unemployment (ie available candidates for jobs) is at its lowest, (3.6% in July) since 1974. The reasons for this massive shortfall are myriad and complex, Brexit blocking out the EU

workforce, post-pandemic labour market shifts, and young people's changes in aspirations (no longer seeing hospitality work as a rite of passage) have all been cited as contributory factors.

Whatever the cause our Bexhill businesses need help to survive, without much needed staff recruitment some will close. We want to help Bexhill businesses access a hidden pool of workforce talent.

Bexhill Chamber has teamed up with the De La Warr Pavilion, EMW Law LLP, Little Gate Farm and Strive Café to host an innovative seminar on the advantages in the jobs market of adopting a positive neurodiversity employment approach.

Every business in Bexhill that is confronting the challenges of staff recruitment are welcome to attend on Wednesday 12th October from 17.30 – 19.30 at the DLWP Studio, booking is direct through the De La Warr Pavilion's website.

Neurodiversity is a broad term that embraces people with varying degrees of neurological challenges. While sometimes these challenges are recognised as Autism, Asperger's, dyslexia etc, all very often they are undiagnosed but manifest themselves in such things as learning difficulties or even just a socially awkward or

distinct introvert demeanour.

We want to help employers break through barriers and recruit from a pool of incredibly loyal, hard-working, reliable and talented people. The seminar will be hosted by Victoria Bevis, employment specialist from EMW Law, alongside a range of guest speakers who will introduce businesses to potential employees, work coaches and give guidance on adjustment for neurodiversity in the workplace. There will also be real world experiences and success stories from employees and employers.

GCHQ is a level 3 disability confident employer, they embrace neurodiversity as an asset in their workforce. From cleaners to cryptologists many employers now recognise that a different neuro view of the world makes business sense. So, the next time you see a socially awkward "expert" on screen doing their Q from Bond impression, perhaps don't see them as an eccentric boffin but as someone who could be a real asset to your own business whether it involves programming silicon chips or frying potato chips.

Full seminar details and tickets at www.dlwp.com

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READERS' LETTERS

WATER COMPANIES NEED TO BE FINED

Why does the Rother District Council fine dog-owners for fouling our seafront but not fine Southern Water for covering Bexhill sea-shore and sea-water with excretia?

Southern Water Share Holders have raked in money from us which should, morally, have been spent on ancient sewage systems and outdated pumping stations which are inadequate for 2022.

Surely, the infrastructure, water works and pumping stations, etc, should be in place before planning permission is granted for development.

Courts in the South East continue to grant such planning permissions despite valid objections by concerned ratepayers and the Environment Agency.

Government funding for the Environment Agency has been cut by 50% over the last 10 years. During this time the number of River Inspectors (the first to see polluted waters) have had to be cut. The Water Companies were told to inspect themselves!!! Was this to gag the Environment Agency?!

If Rother District Council fined Southern Water at a rate appropriate to its fouling of our beaches, perhaps the money money raised could pay for a Rother District Council Water Inspector with some teeth!!

Sincerely, G.A. Duly



DID ANYONE FIND PAINTED STONES?

I come down to visit family, from Bromley, regularly and decided to do some pebble painting. I've attached photos (left).

The one of Her Majesty is back on Bexhill Beach, Sackville end. I'd love to know if anyone spotted it.

Kind regards, Rosina Fidler

EVENT THANKS

I would like to put into the new 'Bexhill Observer', a letter of notice, that has actually been done. It is a thank you to Juke and Mike,

who own the old Post Office in Sidley as a Cafe. Last Saturday (August) they gave a tea party for Breast Cancer. Juke made lots of delicious cakes for sale, and quite a few people bought them. I think everyone enjoyed the tea party. Shirley-Patricia Cowan (handwritten).

BEXHILL POET'S TRIBUTE TO THE QUEEN



Bexhill resident, John Knight, has regularly sent Her Majesty his poems which were personally acknowledged by the Queen. He sent us this beautiful poem...

