

# Heyshott Village



Richard Cobden 1804-1865

# Newsletter

Heyshott Parish Council <https://heyshott.org.uk/>

December 2025

## HEYSHOTT CHRISTMAS BAZAAR SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER

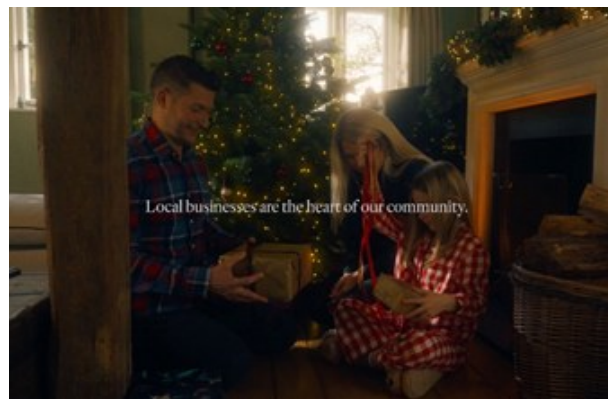
It's the Heyshott Christmas Bazaar this coming Saturday, December 6, to raise money for the church, and we hope to see lots of people at the hall – whether to buy your Christmas presents early or simply for a mince pie and glass of mulled wine and a chat. We'll have the usual Christmas stalls selling presents, bric a brac, books and toys, produce and cakes, plus the Christmas tombola, with Christmas music, decorations and mulled wine! The Bazaar begins at 2pm and ends after the raffle is called at 4pm – if you'd like to be a millionaire, the raffle could be your chance this year!

If you'd still like to donate to the Bazaar, we are still looking for autumn produce (vegetables, preserves, chutneys), cakes or mince pies, toys, and small prizes (like sweets, crayons, small toys) for the tombola – thank you! And if you'd like to help on the day – setting up, clearing up or on one of the stalls – please either contact the stallholders: Nick Sherwin for the tombola, John and Tricia Murray for produce, Elizabeth and Fiona Mackay on bric a brac, Tanya Ward or Georgie Wykeham on toys, Tom Eden on books, Jon and Ildiko Coles for the raffle, Victoria Pender for cakes, or alternatively one of the Bazaar organisers, details below. Many thanks and look forward to seeing you at the weekend!

Nick Sherwin is on [nick.sherwin@me.com](mailto:nick.sherwin@me.com)  
Victoria Pender is on [v.pender@btinternet.com](mailto:v.pender@btinternet.com)  
Tanya Ward is on [tanyaward@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tanyaward@yahoo.co.uk)  
Jane Moran is on [polecats50@gmail.com](mailto:polecats50@gmail.com)  
Dinah Lamming is on [dinah.lamming@btinternet.com](mailto:dinah.lamming@btinternet.com)

the Crib Service for young and old will be at 2 pm on Christmas Eve  
- the Christmas Day Holy Communion service will be at 10.30 am.

*" My family featured in the "2025 Midhurst Christmas Advert" which was shot a few weeks ago at our home in Leggs Lane, Heyshott. Produced by local agency, Scaffell Media Ltd. this year's advert celebrates the magic of Midhurst at Christmas and captures the value of shopping locally. Last year's advert caught the attention of some large media outlets across the South, so keep an eye out for it! "*



I think this is a really fun piece of Heyshott village news, and featuring it in the newsletter will help to highlight the advert and promote local businesses .

We've been asked multiple times by our neighbours what we were up to, so this is a good opportunity to let them know!

Sarah Pailthorpe

**COBDEN TALKS:  
AUTUMN 2025  
BAR OPENS AT 6.30  
P.M. AND TALKS  
START AT 7 P.M.**

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at 7.00 p.m.  
Martin West on What did your mother/  
grandmother do during the War?

**COBDEN CINEMA:  
AUTUMN 2025**

**MATINEES AT 2.00**  
Monday 22 December: Wick-  
ed (2hrs 40 mins)

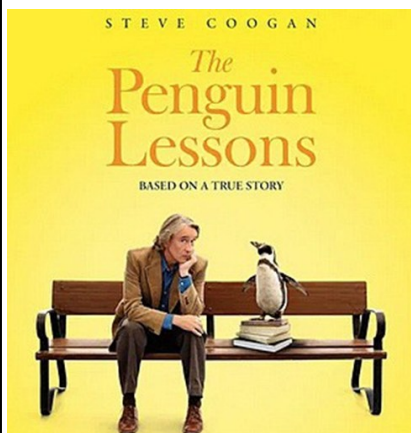
**EVENING SCREENING ON  
THURSDAYS**

Bar opens at 6.00 p.m. Films  
start at 6.30 p.m.

