

# SUSSEX BOOKENDS

A WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE SUSSEX CHARACTER

## Out & About in Sussex

If you only associate visiting the panto with Christmas time, then think again. If you fancy trying something new this weekend then why not give Peter Pansy The Alternative Panto a go? Showing today and tomorrow the billing for Ralfe and Co.'s show certainly makes it sound intriguing!

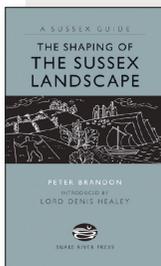
'Marking eight years of relentless camping (and not a

tent in sight!), Brian Ralfe presents another raucous reinvention of pantomime with the suitably provocative Peter Pansy ... Expect the usual cast of camp characters, wild costumes and very adult humour in another evening of outrageous alternative entertainment.' Also showing March 2-7, for more details call **01273 709709** or visit [www.brightondome.org](http://www.brightondome.org).

## Sussex Quiz

1. What are 'hollards'?
2. What were first shown to the public at Brighton's Pandora Gallery?
3. Which poet lived at Felpham?
4. Name the architects who designed the Brighton Pavilion.
5. Which actress lived at 18 Lewes Crescent in Brighton?

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 The Shaping of the Sussex Landscape by Peter Brandon worth £8.99. The correct answers will be posted at [www.snakeriverpress.co.uk](http://www.snakeriverpress.co.uk) next Saturday.



Transition Brighton and Hove is part of the national Transition Towns network. The Transition Towns movement is an initiative founded and run by groups of concerned citizens who feel that their individual actions can influence the future for the better. Members in each town meet together regularly and devise what they feel are appropriate local responses to the challenges of climate change and peak oil.

If this is of interest to you why not consider attending the forthcoming Transition South East Conference on March 13 at The Friends Meeting House in Brighton. Over the weekend of March 27 and 28 there will be a programme of Transition Brighton and Hove Sessions for those who feel really inspired to start to take action. Visit [www.transitionbrightonandhove.org.uk](http://www.transitionbrightonandhove.org.uk) for more information.

Lewes is also a Sussex Transition Town. They have a whole series of groups concerned with such diverse subjects as business, the arts, energy and currency (as you would expect from a town with its very own pound!).

## Protect the South Downs

All who love the wonderful South Downs should consider joining the South Downs Society. Founded in 1923 (then known as The Society of Sussex Downsmen), it was one of the first countryside conservation organisations to be established.

Active in campaigning to achieve National Park status, the society protects and

improves the rights of ways and access onto the downs, provides practical and financial assistance to community groups as well as organising a busy programme of events, talks and guided walks in the region.

For more information on their valuable work call **01798 875073** or visit [www.southdownssociety.org.uk](http://www.southdownssociety.org.uk).

## Live & learn

Here are a few snippets of Sussex facts you may or may not know.

The young Emma Hart danced naked on the dining table at Uppark, north of Chichester, to the apparent delight of Sir Harry Fetherstonhaugh and his bawdy friends. She obviously had a predilection for titles as she later became the wife of Sir William Hamilton, then later the mistress of Lord Nelson.

Staying in the Chichester area King Canute's daughter is buried in the delightful church at Bosham (pronounced 'Bozzam'). If you drive over there to pay your respects do ensure you make a note of the tide times. Many a car has been engulfed by the fast advancing waves!

## Lost words

Here are some more old Sussex terms.

**Hogarves:** Hog-gazels; hawthorn berries.

**Hog-form:** A bench on which pigs are laid to be killed and dressed.

**Hogget:** A young sheep, just more than a year old.

**Hog-jet:** A small bucket, fastened onto a long handle, by which the food is taken out of the hog-tub.

**Hogo:** A strong foul smell.

Taken from A Dictionary of Sussex Dialect by the Reverend W.D. Parish (Snake River Press £8.99).

## THE SUSSEX LANDSCAPE



Two agencies shape a landscape: nature and man. Nature prescribes the lie of the land, the form of mountains, hills, valleys and streams, climate and natural vegetation, and largely determines soils. Man can only modify nature to a limited extent but, over millennia, he has repeatedly transformed the 'wild' or natural environment according to his changing needs as civilisation has evolved from that of the hunter-gatherer to the sophisticated urbanisation of the present day. Woodland has been grubbed up, heathland eradicated and marshes drained, to make room for farms, factories, harbours, places of leisure, villages and towns up to the hugeness of monstrous cities. Sussex has 2,000 years of recorded history but its occupation by man goes back half a million years. Thus Sussex conveys the feeling of a very old county, full of an extraordinary wealth of visible features.

Read more in The Shaping of the Sussex Landscape by Peter Brandon, illustrated by Grahame Baker Smith.