



January, 2007

# PARISH NEWS



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## EDITORIAL

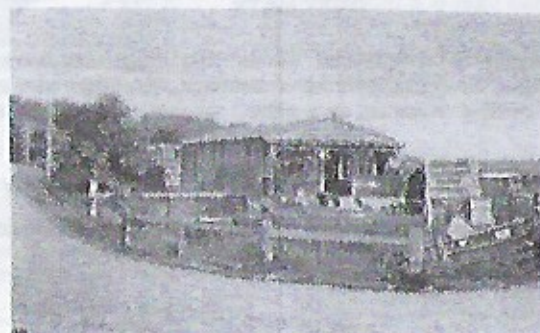
Due to a shortage of space in this edition of the Parish News I have decided to spare you my ramblings other than to add my thanks to those of Avril to all the contributors and distributors and to remind everyone that copy for the February edition can be sent to me on email at [denise.Jordan@virgin.net](mailto:denise.Jordan@virgin.net) or delivered to me at 5 Glebe Cottages, Elms Lane (814187). The deadline for copy is the 15th January. Any copy you can get to me before that date would be greatly appreciated.

## MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION

Denise does a first class job editing this magazine and it's lovely to see lots of new contributors, but all their work would be in vain if it were not for the distributors, who plod round the village and the Level every month, battling with broken gate catches and getting their fingers trapped in letterboxes. Grateful thanks are due to June Barnes, Ann & David Bell, Pauline Brown, Jill and Trevor Buttle, Evelyn Darnell, Meriel Deasey, Jean Hickman, Pat & Trevor Hindson, Anna & Martin King, Cathy Norris, Sheila & Bob Osborne, Dot & Malcolm Sage, Joan Slack, Frances Taylor and Muriel Turner. And my personal thanks for doing it so cheerfully!

Avril Thurley

VILLAGE PHOTO  
Sunnyside Refreshment Rooms  
C1890 - 1910







#### FLICKS FILM SOCIETY.. PETT VILLAGE HALL

OK folks, if you are not already one of our 200 members then why not make a New Year's resolution and join our film club. We intend to continue for at least a further year and we will be keeping the initial membership fee still at £10 per member. This will permit entry into three films free, in the first year. All subsequent films there will be a charge of £3 per visit. Renewal memberships still remain at £1 per member but guest prices have increased to £3.75 per person. Membership forms are available in The Butchers Shop or if you prefer, on the night when we are showing a film. Our next show night will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm when we will be screening:

#### THE DA VINCI CODE

While lecturing in Paris, noted Harvard Professor of Symbology Robert Langdon (Tom Hanks) is summoned to the Louvre by French police to help decipher a bizarre series of clues left at the scene of the murder of the chief curator, Jacques Sauniere. Enter Sophie Neveu (Audrey Tautou), gifted cryptologist and Sauniere's granddaughter. Neveu and Langdon are forced to team up to solve the mystery, and from there the story is propelled across Europe as it balloons into a modern-day mini-quest for the Holy Grail, complete with alternative theories about the life of Christ, ancient secret societies headed by historical figures like Leonardo Da Vinci, secret codes, conniving bishops, daring escapes, car chases, and, of course, a murderous albino monk controlled by a secret master who calls himself "The Teacher."

Hanks and Tautou are just fine together but not exactly a memorable screen pair; meanwhile, Sir Ian McKellen's scenery-chewing as pivotal character Sir Leigh Teabing is just what the film needs to keep it from taking itself too seriously. In the end, this hit movie is just like a good roller-coaster ride: try not to think too much about it--just sit back and enjoy the trip.

Wishing a very Happy New Year with a packed film programme for 2007.

Chris Saint 813047. email [chris@saintfamily.net](mailto:chris@saintfamily.net)

#### PETT NATS

At our meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup> the speaker will be Colin Page, who needs no introduction from me. There is sure to be a good turn out of members, who know what a treat they have in store, so if you are thinking of coming as a visitor I suggest you get there early or you may not get a seat!

Avril Thurley (Hon Secretary)

#### MICHAEL PENFOLD

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## RYE BAY COASTGUARDS

We are in to our quieter season now, but still we get the occasional calls to keep us on our toes.

We have twice been called to Winchelsea Beach to someone in the dark, possibly stuck in the mud and waving a light. On both occasions it was a lug digger with a head torch. They were false alarms but we would much rather go and be sure of there being no problem. The mud holes in that area are becoming ever more a potential hazard.

