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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.

Contact Brenda Kirkham on 01424 815022 or email beekirkham@tiscali.co.uk

PETT VILLAGE VOICE in the Rye & Battle Observer

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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Deadline for copy (letters, articles, adverts, etc.) is mid-day the 15th 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 pettparishnews@live.co.uk 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 Copy must be accompanied by your name, address and phone number otherwise it may not be published.

Dear Readers

First, I must apologise to the New Beach Club for running an out of date advert in the last edition. You can see the correct advert on page 26.

This month's edition is slimmer than usual (a relief for our volunteer deliverers) as we are all tempted outside.

Fairlight End, in conjunction with the NGS, are once again holding their open days on Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st June. Please provide every support, especially in bringing cakes for them to sell on the day. See page 4 for details.

You may have seen scaffolding being erected around the spire of the church. This is so that vital repairs are carried out – see page 5 for details.

Help is being sought for two worthy causes: St Michael's Hospice are looking for Lottery Representatives to promote their lottery in Pett (see page 15); and we at Pett Parish News are looking for a third person to join our team (please call me if you are interested).

Preparations are well underway for the Flower Festival to be held on the 25th July. If you planning to compete, or just want to help out, then see page 10 for more details.

And finally, don't forget the Fourth BIG VILLAGE LUNCH on Sunday 7th June. If you don't have tickets yet then see page 14 for details of where they can be bought.

Best Wishes, Mike

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





APPEAL FOR CAKES

Chris and Robin Hutt are again appealing to the cake bakers of Pett to support the charity opening of their garden, **Fairlight End, on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st June, 11am to 5pm** on both days. Charities benefitting include Macmillan Cancer Support and Marie Curie Cancer Care. Pett Village Hall receives 20% of the proceeds.

As ever, it's the cakes that make the event!

Visitors from far and wide comment on the superiority of Pett baked cakes.

Please help us to maintain this reputation by bringing a cake round on either day before 10am, marking any container, to be collected after the event, with your name and telephone number.

THE HAYESLAND PAINTERS AND POTTERS

ART EXHIBITION

WINCHELSEA COURT HALL

FRIDAY 5^{TH} JUNE TO MONDAY 8^{TH} JUNE 11AM TO 5PM

BUILDING WORK AT THE CHURCH

You may have wondered why scaffolding was put up in mid May around the spire. The reason was to enable work to be done to prevent rainfalls in the porch.

One of the first repairs was the blocking up of the trap door on the south side of the spire. It is difficult to imagine how the trap door could ever have been used to clean the spire or clear the gutters. It provided a very small opening that an agile and brave (and slim) person could just about lean out of. Even if someone were able to climb out there is only a very narrow parapet to stand on.

Other repairs have been carried out over the last few years and everyone is very grateful for the donations and fund-raising which have enabled these to be done. We have been following the guidance given by our insurers and also in our compulsory five-yearly architectural inspection.

But what is the future for this old building? We would like to make it a building which is more comfortable and more flexible. It could then be available for nonfuneral use on days other than Sundays. So, as a start, we are giving some thought to the provision of toilet facilities.

On that hopeful note, may we again give thanks for all the generous contributions so many people have made.

Parochial Church Council

EDITOR'S NOTE

I see that in the Church of England Daily News Digest (5th January 2015) there are reports of various artoicles appearing in the press regarding fitting churches across the country with Wi-Fi. See extract below:

05 January 2015 Today's Media Coverage

Various articles on comments by Andrew Lloyd Webber, the composer, who said churches across the country should be fitted with Wi-Fi in a bid to make them a more integral part of the community. Lord Lloyd Webber, who sits as a Conservative member in the House of Lords, indicated that discussions over installing internet for the general public at churches have already taken place with the Government. He said: "I want to get every church in the country on Wi-Fi. "Once you do that, the church becomes the centre of the community again. 'They should go back to the medieval traditions, which is that the nave of the church is always used for local businesses."

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/11324246/Every-church-should-have-Wi-Fi-says-Andrew-Lloyd-Webber.html

ON THE BEACH AT PETT LEVEL - Robin & Sarah



Hello all

This May has been an exciting one down the Club. We had live music with Cut The Mustard and the hugely talented Jess Roberts, plus our new Bingo Night is really taking off. After an extensive refurbishment the kitchen is operational again. Please come and welcome our new chef, Tony, and perhaps sample some of the fine food on offer. We also started the renovation of the back room which should be completed soon.

It's been great to see so many familiar faces come and renew their membership this year and we're looking forward to another fun-filled summer. If you're not sure when your membership is due for renewal please check your membership card.

Please don't forget: Bank Holiday Sunday 24th May is our Annual Charity Day in aid of Pett Level Independent Rescue Boat Association. The fun starts at 12 noon with arts and crafts, stalls and activities outside. Members of the Rescue Boat crew will be on hand to answer questions and the Club is open to non-members for the day. Live music from The Martin Blackman Band starts at 3pm. Last year we raised almost £600, a target we hope to beat! Tony, our new chef, will be showcasing his menu from the kitchen.

Live music/events for June:

- · Thursday 4th: Oojah Kappivvy Morris dancers 8pm.
- · Sunday 14th: Back in Time 3pm.
- Sunday 28th: CHAN 3pm.

Our regular event dates for June:

- Quiz Night every Monday 8:30pm.
- Bingo Tuesday 2nd and 16th. Eyes down 7pm.
- · Acoustic Jam Night is Tuesday 9th.
- Free Pool every Wednesday evening.
- Petanque on the beach every Thursday evening 6:30pm.
- Fish 'n' Chips Friday every Friday, Fish 'n' chips with a drink £8.50, 12 noon-9pm.
- Vinyl Night Saturday 27th 9pm.

As always, we look forward to seeing you all!

Robin and Sarah

NEW BEACH SEA ANGLING CLUB - Pete Drew, Competition Secretary

Our competition due to take place on Sunday 3rd May was postponed until Sunday 17th due to the bad weather conditions we often experience at this time of the year. A few anglers have put to sea when conditions have allowed and were rewarded with some good bags of plaice, the best weighing in at 3lb.

