

# Upper Beeding Parish Council News

The Magazine for the Parish of Upper Beeding, Small Dole and Edburton



Chairman of Parish Council - David Coldwell - david.coldwell@btinternet.com  
Editor - Mary French - maryfrench@tiscali.co.uk

Although not many people in the Parish attend council meetings regularly, and anybody can attend, this is a good opportunity to tell you that the Council has recently changed its schedule of meetings in an effort to enhance participation in meetings and, at the same time, reduce the amount of time spent at meetings.

The full Council now meets on the first Tuesday of every month (except August) and the Finance & General Purposes Committee has been disbanded. Both the Sports & Leisure and Amenities Committees meet in odd numbered months on the third Tuesday. There is a new committee, Policy and Resources, which will meet every four months or so and this committee will deal with larger policy issues and budgets; this committee cannot decide on issues but will recommend actions to the council on those matters it has discussed.

Most of you will be aware of the Freedom of Information Act under which a great deal of information may be demanded from governmental organisations. The Council has recently adopted a 'Model Publications Scheme' which is a requirement of the Act and details all the documents which are available from the Council under the Act. The list is on the notice boards and is also available on the Council web site – see the top of the page for the address.

On the subject of the web site, it was recently drawn to Council attention that some of the documents were not as up to date as they should have been. This situation has now been rectified and additionally records at Steyning library have been up dated.

Parish Information. As you know Agenda for Council meetings are posted on the notice boards in Upper Beeding (2) and Small Dole. Whilst minutes etc. may be found on the web site, it has been suggested that some people might wish to have information sent to them by e-mail; quite what would be requested I don't know although agenda for meetings has been suggested. I mention this now to ask if there is sufficient interest in this or indeed in any other form of electronic information publishing that can be arranged by the Parish Council. Ideas please to the Clerk at the address above.

Finally, I wish you all the very best for the forthcoming Christmas season, and the New Year to follow.

*David Coldwell.*



**LATE NIGHT CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENT**  
**High Street, Steyning**  
**Wednesday 3rd December**



## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN STEYNING DISTRICT

### Christmas Services 2008

#### St Andrew's Steyning, Church of England

Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	6.30pm	Candlelit Advent Carol Service
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	6.30pm	Candlelit Christmas Carol Service
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December	6-6.45pm	A Christmas Meditation
Christmas Eve (24 <sup>th</sup> Dec)	11.30am	Eucharist
	4.30pm	Crib Service
	11.30pm	Midnight Eucharist
Christmas Day (25 <sup>th</sup> Dec)	8.00am	Eucharist
	9.30am	Family Eucharist

#### St James' Ashurst

Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	11.00am	Christingle Service
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	4.00pm	Village Carol Service by candlelight
Christmas Eve (24 <sup>th</sup> Dec)	3.30-4pm	A Christmas Meditation
Christmas Day (25 <sup>th</sup> Dec)	8.00am	Eucharist
	9.30am	Family Service

(Further information St Andrew's & St James phone 01903 812356 or 01903 813276)

#### Church of Christ the King Steyning (RC)

Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	11.am	Family Mass
Christmas Eve (24 <sup>th</sup> Dec)	11.30pm	Carols and Readings - Leading to Midnight Mass
Christmas Day (25 <sup>th</sup> Dec)	11.00am	Family Mass

(Further information phone 01273 452654)

#### Steyning Methodist Church

Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	4pm	Café Christmas Carols with mince pies
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	10.30am	Nativity Service
	4pm	Carol Service
Christmas Day (25 <sup>th</sup> Dec)	11.30am	Christmas Morning Worship

(Further information phone 01903 744984)

#### Beeding Baptist Church

Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30am	Family Nativity Service
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	6.30pm	Candlelight Carol Service
Christmas Day (25 <sup>th</sup> Dec)	10.00am	Christmas Day Celebration

(Further Information phone 01903 815944)

#### Convent of the Blessed Sacrament Upper Beeding (RC)

Christmas Day (25 <sup>th</sup> Dec)	10.00am	Mass
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(Further information phone 01903 812185)

#### St Peter's Upper Beeding (Anglican)

#### St Nicholas' Church Bramber Castle (Anglican)

#### St Botolph's Church, Botolphs (Anglican)

NB at the time of going to press due to the Inter Regnum there is no information available about Christmas services at these three churches.

For information at Christmas time phone the

Parish Administrator on: 01903 814934

**The Ministers and People of Churches Together in Steyning District wish you a very happy Christmas**

Calling all Brownies and Guides Carols at Christ The King on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 3.30pm followed by Mince pies!

