LOCAL HISTORY
Mini-Guide to Sources
No.8 Newspapers in West Sussex

This is the second edition of the eighth in the series of Mini-Guides to local history sources on particular places and on themes, published jointly by West Sussex County Council Library Service and West Sussex Record Office. The second edition is published on the Internet only.

The word “newspapers” is taken to mean daily and weekly newspapers covering or within the county. This Mini-Guide aims to list all known local newspapers published in or covering part of the area of West Sussex, and gives locations where they can be consulted. Free newspapers are not listed. A selection of papers published in Brighton and Portsmouth that covered a significant area of West Sussex have been included, but given short titles. Northern parts of the counties were occasionally covered by papers published in Farnham, Guildford, Horley, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells, and Newsplan (below) lists the titles. This Mini-Guide should be used in conjunction with and as an update of Report of the Newsplan project in the London and South Eastern Library Region (LASER) January 1992-December 1995, available in print or on the Internet (at www.newsplan.co.uk). A useful website is the BLNL online catalogue at: www.bl.uk/catalogues/newspapers

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Abbreviations used in the Mini-Guide:
(Where appropriate addresses can be found at the end.)

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<td>British Library Newspaper Library</td>
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<td>BHC</td>
<td>Brighton History Centre</td>
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<td>West Sussex Record Office</td>
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<td>Yale</td>
<td>Yale University Library</td>
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Text by Martin Hayes and Timothy McCann, with the assistance of Caroline Adams, Ron Iden and the West Sussex County Council Library Service Information Librarians.
Q.1 What local newspapers have been published covering West Sussex?

Adur Herald, see Shoreham Herald
Argus, see Evening Argus (Brighton)
Arun Gazette, see Littlehampton Gazette
Billingshurst News
Bognor Advertiser
Bognor Chichester and Littlehampton Post
Bognor and Chichester Post see Bognor Chichester and Littlehampton Post
Bognor Gazette
Bognor Regis (Guardian) and Post
Bognor [Regis] Observer
Bognor Regis (and Chichester) Post see Bognor Regis (Guardian) and Post
Bognor Regis Post see Bognor Regis (Guardian) and Post
Brighton Examiner
Brighton Gazette
Brighton Guardian
Brighton Herald
Chanctonbury Herald, see Worthing Herald
Chichester Advertiser
Chichester Courier
Chichester Express and West Sussex Journal
Chichester Journal
Chichester Journal and District Advertiser
Chichester Press or West Sussex Journal
Chichester Observer
Chichester Post
Chichester & Southern Post, see Chichester Post
County Gazette
Crawley and District Observer, see Crawley Observer
Crawley Courier
Crawley Observer
East Grinstead Courier
East Grinstead Observer
East Grinstead Times
Evening Argus (Brighton)
Hampshire Chronicle and Portsmouth & Chichester Journal
Hampshire Telegraph & Sussex Chronicle, see also Sussex Chronicle
Hampshire Post
Horsham Advertiser, see West Sussex County Times
Horsham and Mid-Sussex Guardian, see West Sussex Guardian

Horsham, Petworth, Midhurst and Steyning Express see Sussex Express
Horsham Times & West Sussex Courier
Lancing Herald, see Worthing Herald
Lindfield Reporter
Littlehampton Gazette
Littlehampton News
Littlehampton Observer, see Chichester Observer
Littlehampton Post, see Chichester Post
Mid-Sussex Times
Midhurst Observer, see also Chichester Observer
Midhurst Times, see also Chichester Observer
Midhurst & Petworth Observer, see also Chichester Observer
Midhurst & Petworth Times, see also Chichester Observer
New Crawley Observer, see Crawley Observer
News [Portsmouth], Portsmouth Times
Post (West Sussex), see Chichester Post
Shoreham Herald
Simmins Weekly Advertiser, see Crawley Observer
Southern Free Press, see East Grinstead Times
Southern Post, see Chichester Post
Southern Standard
Southern Star, see Chichester Journal
Steyning Herald, see Worthing Herald
Steyning Observer
Sussex and Surrey Courier see Crawley Observer
Sussex Advertiser
Sussex Agricultural Express, see Sussex Express
Sussex Chronicle and Chichester Advertiser, see also Hampshire Telegraph
Sussex Coast Mercury, see Worthing Mercury
Sussex County Herald, see also Sussex Express
Sussex Daily News
Sussex Express (and County Herald)
Sussex Weekly Advertiser or Lewes Journal, see Sussex (Weekly) Advertiser
West Sussex Advertiser, see Chichester Journal and West Sussex Gazette
West Sussex County Chronicle, Chichester, Midhurst and Petersfield Advertiser
West Sussex County Times
West Sussex Gazette
West Sussex Guardian
West Sussex Journal, see Chichester Express
West Sussex Times, see West Sussex County Times
Western Gazette & Sussex Advertiser see County Gazette

Q.2 Which local newspapers covering West Sussex were published during the period 1750-1850?

Sussex Weekly Advertiser or Lewes Journal from 1745
Hampshire Chronicle and Portsmouth & Chichester Journal from 1772
Hampshire Telegraph & Sussex Chronicle from 1799
Sussex Chronicle and Chichester Advertiser from 1802
Sussex Agricultural Express from 1837
Portsmouth Times from 1850

Q.3 Which local newspapers covering West Sussex were published during the period 1851-1900?