Whatever life's experience
whether good or bad,
Always understanding
to make the heart so glad;

Her interest in people
was always so sincere,
Whatever race or culture
she held them very dear;

Queen Elizabeth was a person
like no other before,
That is simply why
she was someone we all adore;

At the age of 96
after an unprecedented reign,
She touched the hearts of many
their love and respect did gain;

Her life of dedicated service
to this nation and world-wide,
Will be a lasting memory
for all to now abide;

As a family member
her love was very real,
Held in great affection
however they might feel;

Having travelled to many countries
over her reign as Queen,
She was greatly loved and respected
by all those who she'd seen;

Her knowledge was amazing
of people of every nation,
Of whom she was devoted
with a close relation;

As we remember one whose faith
and belief in Almighty God,
Reflected the love of Jesus
and the path He trod;

We know that she now lies at peace
free from this world's cares,
Leaving us her example
of how God's love she shares.

John B. Knight.

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ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

A ROUND-UP OF THE LIVE MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT YOU CAN ENJOY AROUND BEXHILL AND SURROUNDING AREAS

SMALL STAGE, BIG SOUND



In what must be the smallest stage area in Bexhill, some of the biggest and best Blues and Retro R&B was ringing out at the Rocksalt bar recently, thanks to Stormy-T & Bluesman' Lane.

Intricate lead guitar, with a solid baseman and drummer, was the perfect backdrop for the raunchy harmonica. The retro decor of Rocksalt is the perfect setting for these guys. A must-see act for Blues and R&B fans. Watch out for them catch them if you can.

SOUNDS FROM THE HARP

The Harp in Devonshire Road is a favourite with locals with its regular offering of live entertainment and was in full swing recently with Lennie George offering a mix of crooning and pop/rock favourites for the busy bar.

It didn't take him long to get customers in the mood and up dancing. Following his session, he then introduced up and coming singer Erin-Rose, who is currently making a name for herself on the local live music circuit. She had the punters onside in no time with her silky smooth mix of standards and pop, and at just 21 she is already set for a busy gig schedule. One to watch!



REPORTS AND PICTURES BY DEREK CANTY

SUN SHINES ON SHADY LADIES



The quirky Shady Ladies were out and about again in Bexhill last month with an outing at the Bathing Station on Bexhill's East Prom.

Their ukuleles were ringing out to the band's mixed bag of big hits and ballads, with beatbox support coupled with solid baselines from seasoned session man Laurie Bush. The Bathing Station, serving up refreshing drinks and snacks, is a great summertime venue and always attracts a big crowd of promenaders.

STICK AROUND FOR SKA-PER



The Colonnades was heaving in the heat recently to the sounds of Bexhill-based band SKA-PER, an 8-piece local outfit which was belting out its mix of Ska, Two-Tone and Reggae to what was without doubt the biggest crowd ever seen at the venue.

The seated area was packed and it was almost impossible to get passed the dancing throng on the prom. The brilliant combination of sax, trumpet, drums and guitars was the perfect backup to superb vocals, which comfortably captured the infectious and distinctive sound genre.

SMUGFEST BACK WITH A BANG



The annual Smugfest, at the Smugglers Inn, Pevensey, made a welcome return this year after a 2-year absence due to Covid restrictions. The only restriction this year was finding a seat in the packed garden. The sun was out, the crowd was in and the stage was set for a cracking afternoon's live music. Stuart Bligh, frontman with The Big Blue Band, opened the proceedings with a solo performance, which once again included

a truly Masterclass in acoustic guitar work, along with his unique and haunting vocals.

Next on was one of the biggest bands in East Sussex, The Chandeliers. Fronted by the infectious Chris Makin, it didn't take him long to get his crowd of followers up and dancing. The tone was set for the rest of the day, which included Athena Bray & Margret Law-Sampson, and a closing set by UB40 tribute act 2B40 Campbell & Britty.

NAME THAT TUNE!



As the summer season draws to a close for this year, the Bathing Station on the East Promenade made the most of the fading good weather with a fine set from the Unstable Cliffs duo of Ray and Jim.

Top-notch musicians and singers, the pair treated the promenaders to a few hours of hits spanning 50 years or so and demonstrated how talent doesn't need more than two if you're this good. Shout out any big hits from over the decades and they can do it!

