

Hadlow Down Village Magazine October 2026



Hi Everyone

The lyrics of the Silkstone song the 'Rain has Come, came to mind this week, as the heavens opened and we saw 22cms of rainfall in parts of the country. How in a couple of days, we have seen the grass turn from a strawy colour to deep green. Has summer come to an end?

Well some of the summer events have come to an end—the cricket season for the village team concluded last Saturday, with the team winning more games than they lost; the Pop up 'season' came to an end on the 11th of September and the 'Summer Show' completed its second successful season, in its current format.

However, plenty to look forward to in Autumn, some of which feature in this edition.

Enjoy the read. The Editor

Do you know where the Village Defibrillators are located ?



There are two -

1. Outside the main entrance of the Village Hall, in Hut Lane
2. Attached to the outside wall of the pavilion on the Playing Field, in School Lane

Directions on how to use them are on the front of each cabinet.

The Parish Magazine is produced for the Hadlow Down community, and is supported by advertisers and the Parish Council. The magazine is distributed to 325 homes, within the parish boundary, free of charge.

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Your Village magazine and Community Viewpoint

Hadlow Down Village Magazine October 2026

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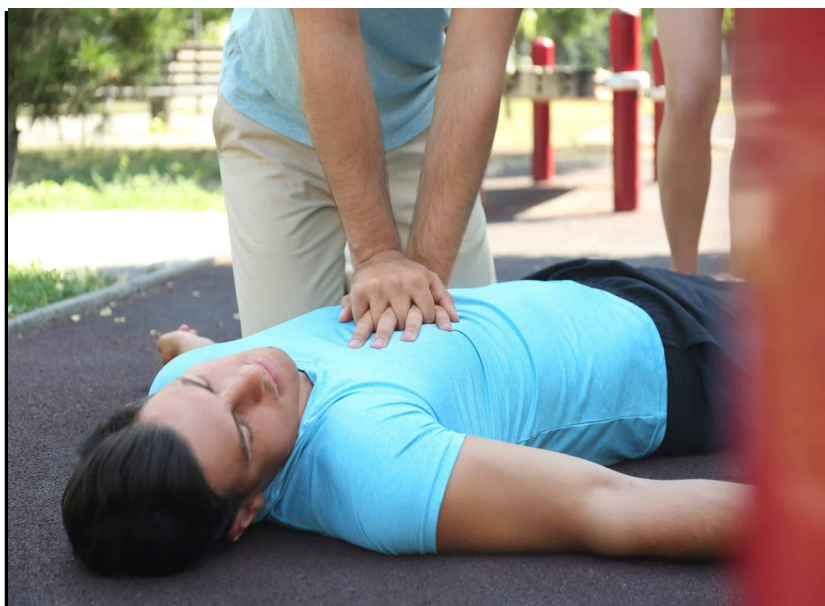
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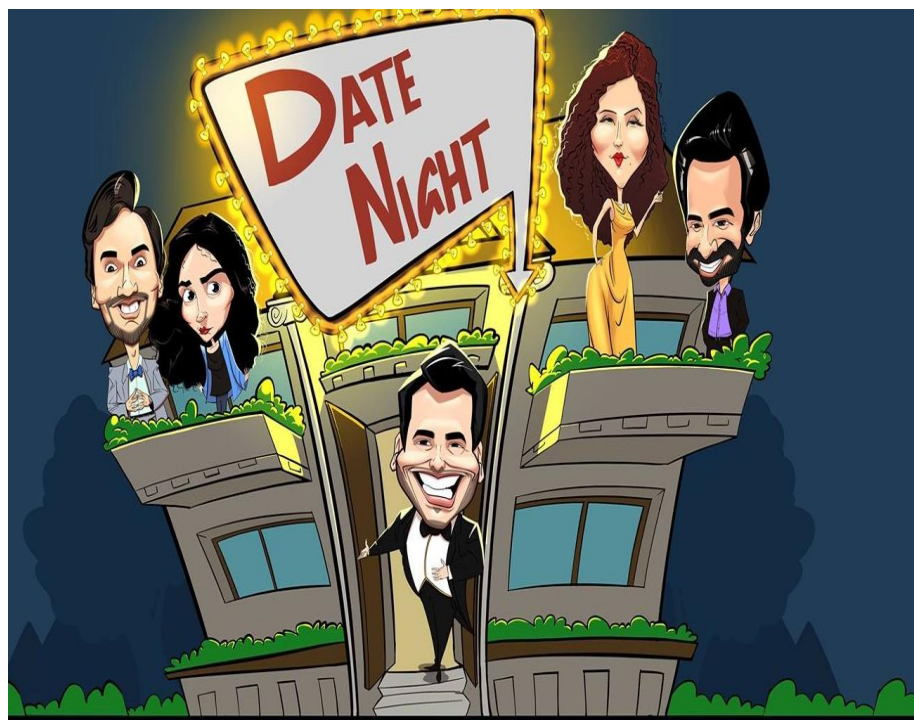
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Our local community First Responder will provide First Aid and CPR Training on Tuesday 10th November @ 2pm in St.Mark's Church, Hadlow Down.

