

The Bugle

No 309 5th October 2026

Keep it here

Contributions to trading.as.wdr@googlemail.com

'Bittersweet October. The mellow, messy, leaf-kicking perfect pause between the opposing miseries of summer and winter.'

Carol Bishop Hipps



Hosepipe ban tightens

South East Water are removing most remaining exemptions for hosepipe use (such as watering new lawns or tree saplings) with effect from Friday 9th October. The only remaining exemptions cover health and safety.

Nick Price, Head of Water Resources at South East Water, said "Our absolute priority is making sure there is always enough water for everyone's essential daily needs. We know that restrictions can cause some concern for some of our customers; however, our priority is to restore long-term resilience to break this cycle." Arlington Reservoir has dropped to 49.2% full.

Meeting delayed

The meeting of Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council scheduled for tonight, Monday 5th October, has been delayed for a week, to Monday 12th October, in the Village Hall, starting at 7pm.

On the agenda: a discussion of the new Wealden draft Local Plan; possible sites for 'Please Drive Carefully' signs in Ripe.

Eastbourne Bonfire Society celebrated their 25th Anniversary on Saturday night with a parade through the town, as well as along the prom, ending in the usual huge bonfire in front of the Wish Tower.



Hundreds of bulbs and wildflower plug plants have been planted on Ripe Community Field, with support from Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council. The Fun Dog Day also made over £1,000 for more work to come, thanks to the generosity of sponsors, raffle prize donors and dog owners, and the hard work of volunteer organisers and stallholders.



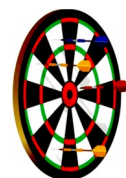
Harvest lunch at Ripe

The Harvest Service at Ripe was enlivened by children from Ripe Nursery, singing and helping Rev Steve Osei-Mensah with his sermon.

There were donations aplenty for Hailsham Food Bank, and then the traditional lunch, organised by Joan Royle, followed in the Village Hall. Next service: 10:30am Sunday 11th October, at Chalvington with Rev Simon Foster.



Deanland's Community Church is holding a special Harvest Service on Thursday 8th October at 10:30am in the Social Centre. A box has been set up outside for donations to Lewes Food Bank; dried goods, tinned foods, pot noodles, tea bags and biscuits would be most welcome. Everything will be on display for the service, and transported afterwards.



We seriously underestimated the fund-raising prowess of the Deanland Darthathon team and their generous supporters. As we said last month, they raised £1468.98 for the East Sussex wildlife rescue service, WRAS, but were also able to donate £1950.63 to the Children with Cancer Fund - a grand total of £3419.61.

A rather loose use of arrows from the team setting up diversions round Ripe last week. Left, a diversion directing traffic to a private drive. Right, arrows inviting drivers to an endless loop.



Donna Leighton's latest window painting at Ripe Village Stores gives us autumn moods and some favourites from classic children's books.

Thursday night at Ripe Village Stores (your venue of choice for reasonably priced meals) was enlivened by celebrations of two birthdays (Charlie Halleworth and Katy Ellis) and one engagement (Katy Ellis and Mitchell Edwards).