You are all welcome to join us for the informal Café Style Carols and Mince pies at the Methodist Church on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm



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## SMALL DOLE SUMMER SHOW

The 2008 show on 16th August was a great success. The attendance was huge, the best for many years, with 550 exhibits in the large marquee. The show included a fun dog show, children's amusements and live music from Patcham Silver band, demonstrations by Tottington Woodlanders, and many stalls by local charities.

The summer show is not only an opportunity for display of horticultural and other exhibits, but is a social occasion for Small Dole and perhaps the only time of the year when our people can meet each other. It is expected that the running costs will be covered this year with possibly a few pounds excess.

The show can only be run with the help of volunteers. May we thank publicly all those who assisted in setting up the show, the hard work of those who provided the excellent catering and not least all who entered such magnificent exhibits. The huge support for the show indicates that it is much enjoyed and still going strong after 64 years. The show is nominally organised the Small Dole Horticultural Society, which no longer has a formal subscribing membership but concentrates on mounting the summer show. The unelected committee is small, meeting only a few times each year. We need all the help we can get. Anyone who is keen on keeping the show going is welcome to join the committee, or volunteer to help during the week of the show. Call 01273 492855.

## BEEDING & BRAMBER OVER 60'S CLUB

(Any age Welcome)

Meet at the Village Hall every 2nd & 4th Tuesday, between 2 - 4 p.m. for a Social Get Together with Tea & Biscuits. We also have Bingo, speakers, flower arrangements, Bring & Buy, outings, etc. (not at the same time of course!)

Why not come and meet us; or telephone our Secretary, Janet on 01903 815312.

## SMALL DOLE TUESDAY CLUB

Small Dole Tuesday Club was formed when the W.I. closed. The club meets in Small Dole Village Hall on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. New members are very welcome.

**Programme:**

January 2009	AGM and Peggy Weeks with "Mad Hatters Quiz"
February	Flowers Images & Others to Music with David Barrett
March	Bobbies Dolls Houses
April	Spring Party with Shuffle Board Competition



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## UPPER BEEDING VILLAGE HALL

Have you visited **Your Village Hall** recently? This summer new radiators and associated pipe work were installed. During the work damp was found in the two back rooms, the old damp proof course had collapsed, this has been remedied. The work involved removing the affected plaster from the rooms and re-plastering as well as having a new damp course installed. The total cost of this work has been over £11000. We were able to get some grant aid for the work (£3500) but a lot of money came from the Hall's reserves. The walls in the back rooms have been decorated by volunteers but the ceilings are being done by a local painter. The next stage in the renovation is the painting of the entrance hall and corridors - all to be done by volunteers! Can you help?

**Please Sir, can we have more?** Obviously with so much happening at the Hall we have to have an active fund raising programme. Please support our efforts as it is through these that we are able to maintain the Hall so that it is one of the best in the area. Enter a team in our regular **Quiz Night**. The first one was a success with several of the teams asking for more. Look out for the posters. Those planned for 2009 are on Wednesdays: 25 February, 29 April, 17 June, 26 August, 28 October and 16 December. The Indoor Boot Sales are well supported. More are planned for next year on Saturdays: 21 February, 21 March, then they resume in September.

An Easter Fair is planned for 28 March with an **Easter Bonnet** competition for children and adults. More about this later, but watch this space! *Jean Armour-Milne*

## THURSDAY CLUB

The Upper Beeding Thursday Club meets alternate Thursdays at Beeding Village Hall to take part in various activities, inside and outside the hall and be entertained by a variety of speakers. Why not join us for tea/coffee and a free raffle as well as the main evening event. There is no annual subscription – just £2.50 per night (but to keep us solvent we ask for a 50p retainer if you cannot make any evening). For further information please phone Chairman, Marion Emery: 01903 813014.

## BEEDING & BRAMBER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Despite the wet summer, enough flowers and vegetables were found for another successful show together with cookery, photography and crafts. We have been pleased to welcome several new allotment holders to our Society recently. The Society holds two shows each year, in spring and late summer and organises an annual seed and plant order at discounted prices. Membership only costs £2 per annum. If you are interested, ring 812847 for details.



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*Your top five tips for keeping warm and well*

### Heat your home well

By setting your heat to the right temperature (between 18-21C and 64-70F) you can still keep your home warm and lower your bills. If you feel cold at night, use a hot water bottle or electric blanket – but never use both together.

### Get financial support

There are grants, benefits and sources of advice available to make your home more energy efficient, improve your heating or help with bills. Its worthwhile claiming all the benefits you're entitled to.

