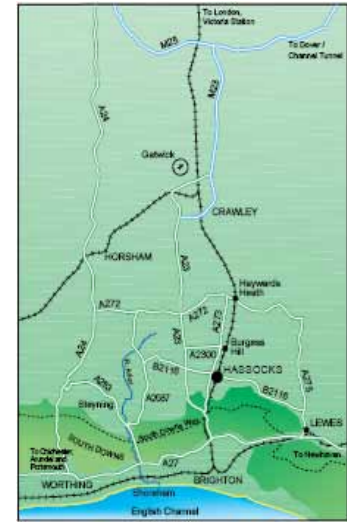


How to get here



By Road

A23 London to Brighton. If southbound take the A2300 via Burgess Hill. From Brighton use A23 then A273 filter lane at Pyecombe. For Hassocks take the right filter at the next traffic lights. From east/west use B2116 Lewes to Henfield road. There are two car parks operating disc parking. Discs £1 (May 2010) can be bought from local shops (check notices in car park for details) and kept for future visits.

By Train

Frequent trains from Brighton, Haywards Heath, Gatwick and London.

By Bus

Numbers 17, 28, 29, 29A/C, 33, 36, 40, 41, 86, 89, 100, 134, 270, 271, 272, 273, 824, link Hassocks to Brighton, Lewes, Haywards Heath, Horsham and local villages. For a full list of all buses and timetables visit www.hassocks-online.co.uk

Taxis

Five Star Tel: 01273 846666

For more travel information ring Traveline: 0871 200 2233 or visit www.traveline.org.uk

Distances (in miles):

Burgess Hill 3, Brighton 8, Haywards Heath 7, Crawley 15, Gatwick 18, London 56.

This leaflet was developed with assistance and funding from: Mid-Sussex District Council, the lottery Awards for All Fund and Collabor8.



Hassocks History

Hassocks contains the old parishes of Clayton (meaning settlement on the clay) and Keymer (meaning cow's pond).

It is thought that metal workers visited the area at the start of the Bronze Age in about 600 BC. Remains of a Bronze Age fort can be seen at the top of Wolstonbury Hill.

The Church of St. John the Baptist at Clayton has wall paintings dating from the 12th century. The Church of St. Cosmas & St Damian is one of only a handful in this country dedicated to these patron saints of physicians and surgeons. The existence of a church at Keymer is noted in the Domesday Book, though the majority of the present church dates from the 1860s.

Keymer and Hassocks are mentioned in Vera Brittain's account of World War 1 "Testament of Youth". Vera, mother of former politician Baroness Shirley Williams, stayed at a cottage in The Crescent at Keymer with the parents of her fiancé who was tragically killed in during the war.

Artefacts and remains from Stone Age, Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and Anglo Saxon times have been found in the area including evidence of a Roman road leading towards a settlement at Stonepound.

The area is thought to stand at the junction of two Roman roads. The railway reached Hassocks in 1841. During the construction of the line and Clayton



Tunnel, over 6000 workers and 900 horses were used. Over 400 of the workers ('navvies' or navigators) were housed in huts near the line or in cottages around Keymer parish.

Hassocks Station was originally called Hassocks Gate after the tollgate which stood on the main road near Stonepound (near the current crossroads).

During the early days of World War 2, evacuees from South East London arrived in Hassocks. Some went to surrounding villages, but many stayed in Hassocks, enjoying daily hot meals from a canteen set up at Keymer Church Hall.

Children were taught at Hassocks Infant School. During air raid practices, children would run for cover when their teachers shouted "rabbits!"

Sports in and around Hassocks

Hassocks Community Cycle Hire at Hassocks train station rents top quality bikes for adults and children and can also do repairs and maintenance. To reserve a bike, or for more information, call 0752 196 1909.



Hassocks Golf Club, London Road, Hassocks
Reservations 01273 846990.
www.hassocksgolfclub.co.uk

Mid Sussex Golf Club, Spatham Lane, Ditchling
Tel 01273 846567
www.midsussexgolfclub.co.uk

Pyecombe Golf Club, Clayton Hill, Pyecombe
Tel: 01273 845372
<http://pyecombegolfclub.com/>

The Weald Tennis and Squash Club, South Bank, Hassocks
Tel: 01273 844283
www.the-weald.co.uk

Riding

A great way to see the countryside on the area's many bridleways. The Three Greys Riding School in Pyecombe offer lessons, parties and long or short rides for all ages.
Tel: 01273 843536
www.3greys.co.uk



Please note: Information on opening times was correct as at May 2010. Telephone the attraction or check websites for updated information.

