

***The Association needs your help.*** Our Association can be a powerful voice for the community making it possible to apply for funding as well as taking action over the issues that face us. Councils and other service providers will always take more notice of an organisation than they might an individual. It is therefore essential that we exist, particularly at a time when so many services are being cut-back. We are, however, only able to take on issues if we have the resources to do so. This might be funding, but, more often than not, it is time - residents' time. Any organisation needs people to help co-ordinate its activities and we are no different. At our AGM we need to elect a joint-chair, treasurer, a secretary and newsletter co-ordinator. If you feel that you have some time to give to your community, please get in contact with us and we can tell you more about these roles, or come to the AGM on Monday 20 May 2019. Next year we celebrate our 20th anniversary, let's make that a year to remember.

### **Report from Residents Association meeting: 18 March 2019**

#### **Drainage**

The Residents Association has contacted the council about the silting up of the road drains. East Sussex Highways have inspected the area and arranged for jetting works to be carried out. These will be completed before the end of April and should reduce the flood risk. Longer term plans are still being worked on by both district and county councils, plus Southern Water and the Environmental Agency. We expect an update from them before Autumn.

#### **The bench in front of the shops**

The bench in front of the shops in Highdown Road, which was vandalised, has been replaced and it is hoped it will stay in good condition longer than the last one.

#### **Food Bank**

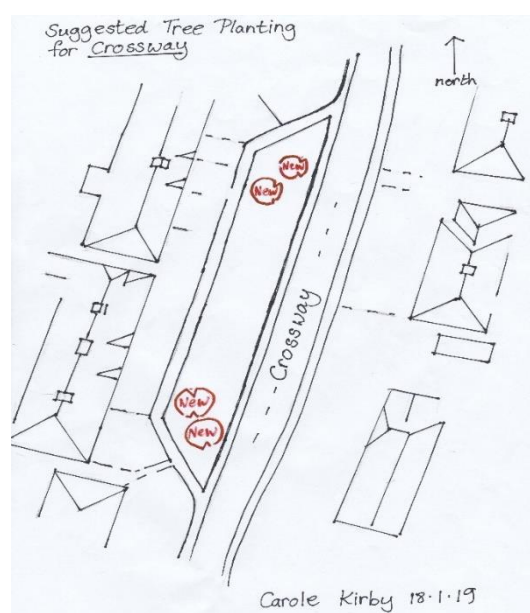
We continue to work on the establishment of a food bank based at St Mary's Hall. The church will allow us to use the site free of charge – all we need now is a suitable fridge/freezer and a space to put it in the kitchen. If you know of anyone who might provide one, please let us know.

#### **Registration of St Mary's Hall as a Community Asset**

Since the first application was rejected by LDC because of an error on the application form, the committee was in the process of gathering the requisite number of signatures to endorse the second application.

#### **Tree planting on Nevill**

After the successful planting of three trees in front of the shops in Highdown Road by the Friend of Lewes Tree planting committee it was hoped that further trees could be planted on Mount Harry green and Cross Way



The FOL Tree committee agreed that it was a good idea to plant in Cross Way and will begin the process of obtaining permissions from LDC, asking for surveys and consulting with residents. If this is favourable, they should be able to plant in Autumn 2019.

Planting on Mount Harry green has been postponed, for this year, because of concerns about the electrical and water installations on the site, FOL's limited funds and the need to spread their tree projects fairly around the town. Unfortunately, the only tree on Mount Harry green has blown over in a gale. In a hope to raise funding towards these projects NRA has put in an application for the Waitrose Community Fund. If you have any comments about these projects, please e-mail [carole.kirby@talktalk.net](mailto:carole.kirby@talktalk.net).

#### **Play Equipment Damage**

It was reported that the roundabout will not rotate without force and needs servicing. This has been brought to the attention of LDC. The various items missing off the wooden boat, including the wheel, were not considered essential. It was suggested that the

repairs could be included in the environmental budget bid.

### **The Racecourse**

David Marsh, secretary of the racecourse management committee attended the meeting to report on the works being undertaken on the upper half of the motor road. He explained that scrubland was being cleared to improve road safety, allow thawing in icy weather and to return it to natural downland for the benefit of the racecourse and the general public.

