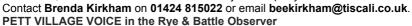


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### POSTAL SERVICE

If you would like to receive a monthly copy of Pett Parish News and you do not live in the area, then we offer a Postal Service for just £12 per year.



If you have any articles for inclusion in the weekly Village Voice, please contact **Mary Saint** on **01424 813047** or email **mary@saintfamily.net**. Deadline for copy is mid-day every Monday.

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# Dear Readers,

As we approach March and eagerly await the arrival of spring, welcome to this edition of Pett Parish



News. Once again, it is that time of year to think about planting in gardens and allotments, perhaps, in preparation for the Village Flower Show in July. Inspiration for this can be found on page 10, where suggestions of 'Twenty five plants to grow before you die' are shared by the Garden Club.

There are a few changes I would encourage you to note, particularly with the departure of Tony from the Post Office. Firstly, Phil at the Butchers is now selling papers from Monday to Saturday (page 25). Secondly, the transfer of postal services to the Methodist Chapel is

underway, with details of how to comment on the consultation to be found on page 7. Finally, a new business has opened in the premises previously occupied by the Post Office, and I am sure you will join me in welcoming Allison Winter, owner of "Tic Toc" to the village, and wish her every success.

The Village Hall is increasingly being used for many activities. Details of events each month will be posted on the magazine's 'PVH noticeboard' (page 42-43), to ensure you do not miss out! Please support this valuable asset.

I hope you enjoy this edition, and look forward to receiving your news on events within our community.

Best wishes Sarah

Deadline for copy (letters, articles, adverts, etc.) is mid-day the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Anything that you can get to us beforehand (especially if it is handwritten) is greatly appreciated. Copy can be sent to us by email to <a href="mailto:pettparishnews@live.co.uk">pettparishnews@live.co.uk</a> or delivered to me, Mike Wilkins, at Adeleine (813206) or Sarah Adams at Seawinds (812323). Copy must be accompanied by your name, address and phone number otherwise it may not be published.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information supplied herein. However, the editor cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions (E&OE). Unless otherwise indicated, opinions expressed herein are those of the authors of the individual articles and adverts, and they do not necessarily represent the views of the editor. The editor cannot uphold or recommend any advertiser here within this publication.



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### Letters to the Editor

To all the lovely residents in Pett.



First of all I would like introduce myself as the new owner of the post office premises

I know I have huge shoes to fill with Tony being such a well loved part of the community and one of the loveliest people I have had the pleasure of meeting, I will do my very best to ensure I do all I can to fill them!

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all the neighbours surrounding the premises for being so patient and lovely whilst the transformation of the shop was underway and I can only apologise for any inconvenience in regards to parking and noise.

Now to introduce my shop!

Tic Toc is a dream come true for me, especially being in Pett. With family connections in the village or the last 10 years and having worked in surrounding areas and local myself, I feel extremely privileged to have this opportunity to bring 3 wonderful services together and offer as much support and involvement in the village as I possibly can.

The hair salon is now open and running with appointments not always necessary, but bookings in advanced can be taken to avoid disappointment! I have a wonderful and experienced team who will also be on hand to offer any advice or help if needed and all clients old and new are always welcome. I will always aim to provide the best possible service we can in a very friendly, very happy and professional atmosphere.

Tic Toc will also be opening a tea-room VERY SOON and I will be sure to keep you all updated on our progress! We all love cake (especially at Tic Toc) so what a better place to share another passion! As many of you have also seen we have started a very small section of our gift shop, which will be extended in due time throughout the tea-room and will forever be seasonal, with beautiful gifts, cards, homeware and furniture it will never be the same throughout the year!

I would also love to have a selection of local produce consisting of preserves, chutneys, honey and eggs and anything else wonderful anyone can suggest.

Thank you for reading and for the lovely support I have already had and I hope to meet you all very soon. All  $\mathbf{x}$ 

Dear Editor,

It was good to read the letter from Marion and Bob Griffin in the January edition, and to know that thet had been so well-served by the people they had employed through adverts in the Parish News. Just a word of warning though:- not everyone who advertises is of the same high standard, which is why you very sensibly print a disclaimer on the leader page.

The safest bet for anyone new to the area is to ask prospective tradesmen to put you in contact with local people for whom they have worked. In a couple of recent instances this would have saved householders not only a poor standard of work but also a ludicrously high bill for it.

Time spent on research is seldom wasted!

Avril Thurley, Rectory Cottage, Pett

Hi there.

Please accept my apologies for troubling you but I've been on the wine again and signed up for the Hastings Half Marathon 2015 - on Sunday March 22.

If you are willing and able to help, I am ambling round the town to raise money for **ST MICHAELS HOSPICE**, there is a link further down the page for donations by card, or if you



prefer you can of course pop into The Queens Head or The Royal Oak and pop your change (in coins or notes!) into the collection boxes on the bar.

Thanks very much once again for your support

Cheers, Ian

http://www.justgiving.com/IAN-MITCHELL24

Dear Editor,

For information, we are hoping the Post Office will be up and running soon, pending IT connection, with opening days being Monday and Thursday from 12.00 to 3.00 pm. Look out for the Opening Event.....!!

Sue Larsson, Pett Methodist Chapel

# Local public consultation

Proposed branch re-opening

## What we're doing

In order to restore Post Office services to our customers in Pett, we are proposing to introduce a Hosted Outreach service.

What this would mean:

. We are pleased to inform that a nearby Postmaster (from Lydd Post Office) has been identified, who will offer the service from Pett Methodist Church, in Pett

### What happens next

We're carrying out a local public consultation on the new location and we'd like you to let us have your

There's a leaflet available with more information, or if you have any questions or comments, please get in touch.