On Sunday 19th April we had a work party which was very well attended. Jobs undertaken included clearing out our Porta Cabin, painting the supporting legs, general tidying up round the boats and we also put a longer cable on our winch which will make it easier to launch and retrieve the boats.

That's all for this month but weather permitting I hope to bring you reports of our annual dinner and awards evening at the Two Sawyers, Pett, on 22nd May and our next competition results, weather permitting.

Tight lines and stay safe.

PETT LEVEL RESCUE BOAT - Steve Hill, Chairman



Exciting news, the replacement for the smaller of our boats had arrived and is in the process of being commissioned, this means that

the crew and helms are spending time getting used to the new engine which is a two stroke (the previous Tornado was a four stroke) and also the new handling characteristics. The new boat is basically the same size as the old one but is purposely designed for surf rescue, one major design improvement is a propeller guard, really useful if the boat is needed to go to Camber on a busy summer's day.

A big thank you to all the cyclists who took part in the annual coastguard bike ride held on Sunday 10th May. This event which was organised by Philippa Strickland and was well attended. All the money raised will be split between ourselves, The Coast Guard Organisation and St Michael's Hospice. I hope to be able to inform you of the total raised in the next issue of the Parish News.



Hastings Lifeboat Blessing of The Sea

Wednesday 17 June 2015
1815hrs onwards

Sussex Brass Band
Will kindly be playing before and
during the ceremony

Please join The Station & Crew Blessing the Sea and all the people who work on and around it.



GARDENING CLUB – Sandy Andrews

This month's garden club report is shorter than usual as our wonderful speaker, Jaqueline Aviolet, devoted the evening to finding plants which matched each of the audience's first name, and there were too many to list here.



The talk, entitled 'I Am a Tulip What Are You?' was inspired by her search for a plant with her own name. She found a verbascum with a variety called 'Jackie', also a rose called 'Little Jackie', but eventually settled on a sempervivum called 'Fat Jack', as she is often called Jack by her friends and family.

Of course some of us shared our name with several plants, from roses to potatoes to parahebes, of which there were an apparently surprising amount in our group. Between searching for plants, Jackie entertained us with anecdotes and plant related jokes. Everyone should have a dream she said, as she described her vision for a spectacular visitor garden and training centre to be built in the form of a stadium, and to be planted in witty groupings. Varieties of 'John', for example, could find a place around a certain public facility. So if anyone has a few acres to spare... . In the meantime she has developed a new talk called 'Nuts'. Watch this space.

Next month's meeting is on WEDNESDAY June 10 when we will be visiting Sissinghurst Castle Gardens. Our group entry is at 2 pm. Those who want to have lunch should aim to meet at the restaurant at 12.30.

FOLLOW THE PLOT

Pett Village Allotments Association

This is the first of a regular series of allotment updates I will be producing as the new Secretary to the Association. The Association held a successful and well-attended AGM at the end of March. Mac Lavety, our former Secretary, has been very helpful in showing me the ropes as his successor. Thanks, Mac, and to all the Committee members and plot holders for welcoming me into the allotment community.



I'm updating the email distribution list for the 2015 membership and will be contacting plot holders shortly. If you are a member with a valid email address and you do not receive PVAA updates from June onwards, please do let me know.

For those who aren't members, we now have three vacant plots on site so please contact me if you are interested in growing your own this year. We are also desperately looking for a source of manure for the site as the growing season gets underway. If you know someone who has a lot they want to get rid of, please let us know.

Libby Rothwell, 07714 340674, Libby.rothwell891@gmail.com

PETT FLOWER SHOW, Saturday 25th July 2015

Rachael Crouch (813145), Publicity Officer

Well how about this weather? I hope by the time you are reading this that all of your gardens are blooming & looking forward to being part of this years flower show. Not forgetting of course that if you do have surpluses of any thing then please bring it along to the produce table to be sold.

If you are making, cakes, biscuits, jams for the competition then why not make a little extra & donate it to the produce stall. Everyone loves to buy a home made cake so don't be shy, please bring one along. You might of course choose to make some delicious scones or cake for the tea tent. Whatever the contribution it will certainly be much appreciated.

Thank you to all of the people who deliver the PPN & ensuring that the schedule & entry forms are securely tucked inside. If any one would like extra copies please contact any committee member. There may also be a few at the butchers shop, although they do go quickly.

A REMINDER - So that the trophies etc can be sorted for this years winners, it would be helpful if current holders would clean & return their trophies to Louise before the end of June. If you would like it collected from you please give a committee member a ring & we will arrange this for you.

We are very fortunate that so many of last years stall holders are available again this year. The stocks proved popular last year, & we have Mike & Pam running this again (we just need a couple of volunteers to go into the stocks)!!!!! Again the crockery smash has a volunteer to run it, so if you have any unwanted crocks then let us know.

Have you always thought "one year I really must enter" well you still have time. Perhaps just enter 1 thing this year, 2 next year & so on. Maybe you have a piece of needle work that you would like to enter. There is a category for everyone & all ages from 3 years upwards. I should remind everyone to check the schedule for exact rules & information. All entry forms need to be handed in by 8pm on a Wednesday before the flower show.

Don't forget this years theme is **PETS**. Our president will award a trophy for the exhibit judged to best reflect this theme.

Lastly - We do need lots of help setting up & clearing away. Those of you who know Paul Brown & could give him a few hours of your time then please let him know.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone good luck in particular the young children entering their wonderful exhibits.

PETT OLDER PEOPLES PROJECT (POPP)

(Sheila Thomas 01797 225616 / 07774 573086 Ann Nicholls 813043)

POPP FUTURE CALENDAR

Tuesday 2nd June John Taylor Talk & Slides of Pett Village.

Tuesday 9th June Andy Robertson on his keyboard

Tuesday 16th June Tuesday 23rd June Annie Crier Thai Chi

Keith Osborne Music for Health

Tuesday 30th June Alison Bowler seated dance exercise.