Out & About

To the east and west of Hassocks there are the charming old villages of Ditchling and Hurstpierpoint, both worth a visit.

South Downs Nurseries Heritage Centre

Tel: 01273 845232
<http://www.south-downs.co.uk/heritage.html>
Exhibition of local heritage crafts, vintage tools and machinery from local area. Admission free, donations to local charities invited.

Stoneywish Country Park, Spatham Lane, Ditchling

Tel: 01273 843498
www.stoneywish.com
Open 1st March – 31st October. Mon-Fri in term time; open everyday during school holidays. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission charge.

Washbrooks Farm Centre, Brighton Road (B2117), Hurstpierpoint
Tel: 01273 832201
www.washbrooks.co.uk
Open 7 days a week 9.30 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. Admission charge (children under 5 free.)

Ditchling Museum

Tel: 01273 844744
www.ditchling-museum.com to check opening dates and times and current exhibitions. Admission charge.

Hurstpierpoint Museum, Village Centre, Trinity Road (next door to library). Visit www.sussexmuseums.co.uk/hurstpierpoint.htm to check opening times.

Please note: Information on opening times was correct as at May 2010. Telephone the attraction or check websites for updated information.

Where to Eat

There's a superb choice of five country pubs in and around the area that all offer good food (see the tankard symbols on the map). In the main shopping area there are other cafes and restaurants offering meals and snacks; also two fish and chip shops and other takeaway facilities. These are all listed on the Hurstpierpoint and Hassocks Shopping Map available from newsagents, estate agents, selected shops, the station and the library.



Where to stay

Details of overnight accommodation in the area are available from Tourist Offices, www.visitsussex.org or our website www.visithassocks.co.uk

Visit Hassocks



a flourishing village
gateway to the
South Downs National Park

www.visithassocks.co.uk

About the village

Hassocks is a flourishing village sitting at the foot of the South Downs 7 miles north of Brighton and is an excellent gateway from which to explore the beautiful South Downs area, whether on foot, by bike or by car. There are spectacular views of the Downs from the village and, if you go the top, views across the Weald to the North Downs.

The name Hassocks is thought to have come from the name for rough tufts of grass in surrounding fields.

The houses in Grand Avenue, King's Drive and Queen's Drive were built on the site of The Orchard Tea Gardens. From Edwardian times until 1935 they were a popular day out attracting visitors from London as well as all over Sussex. Amusements included swing boats, a cycle track and even a boating lake.

Hassocks is twinned with Wald-Michelbach in Germany and Montmirail in France.

Hassocks offers a variety of shops, cafes, restaurants, pubs and leisure opportunities including cycle hire, walking and cycle trails, horse riding, golf, tennis, squash and bowls. There is a village market on the 4th Saturday of each month.