One Sunday in November, we exercised with Pett Rescue, locating a "body" on the beach for stretcher evacuation by the Rescue Boat. It was a tragic irony that the exercise finished with us and the Rescue Boat being called to Ecclesbourne Glen and a report of someone over the cliff. It was the sad task of the Rescue Boat and Hastings Lifeboat to recover a body for real at the base of the cliff. Once it was apparent that it wasn't going to be a cliff recovery for us, our job was to talk to the first informant who had seen the man go over and liaise with the Police. We should have exercised with Rye Lifeboat on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, but the weather was simply too rough to risk injury to people or damage to the boat.

On a happier note, Steve (Sparra) Harris was awarded his Coastguard Long Service Medal (for 20 years service). These used to be relatively common in the Coastguard companies, but are becoming less so with a more mobile population and more youngsters moving out of the area for work. The presentation saw The Beach Club crowded with family, friends and as many serving and retired Coastguards as have probably been seen together in one place locally. Our thanks go to all those who turned up and made it a great evening for Sparra and to Mary Cooke and Sarah Blackman for preparing the wonderful spread.

*Rye Bay Coastguards Dec 06*

The Fairlight Pantomime 'Cinderella' will be performed at Fairlight Village Hall on: Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 7.30 pm, Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 7.30 pm, Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January - Matinee 2.30pm and evening 7.30 pm. Tickets are £4 adult - £2 children, except Saturday evening when all seats are £5. Tickets can be purchased at Fairlight Post Office from 1st January.

## NATURE NOTES

The sun was coming up behind a mountain range of clouds, every one of which had a brilliant silver lining. As the sun rose higher it shone searchlights through a gap in the clouds, and each of the sheep was given a halo. Perhaps I had one too.

I was waiting for the Rye bus at the bottom of Chick Hill when I noticed what I thought was a squirrel in the trees opposite; only it didn't look quite right. As it came into full view on my side of the trunk I saw that it was a rat. From the bus on the way home I enjoyed a much nicer sighting - a hobby on one of the posts alongside the Military Road. So even a shopping trip (not one of my favourite activities) turned out to have some real wildlife interest.

The gales at the end of November brought down the rest of the leaves, revealing the trees in all their winter beauty. I think silver birches, especially, are at their loveliest when their graceful branches are seen against a winter sky. With their shining trunks and golden autumn leaves they are surely one of the most attractive of all trees.



At the time of writing there are still swallows around. I wonder whether eventually they will overwinter here. Not so long ago it caused quite a stir when a blackcap was spotted in a local garden in January. Now it is quite common for blackcaps to spend the winter with us. The problem is that if we get a cold winter there will be no insects for swallows to feed on and they will die. Blackcaps will come to garden bird tables, so perhaps in the future swallows will learn to do so too, especially now that dried insects are available for garden feeders.

Avril Thurley

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## FISH OF THE MONTH RECIPE

Local cod is at it's best this time of year. If you are worried about the sustainability of this fish, the type of nets used by the Rye bay fishermen are of a large mesh. This means immature cod escape. Locally cod is mostly harvested between the months of November and January.

### One pot Cod with Black Olives and Tomatoes

#### Ingredients

175g black olives in oil, stones removed  
1 large onion, roughly chopped  
400g can chopped tomatoes  
4 boneless cod fillet each weighing about 175g – 200g/ 6 - 8oz.

1. Pre-heat the oven to fan 180C/ conventional 200C/ gas 6. Heat 1 tbsp of the oil from the olives in an ovenproof pan. Tip in the onion and stir well, leave to cook for a minute or two and then give it another good stir. Add the tomatoes and some salt and pepper, then add the olives.
2. Put the fish, skin side down, onto the sauce and drizzle over a splash more oil from the olive jar. Bake uncovered, for 15 minutes until the fish is cooked. Sprinkle with chopped parsley and serve straight from the pan with lemon wedges.

Serve with boiled rice and french beans.

For a spicy alternative, add a small pinch of red chilli flakes to the onion. A handful of quartered artichoke hearts from a jar can be added as well as or instead of, the olives.

### Corrections to Poached Salmon with a Sherry Cream Sauce

Amendment to ingredient list:  
crème should read **Crème Fraîche**

Amendment to method:  
After ... by boiling rapidly in the pan.  
Insert: **"Add the cream and reduce again to 275ml (10fl oz.) Season delicately"**.

My sincere apologies to Sarah for these misprints in the recipe. If anyone would like a full copy of the recipe please do not hesitate to contact me.

Ed

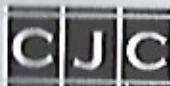


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## GARDENING CLUB NEWS

We have exciting news about the Gardening Club for 2007 ! We start the ball rolling this year with a meeting on the 9th January and an illustrated talk on the 'Growing and Showing' of Chrysanthemums and Dahlias. How to take cuttings and grow on Prizewinning flowers to fill the garden with colour and 'pzazz'. How to nurture your plants to 'show' standard and how to display them at their best.

