



Richard Cobden 1804-1865

Newsletter

[Heyshott Parish Council](https://heyshottparishcouncil.gov.uk) <https://heyshottparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Easter Sunday is on 5 April and the Easter morning service in St James will be at 11.15 am and will be followed by our traditional Easter Egg hunt in the churchyard for the young in heart. Full details of Easter church activities in the benefice are set out in the church notes on the back page.

The annual Garden Event supporting the Murray Downland Trust will take place from 11 am until 4 pm at the home of Philip and Jean Jackson at Caster's Brook in Cocking on Saturday 9 May. The highlight will again be the display of Philip's internationally renowned sculptures. Full details will be in the May newsletter

May Day and Bonfire News in a letter from Laura

Following on from the Chairman's report in last month's newsletter, I would like to say how grateful I am that those people who were very disappointed that last years' bonfire was cancelled due to my stroke, were able to push aside their disappointment to wish me good health and a speedy recovery, which thankfully has been the case.

Monty and I have decided to go out with a bang (pun very much intended) and will be organising and running the dual events of May Day and Bonfire as we have done for over a decade now! After this year's bonfire we will hand the reins and paraphernalia over to whomever comes forward and wish them all the success that we have enjoyed.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind all those that we cajole and badger into helping that we will again be calling on you, and thank you in advance for your help, and for your assistance previously as these events do not happen without you.

With May just around the corner we will hold a May Day meeting on Tuesday 7th April at 8pm in the Unicorn. All are welcome. Laura.

HEYSHOTT PARISH COUNCIL

clerk@heyshottparishcouncil.gov.uk

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL 2026 AT 7pm IN THE COBDEN HALL

This meeting is arranged by the Chairman of HPC on behalf of all parishioners.

There will be reports from village organisations, the local government councillors and the guest speaker is Katherine Hood.

If you have any questions or ideas for improving Heyshott, do please come along to the meeting. We have wine and refreshments at this meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS The HPC ANNUAL MEETING AT 7pm on TUESDAY 12 MAY in the COBDEN HALL will be followed by an HPC meeting.

Cobden Talk

Thursday 2nd April Bar opens at 6.30 p.m. and Talk starts at 7 p.m.

Katherine and Carlos, of the Heyshott Veterinary Practice, will talk on 'Paws Through Time': Understanding Ageing in Cats and Dogs.

Cobden Cinema

Bar opens at 6 p.m. Film starts at 6.30 p.m.

Thursday 23 April: Roofman, with Channing Tatum and Kirsten Dunst, is an American crime comedy. It is based on the life of Jeffrey Manchester who robbed McDonald's locations by drilling through their roofs. (2hrs 6 mins.)



Last month, Sarah Adams, CEO of our local foodbank, gave the Cobden talk. We were struck by the care and respect shown in understanding each client's situation, and the way the foodbank works with other agencies to help people get back on their feet. Alongside this, there is an impressive logistical effort to ensure emergency provisions reach those who need them most.

If you're able, please consider adding one or two items to your shopping this month. The foodbank is grateful for all non-perishable food donations, as well as essential non-food items such as toiletries, washing powder, nappies, sanitary products and pet food. Donations can be

placed in the box at the back of the church, which is open all day, every day.

They are currently in urgent need of:

- Toothbrushes
- Size 7 nappies
- Fruit squash (to dilute)
- Instant coffee
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Tomato ketchup
- Tinned potatoes or instant mash
- Tinned meat meals

Cash donations are also very welcome via the Chichester District Foodbank website. While food donations are vital, financial contributions help fund additional support such as cooking classes and other initiatives that enable people to build skills and regain independence. They also allow the foodbank to purchase essential items needed to complete food parcels.

Thank you very much for your continued support.

Tanya Ward
07765 346455

Heyshott Cook's Corner

Beef Ragu

Serves 4-6

Prep time app. 30mins

Cook time app. 2hrs

Ingredients

Pack of diced braising steak, 1 onion, 3 cloves of garlic, mixed herbs, tin chopped tomatoes, red wine, tomato puree, Worcestershire sauce, caster sugar, salt and pepper.

Method

Pre-heat fan oven to 150 degrees

Heat olive oil in a casserole dish on the hob and brown the meat. At the same time add olive oil to a frying pan and add the chopped onions for a few minutes until softened, then add the crushed garlic, add to the casserole dish when softened.

Add mixed herbs and cook for a further couple of minutes.

Add tomato puree and stir in well.

Add tinned tomatoes and refill tin halfway with red wine and add that too.

Add a few dashes of Worcester Sauce, 2 pinches of sugar (to lessen the acidity) and plenty of salt and pepper.

Bring to boil on the hob then put lid on and put into oven for @ 2hrs 20mins

Check occasionally and add water as needed

Serve with spaghetti and parmesan

This recipe was handed down by my late wife's Italian grandmother Concetta.

