



Heron's Ghyll Newsletter

June 2025

Hello and welcome to our start of summer newsletter.
When I made a start on putting it together, it was a typical bank holiday with predictable bank holiday weather – some of this and some of this!



Let's hope, for the rest of the summer months, we get plenty of good weather for our driving at Burchetts and our planned events – see the up-to-date programme over...

Fundraising

Jan's report on the Book Barn

The bookbarn, next door to the café at Bates Green, saw a very successful month of the Bluebell Walks with two bank holidays and lots of customers. How lovely to see children sitting on the stairs reading books and enjoying choosing what to take home rather than screentime. Sue Page and Charmian Appleby have made amazing inroads into the vast collection we were left with in the store upstairs. It's a dirty and dusty old job sorting, culling and putting in some sort of order and that's not accounting for the dealing with our night time visitors – bats! who leave their mark in the most inappropriate places. I get to do the faffing with trying to make the books look appealing.

If you get a chance and want to explore the garden, it's open now until October on Wednesdays and Saturdays 10am-4pm.





Heron's Ghyll Driving Group RDA

Summer/Autumn Programme 2025



May 22 nd	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
May 29 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
June 5 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
June 12 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
June 19 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
June 26 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
July 3 rd	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
July 10 th	Le Trec Type Fun Day and Heron Ghyll's 40th Anniversary event.	10.30am
July 17 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
July 22 nd Tuesday	SE Regional Show at Detling, Kent	
July 24 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
July 31 st	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
Aug 7 th	Pleasure Drive at Priory Court (re-arranged)	t.b.c
Aug 14 th	Cones Competition	10.30am
Aug 21 st	Cones Competition (For those who could not compete on the 14 th)	10.30am
Aug 28 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
Sept 4 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
Sept 11 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
Sept 18 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
Sept 25 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
Oct 2 nd	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
Oct 9 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
Oct 16 th	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
Oct 23 rd	Driving at Burchetts	10.30am
Oct 30 th	AGM at East Hoathly Village Hall	
Nov 6 th	Clear up at Burchetts	10.00am
Dec 4 th	Christmas Lunch at Wellshurst Golf Club	

Drivers or Carers must Telephone Karen on 07435 562850 after 9am if they cannot come to Pre-Booked Driving Days – Thank you.



Other Recent Events

The VE Day at Heron's Ghyll on 6th May

We celebrated VE day very quietly with a pretty “normal” day of driving. Hilary had set out an interesting set of cones for practice and some were able to go into the maze for a brief drive.

Several people had brought in cakes duly decorated with red, white and blue and we decorated with some timely bunting. Most drivers and volunteers got into the spirit by also wearing something appropriately coloured. Brian brought along his “tranny” to play a selection of wartime tunes and songs adding to the atmosphere.

We will be celebrating our group's 40th anniversary this year and are incorporating a Le Trec style Fun and Games competition with invited drivers and volunteers from Kipling. Dates on second page of this newsletter. Commemorative rosettes plus some cakes and other goodies to celebrate.





Fundraising

Heron's Ghyll QUIZ



Many thanks go to Jan for organising and setting the questions.

Here's her report:

On Saturday 17th May at East Hoathly village Hall, a brainful party of 10 tables filled the space ready to get down and dirty with their fellow quizzers. It was tight at the top with an eventual tie break situation adding to the tension! Our secretary, Pat Duke's team having to let go of their yearly domination to the final winners "Couldn't give a duck" team with both finishing on 86, making the tie-break question what it says on the tin. Their scores were closely followed by "The Foresters" on 84. We made over £400 from the quiz attendance including the raffle.

Thanks go to Pat and Brian Duke for getting the hall ready. Martin for asking the questions and Pip and Terry for keeping the "laser display board" (!) scoring correct and not forgetting Karen who took care of the raffle.

Final team scores listed below:

Couldn't Give a Duck....	86
Odds & Sods	86
Foresters	84
Give us a Minute	78
Glade Runners	76
The Howletts	70
Rusty Brains	70
East Hoathly Trotters ...	68
Billy No Mates	55
Shelley's Heroes	50

Jan C.

3	20	25	1	37	9	46	9	55	9	64	7	71	6	77
8	10	15	5	33	3	24	1	27	7	34	4	38	4	43
9	16	25	6	31	7	35	4	42	6	45	6	54	5	59
7	1	16	8	24	8	32	8	38	9	47	7	54	4	59
13	9	15	7	25	10	35	16	51	8	53	7	65	6	71
1	1	15	9	27	8	35	9	44	18	62	4	65	4	70
9	20	28	8	37	7	44	8	52	7	61	6	67	8	75
8	7	15	14	29	8	37	5	42	5	47	6	53	7	59
8	10	15	16	34	5	42	6	45	8	56	7	63	4	69
12	7	17	6	25	6	31	1	32	5	39	4	43	4	49



Fundraising

The Bluebell Walk 2025



A message from Jan

This year's Bluebell Walk days at Bates Green Farm were early on in the month when it is open to the public, and unfortunately because of the cold nights the bluebells were playing hard to see! Nonetheless, due to Jo Angear's tireless organising skills, we had a successful two days with helpers and the odd husband or two volunteering their services. Karen did her usual splendid service of running the tombola along with Sarah Baverstock and Shirley Price – apologies if I've missed anyone.

A message from Jo

Thank you all for making this another successful and worthwhile event. It's always great to see everyone working so hard and helping each other to raise so much money for such a wonderful cause. The weather was kind but the bluebells were a little shy, but the woods looked lovely as always.

There are so many people to thank but I know you know who you are! Teamwork work makes the dream work!! John always comments on our group and how brilliant we are, which is always lovely to hear. He has kindly donated to us £200.00 which makes our total at the moment £2,537.20. I would like to thank Karen and her team for all their efforts on the tombola. I am not sure how much they made so this will need to be added to our grand total.

Many thanks

Jo x

Photos over...



The Bluebell Walk 2025



First Aid

12 group volunteers attended at the clubhouse, a day course in emergency first aid which proved to be very informative. The names will be put up in the clubhouse in due course but don't expect any hip replacements or cataract operations any time soon!

Jan

Heron's Ghyll Driving Group RDA

Registered charity 1073569

'Carriage Driving for People with a Disability'

www.heronsghyll-rda.co.uk