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Hadlow Down Drama and Variety Club Presents— 'Date Night', a comedy



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Hadlow Down Book Club with Heather Mines

'What we leave unsaid can speak the loudest.'

To follow **The Correspondent** this month we read **Things We Never Say** (2026), by Elizabeth Strout, another novel in which what is unsaid is as important as what is said and where the truth is only gradually revealed. It follows Artie Dam, a history teacher living in coastal Massachusetts. A sensitive and skilled teacher (winner of the Best Teacher award) he was well-liked, or even loved, by his pupils, some of whose lives he turned around.

He appears to have a comfortable, ordinary life: an intelligent wife, an adult son, friends and a comfortable home. But Artie has a deep sense of loneliness and sadness with a marriage that is not really close and a traumatic event involving his son years earlier that has continued to affect him with a coolness in their relationship. A keen sailor, an accident and near death at sea sets off a chain of events that lead him to reconsider his life.

The book is about memory and how we can never really know one another. The structure and style reflect this theme, with a story that is fragmented and accumulative, reflecting the way that we learn things retrospectively and memories are triggered by small things in the world around us. Strout's sentences are short, often interrupted by parentheses or false starts, reflecting the way we talk, particularly when telling a story and this creates a rhythm that draws the reader in. Characters are vividly drawn and she makes good use of small details to portray a person, revealing the emotional lives of those around Artie exceptionally well. One member of the group said that she kept thinking that they were real people that she knew.

Politics is there, albeit in the background. It is set during the time of Trump's re-election and the effect of the current state of America is seen in the eruptions of violence on the school playing field or in parents' demands on what is taught. Together with Archie's disillusionment this gives the novel a bleakness which is redeemed by the warmth of some of the relationships and by the sheer wisdom of Artie as a teacher.

This is not a plot-driven novel but one of relationships, building toward some sort of resolution and it generated a long discussion by the group. It is quite short and very readable and we recommend it to those that appreciate a thoughtful book.

Our next book is **Nonesuch** by Francis Spufford

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Ken Mines Gardening Tips October 2026



October can be wonderfully mild, but it can equally bring the first frost, strong winds and plenty of rain. And, as recent years have shown, we shouldn't assume autumn will be wet. There is still plenty to do, but one of this month's themes is **not to be too tidy** – both the garden and its wildlife will benefit.

- **Plant while the soil is warm.** October is an excellent month for planting hardy perennials, shrubs and trees. Their roots can begin establishing before winter. If conditions remain dry, however, newly planted specimens will still need a thorough watering.
- **Plant spring bulbs – but not tulips.** Daffodils, crocuses, alliums and many other spring-flowering bulbs can go in now. Leave tulips until November, the best month for planting.
- **Look after the vegetable beds.** As crops finish, put healthy remains on the compost heap. Spread a layer of compost or well-rotted manure over empty beds and leave the worms to do the digging. Garlic can be planted now, as can hardy varieties of broad bean for an earlier crop next year. Spinach and other winter leaves can still give useful pickings.
- **Don't cut everything down.** Leave some perennial stems and seedheads standing through the winter. Birds will eat the seeds and insects find shelter in hollow stems and dead vegetation. Frosted grasses and seedheads can look rather good too. Anything diseased is best removed.
- **Make use of fallen leaves.** Clear them from lawns and paths, but don't feel obliged to remove them from beneath every shrub and hedge. They provide shelter for insects and eventually improve the soil. If you have plenty, collect them in a simple heap or wire enclosure and make leaf mould – an excellent soil improver that costs nothing.
- **Give wildlife somewhere to hide.** Before disturbing piles of leaves, logs or garden debris, remember that a hedgehog or other creature may already be using them. A small log pile in a quiet corner can provide a home for a surprising variety of wildlife.
- **Leave the ivy alone.** Ivy flowers late in the year and can be an important source of nectar and pollen for bees, hoverflies and other insects when relatively little else is flowering. Its berries provide food for birds later in the winter.
- **Don't over-tidy the pond.** Remove excessive fallen leaves before they sink but leave some vegetation for wildlife. Put anything you remove beside the pond for a day before composting it, giving small aquatic creatures the chance to crawl back into the water.

