

Edition 29 - 14th March, 2026



Hi,

Welcome to another packed edition of **The Dean Scene!**

The Dean Scene has now been running for just over six months, and thanks to you it continues to grow from strength to strength. But we'd love your help to spread the word!

Do you have a **neighbour, relative, work colleague or friend** who you think would enjoy the newsletter? If so, please tell them about *The Dean Scene* and encourage them to subscribe - it only takes just a few seconds! Just visit the [Dean Scene website here](#)

As a little thank you, **all new subscribers will receive a free copy of our Smugglers Trail Guide**. And if any of our existing readers would like a copy too, just email Lisa@Deanscene.co.uk and we'll happily send it over.

From **April**, we'll also be introducing a new feature — **a Charity of the Month chosen by our readers**, which will appear in the first newsletter of each month. If you know of a **local charity doing great work in our community**, we'd love to hear your suggestions.

The Rottingdean & Saltdean Lions Club are currently seeking some local storage space for their equipment. If you may be able to help, please see more details below, they really would appreciate it!

In this week's **History Corner**, we bring you the second instalment of **Douglas d'Enno's** fascinating series exploring the history of **Black Rock**. There's also an upcoming **Prostate Health Talk at the Nuffield Hospital**, offering an opportunity to learn more about this important topic and raise awareness during **Prostate Cancer Awareness Month**.

And if you have some time this week, why not visit the wonderful exhibition by **Sarah Drewek** currently showing at **The Grange Gallery**?

Best Wishes,

Lisa Staples


What's Happening In The Deans This Week...

The Grange Gallery "Women of Many Worlds" by Sarah Drewek

THE GRANGE
ART GALLERY • MUSEUM • TEA GARDEN
The Green, Rottingdean BN2 7HA

WOMEN OF MANY WORLDS
SARAH DREWEK

Sarah's work is rooted in direct observation, exploring the body as a lived, expressive presence rather than an ideal. She is drawn to natural, unguarded poses and the quiet narratives they hold.




Sarah is a 57-year-old, self-taught figurative artist based in Alfriston. Although she has always enjoyed creating, for the past 12 years her main focus has been oil painting, alongside drawing, with a particular interest in the human form. Living in Alfriston, surrounded by history and landscape, has deepened her awareness of time, character and continuity. Her practice is an act of looking closely and honouring the honesty of the figure.

Wednesday 4 March - Sunday 29 March 2026

RH ROTTINGDEAN HERITAGE
Generating & Extending the Voice

Gallery open:
Wed to Sat 10am - 4pm
Sun 1 - 4pm

Scan here for more information or visit www.rottingdeanheritage.org.uk





We are very pleased to announce our second exhibition of the year, **‘Women of Many Worlds’ by Sarah Drewek.**

Sarah’s work is rooted in direct observation, exploring the body as a lived, expressive presence rather than an ideal. She is drawn to natural, unguarded poses and the quiet narratives they hold.

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Women of Many Worlds is showing until **Sunday 29th March.** We look forward to welcoming you.

The exhibition is on a first floor (above Rottingdean Library) and a chairlift is available.

Gallery opening hours are:

Wednesday to Saturday 10.00am to 4.00pm

Sunday 1.00pm to 4.00pm.

Admission free.

Rottingdean Heritage CIO is a locally run charity. Please do look at the website for information on what Rottingdean Heritage looks after in our beautiful village, and please do sign up if you’d like to receive quarterly newsletters.



[Visit Website](#)

Holy Cross Church Woodingdean

We look forward to welcoming you at our Mothers Day Family Service this Sunday.

Please make a note of the latest updated times of our Stations of the Cross Services, these supersede the times on the reading sheets that have already been printed for this coming Sunday.



Easter Services



Come and celebrate with us at Holy Cross Church, Downsway

Lent Course - Sundays after morning service commencing 22nd February

Palm Sunday, 29th March 10.30am

Tues 31st March 9.30am

Eucharist followed by Stations of the Cross

Weds 1st April, **6pm *amended time**

Eucharist followed by Stations of the Cross

Maundy Thursday 2nd April, 7.30pm

Good Friday 3rd April, 10.30am

Easter Day 5th April, 5.30am & 10.30am with egg hunt

Nuffield Health, Woodingdean Wednesday 18th March at 6pm

Nuffield Health Brighton

Men's Health

Prostate Cancer AWARENESS MONTH

Mr Andrew Symes
Consultant Urologist

Ask the Expert about Men's Health

Nuffield Health Brighton

Wednesday 18th March 6pm
01273 627007

Mr Symes will be covering:



Men's health



Prostate awareness



Signs & symptoms to look out for



When to seek support



Treatment and screening options

This is an open, friendly session designed to empower men - and those who support them - with clear, expert advice.