Tue 9th June Nail Technician - Sheryl Tucker

Head & Shoulder Massage Antonello Bruce Fortnightly

Toe nail cutting service for any person in the area having difficulty in reaching their feet. Home visiting service. Will also assist with foot hygiene for the elderly and disabled. If interested please contact Sheila Thomas on 01797 225616 - also at POPP weekly – donation to centre.

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

PETT WOMENS INSTITUTE - Heather Godwin

At the May meeting the members supported this Resolution to go forward to the AGM in June: 'Failing to care - assessment of need in long-term care - This meeting calls on HM Government to remove the distinction between nursing care and personal care in the assessment of the needs of individuals, in order to advance health and wellbeing'.



Pett WI President, Heather Godwin, and member Sharon Sellens will be attending the National Federation Centenary AGM in June at the Albert Hall, along with 5,000 other WI members, including her Majesty the Queen, the Princess Royal and the Countess of Wessex. Two days before that Heather will be attending the WI Centenary Tea-party at Buckingham Palace.

At the end of that week the fourth Big Village Lunch will take place on Sunday June 7th - all proceeds from this fun event will go towards supporting local village groups. Tickets are going fast so please buy soon, request your favourite tune to play on the day by contacting Mary Saint on 813047 or mary@saintfamily.net, and come along on the day for another great village event. Many puddings have already been pledged!

Next month, on Friday 19th June, Hannah Piekarski will be speaking about Dementia Friends, a government backed campaign offering people in England the chance to understand what it might be like to live with dementia and turn that understanding into action. The Royal Voluntary Service has partnered with the Alzheimer's Society to support Dementia Friends sessions which are being run in a bid to change the way people think, talk and act about dementia and to help people with dementia live well in the community.

If you are interested do come along to our meeting at 2.30pm at Pett Village Hall – where for a visitors' charge of £3 a warm welcome, and excellent tea, awaits.

FLICKS IN THE VILLAGE FILM SOCIETY

On the 4th June we will be screening The Theory of Everything, starring Eddie Redmayne and Felicity Jones. It is the story of the most brilliant and celebrated physicist of our time, Stephen Hawking, and Jane Wilde the arts student he fell in love with whilst studying at Cambridge in the 1960s. Little was expected from Stephen Hawking,



a bright but shiftless student of cosmology, given just two years to live following the diagnosis of a fatal illness at 21 years of age. He became galvanised, however, by the love of fellow Cambridge student, Jane Wilde, and he went on to be called the successor to Einstein, as well as a husband and father to their three children. Over the course of their marriage as Stephen's body collapsed and his academic renown soared, fault lines were exposed that tested the lineaments of their relationship and dramatically altered the course of both of their lives.

Testament of Youth, will be our film selection for the 2 July. Starring Alicia Vikander and Kit Harringtom, is a searing story of love, war and remembrance, based on the First World War memoir by Vera Brittain, which became the classic testimony of that war from a woman's point of view. A powerful and passionate journey from vouthful hopes and dreams to the edge of despair and back again; a film about voung love, the futility of war and how to make sense of the darkest times. Vera Brittain, irrepressible, intelligent and free-minded, overcomes the prejudices of her family and hometown to win a scholarship to Oxford. With everything to live for, she falls in love with her brother's close friend Roland Leighton as they go to University to pursue their literary dreams. But the First World War is looming and as the boys leave for the front Vera realises she cannot sit idly by as her peers fight for their country, so volunteers as a nurse. She works tirelessly, experiencing all the griefs of war, as one by one her fiancé, her brother and their closest friends are all killed and the pillars of her world shattered. But, an indefatigable spirit, Vera endures and returns to Oxford, irrevocably changed, yet determined to find a new purpose, which spurs her towards a redemptive act of remembrance.

Please remember that all are welcome to join our Society and enjoy an evening watching a film for as little as £4.50 with like-minded people in Pett Village Hall. We have been showing films now for over thirteen years so if you care to know more, or wish to help, please just turn up on a film night or contact me on chris@saintfamily.net. All films commence at 7.30pm on the first Thursday in the month with refreshments served from 7.00pm.

Chris Saint and the Flicks Team - Telephone 813047

COFFEE MORNING - Sally & Helen

Did you miss last month coffee morning? If so don't worry come and join us on **Wednesday 3rd June 10.00am till 12.00** and bring a friend with you.

We are always on the **first Wednesday** of every month so pop that in your diary so you don't forget us!



We look forward to seeing you.

PETT METHODIST CHAPEL - Sue Larsson



This month sees the Chapel's 167th Anniversary celebrations.

The theme will be "Up The Garden Path", depicted in flower arrangements and art, and of course refreshments will be available throughout.

Do come along on Saturday 21st June or Sunday 22nd and have a look around.

The fact that this little chapel has been a witness of God's steadfast love in the village of Pett for all those years is certainly worth celebrating and we would love to see you.

As part of our Anniversary weekend we will be holding an **Anniversary Service** on the **Sunday at 10.45 a.m** when we will be welcoming a visit from Rev. Cynthia Park.



FOURTH BIG VILLAGE LUNCH

& FEAST OF PUDDINGS

PLUS THE PETT PARISHIONERS' PLAYLIST

SUNDAY JUNE 7th 12.30 - 4pm

PETT VILLAGE HALL

ADULTS: £5

CHILDREN UNDER 14: FREE

(MUST HAVE TICKET & BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT)

You provide: your main course, drink, glass, plate, knife and fork We provide delicious salads, French bread, a Feast of Puds and

a Magical Experience

Tickets available from TicToc Hairdressers, The Butcher's Shop or by phoning 01424 251849

ANY SURPLUS WILL BE DONATED TO LOCAL VILLAGE GROUPS



Hospice Lottery Representatives needed in Pett

St Michael's Hospice is looking for outgoing Lottery Representatives to promote their successful Lottery in Pett. If you're looking for ways to top up your income with good commission rates, get some exercise and find work that fits in with your family life and other commitments, then this is the perfect role for you. Representatives choose their own hours and areas with full training and on-going support.