Prepare for autumn weather. Check tree stakes and ties, secure pots and other objects that could blow over, and inspect greenhouses and garden structures before the autumn gales. Adding organic matter to the soil will also help it cope with both prolonged dry spells and sudden heavy rain.

Perhaps the most useful October job is knowing **what not to do**. A few seedheads left standing, leaves beneath the hedge and an undisturbed corner may not make the tidiest of gardens, but they can make a big difference to the creatures that have to survive there through the winter.



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View from the Rectory – October 2026

Dear Friends of the Parish

Taking Stock at Harvest

Harvest is a natural time for taking stock. The fields have been gathered in, the days are shortening, and the work of another growing season is nearly complete. In earlier generations, when most families lived much closer to the land, the success or failure of the harvest could determine whether the coming winter would be comfortable or hungry. Thanksgiving was not merely a pleasant custom; it arose from a profound awareness that life itself depended upon gifts no human being could command.

Our modern Harvest Festival owes something to the Revd Robert Hawker, the eccentric Victorian vicar of Morwenstow in Cornwall. In 1843, he invited his parishioners to a special service of thanksgiving for the harvest. They gathered in church with produce from the fields and sang their gratitude to God. The practice soon spread, eventually becoming the familiar harvest celebrations held in churches throughout the country.

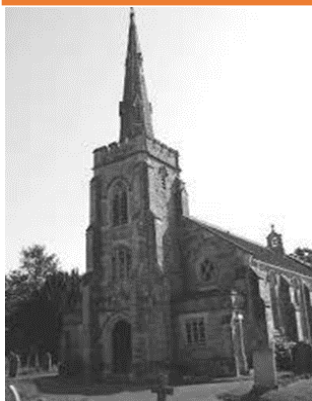
We may be less directly dependent upon the crops growing around us, but we remain just as dependent upon God's goodness. Food arrives neatly packaged on supermarket shelves, and it is easy to forget the soil, rain, sunshine and human labour that brought it there. Harvest invites us to look again and to recognise the countless blessings that can otherwise pass unnoticed.

Moses warned the Israelites about precisely this danger: "When you have eaten and are full... take care lest you forget the Lord your God" (Deuteronomy 8.10–11). Prosperity can make us imagine that we are self-sufficient. Thanksgiving restores our perspective. It reminds us that all we possess—our homes, families, friendships, abilities and daily bread—is ultimately received rather than earned entirely by ourselves.

This harvest, perhaps we might each pause and take stock. What has sustained us through the past year? Who has shown us kindness? Where have we seen God quietly at work? And how might our gratitude overflow in generosity towards those who have less?

The Psalmist declares: "You crown the year with your bounty" (Psalm 65.11). May we learn to notice that bounty, give thanks for it, and share it gladly. For harvest is not simply a celebration of what we have gathered; it is an invitation to become thankful and generous people.

God Bless + CPM



St. Mark's Church News

October 2026

September was a month of mixed emotions in St Mark's Church, in this month we celebrated the life of Lindsey Waddington with sorrow but with happy reminiscences and laughter, a dear friend and a pillar of the village community. The church was full of friends and relations all swapping stories. Lindsey could cry at the drop of a hat and I'm sure she would have been weeping with joy and pride to see her friends and family all together in the church remembering the good times that had been enjoyed in her company.

When I moved to the village in 1993 I was always reading about 'the Waddingtons' in the Parish Magazine and soon appreciated that Lindsey and her husband, David, were a vital part of village life. They were involved with the Parish Council, the Church, the Horticultural Society, the Fayre – you name it, more often than not they were there. I think one of the only organisations they weren't involved with was on stage with the Variety Club; they did however enthusiastically support their productions.

When David died Lindsey continued her energetic involvement in the village, cooking for the Hort Soc suppers and organising the refreshment tent at the Village Fayres. In St Mark's Church she organised the floral displays with Wendy and Carol – I remember that relatively recently, although she'd become very frail, she came with her carer to help Wendy and Carol do the Harvest floral arrangements. Despite being very fragile towards the end of her life she always liked to hear about the life of the village - 'gossip' as she called it – there was often someone visiting who would fill her in!

Last year we didn't have a **Harvest Lunch in St Mark's** because Lindsey couldn't do it and it was her special responsibility. We are having one this year on **Sunday, October 4th in the Nave of the church at 1.00/1.30. Tickets are £12.** Dee Hogg and I are arranging it - if you would like to come please let me know: phone Janet – 07511 992682 and we can all remember Lindsey together. She will be so missed!

