

Creating
Togetherness

COCKING COLUMN

May 2025
Est. 2021

www.cockingcolumn.com

Thurs 8 May, 10am

VE Day 80 Service
Cobden Hall, Heyshott

Thurs 8, 15, 29 May, 3pm

Chair Yoga
Cocking Village Hall

Sun 11 May, 10.45am

Annual Meeting
St Catherine of Siena Church

Sun 11 May, 1pm

VE Day Celebration
Cocking Village Hall

Mon 12 May, 11am

Monthly Service
Pendean Nursing Home

Mon 12 May, 6.30pm

Parish Council Meeting
Cocking Village Hall

Tues 13 May, 11am

Nicene Creed Discussion
Cocking Rectory

Thur 15 May, 10.30am

Village Coffee Morning
Blue Bell

Weds 21 May, 9.30am

Monthly Requiem
St Catherine of Siena Church



To commemorate VE Day on its 80th anniversary, there will be:

- A service and exhibition on 8th May in Heyshott
- A celebration on 11th May in Cocking

Weekly at St Catherine's
Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, 9.30am

Morning Prayer

Thur Fr Jonathan's day off

Sunday, 9.30am Sung Mass

Blue Bell Hours

Sun Bar 12pm-6pm | Food 12pm-4pm

Mon CLOSED

Tue Bar 4pm-10pm | Food 5.30pm-8.30pm

Wed-Sat Bar 12pm-10pm |

Food 12pm-2.30pm, 5.30pm-8.30pm

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meditation Mondays
Mondays, 9.30am
St Catherine of Siena



taizé under the downs
Tuesdays, 9.30am
St Catherine of Siena

UPDATES

Parish Council AGM. The Parish Council AGM held on 21st March was well attended. Our local MP, Andrew Griffith, joined us. Andrew ran a Q&A session which covered a range of topics including Midhurst Bridge roadworks (these have now finished); plans for the Angel Hotel, which include a proposal for it to reopen as commercial units at street level and apartments above; and the SDNPA Local Plan. A summary of other Parish Council news is available on the home page of the village website (www.cocking.org)

Blue Bell Shop Hours. For the village's convenience, the shop will soon be open at 9.30am (as close as possible to) daily, with coffee/tea also available then.

Blue Bell Pub Hours. Food will now also be offered on Tuesdays nights—do check out the Blue Bell's hours on the front page.

Thanks from Mike. Mike Mullins at the Blue Bell would like to thank everyone for their kindness during his bereavement. She was pivotal in helping him arrive at the Blue Bell—and so we all give thanks to her too.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pendean Nursing Home. The next service is at 11am, Mon April 7. Do join us there, or let Fr Jonathan know if anyone would like a visit.

Parish Council Meeting. Monday, 12 May at 6:30pm at the Village Hall. All are welcome.



VE Day. May 8 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of VE Day. The church service commemorating this in this Benefice will be at St James, Heyshott, 10am followed by an exhibition and refreshments at the Cobden Hall. The service will feature reflections from representatives of various branches of the Armed Forces. The *Friends of the Blue Bell* are then offering a celebration on 11 May at Cocking Village Hall—please see the poster at the back of the newsletter.

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Embrace Yoga at Cocking Village Hall
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 Weds 6pm

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 Bookings available

embrace yoga

for more information please visit www.midhurstyoga.co.uk
 or contact Jane Menon
 07841537105 | jane.menon@hotmail.co.uk

Nicene Creed Discussion Group. The discussion group on the Nicene Creed continues 11am, Tuesday 13 May at Cocking Rectory. This session will be on the Resurrection of Christ. No prior knowledge is assumed. Sign up here
<https://underthedowns.co.uk/creed/>

The Nicene Creed
 11am Tuesday, 13 May
 Cocking Rectory

Καὶ ἀναστάντα τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ κατὰ τὰς Γραφάς.
 + + +
 On the third day he rose again
 in accordance with the Scriptures;



Village Coffee Morning. 10.30am, Blue Bell, third Thursday of each month. A wonderful opportunity to catch up with neighbours or get to know village newcomers. No need to book; just turn up—bring a friend. Drinks and biscuits courtesy of *Friends of the Blue Bell*.

Monthly Requiem. 9.30am, Weds 21 May at the parish church. Every month, we remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries fall during the month. If you would like someone to be remembered, please let Fr Jonathan know.