Thursday 18 December at  
6.30 p.m. The Penguin Les-  
sons with Steve Coogan (1hr  
40 mins)

Thursday 8 January 2026 at 6.30  
p.m.

Black Bag, a gripping spy drama,  
with Cate Blanchett and Michael  
Fassbender, directed by Steven  
Soderbergh. ( 1hr 33 mins)



“The foodbank was there when we really needed it, it was an absolute lifeline.”

We don't think anyone in our community should have to face going hungry. That's why we provide three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and other essentials to local people who are referred to us in crisis.

Our volunteers signpost people to agencies who can help provide support with a wide range of issues, including housing, debt management, childcare and mental wellbeing.

We are part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by Trussell, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK.

<https://chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk>

I have become an ambassador for the foodbank, which supports our local area, and am asking for help please for this valuable cause. Donations of food and other items can be put in the box at the back of the church, or cash, which is always welcome, can be donated via the website above.

The items which are particularly needed at the moment are; lunch box treats e.g. Kit Kat, tea & coffee, toothpaste and toothbrushes, tinned meat, toilet & kitchen roll, sponge puddings, tinned fruit, tinned vegetables, UHT fruit juice & milk, shaving gel & razors, vegetarian & vegan tinned or packet foods, washing up liquid.

Thank you, Tanya Ward , 07765 346455

**HEYSHOTT PARISH COUNCIL**

[clerk@heyshott.org.uk](mailto:clerk@heyshott.org.uk)

**HEYSHOTT PLAYGROUND**

The Parish Council would like to thank Jane Riley for all her hard work as Chairperson of the Playground Committee as she steps down. Jane recently oversaw the fantastic installation of the new climbing frame and swing and worked hard along with the whole committee to secure the funding.

Sarah Pailthorpe is the new Chairperson and looks forward to involving as many families in the village as she can for its exciting next phase.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  
TUESDAY 13 JANUARY 2026 AT 7pm IN THE COBDEN HALL  
Our Budget for 2026 to 2027 will be discussed at this meeting and the precept set. The precept is the tax that HPC charges local electors to meet its budget requirements. All parishioners are most welcome to attend our meetings and raise matters that concern them.

**“useful phone numbers**

Riverbank Medical Centre -  
01730 812121

Haslemere Minor Injuries  
Unit - 01483 782334

Police - 999; non emergency  
101

Burst water mains, Southern  
Water - 0800 820 999

Power cuts, Scottish &  
Southern - 0800 0727282

Bee swarms - 01798 343470

Chichester District Council -  
01243 534734

Citizens Advice - 03448  
487969

The Unicorn Inn - 01730  
813486

West Sussex County Council  
- 01243 777100

County Councillor, Tom Rich-  
ardson - 07463 785039

## Heyshott Cook's Corner



### YULE SLICE

**Bridget Adler**

Perfect for health-conscious people who still like a Christmas treat, this is dairy-free and full of fruit and nuts – delicious with ice cream as a pudding or instead of a slice of Christmas cake

200g walnut halves  
100g hazelnut

50g blanched almond  
200g raisin  
100g pitted date chopped  
200g dried apricot chopped  
140g dried cranberries (instead of glazed cherries)  
100g plain flour  
2 tsp mixed spice  
½ tsp baking powder  
175g dark muscovado sugar  
3 eggs  
1 tsp vanilla extract

Heat oven to 150C/fan 130C/gas 2. Line the base and sides of a 1.5-litre loaf tin (a long thin one is best) with baking parchment. Mix the nuts and dried fruit thoroughly in a large bowl using your hands. Sift in the flour, spice and baking powder, then add the sugar and mix everything well. Beat the eggs with the vanilla, then add to the dry mix, turning everything together well until there is no dry mix visible.

### Step 2

Turn into the prepared tin and smooth the top. Bake for 1½-1¾ hrs, then cool in the tin for 15 mins. Turn out, peel off the paper and cool on a wire rack. Dust the top thickly with icing sugar, to serve.

## Heyshott Nature Notes



Keen arachnophiles will have spotted a story reported by the BBC and the Times that a species of spider last seen on the UK in the 1980s has been rediscovered at the same site on the Isle of Wight. This spider is known as the White-knuckled Wolf Spider and is the only UK species of the genus 'Aulonia'. It is however only distinguishable from a species of a different genus (one of the so-called 'Otter Spiders') by the white patella of its pedipalp (i.e. it has white dots on the knee-caps of its forward appendages). The spider is approximately 4mm long and was found on part of a National Trust reserve only accessible by boat; the story perhaps typifies the single mindedness needed to be a spider recorder.