West Sussex Advertiser from 1853
West Sussex Gazette from 1853
Worthing (Monthly) Record & Chronicle from 1853
Chichester Journal from 1860
Southern Star from 1861
Chichester Express from 1863
Sussex Express from 1863
Worthing Express etc. from 1863
Worthing Intelligencer from 1867
Chichester Courier from 1868
Chichester Advertiser from 1869
Littlehampton News from 1869
Sussex Coast Mercury from 1870
Sussex Daily News from 1870
Horsham Advertiser from 1871
Bognor Regis Observer from 1872
Hampshire Post from 1877
News [Portsmouth] from 1878
Argus from 1880
Mid-Sussex Times from 1881
Simmins Weekly Advertiser from 1881
East Grinstead Observer from 1882
Horsham Times and West Sussex Courier from 1882
Sussex & Surrey Courier from 1882
Southern Free Press and East Grinstead Times from 1883
Worthing Gazette from 1883
Chichester Observer from 1887
West Sussex Times from 1888
West Sussex County Times from 1893
Bognor Gazette from 1894
Littlehampton Gazette from 1896
Evening Argus from 1897
Q.4 Where can local newspapers covering West Sussex be consulted?

The following list gives the locations of extant copies of the newspapers (see Q1 for the complete list). Newspapers are grouped under the present title, with previous titles and their duration, where known. Local editions of the papers are grouped under the principal title. Covering dates of the duration of each paper are given in brackets after its title; where no date is given, the duration of the paper is not known. Dates of copies available for consultation are given after their location. Where just a year is given in the date, the holding is complete for that year. If the date includes a day or month, it is inclusive.

**Billingshurst News**

- **Hard copy:** HM: 5 Oct 1929 - 17 Sep 1932, 1 Jun 1935 - 8 Oct 1938 (several issues wanting)

**Bognor Advertiser**

- **Hard copy:** WSL: 1 March - 21 June 1895
- **Microfilm:** BW: 1 March - 21 June 1895
  - WSL: 1 March - 21 June 1895

**Bognor, Chichester & Littlehampton Post** (1924 to date)

Previous titles:

**Bognor Regis (Guardian and) Post** (7 Jan 1922 - 1988)

- **Hard copy:** BLNL: 15 Mar 1924 - 12 Sep 1988
- **Microfilm:** BW: 15 Mar 1924 - 12 Sep 1988

**Bognor & Chichester Post** (1988 - 1989)

- **Hard copy:** BLNL: 6 Oct 1988 - 12 Jan 1989
- **Microfilm:** BLNL: 1976, 1989 to date

Present title:

**Bognor, Chichester & Littlehampton Post** (1989 to date)

- **Microfilm:** BLNL: 1989 to date

**Bognor Regis Observer** (1 May 1872 to date. From 15 June 1887, the Chichester Observer was published as a sister paper, and gained superiority)

- **Hard copy:** BLNL: 1 May 1872 to date
  - WSRO: 1880 - 1884 (1882 volume begins 26 Jul), 1886, 1900 - 1901, 1905 to date
    (except Jan - Jun 1907, 1928, Jul 1959)
- **Microfilm:** BLNL: 1897, 8 Dec 1900
  - CWL: 1890 - 1961 (wanting Jan - Jun 1900), from 1961, see under *Chichester Observer*

**Brighton Examiner** (18 Jan 1853 - 25 May 1896)

- **Hard copy:** BHC: 1853 - 1895
  - BLNL: 1887 - 1891
  - ESRO: 1887 - 1891
- **Microfilm:** BHC: 1854 - 1873, 1875 - 1896
  - ESRO: 1854 - 1873, 1875 - 1896

**Brighton Gazette** (22 Feb 1821 - 9 Mar 1885)

- **Hard copy:** BLNL: 6 Jan 1825 - 1985 (wanting 1897, 1898, 1913)
  - ESRO: 1848
BLNL: 1911

**Brighton Guardian** (31 Jan 1827 - 25 Sep 1901)
Hard copy: BLNL: 31 Jan 1827 - 25 Sep 1901
ESRO: 1835 - 1840, 1842

**Brighton Herald, Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire & Kent Advertiser** (6 Sep 1806 - 12 Jul 1902)
Hard copy: BLNL: 1825 - 1902
BHC: 1806 - 1807, 1836 - 1865, 1868 - 1877, 1879 - 1885, 1888 - 1902
Microfilm: BHC: 1901 - 1902

**Chichester Advertiser** (1869)
Hard copy: BLNL: 10 Feb 1869 - 12 May 1869

**Chichester Courier** (1868-9)
Hard copy: BLNL: 21 Oct 1868 - 16 Nov 1868, 6 Jan 1869 - 20 Jan 1869
Microfilm: CWL: 21 Oct 1868 - 16 Nov 1868, 6 Jan 1869 and 20 Jan 1869

**Chichester Express [and West Sussex Journal]** (1863 - 1902)
Hard copy: BLNL: 6 Jan 1863 - 30 Dec 1902 (wanting 1897)
Microfilm: CWL: 6 Jan 1863 - 30 Dec 1902 (wanting 1897)
WSRO: 1877 (page 2 of each issue)