Sarah Neels reported that work on the bridleway adjacent to the Gallops had been investigated by SDNP and the Environment Agency, and a stop notice enforced.

It was suggested that better communication between the racecourse committee and NRA about proposed activities would improve the relationship with Nevill residents.

The land between the Gallops and the prison, north of Houndean Rise, originally proposed for a building development, is now a protected green space on the Neighbourhood Plan. It has been put up for sale for £150,000, and Houndean Residents Association are interested in buying it.

### **Nevill Garden Trail 2019**

Plans are afoot for Nevill Garden Trail 2019! The Trail is a wonderful opportunity to explore the private gardens and green spaces of Nevill and chat with our green-fingered neighbours. The provisional date and time are Sunday 7 July, 2-5 pm. But the Trail can only take place if there are enough residents willing to open their garden to the public. All types of gardens are welcome from small courtyards to larger landscaped oases - there is inspiration to be found in all corners of Nevill. If you are interested in exhibiting your garden, allotment, or green space, please contact us before the end of May.

Email: [NevillGardenTrail@gmail.com](mailto:NevillGardenTrail@gmail.com) Find us on Facebook: [NevillGardenTrail](https://www.facebook.com/NevillGardenTrail)

### **Committee Vacancies and the Future**

Several long standing members of the association have given notice that they wish to retire at the AGM in May. They have worked tirelessly for the community over the years and we are very grateful for what they have achieved for the estate.

Alan Chapman has been chairman and joint chairman for ten years.

Daphne Wyatt had been both secretary and treasurer for the association for eighteen years.

David Sale had been in charge of the NRA newsletter distribution since the association began nineteen years ago.

NRA is looking to the wider community for new blood to continue its work for the community. It would be very sad if it ceased to exist due to lack of support, especially as it will be its twentieth birthday next year.

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### **Nevill Residents Good Neighbour Scheme**

We hope you have heard of The Nevill Residents Good Neighbour Scheme, established to provide voluntary, neighbourly help for Nevill residents. All help is free, unless expenses such as car mileage or parking have been incurred. The kinds of assistance the scheme can provide include:

- lifts for medical appointments or shopping
- collection of prescriptions and shopping
- small household tasks, e.g. changing a light bulb, putting out the bins, or help with pets
- help with computers or form filling
- occasionally popping in to relieve a carer or simply to provide company

The volunteers are unable to provide specialist services or carry out any work that should be undertaken by professional, qualified people. Nor are they able to offer assistance to those living outside the Nevill estate. If you are new to the scheme, a volunteer will visit to take simple registration details and review your needs. Once you are registered with the scheme, any request will be passed on to a volunteer who will get back to you to make final arrangements. If you need assistance, or simply want to register, please text, call, or email and leave a message. (Contact details below.) You will usually get a response the same day. Of course, volunteers are needed to run the scheme. If you live on the Nevill estate and are interested in helping out, use the same contact details. NRGNS would be delighted to hear from you! 07548 069063  
[nevillgoodneighbours@gmail.com](mailto:nevillgoodneighbours@gmail.com)  
<https://nevillgoodneighbours.org>

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### **Lewes Bowls Club – Open Days**

Sunday 28 April, Sunday 28 July, and  
Sunday 15 September - 10am to 4.00pm

If you have ever watched a bowls match and wondered what the purpose of the game was, or the rules of play, here is a chance to find out more. Lewes Bowls Club are holding Open Days at their green in Mountfield Road on the above Sundays from 10am to 4.00pm. You are welcome to come along and try out the game of flat green bowling. Only flat soled shoes are required in order to protect the green surface. Bowls and equipment will be provided, and members will be on hand to show you the ropes. Very little can beat a game of outside bowls on a nice sunny day. It is relaxing, keeps the brain going and is a very sociable sport. The Club has laid on refreshment, which can be enjoyed during the break.

**Lewes Bowls Club Green, Mountfield Road, Lewes, BN7 2XG.** Enquires: 01273 475077 Come and have fun!

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### **The Next Meeting will be on –**

**Monday 20 May 2019, AGM**

**8 pm in St Mary's Hall. All residents welcome.**

### **Contact numbers:**

**Alan Chapman - 01273 483501**  
**Sarah Neels - 01273 786431**  
**Daphne Wyatt - 01273 475966**