Book your place:

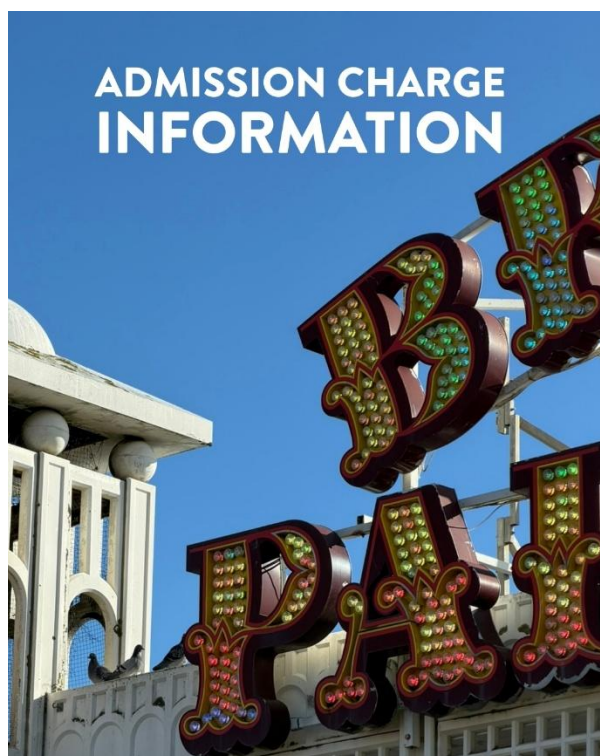
brighton.enquiries@nuffieldhealth.com

Or call: 01273 627007

Light refreshments provided - Free onsite parking

[Book Your Place](#)

Brighton Palace Pier Admission Fee Update



Brighton Palace Pier can confirm the return of the admission fee on the **7th of March 2026**, where it will be currently priced at £1 per person for the pre-summer period. **As a reminder, anyone living within any BN postcode can sign up for a Local Residents Card which allows the card holder and up to 3 guests FREE admission all year round, alongside access to many other fantastic offers.**

We remain committed to preserving this iconic part of British heritage and working hard to keep our Grade II* Listed structure standing for generations to come.

[Sign Up Here](#)



South Coast Taxis
01273 301111



Book Now

Open Art Cafe
Rottingdean
Every Friday
2pm - 4pm!



Follow Us on Facebook

Rottingdean Whiteway Centre Summer Courses

?



Can't make our courses during the day? Try our **NEW** 5 week Summer evening courses

La Culture de la France - Monday

A 5 week course looking at some aspects of French culture. (the class is completely conducted in English). Each week we will look at a different aspect of French culture, ranging from history, literature, music, art, and of course, food.



WORKOUT

H.I.I.T/Circuits - Tuesday

A fun 45 minute circuit class, moving through a series of exercise stations, each targeting different muscle groups or fitness components. All equipment provided

Discussion Group (Zoom) - Wednesday

A lively and friendly online Group covering topics provided by members, sharing views and perspectives on current events and trends.



For these (and lots of other courses) sign up at rwc.org.uk



Summer 2026 course launch

Courses launch from Saturday 14
March @ 9am

In-Person Enrolment 21 March 11-
noon



Term dates

Monday 20 April 2026 -
Friday 3 July 2026
Half term 25-29 May

?

**Newhaven Lifeboat Fundraising
Pamper Evening
Seaford Head Golf Course
19th March**



Give yourself some love! Come along to our Pamper night for an evening of treatments, tarot, drinks and natter!

We will have a wide variety of treatments available from Massages to Manicures, Hair and make up to Tarot readings.

Treat yourself to an great evening out with the girls! (The boys are welcome too!!)

Doors open at 6.30pm, and appointments will start from 7pm

[**Book Now**](#)

Woodingdean Primary School Summer Fair Stallholders Wanted!



Stallholders wanted at Woodingdean Primary School Summer Fair .
Saturday 6th June 2026

Local businesses, crafters & small traders welcome!
All funds raised goes back into the school and supporting the children.

[Email For More
Info](#)

??

Ovingdean Choral Society Spring Concert

Come and join Ovingdean Choral Society
at their Spring Concert.....

John Rutter is the most well known living composer, and his melodies are simply gorgeous. We will not only be singing his beautiful set of well known English folk songs, "**The Sprig of Thyme**", but also "**For the Beauty of the Earth**". Other works will include Cesar Franck's "**Panis Angelicus**" and Howard Goodall's "**The Lord is my Shepherd**" (theme from the Vicar of Dibley).

