



## Operation Watershed

Operation Watershed is an £8.25 million commitment by West Sussex County Council (WSCC) to invest in highway drainage and environmental improvements in areas of the county worst affected by last year's localised flooding. £1.25m of this funding has been allocated to encourage communities to act against flooding.

As a result of WSCC's investigations into the causes of Sea Lane's flooding in June and December 2012, with the assistance of its residents, improvements to the surface water drainage were undertaken. These were completed in July, and consisted of the installation of a soakaway connecting into the Workhouse outfall (on the beach), the piping of the open ditch (west side of the tarmac path), the replacement of a section of pipework across part of the entrance to Tamarisk Way, and the replacement of a root-infested section of pipe on the south "island".

WSCC will be investigating the section of highway between The Ridings and Two Acres in Sea Lane.

There will be a public meeting on **Saturday, 7th September** (10am-4pm) in the Village Hall (Miller Barn) where parishioners will be able to find out more about

WSCC's free one-off ditch clearing offer; help to identify areas in East Preston which are affected for periods after heavy rainfall eg. on the highway, in gardens and properties etc, and the location of existing and "lost" ditches. The Deeds for a property would record ditch information. Should you require confidential advice on insurance, following flooding, this can be obtained from the National Flood Forum (01743 741725 [www.floodforum.org.uk](http://www.floodforum.org.uk)).

Please contact the Council Office for further information.



**Sea Lane : New catchpit between soakaway (on the beach) and newly piped ditch**

## Anti-Social Driving

Operation Crackdown is a joint initiative supported by Sussex Safer Roads Partnership (SSRP), Sussex Police and all local authorities in the county. It is a system that enables anyone to report anti-social driving and abandoned vehicles, either online or by phone.

Anti-social driving can be driving that is careless, deliberately aggressive or dangerous. If you see this type of behaviour it is important that you report it, so it can be dealt with in the most appropriate way.

Incidents can be reported, either via [www.operationcrackdown.org](http://www.operationcrackdown.org), or by calling 01243 642222, for those who do not have access to the internet.

Members of the public who are reporting incidents must remember, where possible, the registration number of the vehicle, the make, model and the colour, so the police can identify the vehicle concerned and make contact with the offender.

Every report received through Operation Crackdown is viewed and a decision is made against set criteria on how best to deal with it. In the majority of cases a letter of advice is sent to the driver or rider, but a report to Operation Crackdown can also lead to arrest and possible conviction, depending on the seriousness of the offence.

## Councillor Patrick Radbourne

It is with sadness we announce Patrick died suddenly on Sunday, 21st July. Patrick joined the council in March 2012, and will be familiar to many residents from his work cycling to every road in the village earlier in the year, photographing every pothole and forwarding them to West Sussex County Council for action. Patrick was also behind the community bunting idea that residents have taken part in, was a tree warden and helped out in the office. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.

# The Friends of St Mary's Church



The village of East Preston has existed for a long time. The community of Preston, from which East Preston has grown, was mentioned in the Domesday Book. It is now a village with a population of 6,000, but centuries ago, it was just a small farming community supporting, probably, some 20 to 30 families. Over the centuries there have been many changes, but there is one building that has remained constant throughout this time and is still in active use today. It is the parish church of St Mary the Virgin. The earliest known date for the church is

1150, although there may well have been a Saxon burial ground on the site before that. In 1150 the nave, i.e. the main body of the church, was built, with the chancel and tower being added at later dates.

The fabric of the church has seen good times and bad times. In 1772, the church was said to be "in a ruinous state". Fortunately there were some local benefactors, in particular the Henty, Olliver and Warren families, who funded repairs and additions to the church. These included a new roof and the addition of the south aisle.

The church continues to need maintenance, as do all buildings. Today we cannot rely on the lord of the manor to fund this work. That is why the Friends of St Mary's was formed. Its aim is to raise funds to restore and maintain the church. It was founded by a group of local people, not all of whom were regular churchgoers, who saw St Mary's church as part of the heritage of East Preston and wanted to preserve it. If you would like to know more about the Friends of St Mary's, then you are welcome to e-mail me, Jack Cogman, at [jack.cogman@btinternet.com](mailto:jack.cogman@btinternet.com).

## Parish Council Committee News

The Parish Council operates with the following six committees: Amenities; Audit & Governance; Community Engagement; Finance & General Purposes; Personnel and Planning. In the next few Newsletter issues we will give you a brief overview of each committee's activities, starting with Amenities, chosen because it has the largest budget and its activities are most noticeable throughout the village.

