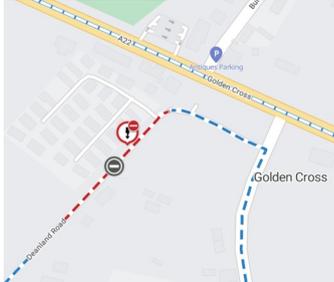


The Bugle

No 276 16th February 2026
Everyone's getting it
Contributions to trading.as.wdr@googlemail.com

"Most people would like to be delivered from temptation but would like it to keep in touch."
Robert Orben

A very long way round



Deanland residents face a long haul to the A22 this week, with power supply work to new homes at Golden Cross closing the top of their road from Tuesday 17th February.

The works are being carried out by ESP Electrics, and are scheduled until Tuesday 24th February. Deanland management are asking if temporary lights could be used.

RVS AGM

Ripe Village Stores is holding its Annual General Meeting in the shop, starting at 6pm on Friday 20th February.



All members and prospective members are welcome; light refreshments provided.

Nursery jobs

Ripe Nursery has vacancies for two qualified and experienced Early Years Educators. For more information, please get in touch with Charlotte France-Lewis, by email to charlotte@ripenurseryschool.co.uk

Charleston has 're-acquired' a painting by Vanessa Bell. 'Vase, Flowers and Bowl' is a work from around 1918, bridging her earlier abstract work and the more figurative style she developed in the 1920s. Thanks to the Cultural Gifts Scheme, donated by The Radev Collection and administered by Arts Council England, the painting will be returning to the place that shaped its making.



Love Shack grooving

The whole shack shimmied at the Hayton Baker Hall in Ripe on Saturday night, transformed into a Valentine's love getaway. DJ Michael Moran kept the wheels of steel throbbing, purple smoke filled the air, and the crowd enjoyed chilli and nachos. The only downside? The margaritas ran out.



Starbucks for Polegate services



Starbucks have applied to build a drive-through coffee shop at the far end of the services just off the A27 in Polegate.

It would take part of the field currently used as additional parking. The unit would come with EV charging for six cars; there's a separate proposal being developed for more EV chargers opposite.



Tickets for Chiddfest, in its 12th year, are on sale, featuring headliners N-Trance, The Undertones, Top Loader and Phats & Small. It runs 24th, 25th and 26th July. Book at chiddfest.onlineticketseller.com.

Get ready....

The schedules for this year's Ripe and Chalvington Flower Show should be available from Ripe Village Stores this week, with plenty of opportunity to show much more than just daffodils. The event itself is coming up at Ripe Village Hall on Saturday 21st March.



*Left: Some of last year's winners
Right: Too soon, outside April Cottage, Ripe*



Christian Stejskal returns to Ripe on Thursday 19th March, at 7pm, for an evening of storytelling, photography and violin music, from his time in Cairo with 'The Zabbaleen', the city's unofficial rubbish collectors. Tickets £12 from Ripe Village Stores.

✝ Sunday 22nd February: Holy Communion 10.30 am at Laughton, led by Revd Frank Fox-Wilson.