The quality compact
Contributions to trading.as.wdr@googlemail.com

"War may sometimes be a necessary evil. But no matter how necessary, it is always an evil, never a good. We will not learn how to live together in peace by killing each other's children."

Jimmy Carter



Time to remember and celebrate

RACCA and Ripe Villages Stores are combining to celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE day on Thursday 8th May.

The VE flag will be raised on Ripe Church at 9am, and at 6.30pm, the church bells will be rung, in thanks for those who gave their lives. From 6pm, the shop is offering bangers and mash or 'mac-n-cheese' (a nod to our US allies?), whilst RACCA takes charge of the ceremonial outside. Please bring a candle for the 9.30pm Proclamation and Tribute, around the fingerpost.

At The Roebuck in Laughton, VE DAY will be marked alongside a Car Meet, with a special deal on a burger and a pint.

VE film night

Looking at little further ahead, don't forget a showing of the documentary The King's Machine, telling the story of World War II in the air, through the lives of Hurricane pilot Sgt Leslie Pidd (top) and Spitfire pilot Sgt Jack Ramshaw (bottom).

It's at Ripe Village Hall on Wednesday 28th May; tickets, at £10, include a chilli supper, and are available at the shops in Laughton, Ripe and Deanland. Proceeds to Ripe Church Roof Repair Fund.





Watch out for the full printed programme and booking form for the Villages Music Festival, coming to local shops soon.



Conversation, an exhibition of paintings and sculpture continues at Black Sheep, Darp Lane, Ripe for the next two weekends.





A sunny Monday evening outside Ripe Villages Stores, with refreshments to thank the many volunteers who keep the shop special. Always room for more, if you'd like to assure this vibrant community asset keeps buzzing...

Making space for butterflies

The team at Laughton Greenwood are looking to establish a small butterfly glade. Come and visit the site, and have a chat with Graham and Steve about the project at 1.30pm on Tuesday 6th May; meet at Keepers Gate, Park Lane.



A Comma butterfly



Ma and Pa Greylag Goose doing some very poised onelegged guarding of their new brood near a Chalvington pond.

Next services: 10.30am Thursday 8th May, Deanland Social Centre, with Emma Moreton as guest speaker, and music from Chris Joyes. 10.30am Sunday 11th May, All Saints', Laughton - Holy Communion, led by Rev Frank Fox-Wilson.

From the archives

The Eastbourne Gazette of May 9th 1945 showing a group of servicemen heading off to the VE celebrations in the town.

The front page of the Brighton Argus late edition for May 7th 1945, with the side headline "Ready for rejoicing", saying flags and bunting were already being hung out in Brighton and Eastbourne.

Children from Lewes assembled for group photo of the Nevill party on VE Day 1945.

