

# Heyshott Village



Richard Cobden 1804-1865

# Newsletter

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

October 2025

## HEYSHOTT PARISH COUNCIL

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

Website: <https://heyshott.org.uk/>

## WEST SUSSEX ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (WSALC) CONFERENCE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEVOLUTION

The meeting was held at the Midhurst Grange Centre on Friday 4 July 2025 and attended by Chris Weeks, HPC Chairman, and the Clerk.

Population: West Sussex  
885,100 estimate 2025  
East Sussex  
546,400 estimate for 2025  
Brighton & Hove  
276,300 estimate 2025

There will be a mayor for the whole of Sussex and unitary authorities instead of District and County Councils. Brighton and Hove City Council is a unitary authority.

There are 150 parish councils in West Sussex, 103 in East Sussex and 1 in B & H

Timetable: 2026 Mayoral elections  
2027 Shadow Unitary authority elections

2028 New Authority April 2028

## Mayor

The mayor's office will be funded by taxpayers with a contribution from the Government.

The mayor will have the power and leverage to get strategic government in place and hold the Government to account.

The mayoral office will take over and have county-wide responsibility for:

Housing with a target of 7,500 new builds where currently it is 4,000.

As the highway authority will be able to implement improvements to the whole of the A27 rather than the current piecemeal plans.

Communications which are not currently fit for purpose and not helping businesses to be successful.

Social care of old and young with costs far outstripping the cash given by the Government. For example,

the education budget for special needs is £31m for West Sussex alone which is not sustainable. Social care will have funding for 30 years which facilitates forward planning.

The mayoral authority will be a people's body with 6 representatives from the unitary authorities and the mayor. It will have majority voting. The Sussex population is 1.7m so it could be 2 each for East and West Sussex and 1 from Brighton & Hove and possibly 1 parish council representative.

The cost of set up is £1m.

## Unitary authorities

Unitary authorities should have no less than 500,000 people

Financial resilience is essential - larger authorities will be better able to withstand shocks.

There are 43,000 local council employees in Sussex who were facing change or redundancy.

All the Councils in Sussex are working together to try and get agreement although Brighton & Hove City Council does not want change. East Sussex wished to remain as one unitary authority.

The deadline for informing the Government of their preferences is 26 September 2025.

There has been a public consultation and the recommendations of our authorities has just be made: WSCC is for one unitary authority taking in whole of West Sussex; CDC is for 2 unitary authorities in the West Sussex area. The Government's decision is due in March 2026.

## DATE OF NEXT MEETING – PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME TUESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2025 AT 7pm IN THE COBDEN HALL.

At this meeting, members will be putting forward budget proposals for the next financial year 2026-2027. If parishioners have any ideas, please talk to a parish councillor or email the clerk: [clerk@heyshott.org.uk](mailto:clerk@heyshott.org.uk)

## HARVEST FESTIVAL

A reminder that the Harvest Festival and Supper will be this coming Sunday evening, October 5. Our traditional harvest choral evensong at St James is at 6pm with supper following at 7pm in the hall – we will be joined for both by the county's High Sheriff and his wife, Dr and Mrs Fooks (<https://www.westsussexlieutenancy.org.uk/high-sheriff>). Everyone is welcome to join us for either or both, no need to let us know, but if you would like to help at the supper or to bring a pudding, then please email Dinah on [dinah.lamming@btinternet.com](mailto:dinah.lamming@btinternet.com) – thank you!



## BONFIRE – KEY DATES:

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 10am – 11am: Torch Making with Monty at The Unicorn

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October, 9.00am: Bonfire building opposite The Unicorn

Saturday 25<sup>st</sup> October, 9.00am: More Bonfire building (as required)

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November, 10.00am: Marquee Building at The Unicorn

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November, 9.00am: Clear up – starting from The Unicorn  
The Road Closure Order will be effective from 5.00pm - 9.00pm on 8<sup>th</sup> November. Parking will be supervised by professional event car parkers.

Village Car Passes which will enable you to drive into Heyshott until 6pm will be available for collection from The Unicorn until Friday

**COBDEN TALKS:  
AUTUMN 2025**

**BAR OPENS AT 6.30 P.M. AND  
TALKS START AT 7 P.M.**

Thursday 16<sup>TH</sup> October 2025 at 7.00 p.m.

The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Lewis-Jong will talk about The Psychology of Death

Thursday 13th November 2025 at 7.00 p.m.

Peter Booth will talk and screen his film of The Booths' Adventures in Outback Australia.

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 27 October: Frozen 2 (1hr 43 mins)

Monday 22 December: Wicked (2hrs 40 mins)

**EVENING SCREENING ON THURSDAYS**

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

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30 p.m. Roman Holiday with Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck (113 mins)

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30 p.m. Going in Style with Morgan Freeman, Michael Caine and Alan Arkin (1hr 32 mins)

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



# Heyshott Cook's Corner

A recipe from Anthea Philip

## Blackberry and Apple Crumble

The blackberries are in abundance this year, so large and sweet so using John and Tricia Murray's delicious bramley apples, I made my first crumble of the year, yesterday. I have picked and frozen enough to keep me going all winter. I hope you enjoy one of my favourite recipes.

