

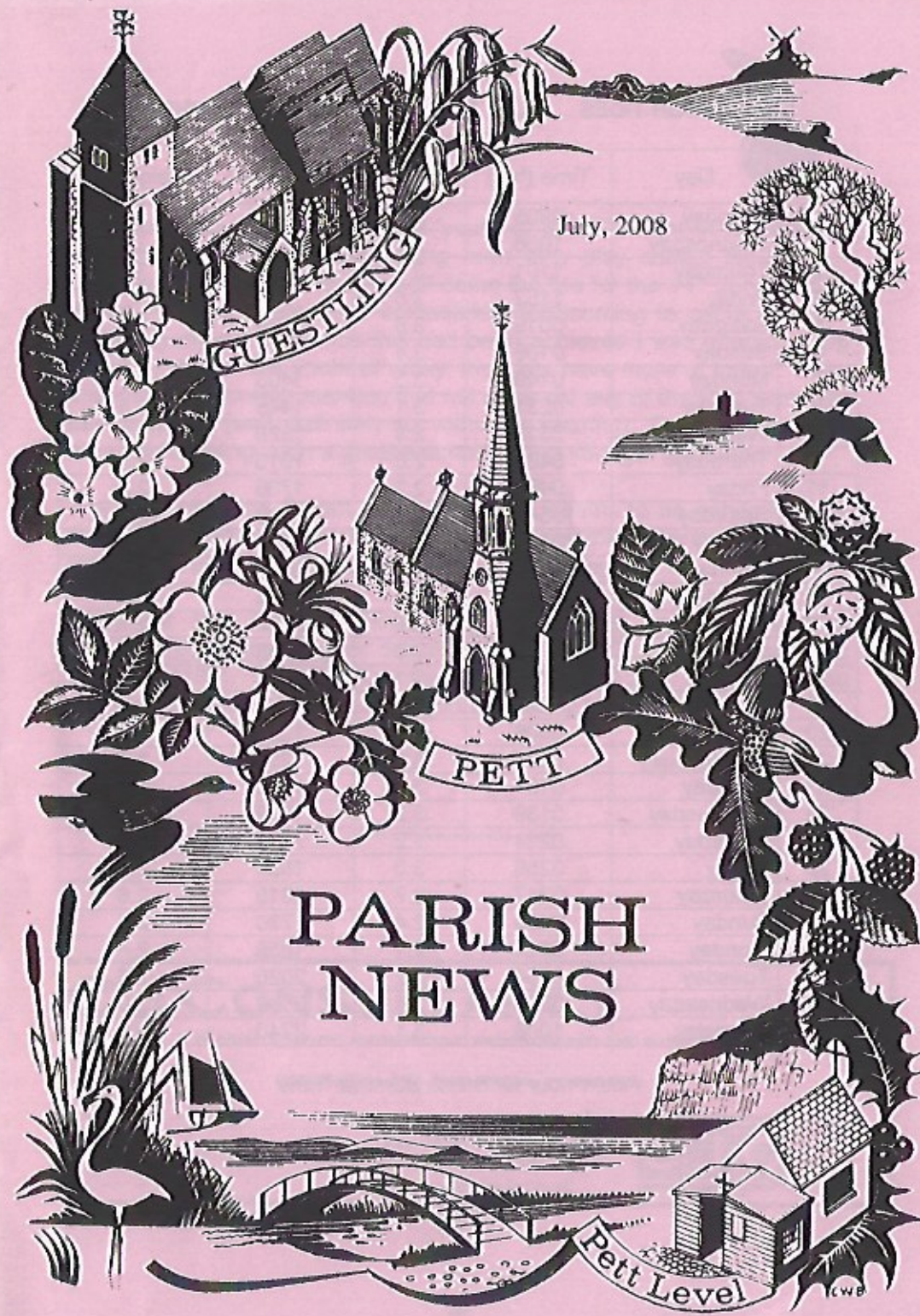
July, 2008

GUESTLING

PETT

# PARISH NEWS

Pett Level





# JULY HIGH TIDES ..... RYE HARBOUR APPROACHES

| Date | Day       | Time (hrs) | Height (m) | Time (hrs) | Height (m) |
|------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1    | Tuesday   | 0905       | 2.8        | 2131       | 3.2        |
| 2    | Wednesday | 1006       | 3.2        | 2233       | 3.3        |
| 3    | Thursday  | 1101       | 3.4        | 2329       | 3.6        |
| 4    | Friday    | 1152       | 3.6        | -          | -          |
| 5    | Saturday  | 0019       | 3.6        | 1238       | 3.7        |
| 6    | Sunday    | 0106       | 3.4        | 1321       | 3.7        |
| 7    | Monday    | 0149       | 3.3        | 1403       | 3.7        |
| 8    | Tuesday   | 0231       | 3.1        | 1445       | 3.4        |
| 9    | Wednesday | 0313       | 2.8        | 1529       | 3.2        |
| 10   | Thursday  | 0400       | 2.6        | 1615       | 2.8        |
| 11   | Friday    | 0450       | 2.2        | 1706       | 2.5        |
| 12   | Saturday  | 0549       | 2.0        | 1810       | 2.1        |
| 13   | Sunday    | 0700       | 1.9        | 1925       | 2.1        |
| 14   | Monday    | 0809       | 2.1        | 2036       | 2.2        |
| 15   | Tuesday   | 0910       | 2.4        | 2135       | 2.5        |
| 16   | Wednesday | 0959       | 2.6        | 2220       | 2.7        |
| 17   | Thursday  | 1040       | 3.0        | 2258       | 2.8        |
| 18   | Friday    | 1116       | 3.1        | 2333       | 3.0        |
| 19   | Saturday  | 1150       | 3.2        | -          | -          |
| 20   | Sunday    | 0006       | 3.1        | 1222       | 3.3        |
| 21   | Monday    | 0037       | 3.1        | 1253       | 3.4        |
| 22   | Tuesday   | 0107       | 3.2        | 1325       | 3.4        |
| 23   | Wednesday | 0139       | 3.2        | 1359       | 3.4        |
| 24   | Thursday  | 0214       | 3.2        | 1438       | 3.4        |
| 25   | Friday    | 0256       | 3.0        | 1524       | 3.2        |
| 26   | Saturday  | 0347       | 2.7        | 1619       | 2.8        |
| 27   | Sunday    | 0453       | 2.4        | 1730       | 2.5        |
| 28   | Monday    | 0624       | 2.1        | 1859       | 2.4        |
| 29   | Tuesday   | 0754       | 2.2        | 2026       | 2.6        |
| 30   | Wednesday | 0906       | 2.6        | 2139       | 3.0        |
| 31   | Thursday  | 1008       | 3.1        | 2240       | 3.2        |

Add 1 hour for British Summer Time

## EDITORIAL



With so much bad press for the 'youth of today' I want to say what a delight it was to meet the young men who play cricket for Pett. I somehow managed to find myself doing the tea for the 14<sup>th</sup> June match. When I arrived offers were immediately forthcoming to assist me with emptying my car and once this had been achieved I was offered a cup of tea. If this is 'the youth of today' then lets have more of them!! I feel it is important to also mention that not once did any of the Pett team use bad language (well, definitely not within my hearing). Congratulations to them all for being such a great example of the younger generation.