If you would like your music or entertainment event published in the next edition of Bexhill News, please email the details plus a landscape high-resolution photo to: derek@bexhill-news.co.uk. Deadline for entries is Friday 21st October.

BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE

CIVILITY AND RESPECT POLICY

Civility and respect should be at the heart of public life, and good governance is fundamental to ensuring an effective and well-functioning democracy at all levels.

Intimidation, abuse, bullying and harassment of councillors, clerks and council staff, in person or online, is unacceptable, whether by councillors, clerks, council staff, or members of the public. This type of behaviour can prevent councils from functioning effectively, councillors from representing local people, discourage people from getting involved, including standing for election, and undermine public confidence and trust in local democracy.

At the Full Council meeting in September, the town council voted unanimously to take the Civility and Respect pledge, and to ensure it has good governance and policies in place for providing dignity in the workplace.

The council committed to calling out bullying and harassment and providing ongoing training to ensure that the council treats councillors, employees, members of the public and volunteers with civility and respect.

We want you to be proud of our corporate body and we want to represent you in a professional manner.

Civility & Respect Pledge

To treat other councillors, clerks, all employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations and volunteers with civility and respect in their roles.

How will this culture change be achieved?

- ✓ Council signs up to Civility & Respect Pledge
- ✓ Undertake recommended training for clerks, councillors and chairpersons
- ✓ Good employment practices
- ✓ Good governance
- ✓ Continued lobbying for change in legislation (including sanctions)
- ✓ Dignity at work policy
- ✓ Seek professional help at early stages of problem
- ✓ Learning from best practice
- ✓ Being a role model/champion council (Local Council Award Scheme)
- ✓ Calling out bullying and harassment when it happens



Take the pledge

The Civility and Respect Project is an ongoing and evolving project, committed to improving standards for all involved in local councils.



FIVE YEAR STRATEGY

We asked residents and workers in Bexhill for your input on what you want your town council to do for you in our 'BIG SURVEY 2021'.

We are now almost ready to consult on our final five-year strategy. Councillors met at Manor Barn in September to talk through the final plan and the Community Committee will now prepare the document for consultation.

This document will provide a structured plan of services and activities for the council to deliver until the elections in 2027.

FAIRTRADE

The Town Council was pleased to support Bexhill in achieving a certified renewal of its Fairtrade status.

Bexhill has been a Fairtrade Town for fifteen years and the Town Council's motion to provide for this important initiative renews our town status for the future. Jack Doherty,



representing the Bexhill Fairtrade Town Committee, said "Buying Fairtrade products automatically guarantees lifting poor producers out of poverty and children from slavery to education and a future.

We would like to thank our fellow brothers and sisters in Bexhill with big hearts to fairly select Fairtrade outlets on their weekly shop, especially now as Climate destruction is their biggest threat...three cheers for the Bexhill Community and Town Council leadership!"



CLIMATE CHANGE UPDATE

The Town Council's Climate and Nature Emergency Panel working group, that organised our recent Climate event in May at St Barnabas Church Hall, has been busy pulling together all the ideas collected from those that attended such a great day.

The draft plan was reviewed at committee level and will now be shared with residents for consultation before it is approved by Full Council for adoption. Then we start the real work of delivering a cleaner town and Net Zero for Bexhill.

ST PETERS CHURCH PROCLAMATION

The Town Council felt it important for Bexhill to participate in the National Moment of Reflection on the eve of Her Majesty's funeral.

We called together the British Legion branches, uniformed groups, community organisations and clubs from all over Bexhill to remember the life of the late Queen Elizabeth II. Lead by the Royal British Legion Sussex County Standard Bearer, Steve Leonard, a short procession arrived at the De La Warr pavilion to hear the Mayor introduce Deputy Mayor, Claire Baldry, and Town Council celebrant, Nuala Geary, with poignant readings to set the mood of reflection.

The crowd fell silent until the Bexhill and Little Common Royal British Legion Concert Band bugler, Ron Linkin, sounded the Last Post and we took part in the national minute silence. With a verse of the National Anthem this finished off a truly humbling tribute to Her Majesty from Bexhill.



CRIME UPDATE

The Town Council is increasingly concerned about crime across our wards.