**Chichester Journal** (1860 - 1864)
Previous titles:
*Chichester Journal & District Advertiser* (28 Nov 1860 - 19 June 1861)
*Southern Star & Chichester Journal* (22 Jun - 24 July 1861)
*Chichester Journal & Southern Star* (31 July 1861 - 11 Nov 1863)
*Chichester Journal & West Sussex Advertiser* (18 Nov 1863 - 27 Apr 1864)
Hard copy: BLNL: 28 Nov 1860 - 27 Apr 1864

**Chichester Observer** (1887 to date)
Main edition:
*Chichester Observer* (1887 to date)
Hard copy: BLNL: 1887 to date (wanting 1896, 1897, Nov - Dec 1912)
WSRO: 1888 to date (wanting 1890, 1893, 1894, 1902, 1903, 1910, 1928)
Microfilm: BLNL: 1896 to date
CWL: May 1961 to date (includes Bognor and Petworth & Midhurst editions)
WSRO: 1887 - 1950, 1992 to date (includes Bognor and Petworth & Midhurst editions)

Local editions:
*Littlehampton Observer*
Hard copy: WSRO: 1909 - 1938 (wanting 1928)

*Midhurst & Petworth Observer* (3 August 1962 to date)
*Midhurst & Petworth Times* (8 Mar 1935 - 8 May 1936)
*Midhurst, Petworth, Haslemere & District Times* (15 May 1936 - 30 Dec 1939)
Midhurst, Petworth & District Times (6 Jan 1940 - 27 July 1962)

**Chichester Post** (1923 - 1975)
Previous titles:
*Southern Post* (10 Nov 1923 - 31 Jan 1925)
*Chichester & Southern Post* (7 Feb 1925 - 25 Dec 1965)
*Post (West Sussex)* (1 Jan 1966 - 23 Sep 1967)
*Chichester Post* (30 Sep 1967 - 10 May 1975)
  Hard copy: BLNL: 10 Nov 1923 - 10 May 1975

Local edition:
*Littlehampton Post*

**County Gazette**
Previous titles:
*Western Gazette & Sussex County Advertiser* (Apr - June 1911)
*County Gazette (& Worthing Advertiser)* (June 1911 - Sep 1914)
  Hard copy: WSL: 26 Apr 1911 - 17 Sep 1913, 29 Oct 1913
  BLNL: 1911 - 1914

**Crawley Courier**

**Crawley Observer** (1881 to date) [filming in progress]
Previous titles:
*Simmins Weekly Advertiser* (23 Mar 1881 - 27 May 1882)
  Hard copy: BLNL: 23 Mar 1881 - 27 May 1882
*Sussex & Surrey Courier* (3 June 1882 - 12 July 1946) [The title is deceptive, as the paper was originally based at East Grinstead]
  Hard copy: BLNL: 3 June 1882 - 12 July 1946
  WSRO: 1884-1943
  Microfilm: CNL: 1925, 7 Jan 1939 – 12 July 1946
  WSRO: 1884-1943
*Crawley & District Observer* (19 Jul 1946 - 16 Jan 1981)
*New Crawley Observer* (22 Jan 1981 - 13 Jan 1983)

Present title:
*Crawley Observer* (20 Jan 1983 to date)
  Hard copy: BLNL: 19 Jul 1946 to date
  *Crawley Observer* offices, 12 The Boulevard, Crawley: 19 Jul 1946 to date
  Microfilm: BLNL: 1976 to date
  CNL: 19 July 1946 to date
  WSL: 1955 – Oct 1972

**East Grinstead Courier**
  Microfilm: GN: 6 Jan 1983 to date

**East Grinstead Observer** (1882 to date)
  Hard copy: BLNL: 1882 to date (wanting 1896 - 1897)

East Grinstead Times (1883 - 1894)
Previous titles:
Southern Free Press and East Grinstead Times (12 Oct 1883 - 1 Apr 1892)
East Grinstead Times and Southern Free Press (8 Apr 1892 - 18 Aug 1894)
Hard copy: BLNL: 12 Oct 1883 - 18 Aug 1894

Evening Argus (1880 to date)
Previous title:
Argus
Hard copy: BLNL: 30 Mar 1880 - 31 Dec 1895
Microfilm: BHC: 1880 - 1896
Present title:
Evening Argus
Hard copy: BLNL: 1897 to date (wanting Jul - Dec 1898, 1911)
Microfilm: BLNL: Jul - Dec 1897, 1899, Jul - Dec 1910
BHC: 1896 to date

Hampshire Chronicle and Portsmouth & Chichester Journal (1772 to date)
Hard copy: WSRO: 1793 - 1796, 1800 - 1802
Microfilm: WSRO: 1772 - 1797
(Hampshire Record Office has copies of later issues)

Hampshire Post
Microfilm: PL: 1877 - 13 Dec 1913

Hampshire Telegraph and Sussex Chronicle
Hard copy: WSRO: 18 Aug 1817 - 28 Dec 1818
HM: May 1817 - May 1818
Microfilm: CWL: 3 Jan 1820 - 1839
PL: 1799 - 1976