The content of the Parish News frequently seems to be either feast or famine with regard to the content. True to say that recently it has been more feast than famine and this month is no exception.

Copy for the August 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 15<sup>th</sup> July. Any copy you can get to me before that date would be greatly appreciated.

Denise Jordan (Ed)

\*\*\*\*\*

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## NEW BEACH CLUB

**Pett Level Road, Pett Level, East Sussex TN35 4EN**  
01424 812080

Membership for the New Beach Club is just  
£12.50 per person per calendar year  
Good Food and Drink at Good Prices

5<sup>th</sup> July 4 pm - 8 pm

The Hellcats

Forthcoming events

2<sup>nd</sup> August - 8pm onwards

'Pugwash'

(great band with a good Elvis routine)

*All are welcome - It's too good to miss!*



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## FLICKS in the VILLAGE. (Your local film club)

The award winning film **La Vie En Rose** will be screened on **3rd July** which, as recent biopics like *Ray* and *Walk The Line* have attested, the path to musical stardom is usually paved with rags before riches, and so it goes that Olivier Dahan's sizeable biopic of French singer Edith Piaf is not shy of a poor-girl-turned-diva plot. Piaf (which translates as 'sparrow') lived a colourful, hectic life and Dahan has created a film to reflect this, but his fractured portrait of the singer is centred by some glorious samples of her music and a sterling central performance from **Marion Cotillard**. The dialogue is in French, with English subtitles.

For our **August the 7th** programme we intend, subject to availability, to show the latest version of **St Trinians**.

Do not forget, all are welcome to enjoy an evening watching a film for as little as £4.00 per show with like-minded people in the local environment of Pett Village Hall. If you wish to know more about the Society, please email me on [chris@saintfamily.net](mailto:chris@saintfamily.net) or telephone on **813047**. Alternatively, you can pop into the Butchers Shop and grab an

application form. All films start at 7.30pm with refreshments served from 7.00pm.

Hope to see you on the 3rd July.

*Chris Saint (Chairman)*

## PETT LEVEL RESCUE BOAT FUND RAISING DAY held on Bank Holiday Sunday

The New Beach Club would like to thank Members, Members Families and Friends of the Rescue Boat who helped on the day and to all those generous businesses and individuals who donated plants, raffle prizes and fish for the filleting demonstration for making the fund raising day such a huge success. A cheque for £1,000 is to be presented to the Rescue Boat shortly. Well done everyone!

