



March, 2007

PARISH NEWS

March Tides Rye Harbour Approaches

Add 1 hour for Summer Time in shaded areas

Date	Day	Time (hrs)	Height (m)	Time (hrs)	Height (m)
1	Thurs	1002	2.6	2215	2.8
2	Fri	1045	3.0	2253	3.2
3	Sat	1120	3.1	2328	3.4
4	Sun	1150	3.2	----	----
5	Mon	0001	3.6	1218	3.2
6	Tue	0031	3.6	1245	3.2
7	Wed	0057	3.4	1308	3.2
8	Thurs	0117	3.3	1326	3.1
9	Fri	0134	3.2	1344	3.0
10	Sat	0158	3.1	1411	2.8
11	Sun	0230	2.7	1448	2.5
12	Mon	0312	2.2	1538	1.9
13	Tue	0421	1.6	1755	1.5
14	Wed	0642	1.6	1925	1.8
15	Thurs	0758	2.1	2029	2.4
16	Fri	0857	2.6	2121	3.0
17	Sat	0947	3.2	2207	3.4
18	Sun	1032	3.6	2250	3.8
19	Mon	1113	3.8	2321	4.2
20	Tue	1153	3.9	----	----
21	Wed	0021	4.3	1231	3.9
22	Thurs	0051	4.3	1311	3.8
23	Fri	0131	4.0	1351	3.6
24	Sat	0213	3.7	1437	3.1
25	Sun	0301	3.1	1532	2.5
26	Mon	0402	2.4	1639	2.0
27	Tue	0519	1.8	1804	1.6
28	Wed	0720	1.8	1955	1.9
29	Thurs	0850	2.1	2102	2.4
30	Fri	0940	2.5	2147	2.8
31	Sat	1019	2.8	2225	3.2

Low Tide is about 7.5 hours after high tide times listed

EDITORIAL

A date for your Diary – 20TH MARCH 2007. This is the date of the Annual Parish Assembly giving you the opportunity to find out what your Council has done over the preceding year and to let them know what you would like them to do in the coming year. Please try to get there if you can as the Council do appreciate your input.

Copy for the April edition can be sent to me on email at denise.jordan@virgin.net or delivered to me at 5 Glebe Cottages, Elms Lane (814187). The deadline for copy is the 15th March. Any copy you can get to me before that date would be greatly appreciated.

In case you needed further proof that the human race is doomed through stupidity there are some actual label instructions on consumer goods in this edition of the Parish News.

Example: On Marks & Spencer Bread Pudding –
"Product will be hot after heating."
(...and you thought????...)

OBITUARY

JOYCE JAMES

I was sorry to hear of the death of Joyce James, but glad that she had remained independent and active to the end of her long life.

Joyce was unfailingly cheerful and had a fund of common sense, both qualities sadly lacking in our modern world. She will be much missed by her friends on Pett Level, and also by the regulars on the Jempsons Bus.

Joyce loved the Level with all its wildlife, and was always specially pleased when there were sheep in the field outside her kitchen window. A lovely lady who will not be forgotten.

Our sympathies go to Cedric on the loss of his Mum.

Avril Thurley

SOME USEFUL NUMBERS

Bus Enquiries (Traveline)
0870 608 2608

Conquest Hospital
755255

Doctors
Dr Chopra - 814332

Harold Road Surgery
Appointments:
Harold Road - 437962
Pett - 728872
Enquiries - 720878

Gas Leaks
0800 111 999

Pett Post Office
812161

Police Station
0845 607 0999

Refuse Collection
Missed bins 787502
Bulky waste 787570

Rother District Council
787878

Wasp nest removal
787545

White Rock Theatre
0870 1451133

JUNK MAIL

To avoid personally addressed junk mail coming to your door you can contact:

The Mail Preference Service
Freepost 33,
London W1E 7EZ
Tel: 0845 703 4599

Allow about four months before you see a reduction in the junk mail sent to you.