### Eat Well

Food is a vital source of energy, which helps to keep your body warm. Try to make sure you and your family have hot meals and drinks regularly throughout the day.

### Get a flu Jab

If you or your children have a long-term health condition, speak to your GP.

### Look after yourself and others

Remember to wrap up warm if you need to go outside on cold days. If you have an older neighbour or relative, look out for them during winter to make sure they are safe and well.

*Extract taken from the "Keep Warm Keep well" guide for families produced by the Department of Health.*

## HANDYVAN SERVICE

The District Council in partnership with Saxon Weald has recently launched the Handy Van Service. The service is available to people over 60 years of age, victims of crime and other vulnerable groups. They will carry out small repairs and minor adaptations such as fitting door chains, smoke alarms, tap washers, putting up curtain rails etc. The service costs £17.50 and this covers call out and up to two hours of work. Materials will be charged separately. To use the service ring 01403 226005.

## BEEDING IN BLOOM

Upper Beeding was awarded a SILVER GILT in the South East in Bloom Competition this year. Thank you to everyone who helped us. Please complete the following Questionnaire:

**QUESTIONNAIRE:** Please return to Beeding In Bloom, care of Beeding News, in the High Street

Please complete and return this questionnaire to help us plan future projects.

1. What strikes you about the appearance of the village?
2. What would improve the look of the village?
3. How would this be achieved?
4. Are you able to help?

Name:

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**Forthcoming Events in the District**  
**Compiled by Steyning & District Community Partnership**  
**JANUARY**

- 7<sup>th</sup> Beeding & Bramber History Society  
 "Exploring the South Downs" with Andy Horton  
 Photographer  
 Beeding Village Hall 7.45pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> Bramber Parish Council Meeting  
 Beeding & Bramber Village Hall 7.30pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> Ashurst Parish Council Meeting  
 Village Hall 8pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> Steyning Parish Council Meeting  
 7.30pm Steyning Centre
- 13<sup>th</sup> Small Dole Tuesday Club, Village Hall 7.30pm  
 "AGM & Mad Hatters Quiz"
- 14<sup>th</sup> Steyning History Society, Steyning Centre 7.30pm  
 "Sussex Downland Issues – A Brief History"
- 14<sup>th</sup> 3B's Women's Group,  
 Gladys Bevan Hall Church Lane Beeding 8pm  
 Talk on "The Olympics" by Chris Carter
- 18<sup>th</sup> Steyning & Ashurst Conservation Volunteers  
 Meet Fletchers Croft 9.30am Finish 1pm  
 Contact 01903 813938

**FEBRUARY**

- 9<sup>th</sup> Steyning Parish Council Meeting  
 7.30pm Steyning Centre
- 10<sup>th</sup> Small Dole Tuesday Club, Village Hall 7.30pm  
 "Flowers Images and Others to Music"
- 11<sup>th</sup> Steyning History Society  
 "The Wild West Frontier to Modern America"  
 Steyning Centre 7.30pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> 3B's Women's Group 8pm  
 Gladys Bevan Hall Church Lane Beeding  
 "Steyning Patient Participation Group"  
 JuneKennard
- 15<sup>th</sup> Steyning & Ashurst Conservation Group
- 25<sup>th</sup> Quiz Night Village Hall Upper Beeding

**MARCH**

- 10<sup>th</sup> Small Dole Tuesday Club, Village Hall 7.30pm  
 "Bobbies Dolls Houses"
- 11<sup>th</sup> "Beauties and Beaux from the 1780's"  
 Steyning History Society Steyning Centre 7.30pm  
 3B's Women's Group 8pm  
 Gladys Bevan Hall Church Lane Beeding  
 Talk by Lesley Dann, "Kenya Street Children"
- 14<sup>th</sup> Lambing at Coombes Lancing  
 See the new born lambs & calves.  
 9.30am-4pm Through to 19<sup>th</sup> April
- 15<sup>th</sup> Steyning & Ashurst Conservation Group  
 Meet Fletchers Croft 9.30am, finish 1pm  
 Details 01903 813938
- 28<sup>th</sup> Spring Flower Show Steyning Centre 2.30pm  
 Steyning Horticultural Society
- 28<sup>th</sup> Easter Fair with "Easter Bonnet Competition"  
 Village Hall Upper Beeding



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The **Neighbourhood Wardens** can be contacted on 07734 387888 (Paul) and 07734 387889 (Kylie), 01903 813236 (Office). Please note they are not an emergency service and in an emergency always dial 999. PCSO Andy Reed and the Police can also be contacted on the non-emergency number below. It is important to ring the Police on this number and report all incidents, even if they appear trivial, it is only in this way that a proper record of incidents, crime and anti-social behaviour can be maintained for the District.

**PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THE WARDENS ARE NOT THE POLICE, IF YOU ARE AWARE OR INVOLVED IN ANY INCIDENT FOR WHICH YOU WOULD NORMALLY CONTACT THE POLICE THEN PLEASE DO SO BY EITHER USING THE NON URGENT 0845 60 70 999 OR IN THE CASE OF AN EMERGENCY 999**

## HORSHAM VOLUNTEER CENTRE

With winter here again this could be the time to consider volunteering and in doing so meet new people, make use of existing skills or develop new interests. There are many indoor activities such as helping at Day Centres, Youth Clubs, family support work or visiting the elderly as well as one-to-one opportunities which support people of all ages with special needs and health problems. For those who prefer to be out and about, some conservation groups meet up over the winter months and there is always a need for drivers to provide transport for the elderly or housebound. Across the district volunteers act as advisors, mediators, committee members, and in many other interesting and rewarding roles.

For information, advice and introductions, contact Horsham Volunteer Centre:  
01403 232100, email: horshamvolunteer@btconnect.com Website:  
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## STEYNING (& DISTRICT) CHAMBER OF TRADE

The principle objective of the Chamber is "To encourage the association of traders, merchants, professional persons and others in membership, to further trading, commercial and professional interest of the Steyning Area." The Chamber was established in 1991, and has about 70 members from Steyning, Upper Beeding, Bramber, Ashurst, Partridge Green and Wiston.

The Chamber organises two major events in the year, one being the **Steyning**

**Late Night Christmas Shopping event**, this year on **Wednesday, 3 December**. The other event is the Steyning Country Fair, held in May. There is also the local Farmers Market held on the first Saturday of the month in the Steyning High Street car park.

The Chamber will have a stall at the Steyning Late Night Christmas Shopping Event to promote its members and to act as a "shop window" for those that do not have a high street premises. Please visit our stall to find out more about the Chamber of Trade. For more information contact Robin French, (local Beeding area contact) on 07796 607 542, email [maintenance.robin@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:maintenance.robin@tiscali.co.uk)

### Editor's Note:

If you have an article or any information for the Parish Council Newsletter (not exceeding 250 words) please send this to reach me **by 28 February 2008**, for inclusion in the next newsletter.

[maryfrench@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:maryfrench@tiscali.co.uk)

*Mary French, Editor*

**Ian J. V. Ivatt**

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## BEEDING & BRAMBER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Our remaining meeting of this year is our Christmas Social on Wednesday 10 December in the Village Hall, for members and their guests only.

Our first meeting of 2009 will be on Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 7.45 pm in the Village Hall, when we will explore the South Downs above the Adur Valley with Andy Horton, wildlife writer and photographer from Shoreham.

The annual subscription of £5 per person, or £9 for two people at the same address will then be due, but non-members are always welcome at £1 per meeting. For further details telephone: 812847, email: [history.beeding@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:history.beeding@mypostoffice.co.uk)

### Wake Up! Check your smoke alarm

To make sure your smoke alarm keeps working carry out the following simple checks:

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Check the battery pressing the test button, or, if your alarm has the facility, by using the flashlight test.

Once a year:

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<b>Frank Grantham</b>	<b>District Councillor</b>	Old Errington Farm, Steyning Rd, Shoreham-by-Sea, BN43 5FD	07759 827515



### THE MOBILE WASTE GOBBLER

will be in the Library Car Park, Steyning on Saturday 13th December. Saturdays 17th and 31st Jan. Sunday 4th Jan. From 9am until 3.30pm. Only domestic waste will be accepted.

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## HISTORY OF UPPER BEEDING, Part 11, William de Braose

After the Norman Conquest in 1066, William the Conqueror divided the land between his henchmen – the Barons who had supported him. Sussex was already divided into Rapes: long strips of land starting on the south coast, each with a river and a port and extending inland as far as the weald. In this way different types of land were included such as coastal plain, downland pasture, arable and forest. In exchange for defending their portion of coast and their support in any wars, the Barons could profit from the wealth of their land, much of which was transferred to their homeland in Normandy. The Rape of Bramber was carved out of the Rapes of Arundel and Lewes and given to Baron William de Braose, who became first Lord of Bramber.