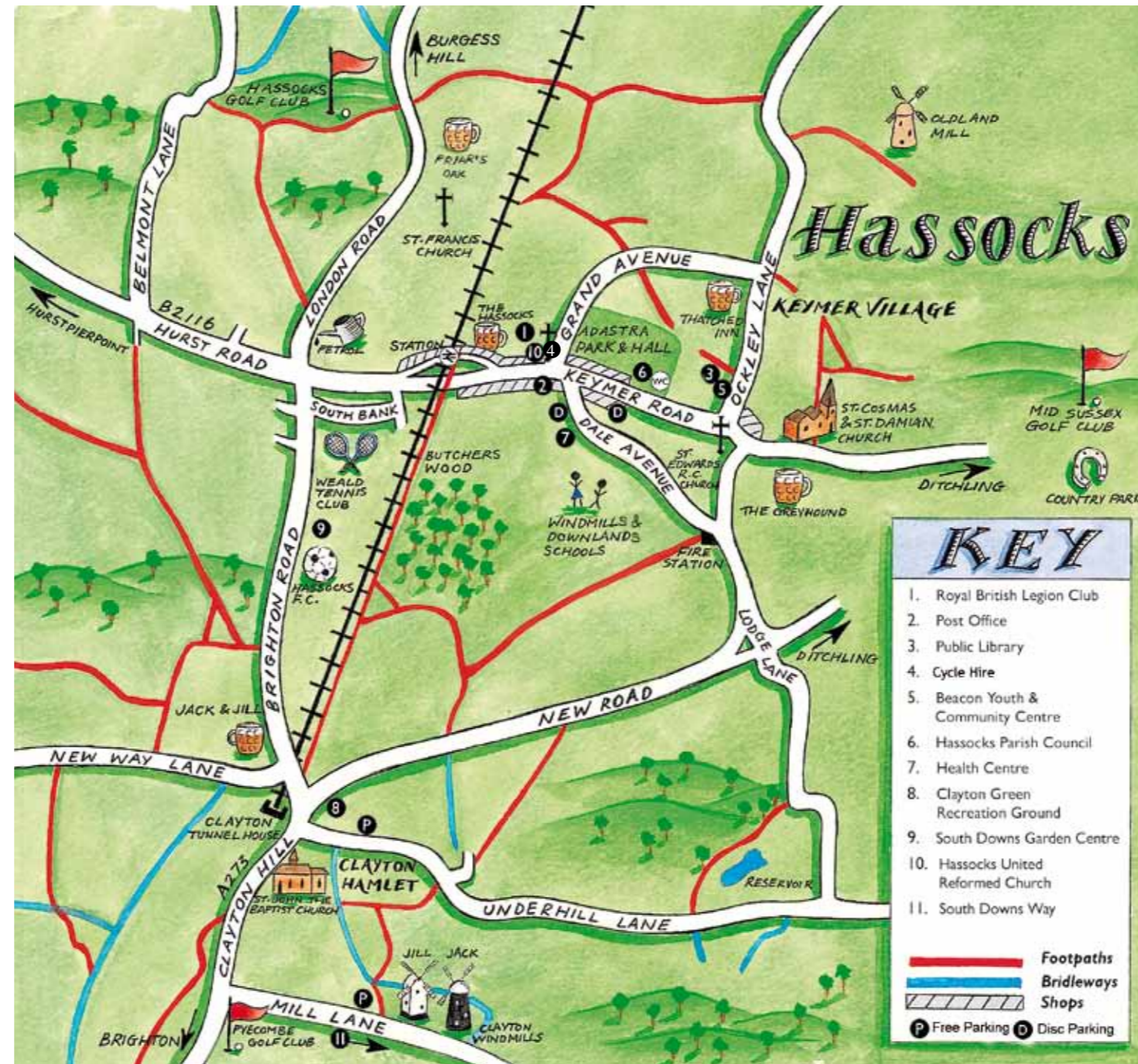
For further details see our website www.visithassocks.co.uk



In the 1960s, pop groups including The Who and The Hollies played at the now demolished Downs Hotel in Keymer. Other visitors included Acker Bilk and the notorious murderer, Dr Crippen!



Adastra Park was originally part of the grounds of Villa Adastra, the home of Edward Stafford, owner of a large store in Brighton. When his eldest son died in World War 1, he donated land for a garden of remembrance and playing fields. Today the park is used for cricket, football, bowls, tennis, stoolball and croquet and also has two children's play areas and a skatepark. The name Adastra comes from the Air Force motto "Per Ardua Ad Astra" (through struggles to the stars).



For further details we suggest you use Ordnance Survey maps Landranger 198 or Explorer 122.

Exploring the Area

A favourite way of starting to explore the area is to take the path alongside the railway to Butchers Wood, which is owned by The Woodland Trust. (Look for Circular Walk 1 leaflet.) The Wood is especially attractive when the bluebells appear in late April. Continue along the path and up onto the Downs to visit "Jill" Mill.

Places to Visit

Oldland Mill

A short walk from the centre of Hassocks will bring you to Oldland Mill. (Look for circular Walk 3 leaflet). Oldland Mill is an 18th century post mill which was saved from dereliction and continues to be restored by volunteers. Details of the open days are displayed at the site and at www.oldlandwindmill.co.uk

Clayton Railway Tunnel



Best viewed from the roadbridge on the A273, this 1¼ mile tunnel is the longest on the London to Brighton Line. The Victorian folly above the entrance was built at the request of the landowner.

Sails on the hill

Dominating the skyline to the South of Hassocks are the Clayton Windmills "Jack" and "Jill". "Jill", a post mill, was erected in Brighton in 1821, moved to Clayton in 1852 and worked till 1906. The mill has been restored by volunteers and is open on most Sundays May – September. Details of other open days are displayed at

the site and at www.jillwindmill.org.uk "Jack", a tower mill, is privately owned and not open to the public.



Why not explore the many lanes and bridleways in the area? Bring your own bike or hire one from Hassocks Community Bike Hire next to the Hassocks public house by the eastern exit from the station. Then pick up a leaflet with a map and directions for one of the circular cycle trails.

Leaflets, each describing a local walk or cycle route, are available from the cycle hire centre at Hassocks station, Tourism information Centres and at www.visithassocks.co.uk