To reduce the amount of unaddressed leaflets delivered by the Royal Mail contact:

Royal Mail Door to Door
Streamline House
Sandy Lane West
Oxford OX4 5ZZ

To reduce the amount of unwanted telephone sales calls contact:

The Telephone Preference Service
5th Floor, Haymarket House
1 Oxenden Street
London SW1Y 4EE

It can take up to 28 days for the telephone calls to be reduced. If companies continue to contact you after you have asked them not to then you can contact OFTEL, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7JJ or 0845 714 5000. REMEMBER if an offer is too good to be true - it probably is!

PETT NATS: Our AGM will be held on March 16th. Don't let this put you off coming, as it will take all of ten minutes! You can then enjoy a talk on Ecuador and the Upper Amazon, by our Chairman John Goodman.

Avril Thurley (Hon. Secretary)

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HADDOCK

Haddock, a very popular fish in the north of England, is under-rated locally. It stays in condition far later into the season than our local cod. Smoked haddock has a wonderful oaky flavour, produced by lightly soaking the filleted fish in brine and then smoking over oak chippings. This fish can be bought either 'natural' or 'dyed', the difference being that the dyed product is coloured before smoking using a yellow vegetable dye.

Fish Pie

400g skinless halibut or cod
400g skinless smoked haddock fillet
600ml semi skimmed milk
1 small onion quartered
4 cloves
2 bay leaves
4 hard boiled eggs
50g butter
50g plain flour
1 kg potatoes, mashed
50g grated cheddar

Stud the onion with cloves and place in a frying pan with the fish and bay leaves. Pour over the milk and bring to the boil. Reduce the heat and simmer for 8 mins. Lift the fish onto a plate and strain the milk into a jug to cool. Flake the fish into large pieces and place in a baking dish.

Peel and quarter the eggs and arrange on top of the fish.

Place the butter, flour and milk in a pan and whisk briskly over a medium heat until the sauce starts to bubble and thicken. Stir with a wooden spoon, to get right into the corners of the pan, and whisk again thoroughly. Turn the heat down as low as possible and cook the sauce gently for 6 mins. Remove from the heat and season (watch the salt as the smoked haddock can be a little salty!). Pour over the fish.

Heat the oven to 200C/fan, 180c or gas 6. Top the pie with mashed potato, fluffing the top with a fork. Sprinkle with cheese and bake for 30 mins. Make up to a day ahead, chill and bake for 40 mins.

This dish may be frozen without the eggs.

Try different flavours:

Seafood: Add 200g raw peeled king prawns to the baking dish along with the poached fish.

Fish and vegetable: Add 100g each frozen peas and sweetcorn to the baking dish before pouring over the sauce

RYE BAY COASTGUARDS

We are looking to take on two new recruits to the company.

Essential criteria are:

- A reasonable level of physical fitness.
- A full and valid driving licence
- An ability to communicate effectively with members of the public and other agencies.
- To be able to work as a team member, but also to have the potential to take the initiative and work independently.

We are looking in the age range 21 to 55. No previous experience is necessary as full training will be given. However, some maritime or emergency services experience would be useful. Whoever we take on will be someone who can work effectively under sometimes difficult and stressful conditions and who will fit in with the established team (they aren't all that bad!).

For further information and an informal discussion, anyone interested should contact David Dunlop on 813018.

VILLAGE PHOTO 'The Gun Shed'



I have always known the building in the background as 'The Old Gun Shed'. The reason being that the gun in the photograph was stored in the shed. The gun was taken to Battery Hill for practice firing into Rye Bay by the 2nd Sussex Voluntary Regiment. The photograph was taken in 1887 after they had won a prize for their shooting. The prize was a tankard. The Gun Shed as you probably know is now in the process of being demolished.



Paul Wood - Local Camera Technician

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email: 2707woody@tiscali.co.uk

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DAVID JARRETT
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01797 226558

Mobile 07751492821

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Mowing - Garden Clearance

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1. How much does it cost to join?

