

Edition 07 - 10th October, 2025



Hi,

Hello and welcome to lucky number seven of The Dean Scene!

Our subscriber family is growing fast (thank you!) and it's brilliant to have you along for the ride. Each week we pull together the latest news, events, and stories from Rottingdean, Saltdean, Ovingdean, Woodingdean and Roedean — keeping you in the loop with all things Deans.

Expect a little bit of everything: pub gigs that get the toes tapping, community heroes doing inspiring things, quirky slices of local history, and plenty of family-friendly happenings to pop in the diary. In short, if it's happening in the Deans, you'll find it here!

We have received a cry for help from Rottingdean & Saltdean Lions Club who are having to vacate one of the two garages they use for storage of their equipment in the next week. If anyone has a garage they could use, either short or long term, they would be extremely grateful! Please contact Gordon at [**gordongirdler@sky.com**](mailto:gordongirdler@sky.com)

Got something coming up? Don't keep it to yourself — drop us a line and we'll do our best to give it a spot in a future edition.

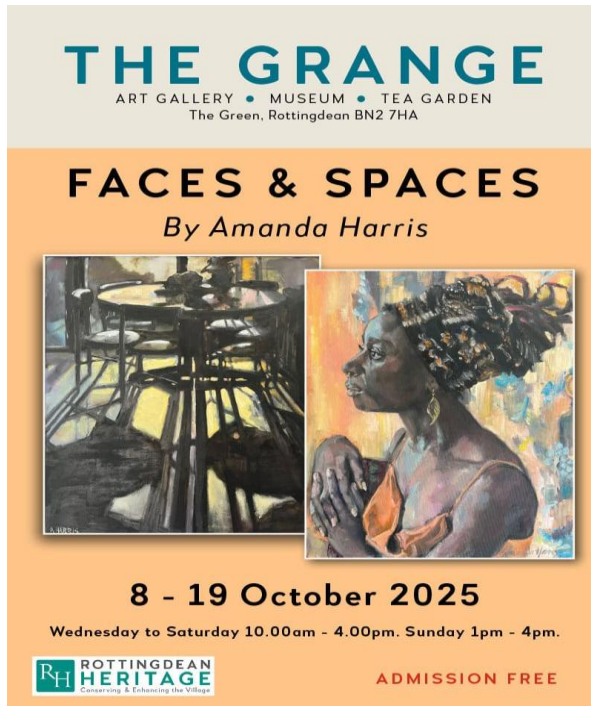
Thanks again for your support — you're helping us shape this newsletter into something truly special!

Best wishes,
Lisa Staples

P.S. Local business owner? We're still offering our special early opening advertising rates—email me directly or visit <https://deanscene.co.uk/business>

Coming up in the Deans...

The Grange – “Faces & Spaces” by Amanda Harris



Location: The Grange

When: 8 - 19 October 2025

Time: Wednesday to Saturday 10am - 4pm, Sunday 1pm - 4pm

Amanda Harris... "I have always had artistic leanings, but it was not until I retired at the age of 60 that I joined an oil painting class, and instantly fell in love with the medium.

Oil paint excites me... the texture, mixing, blending and layering colours, the way you can move it around, and use it as a wash or impasto. I particularly love to work on second hand canvases, working over previous brush marks, or incorporating elements from an underlying painting.

I have also discovered a passion for painting people...the challenge of portraiture, attaining a likeness or capturing something about a personality or a mood fascinates me. I like to start a painting from life because a living, breathing model, however professional, moves and talks, informing me how their face and body works with their personality.

I have been privileged to work with some amazingly talented models, (and artists!), in the past few years.

I am an eclectic artist, moved by the beauty of nature, a play of shadows, the placement of objects within spaces, and the spaces themselves. I am

always taking photos, and I derive great joy from experimenting with different subjects and mediums, clay, stone carving, lino, watercolours, collage and chalk pastels, hopping and skipping from one subject matter and medium to another as the mood takes me, but it is painting with oils that has become my passion, and portraiture that I keep returning to.

It has been such fun to finally let my creative Genie out of the bottle, and I am excited to show some of my work in a gallery setting in this, my first exhibition."

Friends of Beacon Hill



October is the month when the Friends of Beacon Hill commence their annual 'scrub bashing' an activity that takes them right through the winter, in all weathers!

The friends of Beacon Hill are a welcoming group of volunteers who help maintain this wonderful natural environment for all to enjoy.

They meet at 10am on the 2nd Tuesday and 4th Friday of each month at Beacon Hub for a 2 hour session.

You can contact them at FOBeaconHill@gmail.com

or our Facebook page @beaconhillrottingdean for up to date info

[Visit Friends Of Beacon Hill Facebook Page](#)

Helping Paws Online Cat Show

10th-24th October 2025



Welcome to the Helping Paws Online Cat show!
To enter, simply post on our fundraising wall with:

- A photo of your cat (one photo per class)
- Your name
- Your cat's name and age
- The class(es) you're entering
- Any comments you'd like to add
-

Payment details:

- £2 per class
- Pay via PayPal to karen@helpingpaws.co.uk select **Friends & Family** option
- Use your cat's name and chosen class(es) as the payment reference
 - If your PayPal name is different from your Facebook name, please let us know!