We have planned a plant sale for May and also an outing in May to Hole Park at Rolvenden, where we can have a guided walk around the extensive gardens with the Head Gardener and then after taking time to enjoy the flowers and shrubs we can enjoy a lovely English afternoon tea !

July takes us on a tour to some of the Gardens of Pett, one a garden in progress, one to browse around with a glass of wine and one to admire and aspire to !

We are planning a visit to Pashley Manor at Ticehurst where we can take our own picnic or have a light lunch in their own locally sourced restaurant. The gardens are filled with 'water features' and 'sylvan settings' that put you in mind of Walt Disney's Fantasia and the Pastoral Symphony ! Their vegetable garden is to die for !

There are speakers coming to talk to us on subjects close to our hearts like Mediterranean gardening ( with little or no water! ) and 'Making full use of a small greenhouse' all year round.

We finish the year with a Christmas Party in December with hot mince pies and mulled wine and a very easy Quiz ! There will also be a visit to a Nursery in the Summer to be able to spend time looking at their plants and buy the plants of your choice at the end of the visit. Our Programme will be ready for you in January.

The A.G.M. is in March and we will be providing Membership cards when you pay your subscriptions which will enable you to purchase plants and garden requirements from a lot of our nearby nurseries at a 10% discount. We are planning to buy plug plants in 'bulk' to supply our members with good plants at a good price. Details about this will be given at our first meeting in January. I hope to see you all there, it looks as though we are going to have a great year - don't miss out !

PWB



PARISH DIARY - JANUARY 2007

VH = Village Hall RG = Recreation Ground

	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Flowerpots Parent & Toddler Group	VH	9.30 am
	Quiz Night	Royal Oak	8.30 pm
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Mobile Library	Church	10.20 am
		Chick Hill	11.10 am
		Smuggler	11.45 am
	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3pm & 7pm
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	9.30 am
	Flicks in the Village	VH	7.30 pm
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NEW DUSTBIN DAY</b>		
	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
	Railway Club	VH	7.30 pm
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Flowerpots Parent & Toddler Group	VH	9.30 am
	Quiz Night	Royal Oak	8.30 pm
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Garden Club	VH	7.30 pm
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Badminton	VH	10 am
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	9.30 am
	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3pm & 7pm
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
	Railway Club	VH	7.30 pm
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Flowerpots Parent & Toddler Group	VH	9.30 am
	Quiz Night	Royal Oak	8.30 pm
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council	VH	7.30 pm
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Mobile Library	Church	10.20 am
		Chick Hill	11.10 am
		Smuggler	11.45 am
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	9.30 am
	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3pm & 7pm
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
	Women's Institute	VH	2.30 pm
	Naturalist Society	VH	7.30 pm

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Flowerpots Parent & Toddler Group	VH	9.30 am
	Quiz Night	Royal Oak	8.30 pm
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Badminton	VH	10 am
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	9.30 am
	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3pm & 7pm
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2pm
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Flowerpots Parent & Toddler Group	VH	9.30 am
	Quiz Night	Royal Oak	8.30 pm
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Mobile Library	Church	10.20 am
		Chick Hill	11.10 am
		Smuggler	11.45 am

If you would like your regular meetings or special events to be included in the Parish Diary, please drop a note, programme or fixture list in to Rectory Cottage.

Avril Thurley



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## DO YOU KNOW ?

Do you know when the New Year begins? I always thought I did, but now, I'm not so sure!

For many of us who follow the Gregorian calendar, the New Year begins on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January. Historically the New Year started at varying times in the year. The ancient Roman calendar had only ten months and started the year on 1 March, which is still reflected in the names of some months that derive from the Latin – September (seventh), October (eighth), November (ninth), December (tenth). It wasn't until around 713 BC that the months of January and February were added to the year. Since the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Roman Catholic ecclesiastic year has started on the first day of Advent, the Sunday nearest to St. Andrew's Day (30 November); and from the Middle Ages many European countries started the New Year on 25 March, the feast of the Annunciation. In the Eastern Orthodox Church, the civil New Year (celebrating the infant Jesus' circumcision) falls on 14 January (1 January in the Julian Calendar). Rosh Hashanah (Hebrew for 'head of year') is a celebration that occurs 163 days following Pesach (Passover) and cannot occur before 5 or 6 September.

Even today, the New Year starts on different days in different parts of the world, depending on the religious beliefs. Here are a few examples.