It is **FREE** to join

2. How many books or items can I borrow?

A library ticket entitles you to up to:

20 books

6 videos/DVDs

6 talking books

3. How long can I keep them?

Books & talking books for 4 weeks

Videos & DVDs for 2 weeks

4. How much does it cost?

All Books are **FREE** to borrow

Adult videos £2.50 for 2 weeks

Adult DVDs £2.50 for 2 weeks

Children's videos £1.50 for 2 weeks

Children's DVDs £1.50 for 2 weeks

Adult talking books from £1.20-£1.70 per 4 week loan

Children's story tapes are **FREE**

5. What about fines?

Fines are currently 17p per visit per book on adult tickets.

Videos/DVDs incur another 2 week's charge immediately they become overdue.

6. Where can I use my ticket?

You can use your library ticket in any East Sussex library as well as on the mobile library.

Items can be returned to any library.

7. Can I get a specific book from the library?

The library service offers a reservation system whereby you can order any item (e.g. new titles, particular authors or subjects).

This service costs 80p (payable when placing the request) or 60p if placing a reservation on line.

Reservations on line: www.eastsussex.gov.uk/libraries.

LIFE ON THE LEVEL

I'm a newcomer to Pett Level, 19 months to be exact. I'm surrounded by those who have a lifetime of knowledge of the people and history of this fascinating part of our coastline, so am I qualified to write on life here? No, not really, but as I read our magazine each month I have often considered that the Level is not covered as well as Pett village and perhaps you up there don't know all that we down here are doing. What I'll attempt to do is write about the everyday things that go on here, things of interest and forthcoming events.

Have you taken a stroll along our promenade lately? Sounds posh I know and we usually call it the seawall but the new garden being laid out at Stonewalls is giving the place a feel of the Mediterranean. While at that end of the walk check out the seabirds squabbling for nesting ledges at Cliffend. Don't venture further round the coastline unless you have carefully checked the Tide Tables as it is easy to be cut off by the incoming tide. Our Rescue Boat is often called out to assist people who have made this mistake as well as to numerous other tasks throughout the year. What an invaluable asset this is and to see this loyal group of men practicing their skills every Sunday morning, whatever the weather, and all voluntarily, makes the heart swell.

It was sad to see the demise of another original wooden building recently; flattened almost overnight, but understandable that owners need more space and mod.cons in which to live and appreciate life here. The diverse architecture along the front is another feature that attracts visitors here. Perhaps not so noticeable as you drive through the village, but walk along the seawall at the rear and it becomes far more apparent.

If your walk leaves you in need of refreshment then we have a choice of The Smuggler public house offering a wonderful Sunday carvery often followed by a band from 4 -7pm, or you can have a drink and a game of pool at the Beach Club where Non-Members are always welcome but do consider becoming a member as it is well worth it especially if you are on the beach with the family in the Summer.

I haven't even mentioned the Canal, the Ponds, Toot Rock, Plotlands, the Preservation Trust or the wonderful friendly people and numerous characters that make up Pett Level. Perhaps I'll have to write more another time.

BM

On Nytol Sleep Aid –

"Warning: May cause drowsiness."

(..I'm taking this because???)

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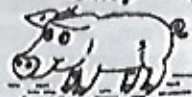
P.J. Turner

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THE MARRIED WOMEN'S STAMP

Whilst on holiday recently, I became a pensioner. Oh yes, tight grey curly perm and Nora Batty stockings here I come. I can now give up working and settle down with my knitting to a life of well earned rest being cared for by the state.

Well, errrr, no not quite. I was what was lovingly termed a 'boom baby' All our Daddies rushed home from the war, jumped into bed and, well, you know 'boom boom'. (For those clever souls that have worked out the time difference between the end of the war and conception ~ some of our Daddies took longer to come home that's all!!)

Anyway, when I went to school, there were three classes in every year except mine, where there were nine classes. Nine classes of 30 something pupils all the same age. Lots and lots of 'boom boom', and that was just in one school.