Janet Tourell – Deputy Church Warden

SERVICES IN ST MARK'S DURING OCTOBER

Sunday, 4th October, Harvest Festival, 9.00 am followed by the Harvest Lunch in the Nave at 1.00/1.30

Sunday 11th, 18th and 25th Parish Communion at 9.00 am

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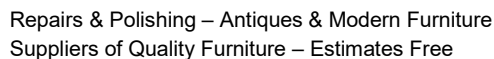


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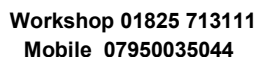


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‘Paws for thought’ by Natalie

Our Spike-tacular UK Wildlife- A Look at Hedgehogs.

If you've been lucky enough to have these snuffly little balls of spikes in your garden, you'll know they are expert secret visitors, sneaking from garden to garden through holes in fences, cat flaps and open gates.

We have one native species of hedgehog in the UK, with fifteen species around the world. Hedgehog numbers have been on the decline recently. Road traffic accidents, less green spaces and more people using pesticides and garden fences have reduced the numbers of these little long nosed creatures quite drastically.



Hedgehogs like to follow hedges, fence lines and other directional garden paths. They are secretive, but also can be very noisy as they snuffle and grunt under hedges and shrubs targeting their favourite foods- invertebrates including beetles, slugs and earthworms. You can see why they get their name from their nocturnal habits, and also why they were once called Urchins with having between five and seven thousand spikes on their back, and especially when they use their self protection strategy of curling up into a prickly ball.

Hedgehogs have poor eyesight, so they rely on their other senses when out on the prowl, their long pointy nose have excellent smelling abilities, and their hearing is top notch! These abilities help hedgehogs to survive, or actually flourish in the cities. They will regularly visit cemeteries, railways, private and public gardens, especially if they all join up making their journey across these spaces easy and obstacle free, walking one to two miles during their nightly routines.

These spiny hogs love a comfy bed and a long sleep in the winter months, hibernating between November and March. They'll need to put on some fat before hibernation starts so this is the time you may find them rummaging through your shrubs. They like to find dry leaves, twigs and a quiet spot to snuggle up so will often make their nests to settle down in around your garden, under sheds and in bonfire piles.

Most know to check piles before lighting bonfires, but in late October and early November- just in time for



bonfire night, make sure you disturb piles ready to burn if they have be piled up for a while incase there is a spiky friend hiding in there.

Our native little nocturnal mammal who likes to snuffle their way through our gardens deserves to be around in the years to come. I would definitely be sad not to hear and see them. Encourage a buffet of beetles and creepy crawlies into your garden, make a

hedgehog sized hole in your fence and support our British wildlife, the big, the small, and the spiky.

A vibrant, colorful illustration for a children's workshop poster. The background is a light orange with faint, stylized handprints. Various art supplies are scattered around the central text: paint tubes in purple, yellow, red, and green; brushes in blue, brown, and orange; crayons in blue, red, and green; and a paint palette. Two children are depicted: a girl in a green shirt and blue pants is kneeling and painting a large yellow handprint in the center, while a boy in a yellow shirt and green pants is kneeling and painting a blue handprint at the bottom right. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold, sans-serif fonts in green, red, and purple.

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Hadlow Down Village Magazine October 2026



DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Hadlow Down Parish Council Held in Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down at 7pm on Tuesday 1st September 2026

Present: Councillors: Michael Lunn (ML) Chairman (*as well as Cllr for WDC and EDCC*), Peter Weston (PW) Vice-Chairman, Stephen Lester (SL), Alan Hobbs (AH), Graham Long (GL) and David Munday (DM).

In attendance: Vicki Rutt (Clerk) and one member of the public.

109. PUBLIC QUESTIONS – A resident reported that there were 3 power cuts yesterday. One Councillor stated they had 10 power cuts, albeit minute at a time. It may be due to the substation changeover but Clerk to enquire as to the reason for them. **Action 1.** PW has reported a phone wire hanging outside telephone box, this is sticking out into the footway now. Clerk to escalate reports. **Action 2.** A resident stated that the water lead down Five Chimneys Lane remains consistent with no repair undertaken, Clerk to escalate again. **Action 3.**

110. APOLOGIES – Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Floyd.

111. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None.

112. MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on the 4th August 2026 was recommended for approval and signed as a true record (previously circulated).

113. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

a. Action Log - Clerk reported from the action log which is available on the village website.

b. Clerks report - This was noted (previously circulated).

114. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. WD/2026/1493/F for ANNES MEADOW BYRE, SCHOOL LANE, HADLOW DOWN, TN22 4JE

Erection of a detached garage building incorporating an ancillary home office and domestic storage, with roof mounted photovoltaic panels.