We feel that the impact that crime has on our residents and how safe they feel in Bexhill needs to be addressed. We have been working with the East Sussex Association of Local Councils to organise a meeting with the Sussex Police Crime Commissioner, Katy Bourne, to seek answers and advice.

We are pleased to have secured the first round of 'Forum' meetings with Katy, at which invited community and resident group leaders will join with council representatives to talk through our worries and formulate a plan to address them. Look out in the next issue for details of these discussions and how we plan to tackle local crime issues in conjunction with Sussex Police.



MEETINGS

You can find the details of our meetings, with agendas and reports, on our website at bexhilltowncouncil.gov.uk.

Please check our website for more details as venues and meetings are subject to change. Contact us at town.clerk@bexhilltowncouncil.gov.uk

Upcoming meetings:

Wednesday 5th October 7pm:
Full Council

Wednesday 12th October 7pm:
Community Committee

Wednesday 19th October 7pm:

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Wednesday 16th November 7pm:

Climate, Nature, and Environment Committee.

Our Planning Committee meets twice a month at 6pm prior to Full Council and Finance and General Purposes Committee.

TOUCHING TRIBUTES TO HER MAJESTY IN ROTHER



**LEADERS COLUMN BY
CLLR DOUG OLIVER, LEADER OF
ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Like millions of others, I tuned in to watch the extremely moving funeral of the late Queen Elizabeth II on Monday.

It has been an incredibly moving fortnight, with the outpouring of grief being on a level I have never seen before.

From the floral tributes laid in the grounds of the Town Hall in Bexhill, to the pages and pages of heartfelt messages left by staff and residents in the Book of Condolence, it is clear that many have been greatly affected

by the loss.

Whatever your views may be on the monarchy, it is impossible not to be moved when you think back over the years of dedicated service Queen Elizabeth II gave to our country. The vast majority of people have never known a life without the Queen, and she has been a constant in our lives for more than seven decades.

Her life and death have led me to reflect on many people in Rother who give their time to help improve their community. We are incredibly lucky to be blessed with so many people living around the district who are clearly very proud of their towns and villages and are willing to do everything they can to help others.

This was no more apparent than the response to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee back in June. Rother District Council offered funding to help people organise events to mark the historic occasion.

We were able to award more than £13,000 to local community groups and organisations to help fund community picnics, afternoon teas, floral displays, stoolball games, fetes and many other events.

Looking back, I am so pleased that we were able to help make the Jubilee so special and that so many groups and individuals put

so much effort into making that weekend a success.

With the events of the past two weeks, focus has quite rightly been on observing the official mourning period and while the council's work has taken a backseat, officers have been working hard to ensure vital support and services have continued uninterrupted.

Before the death of Queen Elizabeth II was announced, my Cabinet colleagues and I agreed to give grants to five extremely worthwhile projects across Rother as part of our Community Grants programme.

A total of £65,000 will be used by local community groups and organisations across the district for a number of projects including the upgrade of play equipment, the development of community space and the purchase of an adapted dinghy to enable people with disabilities to sail at Rye Harbour.

I am delighted that we have, yet again, been able to make such an important contribution to help make our communities a place where people feel included, safe and happy.

Seeing all the good happening in our district always makes me extremely proud and hope that we can continue to celebrate Rother it as a special place to live and work.



Displays in Little Common to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June.

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- First floor flat
- One Bedroom
- Newly refurbished
- Spacious Accomodation
- Convenient location
- Close to seafront
- Public transport links
- Long term tenant preferred
- Viewing essential

M

FOR SALE



£550,000

**Albany Road,
Bexhill on Sea**

Key features:

- Business for sale
- B&B
- Five guest rooms
- Private ground floor accommodation & garden
- Town centre
- Close to seafront & De La Warr Pavilion
- 5 stars on Tripadvisor
- Viewing essential

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LONG AVENUE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA, - £385,000

A well-maintained cottage whose owner has obviously been working updating its specifications. With a split-level layout, it has a newly installed kitchen, shower, and separate WC. Three bedrooms are present, and a peculiar spiral staircase leads to a sporadic lower bedroom. Your train of thought will be diverted by how roomy the spaces are. There's little doubt that this property will meet your family's demands. Local transportation services, a fantastic primary school nearby, and a community can all be found in Pebsham. Thus, we hope you agree that this is a home not to be missed.