Items sent by FREEPOST take 2 working days to arrive. Therefore. responses by FREEPOST should be sent in sufficient time to arrive before the end of the consultation period. Working days do not include Saturdays or Sundays, Responses received after the deadline will not be considered.

Dates for the local public consultation on the proposed new location: starts: 13/02/2015 ends: 27/03/2015

New location: Pett Post Office® branch, Pett Methodist Church, Pett, Hastings, TN35 4HE.



#### Services

The same range of services will continue to be available, with the exclusion of Euro On Demand Bureau De Change facilities.

#### Access and facilities

The premises will have level access with a threshold strip and a wide door entrance. Internally, there will be a hearing loop and space for a wheelchair.

### Transport / parking

Roadside parking outside the premises.

These premises are located approximately 100 metres away from the previous service, along hilly terrain.

#### Post Office opening times

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# The Ceramic Poppies at the Tower of London - Angela Hawksley, Churchwarden

One of the remembrance poppies from the Tower of London has been given to Pett Church and we are planning to display it close to the list of names of those who died in both World Wars. It will be on permanent display and will be blessed at a service later this year (I will let you know the date later).



Our generous donor is Anthony Turner (known as Tony) who, with his sister Muriel (who became Muriel Lovejoy) and his brothers Christopher and Alan, as children, sang in the Pett Church choir during the Second World War. They lived at Spring Field, Watermill Lane. Tony remembers that the Royal Artillery who were based in Watermill Lane filled the church each Sunday.

Tony has given the poppy partly in memory of his uncle Henry Charles Beeching who served in the Second Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment and who died one hundred years ago on 26<sup>th</sup> August 1915 aged 26. He is buried at the British Cemetery at Vermelles, which is 10KM northwest of Lens. Henry's father Luke was a thatcher and lived with his wife Ellen and large family at Rose Cottage just past Watermill Lane on the left. Tony attended Pett School and he remembers a lot of children with the same surnames as those recorded on the war memorial.

Tony told me some of his memories of Pett long ago. He remembers the spire of Pett Church being hit by lightning and the cockerel falling to the ground. He also remembers seeing what he and his friends thought was an aeroplane crashing n the woods off Pannell Lane. They ran to have a look but a policeman stopped them and told them it was a doodlebug.

When he left school, Tony was called up for National Service in the Royal Engineers along with his schoolfriends Alan Jury and Vic Goodsell and they served in Korea. He still works on a farm in Surrey where he has been for more than 50 years.

Tony has given the poppy partly in memory of his uncle but also in memory of all the others. especially from these villages, who died in both wars. As we look at our poppy we cannot remember each of the 888,246 British and Empire soldiers who died in the Great War and was each commemorated by a poppy at the Tower of London but we can remember the sacrifice they made and we can remember the names we record in our Church and on our war memorial.

So, Tony, very many thanks to you!

## Garden Club - Sandy Andrews

The February Garden Club talk was on 'Twenty-five Plants to Grow Before You Die'.

Lewis Normand, an experienced plantsman, passionate about his subject



and with an eye for subtle detail, explained that this number was arbitrary, and that he would have no trouble in choosing a different twenty-five on another day. He said that plants and planting should 'sparkle with aptness', that they did not necessarily have to be unusual, that their special thing might be a flower, a leafy texture, a colour, or simply the way they thrust out of the ground early in the season. That it might be something that lasts for months or that gives us a moment of brilliance. From ground cover to dangerously spiky shrubs there was a plant for everyone, and importantly, they would all bring distinction to our gardens. His advice was for us to be open-minded when choosing.

Here is the list. So get planting.

Sophora microphylla 'Sun King' has yellow pea flowers in February to March. A hardy evergreen shrub that likes a warm wall and good drainage.

Parahebe perfolatia is an evergreen ground cover plant with long racemes of violet flowers. Likes a sunny border or to be at the foot of a wall.

Cercidiphyllum japonicum is a large shrub or multi-stemmed tree with bronzy-reddy stems. In Autumn the heart-shaped leaves turn to an amazing red. Smells of burnt sugar.

*Rudbeckia* 'Henry Eilers' has distinct, yellow tube-like petals, which are tinged with apricot on opening and fading.

Colletia paradoxa, is a genuinly dangerous, thorny but interesting shrub. Sweetly scented flowers in March and April. Drainage is critical.

Hebe 'Midsummer Beauty' is an evergreen shrub, with big strappy leaves and long mauve, fragrant flowers. Grows in sun or shade. 'Fragrant Jewel' is similar.

*Hacquetia epipactus* is a petite perrenial. Tight clusters of yellow flowers on green bracts from February to March. It will grow under yew.

Eucalyptus Nicholli is best pruned to grow as a shrub. It has elongated, evergreen leaves. Hardy in a sheltered spot.

Galanthus plicatus is one of the very best snowdrops with a pleated leaf and a larger flower.

Hydrangea paniculata 'Polar Bear' has huge flowers opening to limey-green but becoming pure white.

Daphne bholua 'Limpsfield' has a fabulous scent but tricky requirements. Also D gemmata.

*Persicaria amplexicaulis* 'Orange Fields' is one metre tall, easy to grow, with distinct salmon-pink flowers and bright-green foliage.

Acanthus mollis 'Rue Leden' is an easy, very refined, pure white variety.

Anisodonten 'El Rayo' is a large but semi-hardy shrub with a long flowering season. Likes sunny shelter.

Agapanthus 'White Heaven' has flat-topped flowers with jet-black stems. Stunning!

Fuchsia 'Silver Lining', on the cusp of hardiness, is worth trying for its silver foliage and delicate flowers.

Crocosmia paniculatum is an imposing five foot montbretia with huge leaves.

Epimedium 'Sphinx Twinkler' has large, spider flowers and likes dry shade.

Pseudowintera 'Majorie Congreve' is alive with colour: olive, yellow, russet, pink. Likes acid conditions and warmth.