Horsham Times and West Sussex Courier (1882 - 1941) [The title is deceptive as the paper relates to the Crawley area]
WSRO: 1884 - 1941
Microfilm: BLNL: 1882, 1888
HN: 28 Jan 1882 – Aug 1934
WSRO: 1884-1941

Lindfield Reporter
Hard copy: BHC: 1839 - 42

Littlehampton Gazette (1896 to date, but named Arun Gazette 7 Oct 1977 - 26 Jan 1990)
Littlehampton Gazette (1896 - 30 Sep 1977 and after 2 Feb 1990)
Hard copy: BLNL: 1958 to date, including period as Arun Gazette
   LW: 22 Jun 1956 - 30 Sep 1977
   LM: 1896 - 1919: 59 partial or complete issues; Jan 1948 - Dec 1971, 7 Jan - 12 May
Microfilm: BLNL: 1977 to date, including period as Arun Gazette
   LW: 5 Jan 1923 - 15 Jun 1956, and 2 Feb 1990 to date
   WSRO: 5 Jan 1923 - 15 Jun 1956

Arun Gazette (7 Oct 1977 - 26 Jan 1990)
   LM: Dec 1982 - May 1983
   LW: 6 Jan 1978 - 26 Jan 1990

Littlehampton News (1869 - 12 Aug 1914)
   Hard copy: BLNL: 1873-1914
   BHC: 1906 - 1907, 1911 - 1914
   LM: 1869 - 1914 (192 issues)

Mid-Sussex Times (12 Jan 1881 to date)
   Hard copy: BLNL: Mar 1884 - Dec 1895, Jan 1898 - Dec 1911, 1913 to date
   WSRO: 1911-1923 (1914-1918 on DVD)
   Microfilm: BLNL: 12 Jan 1881 - 12 Jan 1900, 1912, 1939 - 1945, 1977 to date
   RN: 12 Jan 1881 - 12 Jan 1900, 1912, 1914 – 1918, 1925, 1939 - 1945, 1977 to date

News [Portsmouth] (1878 to date)
   Microfilm: PL: 1878 to date

Portsmouth Times
   Microfilm: PL: 1850 - March 1928

Shoreham Herald (1937 to date, but named Adur Herald 8 July 1977 - 26 Jan 1990)
Shoreham Herald (8 May 1937 - 1 July 1977 and after 2 Feb 1990)
Adur Herald (8 July 1977 - 26 Jan 1990)
   Hard copy: BLNL: 8 May 1937 to date
   SS: 6 Jan 1961 - 1 Jul 1977, 2 Feb 1990 to date

Southern Standard (1904)
   Hard copy: BLNL: 1 Jul 1904 - 10 Dec 1904

Steyning Observer
   Hard copy: SM: 11 and 18 Jun 1902

Sussex Chronicle and Chichester Advertiser
   Hard copy: WSL: 7 Jan 1802 - 30 June 1803
   Microfilm: WSL: 7 Jan 1802 - 30 June 1803
   WSRO: 7 Jan 1802 - 30 June 1803

Sussex Coast Mercury (21 May 1870 - 17 May 1919)
   Hard copy: BLNL: 21 May 1870 - 17 May 1919 (wanting 1873, 1896)
   WSL: 7 Feb 1874 – 4 Aug 1900 (11 issues)
   Microfilm: BLNL: 4 Jan - 15 Nov 1873
WSL: 7 Feb 1874 – 4 Aug 1900 (11 issues)

**Sussex County Herald** (3 June 1876 - 30 Sep 1938) [published in Eastbourne]
From 1913 it published local editions, which for West Sussex, include:
Haywards Heath edition:
   Hard copy: WSL: 1918, 6 June 1930 - 30 Sep 1938
   ESRO: 1930 - 1938
Mid-Sussex edition:
   Hard copy: ESRO: 1930 - 1938
See also **Sussex Express**, with which it merged in 1938)

**Sussex Daily News** (1870 - 3 Mar 1956)
Hard copy: BLNL: 1 Jan 1870 - 3 Mar 1956 (wanting 1898)
   ESRO: 1907 - 1955 (wanting 1912)
   BHC: 1881, 1912, 1915, 3 Mar 1956
Microfilm: BLNL: 1874 - 1875, 1897 - 1900, 1911
   WSL: 1881 - 3 Mar 1956
   BHC: 1913 - 3 Mar 1956

**Sussex Express**
Previous titles:
*Sussex Agricultural Express* (1837 - 1902)
Hard copy: BLNL: 4 Feb 1837 - 30 Dec 1902
   BHC: 1837 - 1884
Microfilm: BLNL: 1837 - 1902
   ESRO: 1837 - 1902
   CWL: 4 Feb 1837 - 30 May 1871
   WSL: 14 Jul 1838 – 16 Nov 1872

**Sussex Express** (3 Jan 1903 - 30 Sep 1938)
Hard copy: BLNL: 1903 - 1938 (wanting Jan - Feb 1911)
   BHC: 1903 - 1938
Microfilm: BLNL: Mar - Dec 1911
   BHC: 1903 - 1938
   ESRO: 1903 - 1938

**Sussex Express and County Herald**
Hard copy: BLNL: 1938 to date
   BHC: 1938 to date
   ESRO: 1938 - 1990 (local editions)
Microfilm: BHC: 1938 - 1946
   ESRO: 1938 - 1946