Take a mental trip around the village – see the flower displays, sit on one of the benches for a rest, take your children and grandchildren to play in the Warren Recreation Ground playground, escape from the rain in a wooden bus shelter – these are some of the things for which the Amenities Committee is responsible.

You might sit on one of the picnic benches on the Village Green and you might even have a game of boule. We look after the trees and hedges around the Village Green, Warren Recreation Ground and Two Acres. We are responsible for the public toilet blocks at both South Strand and Sea Road. Also we keep you informed through parish notice boards.

Unfortunately we recently had two benches in

the children's playground completely destroyed by vandals meaning that these cannot be used throughout the summer until they have been replaced. We are fortunate in the village that we do not get too much vandalism as it seems most people and the teenagers especially seem to appreciate the facilities that are provided.

This year, responding to comments you made in our 2012 Community Survey, the public tennis court is now free to use, which based on the large number of people using it, has been a great success.

We are in the process of renewing both the grounds maintenance and the flower planting contracts.

We have been reliably informed that the lamp posts should be renewed in the New Year. We have been waiting for this to happen for quite some time as it has stopped us putting both the flower baskets and our Christmas lighting on the existing concrete ones.

If you would like more information on the work of the committee, please contact me via the Council Office - **Rob Ellis, Chairman of the Amenities Committee.**

## Dog fouling pilot already proving successful

Officers monitoring known dog fouling hotspots in the Arun district have seen a positive response to their first few weeks of patrols. Arun District Council is trialling a firmer approach to tackling the issue of dog fouling in response to public concerns about dog excrement – which is not only unpleasant but could cause blindness in youngsters.

Environmental Enforcement Officers from specialist firm Kingdom Security have been patrolling Arun's streets and parks since Monday 3rd June 2013, tasked with issuing Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) of £80 to anyone breaching laws around dog fouling, littering and dog control problems.

To date, at least one FPN has been issued in East Preston.

The four-month pilot scheme is backed up by Sussex Police who have made both PCs and PCSOs available to issue FPNs. Safer Arun Partnership is also keen to work with residents to help them clean up their neighbourhoods to make them more pleasant places to live. East Preston Parish Council will be considering part-funding a permanent version of this scheme. Arun District Council's Cabinet Member for Environmental Services Councillor Paul Dendle said: "Many dog owners are keen to improve the environment in which they exercise their pets and help the Council make the district a safer place for everyone to use and enjoy. I would encourage these responsible dog owners to tell the Council if they spot irresponsible behaviour from others."

Responsible dog walkers who spot others letting their dogs foul without cleaning it up can contact the District Council's Parks Team. Please provide as much information as possible, including times, locations and descriptions of the owner and their dog.

Email [parks@arun.gov.uk](mailto:parks@arun.gov.uk) or 01903 737955

## Baytree Lunch Club

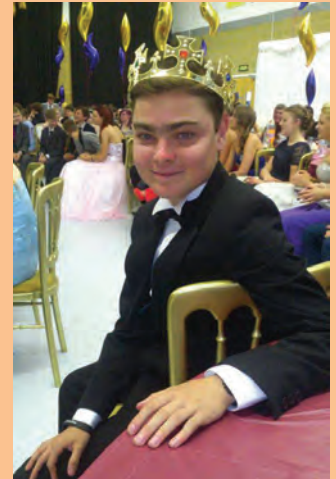
A community club for people over 55 living in and around East Preston, welcomes new members. We meet at the Village Hall on Fridays from 11am till 2pm. Coffee and tea on arrival, raffle, a 2 course lunch and bingo, an enjoyable way to meet new people and make friends. Contact Carol Feasey on 01903 784708 for further information.

## Please don't pin notices to our trees

With especial regard to the Horse Chestnut tree situated on the verge outside of Cooper Adams Estate Agents, in Sea Road, could people refrain from tacking notices onto it and any tree in the village. There are public noticeboards available for this purpose, without having to cause damage to this wonderful landmark in our village.

## King for a night; doctor for life

This is Oliver Rumbol, 16, who was crowned Prom King at Angmering School's annual prom on 21st June. Oli, who will be starting 6th Form in Brighton in September and hopes to study medicine and become a doctor, was also deemed "Most likely to invent the cure for cancer" at the Prom.