Lottery Representatives offer locals the opportunity to win a top prize of £2,000 a week whilst informing them of the wonderful work the Hospice does for people in their community. It costs nearly £10,000 a day to run the Hospice and to date the Lottery has raised in excess of £4million for the Hospice, a significant contribution to much needed funds.

If you would like to join the exciting Hospice Lottery team or would like to find out more about the role, please contact Paula Najair, Lottery Manager on 01424 456384 or email lottery@stmichaelshospice.com. To find out more about the St Michael's Hospice Lottery, please visit www.stmichaelshospice.com/lottery.

Follow your local Hospice on Facebook and Twitter

St Michael's Hospice is the local Hospice for Pett, providing specialist, palliative care to people living with life-limiting illness throughout Hastings and Rother. The care the Hospice gives is completely free. The Hospice costs close to £5million a year to run, with no more than one third of this being provided by the NHS, the staff and volunteers work tirelessly to raise the balance of over £9,000 a day. Without the support of volunteers and the people within their catchment area, they would not be able to continue giving such a high standard of care.

In order to fundraise, the Hospice must spread the word of its work, exciting news and events. One of the easiest ways for you to stay connected and up to date is through their Facebook (stmichaelshospice) and Twitter (stmhospice) pages.

The Hospice currently has 4,060 followers on Facebook, within a catchment area of over 183,000* people. According to Facebook statistics, of those 4,060 people, only a tiny percentage are from Pett. With the Hospice endeavouring to reach as many people as possible, it would be fantastic if the number of followers in Pett increased. So, come on Pett, get behind your local Hospice and show your support.

To find out more about the amazing work St Michael's Hospice does, you can find them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/stmichaelshospice or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/stmhospice

NATURE NOTES - Alan Kenworthy

I am a long way from Pett as I write this; in fact I am about a 14 hour drive and a ferry crossing away as I am in Sweden collecting bumblebees. As many of you may know, I volunteer for the short-haired bumblebee reintroduction project. The aim of the project is to reintroduce a bumblebee that became extinct in 2000, and we are here in Sweden collecting queen bumblebees for release at Dungeness in the hope of swelling the population that resulted from previous year's releases.



The collection has proved more difficult this year as the spring has been delayed by cold winds and rain. Normally the queens will emerge from hibernation when the temperature reaches 18 degrees C for three days in succession. So far that hasn't happened in Sweden as they have had the same cold winds as Pett has this year. Of course, it is possible that temperatures won't reach 18 degrees for many weeks to come and there are limits to how long the bees can stay in hibernation before their fat reserves are used up. So it appears that they have a back-up plan, and that they are able to detect changes in day length like many other hibernating or migratory animals do. Just how they do that is not clear as they are underground in the dark, but it is possible that growing plants make subtle changes to soil chemistry that can be detected by the bees. However they do it, they are emerging, though their emergence seems to be staggered over a longer period, which means that we won't be able to collect as many this year as we have in previous years.

It is interesting to note the differences in nature between Pett and Sweden. Sweden is further North than the UK so they have a shorter summer, but longer day lengths. Despite the cooler temperatures, their nature seems more abundant and healthier than ours. For example, last night I saw a hedgehog running past our campsite – I can't remember when I last saw a hedgehog in the UK, but it is many years ago.

Today while I was out looking for bees, I saw a group of 8 hares gather together and then run off in two separate parties. I've seen many hares in the UK but never more than two together. I think part of the reason for this is less intensive farming. Though it's hard to tell from a 10-day visit there seems to be evidence of crop rotation, and we have seen several large fields sown with clover, presumably as nitrogen-fixing green manure — a much 'greener' idea than chemical fertilizers. Swedish farmers may, like their UK counterparts, take advantage of subsidies for land set aside and managed for wildlife. In addition to that, field edges and roadside verges are left uncut in most places which allows a diverse mix of wildflowers and grasses to grow.

One of the wildflower species that thrives and is essential forage for the bumblebees is white dead-nettle. This is the preferred pollen and nectar source for the short-haired bumblebee and we spend our days here searching for patches of white dead-nettle and searching each patch for bumblebees. This can get quite monotonous and you can end up dreaming about endless patches of white dead-nettle. By the end of the collection none of us will want to look at another white dead-nettle for a long, long time.

ALL FOR THE WANT OF A PIECE OF STRING By Mike Russell of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

Now I'm very good at relaxing and just watching; my routine in the morning is to come down, get my tea and breakfast, switch on the 'Today' programme and sit and look out in the back garden and just observe.

In recent weeks, entertainment has been provided by the bit of string used to tie up the raspberry canes as it has become a much desired object for some of the birds in the garden, an essential item to adorn their nests; the problem is that the string is offering up strong resistance to their efforts to remove it.



I have two pairs of starlings making the use of the space under the roof tiles to nest in and they squabble over the rights to hang onto the canes and tug with all their strength at the string, usually to no avail. Occasionally a tiny wisp is borne away triumphantly but it is really scant reward for the effort they've put in.

When the starlings are not struggling with it, a few house sparrows try their luck but again all their hard work goes unrewarded. The canes bend with their effort but the string simply refuses to budge. Even the little blue tits have a go, sneaking in when the starlings and sparrows are off resting, probably trying to regain their strength to give it another go, but it is a futile attempt, the string remains resolutely and firmly attached to the canes, testament to the firmness of the way I tied them together in the first place.

My garden is pretty small but does seem to warrant a lot of interest from the local avian population. A pair of blackbirds think better of expending energy in trying to tackle the unmovable string so they spend the time picking up the debris scattered around and adding to the nest they've started building in the ivy covering the fence. A sense of guilt now encompasses me as I know from past years that as soon as we go out and start enjoying the garden in the warm sunshine, the birds become stressed and usually abandon the nest, our garden not being big enough to accommodate a pair of humans and a pair of blackbirds sharing the same space at the same time. As much as I love birds, I'm not going to give up my share of the spring and summer I'm afraid. I hope it is early in the year enough for them to go and find a more suitable and less disturbed location to raise a family.