Local editions:
Haywards Heath edition:
   Microfilm: ESRO: 1938-1954
Burgess Hill edition:
   Microfilm: ESRO: 1946 - 1954

**Horsham, Petworth, Midhurst and Steyning Express** (13 Jan 1863 - 1902)
Hard copy: BLNL: 13 Jan 1863 - 30 Dec 1902 (Wanting 1897)
   ESRO: 1940 - Aug 1991
Microfilm: BLNL: 1871

**Worthing Express, Bognor, Littlehampton & Shoreham Journal** (1863 - 1902)
Microfilm: ESRO: 6 Jan 1863 - 30 Dec 1902
**Sussex (Weekly) Advertiser or Lewes Journal** (1746 - 1910)

Previous titles:

**Sussex Weekly Advertiser or Lewes Journal** (1746 - 17 June 1822)

**Hard copy:** BLNL: May 1777 - Dec 1820 (incomplete)

BHC: 1749, 1751 - 1752, 1758 - 1764, 1769 - 1784, 1786 - 1822

WSL: 30 Oct 1769 - 1818

ESRO: 1796

**Microfilm:**

BHC: 1749, 1751 - 1752, 1758 - 1764, 1769 - 1784, 1786 - 1822

CWL: 16 Feb. 1747 - 30 Dec 1822 (incomplete)

WSL: 16 Feb 1747 - 1822 (incomplete)

ESRO: Jan. 1748 – Nov. 1749; 1751, 1782 - 1784, 1792 - 1793, 1799, 1807 – 1822

WSRO: 1747 – 1786 (incomplete)


**Sussex Advertiser** (24 June 1822 - 1910)

**Hard copy:**


WSL: 22 Jan 1827 - 15 Dec 1828 (incomplete)

**Microfilm:**

BHC: 1827 - 1831

ESRO: 1822 - 1832

WSL: 1822 - 1859 (incomplete)

[For detailed list of the availability of individual issues of Sussex Weekly Advertiser, see Q5]


**West Sussex County Chronicle** etc (1877 - 1880)

**Hard copy:** BLNL: 2 May 1877 - 28 Jan 1880


**West Sussex County Times**

Previous titles:

**Horsham Advertiser** (Oct 1871 - 4 Aug 1888)

**Hard copy:** BLNL: 25 Nov 1871, 28 Sep, 12 Oct 1872, 31 Dec 1873, 21 Jan 1874, 4 Aug 1888

WSRO: 25 Nov 1871 - 1887

**Microfilm:**

BLNL: 1871

WSRO: 25 Nov 1871 - 4 Aug 1888 (incomplete)

**West Sussex Times** (11 Aug 1888 - 7 Oct 1893)

**Hard copy:** BLNL: 11 Aug 1888 to 7 Oct 1893

**Microfilm:**

HN: 11 Aug 1888 to 7 Oct 1893

Present title:

**West Sussex County Times** (14 Oct 1893 to date)

**Hard copy:** BLNL: 14 Oct 1893 to date (1882 - 1885, 1887 imperfect)

WSRO: 14 Oct 1893 - 1969

HM: 14 Oct 1893 - 1969

**Microfilm:**

BLNL: 1893, 1897, 1898, 1976 to date

HN: 14 Oct 1893 to date


**West Sussex Gazette** (1 June 1853 onwards)

Previous titles:

**Mitchell's Monthly Advertiser** (June - July 1853)

**West Sussex Advertiser** (Aug 1853 - Feb 1854)

**West Sussex Advertiser and South Coast Journal** (March 1854 - Jan 1855)

Present title:

**West Sussex Gazette (& County Advertiser)** (Jan 1855 to date)

**Hard copy:** BHC: 1866 - 1895, 1897 - 1910, 1912 - 1918
[for all 4 titles] BLNL: 1 Sep 1853 to date (wanting 1891, 1896, 1897, 1911)
Microfilm: BHC: 1860 - 1895, 1897 - 1910, 1912 - 1923
1887
CWL: 5 Feb 1860 to date
WSRO: 6 Jan 1860 - 29 Dec 1887

**West Sussex Guardian**
Previous titles:
*Horsham and Mid - Sussex Guardian* (29 Oct 1921 - 27 Oct 1923)
- HM: 29 Oct 1921 - 27 Oct 1923
- WSRO: 29 Oct 1921 - 27 Oct 1923

Present title:
*West Sussex Guardian* (3 Nov 1923 - 24 Oct 1925)
- Hard copy: BLNL: 3 Nov 1923 - 24 Oct 1925
- Microfilm: HN: 3 Nov 1923 - 24 Oct 1925

**Worthing Gazette** (12 May 1883 - 6 May 1981)
- WSL: 12 Jul 1883 - 6 May 1981 (early years incomplete)

See also *Worthing Herald*, with which it merged 15 May 1981

**Worthing Herald**
Previous titles:
*Worthing Herald* (15 May 1920 - 8 May 1981, and 10 July 1987 to date)
- Hard copy: BLNL, 15 May 1920 to date
- WSL: 15 May 1920 - 1978
Microfilm: BLNL: 1976 to date
- WSL: 15 May 1920 to date