However, as a result of this, when we were all getting to hitchable age and thinking about having babies (yes we did it that way round in those days) some very clever politicians at the time came up with "the married woman's stamp"

This was to enable us women who wanted to be at home for our children, but could just squeeze in a few hours part time work to help ends meet, take home those few coppers more. So being young, foolish and very trusting, I fell for it. So all through my working life which was always part time so that I could be there first for children then aging parents, I only ever paid a married women's stamp. No one ever suggest anything different.

Those clever politicians with an eye to the future just happened to omit the fact that none of this contributed to a state pension and to me this is a form of theft. So what do they give me to live on now - £2.64 a week. Wow!

Still life's not so bad; I can at least travel on the buses free within the county. (If you live somewhere where they have buses every day!) If I lived in any of the London boroughs though, I would be entitled to free travel on buses, main line trains and the underground.

I can now get my prescriptions free. If I had been living in parts of Scotland and Wales I would have been getting them, if not free, at least at a much reduced price ages ago.

So apart from my £2.64, free prescription and a slight reduction in price at the cinema I can't actually say that being a pensioner is all its cracked up to be. Think next year I will start going backwards.

J.R.
March 2007

Another Glorious Muddle

Oooops ~ I mean the **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of the **Pett Flower Show** is with us again. (As are many other AGM's this month, springing up like bulbs they are!)

The evening of 20th March is the meeting for anyone and everyone who wants to come along and air their views on the forthcoming show. Of course, no one will listen to you, but it is a chance to spend an action packed, fun filled evening in the renowned Village Hall!

Seriously though folks, we will welcome anyone who has anything they wish to say. Any input about stalls or events, any help or donations you may want to offer, or perhaps you are not happy about something or maybe you just want to find out what it's all about, especially those who are new to the village. You may, of course, just want to view the bevy of beauty and masculinity that make up the current committee!

If however you are unable to attend the meeting and want any points to be raised, please contact either Phil Wood (813773) Phyllis Gerrelli (812699) or any other committee member.

Whatever your feelings are about the flower show, **Tuesday 20th March at 7pm** in the Village Hall is your chance to let us know. See you there.

Publicity Officer
Pett Flower Show
March 2007



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ADVANCE NOTICE

Only four months away – **Pett Parish Church Silent Auction and Social Evening – 7pm Saturday 14th July** is the date to remember. However you will be able to bid for lots of GREAT items from the end of May until early July. You could bid for a children's party, a 3 course meal for four people, be taken to Rudyard Kipling's House, Batemans, even bid to have your will drawn up by a well known firm of Solicitors. There will be lots of items to choose from. Watch this space as more details appear!



By E-Mail

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH BY EMAIL



Anyone who is online in **HASTINGS & ROTHER** can join this **FREE Scheme** and receive regular emails from the police informing you about crimes in your area and giving you the opportunity to provide further information.

Over 3,000 homes have joined so far and members of the public have already responded with information that has led to arrests.

All messages are sent out as "blind copy", so neither your name nor your email address will appear or be publicised. We do not send attachments.

To join send an email to:
hastingsandrothernhw@sussex.pnn.police.uk

You will be sent an automatic response advising of your local email co-ordinator's email contact address. All you need do is send an email headed 'New Member' and you will start to receive information.

If you have any queries about Neighbourhood Watch by Email please Contact Sergeant Mears.