Chair Yoga & Cake. Free Chair Yoga & Cake is at 3-4.30pm on the following Thursdays at the Village Hall: 8, 15, 29 May; 12, 26 June; 10, 24 July. For details, please contact Portia Charles (portiacharles100@gmail.com).

Charlotte Wise
 WELLBEING

WEEKLY PILATES CLASSES
Cocking Village Hall
Mondays 10.30am-11.30am

All are welcome, no experience necessary.
 Please contact me to book your space.

From my home in Cocking I also offer:
 1-2-1 sessions in Pilates and Yoga
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 Bodywork

Contact Charlotte at:
hello@charlottewisewellbeing.com • 07946 421989
www.charlottewisewellbeing.com

SAVE THE DATE

The Chalk Stream Gardens of Cocking. 11am-5pm, June 21. The Cocking Garden event for 2025 will showcase one of the rare Chalk Streams of Sussex and the local gardens along its course. See poster below.

The Odyssey. Troubadour Stageworks is performing a musical adaptation of The Odyssey at Padwicks Farm, Bepton, 6pm 27th June. Tickets available:
<https://troubadourstageworks.com/products>

[/the-odyssey-at-padwicks-farm-27-june-6p](#)
[m](#)



REQUESTS & OFFERS

St Catherine's Gift Day. Every year, around the Feast of St Catherine of Siena (29th April), we ask you—residents of this parish—to consider making a financial contribution to the church's life.

The church costs ~£40,000 a year to run, all of which are raised locally: neither the national Church nor the government provides fundings for us.

We hope that you see value in what the church does, in her life of prayer and worship, her pastoral ministry, her role in village life, and her encouragement towards charitable works.

And so, if you are willing and able, your parish church would be grateful for either a one-off or regular contribution, both of which can be made here:

<https://underthedowns.co.uk/giftday/>



Food Bank. The church serves as a drop-off point for the Food Bank. In May, we are especially collecting **Dry Staples** (e.g., pasta, rice, lentils, pulses).

PHOTOS



The walking group has been out this spring, enjoying the wildflowers



The Lady Chapel undergoes several transformations towards Easter

Gift Day 2025



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VE DAY 80TH CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, 11TH MAY 2025

1PM-5PM

COCKING VILLAGE HALL

Cocking

Remember our wonderful
Jubilee celebrations?

We are doing it all again for
the VE Day 80th celebration

Come & join in and enjoy
free food*

ENTERTAINMENT

40's music & more

Bar - cash & card options

Afternoon tea & cakes

Cars of the era

Face painting

BBQ - hog roast, veggie, burgers

Marquees

- The event is free to Cocking villagers.*
- The hog roast & afternoon tea are free to
Cocking residents or **£10 for non-residents.**
- Transport will be available for villagers.

TIMINGS - APPROXIMATE

FOOD, DRINK & FACEPAINTING

1pm	Bar Opens
1pm - 3pm	Hog Roast Lunch
1pm - 3pm	Facepainting
3pm - 5pm	Afternoon Tea & Cakes

MUSIC

1.15pm - 2pm	Natellie 40's Music
2.15pm - 3pm	Sway Village Band
3.15pm - 4pm	Headline 5pc Band-The Spoils
4.30pm - 5.15pm	Headline 5pc Band-The Spoils



- There will be a 'bucket' collection in aid of the Blue Bell Community Hub.
- Full details can be found on the Blue Bell website: www.thebluebellatcocking.co.uk



Volunteers Needed

We are also seeking volunteers to assist with the setup and for cakes to be donated for the cake stall. If you can help, please email: cockingvillage.events@gmail.com

THE CHALK STREAM GARDENS of COCKING

Saturday 21st June 11 – 5

**One of the rare Chalk Streams of Sussex, its
gardens and c11th Church along its course**

*Come and see these beautiful gardens, their chalk streams, falls, ponds and
wildlife, all nestled in the heart of the South Downs National Park.*

*Featuring sculptures by renowned artist Philip Jackson,
flower display, art, food and more.*

3m south of Midhurst & 8m north of Chichester on A286 (60 bus).

Tickets £8.00 on the day at The Blue Bell Pub or Village Hall.

Children free, dogs welcome, West Sussex GU29 0HU

All proceeds go to Community Hub charity.



www.thebluebellatcocking.co.uk ** view from 'Sculpture Garden'