Helleborous foetidus 'Yellow Wilgenbroek' is a big, robust and unusual yellow form.

Abelia x grandiflora, a multi-stemmed shrub, is not for a pot. If happy it will flower, with a slight fragrence, for nine months.

Sterbergia Lutea is a hardy bulb for the base of a hedge. Yellow flowers, winter into spring.

Miscanthus sinensis 'Nippon' has reddy-pink, feathery flowers in autumn.

Rosa rubrifolia (syn. R. glauca) has arching purplish stems with blue-green leaves and cerise flowers. Likes sun.

# Next meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm, PVH

The speaker will be Nigel Phillips, talking about tips on Water in the Garden.

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### DO YOU KNOW? - John Taylor

Do you know that a retired naval lieutenant was one of the early people to come to Pett to live out his life in this village? In other words, one of the first 'outlanders'.

Choyce Moyses owed his strange name to his mother Sarah, whose maiden name had been Choyce. He was baptised at Southwark in March 1787 and joined the Royal Navy when he was a boy. At the age of 16 he was a midshipman on the sixty-four gun 'Utrecht' which had a compliment of four hundred and ninety men.

Soon after this he served on the frigate 'Pomone' off the coast of Spain. It was while taking passage back to Pomone from Portsmouth on the 'Blanche' he was shipwrecked in a violent storm off the island of Ushant. Forty five men were drowned but Choyce Moyses was rescued and taken prisoner by the French. He spent most of his imprisonment in the fortress of Verdun and was eventually released after the Battle of Waterloo in 1815.

We know nothing of his life after the war until 1828, when he was described as a 'Keeper of a Receptacle for Lunatics at Tooting Graveney' [the mind boggles, doesn't it?]. His history from that date is very sketchy and we have only a few facts. Choyce must have been rather a rogue as the next news of him shows.

Moyses was brought before the justices at Wandsworth accused of being the father of an illegitimate child. The three month old baby, William, was a charge on the parish and Moyses was ordered to pay four shillings and sixpence (22 ½ p) weekly towards the child's maintenance.

By 1837 Moyses was living in Bloomsbury, but by the time he married in 1845 his address was in Westminster. His wife, Elizabeth was a widow with two daughters and was fourteen years younger than her second husband.

Soon after their marriage Choyce and Elizabeth Moyses came to Sussex and moved into Pett Lodge. Sadly their time together was short as Moyses died on the 15<sup>th</sup> October1853, aged sixty six. Elizabeth spent the next 30 years as a widow in Pett, living with her servant Cecilia Bartholomew (of Battle). She was quite well provided as Choyce had left her £768 and a pension of £50 a year as a lieutenant's widow. Cecillia too was left interest on £200 for life, provided she was still employed by Mrs Moyses at the time of her death. The two ladies did much to help the sick and the poor in the village. One of Elizabeth's daughters, Louisa Christie died at Eastbourne in 1886 and is buried in Pett churchyard with the Moyses. Elizabeth died at the age of eighty-three in 1885.

Though Choyse was a bit of a scoundrel in the years after the war with the French, both he and his wife were much admired and respected in Pett. They were an early example of folk coming to live in the village at a time when most of the local residents were either farmers or agricultural labourers.

On the south wall of St. Mary & St. Peter church there is a white marble tablet affixed to the wall in memory of the Choyces'. Underneath it are the words 'Universally respected'. You can't ask much more than that, can you?





## Pett Level Naturalists Society - Brenda Kirkham

Our first meeting of 2015 will be our AGM on the 17th March, followed by an update on Mallydams Wildlife Hospital by Richard Tompson.

This should prove to be a very interesting talk as Mallydams is just on our doorstep and they have been caring for seals injured on our local Pett Level Beach amongst other animals and birds.

Please do come along and support us.

Visitors are always very welcome as well as new members.



# Pett Village Hall Monthly Coffee Morning - Sally Williams

How lovely it was to see you all this month after our short break away.

We had a lovely selection of cakes and raised  ${\bf £38.80}$  - well done to everyone who supported us.

Next date for your Diary is

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 10.00am till 12.00 we are always on the first Wednesday of every month so pop that in your diary so you don't forget us!

Look forward to seeing you.

Sally and Helen.

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# PETT LEVEL PRESERVATION TRUST

Cliff Dean

Work has progressed on the Trust's website, which will probably be online by the time you read this. You'll be able to find information about the Trust's history and purpose as well ETT LEVEL PRESERVATION TRUST AS illustrated up-to-date news concerning

events and wildlife. Lists of the various animal and plant species found on our land will appear as they are compiled and there will be a gallery of old photos.

Several subtle new signs have been installed at the entrances to the Trust land to replace the larger wooden ones, which have now decayed.

Our local contractors have fenced off the compartment around "Tamarisk" in order to facilitate grazing and continued the removal of blackthorn scrub until wet ground conditions called a halt to the work for this winter. Although these areas look bare at the moment, signs of regrowth are already evident and by late spring they will be waist-high in varied vegetation. Although a large area of reed was mown this autumn the plan for future years is to cut smaller blocks in rotation, allowing the development of low scrub, which will favour insects and nesting birds.

Low scrub has, however, been cut back on the old tennis court, opposite "Glenview" to permit the return of shallow-soil plants such as Viper's Bugloss, which thrive there thanks to the hard surface beneath. The volunteers engaged in this work have also been opening up an overgrown pond nearby to further diversify the habitat.

Cutting of vegetation along the Canal itself is the work of the Environment Agency, which undertakes this work every autumn to ensure the free flow of water. Again, this looks very bare now but will grow up quickly. There has also been clearance along the Trust's NW boundary, where some trees were falling across fences of the adjacent grazing land, while accumulated debris was impeding drainage.