PC comments: 6 in favour with no objections.

b. WD/2026/1627/F for SPRING BANK, HEATHFIELD ROAD, FIVE ASHES, TN20 6JJ

Replacement windows and door.

PC comments: 6 in favour with no objections.

c. WD/2026/1548/F and WD/2026/1547/LB for WAGHORNS, WAGHORNS LANE, HADLOW DOWN

Proposed oak framed outbuilding as replacement for semi collapsed Nissen hut.

PC comments: 6 in favour with no objections, however the Council would like to see evidence of the proper disposal of asbestos.

d. WD/2026/1227/FR and WD/2026/1175/LBR for STILERED FARM, CRIERS LANE, MAYFIELD, TN20 6LG

Replacement of metal spiral stair with timber stair, removal of first floor timber wall, repositioning of first floor door, replacement of area of first floor ceiling, replacement of first floor bedroom window, and retrospective consent for insertion of window in dining room together with external and internal plinth to wall of dining room.

PC comments: 6 in favour with no objections.

115. REPORTS FROM CLLR MICHAEL LUNN, WDC and ESCC - *Cllr Lunn 's reports can be found in full on the PC website.*

ESCC – Cllr Lunn read from his report that is available on the website. Key points are that no meetings have taken place since last PC meeting, next Full Council is 13th October. The Highway steward has changed again, it is now Samuel Trenchard, Cllr Lunn will meet with him and report back in due course. Confirmation has been received that the Unitary elections are going to go ahead in May 2027. There will be two elected Cllrs for this Division. Up to 100 Cllrs for the whole of East Sussex. County and District Council will finish in May 2028. Shadow Authority will be overseeing the transition. A272 scheduled drainage is due for November 2026. Cllr Lunn can escalate if anything urgent comes up.

WDC – Cllr Lunn read from his report that is available on the website. Key points are that the Government have updated the National Planning Policy Framework which has some implications on Wealden District to progress Local Plan and potentially the next stage in the process namely Regulation 19 consultation. Minor Planning applications can now not be called in and will be determined by officers. The Parish Council will still be consulted with and if the PC have a policy concern with an object, the officers will take this into consideration.

116. HIGHWAYS

a. Speed sign issues – SID batteries discussed and the possibility of solar being used. PW will speak to SWARCO, via the Clerk and ask them to come back and reinforce the maintenance contact. **Action 4.**

Hadlow Down Village Magazine October 2026

117. COMMUNITY CENTRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE – Awaiting news from Wealden District Council, decision delayed to November 2026.

118. RISK ASSESSMENTS:

- a. Receive update on play area survey – Clerk circulated a draft survey for the play area. The survey has been approved but will not be published until ML has met with DM and BF to discuss zip wire idea. **Action 5.**
- b. Review and discuss fingerpost survey August 2026 – SL completed a fingerpost survey. One needs immediate work. Clerk to continue to chase fingerpost man to action the work. **Action 6.**
- c. Note collection of water bowser and agree next steps – ML confirmed the water bowser has been collected, Clerk to update the asset register, inform insurance and make enquiries to get a hose and access key for it. **Action 7.**

119. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED – *All copies can be found in full on the Parish Council website.*

- a. Electronic music being played at Wilderness Wood – The Clerk has received a further complaint since and ML was made aware. Clerk to report to enforcement again and copy ML in. **Action 8.** Clerk to contact Wilderness Wood to arrange a meeting for PW and ML to attend. **Action 9.**
- b. Quarterly Police meeting – The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 13th October, 18:00 – 19:00 in the Committee Room in the Village Hall. Clerk will publish information widely. **Action 10.**

120. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (COUNCIL MATTERS AND OUTSIDE BODIES): DM reported that vegetation blocking signs, ML will report to the steward. **Action 11.** DM will deal with the other email enquiry regarding additional vehicles on Wheelers Lane as Council are unable to take any action.

121. CLERKS MATTERS:

- a. Clerks hours for August 2026 – These were approved.
- b. Agree date for budget setting meeting – Date arranged for 10th November. Clerk to book room. **Action 12.**

122. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS:

- a. Agree Finance Report for September 2026 - The finance report was noted and approved. PW and DM signed the paper-work and will do the payments online. The detail can be found in [Appendix A](#).
- b. Agree and sign Bank Reconciliation for August 2026 – The Bank Rec for August 2026 was noted and approved. The paperwork was signed by PW and DM.

123. DEFIBRILLATOR BATTERY – this was checked on the 1st September 2026.

124. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA: Audit paperwork for 2025/26.