Once we've received your payment, your post will be approved, and your cat will be added to the correct album.

Classes:

Kitten (under 1), Oldie (over 12), Inbetweeners (over 1 and under 12), Prettiest girl, Most handsome boy, Most Marvellous Markings, If Looks Could Kill

Judging & Prizes

- Entries are valid only once payment has been received.
- Our panel of judges includes several local vets.
- **Best in Show** will be chosen by **Dr. Marc Abraham OBE**.
- Winners announced around **31st October** & winner of Best in Show around **7th November**.

- Rosettes awarded to the top 4 in each class.
- The **Best in Show winner** will also receive a plaque and a portrait of their cat by our very own top Pawster **Sarah Sellers**.

Suncademy – Where Skincare Meets Suncare...



Discover **Suncademy**, the premium Swiss skincare brand redefining daily protection for the modern minimalist. Born from the fusion of Swiss scientific excellence and Italian organic purity, Suncademy creates skincare that performs beautifully and cares deeply.

Our award-winning tinted mineral sunscreens — **Citronella SPF 30** and **Pinie SPF 50+** — do far more than protect. They nourish, perfect, and enhance your skin in one effortless step. Acting as a primer, barrier cream, and subtle complexion booster, they deliver a healthy glow without compromise.

Formulated with alcohol-free jojoba ethers, active botanicals from certified organic Italian farms, and zero harsh chemicals, Suncademy products keep skin balanced, hydrated, and microbiome-friendly — even for the most sensitive types.
Luxurious. Conscious. Effortlessly effective.

Elevate your skincare ritual with Suncademy — **where protection meets perfection!**

[Click Here To Visit Suncademy](#)



Roedean....



Perched high above the sea between Black Rock and Ovingdean Gap, **Roedean** takes its name from the natural dip in the cliffs known as *Roedean Gap* — a landmark recorded as far back as the early 1700s. Beneath its windswept grass, traces of Roman activity have been unearthed, hinting that this dramatic stretch of coastline has drawn people for centuries.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, the area was home to Roedean Farm, a toll gate on the old Newhaven turnpike, and even a windmill that once stood proudly on the cliffs before disappearing during the construction of Marine Drive in the 1930s. Over the years, relentless erosion ate away at the cliff-top — some seventy-five feet vanished within half a century — forcing engineers to reroute and fortify the coastal roads.

The most famous landmark, of course, is Roedean School, founded in 1885 by the Lawrence sisters and moved to its current cliff-edge site in 1898. During World War II, its elegant buildings were commandeered as a naval base known as *HMS Vernon (R)*, while pupils were evacuated elsewhere. After the war, the school reclaimed its place as one of Sussex's most distinctive institutions.

By the 1930s, Roedean's open fields were giving way to handsome houses and winding roads, transforming it into one of Brighton's most desirable coastal estates. Nestled among them sits a hidden architectural gem — White Lodge, a modest yet elegant home designed by the great *Sir Edwin Lutyens* for Victoria Sackville. Though small, it remains one of his most intriguing early residential works.

Roedean Bottom's rare turf and tiny snails.....

Between the pitch-and-putt course and Roedean School lies Roedean Bottom, a downland meadow where a tiny patch of ancient turf survives.

This turf hosts rare flora, such as the Ladies' Tresses orchid, carline thistle, and "hairy violet."

Even more curious, a minute moss snail, which is extremely sensitive to habitat disturbance, has been found there — evidence of the ecological continuity of that spot.

Smuggling, tunnels & old windmills.....

Roedean once had its windmill (circa 1750–1790), though it was cleared away when Marine Drive was built in the early 1930s.

There was a toll-gate in Roedean (at the Gap) in earlier centuries.

The area has its share of secret passage legends and smuggling lore (common along Sussex's coast), though hard proof is scant. In the broader area, smugglers often moved goods inland through hidden lanes, and some buildings around the Deans are rumoured to have had tunnels or hidden storage. (While not specific to Roedean, such tales are part of the coastal local colour.)

(Images courtesy of Douglas d'Enno)





Later This Month In The Deans...

**Whiteways Centre, Rottingdean
Friday 24th October**

“Inspirational Talks from Inspirational People in Sussex”

**Restoring wildlife habitats within
Brighton & Hove**

Dr Dan ‘Butterfly’ Danahar Friday 24 October 2025



Restoring wildlife habitats within Brighton and Hove- how to rehabilitate nationally important plant and animal species in our region.

Did you know that almost half of Britain’s natural biodiversity has disappeared over the last 200 years? Farming and urban spread, triggered by the industrial and agricultural revolutions, are being blamed as major factors for this loss. In fact, the UK is in the bottom 10% of nations in terms of biodiversity intactness. Given these alarming statistics, the inevitable question arises, what can be done about this? This talk provides local examples in Brighton of what has been done over the last twenty years to heighten public awareness of this problem and help to reverse this trend, by creating new habitats for wildlife.

