

Edition 01 - Friday 29th August, 2025



Hi,

Welcome to the inaugural edition of *The Dean Scene* and thank you for being amongst the first to subscribe!

We're really excited to bring you our brand-new weekly newsletter dedicated to life across Rottingdean, Saltdean, Woodingdean, Ovingdean and Roedean. Every Friday we'll deliver a round-up of the latest local news, upcoming events, community stories, history snippets, and spotlights on the brilliant people and businesses that make our corner of Sussex so special.

Our aim is simple: to keep you connected, informed and entertained. Whether it's a family event at the Lido, a hidden walking trail to explore with your dogs, a feature on a local hero, or practical updates about what's happening on your doorstep—you'll find it here!

Thank you again for joining us from the very beginning. Our subscriber numbers are growing at a super-fast pace but please tell your friends and family about us if they've not already opted-in. Together, we'll make *The Dean Scene* a must-read for everyone who lives and works in the Deans!

Best wishes,
Lisa Staples

P.S Please feel free to send us details of any upcoming events, stories or interesting photos you'd like us to consider for inclusion by sending them to hello@deanscene.co.uk

P.P.S If you run a local business and would like your services to be seen by our readers, please drop me a line to take advantage of our special opening rates or visit <https://deanscene.co.uk/business>

Featured Business Of The Week!

Inspire Beauty



Meet Inspire Beauty – Your Local Home Beauty Therapist in Woodingdean!

Tucked away in the heart of Woodingdean, a welcoming home salon and spa run by fully qualified beauty technician Danat – a therapist with a true passion for helping clients look and feel their absolute best.

Danat's love for beauty began in Cambodia, where she worked as a specialist in wedding beauty, helping brides shine on their big day. After moving to Brighton, she expanded her skills with further training, blending international expertise with a warm, personal approach.

Her salon is a private, peaceful space with its own entrance, easy access from surrounding areas, and free parking right outside. It's the perfect balance of professional care and friendly warmth, where clients can unwind in a calm atmosphere sprinkled with laughter and genuine conversation.

Outside of work, Danat is a devoted wife and proud mum of two, sharing her home with her husband and their much-loved dog, Rosie. Family is at the heart of everything she does, and her welcoming nature makes every client feel like part of the Inspire Beauty family too.

Whether you're preparing for a special occasion, indulging in some much-needed self-care, or simply seeking a relaxing escape, Inspire Beauty offers therapies tailored to you – delivered with skill, kindness, and a personal touch.

 Website: www.inspirebeauty.net

 Special Offer for The Dean Scene Subscribers: **Enjoy 10% off your booking when you quote “*The Dean Scene*” on arrival at the salon.**

[Learn More](#)

Helping Paws Annual Fun Dog Show!

Helping Paws began in 2013 after a chance meeting with a dog rescuer in Portugal, leading to fundraising to bring dogs to the UK. Over time, our focus shifted to supporting small rescues and rescuers in the UK and overseas—helping with vet bills, spaying and neutering, and even food during the pandemic.

Through fire walks, art exhibitions, online auctions and more, we've raised over £500,000 for animals in need, from Kangaroo Island's bushfire victims to pets in Ukraine. We're not a registered charity, so every penny raised goes directly to the animals. Volunteers and donations are always welcome!

Join us on **Sunday 7th September at Saltdean Oval Park** for the Helping Paws Annual Fun Dog Show! With ten dog show classes, stalls, games, food, a bar, and our famous tombola, it's a fantastic day out. Class winners go forward to *Best in Show*, with a pet portrait prize for the champion.

[Learn More](#)



HELPING PAWS FUN DOG SHOW

SALTDEAN OVAL PARK

SUNDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER

11AM – 3.30PM

HANDSOME BOY - PRETTY GIRL
BEST PUPPY - GOLDEN OLDIE
INBETWEENERS - BEST TRICK
BEST RESCUE - BEST NON RESCUE
WAGGIEST TAIL - SAUSAGE CATCHER

STALLS
FOOD
RAFFLE
TOMBOLA

£3 A CLASS
REGISTRATION
STARTS AT
10:15

**BEST IN SHOW
WINS PET PORTRAIT**

PRE-REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE

ENQUIRIES 07818 402771 - HELPINGPAWSTERS@GMAIL.COM

QR code for pre-registration



History Corner - This Week, a Brief History of Woodingdean!

How It All Began ...