Tel: 01424 456081
Email: philip.mears@sussex.pnn.police.uk

PARISH DIARY - MARCH 2007

VH = Village Hall RG = Recreation Ground

Thursday 1 st	Flicks in the Village	VH	7.30 pm
Friday 2 nd	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
Monday 5 th	Flowerpots Parent & Toddler Group	VH	9.30 am
	Quiz Night	Royal Oak	8.30 pm
Wednesday 7 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Puppy training class	VH	1 pm
	Advanced dog training	VH	2 pm
Thursday 8 th	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	9.30 am
	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3pm & 7pm
Friday 9 th	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
	Railway Club	VH	7.30 pm
Monday 12 th	Flowerpots Parent & Toddler Group	VH	9.30 am
	Quiz Night	Royal Oak	8.30 pm
Tuesday 13 th	Garden Club AGM & meeting	VH	7.30 pm
Wednesday 14 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Mobile Library	Church	10.20 am
		Chick Hill	11.10 am
		Smuggler	11.45 am
	Puppy training class	VH	1 pm
	Advanced dog training	VH	2 pm
Thursday 15 th	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	9.30 am
	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3pm & 7pm
Friday 16 th	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
	Women's Institute	VH	2.30 pm
	Naturalist Society AGM & Meeting	VH	7.30 pm
Saturday 17 th	Village Hall Quiz Night	VH	7.30 pm
Monday 19 th	Flowerpots Parent & Toddler Group	VH	9.30 am
	Quiz Night	Royal Oak	8.30 pm
Tuesday 20 th	Parish Council	VH	7.00 pm
	Flower Show AGM	VH	7.00 pm
	Annual Parish Assembly	VH	7.30 pm
Wednesday 21 st	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Puppy training class	VH	1 pm
	Advanced dog training	VH	2 pm
Thursday 22 nd	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	9.30 am

	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3pm & 7pm
Friday 23 rd	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
Saturday 24 th	Church Table Sale	VH	12 - 4pm
Sunday 25 th	BRITISH SUMMER TIME BEGINS	CLOCKS GO FORWARD	
Monday 26 th	Flowerpots Parent & Toddler Group	VH	9.30 am
	Quiz Night	Royal Oak	8.30 pm
Wednesday 28 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Mobile Library	Church	10.20 am
		Chick Hill	11.10 am
		Smuggler	11.45 am
	Puppy training class	VH	1 pm
	Advanced dog training	VH	2 pm
Thursday 29 th	Dance and Exercise Class	VH	9.30 pm
	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3pm and 7pm
Friday 30 th	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm

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



Dawn Turner
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FLICKS IN THE VILLAGE

We have a very special announcement to make....*The Queen is coming to Pett on 1st March* ! But before you rush to get out the bunting, it is the film rather than the person that is coming but our March performance will certainly be something to get excited about!

August 30th 1997. The Queen, Prince Charles and his sons are enjoying a summer break at their Scottish retreat, Balmoral. The following morning, in the early hours, the peace and calm are shattered by a phone call from Paris, announcing the death of Princess Diana in a car crash. This film describes the events of the week that followed - how the newspapers condemned the Queen for not returning to London to comfort her subjects in their time of mourning and how the new Prime Minister, Tony Blair, persuaded her to stage a full public funeral. It was a week that, in many ways, made a young premiership more mature and a traditional monarchy more modern.

Oh to have been a fly on the wall as many of these conversations were taking place - if they're true to life, they're a fascinating insight into the workings of the Royal Family and Government and the relations between the two.

The performances - particularly of Helen Mirren (now nominated for an Oscar) and Michael Sheen (playing Tony Blair for the second time) - are outstanding. Much has been made of Mirren's performance, and it is very fine indeed. She gets the balance right between representation and imitation, managing to duplicate Elizabeth's voice, mannerisms and stiff upper lip, without it seeming ghoulish or turning into a crass or forced impression. She is the best thing about the film by a country mile, and whereas the film in general takes a sledgehammer approach to showing Elizabeth as a product of another age who is reluctant to change her ways, Mirren shows this in a more personal and intimate manner.

All shows start at 7.30pm with refreshments available from 7.00pm. If you wish to know more about the society please either e mail me on chris@santfamily.net or telephone on 813047. Alternatively, you can always call in to the Butchers Shop in Pett.

Chris Saint

On Boot's Children Cough Medicine -
**"Do not drive a car or operate machinery
after taking this medication."**

(We could do a lot to reduce the rate of construction accidents if we could just get those 5 year-olds with head-colds off those bulldozers.)

DO YOU KNOW ?

Do you know about the Mad March Hare ?