My newly shorn birch tree attracts a woodpigeon who snaps off the thin twigs and flies off to an unknown destination with it, at least unknown to me. I've had to discourage the jackdaws as using our chimney as an ideal home, recently a sweep had to come in to remove a dense ball of twigs, amazingly each twig almost exactly the same in length.

I don't know, call myself a bird lover!

www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.

PETT LEVEL NATURALISTS SOCIETY - Brenda Kirkham

Trevor Buttle delighted us with his pictures of flora and fauna that he had taken during his visits to the Sussex Countryside.

We are having two walks in June, Please note both are on Saturdays.



The first one will be on the **6th June** when Trevor Buttle will lead a walk around **Rye Harbour Nature Reserve from 10 am to 12 Noon**. Meet at Rye Harbour Nature Car Park Kiosk.

The second walk will be on the **20th June** when Alan Kenworthy will lead a walk round **Brede High Woods from 10 am to 12 noon**. Please meet at car park on Chitcombe Road. Left side of road, 1.5 miles from Broad Oak (Rainbow Trout).

We do hope these walks will be popular and everyone is welcome to come along and join us.

DO YOU KNOW? – John Taylor

Do you know about 'Lookers' and their huts?

Romney Marsh is the place where most of them could be found and has been associated with sheep farming for hundreds of years. The Marsh pastures, reclaimed from the sea, provided ideal grazing for sheep and the prosperity the woollen industry once brought is evidenced by the many historic churches spread throughout the Marsh.

Romney sheep provided the foundation for the English woollen industry as early as the twelfth century. Their long but dense fleece was highly prized, so much so that wool was the first product on which export duty was levied as early as 1275

The combination of nearness to the Continent and the large flocks of sheep on the Marsh inevitably resulted in wool smuggling becoming widespread locally. The wool smugglers were known as "owlers" because they were active after dark and called to each other like owls in the night. Instead of employing shepherds to tend their flocks in days gone by, many wealthy landowners used the services of a 'Looker'. They would watch over a number of flocks spread over a wide area and cover many miles in a working day, travelling on foot or by horse.

They lived away from their families much of the time in simple,purpose-built, brick 'Lookers' huts. In 1870 there were 356 huts spread across the Marsh but today less than a dozen remain.

Lookers would have regular visits from their families to provide them with a week's supply of food. Among the provisions would probably have been pies made from local lamb, potatoes, onions and suet.

The buildings were always situated within a complex of pens where the sheep could be gathered for routine inspection and doctoring. The Lookers kept their tools and medicines in huts situated on the lands of the different owners, and at busy times of the year they could comfortably spend the night there close to their sheep. In lambing time, when extra help was often hired, the Looker or his helper would live in the Hut or 'Sheephouse' for up to six weeks.

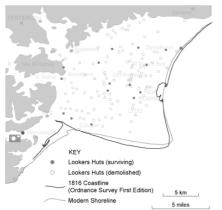
Lookers' Huts were small, purpose-built, single-roomed buildings of one storey with a fireplace and chimney. They were mainly constructed of brick and had tiled pitched roofs. There was usually a single door and a single, small window. Although the majority of huts appear to have been purpose-built structures, there were occasional exceptions. The huts often had surprisingly large fireplaces in relation to their size. They dominated a large part of the room, often filling over a third or even half the internal width of the building. Most were built with a crude arch over the hearth supported with a wrought iron "fireband".

It is sad that most of these historic, and once very important, buildings have disappeared but the memory of them lives long in the minds of many farmers and countrymen.



The picture on the left shows Bert Uden with his flock and a lookers hut near Dymchurch.

Below is a Looker Hut that can be seen todcay, together with the locations of the huts on Romney March.





PETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Pett Parish Council duly convened and held on Tuesday 17th March 2015 at Pett Village Hall

Present: Cllr. A. Dunlop (Chairman), Cllrs J Green, M King, P Stapley, D Richards and S Ware.

Also in attendance: Cllrs R Patten, Maynard and R Bird, Sarah Willoughby - Clerk and 3 members of the general public.

- 1690. Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr Dean and PCSO S Eldridge
- 1691. Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th February 2015 were agreed and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

- 1692. Matters arising None
- **1693. Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Richards declared a personal interest in agenda item 9.
- 1694. Chairman's Announcements: None
- 1695. Planning: The clerk had circulated details of planning matters, details of which had been included on the schedule attached to the agenda. RR/2015/226/P – Following discussion it was agreed to support approval.

1696. Finance:

a) Authorisation of payment of accounts:

The following payments were presented for payment and approved:

Sarah Willoughby	Clerk salary and expenses	388.28
SSALC	Clerk's networking day	36.00
LGPS/ESPF	Contribution	91.56
HMRC	Payment	7.80

1697. Correspondence:

Clerk to answer questions raised by C Jones in her letter to Council. The village hall has previously been approached about hosting the post office but has declined. Both pubs in the village have been approached and neither have the space to host post office services. The Methodist church were the sole establishment to offer their premises for use by the village.

Cllr Stapley arrived.

1698. Allotments:

The clerk read out a formal request from the PVAA for Pett parish council to approach the landowners in respect of waiving clause 3.8 forbidding the cutting of trees. All costs will be covered by PVAA and Pett parish council.

Cllr Ware arrived

1699. Village maintenance – After careful consideration of the two tenders submitted, it was agreed to grant the three year maintenance contract for Pett to Richard Harris.

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

PETT CHURCH NEWS - Meriel Deasy, Angela Hawksley & Fran Rogers

CHRISTIAN AID

Thank you to everyone who helped or supported the Coffee Morning on May 9th. It was a happy and successful occasion – made all the more enjoyable by the arrival of a group of 'Hardy Hikers' who were passing at the time and joined in.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday May 31st: There will be a Rogation Walk starting at the Church at 3pm. This is an ancient tradition when parishioners walk the parish boundary visiting the boundary stones. This year we will visit three of the stones giving thanks for our community and the coming summer. The event also includes prayers for a successful harvest. Refreshments will be served at the Methodist Chapel. All are welcome – including your dog!