Woodingdean grew from farmland into a community in the early 20th century. The land here was originally part of scattered farms, most notably *Woodendean Farm* (from which the area takes its name). After World War I, the farmland was sold off in small affordable plots, often to returning soldiers. Many built makeshift homes—anything from wooden shacks to old railway carriages—creating the beginnings of what would become the modern suburb we know today.

1. The World's Deepest Hand-Dug Well —You Couldn't Make It Up!

Between 1858 and 1862, determined locals dug a well in Woodingdean that still holds the record as the deepest hand-dug well in the world, plunging an astonishing 390 metres (1,285 ft) below ground—around the height of New York's Empire State Building! Legend has it the workers, sweltering in the narrow shaft, stripped off and laboured naked by candlelight. It was so costly and convoluted that locals joked Woodingdean was secretly digging a tunnel to Australia!

2. Shacks, Carriages, and a Playful Stage Show

In the years after WWI, Woodingdean became famous for its eccentric “plotland” homes—ramshackle huts, wooden chalets, and railway carriages turned into houses. The quirky scene was so well known that playwright H. F. Maltby turned it into comedy, penning a 1927 stage play cheekily titled *What Might Happen*.

3. “Woodland Grange” (But Never Actually a Grange)

In the 1830s, *Woodingdean House* was built for a wealthy Brighton resident. Later, it was owned by the legendary comedian Max Miller, who cheekily renamed it *Woodland Grange*—despite the fact it was never a grange at all.

4. A Sun Terrace Reveals a Prehistoric Mystery

In 1934, while building a sun terrace, a local resident uncovered something extraordinary—a human skeleton, buried in a flint “coffin.” Believed to date from the Bronze–Iron Age, the discovery captured local headlines and added a touch of ancient mystery to Woodingdean’s already colourful history.



The Woodingdean Water Well, located just outside the Nuffield Hospital



Saltdean Jazz Band Needs You!

The Saltdean Jazz Band (SJB) has been set up for those who would like to take part in a fun and inclusive organisation aimed at getting people together to play music – at all levels.

Whether you've recently started learning and can already play a few tunes, or perhaps you played many years ago and would like to start-up again, you will be assured of a warm welcome at SJB which meets at St Martin's Church on Longridge Avenue in Saltdean.

- No auditions – all levels of enthusiastic musician will be welcome.
- Rehearsals in Saltdean on Thursday evenings 7.30pm – 9.30pm
- Help and support for nervous or new musicians
- Emphasis will be on having fun and bringing the community together through music – including support local events and charities with live performances.

All levels of player are welcome. It doesn't matter if you haven't played for a while or are new to learning as we will welcome everyone.

The Music

While we play jazz, blues and swing numbers, we will be considering all music that suits the abilities of the players so we can build up a truly entertaining repertoire.

Contact

To find out more please contact saltdeanjazzband@gmail.com for further details – or come along on a Thursday night to join in.

[Email Us](mailto:saltdeanjazzband@gmail.com)



Rottingdean & Saltdean Lions Club

You're Invited!

Lions Club Information Evening

Wednesday, 3 September 2025 at 19:30

Rottingdean Village Hall, Park Road, Rottingdean BN2 7HL

Discover the Power of Service!

Join us for an inspiring evening to learn how Rottingdean and Saltdean Lions Club makes a difference — locally and globally. Whether you're passionate about helping others, developing leadership skills, or meeting new people, this event is for YOU!

What to Expect...

- Meet current Lions members
- Learn about our community service projects
- Hear how you can get involved
- Light refreshments provided
-

No pressure, just possibilities.

Come with questions, leave with purpose!

We Serve. Will You?

To let us know you can attend or to learn more, contact us at:

info@rottingdeanandsaltdeanlions.org.uk

Tel: 03458 339617

[Learn More](#)



[Learn More](#)

Save Rottingdean Library – Act Now Before It’s Too Late!

Rottingdean Library in The Grange is the beating heart of our community, supporting children, families, and older residents. With two nurseries and two primary schools nearby, it plays a key role in early learning and community life.

Brighton and Hove City Council (BHCC) has proposed closing our library in a bid to save money. The alternatives—travelling to Saltdean or Woodingdean Library—are impractical for the people who need it the most. Closure would isolate our community.

No decision has been made yet - and your voice can change the outcome!

Now is the time to make your opposition clear and prevent BHCC Cabinet from deciding to close Rottingdean Library. Here’s how you can help:

Complete the BHCC consultation survey on the proposed closure (online or paper copies in library).