Hares are leporids belonging to the genus *Lepus* and their young are called leverets. Normally a shy creature the hare changes its behaviour in Spring, when they can be seen in broad daylight chasing one another round meadows. This appears to be competition between males to attain dominance in order to gain access to breeding females. During this spring frenzy, hares can be seen "boxing"; one hare striking another with its paws. Usually this is a female hitting a male, either to show that she is not yet ready to mate, or as a test of his determination! It is this behaviour that led to the saying, "Mad as a March Hare" and can be seen (even around Pett) between February and September.

As far back as 1546, in John Heywood's collection of proverbs, the mad March hare is mentioned. And, of course, he (the hare) is one of the main characters in the tea party scene from Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*. At one point Alice states; "The March Hare will be much the most interesting, and perhaps as this is May it won't be raving mad – at least not so mad as it was in March."

There have been quite a lot of famous fictional hares. In African folk tales the hare is a trickster. Some of the stories about the hare were retold among African slaves in America, and are now the basis of the Brer Rabbit stories. Then, the following list shows a sample of the many well known hares: Peppy Hare, from the Star Fox series of video games; Jack Hare, central character in Kit Williams' treasure hunt book *Masquerade*; Jazz Jackrabbit; Harley Hare from Pipkins; Hare Jordan, Bugs Bunny alter-ego; the hare in the fable *The Tortoise and the Hare* and the hare from *Monster Rancher*. There are lots more which you can add to the list and I'm sure new authors will find new stories about the hare to enthral us over the years.

Many cultures, including the Indian and Japanese, see the hare in the pattern of dark patches in the moon. Have a look at the next bright full moon and I'm sure you will be able to make out the shape of the happy hare. There is also some evidence to suggest that there was some sort of taboo regarding hares in the Proto-Indo-European culture; this is especially notable due to the likelihood that the common word for hare, 'kasos', which literally means "the grey one", was a euphemism for a previous and now lost word for hare.

Whatever your feelings are about the hare, look out for one in the fields around Pett as you enjoy your walks. I saw several in a field off Pannel Lane and they really are a sight for sore eyes and didn't look mad at all – they were just doing what hares do!

John Taylor

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PARISH DEMOCRACY NEEDS YOU

This coming May there will be an opportunity for you to become one of our local Parish Councillors and contribute to the community and make a real difference in getting things done locally. It is often said, "What is the point? The Parish Council has no real powers and Rother District Council never takes any notice!"

I have to disagree. The Council is the first point of contact for aspiring community projects and in many cases helps get schemes underway by helping with funding and liaison with Rother. Our Parish Council does have influence in planning application matters via a formal consultative process and of course, provides the appropriate forum for local debates and recommendations.

Still wondering why you should consider becoming involved? Well there will be a number of important issues to be decided in 2007, amongst which will be the funding of the recreational facilities in Pett, possible affordable housing proposals in the Parish, the recycling of rubbish plus of course, the continual problems associated with speeding traffic. These and many other events including those for the younger members of the Parish will need local input by local people who care about the facilities of our village and Pett Level.

If you wish to know more why not contact either Denise Jordan our Clerk (814187), one of the current Councillors listed on the back page of this magazine, Rother District Council (787878) or the Association for Local Councils on 01273 476342. All these folks will give good advice, explain the commitment expected and in the case of Rother and the Association, provide you with the appropriate registration documents.

Cllr. Chris Saint, Pett Parish Council

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On some Swanson frozen dinners –
"Serving suggestion: Defrost."
(but, it's just a suggestion.)

NATURE NOTES

The sheep were lying close together in a group around Chaly the Exmoor pony. They were all looking up at her, and she was nodding her head for all the world as though she were talking to them. The scene put me in mind of one of those Biblical depictions of a Prophet preaching in the wilderness.

It has been known for some time that there are wild boar in the area. One was seen in Butchers Lane, and another on the verge of the A259 at Buckwood School. Now a friend who is an experienced naturalist tells me that he found signs of a small herd of boar at Icklesham. They are a native British mammal and will no doubt breed quite happily here; the piglets are gorgeous, striped like humbugs. The adults are huge, and their rooting habits are very destructive of pastureland, which will not endear them to farmers or graziers.