As part of Rye Harbour Nature Reserve's winter programme, Martin King & I will lead walk to look at the military archaeology of Toot Rock on Saturday 21st March 10-12. Meet at the white "Toot Rock" stone TQ894138.

For your diary: the Trust's Annual Meeting will take place in Pett Village Hall on Friday April 24th. More details to follow.

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# **JUMBLE SALE ON 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH**

We are all now used to questionnaires and surveys. Perhaps some people actually enjoy filling them in.

So, please answer the following:

YES NO MYOB

- 1. Have you clothes at home which no diet will ever enable you to wear again?
- 2. Are there items of china which you never use?
- 3. Have you lived in the same house for more than 15 years?
- 4. Are you housing a lot of your children's possessions which they left behind many years ago?
- 5. Do you like going to events which have free entry?
- 6. Have you discovered that what you are happy to wear is called RETRO?
- 7. Are your children/grandchildren/greatgrandchildren happy playing with toys which once belonged to someone else?
- 8. Do you enjoy a flutter on the raffle?
- 9. Do you like having tea or coffee in congenial company?
- 10. Do you feel that your home is a bit bare now you have decluttered?
- 11. Are you content that the village church should make a profit from the Jumble

If you have answered yes to at least one question the Jumble Sale is for you! You are ideally suited either to contributing items of bric a brac or clothing or coming to it.

SATURDAY 21st MARCH PETT VILLAGE HALL 1pm to 3pm FREE ENTRY

(Hall open at 10am for contributions)

### ON THE BEACH AT PETT LEVEL - Mike Goswell



It's been a busy February at the Club.

We have had live music from Phil Trainor and Ricochet as well as a charity quiz in aid of St. Michael's Hospice and a beauty demonstration evening held by local Beautician Susannah (Beauty by Susannah). We also presented the money raised at our annual Harvest Home in September to Hastings and Rye Harbour RNLI, the record sum of £2203.80 was split equally between both lifeboats.

Live music for March:
□Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> <b>Carter Williams,</b> a duo from Brighton, join us for the afternoon 3pm
□Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> The <b>Ballyregan Boys</b> return in time(ish) for St. Patrick's Da 3pm
Our regular event dates for March:  Acoustic Jam Night is Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> .  Steak Night is Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <sup>th</sup> .  Quiz Night every Monday 8:30pm.  Free Pool every Wednesday.  Bingo Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup> Eyes down 7pm.  Fish 'n' Chips deal every Friday, lunch and evening.  Vinyl Night Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> 9pm.

BINGO will now take place on the first and third Tuesday each month. There will be no Bingo on the 24<sup>th</sup> February as advertised in the previous edition.

The New Beach Club **A.G.M.** will take place on the 12<sup>th</sup> April. The A.G.M. is open to all currently subscribing members of the Club.

See you all soon!

### THE NEW BEACH SEA ANGLING CLUB

- Pete Drew, Competition Secretary

Nothing much to report this month on the angling front.

February and March are renowned for being poor fishing months for the inshore boat angler. Our new season kicks off on Easter Sunday and I'm sure our regular fishing members will be itching to get to sea after our winter break.

Tight lines and as always stay safe.

### PETT LEVEL RESCUE BOAT - Steve Hill, Chairman

Well the rains did come last month but because of the combination of favourable winds and low tides we were not called on, although there was some local flooding. We had our fashionably late Christmas meal also in January, this was held at the Robin Hood where 30 members of the association had a very nice evening. Many thanks, to all at the Robin Hood for a wonderful night. It has become a tradition to announce new crew members and to promote existing ones at the Christmas dinner, so it was with much pleasure that we learned that both Andy Cramton and Liam Melville had been promoted to the position of helm. Andy and Liam have been crew for a few years now and after successfully completing the RYC Power Boat Course last October it was thought that they both have the required experience to take this responsible position.

As always if you are interested in what we do please don't hesitate in coming along to the boathouse, we are there every Sunday morning.

### **TIDE TABLES**

shaded areas	0.D.	Metres	2.5	2.7	3.1	3.4	3.5	1	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.5	3.1	4.0	4.4	1	4.3	4.1	3.9	3.5	-		- 60		2.2	100			- 0549	
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	0.D.	Metres	2.1	2.5	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	0.0	3.2	4.3	2.5	2.0	2.5	2.7	3.7	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.3	3.9	3.4	2.7	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.5	Z.		500 Z	SUNS
Add 1 hour for British		Time	0817	0922	1007	1043	1114	1143	0000	0025	0047	0108	0135	0200	0252	0349	0535	0714	0871	1008	1055	1139	0000	0041	0122	0204	0248	0340	0439	0552	0741	0854	Moon - 5th	Moon -	14th - 0	
1 1 hour 1			Su	Mo	12	We	f	ů.	Sa	Su	Мо	70	We	= 1		Sa	No.	100	We	F	F	Sa	Su	Mo	12	We	F	i.	Sa	Su	Mo T	n_	Field	New	1 - 0636	
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# **PARISH DIARY**