It will be a lovely concert of springtime music. We will also be celebrating Sir John Rutter's 80th birthday.



**Ovingdean Choral Society
Spring Concert**

**St Margaret's Church, Rottingdean
Saturday 21 March, 7.30pm**

Music with a breath of Spring, celebrating the 80th birthday
of Sir John Rutter

"A Sprig of Thyme" - arrangements of English traditional songs
"For the Beauty of the Earth"
"The Lord is my Shepherd" (Howard Goodall)

Tickets £12 from: Ewart Wooldridge 07584 496190
Dawn Davidson 01273 304349



**Rottingdean & Saltdean Lions Club Need Your
Help!**



The fantastic volunteers at the **Rottingdean & Saltdean Lions Club** are currently on the lookout for some **storage space for their equipment**.

As a charity that does so much for our local community, paying commercial storage rates simply isn't an option for them - so they're hoping someone locally might be able to lend a hand.

If you have a **spare garage, lock-up, shed, or unused storage space** that could help them keep their equipment safe and accessible, the Lions would be incredibly grateful.

It's thanks to the generosity of local people that groups like this can continue the great work they do in our community.

If you think you might be able to help, please contact **Dave Walker**
Email: info@rottingdeanandsaltdeanlions.org.uk
Telephone: 03458 339617

Deans Repair Cafe Saturday 21st March 10:30 - 12:30

Reduce waste : Share & learn new skills



**PLUS
Knitting and
crochet help!**

**Energy
advice
available**



Deans Repair Cafe

2025: Sat Nov 22, 10:30-12:30

2026: Sat Jan 31, 10:30-12:30 &

Sat March 21, 10:30-12:30

29 Chichester Drive West, Saltdean, BN2 8SH

FREE community event. Just find your non-working small home gadgets/electricals, eg, lamps, kitchen and garden tools, vacs + simple electronics and see if we can give them a new lease of life. Also we have stitchers for clothes, crafts. Be prepared to stay, learn, drink tea, and chat. New fixers, welcome! (Donations welcome to cover our insurance. Cash only.)

Facebook: Deans Repair Cafe
deansrepaircafe@gmail.com
07860515217



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Advertise in The Dean Scene

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Email Lisa!

Saltdean Pebble Dashers Volunteer Group



The Pebble Dashers Volunteer Group have been working on the under cliff for the past few weeks when dry, and we hope you are starting to see a difference (and no, BHCC will not do it!) It's been hard work though, so thank you to those of you that have stopped and expressed your thanks, and even bigger thanks to those who have picked up shovels to help!

If you would like to get involved please visit our website....

[Visit Website](#)



Black Rock (Part 2).... By Douglas d'Enno

Black Rock in Pictures

Continuing our story of Black Rock above the cliffs from the last instalment, the year **1824** marked the opening of the new road from East Brighton to Rottingdean. This '**Newhaven turnpike road**', which ran across land opened by Thomas Beard, greatly improved the connectivity between the two locations.

In **1897**, following the closure of the old turnpike road, a new road, the '**Rottingdean Road**', became the principal eastbound thoroughfare from Black Rock until the opening of **Marine Drive** in **1932** (the 1897 road was set inland to avoid the vulnerable cliff area and still exists under the name of Roedean Road).



Work in progress on Marine Drive (left) looking east from Black Rock. The road cut straight through the houses in Rifle Butt Road. The old coast road (right) still led to the Abergavenny Arms, the only remaining building at the cliff edge.

A little way inland from the cliff stood **Rifle Butt Road**, at a right angle to the coast road. Its name derived from the rifle practice range ('butts') for volunteer militia at nearby Sheepcote Valley. The properties were built over several decades in the 19th century, one as late as 1897. Black Rock Bakery was built in 1867 and acquired by Brighton Borough Council in 1972.



A view of Rifle Butt Road looking north, with the bakery in the middle distance and, to its left, the gasometer.



A view looking south, with the Stores and its owner on the left.

Some way along Rifle Butt Road, on the east side, stood the **Friends' (Quakers') Meeting House and Burial Ground**. The Meeting House (below) was erected in 1859 for £120 and enlarged in 1881 for £125. It was sold in about 1960.



The Friends' Burial Ground was acquired in 1855 and the first burial took place in that year. On the left is the gasometer, and on the right the wall on Rifle Butt Road keeping the burial site separate. Ahead are some houses in the street.

Below is a view showing Rifle Butt Road in relation to Marine Gate. The gap in the street marks the site of the Burial Ground. When the road was swept away for the approach roads to the Marina complex, all the coffins from the burial ground were exhumed and re-interred in the new cemetery at Woodingdean.