Local editions:
*Chanctonbury Herald* (1990 - 1992)
*Lancing Herald* (1991 to date)
- Hard copy: SS: 21 June 1991 to date
*Steyning Herald*
- Hard copy: SS: 11 Oct 1991 to date

**Worthing Mercury**
- Hard copy: BLNL: 28 Nov 1903 - 17 May 1919
- WSL: 1915
- Microfilm: WSL: 1915

**Worthing (Monthly) Record and District Chronicle**
- Hard copy: BLNL: 1 Sep 1853 - 1 Jun 1855
- WSL: 1 Sep 1853 - 9 Aug 1856
**Worthing Observer**

**Worthing Intelligencer and General Advertiser** (6 Apr 1867 - 12 Jan 1901)
- **Hard copy:** BLNL: 8 Jun 1867 - 10 Jul 1869, 29 Jul 1884 - 12 Jan 1901 (wanting 1897)
- **Microfilm:** BLNL: 8 Jun 1867 - 10 Jul 1869, 29 Jul 1884 - 1888, 18 Jan 1890 - 30 Dec 1893, 1898

**Worthing Observer** (19 Jan 1902 - 2 Dec 1916)
- **Hard copy:** BLNL: 1901 - 1916 (wanting 1897)
- **Microfilm:** BLNL: 1912

**Worthing Times and Shoreham & Southwick Post**
- **Hard copy:** BLNL: 10 Feb - 29 Jun 1901
- **Microfilm:** WSL: 4 Aug 1900

**Q.5 Where are copies of Sussex Weekly Advertiser or the Lewes Journal, 1746-1822, the oldest county newspaper, available in West Sussex?**

This newspaper, which was started in 1746, was published in Lewes initially as a weekly but later three times a week. From 1858 two editions were produced a week together with a ‘people’s edition’; a Saturday issue was published between 1864 and 1905.

It was called the *Sussex Weekly Advertiser* or the *Lewes Journal* from 1746 to 17 June 1822, then the *Sussex Advertiser, or Lewes and Brighthelmstone Journal* until April 4 1842, the *Sussex Advertiser* until 6 June 1843, the *Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette and West Kent Courier* until 16 September 1879 and finally the *Sussex Advertiser, with which it is incorporated the Weald of Kent Chronicle* until 6 November 1905 (WF Bergess, BRM Riddell, J Whyman (eds) *Bibliography of British Newspapers: Kent* (British Library 1982) 110-112).

Copies of the following editions are held at the West Sussex Record Office: 19 Jun. 1769 (1199), 6 Jul. 1778 (1672), 27 Dec. 1790 (2317) and 20 May 1799 (2751); 24 Jul. 1815 (3593); 3 Nov. 1817 (3684), 19 Jul. 1819 (3782) and 29 Nov. 1819 (3801)

Copies of the following editions are held at the East Sussex Record Office: 4 Jan – 26 Dec 1796 (2576-2627), 11 Mar 1811 (3363); 1 Jul 1811 (3379); 14-21 Oct 1811 (3394-3395); 10 Feb 1812 (3210); 24 Feb. 1812 (3412); 16 Mar 1812 (3415); 18 May 1812 (3422) and 28 Oct 1816 (3639)

The following is a detailed list of the availability in Sussex of individual copies of the *Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, whether in original or microform. It also includes copies held by the University of Yale in America, since these supplement the holdings available in Sussex.

BRL = Brighton Local Studies; BL = British Library Newspaper Library at Colindale; CWL.= Chichester Library, ESRO. = East Sussex Record Office, SAS = library of the Sussex Archaeological Society; WSRO. = West Sussex Record Office, Yale = Yale University Library.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Location</th>
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Q.6 What is the history of local newspaper publication in West Sussex?

Although Sussex was not in the forefront of provincial newspaper publication the Sussex Weekly Advertiser or Lewes Journal began in Lewes in 1745, and had a wide circulation throughout the county. Harsh taxation severely limited the number of local titles until the mid-nineteenth century. Duty of a halfpenny was first imposed in 1712, and, after various changes, eventually rose to 4d. per newspaper from 1815. This newspaper stamp, together with a Government royalty on every advertisement and Excise Duty on paper, became known as the "taxes on knowledge". Before 1850 only one title was published in West Sussex: the short-lived Sussex Chronicle and Chichester Advertiser, although on 5 August 1784, Dennett Joynes of Chichester was described as both printer and publisher of the Hampshire Telegraph, together with T. Blagden of Winchester.

Several factors during the nineteenth-century created a climate for change. Specifically relevant were the abolition of these taxes between 1853 and 1861, improvements in printing technology, slowly increasing prosperity and literacy, and the widening of the franchise in 1832 and 1867. The last three factors led to a growing middle-class and therefore larger market for newspapers, which also became much cheaper to buy.

Between 1853 and 1883 twenty-one new titles began publication in West Sussex (see Q3 for further details). The emphasis of local papers changed away from reprinting national and international news from London titles, towards being a voice of the community served. Town newspapers were established for the first time in Bognor, East Grinstead, Haywards Heath, Horsham, Littlehampton and Worthing. Most titles were weeklies, though there were a few monthly publications such as the Horsham & District Review, while the Brighton Argus was unusual in becoming an evening paper in 1886, and the Sussex Daily News had been established in 1870. The long-running West Sussex Gazette and West Sussex County Times began during this period.