WEE	KLY ACTIV	VITIES	Where	
Mon	6.30pm	Pilates	VH	Whilst every effort is made to ensure this is up to date
Mon	7.30pm	Village Choir	MC	<ul><li>we are not always told of changes – you should</li></ul>
Mon	9.30am	Flowerpots Playgroup	VH	<ul> <li>check with event organisers for specific</li> </ul>
Tue	10.30am	POPP	VH	times and dates. If you want your special events
Tue	7.00pm	Pole Dancing	VH	or regular meetings included in this diary,
Wed	10.00am	Badminton	VH	please contact us on 813206 or 812323 or
Wed	6.00pm	Zumba	VH	pettparishnews@live.co.uk
Thu	9.15am	Dance & Exercise Classes	VH	
Fri	10.00	Badminton	VH	-
Fri	2.00pm	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	
MON.	THLY & BI	-MONTHLY ACTIVITIES	Where	Date this month
Mon	6.30pm	Village Hall Committee	VH	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Tue	7.30pm	Pett Parish Council	VH	17 <sup>th</sup>
Wed	11.00am	Rambling Club	NBC	11 <sup>th</sup>
Tue	7.30pm	Gardening Club	VH	10 <sup>th</sup>
Wed	10.00am	Village Coffee Morning	VH	4 <sup>th</sup>
Tue	12:05- 12:35	Mobile Library	Pett Village Church ONLY	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> * see information below
Thu	7.00pm	Flicks	VH	5 <sup>th</sup>
Fri	7.30pm	Pett Nats	VH	20 <sup>th</sup>
Fri	2.30pm	Pett Womens Institute	VH	20 <sup>th</sup>
Sun	3pm	Vibele – laughter class	VH	1 <sup>st</sup>

VH Village Hall; NBC New Beach Club



#### \* PLEASE NOTE:

The date and time of visits by the mobile library have changed, and the schedule listed is the revised timetable from  $5^{th}$  January to  $30^{th}$  June 2015.

It will ONLY visit one location, which is opposite Pett Village Church.

Our mobile library makes its rounds every three weeks. It has books for adults and children, DVDs, audiobooks and reference materials. It also has a wheelchair lift so that everyone can use it. We also deliver some services for people with disabilities.

• For more information about the mobile library, please phone:

Enquiries: 0345 60 80 196Renewals: 0345 60 80 195

### New Treasurer Required – The Churchwardens of Pett

Somewhere in Pett or the nearby villages there lives the new Treasurer we seek.

Before those of you who could do with an extra bob or two and can open a computer get too excited I must tell you that this job is unpaid. It is to be Treasurer of the Pett Parochial Church Council for three years starting in April this year.

**WHY?** Because our existing Treasurer is retiring (after completing his three year appointment) and we need to replace him. He is very happy to assist the new Treasurer to find his way through the accounts to the golden uplands of the year end.

**WHY BOTHER EVEN TO THINK OF DOING THIS JOB?** Because you will be serving the village (both churchgoers and the many non-churchgoers who rely on the church's being there)

**DO YOU HAVE TO LIVE IN THE PARISH OR ATTEND ALL CHURCH SERVICES?** No, you don't. An assistant will bring the collections to you, if necessary.

#### IS THERE A COMPUTER PROGRAMME DEALING WITH CHURCH ACCOUNTS?

Yes, there is. The accounts are straightforward. The money comes in from Church collections, donations, fund raising, bequests and fees. There is a Gift Aid Officer who manages Gift Aid. The outgoings are for the expenses of looking after the church building and running it and paying our parish contribution to the Diocese.

If you are interested in filling this important post, do please get in touch with our current Treasurer Robert Heather on 07973 202749, who will be able to answer any further questions about the job.

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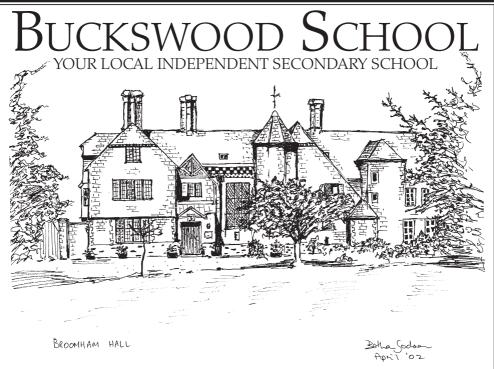




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### In Praise of 'the Little Gentleman Dressed in Black'

#### - Mike Russell of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk



Talking to my colleague Michael Blencowe recently, he was saying he had been asked to give a talk where the preceding speaker was advising on how to get rid of moles! We both felt that moles get a bad deal, so here we go - a spirited defence of the humble mole.

It is fair to say that the mole is one of the best known of British animals although, it is hardly ever been seen by most people. However, the impact moles have on people, especially those who treasure their gardens or their golfing greens can be quite extreme. Although, most people have never seen a live mole, they are familiar creatures due to featuring in children's illustrations and nursery rhymes, with perhaps the most loved being Mole in Kenneth Grahame's, 'The Wind in the Willows'.

There is a great story as to how the term 'little gentleman in black velvet' came into being. Apparently, in 1702, it was used as a toast by the Jacobites in celebration of the death of King William of Orange who broke his collar—bone when his horse tripped over a mole hill while riding in Hampton Court.

As well as bringing down monarchs, moles definitely raise the temperature of gardeners and green keepers with their propensity to create beautiful piles of lush soil on manicured lawns and greens. Personally, I would love moles to come to my garden and aerate my lawn, such as it is, with what back in the 16<sup>th</sup> century were sometimes called 'tumps'.

I have only ever seen a live mole on two occasions, one was, rather alarmingly, scuttling down the side of a busy road, whereas the other one was when I watched a moving mound of earth in a field until eventually a little velvet head poked its head out of the top, energetically sniffed the world around it, and then disappeared into the hole again. It was a wonderful moment, to catch sight of such a seldom seen common mammal.

Mole are not totally blind, but have very poor vision, but make up for it with an incredible sense of smell which it uses to hunt its prey. They eat mainly earthworms but will also take millipedes, centipedes and slugs. It is thought they will often cache worms when they have a surfeit of food, usually biting off their heads and storing them until food is scarce, forgetting, that worms can regenerate their missing parts and make their escape!

Their intricate tunnels can reach over a metre depth and their sleeping chambers that are lined with vegetation are dug using their huge shovel-like front paws. They are found across the UK, absent mainly from Central and Northern Scotland and despite centuries of persecution, they remain reasonably common.