The meeting closed at 19:55

The next PC meeting date is Tuesday 6th October 2026 at 19:00

Appendix A

Finance report for 1st September 2026 PC meeting

Payments by Bank Transfer paid pending authorisation

Date	Payee	Payment Details	Amount
None			

Payments by Bank Transfer pending authorisation

Date	Payee	Payment Details	Amount
28.09.26	Vicki Rutt	Standing Order Salary for September 2026	£1,216.02
01.09.26	Vicki Rutt	OT July 2026	£379.20
01.09.26	HMRC	Tax and NI for August 2026	£436.35
01.09.26	East Sussex Pension Fund	Pension August 2026	£451.65
01.09.26	Mulberry & Co	Finance Conference for Clerk on 10/09	£36.00
01.09.26	R A Waters	Verge cutting	£120.00
01.09.26	Lucy McConachie	Play area inspection Aug 2026	£40.00

Payments by direct debit for authorisation

Date	Payee	Payment Details	Amount
31.08.26	Unity Trust	Mthly bank charge	£7.00

Acknowledge receipt of monies

None			
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Hadlow Down Village Magazine October 2026

Speed Indicator Display (SID) Data Summary for September 2026 Meeting

The August figures for the SID by Wilderness Wood are remarkably similar to July, and indeed previous months.

Last month I reported a significant decrease for the SID mounted by St Marks (4% less over 30 mph) than previous months, which I suggested might be due to the increased brightness of the sign from 1st July. Interestingly there has been another significant decrease (6% less over 30 mph than in July)!

A272 Eastbound (by St Mark's Church) August 2026

Range	0-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Totals
Vehicles	16902	30363	25453	15628	5836	1347	307	54	18	4	95912
%	17.62	31.66	26.54	16.29	6.08	1.40	0.32	0.06	0.02	0.00	100.00
All vehicles: Over 30 mph = 50.72%, over 35 mph = 24.18% and over 40 mph = 7.89%											
Working Days	13188	23336	19324	11582	4255	970	222	32	12	2	72923
%	18.08	32.00	26.50	15.88	5.83	1.33	0.30	0.04	0.02	0.00	100.00
Working Days: Over 30 mph = 49.91%, over 35 mph = 23.42%, and over 40 mph = 7.53%											
W/E & B/H	3714	7027	6129	4046	1581	377	85	22	6	2	22989
%	16.16	30.57	26.66	17.16	6.88	1.64	0.37	0.10	0.03	0.01	100.00
Weekends and Bank Holidays: Over 30 mph = 53.28%, over 35 mph = 26.62%, and over 40 mph = 9.02%											

Time of Day Analysis – Vehicles Travelling 30 mph or more in August 2026

Time Range	00.00 to 03.00	03.00 to 06.00	06.00 to 09.00	09.00 to 12.00	12.00 to 15.00	15.00 to 18.00	18.00 to 21.00	21.00 to 24.00
Vehicles over 30 mph	755	622	6,352	8,268	9,655	12,354	7,570	3,071
% of all in 3 hour slot	79.39	85.56	57.65	43.53	46.32	48.54	55.92	66.82

A272 Westbound (by Wilderness Wood) August 2026

Range	0-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Totals
Vehicles	14008	29876	29368	14567	4424	1077	276	70	22	2	93690
%	14.95	31.89	31.35	15.55	4.72	1.15	0.29	0.07	0.02	0.0	100.00
All vehicles: Over 30 mph = 53.16%, over 35 mph = 21.81% and over 40 mph = 6.27%											
Working Days	10654	22474	21349	10317	3069	740	189	53	12	0	68857
%	15.47	32.64	31.00	14.98	4.46	1.07	0.27	0.08	0.02	0.00	100.00
Working Days: Over 30 mph = 51.89%, over 35 mph = 20.88%, and over 40 mph = 5.90%											
W/E & B/H	3354	7402	8019	4250	1355	337	87	17	10	2	24833
%	13.51	29.81	32.29	17.11	5.46	1.36	0.35	0.07	0.04	0.01	100.00
Weekends and Bank Holidays: Over 30 mph = 56.69%, over 35 mph = 24.39%, and over 40 mph = 7.28%											

Time of Day Analysis – Vehicles Travelling 30 mph or more in August 2026

Time Range	00.00 to 03.00	03.00 to 06.00	06.00 to 09.00	09.00 to 12.00	12.00 to 15.00	15.00 to 18.00	18.00 to 21.00	21.00 to 24.00
Vehicles over 30 mph	555	1,447	10,737	9,105	9,392	10,352	6,146	2,072
% of all in 3 hour slot	81.98	87.01	58.22	44.42	49.69	50.13	61.16	63.52

31st August 2026

Peter Weston

Your Village magazine and Community Viewpoint

Pop in and Craft

Saturday 10th October at the Village
Hall, Hadlow Down - 10am to 1pm

For October we are featuring a mystery craft so come along and join us to see what it is.