Sunday June 7th: - please note change of time. The service will be one of acknowledgement and thanksgiving for all the people and organisation who support our community: it will be conducted by Kay Burnett and, it is hoped, will include a blessing of the Tower of London ceramic poppy which has been so generously given to us.

FROM THE REGISTERS

There is nothing from the registers.

A PRAYER FOR PETT

This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you

Lord, increase the sense of community that binds us together. Bless the work of our churches that they may give a sense of identity and belonging, where people know that they are welcomed, remembered and valued as individuals.

Pray for all those who are busily planning a variety of summer events – flower shows and festivals, fetes, children's activities,

Remember also our publicans, hoteliers, shopkeepers, caravan site owners, who are preparing for the holiday season,

Let us not forget our friends and neighbours – give thanks for friendship, and pray that we may be there to share both the good, and the bad times,

The love of God be with you, a boundless love without measure: a love you daily must treasure, now and for ever.

CHURCH SERVICES IN JUNE

31st May 10.30am Benefice Holy Communion at Pett Kay Burnett / Meriel Deasy

(Please note change of time)

7th June 11am Morning Worship Kay Burnett

(Please note change of time)

14th June 9.30am Morning Worship Meriel Deasy

21st June 8am Book of Common Prayer, Holy Communion Kay

Burnett

28th June 9.30am Holy Communion Richard Barron

If you are not a regular churchgoer, do think of coming to one or more of these services. Pett Church is not a club where everyone knows each other. It is a friendly group of people who worship and pray and sing in church on a Sunday. If this is not your cup of tea it would be good if you could come along one Sunday and tell us why it isn't.

CELEBRATION SERVICE on Sunday 7th June at 11am

So what, you may well ask, are we celebrating? Of course we are celebrating the love of God and the presence of Jesus but we are also, on 7th June, celebrating all the goodwill that exists in our village and, in particular, all the **clubs and societies** and the work of our Parish, District and County Councillors.

The **Tower Poppy**, which Alan Turner has so generously given to Pett Church, is now on display and it will be blessed at the service on 7th June.

To make the celebration easier the service will take place at the later time of 11am and so it will fit nicely with the **Big Village Lunch**.

So, do come to the celebration service!

FRIENDS OF PETT CHURCH

CHEESE AND WINE

Thursday 18th June 2015, 7pm Pett Village Hall

The Parochial Church Council would like to invite everyone in the community to a Cheese and Wine Party and a discussion evening about the future of Pett Church and St Nicholas, our church on the beach at Pett Level.

We want to express our gratitude to the Friends, in particular, for their donations, but also to all of you who support the church with money, volunteering and attending our events during the year. We would also welcome everyone's views about possible changes to, and ways of using, the buildings and how the church can better work for the community at large.

We look forward to seeing you there!

ROGATION WALK

Sunday 31st May

Just a reminder to come for a walk around the Pett and Fairlight Boundary Stones on Sunday 31st May. Pets welcome!

For those who wish to go at a slower pace meet outside St Mary and St Peter Church in Pett at 2:40pm. For those with a faster stride then you'll only need an hour so you can leave a little later at 3pm. Hopefully both groups will meet up back at the Pett Village Hall for 4pm for a prayer and blessing for the pets before heading for refreshments at the Methodist Chapel.

OTHER EVENTS

Exploring the Christian Faith takes place every Wednesday 7.30pm from June 3rd at St Peter's Church Centre, Waites Lane, for anyone who wants to learn more, ask questions, or prepare for confirmation.

Fairlight Church Tower is open Saturdays and Sundays 2 - 5pm, if the weather is suitable. Children free, adults suggested donation £2.

The next **Messy church** takes place 3.30pm on Wednesday 3rd June at St Peter's church centre and Fairlight Village Hall. This is for families. To enquire about

Thanksgiving for the birth of a child, wedding celebrations and other special occasions please contact Richard the Rector on 812799, or email admin@fairlightandpett.com.

FROM THE RECTOR - Richard Baron

All refugees.

For the Italians it is a Christian duty to save as many refugees as possible from drowning in the Mediterranean Sea.



The Germans say, as a Christian nation it is their duty to receive as many refugees as possible, in order to give them a future and a hope.

In Britain it seems we do not want refugees or foreigners in this country no matter what they have been through, or how deserving they are, because if there are more of 'them' there is less for 'us'.

God says, look after the widow, the orphan and the refugee. Care for them as you would care for yourself. When you do this for them, you do it for me. Do this and I will bless you and make you prosper.

As this nation becomes less Christian, so we become more obsessed with ourselves. We become more self-centred and less compassionate and as we move away from God we become less human. This means human behaviour becomes regulated more by law than by conscience and compassion.

However, it is worth remembering that we are all temporary in this world. We are like wandering refugees, who every now and then find a place to settle, but at some point we have to move on. We must all leave this world and though you may not believe it right now, you will ask for a place in heaven, because heaven is what you are looking for, a place of permanency, security, joy, peace and love. Such a place is the dream of all people.

Imagine then the shock if you were told, "Go away, you cannot enter heaven."

For when I was hungry you gave me nothing to eat. When I was thirsty you gave me nothing to drink. When I was a stranger you wouldn't welcome me. When I needed clothes you wouldn't help me, because you were more concerned about yourself than others.

There is no room in heaven for those who care more for themselves than others!

Richard Barron

PARISH NOTICE BOARD & DIARY

PETT VILLAGE HALL 500 CLUB DRAW

Congratulations
1st prize goes to Libby Rothwell
2nd prize of goes to Chris Taylor

JEMPSONS BUS

'Hail & Ride' to the Superstore. Every Friday calling at Allards 9:15 and progressing to the top of Chick Hill by 9:20 - departs Jempson's at 11:30. The bus will stop when hailed if it is safe to do so. Nominal charge of £1 return.