The Vietnamese New Year is Tet Nguyen Dan which is for most the same day as the Chinese New Year. This occurs each year on the new moon of the first lunar month and can fall any time between 21 January and 21 February.

The Sinhalese New year falls in April (the month of Bak).

The Tibetan New Year is Losar and falls from January through March.

The Iranian New Year, called Norouz, is the day containing the exact moment of the vernal equinox, commencing the start of the spring season.

The Thai New Year is celebrated from 13 April to 15 April by throwing water. The Cambodian and Lao New Year have the same dates.

Some neo-pagans celebrate Samhain (a festival of the ancient Celts, held around November 1) as a New Year's Day representing the new cycle of the Wheel of the Year.

In the Baha'i calendar, the celebration occurs on the vernal equinox on 21 March, and is called Naw-Ruz.

The Punjabi New Year Vaisakhi is celebrated on 13 April and celebrates harvest. Hola Mohalla, New Year's Day in the Sikh Nanakshahi calendar is on March 14.

A little bit of research could produce many other variations, but one thing is clear; all countries and creeds celebrate the start of the New Year. How many of them attempt to make New Year Resolutions is a different matter. As far as we in Pett are concerned no one needs to tell us how to celebrate the NEW YEAR. I am sure all of us will be making the most of this joyous time of giving and receiving.

Do have a Very Happy New Year – try not to break all those worthwhile good New Year Resolutions! I sincerely hope that 2007 will be peaceful and fulfilling for us all.

John Taylor

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## NOTHING BREEDS FATIGUE LIKE INACTIVITY!

Last year, instead of waiting till after Christmas, I thought I might steal a march on the 'post New Year "must loose weight" syndrome'

So in November I joined the gym to get super fit and shed a few pounds so that over Christmas when I put some on ~ it would balance out, if you get my drift.

I must admit I was in trepidation of donning lycra and looking enormous in front of all those slim young things, but having gone down there and been shown around, I was somewhat impressed. I got REALLY excited when the receptionist told me about the nice young man in the gym until I realised that she had actually said was that he would 'induce' me!

Induction course over, I went on my first morning, all on my own to start my 'shedding'. The first thing that impressed was the fact that probably only half dozen people in there were actually younger than me. The second was that most of them were, if not the same size, then even bigger than me. Yes!

First off I got on the bike. Thought I was doing quite well at that till NYM (nice young man) pointed out that I had to put some stress to the pedals. When I got off well after three minuets later I all but buckled at the knees from the strain. Next was the walker which I carefully chose to over-look the car park and not a mirror. (Didn't want to watch all my flab giggle up and down). I clipped on the safety strap, put in my ear plugs, tuned into GMTV on the screen, started the engine, and off I strolled. Easy peasy, no problem until NYM crept up on me and put on a gradient of FIVE and a speed of SIX.

I worked up such a sweat that I went to wipe my face, caught the safety strap which stopped the treadmill dead and nearly went a-over-t on to NYM bending over adjusting his ab-cruncher! Phew!

After a quick look at all the other instruments of torture laid out in front of me I decided on just a quick dip in the pool for my first visit. That was good and I was really ready for the sauna and jacuzzi after that. A lady followed me in to the sauna and we passed the odd comment, as us ladies do on occasions. Fifteen minutes into

swapping intense life stories I realised that I was changing colour, and it wasn't just a hot flush.

You meet a very nice sort of person in the Jacuzzi I have discovered over these past few weeks. I have chatted to both men and women on all sorts of subjects whilst being pummelled and scummelled (only by the water unfortunately) They come in all sorts of sizes too with some telling stories of how they have lost stones in weight since going there. Those of us who haven't yet lost weight meet in the café overlooking the pool when we have finished and have coffee and cake whilst discussing what extra classes we should attend to try and loose some of these extra pounds.

It hasn't worked yet but I do feel more energised for my early morning efforts and I will loose ~ one day.

J.R.

## JUST A THOUGHT

Today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday



Dear Denise,

Having just sat down to read the Pett Parish news which I thoroughly enjoy and I really wanted to drop you and all the other contributors a line of thanks.

I have lived in the centre of the village all my life and just love it so much. I am still living at home although soon to move out to nearby Fairlight Road. I just wanted to let you know how much I enjoy catching up with all the news and happenings of the village, as working all week leaving early and coming home late I miss the daily life of the village!

Thank you again for all the efforts,

Keep up the good work,

Holly Appleton.

Dear Holly, Thank you for taking the time to write I can assure you it is greatly appreciated. Ed.