Sign our new petition on BHCC’s platform.

Speak directly to Councillor Alan Robins during the public consultation at Rottingdean library.

Join us at the public consultation drop-in on **Tuesday 9th September, 6–8pm**, Rottingdean Library. Come along, be heard, and demand answers.

More information and links to the survey and petition are available on our website which can be accessed by clicking on the "Learn More" button above.

Every action counts—together, we can save our library! Thank you for your support.

Save Rottingdean Library Campaign

A poster for 'Saltdean Swims at the Lido'. The top section has a teal background with white text and a white bird icon. Below this, on a light blue background with a water ripple pattern, is a large pink inflatable flamingo. Text on the poster includes: 'Free swimming for kids aged 14 & under living in Saltdean', '+ Free BBQ', 'Monday September 1st 19:15 – 20:45', a disclaimer about adult supervision, an Eventbrite link, and logos for the Saltdean Community Association, Saltdean Lido, and Saltdean Residents' Association. At the bottom, it lists the sponsoring organizations and an email address.

Saltdean Swims at the Lido

Free swimming for
kids aged 14 & under
living in Saltdean

+ Free BBQ

**Monday
September 1st
19:15 – 20:45**

Adults must accompany children to the Lido but please,
only in the pool with non-swimmers and under 8's.

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/saltdean-swims-tickets-1557243530319

Sponsored by

Saltdean Community Association, Saltdean Lido CIC, Saltdean Resident's Association

email: bridget@bridgetbythesea.com

[**Book Now**](#)



THE DEANS SENIOR TEA CLUB





Peacehaven Tea Club
Mondays 2pm - 4pm
38 Horsham Avenue, Peacehaven



Telscombe Tea Club
Tuesdays 10.30am - 12.30pm
Telscombe Civic Centre,
360 South Coast Road, Peacehaven



Saltdean Tea Club
Fridays 2pm - 4pm
St Nicholas Church Hall,
Saltdean Vale, Saltdean



Rottingdean Tea Club
The First Thursday of the month
10am - 12pm
The Plough Inn, Rottingdean

Registered charity number 1101284

Tea • Cake • Socialising • Games • Entertainment

For more info call: 01273 582333

Help us beat isolation and loneliness in our community.

Follow us on Facebook: **The Deans Senior Tea Club**

www.thedeansseniorteclub.org

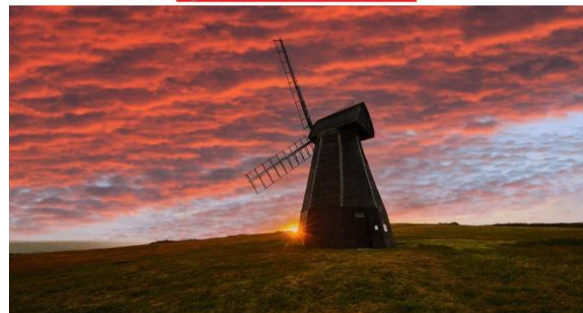



Support the Deans Senior Tea Club

SALES
&
LETTINGS

John Hilton

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Learn More

BRIGHTON MALE VOICE CHOIR

- **Wide range of audiences from corporate venues to private parties**
- **Supporting local and national charities and events**
- **Extensive music repertoire**

New members welcome

- **To those men who would like to sing in a friendly relaxed atmosphere**
- **No audition, not necessary to read music**
- **Rehearsals 7.00 -8.45pm Thursdays at the Woodingdean Methodist Church, The Ridgway, Woodingdean, BN2 6PA**
- **Contact our Membership Secretary Jeff White**
ewanjeff.white@gmail.com or call 07544903027

Give us a call you may enjoy yourself and realise a long held ambition. Come and watch a practice.

Email Us

Rottingdean Whiteway Centre (RWC)

Autumn term time starts on 22nd September and the RWC has now opened our booking system for our range of over 30 courses and subjects including:-

- Languages
- Art
- History
- Astronomy
- Pilates
- Bridge
- Tai Chi and Chi Kung

Our courses range from 5 to 10 weeks in length and start from just £27.50.

For more information, email us at enrolments@rwc.org.uk or visit our website

Courses booking for Autumn 2025



French for beginners



Creative Writing



Roman Britain



Turbulence, change & reform:
Early Victorian Britain



The history of the
string quartet



Art for beginners

Renaissance Art History



Exploring the Solar System



Plus lots more!

Book online at
www.rwc.org.uk

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