The same friend also saw a Goshawk at Icklesham. They are similar in colouring to Sparrowhawks, but are much bigger and heavier, with noticeable white feathers at the base of the tail. Their prey includes pigeons and young rabbits, so they may be considered useful by farmers and gardeners.

Many wild plants have been in flower right through December - you will probably have noticed the periwinkles along the hedges. In spite of the unseasonable weather my witchhazel has come into flower dead on time on Christmas Day.

It's much easier to spot nests in winter. I have just found one in a clematis alpine just a few feet from the gate which I used every day last summer.

Avni Thurley

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Mitch Stevens Sat 24th Mar @ 8pm

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PETT GARDENING CLUB MEETING 13TH FEBRUARY 2007

The Medical Herbalist Jackie Saul- Hunt, was our speaker at this our second meeting of the year. She has visited us once before and we were delighted to welcome her again. So often the 'weeds' we pull up in our gardens can be used to eat or to cook to enliven your favourite recipes. Some can be used together with a 'base' cream to make soothing ointments and aids in treating skin complaints as far reaching as sunburn to psoriasis. Several members were seen to be making notes! Often the herb 'remedies' for want of a better word, can treat a problem and avoid the use of chemical treatments and medications. We all had a thoroughly informative and most enjoyable evening.

Next month our meeting will be Tuesday the 13th March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and the first few minutes will be taken up with the A. G. M. followed swiftly by a talk given by our only 'Life Member' Mr. Arthur Hollman. He will talk about 'A Garden on Chick Hill' with slides. We shall also have more information on our trips to Hole Park and Pashley Manor and some great news about the planned visit to Great Park farm where they have extended their wonderful shop to include a specialist cheese counter. So not only plants and fruit and vegetables to buy but now a delicatessen to browse and sample

Membership payments will be due in March and we shall each have a membership card which will enable us to purchase gardening requisites, plants etc.. at a 10% discount in certain Garden Centres nearby.

We look forward to seeing you all in March.

P W B 14 02 2007

PETT BOWLS CLUB



Pett Bowls Club will commence its 2007 season with an open day on Saturday 21st. April, commencing at 10.00am.

If you are interested in playing bowls, experienced or not, why not come along. All you will need to bring with you is a flat sole pair of shoes and enthusiasm to play the game. Coaching will be available to all beginners.

In addition from playing bowls the club has a very active social agenda. If you do not wish to play bowls, then you can become a social member.

Alan Haselup

DANCE / EXERCISE CLASS FOR BEGINNERS

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LETTER PAGE



Rectory Cottage

Dear Editor,

May I use your columns to say a few words of comfort to Louise Page?

The sycamores in the Stamco ground have been there for many years and have been coppiced several times. I can remember my friend Sue hopping over the fence to deal with them. Sue has been dead for ten years, and for two or three years before that she was far too ill to hop over fences.

The new shoots which appear after coppicing do indeed look like saplings, but are in fact firmly attached to the roots, which must be huge by now and would require seriously big machinery to get them out of the ground. Seeing coppiced trees for the first time is somewhat worrying as the stools (stumps) look dead, but they will regenerate the following spring. Coppicing is actually one of the most wildlife-friendly forms of tree management.

This is not in any way to condone trespass or "criminal damage", but I feel sure the person(s) concerned thought they were doing us all a favour as sycamores shed their seeds widely and come up like cress in every nook and cranny. Most gardeners put them in the same category as ground elder, bindweed and horsetail.

However, everyone is entitled to their own opinion, and if you really want to grow sycamores I feel sure anyone with a tree will be only too happy to give you a handful of the attractive winged seeds, or even let you pull up some of the hundreds of tiny seedlings which will otherwise get their heads cut off when the lawn is mown. I speak with feeling, as there was a very big sycamore in the garden when I bought my cottage 32 years ago. At the time I could not afford to have it removed, and I battled with its offspring each year until the 1987 hurricane sent it off to the great arboretum in the sky. Even then it was several years before the seeds stopped germinating, and the roots were poisoned three times before they finally stopped suckering.