Barry Ingall

Heyshott Nature Notes

An Ant Hill



This activity creates what could be considered as a separate habitat from the surrounding thicker grasses. The hillock tops are dryer, and this enables smaller flora such as wild thyme to survive with less competition from the thicker grasses elsewhere. This can attract specialist invertebrates, such as the Chalk Hill Blue butterfly, a late flying butterfly seen on Heyshott Escarpment in mid to late summer and reliant upon Horse Shoe Vetch and some

There are said to be over 60 species of ant living in the UK. This is already too much information, for many are localised and many are introduced. Surveys on the Murray Downland Trust reserves have identified 10 species as present, and the species best known in our village will be the Black Garden Ant, thousands of which emerge on the wing in our gardens in mid summer.

However, the best identifiers for some of the oldest grassland in Heyshott are the ant-hills of colonies of Yellow Meadow Ants. Some of these anthills are centuries old. Yet the ants themselves are seldom seen, rarely appearing above ground.

These ants are a closely related species to our familiar garden ants. Their dining habits are similar also, with a penchant for the honeydew produced by aphids which they are able to 'farm' for the purpose. In winter they may eat the aphids themselves. They forage below the surface and if one is seen above ground, it is usually a queen seeking a new nest site.

This underground foraging leads to the creation of nests which are pushed up and then dot across suitable grassland.

other low growing members of the pea family as foodstuff for its larvae. The hillocks also attract rabbits for use as latrines, perhaps indirectly further enhancing the localised flora.

The grass covering to the ant-hills provides the ants with a degree of protection from predators. But predators there are, both mining bees and wasps and also our misnamed Green Woodpeckers, better known for their searching for ants on the ground than for their wood pecking and better named by their onomatopoeic 'Yaffle'.

When it comes to defence, the meadow ants have no sting. For this reason they are often recommended as a suitable ant to keep as pets in order to study the operation of a colony. But this is somewhat simplistic, for the absence of a sting is made up for the presence of a bite which is supplemented by the production of formic acid. The combination is by no means pleasant, and if an emergent colony is disturbed by an enthusiastic gardener, they are best left alone.

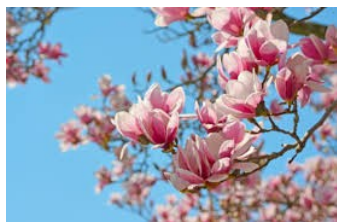
Nick Sherwin.

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**Material for the May
2026 Edition to
reach Chris Boxley
by 20th April please**

The Unicorn Inn

01730 813486



**Easter Saturday – Children’s
Easter Egg Hunt in Unicorn
Beer Garden at 3pm!**

Easter Sunday – don’t forget

to book your table for a delicious lunch.

Heyshott Village Lunch Club

The next Lunch Club is Wednesday 15th April

We will be serving Tagine followed by a Diplomat Slice
If you are planning to attend, it would be ever so helpful
if you could contact us at the Unicorn so we are able to
determine numbers.

Heyshott Church Notices

Easter is here. There are 2 services over Easter at St James, comprising:

- Maundy Thursday service at 7pm on Thursday 2 April, and
- Easter Sunday Holy Communion celebration service at 11.15 am on 5 April.

These services form part of a suite of services led by Jonathan across the benefice for Easter, with:

- a benefice wide candle lit ‘tenebrae’ service of readings and psalms at Cocking church at 7pm on Wednesday 1 April
- a benefice wide Good Friday service at Bepton church at 10 am on Friday 3 April
- a benefice wide Easter Vigil service at Cocking church at 8.30 pm on Saturday 4 April.

As Jonathan informed the village in his letter accompanying last month’s newsletter, his time in our benefice is coming to an end, and his last service at Heyshott will be on Sunday 10 May. His last service at Bepton church will be at 11.15 am on Sunday 26 April - this will be a benefice wide service and there will therefore be no morning service at St James on 26 April.

The other Sunday services at St James in April will however follow the usual pattern, viz:

- services of Holy Communion at 11.15 am on each of Sunday 12 and Sunday 19 April
- evensong or compline said in church each Sunday in April at 6 pm.

The morning service on Sunday 19 April will be followed in church at 12.30pm by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, at which the annual accounts of St James’ PCC will be presented and members will be elected to the PCC for the forthcoming year, and by the separate meeting to elect churchwardens for St James for the forthcoming year. All those on the church’s electoral roll are entitled to attend these meetings - if you wish to check whether you are on the roll or wish to join the roll, please email nick.sherwin@me.com. Those who are registered to vote in local elections in Heyshott are also entitled to attend the second meeting to elect churchwardens, whether or not they are on the church’s electoral roll. Anyone wishing to join the PCC or to serve as a churchwarden should email Jonathan at frjonathan@underthedowns.co.uk.

Nick Sherwin.