Serves 8  
8 medium bramley apples peeled and cored  
3-4 ounces blackberries  
2-3 ounces sugar, half caster half demerara

Crumble mixture  
6 ounces plain flour  
4 ounces olive oil/butter  
2-3 ounces oats  
3 ounces demerara sugar

### Method

Turn on oven to 180 degrees C or 350 degrees F. Slice apples and place in saucepan with sugar and gently simmer until the apples are soft but not pureed. They need to keep their shape since they will continue to cook in the oven. Taste the apples before adding the blackberries, I don't like mine too sweet. Add the blackberries and stir, then turn off the heat. Whilst the apples are cooking, make the crumble mixture. Mix the flour and butter by hand or in a blender till they look like breadcrumbs then add the sugar and stir in the oats; they need to remain whole.

Place the apples and blackberries in a dish and scatter the crumble mixture over the top, pressing down firmly with the back of a spoon. Place in the centre of the oven if no fan and cook for 20 mins, or until golden on top.

## The Cobden Young Persons' Bursary

Launched in recognition of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Cobden Young Persons' Bursary is open for applications from young people aged 16-25 who are resident within the Parish of Heyshott. We are looking for applications from young people who wish to develop their skills and progress their education. This might include assisting with course funding or travel abroad for voluntary work or training. This is an exciting new opportunity for the young people of Heyshott and we, the Heyshott Cobden Hall Charity, look forward to your applications. If you are interested in applying or have any questions, please telephone James Simpson on: 01730 815889 or email [jamesimpson@unicornwriters.com](mailto:jamesimpson@unicornwriters.com)

# Heyshott Nature Notes



breedings in the county. Unlike the Garden Warbler, it is however a distinctive bird, recognisable both by its large rounded

pad of a tail and also by its behaviour - the Grasshopper Warbler is a ground nester and if startled will typically drop down to the ground and make its escape from perceived danger by hopping rather than flying. Its name derives from its song rather than its behaviour, and in countries where the sound of crickets is more widespread than in the UK it's song can often be mistaken for that of a hopper.

The indications from nationwide counts are that this summer, warm and dry, has been a good one for our native butterflies, with the numbers of some species more than double those for 2024. There is no reason to suppose that this has not been reflected more broadly amongst our invertebrates and an increased number of invertebrates may explain some unusual sightings of breeding insectivores in Heyshott this summer.

Perhaps even more welcome is the confirmed breeding of a Spotted Flycatcher in Heyshott, behind Bakersfield (photo courtesy Furse Simpson). Residents of a certain age will remember when the Spotted Fly was a common garden breeding bird throughout England, choosing unusual nest sites such as car ports and showing off its fly catching technique returning to the same perch after a successful hunt. Alas no more, for populations of this bird across the UK have declined by approximately two-thirds since the early 1990s and the number of breeding territories in Sussex has now probably reduced well below 500. This decline is thought to owe more to conditions in its Central African wintering grounds rather than here, but its reappearance in Heyshott is an indication of woodland in good condition and perhaps also a reduction of numbers of squirrels and other predators.

The Garden Warbler is misnamed, for it is rare that it breeds in gardens. It has appeared in this column before, as an early migrant appearing in Heyshott much earlier in the Spring than usually reported in Sussex. It is seldom seen, usually only recognised by its throaty song heard from deep thicket reminiscent of, but somewhat more evenly paced, than the urgent warbling of the Blackcap. But it is a bird which breeds in Heyshott and was noticeable in a Heyshott garden in this year's breeding season. The Garden Warbler is best identified by its lack of features - a bird which is uniformly buff, has no eye stripe and has no wing bar enables one to exclude other species of warbler.

More unusual was the confirmed breeding of a Grasshopper Warbler in an (admittedly scrubby) Heyshott garden. The Grasshopper Warbler is not thought of as a garden bird and indeed is generally not thought of as a Sussex bird, with few recorded

Nick Sherwin.

## Editor

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**Material for the  
November 2025  
Edition to reach  
Chris Boxley by 20th  
October please**

## The Unicorn Inn

**01730 813486**

### HEYSHOTT LUNCH CLUB

The next Lunch Club Date is Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October

We will be serving Cottage Pie followed by Chocolate Blancmange.

If you are planning to attend, please let us know by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October.



### Race Night – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 8pm

A charity race night raising money for Dreams come True.

If you can't make it on the night, you can always sponsor a race, be a jockey or an owner and make a donation to Dreams Come True



Plus Master Pumpkin Carver – Monty will be on site to help any kids with their carving from 4pm). Dreams Come True.

## Heyshott Church Notices

Our Harvest celebrations are on Sunday October 5 (see front page for full information). Our traditional Harvest choral evensong at St James is at 6 pm and accordingly there will be no morning service at St James on 5 October.

Other Sunday services at St James follow the usual pattern, viz:

- services of Holy Communion at 11.15 am on Sunday 12 and Sunday 19 October
- service of Matins at 9.30 am on Sunday 26 October
- evensong or compline will be said in church at 6 pm on each of these Sundays.

Jonathan continues his monthly study group on the Nicene Creed with the next session in Cocking Rectory at 11 am on Tuesday 21 October. As always, all are welcome and each session is self-standing so there is no need to have attended previous sessions

**Nick Sherwin.**