October Features



*Come and solve the
mystery, what will you
craft today ???*

*Come back for a more
advanced class on
Needle Felting*



**Cafe Kitchen Open from 10am
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*Bagels
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Hadlow Down Village Magazine October 2026

VEG ON THE LEDGE

A talk by Julia Parker, gardener & broadcaster on growing unusual vegetables in pots and containers.

Buxted Park Sports Pavilion

Thursday 8th October 2026

7.00 pm for 7.30 pm

Members £8 Non-Members £10

email info@buxtedhorticulturalsociety.org.uk

to book your ticket.

Payment by BACS will secure your ticket

Sort Code 60 22 05, A/c No 57153515

Message from Nus Ghani—Sussex Weald MP

It has been a busy few weeks since the summer holidays and I have had a chance to reflect on the hard work of many local residents and businesses that I continue to meet across the constituency.

Now that the Summer holidays seem a distant memory, we are preparing for busy months ahead and I know that you are planning for Christmas. In recent meetings across the constituency, I have heard from residents and businesses in Crowborough, Eridge and nearby Heathfield about the impact of poor public services and water outages. With the water shortages over summer and the prospect of burst pipes over winter, I have arranged an urgent meeting with the South East Water boss. I have asked him to tour the constituency with me and meet businesses who have been disrupted by their poor performance.

I will be hosting a public meeting which will be held at a venue in the constituency on Friday 23 October 2026. For anyone wishing to submit a question and for a chance of attending the event, please register at nusghani.org.uk. Numbers are limited due to venue capacity, so please submit your questions and register for attendance early.

Despite the challenges many businesses face, we seem to be at the heart of Sussex's growing wine and beer industry which also employs many local people. I was so pleased to be invited to local businesses and see first hand the work they do and the positive impact they have on the local economy, including: Off the Line, a vineyard just off the Cuckoo Trail near Hailsham, Three Acre Brewery based out of a farm near Blackboys; and, Two Tails Taproom in Heathfield. It is small and independent businesses like these that drive up job opportunities in the constituency and support our economy. It is also worth a note to some of our local farmers who are diversifying and reaching out to new customers and businesses across Sussex, like the Delves family who run The Traditional Cheese Dairy in Waldron and are pioneering a 24-hour cheese vending machine at their family-run dairy.

We are lucky to have local residents who are engaged in volunteering and supporting residents across the constituent. I had particular joy in visiting the Smiles Sensory Farm near Eridge, who support young people to be out and about with animals and nature. My constituency also includes East Hoathly, where the Community Garden project supports people with additional needs and offers organic food growing and life skills. These are wonderful examples of the good work I see across the constituency and they are always looking for your support. Please contact me if you could help them with volunteering and donations.

I know that many of you rely on rail services from Buxted and Crowborough stations and have been affected by disruptions to local services. I have written to the train and rail operators to meet with me and discuss the issues affecting the Uckfield Line. As always, it is a pleasure working across the whole community. If you need my help or would like a tour of parliament, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me via email: nusrat.ghani.mp@parliament.uk.

**ST MARK'S CHURCH OF
ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
HADLOW DOWN**

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We warmly welcome  everyone from our community to join us for an afternoon of tea, cake and classroom fun.

22nd October 2026

2:00 - 3:00PM

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THE NEW
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Your Village magazine and Community Viewpoint

Poetry Page

Memories by Mark Dury

Memories, good or bad or often somewhere in-between,
Tinged with remorse, the bad ones faded as an ancient parchment,
With nature's kind understanding, hurt and pain removed,
The good ones sometimes clear as crystal, coloured and embellished,
Even by bravado somewhat out of shape, what matters is they're there.
The magic of mind's inner eye gives life again to much gone by,
Maybe to Mother, Father, Grandparents, Wife, Husband, family, pets and friends,
Those we have adored, admired, experiences all conjured up anew,
Love, passion, sights, touch, sounds, scents, feelings all, yesterday seen as now,
Like a lasting varied painting, the panoramic landscape of a much-lived life,
These are a gift, a compensation for everything that has passed us by,
For, as the future grows steadily shorter with every disappearing day,
And the relentless passage of time spreads longer the shadows of the past,
Memories are a gift, deserving of our thanks, to be cherished and with gratitude received.

No drainpipes on Mars by Robert Spencer

I was a teddy boy
Before National Service
Posted me overseas
I thought I presented
A subline image of youth—
Long jacket flapping
Around my knees
Drainpipe trousers
Tight as bark on a tree
Starched wing collar
Bootlace tie
And a Tony Curtis haircut.
How was I to know
That this Edwardian excursion
Would not last?

