

# SUSSEX BOOKENDS

A WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE SUSSEX CHARACTER

It is often said that everyone has at least one book inside them. However, few of us ever even make a tentative start on the 'next great English novel,' daunted perhaps by the sheer staying power needed to complete a full-length work (of whatever dubious quality). But what about trying to write a short story?

This week the 6th Small Wonder Festival opens at Charleston Farmhouse, near Firle. It is the only festival in this country devoted solely to the small but precious genre of the short story. Running from September 24-27 the programme offers a stimulating range of talks and writing workshops, all of which should get the budding author's pen a-twitching!

Among the professional writers appearing at the festival are such well-respected names as Ben Okri, Beryl Bainbridge, Tariq Ali, Owen Sheers and Will Self. For full details of all events visit [www.charleston.org.uk](http://www.charleston.org.uk) and call **01273 709709** to book tickets. Who knows, this time next year your short story could be in print.

## National treasures

Throughout the spring and summer varied events at National Trust sites throughout the county have featured in these pages. As autumn settles in, there seems no let up in the many interesting and entertaining things on offer from the Trust.

Tomorrow is the last chance to catch an exhibition entitled My Favourite Things at Standen, near East

Grinstead. It tells the story behind many of the treasures of this wonderful Arts and Crafts house. Standen, designed by Philip Webb, has beautiful Morris wallpapers and textiles. Over at Bateman's, Burwash, on Monday you can join the estate staff on a Forage for Food Walk. For details of these and other events visit [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)

## Out & About in Sussex

This weekend the tasty Glynde Festival of Food and Drink takes place at Glynde Place, just outside Lewes.

Housed in marquees set amid the beautiful and graceful gardens, with the glorious backdrop of the South Downs behind, a whole host of local producers will be offering food and drink of the highest standard, including Breaky Bottom Vineyard and Ouse Valley Foods. This is a must

for all who love good food and drink and delight in finding something a little bit different.

The event incorporates the English Wine Festival which has been running for an amazing 35 years, making it the oldest festival of its kind.

Open today and tomorrow 10.30am - 5pm, entrance tickets cost £8, call **01273 858224** or visit [www.glynde.co.uk](http://www.glynde.co.uk) for full details.

## Drink Quiz

**1 Is Fallen Angel a make of cider, beer or wine?**

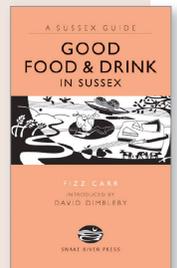
**2 Where in Sussex can the National Collection of Cider and Perry be found?**

**3. Is Bloomsbury a sparkling wine or perry?**

**4 What brewer can be found in the county town of East Sussex?**

**5 Where could you once find the King and Barnes brewery?**

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 Good Food and Drink in Sussex by Fizz Carr worth £8.99. The correct answers will be posted at [www.snakeriverpress.co.uk](http://www.snakeriverpress.co.uk) next Saturday.



## Lost words

“ In his Dictionary of Sussex Dialect the Reverend W.D. Parish gives examples of many old phrases that seem to convey an innate logic.

For instance the phrase 'catch hot' means to suffer from a fever. 'Catch hurt' means to meet with an accident. The Reverend goes on to tell the story of an old man who once told him that he had 'caught hurt at Chiddingly Church', meaning that he had got married there!

We would love to hear of other old Sussex sayings and entertaining stories, do 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.

## HOVE MUSEUM

A visit to Hove Museum is a perfect way to spend a wet autumn afternoon, entailing a slice of culture followed by a great piece of cake! The museum is housed in an Italianate Victorian villa. It has been refurbished and is accessible to all, with a great café and lovely little shop, which often sells work by featured artists. Outside the museum is a very distinctive structure, the Jaipur Gate. It was made for an exhibition opened by Queen Victoria in Kensington, London, in 1886, and formed part of the entrance to exhibition courts showing Indian crafts. The gate was designed by two Englishmen and carved by Indian craftsmen. The motto of the Maharajas of Jaipur is carved in English, Sanskrit and Latin 'Where virtue is, there is victory'. A Latin inscription on the back reads: 'From the east comes light', which, of course, is true.

Taken from Old-Fashioned Family Days Out by Susan and Gina Jamieson.



## Live & learn

At this time of year the hedgerows of Sussex are a lovely sight, full of rose hips, sloes and hawthorn berries.

To lay a hedge properly is a skill too rarely seen today. A layered hedge is made by taking stakes from the old growth and weaving the rest between them, to make a solid structure.

In different parts of the county 'layering' was interchangeable with 'splashing' or 'splishering'. The term 'splisher' could also mean to bury the cut stems in the ground in the hope that they would take root to grow in the new hedge

In the north and west of the county a 'rossel' is the term for a quick-layered hedge, while in the east Weald it refers to a raddle, or woven, fence. But in the Downs it is a low wall.