So, the mole is a clever, interesting animal that deserves a better reputation than something that ruins your garden and whose only redeeming feature is to be made into a pair of trousers! Let's hear it for the little gentleman dressed in black.

### From the Rector - Rector Richard Barron

## The issue of immigration

Immigration dominated the news recently and as we approach the election it will probably raise its head again. So what do you think? Should we provide more refuge for immigrants, or are they too much of a burden? Are we too overcrowded? Has our compassion run out? Should charity begin at home and stay at home?

The issue of whether immigration is a net gain to the nation, or a net drain is a complex one. We have to look at the financial cost, scarcity of jobs, population density, the sense of personal security and many other issues. But we also need to consider the moral and humanitarian aspects.

Millions of people have fled atrocities in Syria, Iraq and other nations. People from many other countries are fleeing poverty, famine, discrimination and war, they are looking for stability and a better future, but for all sorts of reasons the UK is currently reluctant to receive them. While we aim to reduce the number of immigrants to the UK, the number of refugees around the world is greater than ever, which probably reflects growing worldwide instability. Be grateful therefore that we are living in a country that has not experienced war for 70 years!

The bible teaches that everyone is made in the image of God and should be treated with respect, care and compassion, irrespective of age, gender, nationality, or creed. It also says we should love other people as we love ourselves. Widows, the poor, the disabled and people of other nations should be given the help they need. No one should be exploited for financial gain; or be used, abused or trafficked.

Jesus the ultimate role model put this into practise. He showed compassion to the needy, the sick, the outcast, the poor and the despised and He said, when we care for others in need, it is just as though we cared for Him.

Unless the government succeeds in stifling this topic, I'm sure we will hear a lot more about the topic of immigration as we get closer to the election. But if you haven't made up your mind on this issue can I encourage you to ask yourself this question, is the bible right when it says we should love others as we love ourselves? Also would you agree that all people should be treated with respect, care and compassion regardless of age, gender, nationality, or creed? If so what does this mean for our current immigration policy?

I'm concerned not only for people who want to settle in the UK and other countries, but for the people who already live in the UK. My concern is that despite the Disability and Human Rights Acts and Discrimination Laws, we as a nation are fixing our eyes more and more on personal gain and in the process we are losing our soul.

### PETT CHURCH NEWS - Meriel Deasy, Fairlight

We are now in one of the busiest seasons in the church's year – Lent and Easter.

Lent will have begun on Ash Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February. The Benefice is running a Lent Study Course to be held in St. Peter, Fairlight – details below. We will be discussing some of the issues that affect society today – Racism, The Role of Women, Materialism. Everyone is welcome, so please come to whichever session suits you best. Each week will be led by a different member of the Ministry Team.

Lent 1	Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7.30 – 9 pm or	Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	2.30 – 4 pm
Lent 2	Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> March	7.30 – 9 pm or	Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> March	2.30 – 4 pm
Lent 3	Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> March	7.30 – 9 pm or	Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> March	2.30 – 4 pm
Lent 4	Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> March	7.30 – 9 pm or	Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> March	2.30 – 4 pm
Lent 5	Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> March	7.30 – 9 pm or	Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup> March	2.30 – 4 pm

### THURSDAY 16TH APRIL: VILLAGE HALL CHURCH A.G.M

The agenda includes:

- ⊕ Election of Churchwardens and PCC
- Financial report and future fundraising
- Report of the church's activities over the past year

### **EASTER LILIES/ FLOWERS**

If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one please let Cathy Norris or me know by Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March. We don't yet know what the lilies will cost, but they are usually between £3 and £5 each. There is a list in the church porch for you to sign if you can't get hold of Cathy or me.

### There is nothing from the registers.

#### **OUR NEXT SERVICES**

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Kay Burnett
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 am	Morning Worship	Meriel Deasy
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	8.00 am	Holy Communion	Kay Burnett
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	10.45 am	Mothering Sunday	Methodist Chapel
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	<b>10.45 am</b> 9.30 am	Mothering Sunday Holy Communion	Methodist Chapel Kay Burnett
			·

### A PRAYER FOR PETT

### Listen to love in spring

In coming from winter to spring, love suffers. But soon its suffering is turned into blossoms and bursting, grass-green joy, warm air and rainbows. It is young and free and above all alive.

Springtime is Easter when love rises from the earth, never again to be broken or destroyed.

Love in spring is buttoned and belted, ready and waiting to meet life. It is eager to try new things.

If Easter love is hurt, it forgives. If love in spring does any harm, it is quick to set things right again.

Spring love is irresistible and radiant.

Listen to love in spring as it grows.

#### Sainsbury's Active Kids

Sainsbury's Active Kids tokens are now being issued which are used to obtain PE equipment for the school. We would be grateful if you could collect as many as you can and send them into school. Thank you!

Ed note: Meriel will be happy to receive your vouchers and deliver them to Guestling School.

### **Easter Services**

Palm Sunday: March 29th start of British Summer time, clocks go forward

9.30am Holy Communion at Pett

10.30am All Age service at St Andrews Fairlight

Maundy Thursday: April 2nd 7.30pm Holy Communion at St Peter's Fairlight

led by Kay Burnett

**Good Friday: 3rd April** 10am Walk of Witness from Pett church to Pett

chapel followed by short service

10.30am Reflective service at St Andrew's Fairlight

**Easter Sunday: 5th April** 9.30am Holy Communion at Pett

led by Kay Burnett

#### Messy church

takes place in St Peter's church Fairlight on the first Wednesday in each month from 3.30 - 5pm.

It is for all children up to the age of 11yrs with parents or responsible adult





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#### Nature Notes - Alan Kenworthy

Feeding birds at this time of year can make the difference between starvation and survival. Many birds are in their full breeding plumage now and will soon be trying to go beyond survival to fatten themselves in time for the rigours of egg-laying and nestling feeding.