Sycamores have little wildlife value compared with oaks and hawthorns, both of which grow in the Stamco ground, and both of which were left untouched

when the sycamores were coppiced. Like the sycamores, it would not be very realistic to think of transplanting them, but you could save some of the acorns and haws, and grow some saplings to offer to the Wetland Trust. Good luck!

Avril Thurley

The Editor,

The magazine is excellent – better every month! Well done everyone. With all good wishes and love from your former resident (now 91).

Peggy Jones

Ed: Thank you very much for taking the time to write to us Peggy. We are delighted that you enjoy the magazine so much.

THE PARISH OF PETT CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

Every six years all parishes in England are required to prepare a completely new Church Electoral Roll. It so happens that this has to be done in 2007. This is important, as all members of the Church of England who wish to be included on this Electoral Roll must complete a new-signed application form.

The Roll this year is being prepared during March and application forms are available from John and Ray Taylor, Pett Church electoral roll officers. If you would like a form please contact us at Paxstead, Pett Road, Pett, or on 01424 814674 and we would be pleased to let you have one. Application forms need to be completed by Saturday 31st March and the new Church Electoral Roll will be published on the Church (inside) notice board on Sunday 8th April.

Thank you for your help in preparing the new Church Electoral Roll.

John Taylor

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WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

On Friday 2nd March 2007, over 3 million people will take part in a Day of Prayer that circles the globe from the time the sun rises over the island of Tonga until it sets off the coast of Samoa. The central act of worship will be a service using material prepared by Christian women in Paraguay, entitled "United under God's Tent".

This is always an exciting day. There will be services held in over 170 countries worldwide and in Britain alone there will be over 6000 services. These bring together women from every background and are interdenominational.

The women of the United Benefice of Fairlight, Guestling and Pett extend a warm welcome to all women throughout the Benefice, to join with us at St. Peter's Church, Fairlight, at 2.30 pm. Our guest speaker will be Hilary Malpass and tea and cakes will be served after the Service.

J. Streeter

CHURCH SERVICES - March 2007

Sun. 4 th Mar.	Parish Communion, 9.30am - St Mary & St Peter
Sun. 11 th Mar.	Holy Communion, 8am - St Nicholas, Pett Level Parish Communion, 9.30am - St Mary & St Peter
Sun. 18 th Mar.	MOTHERING SUNDAY - Joint Service, 10.45am - Methodist Church
Sun. 25 th Mar.	Holy Communion, 8am - St Nicholas, Pett Level Parish Communion, 9.30am - St Mary & St Peter

TABLE SALE - TABLE SALE - TABLE SALE

The Parish Church will be holding a "TABLE SALE" in the Village Hall from 12 noon to 4pm on Saturday 24th March. We hope to have about 15 or so tables selling good quality items including cakes, Holistic Therapies, confectionary, jig-saw puzzles, stationery, Delightful Baskets, Simply Delicious Hampers, and lots more! There will also be a Raffle, a Tombola stall and light refreshments.

Do come and enjoy a good afternoon browsing round some attractive tables, buying some of those birthday presents (that always seem a problem) - even purchasing some early Christmas presents! It will be a great place to pop in on a Saturday afternoon and meet your friends as they look round to see 'what's on offer'.

12 to 4pm - Saturday, 24th March - Pett Village Hall

J.T.

PETT VILLAGE HALL QUIZ.

Q: When is it?

A: Saturday 17th March

Q: Where is it?

A: Pett Village Hall

Q: What time is it?

A: 7.00pm for 7.30pm Start

Q: How many people in a team?

A: Up to 6 people in a team

Q: How much is it?

A: £2.00 per person

Q: Will there be food and drink?

A: Not on sale, but you can bring your own

Q: Who do I contact to book a team?

A: Ray or Jeanette 01424 814717

Or Phil at Butchers shop.



CONTACT: ADAM 07917668965 PETT

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PETT PARISH COUNCIL - 2005/2006

Councillors	Address	
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

Name	Telephone No.	Responsibility
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