PAGES AVENUE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA, £950,000

Located in South Cliff Bexhill. As you make your way to the beach, you'll come across this lovely, detached home with its striking feature, an eyebrow window. This wonderful home has two floors of spacious living space. The house has recently undergone remodelling, with the installation of a new boiler, modifications to the kitchen, shower room, toilet, and carpeting, making it a cosy retreat. The town centre at the end of the promenade, offers a variety of independent shops, mainline train station and a beachfront which is easily accessible from this wonderful home.



ST. JAMES HEIGHTS, BEXHILL-ON-SEA, £170,000

We have a great one-bedroom, top-floor apartment with a parking spot, two bathrooms, a good-sized living area, and a modern vibe available for purchase. In addition, the community hallway has a passenger lift that takes users to the top floors.



EVERSLEY ROAD, BEXHILL-ON-SEA, £199,950

This maisonette in Bexhill on Sea is available for purchase WITHOUT A CHAIN. The apartment's interior is light and spacious and is divided into two stories with gas central heating. According to the proprietors, there is a parking place in front of the building.



DEANS CLOSE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA, £345,000

Calling prospective purchasers who are looking for a project to complete. This two-bedroom bungalow includes a kitchen with access to the backyard, two double bedrooms, a dual-aspect living room and dining room, a separate garage, a shower room, and off-street parking.

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**SEDLECSOMBE ROAD SOUTH,
ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA, £825,000**

An excellent development opportunity in St Leonards on sea: located on the corner of Ponswood Road and Sedlescombe Road South. The site with Permitted Development Rights for 8 Flats, in a great position for the village centre in Silverhill.



LAND AT BROOMSGROVE ROAD, HASTINGS, £150,000

This small development plot is available now. We are advised by the owners, that a planning application submitted with Hastings Borough Council for outline planning to build a pair of semi-detached Town Houses in Hastings.

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SILVERDALE ROAD, EASTBOURNE - £1,300.00 PCM

This well presented, and recently decorated large two-bedroom elevated ground floor, garden flat in Lower Meads, conveniently positioned for access to the town and shopping facilities, and the seafront promenade is now available to rent.



MARINA, BEXHILL-ON-SEA, £1,100.00 PCM

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Joy is driven by a passion for property and this allows her to offer a personal service and is not driven by meeting high targets. JFS are known for offering a stress free experience, keeping both tenants and clients up to date at all times and always being contactable.

Connor has recently joined JFS Properties and works as Commercial Property Assistant. JFS

has recently split their business and now has JFS Commercial Ltd, this is due to receiving more and more Commercial instructions and wishing to make more of a presence in this field.

JFS Properties and JFS Commercial covers all the of the South East, Kent and now branches out to London.

If you have a property you wish to rent or you're not happy with your existing management agent, why not pop into our office and speak to Joy or Connor and see how they can help you.

WRESTWOOD ROAD



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ST. LEONARDS ROAD



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- Currently trading as Freak shake and Smoothie bar
- A1 use only
- New lease terms negotiable
- Available from 1st October

£5,000 PER ANNUM

BERKELEY MANSIONS



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- Both rooms have en-suites
- Partly Furnished
- Available end of October
- Viewing highly recommended