## FRIENDS OF PETT CHURCHES

Thanks to the people who helped, provided goods for the stalls and came to the Fete. We raised £650 for the upkeep of the Church. We are very grateful for your support.

*The Friends Committee  
(Jillian & Phyllis)*





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DAVID JARRETT

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pinch of salt..... a  
wedge of lime, and  
a shot of Tequila



## 1948 ~ DIAMOND JUBILEE FLOWER SHOW ~ 2008



Well this is it guys, the last reminder before the show. Don't forget to get your entry forms in by no later than 8pm Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at either:

5 Old Coastguard Cottages, Pett Level (Mrs R H Patten)

1 Rectory Park, Pett (Mrs P Barker)

Nedrabs, Pett Road (Mr R Barden)

These should be written clearly and accompanied with the entrance fee.

This year a new cup is being given for the best Sweet Peas in show and donated by Mrs Young in memory of 'Jimmy', both an avid grower and winner for many years of this lovely flower. A very fitting tribute ~ thank you.

Quite a few photographs have been sorted out for the memorabilia tent and also some very early schedules. These date from 1951 to 1977 and give quite a bit of social village history as to who was winning, judging and opening shows at that time, and where. These early schedules were sponsored by advertisers and I was intrigued to see which companies are still around and which have gone, even in the short time I have lived here.

The early shows were staged in the Beach Club (now the Smuggler) and on the field opposite and were known as the Pett and Fairlight

Flower Show, held in August, moving up to the Recreation ground in 1954. Advertisers included Two Sawyers Country Club; The Royal Oak Temperance Inn; Pett Garage and the White Hart Inn. We had The Market Stores on Pett Level, Sweatmans Stores and Barden & Sons, Builders, Decorators and Funeral Directors, to name just a few.

We do hope you all enjoy this year's special Diamond show and all the attractions that accompany it. There are all the old favourites of course like the **Raffle, Produce, Plants and Bowl for a Pig. Books, Puzzles, Coconut shy and Tombola** and some of the newer ones are **Pimms Bar, Birds of Prey** and the **BBQ**. For the Dads this year we are introducing a **Beer Tent** (best not visited before you take part in the Children's/parents Sports events ~ although .....!) The **Memorabilia** tent will be a must with a 'Guess Who' section and will your dog take a prize this year in the **Fun Dog Show**? For the children we have the **Bouncy Castle, Face Painting, Kiddies Korner** and a **Clown**. I am sure I have left a few out, but that's just a taster. (No I haven't been in the Pimms tent yet!)

Also, don't forget the **Cricket Club dance** in the marquee at the end of the day. Magic!

J.R.





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## 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.



## Pett Cricket Club Summer Dance

It's a special day on 26<sup>th</sup> July as the Diamond Jubilee Flower Show will be followed at 8pm by the Pett Cricket Club dance in the marquee on the Recreation Ground.

The Michael Hambridge disco will be playing all the good stuff from the last 40 years.

Enjoy the food and a licensed bar all for just £6 entry on the door.

Everyone in the area over the age of 15 years is welcome.

Put the event on your calendar now!  
Paul Stapley 07801 556223



## SCRAPBOOKING & CARD MAKING!

Are there any likeminded ladies in the village who would be interested in

scrapbooking/card making classes?



If so, please contact me and we can investigate the possibilities.

Jennifer Sherwin

Tel: 07854 039585

Email: [jennifershewin@btinternet.com](mailto:jennifershewin@btinternet.com)



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## NATURE NOTES

A fox cub poked his head out from under a bush, watching the big wide world with bright, inquisitive eyes. One of the tegs grazed her way towards him. Cautiously he came right out into the open, half crouching, unsure whether to approach this strange woolly creature or whether to run away. The teg ignored him completely and just kept coming. When she was only a few feet from him, the cub's nerve broke and he turned and scuttled back under the bush.

Later on the same round I saw a Little Owl perched on a tree stump. When he saw me he stretched his neck and turned his head in that quaint way which owls have, before flying off in an unhurried manner.

There are little families of swans, mallards and moorhens in the ditches, marsh frogs everywhere singing their love songs, and wild flowers all along the margins of the watercourses. Pett Level is indeed a magical place.

I was delighted to see a juvenile Nuthatch on the feeder, which obviously means that they have bred somewhere close by. I've also had a lot of pleasure watching the young Blue Tits learning to use the nut feeders.

In the space of a few weeks there have been three badgers killed on the same stretch of road near

Lunsford Farm. They are territorial, and young males are ejected from the sett to go and set up their territories elsewhere, but in this area they have reached saturation point.

Badgers have no natural predators, and because they are omnivores their numbers are not limited by the availability of their prey. Because there are no spare territories to be had, the young males are either killed by adult territory-holders, or run over on the roads. From the badgers' point of view there would be a lot less suffering if they could be humanely and selectively culled – a solution which would at present be illegal. The alternative, as with all species including humans which breed out of control, is likely to be disease epidemics or starvation or both.