One of the two 'finders', Graeme Lyons, is known to many in Heyshott. He has carried out invertebrate and fauna surveys on the Heyshott reserves of the Murray Downland Trust and has given talks on his survey results in the Cobden Hall. Unfortunately for Heyshott, Graeme now regards the rediscovery of this wolf spider on the Island as the likely highlight of his career, but that is not to say that the population of spiders at Heyshott is other than remarkable.

The Murray Downland Trust first commissioned a survey of the spider populations on Heyshott Escarpment and Heyshott Down in 2008.

101 different species were identified, covering an enormous range of crab spiders, jumping spiders, wolf spiders, and web weavers, including trapdoor weavers and some woodlice specialists and ant specialists.

There seems however to be one common feature, which is that spiders, whatever their mode of collecting their prey, are opportunist 'wait and see' predators. Unlike many insects, spiders are not generally associated with particular plants; they are usually generalist predators and, from a management perspective, spiders will thrive the more abundant and varied the insect population on which they feed. The wider the variety of flora, the greater the availability of insects and the healthier the populations of spiders will be.

Graeme's latest survey in 2022 covered all the Murray Downland Trust reserves and identified 119 different species of spider. 17 of these species had 'conservation status', but Graeme's work across Sussex and beyond has shown that many of these 'statuses' are often out of date or misleading - many species which are described as Nationally Scarce can be locally common. But some are clearly not, and two Heyshott examples in particular were exciting finds:

- *Araneus alsine*, known as the strawberry spider, is restricted to bogs in northern Scotland and limited areas in southern England; it is an orb web spider spinning webs with a closed hubs in low vegetation. Its speckled orange coloration is highly distinctive and justifies its common name.
- *Phaeocedus braccatus* is a rare ground spider generally only found on chalk grassland in just a few areas in the South of England. It is the only UK species in its genus and, unlike most ground spiders, is diurnal. At first sight it resembles and moves like an ant, but no ant has such a distinctive patterning of three pairs of white spots on its abdomen.

Nick Sherwin.

## Editor

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**Material for the  
January 2026  
Edition to reach  
Chris Boxley by 20th  
December please**

## The Unicorn Inn      01730 813486

### HEYSHOTT LUNCH CLUB

The next Lunch Club Date is  
Wednesday 17th December

For the Christmas Lunch it is £13

If you are planning to attend, it would be ever so helpful if you could contact us at the Unicorn by **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December** so we are able to determine numbers.



### Christmas Openings

Just to let you know we have been booked out for Private Party on: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December – from 11am to 4pm.

We are fully booked for Christmas Day lunch one. And we would love to see you for a drink if you haven't been lucky enough to get a table this year.

### A short note from Monty:

I would just like to say thank you for all the nice messages and texts I've had about the ditching. And thank you to Chris Weeks and Heyshott Parish Council for using a local contractor. It's a nice job and I enjoy doing it, hopefully will again.

## Heyshott Church Notices

Christmas is coming and our services at St James will be at the now regular times:

- the Crib Service for young and old will be at 2 pm on Christmas Eve
- the Christmas Day Holy Communion service will be at 10.30 am.

In addition:

- there will be a short evensong service with carols at 6pm on Sunday 21 December, prior to the start of our traditional village carol singing raising funds for the Children's Society
- the popular benefice wide 'readings and carols' service will take place at Bepton Church at 3pm on Sunday 14 December (please check the timing beforehand on the underthedowns website as the 3pm start may have to be brought forward owing to the tower work taking place at St Mary's).

The post Christmas morning service on Sunday 28 December will be a benefice wide service at Cocking Church at 10 am. There will therefore be no morning service at St James on 28 December, but the other Sunday services in December follow the usual pattern, viz:

- services of Holy Communion at 11.15 am on Sunday 7, Sunday 14 and Sunday 21 December
- evensong said at 6 pm on each Sunday in December.

The Heyshott PCC would like to wish all in Heyshott a very happy Christmas and very best wishes for 2026. Those who have sung in the village carol singing in previous years will receive an email with timings. Please would anyone who has not sung before but would like to join this year email [nick.sherwin@me.com](mailto:nick.sherwin@me.com) to be included in that email. And please do come to the Unicorn at 8 pm on Christmas Eve for our usual rousing Christmas village sing song.'

**Nick Sherwin.**

