News from Chalvington, Deanland, Laughton & Ripe

The Bugle

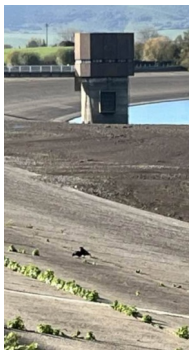
No 316 23rd November 2026
You're in good hands
Contributions to trading.as.wdr@googlemail.com

"The best car safety device is a rear-view mirror with a cop in it."
Dudley Moore

It rains, and then....

Last week saw several discharges of sewage from the treatment plants in Ripe and Laughton. Over Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, untreated water flowed for a total of 10 hours and 6 minutes into the stream that leads to Glynde Reach and the River Ouse.

The Laughton plant recorded sewage discharges on Tuesday and Thursday, for a total of 11 hours 36 minutes. Both works are operated by Southern Water.



Meanwhile Arlington Reservoir is still just 36.1% full, and South East Water have applied to divert more water from the River Cuck. Environmental campaigners say this risks reducing oxygen levels downstream, and could worsen algal blooms, decrease the dilution of sewage and agricultural runoff, and increase tidal salinity upstream.

Council vacancy to fill

Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council are looking for a new councillor to co-opt. One candidate has come forward, but anyone else who may be interested should contact the Parish Clerk, ahead of the next meeting on Monday 7th December. Email chalvingtonwithripeclerk@gmail.com

Last of the season

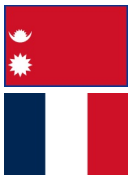
Saturday night brought the traditional celebrations organised by the Chiddingly Bonfire Boys, captured, left, by photographer Roz Bassford.





Still some spaces left for a Quiz Night at The Yew Tree in Chalvington on Friday 27th November, from 7pm. It's a fundraiser for the Ripe Christmas Tree and Christmas Eve celebrations - £15 a head,including supper - please book via the pub or Ripe Village Stores.

Another big foodie week lies ahead at The Roebuck Inn, Laughton. Tuesday 24th November sees the Momo Nepalese street food team outside the pub; Thursday 26th November brings a special French menu inside, bookings requested.



Is that all ?



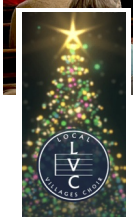
Residents of Church Lane, Chalvington, were left dumbfounded when contractors from East Sussex Highways closed their road for two days - and spent less than three hours rolling out one short patch of tarmac. Paul Griffiths said "We were told to expect scraping and resurfacing. Instead, they've simply laid tarmac on one degraded area, and left the rest untouched".

According to Mr Griffiths, even the on-site workers recognised this was unacceptable, and would have to be scraped off again ahead of proper repairs. The Parish Council has raised a complaint with East Sussex.



Bravo !

Warm applause for LVC and guest soloists after their performance of Mozart's Missa Solemnis in Holy Cross Church, Uckfield on Saturday.



Next up from LVC: An invitation to come and sing carols by candlight at Laughton Church (not Ripe as we said last week) at 5pm on Saturday 12th December. Tickets £10 via www.lvchoir.org.uk



Willow-weaving tutor Mel Roberts leads a Christmas workshop at Laughton Church on Thursday 3rd December, from 9:30pm to 12:00. No previous experience needed - all the materials, tools and easy guidance provided to create a Christmas Angel, with coffee, cake and a brief Christmas message. Donations of £28 cover costs. Please contact Emma to book, via email to Emma.oseimensah@btinternet.com by Wednesday 25th November.



Next services: Sunday 29th November -
8:30am Holy Communion at Chalvington
10:30am Deanland Wood Park Praise



Glynde Winter Art Fair

There'll be art, ceramics and jewellery on sale in the Winter Art Fair at Glynde Social Club, from 11am to 6pm on Saturday and Sunday 5th and 6th December.

Left: a painting from Ripe-based artist Donna Leighton

Another of Ripe's artists, Karen Thyer has once again produced a charming Christmas card featuring the Ripe Christmas Tree and Ripe Village Stores; this year's is now ready to order from RVS.