I have been given a very interesting account of a cormorant which caught an eel and flew away with it, only to be dive-bombed by a heron and made to drop it. This behaviour is quite common with skuas and the larger gulls, but I have never seen a heron do it. Do let me know of any interesting or unusual sightings – I am always interested and if there is space I will put them in the Notes.

Avril Thurley

Go on the 30 day diet  
(I'm on it and so far I've lost 15 days!)



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## DO YOU KNOW ?

Do you know where Lunsford Farm gets its name? Actually the farm takes its name from William Lunsford, who in his will is described as a 'gentleman'. William was a man of substance, owning farms and land around Fairlight, Ore and Battle as well as Pett. He and his wife Eleanor acquired much of their land in the 1670s. In 1672 he bought eighteen acres of land in Pett, which included eight acres, called 'Le Stench'. Two year later he acquired a barn and sixty acres called Keales Farm, near Shellies Green. He bought this for £260 from John Back of Battle. In 1676 Lunsford bought a house with six acres in Fairlight called 'Smale Sports' from Elizabeth Winter of Hastings. In 1716 it was referred to as 'Sports Land'. In 1680 he was expanding again, buying a house and six pieces of land containing sixteen acres in Fairlight from Thomas and Priscilla Odiarne of Beckley for £82.

Though William and Eleanor prospered they suffered frequent deaths of their children. In 1677 they lost their eighteen-month-old daughter, Judith. In 1682 they gave the same name to another girl, but she died when she was only four. Another daughter Mary, born in 1674, died at the age of twelve. Their eldest son, Herbert, died in 1675, only seventeen and the younger son – another William – died in 1707. Their youngest

daughter Elizabeth survived, but little is known about her.

The name Lunsford was once common in this part of Sussex. In 1535 a John Lunsford owned 'Wykham' Farm and left money in his will to repair the road between 'panell brigge and Wykham Roke' in addition to sums of money for the poor people of 'Geslynge, Pett and Farleygh' (*Fairlight*). William Lunsford is thought to have been a kinsman of Colonel Thomas Lunsford, who fought on the Royalist side in the Civil War and was on trial in 1637 for shooting his relative, Sir Nicholas Pelham.

The Lunsford's lived on the farm in Pett Road, but William died when he was only middle aged in 1691. His wife Eleanor kept the farm going and lived on until 1736, well into her nineties – an extraordinary age for that time. In 1724 it is known that she was paying three shillings Land Tax on some of the land around the farm. It is quite likely that Elizabeth married because Eleanor's granddaughter, Mary Marten and her husband Thomas took on the farm after the Lunsfords. After Eleanor died there were no more Lunsfords in Pett; now few have the name in East Sussex at all. William, Eleanor and five of their six children are buried in the churchyard of St. Mary & St. Peter, Pett.



The farm has changed hands several times since then and has changed in size as fields have been bought and sold over the years. In 1851 it was being farmed by the Skinners and in 1888 the Dunlop family became tenants. Andrew Dunlop of Church Farm, Hendon (in Middlesex) took on the lease for his son Robert. Robert died in 1894 and his younger brother Thomas took over the tenancy. Thomas bought the farm in 1917 when the Fairlight Hall Estate was sold, and when he died in 1958, his son Andy took over. The Dunlops continue to farm the land with Andrew, Andy's son carrying on the long tradition begun by William Lunsford.

It would be very interesting to know if William Lunsford actually did farm the land in Pett. It is quite likely that he hired others to carry out the work as he certainly spent much time dealing with his other properties. In his will, Herbert was to inherit the house and farm at Pett, William was to receive land in Battle and Ore and the house and farm at Fairlight - but, sadly neither of them lived to enjoy their inheritance. Elizabeth, on the other hand did inherit not merely a house and other buildings in Guestling, but the then large sum of £500 at the age of twenty-one, or on her marriage should that come earlier. We do not know which came first!

We do know that while farming continues in Pett, the name Lunsford will be well known to all the local inhabitants.

John Taylor

## PARISH DIARY

You can have your regular events or special occasions listed in the Parish Diary free, but only if you tell us about them.

Avril Thurley, Rectory Cottage

### SELF DEFENCE COURSE

Due to Holidays, the August 24<sup>th</sup> lesson will not take place. The next lesson after the July 27<sup>th</sup> lesson will be on the 21<sup>st</sup> September at the normal time of 2pm - 5pm.

Graham Bentley

### BARN DANCE

Dance to the Catsfield Steamers on 26th July at Pickham Farm Watermill Lane 7.30pm.

Tickets:  
£8 adults  
£5 children  
£22 family



includes  
ploughmans  
supper and there is a bar.