£10 includes a glass of wine. To book go to www.rwc.org.uk

Book Tickets

Saltdean Climate Action Network

<p>ECO-HOMES SALTDEAN CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK SaltdeanCAN@gmail.com</p>	<p>Around Saltdean</p>	
<p>JOIN THE SALTDEAN 2025 ECO-TRAIL</p> <p>Visit your neighbours during October - and get inspiration for your own eco-projects</p>	<p>Wondering about buying an EV, and 'range anxiety'? Curious about smart tech to run a solar powered house? Bemused by tariffs? Visit James's house and / or Sue and Paul's house for tips.</p>	<p>Is solar worth it? What about external wall insulation? And batteries? Would you like to chat through the heat pump dilemma? Visit Gill and Graham's house for real-life experience of cosiness / pay-back times.</p>
	<p>DIY retrofit A once-chilly bungalow is being transformed by Dick and Helen into a snug home using reclaimed materials to minimise carbon footprint. It's in an enchanting bird-friendly garden with more trees than seems possible.</p>	<p>Wild garden Join Louise and Gary to view their wildlife garden with compost heap. Food ideas and recycled art.</p>

To make an appt: email saltdeancan@gmail.com or phone 07860 515 217

SEA, SKY, SALT, SOIL: Art of the Sussex Coastline
15–19 October 2025
The Crypt Gallery, Seaford, East Sussex
Open daily | Free entry

Curated by Saltdean-based artist Laura Callaghan, the exhibition features Laura's own environmentally responsive work alongside specially selected contributions from regional female artists, Julian Warrender (jewellery), Julie Ingham (design), and Kate McMinnies (ceramics). Together, their practices respond to the textures, rhythms, and organic forms of the Sussex shoreline — revealing beauty, fragility, and impermanence.

The exhibition will include a participatory art installation by Laura, in which visitors can write a wish on handmade seaweed paper, then place it in a compostable pod filled with Sussex wildflower seeds and Sussex soil: visitors are invited to "take one, leave one," allowing this living archive of intentions to grow throughout the exhibition, and the installation project culminates in a coastal planting ritual in partnership with local climate change community organisations.

Local Partnerships for Biodiversity After the exhibition, the "leave one" wildflower pods will be gifted to **Saltdean Climate Action Network (SCAN)**, who will plant them out locally as part of their work supporting biodiversity and climate action across the Sussex coast, in **Saltdean**. In addition, Laura will donate further seeds to the Wildflower Conservation Trust, ensuring that the installation's impact continues beyond the gallery — fostering ecological restoration and community connection.

Email: laura@creativitytakescourage.uk

Instagram: @laura_callaghan_creativity

[**Visit Laura's Website**](#)

Get Paid £130 a Day For Liking Facebook Posts!



We are looking for more UK based Social Media workers in the UK!

If you know how to Tweet, like a post on Facebook, or upload a video to YouTube, this could be the perfect job opportunity for you!

Get paid to help businesses post content to their social media accounts like Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram.

Job Description: We are looking for regular people in the UK to help online companies promote their businesses through social media using their phone or tablet (both Android and IOS). You don't need to know anything about social media advertising, as this is an entry-level position and full training is provided.

Requirements: You need three things: 1) An internet-connected device such as a laptop, phone, or tablet (Android or IOS)

2) Internet access

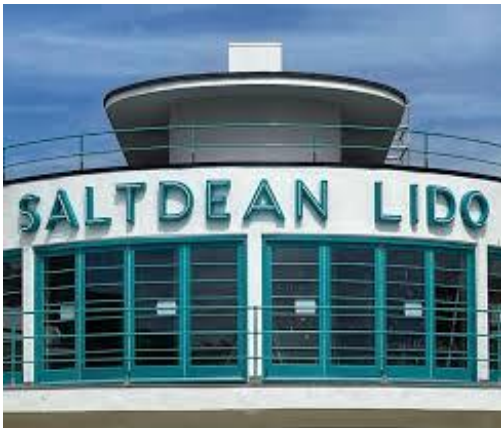
3) 5 hours available each day to use social media to promote these companies.

There is high demand for new workers to start on these jobs right away.

Click the link below to find out more.



Rockin' Rendezvous
Saturday 25th Oct 2025, 15:00 – 19:00
Saltdean Lido Ballroom



Get ready for an afternoon of non-stop dancing and groovin' to the timeless tunes of the '40s and '50s! Join us for *Rockin' Rendezvous* — a swingin' celebration featuring all your favourite classics.

Whether you're into swing, jump jive, doo-wop, R&B, rock 'n' roll, or western swing, there's something for every dancer to enjoy. So dress up in your finest vintage attire and hit the dancefloor floor, and let's rock around the clock!

Stay for Dinner at Deco Restaurant after an afternoon of dancing.
Book a table via email hello@decoatsaltdeanlido.co.uk
or give us a call on 01273 751500

[Book Tickets](#)

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