News from Chalvington, Deanland, Laughton & Ripe

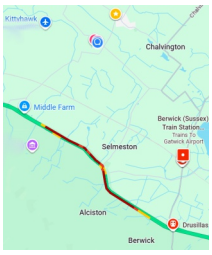
The Bugle

No 312 26th October 2026
There are some things money can't buy
Contributions to trading.as.wdr@googlemail.com

"Beauty is in the eye of the beholder and it may be necessary from time to time to give a stupid or misinformed beholder a black eye."

Miss Piggy

Mapping jams



Ripe resident (and software expert) Carl Meek wants us to fight fire with fire on Google Maps. Last week, Carl met seventy cars shortcutting along Langtye Lane. "The very few passing places that exist are flooded with scary deep holes, and when the A27 has a problem, like this morning, this gets almost catastrophic."

"The problem is sat-nav routings from Google. When traffic on the A27 report delays, it sends cars along Langtye Lane. Because this is a slow road anyway, it doesn't notice the gridlock on there itself. Residents can help, by going to Google Maps, clicking on Langtye Lane, and reporting a problem, making the road less desirable to automated routing. The more people that report a problem the more likely Google are to "down weight" it on their routing algorithms."

HALLOWEEN AND MORE



The farm shop at The Roebuck is running a children's pumpkin carving session on Tuesday 27th October from 3:30pm to 6pm. Pumpkins are £10 each, with all the tools you'll need to carve a spooky lantern on hand. The team from Momo's Kitchen will be serving Nepalese street food from 5.30pm.

Isfield and Little Horsted's Bonfire Night celebrations are on Friday 30th October, with a children's torchlit procession at 6.15pm and the main procession at 7pm, both starting in the ICE field, behind The Laughing Fish. Fireworks are at 9pm.



Newick's Bonfire Night is on Saturday 31st October, with a new, shorter procession route being trialled.



There are still £5 wristbands available for the Ripe Village Hall Hallowe-en Disco, on Saturday 31st October from 7pm. Pick yours up from Ripe Village Stores. The Hall's mixology specialists are developing a morgue-erita cocktail, free to bearers of pumpkin lanterns. And there'll be a full bar and spooky burgers on offer.



Vocalist and guitarist Mel Hayes will be at The Yew Tree in Chalvington on Hallowe'en, from 7:30pm, playing favourites from her extensive repertoire of pop and country music.





Left: drivers sort it out on the A22 near East Hoathly; above, another one down on the road to Horam

Gone with the wind

Storm Austen, Storm Boelo and the winds in between caused local disruption into the weekend. The Newhaven/ Dieppe ferry was cancelled, then Firle Bonfire postponed, and Saturday brought power cuts across Ripe and Laughton; there was beer served by candlight in The Roebuck. Most houses had power restored that evening; some had to wait til Sunday.



Long-awaited work to re-surface Church Lane in Chalvington was postponed by Balfour Beatty, working for East Sussex Highways. Arlington Reservoir was down to 40.9% full on 18th October, before the weekend downpours.



Bus milestone

Cuckmere Buses are celebrating 50 years of operation, since starting on 26th October 1976, with two minibuses and eight drivers on routes linking local villages with Hailsham and Seaford. Now there are nine buses, and 46 volunteer drivers, covering around 160,000 miles a year.

In 2025, Cuckmere Buses carried more than 88,000 passengers, and this year's total looks set to build on that. The company have placed an order for their first fully electric bus.

Pat hands in her picker

Litter Watch

Pat Appleby, one of the Ripe and Chalvington Litterwatch orginals from back in 2004, has decided, understandably, to hand in her picker and hi-vis, at the age of 86, with profuse thanks from the team. Now there's a vacancy to cover her patch, along Chalvington Lane, from Sheepcote Lane to Golden Cross - contact The Bugle and we'll pass it on.



Brighter days

Some of the Owlets in the Nursery Field at Ripe, enjoying first hand weather experiences in the great outdoors, on one of the brighter days last week.

Next services: Sunday 1st November - All Saints Day. Laughton Patronal services, with communion at both 8:30am and 10:30am.