**Please** book your tickets early as I need to know how many are coming. **Call Tim on 813620.**

Also if there is anyone out there who feels they could help a little by selling tickets please give me a call. It gets harder each year for me to find enough time to put this very popular event on.

## WITH THE PRICE OF PETROL THE WAY IT IS THIS ISN'T FAR FROM THE TRUTH !?

A thief in Paris planned to steal some paintings from the Louvre.

After careful planning, he got past security, stole the paintings, and made it safely to his van.

However, he was captured by the police only two blocks away when his van ran out of gas.

When asked how he could mastermind such a crime and then make such an obvious error, he replied,

"Monsieur, that is the reason I stole the paintings."

"I had no *Monet* to buy *Degas* to make the *Van Gogh*."

See if you have *De Gaulle* to send this on to someone else. I sent it to you because I figured I had nothing *Toulouse*.

J.T.

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The purpose of Neighbourhood Watch is to cut crime and the opportunity for crime and anti-social behaviour. Provide reassurance to local residents and reduce the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. To encourage neighbourliness and closer communities and improve the quality of life for local residents and tenants. If you would be interested in acting as a Street or Area Co-ordinator, please contact sergeant John Berry on 08456070999 ext. 66226 or e-mail him at [john.berry@sussex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:john.berry@sussex.pnn.police.uk) or speak to the local Police Community Support Officer, Sharon Eldridge.



### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Many thanks indeed to everyone who helped to make Christian Aid Week 2008 our best-ever in Pett. When we added together all the donations from the Coffee Morning, church service and envelope collection, it was possible to send off the magnificent sum of £1,780.68 to Christian Aid - and quite a large number of the envelope donations were gift aided, which will add still more to their value. I always knew that Pett was a "caring" village, and once more I've seen the proof! Thank you again for showing that, like Christian Aid, "We believe in life before death", and have been able to give a record helping hand to people in poorer countries.

Ray Taylor

### FLEAS, WASPS, BEES, RATS, MICE, MOLES, PIGEONS

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improve muscle tone in a relaxed and fun way?



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ensure that you always have the same cleaning team, so there's nothing at all for you to worry about.

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The High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is a nationally important landscape. It was designated by Government in 1983 to conserve and enhance its historic character of rolling hills draped with small irregular fields, abundant woods and hedges, scattered farmsteads and sunken lanes.

The High Weald covers parts of 4 counties - East Sussex, West Sussex, Kent and Surrey. With an area of 570 square miles (1,457 sq km) it is the 4th largest AONB in the UK. It is also the largest AONB in South East England.

The story of the High Weald's landscape is inseparably tied to the people who lived in it. The future conservation and evolution of this landscape is dependent upon safeguarding the traditional interactions between people and nature.

## The Story of the High Weald's Woodland

*Seventy percent of the woodland in your parish is probably 'ancient'!*

Trees and woodland cover over one third of this distinctive landscape - with its pattern of steep, wooded ravines (called gills), small woods and copses separating the fields.

The woods of the High Weald were relatively slow to be cleared because they were a valued human resource, yielding wood for timber and fuel plus acorns and beech mast for animal food (particularly pigs). Although heavily exploited, High Weald woods were rarely destroyed. While the surrounding lands (and indeed much of England) were being permanently settled and farmed, the High Weald remained relatively uncultivated: by Domesday (1086) it was the most densely wooded area remaining in England.

Even when agricultural clearance did begin in the High Weald, much of the woodland was retained. Field boundaries were formed by leaving strips of the original woodland between the fields. The many woods on steep-sided gills would not have yielded useful agricultural land anyway. The remaining woodland continued to provide valuable resources, particularly for the iron industry.

Much of today's High Weald woodland has probably never been cleared. Today, over 70% of the High Weald's woodland is classed as ancient - having existed continuously since at least 1600AD. (Nationally, only about 19% of woodland is ancient.)

Having existed for hundreds of years, ancient woodlands are very important habitats for certain woodland plants that can only colonise very slowly. Ancient woodlands also contain a wealth of archaeological features - for example the remains of iron workings.

High Weald woodlands were managed for centuries by skilled workers, using a rotational coppice system. This ensured that a renewable supply of wood was always available - especially for fuel and building materials.

Woodlands need to be worked: without management, they become derelict and wildlife species that depend upon working woodland as a habitat suffer. Coppice woodland, in particular, is an important habitat because many British flowering plants, mammals and insects thrive under this rotational system - often the rarer species are now only found in working coppice.

Text provided by the High Weald AONB Joint Advisory Committee's staff Unit. This is a specialist team that advises on the management of the AONB; furthers understanding of its special qualities and enables action to conserve it.