But feeding the birds doesn't just benefit the birds as they can be entertaining to watch and you never know when you will see something unusual. Just recently we have had more than the usual number of species visiting our feeders – something that alone indicates how much they rely on us feeding them. We haven't seen any unusual species but we have noticed behaviour we haven't seen before and each species has its own style of feeding.

The blue-tit will visit several feeders and flit from one to another, feeding for a while at each one, sometimes taking a large seed which it will hold with its foot against a branch while it breaks it into smaller pieces. The coal tit on the other hand, hardly ever stays on the feeder, but takes one seed and flies off to a safer place. Perhaps it's a measure of the cold weather and the low energy reserves that we have recently seen one staying on the feeder while it are several seeds.

We have also seen long-tailed tits on the feeders. This is unusual because long-tailed tits hardly ever go on the feeders. Long-tailed tits usually fly around in a noisy mob for most of the year and will sweep through the garden mopping up insects before moving on to the next feast. During the breeding season, however, they abandon the mob and pair off ready for nesting and when the chicks have fledged will join up into mobs again. At first we saw one that was on its own, but the other half of the pair joined it a few days later.

Birds are split into two halves when it comes to feeders – maybe three halves if you count the ones that never feed in gardens. There are the species that seem happy on the feeders – blue-tits and great tits, goldfinches, greenfinches and house sparrows, and then there are those that feed on the ground, picking up scraps underneath the feeders, like dunnocks and wood pigeons. There are also others (a fourth half maybe?) that are at home either on the ground or on the feeders, like starlings or chaffinches. There are also a few species that would really like to use the seed feeders but are not agile enough to be able to balance on the small perch. (That doesn't include wood pigeons that are just too darned big!)

We have robins visiting the garden but in the past they have been amongst those that can't perch but just try to hover long enough to grab a seed or two in passing. We have one robin however, that seems to have taught himself (or herself) to perch comfortably like other birds and to eat his fill. We don't know if it's just one individual that does this or if there are a few. There are two robins that claim our garden as their territory, so if they have both learned the trick it will be interesting to see whether they pass the skill onto their chicks. We just need some warmer weather now so they can get on with it.

For more pictures of birds on feeders, see the online version of this column at <a href="https://www.pettnats2.blogspot.co.uk">www.pettnats2.blogspot.co.uk</a>.

#### POPP ~ PETT OLDER PEOPLES PROJECT

#### Funded by the National Lottery through the Big Lottery Fund



Meeting every Tuesday at 10.30 in Pett Village Hall

Committee Members: **Sheila** Thomas- 01797 225616 Mob: 07774 573086

Ann Nicholls-813043

**POPP FUTURE CALENDAR** 

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March Sounds of the 40's & 50's. Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March Keith Osborne Music for health

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March The Flapstix – short drama performance

Spot the tune quiz.

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March Thai Chi Annie Crier /games/cards Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March Sharon Sellens – Singer

Nail Technician - Sheryl Tucker 10th March

Head & Shoulder Massage Antonello Bruce - 3rd and 17th March

Eye Concern – 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Servicing and cleaning glasses 24<sup>th</sup> March - Optician visit for eye tests Open to anyone from the local area who wishes this service.

**Toe nail cutting service** for any person in the area having difficulty in reaching their feet. Home visiting service. If interested please contact Sheila Thomas on 01797 225616 – also at Popps weekly – donation to centre.

**Hearing Aid Servicing** –. Help is available at Popp centre weekly for anyone in difficulties with their hearing aids.

#### PETT WI - Heather Godwin

When people say "I'd like a nice cup of tea?" they must be **INSPIRING WOMEN** thinking of our lovely local tea-expert Peter Wiggins, of the Proper Tea Company, who, at February's meeting, gave WI members an insight in the world of tea-tasting and tea-pots, and even introduced us to the various types of Pett Village Tea! Peter can be found at various farmers' markets throughout Sussex, so if you fancy a "cuppa" find him at one of those or contact him at Lincolns. Pett Road.

Two members of Pett WI have been lucky enough to get delegate places to the WI Centenary AGM at the Royal Albert Hall in June. Pett WI itself will be celebrating it's own Centenary in 2017 with a special programme of events throughout the year. One of the first projects planned is an Oral History of Pett WI. Two members, Chris Taylor and Keren Edwards, have volunteered to co-ordinate this and are interested in hearing from ANYONE - male or female - who, through their family or friends, has had a connection with the WI in Pett. So, if you, your mum, grandma or sister, aunt or cousin were members and you can help to build up a picture of what WI life was like

during the past 100 years, do please help. In the first instance please contact Mary Saint, Secretary, on 01424 813047.

Plans are in place for the very popular annual Big Village Lunch on Sunday June 7<sup>th</sup> - held for the fourth time this year, so put this event in your diaries NOW! More details will be available in the coming editions of Pett Parish News.

Next month, on Friday March 20<sup>th</sup>, the members will be receiving Defibrillator training from Rother Responders – an appropriate training session bearing in mind that Pett Village Hall now has its own Defibrillator – who knows when any user of the Hall might need to know how to use it.

Do come along to Pett Village Hall at 2.30pm – a warm welcome awaits!

#### FLICKS IN THE VILLAGE - Chris Saint and the Flicks Team

On March 5 Flicks in the Village will be showing **Mr Turner**, which stars Timothy Spall in a career defining role, and is directed by Mike Leigh. The film explores the last quarter century of the great if eccentric British painter J.M.W. Turner (1775-1851).

Profoundly affected by the death of his father, loved by a housekeeper he takes for granted and occasionally exploits sexually, he forms a close relationship with a seaside landlady with whom he eventually lives incognito in Chelsea, where he dies.