£1,600 PCM



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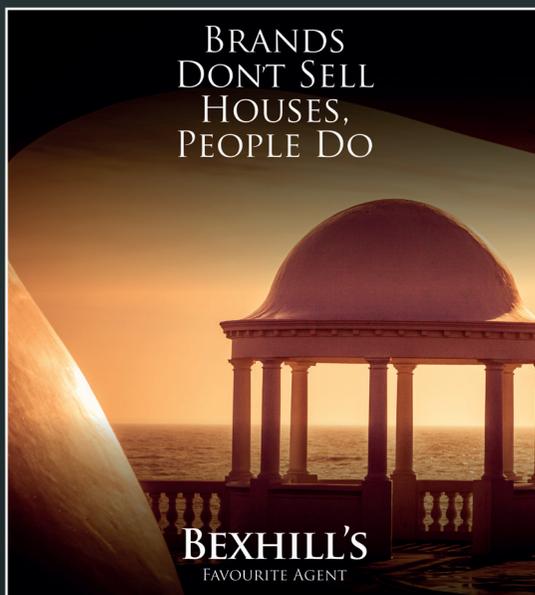
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We recently sold our house through Just Property at Bexhill. Siobhan came and took photos and guided us through the selling process. After one day she sold our house to a lovely couple. Throughout the whole time Siobhan and Tina kept us up to date with what was going on with our sale. Both were very professional and knowledgeable and made us feel very special. They also took away any stress we had along the way. We would 100% recommend Siobhan and Tina of Just Property Bexhill if you are thinking of selling your property 😊

30 August 2022



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We used Just Property at Bexhill to sell our Grade II listed house. We cannot say enough about Siobhan and the team. Totally professional together with warmth and empathy – entirely what you need when going through one of the most stressful periods of your life. I honestly think they are exceptional and would recommend them wholeheartedly.

20 September 2022

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HOW MUCH RENT IS YOUR BEXHILL PROPERTY WORTH?

ADVERTORIAL

As a landlord, you want to earn a good return on your property investment, but how do you decide what rent to charge? In the current market, rents are at an all-time high, but what's the fairest way to set your monthly price?

In this quick read, we look at how to calculate the right rental price for your property.

Check out the local area

While not all properties are the same, researching the local market is the first step towards finding out how much rent to charge.

Use a combination of local agent sites and nationwide property portals to do your research. Start with a general area check and then make it more postcode specific. Look at what landlords with similar properties (for example, a two-bed flat with one bath) in the same area are charging.

Does your property have a USP?

Factors such as outside space, private parking, modern fittings and proximity to transport and amenities will impact the amount of rent you can charge.

Don't get greedy

Yes, the demand for rental properties is currently high. However, it's worth remembering that tenants are extremely savvy and will have done their own research. You may lose out in the long run by setting your property's rent at the

highest level, as the price could put people off before they even arrange a viewing.

And even if you do secure a good tenant, they may move on quickly (meaning you have to go through the tenant selection process all over again) if they feel they are paying above market value.

Cover your expenses

While owning rental property is widely considered a sound investment, it's important to understand that monthly or annual rent is not pure profit. Ensure you've accounted for all your expenses such as mortgage payments, service charges and ground rent (for flats), taxes, utility bills, insurance and maintenance.

Use an experienced letting agent

You may want to avoid fees and find your own tenants; however, this can be risky as you won't have access to the same resources an agent has. An experienced agent can provide you with an accurate rental valuation, market your property, organise viewings and save you a lot of time and hassle (plus, you can claim agent fees as an expense on your tax bill).

If you need a rental valuation, or advice on managing your rental property please contact Lisa Harrod or James Bush at Redwell Estates on 01424 224242.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 27 (Deceased Estates)
Notice effective from 1 October 2022 to 3 December 2022

Mrs Audrey Adeline Talbot, died 1 August 2022.

Executor: Janice Davies c/o Flat 6 The Normans, Normandale, Bexhill-On-Sea, TN39 3NU. Pursuant to section 27 (Deceased Estates) of the Trustee Act 1925, persons with a claim against or interest in the above estate should contact the executor at the above address before 3 December 2022.



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CHARITY CRICKET TO SUPPORT SUICIDE PREVENTION

Teams from the NHS, Sussex Police, Hastings Direct and Bexhill Cricket Club took part in a charity cricket day last month which raised £2678 to support suicide prevention projects in Sussex.

The event, hosted at Bexhill Cricket Club, was in aid of Heads On, the charity of Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust which provides mental health and learning disability services across South East England.

The event saw Sussex Police come out on

top after six exciting matches, with the NHS team runners up. There was a great turnout from the local community who enjoyed a line-up of fun activities for all the family including glitter face painting, a bouncy castle, a band, BBQ and raffle. Raffle prizes included local restaurant meals, tickets to a Sussex County Cricket match and a kit bag with pads and gloves from Keely Cricket, who also donated the match balls for the day.