To find out more, please visit [www.highweald.org](http://www.highweald.org)



# PARISH DIARY – JULY 2008

|                           |                                   |             |          |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup>   | Bowls v Staplecross<br>NSPCC      | RG          | 2pm      |
| Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Badminton                         | VH          | 10am     |
|                           | Mobile Library                    | Church      | 10.20 am |
|                           |                                   | Chick Hill  | 11.10 am |
|                           |                                   | Smuggler    | 11.45 am |
|                           | Bowls v Tenterden                 | RG          | 2.30pm   |
|                           | Puppy Training Class              | VH          | 1 pm     |
|                           | Advanced Dog Training             | VH          | 2 pm     |
| Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Dance & Exercise Class            | VH          | 9.30am   |
|                           | Flicks in the Village             | VH          | 7.30 pm  |
| Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>    | Latin American & Ballroom Dancing | VH          | 2 pm     |
| Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Cricket v Ditchling               | RG          | 2pm      |
|                           | Bowls v Iden                      | RG          | 2.30pm   |
| Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>    | Cricket v Icklesham               | RG          | 2.30pm   |
|                           | Bowls Mermaid Fling               | RG          |          |
| Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>    | Flowerpots toddler Group          | VH          | 9.30 am  |
|                           | Quiz Night                        | Royal Oak   | 8.30pm   |
| Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>   | Garden Club<br>Special evening!   | See article |          |
| Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> | Puppy Training Class              | VH          | 1 pm     |
|                           | Advanced Dog Training             | VH          | 2 pm     |
| Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> | Dance & Exercise Class            | VH          | 9.30am   |
| Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>   | Latin American & Ballroom Dancing | VH          | 2 pm     |
|                           | Railway Club                      | VH          | 7.30pm   |
| Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> | Cricket v Lewes<br>St.Michael's   | RG          | 2pm      |
|                           | Bowls Spoon Match & Barbecue      | RG          | 2.30pm   |
| Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>   | PLPT Barbecue                     | Marigold    | 12 noon  |
|                           | Cricket v Hastings Wanderers      | RG          | 2.30pm   |
|                           | Bowls v Peasmarsh                 | RG          | 2.30pm   |

|                            |                                     |            |            |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>    | Flowerpots toddler Group            | VH         | 9.30am     |
|                            | Quiz Night                          | Royal Oak  | 8.30pm     |
| Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>   | Parish Council                      | VH         | 7.30pm     |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> | Badminton                           | VH         | 10am       |
|                            | Mobile Library                      | Church     | 10.20 am   |
|                            |                                     | Chick Hill | 11.10 am   |
|                            |                                     | Smuggler   | 11.45 am   |
|                            | Bowls v Alexandra                   | RG         | 2.30pm     |
|                            | Puppy Training Class                | VH         | 1 pm       |
|                            | Advanced Dog Training               | VH         | 2 pm       |
| Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>  | Dance & Exercise Class              | VH         | 9.30am     |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>    | Latin American & Ballroom Dancing   | VH         | 2 pm       |
|                            | Women's Institute                   | VH         | 2.30pm     |
| Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>  | Cricket v Tunbridge Wells Borderers | RG         | 2pm        |
|                            | Bowls v Stone Cross                 | RG         | 2.30pm     |
| Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>    | Quiz Night                          | Royal Oak  | 8.30pm     |
| Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> | <b>FLOWER SHOW ENTRIES CLOSE</b>    |            |            |
|                            | Puppy Training Class                | VH         | 1 pm       |
|                            | Advanced Dog Training               | VH         | 2 pm       |
| Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>  | Dance & Exercise Class              | VH         | 9.30am     |
| Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>    | Latin American & Ballroom Dancing   | VH         | 2 pm       |
| Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup>  | <b>FLOWER SHOW</b>                  | <b>RG</b>  | <b>2PM</b> |
|                            | Cricket Club Dane                   | RG         | 8pm        |
| Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>    | Self Defence Course                 | VH         | 2pm        |
| Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>    | Quiz Night                          | Royal Oak  | 8.30pm     |
| Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> | Mobile Library                      | Church     | 10.20 am   |
|                            |                                     | Chick Hill | 11.10 am   |
|                            |                                     | Smuggler   | 11.45 am   |
|                            | Bowls v Rye                         | RG         | 2.30pm     |
|                            | Puppy Training Class                | VH         | 1 pm       |
|                            | Advanced Dog Training               | VH         | 2 pm       |



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## A 'Saucy' Sparrow Story:

My wife and I were happily eating our breakfast cereal one Sunday morning, when we were presented with a truly amazing display by two sparrows. For many minutes we stared in awe and wonder as the two little creatures showed the world what nature is all about.....

Mrs Sparrow flew up to the top of the garden fence and began to preen her feathers. The sun was shining, the garden birds were singing – Spring had truly sprung and summer was on the way. "Where's he got to?" she thought. Just at that moment Mr Sparrow flew up and landed alongside her. "You're late", said Mrs Sparrow, "Just as I was feeling like a little bit of 'rumpy-bumpy' on this fine and sunny morning," she added turning her back on her mate. "Always willing to oblige," said Mr S, fluffing out his feathers and hopping about like a demented frog. Mr Sparrow then jumped on his wife's back and the fun began. It didn't take long, just a few seconds – and then he flew down to the top of the fence.