The two world wars and the resultant shortage of paper led to the closing of several newspapers, and the process of closures of long-established newspapers has continued unabated. Since 1945 the proportion of text compared to photographs and advertisements has declined and local events are not covered in such detail. Press releases from organisations are often reproduced verbatim, and features and campaigning articles have become more common. A notable feature of the past twenty five years has been the growth of the free newspapers financed by advertising, and the take-over of most local titles by a small number of publishing companies.

Q.7 What material, published or unpublished, is available for the history of local newspaper publication in West Sussex?

The records of the West Sussex Gazette (Mitchell & Co., printers of Tarrant Street, Arundel) are deposited at WSRO. They include a series of account books from January 1855 to 1947, sales books,
1901-1927, letter book, 1907-1936 and plans for the rebuilding of the West Sussex Gazette Offices after the fire in 1889.

The records of other local newspapers are usually preserved at their offices. These include:-
- The Crawley Observer, 12 The Boulevard, Crawley RH10 1XY
  Tel: 01293 562929; fax: 01293 519052
- East Grinstead Courier, 27 High Street, East Grinstead RH19 3AF
  Tel: 01342 323652; fax: 01342 410736
- East Grinstead Observer, mid 1940s onwards: Surrey Mirror offices, London Road, Reigate (open to visitors – contact Mark Davison 01737 732082)
- Evening Argus, Argus House, Crowhurst Road, Hollingbury, Brighton BN1 8AR
  Tel: 01273 544544; fax: 01273 566114
- Littlehampton Gazette, 34 Beach Road, Littlehampton BN17 5HT
  Tel: 01903 714135; fax: 01273 733027
- The News, The News Centre, Hilsea, Portsmouth, Hants PO2 9SX
  Tel: 01705 664488; fax 01705 677777
- Observer Series (Bognor, Chichester, Midhurst & Petworth), Unicorn House, 8 Eastgate Square, Chichester PO19 1JN
  Tel: 01243 531313; fax 01243 539386
- Shoreham Herald, see Worthing Herald
- West Sussex County Times, 14-16 Market Square, Horsham RH12 1HD
  Tel: 01403 253371; fax: 01403 218293
- West Sussex Gazette, Unicorn House, 8 Eastgate Square, Chichester PO19 1JN
  Tel: 01243 534155; fax 01243 539386
- Worthing Herald, Lancing Herald and Shoreham Herald, Cannon House, Chatsworth Road, Worthing BN11 1NA
  Tel: 01903 230051; fax: 01903 216087

Useful books relating to the history of newspapers in the county include:-
  - lists all British newspaper titles held in local libraries and BLNL, but omits WSRO; includes full details of title changes, and whether they are accessible on hard copy or microfilm. Available on the internet, albeit not fully updated
  - consists of numerous potted histories of publishers of newspapers in Crawley, East Grinstead, Littlehampton, Mid-Sussex, Shoreham and Worthing
- F.V. Wright, A Hundred Years of the West Sussex Gazette, 1853-1953 (Mitchell & Co. (printers) Ltd., West Sussex Gazette Office, Arundel)
  - a comprehensive and illustrated account of the West Sussex Gazette's development by a former editor, which includes useful information on the early history of local newspapers and particularly the fight against their heavy taxation up to 1861

General research guides include:
- G. Boyce, Newspaper History from the 17th Century to the Present Day (Constable, 1978)
- C.R. Chapman, Using Newspapers and Periodicals (Federation of Family History Societies, 1993)
- J. Gibson, Local Newspapers 1750-1920: a select location list (Federation of Family History Societies, 1991)
- M. Murphy, Newspapers and Local History (British Association for Local History, 1991)
- K. Williams, English Newspapers: an illustrated History to 1900 (Springwood Books, 1977)
Q.8 What collections of newspaper cuttings are available in West Sussex?

Over 20,000 newspaper cuttings are held at WSL, divided into Sussex General (197 topic folders), Sussex Places (620 folders), Sussex Biographies (124 folders) and Worthing (342 folders). WSL also maintains bound volumes of articles on particular events or themes, such as archaeology, industries, World War II and the 1893 typhoid epidemic. CNL holds a substantial number of cuttings and ephemera on Crawley and district plus two significant collections: Crawley In The 1880s and the Warren Collection, covering the period from about 1880 to the 1940s. A programme to create large files of photocopied articles at West Sussex public libraries is continuing. To date such files are at Billingshurst, Bognor Regis, East Grinstead, Horsham, Littlehampton, Pulborough, Rustington, Shoreham, Steyning, Storrington and Willowhale.

WSRO has numerous newspaper cuttings in its collections, which are accessible through the catalogues and indexes. As well as the main collection of cuttings arranged alphabetically by parish and subject, there are significant collections made by local antiquarians such as Newnham on Billingshurst or Heron-Allen on Selsey; local organisations, such as District Councils which maintained files of cuttings; and a number of artificial collections on subjects ranging from the 1914-18 War to railways.