Each baron built a castle at a suitable vantage point, William de Braose building his at Bramber. He must have felt quite at home there as he based the design on his one in Briouze, Normandy (which is no longer standing). Where Briouze was surrounded by marshland and fishponds, Bramber Castle overlooked the estuary of the River Adur, where an expanse of mud was exposed at each low tide. The castle began with the motte or mound in the middle, crowned with a wooden fort. By 1073 the main castle was built of stone imported from Caen in Normandy and local flints. William also built Bramber church, which once had a semi-circular apse at one end, and had another built like it in Briouze. The one in Briouze still has its apse and part of the chancel, but no tower, and has fallen into disuse, whereas at Bramber the apse has gone, but the church is still used and well cared for. When the Amis du Houlme, the local history society of the Briouze area, visited Bramber, they were thrilled to see the church in use and the castle keep, still treasured by local people.

By 1073, William also appears to have replaced the wooden Saxon church at Beeding with one of stone, some of which survives in the base of the tower of the present church. William installed a few monks at Bramber to pray for his soul (which was important to people at the time) and burials were made in Bramber churchyard. He also started to charge tolls on ships going upriver to the port of St Cuthman. This and other matters infuriated the monks of Fécamp, already established in Steyning. In 1086, they took their complaint to the King, William the Conqueror, who found in their favour, so all the dead in Bramber churchyard had to be reburied at Steyning! The Steyning monks celebrated, by replacing the old wooden church of St. Cuthman with the wonderful church of St. Andrew that stands today.

As he did not trust the Steyning monks to adequately pray for his soul, William had already decided to install some monks in a priory of his own. There being no room at Bramber, some time after 1080, he built the Priory of Sele at Beeding, close to where the house called Beeding Priory stands today, the cloisters adjoining the north wall of the church. A cell of Benedictine monks from the Abbey of St Florent, near Saumur in France was installed there. St Florent was endowed with the income of the churches of St. Nicholas at Bramber, St. Botolphs, St. Nicholas in Old Shoreham and others, with which to maintain Sele Priory, St Peter's church and the one in Briouze.

In earlier times there were places where the river could be forded at low tide, otherwise a boat was used, but after the conquest a causeway was gradually built across the marshland between Beeding and Bramber, with a wooden bridge or bridges over the main streams of the river. It was the duty of the monks of Sele to repair and maintain these bridges and in 1200 a document records them being allowed timber for such repair. The last mention of William de Braose was in his church at Briouze in 1093. By 1096 his son Philip was issuing charters, so William must have died between those dates.

References: *Bramber, Glimpses of a Village and Beeding, History of a Village*, edited by Alison Noble.

de Braose website: [http://freespace.virgin.net/doug.thompson/Braose Web/family/home.html](http://freespace.virgin.net/doug.thompson/Braose%20Web/family/home.html)

## STEYNING 'BIODEGRADABLE' BAG CAMPAIGN NOW BEGINS

A working party or sub committee, has been established by the Chamber of Trade (C.O.T.) to decide how best to plan for the virtual disappearance of the plastic bag in Steyning. The Chamber, via this group, is now contacting its members, some of whom have already started to use non-plastic alternative bags. We have taken soundings from our colleagues in the Henfield community, who support us wholeheartedly, so that we can press on with our project. Our grateful thanks to them for their encouragement. We have also kept Horsham District Council (H.D.C.) apprised of our endeavours and our thanks to Louise Skipton-Carter in this respect. Our local Councillors will be fully conversant as to what we are undertaking and we will be contacting our local M.P., Mr. Nick Herbert, seeking his endorsement.

Steyning Primary School have agreed to see what the school children can come up with by way of a design linking the replacement of the plastic bag with the supportive logo advertising in some way, that shopping in Steyning is very desirable. The Chamber has offered a prize for the best design!

The local Co-Operative store will see if it will be possible to locate a recycling or disposal bin for existing bags in store, which I believe, once established, will be a positive move forward.

You will be hearing more about how the project is progressing. It is essential that the argument to phase out, as far as is possible, plastic bag usage is undertaken in a reasoned and sensible way. Persuasion is, I believe, the best approach. Watch this space!

*Ian Ivatt, (on behalf of C.O.T. Sub-Committee)*

## CAR PARKING

The work on the High Street Car Park wall in Steyning, will start, we are told, in February but will not be completed before Easter. ***As you will have noticed, the one hour disc parking for this car park is now in operation, to deter drivers overstaying the permitted one hour.***

The new parking at the rear of Steyning library is now in use by the school and can be used by the general public after 4.30 p.m weekdays, at weekends and during school holidays. This extra parking has freed up some more space in the Fletcher's Croft car park. Some of the temporary spaces installed while the Health Centre was in Feltcher's Croft have now been re-instated to grass.

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