We thought the job was done and that the matrimonial pair would fly happily away. But no, the job might have been done but was by no means finished. Mr S now did a little dance, fluffed out his feathers again, rubbed his beak on the fence top and made a three hundred and sixty degree turn. Thinking to himself, "That wasn't at all bad!" he

then repeated the performance, jumping onto his wife's back and having another go. She seemed to have not a care in the world and just stood there while her mate did his stuff. Once again, after a very few seconds, he jumped back down to the fence top and performed his pantomime dance. Fluff feathers, rub beak and pirouette – all the while Mrs Sparrow standing there looking as if she was trying to disown him. No such luck because once again Mr S did the dirty deed and once again performed his little dance routine.

One would think that Mr S would be getting a little tired after three such splendid engagements. Not a bit of it. The loving act between the two lovebirds was repeated at least ten times, providing us with a front row seat, and they were not in the least embarrassed. The two of them only stopped when I tried to leave the breakfast table to get my camera to record this tremendous feat.

Talk about sex on television: this was sex available for all to see at 9 in the morning. You can forget all about the watershed at 9pm: many of our garden friends may be 'at it' even as we speak and you don't even have to leave the breakfast table to get a front seat to some really good entertainment.

J.T.



## LETTER PAGE

Dear Editor,

### Barking Dogs

Following on from the article on bonfires in the previous News, perhaps there should be a regular slot to raise things that cause annoyance.

I would guess the population of dogs around the recreation ground end of Pett must be at least 20 and most of them take their turn in barking during the day.

The owners are presumably out at work and do not realize how noisy it is. Please can these animals be given a long walk in the mornings so they sleep a bit more?

Name and address supplied  
-----

Dear Editor

### CLIFF END CONFIDENTIAL

One of the joys of living at Pett Level, for the locals and visitors, is walking along the sea wall and onto the wonderful beach under the cliffs.

Now that the footpath is no longer, other strange things have happened.

Firstly, some months ago the footpath, originally installed by the Environment Agency presumably to enable emergency services access as far as possible along the beach under the cliffs, was covered by shingle moved from below the high water mark.

Secondly, a large amount of rock has been removed from the beach in the cove and stockpiled just behind the sea wall and covered up.

Why?

I was always under the impression that the removal of shingle and rock from the beach was illegal but I guess the legal eagles that own the properties in this area know better.

It is a shame people who only spend a limited amount of time here don't want others to share our lovely shoreline.

The other curse of Pett Level (and a lot of other places) is the arrogant and selfish attitude of a few dog owners (some local I am afraid) who let their animals foul the sea wall and beach despite the signs and dog bins.

All the new sea defences have now been added and look as though they have been here forever, let us hope they do their job and keep this lovely area safe for a while longer yet.

*Brian Roberts*

### CHURCH SERVICES:

Sun. 6<sup>th</sup> July Parish Communion – 9.30am. St Mary & St Peter  
Sun. 13<sup>th</sup> July **SEA SUNDAY** – Joint service with the Methodists – 10.30am on the beach  
Sun. 20<sup>th</sup> July Holy Communion – 8.00am, St Nicholas  
Sun. 27<sup>th</sup> July Parish Communion – 9.30am. St Mary & St Peter

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## PETT W.I. INVITATION



Everyone who is interested is invited to the Village Hall to an exhibition of the diverse range of crafts that are made by the members.

What better way to learn a bit more about the lovely ladies who currently are the Pett W.I., what takes place in the meetings, the trips out, the speakers and who makes the best cakes! Maybe even consider becoming a member yourself.

It's well worth a visit on **FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY - 3pm at the Village Hall** where a really warm welcome, tea and biscuits will await you.

The Pett W.I. meets every third Friday in the month. For more information contact Mrs Akehurst on 813215

**DIARIZE THE DATE RIGHT NOW**

*HAPPY 80<sup>TH</sup>  
BIRTHDAY  
BETTY*

*21<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2008*



## VILLAGE MARKET

It is proposed to hold a village market on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July from 10.30 to 12.30 on the green outside The Royal Oak.

The Royal Oak will be open for tea and coffee from 10.30.

The idea is for local people to have the opportunity to buy and sell garden and kitchen produce (no tat!) either for themselves or to raise funds for village organisations.

The cost of a pitch is £2 (bring your own table). This money will go to a village cause.

This could become a weekly social occasion as well as a chance to buy and sell, but will need your support to make it a success.

Please contact Jasmine at The Oak (812525) or David Dunlop (813018) for further details.

A ..... Surgeon was  
..... to operate  
because there was .....