Most museums maintain cuttings files, some of which are extensive, on their own area or specialisation. The Gerard Young Collection (housed at WSRO, but previously at Chichester Institute of Higher Education library) includes his many files of newspaper cuttings on all aspects of Bognor Regis. Visitors need to make an appointment to see the collection (telephone 01243 753627 or 753600).
Useful addresses:

Bognor Regis Library (BW), London Road, Bognor Regis PO21 1DE
Tel: 01243 864638; fax: 01243 841698; e-mail: bognor.regis.library@westsussex.gov.uk
URL: [www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm](http://www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm)

Brighton History Centre (BHC), Church Street, Brighton, East Sussex BN1 1UE
Tel: 01273 296972 for general enquiries and 01273 296971 for equipment [film, fiche, PC] bookings; fax: 01273 296965; e-mail: localhistory@brighton-hove.gov.uk

British Library Newspaper Library (BLNL), Colindale Avenue, London NW9 5HE
Tel: 020 7412 7353; e-mail: newspaper@bl.uk
URL: [www.bl.uk](http://www.bl.uk)

Burgess Hill Library (RN), The Martlets, Burgess Hill RH15 9NN
Tel: 01444 235549; fax: 01444 230173; e-mail: burgess.hill.library@westsussex.gov.uk
URL: [www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm](http://www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm)

Chichester Library (CWL), Tower Street, Chichester PO19 1QJ
Tel: 01243 777352; fax: 01243 531610; e-mail: chichester.library@westsussex.gov.uk
URL: [www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm](http://www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm)

Crawley Library (CNL), County Buildings, Northgate Avenue, Crawley RH10 1XG
Tel: 01293 895131; fax: 01293 895141; e-mail: crawley.library@westsussex.gov.uk
URL: [www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm](http://www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm)

East Grinstead Library (GN), West Street, East Grinstead RH19 4SR
Tel: 01342 410050; fax: 01342 410262; e-mail: east.grinstead.library@westsussex.gov.uk
URL: [www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm](http://www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm)

East Sussex Record Office (ESRO), The Maltings, Castle Precinct, Lewes BN7 1YT
Tel: 01273 482349; fax: 01273 482341; e-mail: archives@eastsussexcc.gov.uk
URL: [www.eastsussexcc.gov.uk/](http://www.eastsussexcc.gov.uk/)

Horsham Library (HN), Lower Tanbridge Way, Horsham RH12 1PJ
Tel: 01403 253939; fax: 01403 211972; e-mail: horsham.library@westsussex.gov.uk
URL: [www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm](http://www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm)

Horsham Museum (HM), 9 The Causeway, Horsham RH12 1HE
Tel: 01403 254959; fax: 01403 217581; e-mail: museum@horsham.gov.uk
URL: [www.horsham.gov.uk/leisure/horsham_museum.html](http://www.horsham.gov.uk/leisure/horsham_museum.html)

Hove Reference Library (HRL), 182 Church Road, Hove BN3 2EG
Tel: 01273 296942/3; fax: 01273 296947

Littlehampton Library (LW), Maltravers Road, Littlehampton BN17 5NA
Tel: 01903 716450; fax: 01903 733175; e-mail: littlehampton.library@westsussex.gov.uk
URL: [www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm](http://www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm)

Littlehampton Museum (LM), The Manor House, Church Street, Littlehampton BN17 5EP
Tel: 01903 738111 (no fax); e-mail: rebecca.fardell@arun.gov.uk
URL: [www.romansinsussex.co.uk/sussex/littlehampton.asp](http://www.romansinsussex.co.uk/sussex/littlehampton.asp)

National Archives (formerly the Public Record Office) (PRO), Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU
Tel: 0208 876 3444; fax: 0208-878 8905; e-mail: enquiry@pro.gov.uk
URL: [www.pro.gov.uk](http://www.pro.gov.uk)

Shoreham Library (SS), St. Mary's Road, Shoreham BN43 5ZA
Tel: 01273 454438; fax: 01273 441231; e-mail: shoreham.library@westsussex.gov.uk
URL: [www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm](http://www.westsussexgov.uk/librariesandarchives/libraries/index.htm)

Steyning Museum (SM), Church Street, Steyning BN44 3YB
Tel: 01903 813333 (no fax); URL: [www.sussexmuseums.co.uk/steyning](http://www.sussexmuseums.co.uk/steyning)

West Sussex Record Office (WSRO), County Hall, Chichester PO19 1RN
Tel: 01243 753631 (searchroom); fax: 01243 533959; e-mail: records.office@westsussex.gov.uk;
URL: [www.westsussex.gov.uk](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk)
Local History Mini-Guides:

1. Crawley (1994) £1.00
2. West Sussex at War 1939-1945 (1995) £1.00
3. East Grinstead (1995) £1.00
4. Railways in West Sussex (1996) out of print
5. Bognor Regis (1996) £1.00
7. Shoreham (1997) £1.00
10. House History in West Sussex (1999) £1.00
11. Worthing (2000) £2.00
12. Directories in West Sussex (2000) £1.50
13. Littlehampton (2001) £1.50
15. Haywards Heath (2003) £2.00

Copies are available from WSRO and can be ordered from all West Sussex public libraries.


16. Maps in West Sussex
17. Horsham

A complete list of WSRO publications is available on the WSRO website: www.westsussex.gov.uk/ro

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