

# SUSSEX BOOKENDS

A WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE SUSSEX CHARACTER

So many of us live in towns and cities these days and never have a chance to get up close and personal with any four-legged creature bigger than a dog. Children seem especially divorced from country life, often having little or no idea that food starts life anywhere other than on a supermarket shelf. Well why not rectify this tomorrow by attending the Rare Breeds Show at Weald and Downland Museum, Singleton, just north of Chichester.

Who can resist finding out what an Irish Moiled diary cow looks like, or a British Lop pig, let alone a Greyface Dartmoor longwool sheep? Over 500 cattle, sheep, goats and poultry will be on show and competing for prizes. There will also be classes for Fleeces, Handspun Yarns and Young Handlers.

The show starts at 10.30am and finishes at 5pm but do make sure you stay for the Grand Parade of 1st Prize Winners and Best of Breed Champions which takes place at 4pm. For full details call 01243 811348 or visit [www.wealddown.co.uk](http://www.wealddown.co.uk).

## Live & learn

Sussex is sheep country so it's hardly surprising that so many of its customs and traditions reflect the main events of the shepherd's year. This ovine cast has also had an influence on the language and sayings of the county.

At shearing time, bands of itinerant shearers went from farm to farm and each band had a 'tar boy', whose job it was to dab tar on any accidental cuts to the sheep. The saying 'spoiling the ship for a ha'porth of tar', which is often assumed to have naval origins, actually comes from this practice - 'ship' being the dialect pronunciation of 'sheep'.

We would love to hear from readers of similar interesting, quirky or strange facts relating to the county. Email us at: [editorial@snakeriverpress.co.uk](mailto:editorial@snakeriverpress.co.uk)

## Animal Quiz

1 Bramber Museum used to be famous for its grisly collection of which stuffed animal?

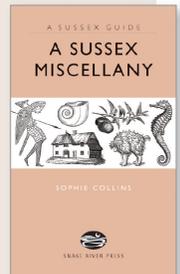
2 Which novel by Virginia Woolf is named after a dog?

3 What sort of creature is a Sussex Buff?

4 Which Brighton park has a pet's cemetery?

5 Wallabies thrive in a Sussex garden, which one?

Email your answers, along with your name and address to: [editorial@snakeriverpress.co.uk](mailto:editorial@snakeriverpress.co.uk). The sender of the first set of correct answers received wins a copy of A Sussex Miscellany by Sophie Collins worth £8.99. The correct answers will be posted at [www.snakeriverpress.co.uk](http://www.snakeriverpress.co.uk) next Saturday.



## Sussex Celebrity

### Sir Edward Burne-Jones 1833-1898



Fans of the Pre-Raphaelite movement are often a little surprised to discover that Burne-Jones's ashes are buried at Rottingdean. In geographical terms, he is associated with Birmingham, where he was born, with Oxford, where he met William Morris, and with London, where he lived for many years.

Rottingdean was where Burne-Jones had a holiday home - North End House. It formed the headquarters for his extended family, or, rather, for the extended family of his wife Georgie, who managed his life for him. Georgie, born Macdonald, was one of four remarkable sisters. Agnes married the successful academic painter Sir Edward Poynter. Alice became the mother of Rudyard Kipling while Louisa was the mother of Stanley Baldwin. Without the Burne-Jones connection to attract him, Kipling would never have chosen to settle in Sussex.

From Sussex Writers and Artists by Edward Lucie-Smith.

## Lost words

“ The Reverend W.D. Parish writes of our

### Word of the Week

**Poor:** Thin. The proverb 'as poor as a church mouse' is connected with this meaning of the word. When the numerous candles which adorned the altar, or were placed before shrines of patron saints, were removed at the Reformation, the mice which formerly frequented the churches were starved out.

Do you know any other old expressions connected with things ecclesiastical? If so email them to [editorial@snakeriverpress.co.uk](mailto:editorial@snakeriverpress.co.uk). The most interesting ones will be posted at [www.snakeriverpress.co.uk](http://www.snakeriverpress.co.uk) next Saturday.

## Out & About in Sussex

It is not only Brighton and Hastings that boast of being south-coast towns with thriving artistic communities but Worthing too. It has its own Open Houses, showcasing an impressive array of talent and a range of work for sale.

The Worthing Open Houses are open this weekend and next with more than 20 venues showing multiple artists. Many

will be serving tea and cakes in their gardens so it promises to be jolly as well as culturally rewarding!

Sarah Young, who drew our Sussex Bookends banner, will be showing her work alongside jewellers, ceramicists, sculptors and a stained-glass artist.

For details please visit [www.openhouses.org.uk](http://www.openhouses.org.uk).

## Light of the World

Sir Edward Burne-Jones designed many stained-glass windows for Morris & Co and we are lucky to have several examples in Sussex.

The company produced 10 windows for G.F. Bodley's splendid church in Brighton, St Michael and All Saints. Alongside windows by William Morris and Ford Madox Brown is a rose

window by Burne-Jones, showing the Madonna and Child with angels striking bells. He is also responsible for The Baptism of Christ and The Flight From Egypt.

Other wonderful examples of his work are on view at St Margaret's, Rottingdean, just a stone's throw from his former house. Do call by when next passing.