



No 300

3rd August July 2026

Great past, greater future

Contributions to trading.as.wdr@googlemail.com

"It's so dry the trees are bribing the dogs."

Charles Martin

Games time

The new Wealden Community Sports Hub, operated by Leisure United, opens for business on Wednesday 5th August. It's along the A267, just up from the Boship roundabout.



Lewes MP James MacCleary is on his summer tour round the constituency, and will be at the Hayton Baker Hall in Ripe on Wednesday 5th August from 7:30pm for an hour, to answer your questions.

A collection of artists

Laughton Church will once again host a display of works by local artists as part of Artwave, coming up in September. It's been put together by Helen Medlicott, after last year's successful launch event; Helen has set up a new creative agency, called Collectiva.

There'll also be a chance to hear Anthony Penrose, director of the Lee Miller Archive at Farley Farmhouse, in conversation with writer/broadcaster Horatio Clare. It's on Friday 18th September at 7pm in Laughton Church; tickets, at £15, are now online at collectiva.co.uk/event-list



Your photos



David Turner caught this cluster of group-feeding buff-tip moth caterpillars stripping leaves off a young sycamore in Chalvington.

Eric Hunter caught these cirrocumulus clouds over Ripe last Tuesday; too high, and too icy to bring us the rain we want.



No, not sunrise, but July's Buck Moon, rising in the west, seen from Kitty Hawk by Dave Stewart.



Where's the water ?

Arlington Reservoir is 73.4% full, according to South East Water's latest measurement, taken on 26th July. It's now been 37 days since rain was recorded at the Met Office weather station in Herstmonceux.



With no end to the dry spell in sight, a dozen volunteers answered to the call to nurture the saplings and whips on the parched Ripe Community Field on Saturday.



The job was made a little easier by the restored water-supply, a water trough and the volunteers' watering cans. Watch for details of next month's session.



Money and, er, buckets

The Ripe and Chalvington Summer Flower Show took in £2,207.75 from entries, games, tombola, plant sales, raffle and silent auction.

The Committee would like to thank everyone who supported the event. There's a gentle nudge to return buckets from the potato competition, to Ripe Village Stores.



✝ Next service: Sunday 9th August 10:30 am Holy Communion at Ripe, led by Revd Simon Foster.

Ye Old Spud Shoppe will be outside The Roebuck Inn on Tuesday 4th August, from 4:30pm to 8:30pm.



Laughton Cricket Club are taking on Laughton Ladies Stoolball Club in their annual Mixed Stoolball Match, starting at 6pm on Thursday 6th August. There's a full bar and a barbecue - all welcome.

Summer music

Trumpeter Chris Coull and his band, with vocalist Imogen



Ryall, bring cool jazz to Limekiln Farm on Thursday 6th August. Gardens open from 7pm, picnics welcome, cash bar, music starts at 7:30pm - tickets online at villagesmusicfestival.org.

Top party band The Big Kahuna are back in the big marquee at The Yew Tree on Saturday 8th August, from 4.30pm.



There's a summer meal deal of drink, main and ice-cream for children for £10 over the summer holiday.