Abi Harley, Community and Individuals Fundraiser at Heads On, said: "We are

absolutely thrilled with the support for the event at the weekend. Suicide remains the biggest killer of young men and there's been a significant increase in the number of young women affected.

Funds raised will be used by Sussex Partnership Suicide Prevention Teams to go above and beyond what would normally be possible with NHS funding. Thanks to everyone involved, to those who donated to the event and to Bexhill Cricket Club for organising the day."

UNITED LADIES HOSTS EASTBOURNE IN 1-4 DEFEAT

Bexhill hosted Eastbourne United recently before a long trip to Hackney in early October for a FA Cup game.

In the early stages, starting strongly, Bexhill enjoyed plenty of possession, with chances created kept out by some good saves from the Eastbourne keeper. Against the run of play, Eastbourne took the lead, capitalising on momentary pressure on the Bexhill defence.

Bexhill equalised virtually straight from kick-off with a powerful run down the left wing and a good ball into the box calmly finished by Laura Swarbrooke. It stayed 1-1 for the remainder of the first half. Had it not been for some strong individual defensive work and the Eastbourne goalkeeper, Bexhill would have found themselves ahead at the break with some excellent creative work resulting in a



number of chances.

There were possession spells for both teams at the start of the second half, with a breakthrough coming around the hour mark for Eastbourne with a well-worked goal.

A corner for Eastbourne bundled home after it pin-balled in the area made it 3-1. Bexhill fought hard for the remainder of the game, sticking to the game plan and creating a number of opportunities but was not able to build on their single goal. A long ball and good finish in the late stages sealed the victory for Eastbourne.

Disappointed by the result, Bexhill will rue the chances they were unable to convert but will look to set this right in next week's Women's FA Cup game.

FUNDING ANNOUNCED TO TACKLE HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN BEXHILL AND ROTHER



A new funding programme to support and enable community and voluntary groups to reduce physical activity inequalities and deliver better health outcomes within the area has been launched.

The initiative has been made available by funds from East Sussex County Council's Public Health department. Funding will be used to enable groups to develop a place-based approach or approaches to support physical activity programmes that look to reduce health inequalities and improve health outcomes over a specified period.

The aim of the funding programme is to develop place-based approaches to supporting physical activity locally. These must focus on the impact that COVID-19 has had on the local sport, the physical activity sector and residents. The project will seek to identify and implement the actions needed to address the issues that have arisen due to the pandemic and support physical activity delivery and participation.

The funding programme is available to one or more delivery partners which can apply for between £1,000 and £15,000 for projects enabling residents to become more active.

Applications for funding are invited from voluntary and community organisations. The funding programme opened last month.

Research undertaken by Active Sussex identified older people, people living in deprived areas, disabled people/ people living with long-term health conditions and black and south Asian people as the four priority groups within Wealden most at risk of inactivity.

Councillor Philip Lunn, portfolio holder for Leisure, said, "We are thrilled to be able to increase the physical activity levels of the four priority groups. The funding is welcomed to tackle inactivity and promote inclusion across disadvantaged communities.

"We recognise that the pandemic has affected many people and this funding will address the issues that arose during the pandemic with lack of physical activity, delivery and participation."

If you would like an application form please email wellbeing@wealden.gov.uk. Applications must be received by the 28th October 2022.

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PAGE 30
FOOTBALL FUNDING



PAGE 30
CHARITY CRICKET

U18 NOVICE LADIES WIN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP



This year has seen the 65th Rowing Championship regatta hosted by Paignton Rowing Club in Torbay, Devon.

Bexhill Rowing Club travelled to the event along with a strong supporter's section to see some exciting racing and cheer on our qualifying crews.

The Club's first race of the day saw the Ladies Novice under 18 crew of Ebony Hutton-Mitchell (Stroke) Tanya Hutton-Mitchell, Taya Johnson, Gabrielle Ward & cox Darren Mitchell, storm home with a clear 6-length lead over the following crews. A prestigious win at an event that showcases Coastal Rowing's finest and an emphatic statement that there must surely be much more to come from this crew in the future.

