

SUSSEX BOOKENDS

A WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE SUSSEX CHARACTER

In a previous Lost Words feature I asked if readers knew of place names with Sussex origins. I had the following very interesting correspondence from Bruce Smith. He writes, 'The main item in my list of Sussex-inspired place names is Brighton, which is how locals refer to New Brighton, a coastal suburb of Christchurch, New Zealand and a seaside resort, as you might expect. (The seas there, especially the currents, can be quite dangerous, though many bathers are to be seen 'between the flags': New Zealand's Brighton had the first lifeguard service in the country, founded in 1910.)

However, the name is only indirectly taken from the Brighton I'm now living in, as the place is apparently named after New Brighton in Cheshire. The number of Brightons in the English-speaking world, and perhaps beyond, must be quite large: there's one in Cornwall, for a start, as well as another in New Zealand, near Dunedin. and a famous one, courtesy of Neil Simon, is to be found near New York City.'

Live & learn

The Royal Sussex Regiment was founded in 1881; it was formed from the 35th Regiment of Foot (the Royal Sussex) and the 107th Regiment of Foot (the Bengal Light Infantry). It had two battalions, the first of which spent World War I at the North West Frontier, while the second fought in the trenches. The regiment served between 1861 and 1966. Its worst moment came on June 30 1916 in France, later known as 'the day Sussex died'; 17 officers and 349 men were killed and a further 1000 wounded or taken prisoner.

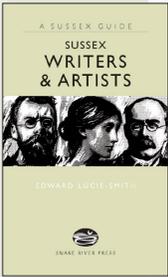
Motto: Nothing Succeeds like Success.

Regimental March: John Baines' Regimental Marches. Affectionately known as: The Haddocks, The Iron Regiment, The Orange Lilies.

Miscellany Quiz

- 1 Name one other famous writer, apart from Henry James, who lived at Lamb House, Rye.
- 2 When was the Battle of Haywards Heath?
- 3 Did Brighton resident Phoebe Hessel claim to be a soldier or a sailor?
- 4 What month was the Battle of Hastings, 1066, fought?
- 5 What is Posingford Bridge better known as?

Email your answers, along with your name and address to: editorial@snakeriverpress.co.uk. The sender of the first set of correct answers received wins a copy of *Sussex Writers & Artists* by Edward Lucie-Smith worth £8.99. The correct answers will be posted at www.snakeriverpress.co.uk next Saturday.



Sussex Celebrity

Henry James 1843-1916



Henry James was born in New York, and came from a well-known, and also wealthy, family of American intellectuals. His formation as a writer was thoroughly cosmopolitan - he studied, at various times, in Geneva, London, Paris, Bologna and Bonn. He also spent a brief period at Harvard Law School.

His first European residence was Paris, where he sometimes wrote for the New York Tribune, but soon moved to London, settling there in 1876. However, after more than 20 years, he decided he needed something more tranquil. He moved into Lamb House in Rye in 1898, and became a British subject in 1915, only shortly before his death. The characteristic products of his years in Rye are a group of elaborate late novels - *The Wings of a Dove* (1902), *The Ambassadors* (1903) and *The Golden Bowl* (1904). The general view is that the late works are his most perfect products.

From *Sussex Writers and Artists* by Edward Lucie-Smith.

Lost words

Continuing the theme of Sussex-inspired place names, Ian Steedman also contacted Sussex Bookends. Prompted by the Pennsylvania and Delaware county connections Ian wondered if we knew of the Ringmer/America connections too. Apparently back in 1620 two young girls from Ringmer married exceedingly well. The daughter of the the local vicar, John Sadler, married John Harvard, while the offspring of William Springett married William Penn.

We'd love to hear of other place names with Sussex connections, do email them to editorial@snakeriverpress.co.uk. The most interesting ones will be posted at www.snakeriverpress.co.uk next Saturday.

Out & About in Sussex

Next time you sit down to eat a meal and automatically reach for the salt cellar, pause for a moment and consider this most valuable of condiments. The *Spice of Life* exhibition at Brighton Museum tells the fascinating story of salt, from mine to table.

Its use dates back to Ancient Egypt. In Russia and throughout the Arab world it

symbolises friendship and hospitality. As one might expect from such a highly-valued commodity, lots of social hierarchies grew around its consumption. In the Middle Ages the lower orders were said to be 'below the salt,' and were seated a long way from it! The exhibition runs until August next year, call **01273 292882** for details.

Mind into Matter

A new architectural exhibition opens at Bexhill's De La Warr Pavilion today. Called *Mind into Matter* - Eight exemplary buildings 1834 - 2009, the show explores in detail a wide range of buildings from different periods and examines what their designers were producing and why.

Featured buildings include The Reform Club, London by

Sir Charles Barry, Philip Webb's Arts and Crafts masterpiece *Clouds House*, Wiltshire, The British Embassy in Warsaw by Tony Fretton and, naturally, Mendelsohn and Chermayeff's *De La Warr Pavilion*.

The exhibition runs until January 3, for more details call **01424 229111** or visit www.dlwp.com.