But on return to Blighty
Everything had changed.
Teddy boys had melted away,
Flared trousers everywhere
Hair down to the shoulders
Jackets (and Skirts) worn short
Beatles triumphant
Elvis fading.



Hadlow Down Village Magazine October 2026

HADLOW DOWN VILLAGE DIRECTORY

PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARKS, HADLOW DOWN ~ United Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

bhdrector@gmail.com

Rector Rev Father Peter Molloy 01825 733103
Churchwardens Martin Shaw 01825 732689 Margaret Scott 01825 732038

St Mark's

DCW Janet Tourell 01825 830478 DCW Keith Edwards 01825 732843
 DCW Sue Wilmott 01825 766199 Organist& DCW Valerie Banks 01825 764520
 DCW email address stmarksdcw@gmail.com
 Hon Secretary Kristina Watson 01825 732844
 Hon Treasurer Vacant

CHURCH SERVICES Parish, Said and Holy Communion Services, Family Services AND Matins - Details of all Services inside this magazine
 For Baptism, Marriage and other Sacraments, contact the Rector

St Mark's Church Committee

Members Valerie Banks, Janet Tourell, Keith Edwards, Sue Wilmott, John Lawson

ST MARK'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL - SCHOOL LANE - HADLOW DOWN - 01825 830375

Executive Head Teacher Miss Catherine Cottingham

NEW Board of Foundation Governors: Sue Wilmott, Katharine Davies, Liz Ford (Chair), Nina Jabang, Victoria Lee
 Sussex Spires Staff Governor : Vacant
 Federation LA Governor : Emma Robinson
 Governors Ex-Officio: Father Peter Molloy, Father David Packham, Father Deborah Scott-Bromley
 Co-opted Governor : Matthew Morgan
 Associated Governor : Anna Shaw
 Ex-Officio Executive Headteacher : Catherine Cottingham

Clerk to the Governing body is: Joanna Keith-Lucas

THE PARISH OF HADLOW DOWN – WEALDEN CONSTITUENCY – M.P. - MRS NUS GHANI - HOUSE OF COMMONS SW1

East Sussex County Councillor— Cllr Michael Lunn 07894 062727 cllr.michael.lunn@eastsussex.gov.uk
 Wealden District Councillors—Cllr. Michael Lunn 07894 062727 cllr.michael.lunn@wealden.gov.uk

PARISH COUNCIL

Chair	Mr Michael Lunn <i>Police & Neighbourhood Watch; Community Projects, Police and Neighbourhood Watch Wealden District Association of Local Councils (WDALC)</i>	mlunn@hadlowdown.org 07894 062727
Vice -Chair	Mr Peter Weston <i>Highways & Rights of Way; SLR meetings, Speed Indicator Device</i>	pweston@hadlowdown.org 07891 600609
Councillors	Mr Ben Floyd <i>Playing Field; Planning Applications; Parish Panel meetings,</i>	bfloyd@hadlowdown.org 07825 166579
	Dr David Munday <i>Planning Applications; Parish Panel meetings; Emergency Co-ordination Plan</i>	dmunday@hadlowdown.org 07391 052808
	Mr Alan Hobbs <i>Tree Warden</i>	07702 032205
	Mr Stephen Lester <i>Footpaths and Rights of Way</i>	07802 947013
	Mr Graham Long <i>Burial Ground</i>	glong@hadlowdown.org 07795 226296
Clerk	Vicki Rutt	clerk@hadlowdown.org 01825 760103

Neighbourhood Watch Email – webadmin@hadlowdown.com or 01825 830661

ORGANISATIONS & CONTACTS

Village Fair	Chair—Gill Terry 07968536913 gillbillie@btinternet.com	Secretary - Conchita Land-Font 07958557020 Conchita.landafont@gmail.com
Summer Show (Hort. Soc.)	Roberta Smyth 07956495055	Playing Field & Bookings John Thompson 01825 830435
Variety Club Secretary	Ellis Boswell Ellis.boswell@btinternet.com	Bowls Club
Cricket Club	Ryan Clark 07577954803	Engage TN22 Clubs Julie Fitzgerald 07747 635667
Book Club	Heather Mines 07974204231	
Village Hall Chair	Sally Blyfield, villagehallchairhadlowdown@gmail.com	
Village Hall Bookings	hadlowdownvillagehall@gmail.com	
Village Hall Secretary	hadlowdownvillagehall@gmail.com	
Village Hall Treasurer	villagehalltreasurerhadlowdown@gmail.com	

HADLOW DOWN'S WEBSITE: www.hadlowdown.com

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