Next up for the BRC came the Masters, 40+ A crew consisting of previous multiple Bideford Bowl winners Mark Mitchell, Matt Mitchell, Chris Mizen, Jon Osborn and coxed by Taya Johnson. This was always going to be a hard-fought race with Bowl winners, or prospective bowl winners, in almost every crew.

However, the boys vied for the lead from the start, pushing eventual winners BTC (Southampton) to the limit. Satisfied they

had done their best it was indeed an honourable second spot for the boys.

Then followed a notable show of sportsmanship, ever present in the rowing community, when the boys purposely and heartily congratulated the BTC Crew on their win.

The Ladies Junior crew were next up for the club, successfully gaining a place in the final by coming third in their heat, the ladies got underway in the final with a fine start and fought hard to keep in touch in a tight, evenly matched race, eventually coming 6th. It was a great experience for a crew that has much potential in the future.

Bexhill Members also joined with Worthing R.C. rowing in the Women's Junior U16 Quads to come 5th in their race, and the boys U14 Quads with Bexhill's Sebastian Ward, coming 3rd in their race.

The Paignton South Coast Championship Regatta was an event marked by supreme sporting endeavour on the sea, and unrivalled camaraderie on land, old friends were met and new friends were made.

For more details on the Bexhill Rowing Club, email bexhillrowingclub@gmail.com

WALKING FOOTBALL TEAM TAKES ON EASTBOURNE AT BOROUGH GROUNDS



The Bexhillians Walking Football Club played two 6-a-side friendlies recently at the Eastbourne Borough ground against the Eastbourne 68 and Overs.

It took a squad of 13 and over the two matches, everyone got some game time. Eastbourne had a squad of 9.

The first game was 20 minutes each way which was a challenge in the warm weather. The team acquitted themselves well for the first part of the first game until a speculative shot from the halfway line beat Raz Carey in his top left-hand corner. A second goal followed fairly quickly after when we lost concentration briefly against the well-drilled Eastbourne team. 2-0 to the hosts at half time.

They made three changes for the second half with Clive Hinton assuming attack responsibilities and one cracking shot from him was only just palmed away by the Eastbourne keeper. Unfortunately, Eastbourne helped themselves to another two goals in this half and the final score was 4-0 with Raz pulling off some great saves to keep the score down to that.

For the second game (15 minutes each way) they completely changed the outfield 5 and it paid off as the score at half time was 0-0. Then immediately after the break a misjudged back-pass led to our hosts nicking a 1-0 lead. However, Bexhill created plenty of chances and John Ewen even managed to put the ball in the Eastbourne net, only for the referee to have blown up for an earlier infringement.

Again, Raz was kept busy but no more goals were conceded and the final result was a narrow 1-0 victory for Eastbourne.

Bexhill Men Of The Matches - Raz Carey and John Martin
These friendlies were the first time our Seniors have played together for a while and they should not be discouraged by the results. Eastbourne fielded a well-organised squad who trained together regularly and used their rolling subs more judiciously than Bexhill did.

The games were played in a good spirit by both teams and thanks have been passed on to Eastbourne for their hospitality.

The Old Bexhillians are a walking football club comprising some 50 plus players, male and female, and hold regular sessions at Bexhill locations. Contact Mike Davies on 07961998743 and email mickdavies48@gmail.com

SNOOKER LEAGUE UPDATE

The Bexhill and District Snooker League got its new season underway with a well-attended AGM and Presentation Evening, at the Conservative Club in Bexhill recently.

Gary Edwards, Dave Burchett and Stuart Funnell were re-elected to the Committee for the new season as Secretary, Treasurer and Competitions Secretary respectively with Lyndon Rose taking over as Chairman and Leo Mitchell taking over as Internet Manager.

Gary Edwards reported there are likely to be nine teams in the league this year

and that the proposed date for starting matches will be Thursday 3rd November. This date is reliant on getting all team registrations in and a deadline date for this will be Thursday 20th October.

Following the AGM, the Presentation Evening took place for competition winners over the past season. The two big winners of the evening were Steve Worts and Kim Fuller who each won four various trophies including team and individual events.

The Committee thanked all players for their attendance and that the league look forward to another successful season in the coming months.



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