BUS SERVICES

See page 53 for revised 347 service.
Also, a **101** bus now serves Pett
Level. Sadly, because of space, we
cannot provide the timetable but look
at the Stagecoach website for more
details

THE POST OFFICEIs now open on **Monday** and **Thursday** from **12.00 to 3.00 pm** in the Pett Methodist Chapel.

PARISH DIARY

WEE	KLY ACTIV	/ITIES	Where	
Mon	6.30pm	Pilates	VH	Whilst every effort is made
Mon	7.30pm	Village Choir	MC	to ensure this is up to date
Mon	9.30am	Flowerpots Playgroup	VH	we are not always told of
Tue	10.30am	POPP	VH	changes – you should
Tue	7.00pm	Pole Dancing	VH	check with event
Wed	10.00am	Badminton	VH	organisers for specific
Wed	6.00pm	Zumba	VH	times and dates.
Thu	9.15am	Dance & Exercise Classes	VH	
Fri	10.00	Badminton	VH	
Fri	2.00pm	Latin American & Ballroom	VH	
		Dancing		
MON.	THLY & BI	-MONTHLY ACTIVITIES	Where	Date this month
Mon	7.30pm	Village Hall Committee	VH	1 st
Tue	7.30pm	Pett Parish Council	VH	16 th
Wed	11.00am	Rambling Club	NBC	10 th
Tue	12:05 –	Mobile Library	Church	9 th , 30 th
	12:35			
Tue	7.30pm	Gardening Club	VH	10 th Sissinghurst visit
Wed	10.00am	Village Coffee Morning	VH	3 rd
Thu	7.00pm	Flicks	VH	th 'The Theory of
				Everything'
Fri	7.30pm	Pett Nats	VH	6 th Rye Harbour walk
				20 th Brede High Woods
				walk
Fri	12.30pm	Pett Womens Institute	VH	19 th Dementia Friends
Sun	3pm	Vibele – laughter class	VH	7 th

VH Village Hall; NBC New Beach Club, MC Methodist Chapel



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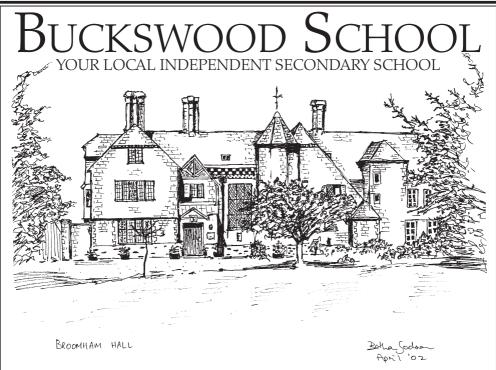
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344 HASTNGS – RYE	Monda	ays – Fridays (excluding Bank Holidays)
	S	(S/H school/holiday days only)
Hastings Rail Station		0745 0845 0945 1045 1145 1245 1345 1445 1550 1650 1755 1900
Hastings Breeds Place		0748 0848 0948 1048 1148 1248 1348 1448 1553 1653 1758 1903
Ore Co-Op	0718	0800 0900 1000 1100 1200 1300 1400 1500 1605 1705 1810 1910
Fairlight Glen	0721	0803 0903 1003 1103 1203 1303 1403 1503 1608 1708 1813 1913
Fairlight Cove Hotel	0727	0809 0909 1009 1109 1209 1309 1409 1509 1614 1714 1819 1919
Pett Level	0733	0815 0915 1015 1115 1215 1315 1415 1515 1620 1720 1825 1925
Winchelsea, Smugglers	0737	0819 0919 1019 1119 1219 1319 1419 1519 1624 1724 1829 1929
Winchelsea Beach	0739	0821 0921 1021 1121 1221 1321 1421 1521 1626 1726 1831 1931
Winchelsea, Bridge End	0742	0824 0924 1024 1124 1224 1324 1424 1524 1629 1729 1834 1934
Rye Rail Station	0748	0830 0930 1030 1130 1230 1330 1430 1530 1635 1735 1840 1940

Sundays & Bank Holidays; 4 departures from Hastings Rail Station every other hour from 1105 to 1725

344 RYE – HASTINGS	Mondays	- Frid	ays (e	xclud	ing Ba	nk H	oliday	rs)					100
	S	Н	(S/H	schoo	l/holi	day d	ays oı	ıly)					0-0
Rye Rail Station	0703 0753	0813	0843	0928	1028	1128	1228	1328	1428	1533	1633	1733	1825
Winchelsea, Bridge End	0709 0759	0819	0849	0934	1034	1134	1234	1334	1434	1539	1639	1739	1831
Winchelsea Beach	0712 0802	0822	0852	0937	1037	1137	1237	1337	1437	1542	1642	1742	1833
Winchelsea, Smugglers	0714 0804	0824	0854	0939	1039	1139	1239	1339	1439	1544	1644	1744	1835
Pett Level	0718 0808	0828	0858	0943	1043	1143	1243	1343	1443	1548	1648	1748	1839
Fairlight Cove Hotel	0724 0814	0834	0904	0949	1049	1149	1249	1349	1449	1554	1654	1754	1844
Fairlight Glen	0730 0820	0840	0910	0955	1055	1155	1255	1355	1455	1600	1700	1800	1850
Ore Co-Op	0733 0838	0843	0913	0958	1058	1158	1258	1358	1458	1603	1703	1803	1853
Hastings Harold Place	0741 0850	0851	0923	1007	1107	1207	1307	1407	1507	1612	1712	1812	1900
Hastings Rail Station	0743 0852	0853	0925	1009	1109	1209	1309	1409	1509	1614	1714	1814	1902

Sundays & Bank Holidays; 4 departures from Rye Rail Station every other hour from 1018 to 1638