Throughout this, he travels, paints, stays with the country aristocracy, visits brothels, is a popular if anarchic member of the Royal Academy of Arts, has himself strapped to the mast of a ship so that he can paint a snowstorm, and is both celebrated and reviled by the public and by royalty.

We would also like to alert you to the fact that not only will our April film be The Hundred Foot Journey but also that it will be shown on **Friday 17 April.** This is because the St Michael's Hospice Art Show takes place in the Village Hall over the Easter weekend, which includes Thursday 2 April. So make a note of the date change now and more details will follow in next month's magazine.

Please do not forget, all are welcome to join the Society and enjoy an evening watching a film for as little as £4.00 per show with like-minded people in the local environment of Pett Village Hall. If you wish to know more about the Society, please email me on <a href="mailto:chris@saintfamily.net">chris@saintfamily.net</a> or telephone on 813047. Alternatively, you can view all programme details on <a href="https://www.pettnet.co.uk">www.pettnet.co.uk</a>. All films start at 7.30pm with refreshments served from 7.00pm.



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#### PETT VILLAGE HALL

#### PETT VILLAGE HALL NOTICEBOARD

"Oh! what a beautiful evening" - to paraphrase the words of a famous song.

Farmers, cowboys and their gals packed into the transformed Village Hall last month for a sing-

along to the Oscar-winning film "Oklahoma", and enjoy an appropriate pork and bean casserole followed by delicious chocolate brownies. The hall was decorated with 'corn as high as an elephant's eye' (in the shape of hay bales), a sun was shining in the 'medder' (meadow) and there were imaginary surreys with real fringing on top! There were prizes for the best turned-out costumed guy or gal and a well-supported raffle.

This was just one of the many fund-raising evenings, arranged by the Pett Village Hall Management Committee. Keep an eye out for others including the annual Spring Village Hall Quiz Night on March 28<sup>th</sup>, the Autumn equivalent on October 24<sup>th</sup> and a Car Treasure Hunt on September 13th.

The regular users of the Hall now number over 20 local groups. These, plus one-off birthday parties, christening parties, wedding and Diwali celebrations, with hirers coming from Hastings, Bexhill and beyond, ensure that the Hall is being used almost every day of the year – there was even a booking last Christmas Day! Year on year the Hall is seeing a welcome increase in the lettings income but the running costs of heating, cleaning and maintaining the building should not be under-estimated. Replacing the flooring last year made a big hole in the reserves and the Committee is now working hard to build these up again in case of any major expenditure in the future.

Someone who truly valued the Village Hall, and gave a huge amount of support to the new building, was Arthur Hollman - the eminent cardiologist, medical historian and plantsman, who sadly died last year at the age of 90. He, and his late wife Catharine, worked tirelessly to raise funds for the project. The small meeting room is named in her memory. Arthur's final contribution was a generous bequest to the Hall, and the grateful Management Committee will spend some time considering how best to use this gift for the benefit of the facility.



#### Pett Village Hall 500 club

PETT VILLAGE HALL

Congratulations to this this months winners 1st Prize No 256 Colin and Laurain Chapman £97.80 2nd Prize No 153 Mary Windsor £65.20. Thank you for supporting Pett Village Hall.

Philippa Strickland, PVHMC



#### **Pett Village Hall Committee**

Charity number - 1005693

Are holding their very popular

#### **QUIZ NIGHT**

Pett Village Hall Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2015 7pm for 7.30pm start - £3 per person

To book a table please telephone

Jeanette or Ray Barden on 814717 Phil the Butcher





### st michael's hospice

#### **Easter Art Exhibition at Pett**

A big Easter Art Exhibition at Pett Village Hall will see more than 30 artists displaying and selling their work to raise funds for the Hospice.

From: 03 April 2015 at 10:00 AM Till: 06 April 2015 at 5:00 PM

The event runs from Good Friday (3rd April) to Easter Monday (6th April) from 10am – 5pm and admission is free. There will be free tea, coffee and cake to be enjoyed in the beautiful rural surroundings, and plenty of free parking.

For a donation to the Hospice, on the spot portraits will be painted by award winning artist Barbara Valentine, along with an excellent raffle

Don't miss the opportunity to see paintings by over 30 very talented, local artists on display, a tremendous variety of work and a high standard throughout.

If you would like to volunteer at the Art Exhibition or would like further information contact Amanda on 01424 456371 or email fundraising@stmichaelshospice.com



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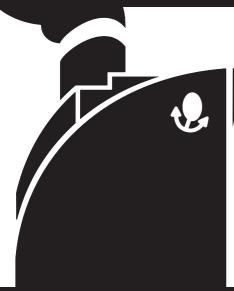
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344 HASTINGS - KYE		ays – Fridays (excluding Bank Holidays)
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Sundays & Bank Holidays; 4 departures from Hastings Rail Station every other hour from 1105 to 1725

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Pett Church	0956 1056 1236 1336 1436 1536 1542 1801	1239 1801	
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Guestling School	0829		
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Ore The King's Head	0838 0838 1014 1114 1254 1354 1454 1554 1559	0838 1257	
Ore Post Office	0840 0840 1016 1116 1256 1356 1456 1556	0840 1259	
West Hill Whitefriars	1021 1121 1301 1401 1501	1304	
Milward Rd Manor Rd	0845 0845	0845	
Hastings Harold Place	0849 0849 1025 1125 1305 1405 1505	0849 1308	
Hastings Rail Station	0851 0851 1027 1127 1307 1407 1507	0851 1310	
Fairlight Glen	1603		
Fairlight Cove Hotel	1609		
Pett Level	1615		

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Stuart Ware (Vice Chair) Hunters Meadow. Pett Road. 01424 813332 **TN35 4HG** studio2@bwparchitects.com

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Bowls Club	Barry Quaife	729693	barry.quaife252@btinternet.com
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