Describing how he felt about being Prom King, Oli said, "I was ecstatic upon receiving my awards. They meant a great deal to me, and it felt fabulous knowing how highly my friends regard me. Everyone has been so supportive of me in school, especially when I have been unwell. I have always tried my hardest in school, and have often helped my classmates when they were struggling with their schoolwork, and it always seemed greatly appreciated. I don't think I will ever forget the cheers and comments when I got voted Prom King. As for the cure for cancer, I'm really interested in science and I would just love to be able to help people with medical problems."

Mum Shirley, who works at East Preston Infant School, said, "I think Oliver's peers voted for him to be the person most likely to find a cure for cancer as he loves science and was known by many of his teachers as 'the little professor' - he does a lot of reading outside the sciences taught at school and often questions and wants to learn more. He took his maths GCSE a year early when his teacher kindly allowed him to learn the course himself from the text book and achieved an A\*. So I guess it's his tenacity and enthusiasm for learning and solving problems together with wanting to help others that got him this vote.

"I was just so proud and pleased for Oli that he got voted Prom King. I know I'm very biased as his mum, but I think he's such an amazing, positive and determined boy who always seems to have a smile on his face, so it was so great to see the huge smile he had when he came home with his awards. Oli suffers from Cystic Fibrosis (CF) and has had a bad year with three bouts of hospital admissions, but he always remains so positive and determined to get the very most out of life and not let his CF get in the way of him doing that. He hadn't been very well on the day of the prom, but dosed up on all his meds determined as ever to enjoy the evening with his friends. The awards he got helped to make the evening a very special one for him."

The Parish Council wishes Oli all the best in his plans to become a doctor and hopefully he will find that cure for cancer.



# Angmering-on-sea Lawn Tennis Club

Over the last three months the club has undergone major changes in terms of the coaching staff.

Andrew Cook, who was previously the Junior Tennis Pro at David Lloyd Worthing, has joined as Head Coach and has recruited Keelan Oakley, who competes on the ATP international tennis tour, and David Savage. With the help of Brian Lee, this team will take the club forward.

With Andy Murray winning Wimbledon and the run of good weather the club is thriving. There is now a Junior Coaching Programme in place, incorporating Mini Tennis, where children between the ages of 4 and 17 are catered for. In addition, all junior members have the opportunity to participate in free coaching sessions on Saturday mornings. During the summer holiday there has been a Junior Club Tournament and Tennis Summer Camps.

On the adult side, with six free hosted sessions run weekly by club professionals, the club is really busy. We also offer a Monday night coaching session where non-members can attend for £10 per session. Floodlighting and balls for use during the hosted sessions are free.



There are opportunities for competitive play ranging from the recently organised club Touch Tennis Tournament, which attracted entries across the age range, to the Boys U16s, the Girls U16s, five Men's and five Ladies' teams. We also have two Men's and two Mixed Vets teams and tournaments are run throughout the year for members who do not aspire to league tennis but who wish to play competitive tennis.

If you need more information about the club or have any queries please don't hesitate to contact the Head Coach on 07940 419655 or [andrew.cooktennis@btinternet.com](mailto:andrew.cooktennis@btinternet.com).

## A Polite Request to Village Green Users

If you are one of the many users of the Village Green, please be mindful of the following:-

1. Please avoid encroaching on space being used by other people.
2. Please respect people living around the Green by avoiding excessive noise, bad language and damage to property.
3. Please respect trees and plants by not climbing or vandalising.
4. Please respect benches and picnic tables.
5. Please use the bins provided for your litter or take your litter home with you.
6. Please keep dogs under control and use dog bags and dog bins to dispose of your dog's mess.
7. Please play only casual games; larger or more organised games should be played on the Warren and Lashmar Recreation Grounds.

If everyone follows the above code, then all users of the Village Green will have an enjoyable time and neighbours will not be unduly disturbed. Thank you. ☺



## Attention all Dog Owners

**Please do not take dogs into the Children's Playgrounds or onto the Public Tennis Court. Safety and dog fouling is a concern for parents and these areas should be respected as dog free zones. Signage will be put up to reinforce this.**

**Also, there have been several complaints about dogs running loose on the beach and frightening young children and fouling near to where they are playing. Please keep your dogs under control if they are running loose and be mindful that some children are frightened of dogs.**

**Please contact the office if you would like a large print version of this newsletter.**



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