Monday to Friday (except Public Holidays)								Saturda	ıy
Days of Operation				SH	SD				
Hastings Town Centre, Railway Station	09:10	11:10	13:10	15:10	15:10	17:35		13:10	17:
Hastings Town Centre, Priory Meadow	09:15	11:15	13:15	15:15	15:15	17:40		13:15	17
West Hill, Whitefriars Road, adj	09:20	11:20	13:20						
Blacklands, Mount Pleasant Road, N-bound				15:20	15:20	17:45		13:20	17
Ore, Graystone Lane, adj	09:25	11:25	13:25	15:25	15:25	17:50		13:25	17
Ore, King's Head, o/s	09:27	11:27	13:27	15:27	15:27	17:52		13:27	17
Guestling Green, White Hart, adj	09:31	11:31	13:31	15:31	15:31	17:56		13:31	17
Guestling Bradshaw School, o/s	***************************************				15:34				
Pett, Elms Lane, opp	09:36	11:36	13:36	15:36	15:42	18:01		13:36	18
Pett, Pett Road, NW-bound	09:39	11:39	13:39	15:39	15:45	18:04		13:39	18
Days of Operation	SD	SH				SH	SD		
Pett, Pett Road, NW-bound	08:19	08:26	09:42	11:42	13:42	15:42	15:47	08:26	13
Pett, Elms Lane, opp	08:22	08:29	09:45	11:45	13:45	15:45	15:50	08:29	1
Guestling Bradshaw School, o/s	08:29								
Guestling Green, White Hart, opp	08:34	08:34	09:50	11:50	13:50	15:50	15:55	08:34	13
Ore, King's Head, opp	08:38	08:38	09:54	11:54	13:54	15:54	15:59	08:38	13
Ore, Post Office, opp	08:40	08:40	09:56	11:56	13:56	15:56		08:40	1
Fairlight, Coastguard Lane, opp							16:03		
Fairlight Cove, Fairlight Cove Hotel, S-bound							16:09		
Pett Level, Canal Bank, adj							16:15		
Blacklands, Mount Pleasant Road, S-bound	08:45	08:45						08:45	1
West Hill, Whitefriars Road, opp			10:01	12:01	14:01	16:01			
	00.40	00.40	10.06	12:06	14:06	16:06		08:49	1/1
Hastings Town Centre, Harold Place, Stop P	08:49	00.45	10.00	12.00	17.00				

PETT PARISH COUNCIL 2015 - 2016

Councillors	Address	Contact
Christine Deacon	Ashleigh, Pannel Lane, Pett, TN35 4JB	01424 813498
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		michaelkeithwilkins@gmail.com

(Chair & Vice Chair to be decided at the May council meeting which takes place after this magazine has gone to press)

Clerk

Sarah Willoughby Wildflowers, Pett Road, Pett, 01424 813785

TN35 4EY clerkpettparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk

Councillor Responsibilities

(To be decided at the May council meeting)

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Hastings, TN35 4AL cllr.roger.bird@rother.gov.uk

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amber.rudd.mp@parliament.uk

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR SUSSEX

Katy Bourne Sackville House, Brooks Close 01273 481561

Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2F spcc@sussex-pcc.gov.uk

CONTACT DETAILS FOR VARIOUS VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Societies, associations & o	ther activities		
Allotments	Libby Rothwell	07714 340	0674 libby.rothwell891@gmail.com
Badminton Club	Dave Clarke	812898	gypsydave@uwclub.net
Bowls Club	Barry Quaife	729693	barry.quaife252@btinternet.com
British Legion	Brian Green	812450	toffee35@gotadsl.co.uk
Cricket Club	Andrew Dunlop	813368	
Dance & Exercise Class	Robin Hutt	813182	robinhutt@btinternet.com
Flicks Film Society	Chris Saint	813047	chris@saintfamily.net
Flower Show Chair	Philippa Strickland	814384	pstrickl@icloud.com
Flowerpots Toddler Group	Kate Woodbridge		pettflowerpots@hotmail.co.uk
Friends of Pett Level	Rosemary Moon	812246	irmoon@pett.eclipse.co.uk
Preservation Trust	·		, 3, 1
Gardening Club	Bob Harris	815151	bob.june@btopenworld.com
Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	Mr & Mrs Hall	813355	
Naturalist Society	John Taylor	814674	jnct@talktalk.net
Pilates	Annie Cuthbert	01797 225	5186 tb.cuthbert@btinternet.com
Pett Older Peoples Project	Sheila Thomas	01797 225	5616 sheilaspan@btinternet.com
Pole Dancing	Jane Baldwin	0740 325	6148 jane@mrzen.co.uk
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Short Mat Bowls	Barry Quaife	729693	barry.quaife252@btinternet.com
Stir Crazy Stitchers Club	Wendy Burgess	868195	
Stoolball	Janet Fuller	01303 873	
Tennis Club	Stuart Ware	813332	
Vibele	Natasha Saltzer		7964 ncsaltzer@yahoo.com
Zumba	Sharon Clark		0517 mooprincess@live.co.uk
Women's Institute	Mary Saint	813047	mary@saintfamily.net

Church Team	www.fairlightandpett.com
Rector	Richard Barron 812799 rector@fairlightandpett.com
Retired Clergy	Rev Kay Burnett
	Rev Frank Rowson
	Rev David Wotton
Readers	Meriel Deasy
	Ken Holmes

POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS

Sharon.Eldridge@sussex.pnn.police.uk Mobile 07810636992 daniel.bevan@sussex.pnn.police.uk Mobile 07796195639 andrew.smith@sussex.pnn.police.uk Mobile 07990704108

(if you leave a message you will be contacted on their return)

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Emergency Services & Utilities (non-emergency numbers):

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Community safety (24 hour hotline)	0800 731 9119
South East Coast Ambulance Service	0300 1230999
Southern Water:	

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Eastbourne Hospital	01323 417400
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Surgery appointments	01424 437962
Village hall appointments	01424 728872
Guestling Surgery, Chapel Lane	01424 814332
Roebuck Surgery, Old Town Hastings	01424 420378
Shankill Surgery, Fairlight Road	01424 728388

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East Sussex County Council	
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