Black Rock Cottages formed the southern part of Rifle Butt Road until acquired by Brighton Borough Council to be demolished for the creation of Marine Drive. We close with a picture of the wide new road. Marine Gate is under construction in the background.



The road was built at a cost of £105,000 and opened on 22 July 1932 by the Minister of Transport, PJ Pybus. Marine Gate would become a block of 105 flats developed by Maurice Bloom at the architectural practice of Wimperis, Simpson & Guthrie and was built in 1937-1939.

Later This Month In The Deans...

Newhaven Lifeboat Events

Easter Eggstravaganza

28th March

11am - 3pm

Newhaven Lifeboat Events

Free Entry!

Lifeboats
RNLi
11am
to 3pm

*Easter
Eggstravaganza
Sat 28th March
@ Newhaven Lifeboat Station
West Quay BN9 9BT*

Eggciting Activities *Egg Races & Games*
Face Painting *Special Guests!* *Refreshments*

Eggcellent family fun!

The RNLi is the charity that saves lives at sea
Registered in England and Wales (209603) and Scotland (SC03776), the Republic of Ireland (20003326),
the Bailiwick of Jersey (14), the Isle of Man (1309 & 096329F), the Bailiwick of Guernsey & Alderney

Resonance

St Margaret's Church

28th March, 1pm

Resonance

'Sorrow and Everlasting Light'

**Inspirational Choral Music for Lent and
Easter, including works by Mozart,
Purcell, Victoria and Wood**

**St Margaret's Church,
Rottingdean**

Saturday March 28th, 1pm

Tickets, £7 on the door

**Saltdean Park
Multi Use Games Area
Wednesday 1st April
2pm**



PARC (Play Area in Rottingdean Committee) is delighted to invite the community to the opening of Saltdean's new **MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area)**, a vibrant new space shaped by and for local young people.

The court will be officially opened at **2pm on Wednesday 1 April 2026** by Cllr Amanda Grimshaw, Mayor of Brighton & Hove. The event will include fun, inclusive sports activities, giving young people the chance to take ownership of the space and celebrate together.

The MUGA stands as a lasting legacy to **Councillor Mary Mears**, whose vision, passion and commitment to young people were the inspiration behind the project. It reflects a shared belief in listening to young people and investing in safe, welcoming places where they can be active, connect with friends and feel part of their community.

PARC and the Local Action Team (LAT) continue to support young people in Saltdean and Rottingdean by raising funds for the local youth club, which runs every Friday from 6.00–7.30pm at Saltdean Lido, with additional activities across the ward during the summer months. The club is delivered by the Trust for Developing Communities and led by a Senior Youth Worker, supported by dedicated volunteers.

Anyone interested in volunteering and helping to amplify young people's voices is warmly encouraged to get in touch.

Email For More Info

Lilo And Stitch Kids Print Craft Party
Saltdean Lido
1st April
2pm - 3pm



Join us this Easter holidays for a tropical-inspired creative celebration! Kids aged 7–13 will print their own tote bag with Lilo & Stitch stencils and taking home a colourful holiday keepsake.

Every child gets a free goodie bag including:



A small Lilo & Stitch T-shirt to customise



Fun Lilo & Stitch stickers



Iconic colouring sheets with favourite characters

Workshop details:



1st April | 2:00–3:00pm



The Club Room, Saltdean Lido, Brighton



£20 per person

This fully supervised session is led by a qualified, DBS-checked teacher. Parents are welcome to stay or enjoy the café next door.

Book Now!



**Pre-Loved Market
Saltdean Lido
Sunday 5th April
11:00 - 15:00**



Join us at the Lido for a lively day of bargain hunting, treasure spotting and proper old-fashioned rummaging. Expect a fantastic mix of sellers bringing along everything from vintage gems and bric-a-brac to homewares, toys, books, clothes, collectibles and plenty of unexpected finds. You never quite know what you'll come across, and that's all part of the fun!

Set against the beautiful Art Deco backdrop of the Lido, it's the perfect spot to wander at your own pace, chat with friendly stallholders, and maybe even try your hand at a bit of haggling.

Whether you're searching for something specific, furnishing on a budget, clearing out your own cupboards, or simply love the thrill of discovering a hidden bargain, there's something here for everyone.

Bring your reusable bags, grab a coffee, and settle in for a relaxed day of treasure hunting by the sea.

Free entry. All welcome.



Stall Holders Wanted



To book a stall please send the following info to events@saltdeanlido.co.uk

Your Name / Business name

What you sell

Contact email & Phone number

Email Here



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