## PETT SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Members of the Management Committee of the Association, (which includes representatives from bowls, cricket, stoolball and tennis), met on 11 October to discuss the planned refurbishment of the pavilion in 2007. A local builder had been asked to assess the work needed to bring the pavilion to a reasonable standard and, unfortunately, more problems were identified than originally envisaged. Of particular concern was the news that the whole of the west side of the pavilion and the uprights need renewing. Other repairs and some refurbishment of the kitchen area are also needed.

Members were unanimous in agreeing that the Association's long-term aim would be to pull down the existing pavilion and erect a new one. However, this will mean extensive fund raising over a long period of time as there is a great deal of competition for grants. In the interim, it was agreed that essential repairs should be carried out as soon as possible.

Since the meeting, a detailed specification and costing has been obtained and the Association has submitted a maintenance grant application to the Parish Council seeking help with the costs involved. This was due to be fully discussed at the December precept meeting and we await the outcome. A meeting of the Association is programmed for early in 2007 when decisions concerning the repairs/refurbishment will be made on the basis of the amount of money available.

However, the Association would welcome the comments of local people as to the future of the pavilion, which we consider to be an important part of the village's recreational facilities. A part that we feel should be protected for future generations.

Should anyone wish to comment, would they please contact either myself on 814266 or the Chairman, Brian Woodcock on 812011.

*Heather Philpott  
Hon. Secretary*

### CHURCH SERVICES - JANUARY 2007

Sun. 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Parish Communion, 9.30am - St Mary & St Peter
Sun. 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Holy Communion, 8am - St Nicholas, Pett Level Combined Service with the Methodists (Covenant Service), 10.45am Methodist Church
Sun. 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan.	Parish Communion, 9.30am - St Mary & St Peter
Sun. 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Holy Communion, 8am - St Nicholas, Pett Level Morning Praise, 9.30am - St Mary & St Peter

- There is a service at the Methodist Church each Sunday at 10.45am

## DANCE / EXERCISE CLASS FOR BEGINNERS

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In November last year we hand-delivered 30 letters in the Benefice asking residents to join our membership and at the time of going to press in December were delighted to have received 12 positive replies: if you were not one of them we hope you are still giving it some thought and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Our most successful venture last year was the Flower Festival which as you know raised £1527.54 and we are hoping to repeat this success with another in September this year which will be held in Pett Church on Saturday and Sunday, 22-23 September. The Festival, "Song of Sussex", will incorporate many local industries, events, celebrities/notorieties and places of interest so please make a note of these dates in your diary or on your calendar now although there will be reminders during the coming months.

*Jillian Green  
Phyllis Gerrelli*

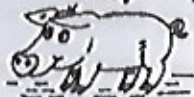
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**PETT PARISH COUNCIL – 2005/2006**

<b>Councillors</b>	<b>Address</b>	
Cllr. K. Clifton	Gatehurst Cottage, Pett Road, Pett	Chairman
Cllr. A. Dunlop	1, Lunsford Cottage, Pett Road, Pett	Vice-Chairman
Cllr. C. Saint	Southlands, Pett Road, Pett	
Cllr. Mrs. J. Barnes	Windy Ways, Pett Road, Pett	
Cllr. B. Roberts	2 Old Coastguard Cottages, Pett Level	
Cllr. A. Hollman	Sea bank, Chick Hill, Pett	
Cllr. P. Stapley	Bower Cottage, Pett Road, Pett.	
(Clerk) Denise Jordan	5 Glebe Cottages, Elm Lane, Pett	01424 814187

**Responsibilities:**

Planning & TPO Committee	Full Council
Finance & General Purposes	Cllrs Dunlop, Barnes, Clifton
Internal Audit	Miss Avril Thurley
Village Amenities	Cllrs Clifton, Dunlop, Hollman & Cllr. Roberts to report for Pett Level
Highway & Footpaths	Cllrs Dunlop, Roberts, Clifton and C. Dean and Miss Thurley as co-opted members
Police Issues	Cllr. Roberts
Flood/Emergency contingency	Cllrs Roberts (Flood Warden), Dunlop, Hollman, Patten
Social Affairs	Cllr. Barnes
Pett Sports Association	Cllrs Clifton and Barnes
Pett Village Hall	Cllr. Saint
Rother Association of Local Councils	Cllr. Clifton

**MEMBERS OF THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Telephone No.</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Phil Button	812148	Chairman
Ray Barden	812551	Vice Chairman
Jeanette Barden	812551	Secretary
Carol Pecorini	813544	Treasurer
Derek Johnson	814829	Hall Manager & Hall Bookings
Evelyn Darnell	812615	Committee Member
Tim Jury	813620	Committee Member
Philippa Strickland	814384	Committee Member
Sally Williams	812841	Committee Member