(7 letters in the same order)







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### THE GARDENING CLUB MEETING JUNE 2008

Our meeting this month was in the form of a visit to Merriments Nursery and Garden. Most of us had been to the Garden centre before to buy plants etc. but I don't think any of us had visited their "Show" garden which has been cultivated from two fields which were adjoining Merriments land.

The gardens are spread over 4 acres and there are two full time gardeners and two part time helpers. Sally who took us round has been cultivating the garden for 13 years, and it really is a stunningly beautiful garden and has almost reached full maturity. It has been featured on BBC's Gardeners world, and most major gardening magazines in England, Europe and North America.

The mature trees and shrubs and the deep sweeping borders give the feeling of being the garden belonging to a large mansion or castle. There are borders planted with hot colours, cool colours, some with a tapestry of green. We spent a wonderful hour and a half wandering around admiring the planting and enjoying the wildlife, there are two ponds alive with fish, dragon and damselflies, and at the bottom of the garden is a 'hide' where we could sit and watch the birds coming to feed on nuts and prepared bird food.

A truly wonderful garden and such a joy to have the Head Gardener

with us to explain the planting schemes and to answer all those questions that you always have when browsing in a garden. There was something for everyone, even an ornamental vegetable garden with a rhyll and fountain and trailing tomatoes in a Grecian urn!

After the tour we all browsed around the plants for sale and found the tea shop, and sat under parasols on the patio drinking most welcome cups of tea and munching toasted tea cakes and wonderful pecan pie!

We all had a most enjoyable afternoon, and if Merriments garden is one you have not seen, then I urge you to take an afternoon and go and have a look, you will be delighted that you did.

The next meeting of the Gardening Club is on Tuesday 8th July, and members already know we will gather at the Village Hall at 7pm. to make our way on foot to the garden we are visiting for the evening. There will be a glass of wine or a fruit punch and a few nibbles when we get there -- don't be late!

PWB 11 6 08

Lead me not into  
temptation, I can find it  
myself!



## THE FLOWER SHOW

By C. Keith Cowper

(Written some few years ago, but things are still the same)

Early dawn, six in the morn  
As the sun peeps over the hill,  
Grass wet with dew, glistens anew  
O'er the mist in the marsh, white and still.  
As the wild life awakes, a ladybird takes  
A drink from a pearled drop of dew  
Then it crawls up aloft where a green-fly is scoffed,  
They're the gardener's friend, it's quite true.  
The cricket field's clean, the pitch is quite green  
And the marquees have all been erected  
For its flower show day, all the flags bright and gay  
For a very large crowd is expected  
Inside the marquee, one for veg, one for teas  
They've wrestled with trestles galore  
The tables are there, looking all white and bare  
Paper pinned with thumb tacks by the score.

So we wait for the creak of the gate  
As exhibits begin to arrive,  
For with care they've been grown, to stand there alone  
Green and proud and alive.  
There'll be pot plants, onion sets, and eggs from Aunt Nett's  
Runner beans, artichokes and potatoes  
And beetroot that bleeds, peas, carrots and swedes  
Red, green and yellow tomatoes  
A space they've reserved for cakes and preserves  
And sponge cakes and biscuits and bread  
For the kids there's a part for wild flowers and art  
And arrangements for flowers, live and dead  
So when all is set out, they all hang about  
While the judges decide on the winners  
When the marking is done and they find out who's won  
They go home and argue through dinners.

At two there's a hustle as folks start to bustle  
For the public's begun to arrive  
Cars pour through the gate at a very fast rate  
With bright colours the field is alive  
And at dead on half two, there's a hullabaloo  
As the celebrity steps up to the mike  
For the opening speech they've asked Mrs Leach  
And she's come all the way on her bike!  
There's a clap and bouquet, then they all rush away  
To find out who's won the prizes  
The excitement's intense as they crowd in the tents,  
All ages, all shapes and all sizes.  
For the young girls and beaux, there are stalls and sideshows  
To claim all their cash and attention  
Then with arms full of veg, they jump o'er the hedge  
What to do - one dare not even mention!

Quite soon after tea, they meet in the marquee  
And the awaited prize-giving begins.  
Aunt Lydia's won with her Chelsea bun  
And Mrs Webb's cake always wins.  
And grandma's brown eggs and Betty Cooke's legs  
Are all very popular winners.

Then up goes a shout as two dogs are chased out  
Sausage rolls in their mouths, the old sinners!  
In the west the sun sinks, folks go off for their drinks  
There's a smell of crushed grass in the air.  
The Flower show's done, all the prizes are won  
And the winners,? they're winners, so there!  
Then from under a leaf, there's a sigh of relief  
"At last they've all gone away"

Then we hear these few words from two old ladybirds  
"There's been no b\*\*\*\*\* peace here all day!"

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player to qualify for this position.  
Please contact Brian on 812011  
if you are interested in helping  
the Tennis Club in this role.

### THANK YOU

To the Pett Church  
flower ladies who did  
the most fantastic  
displays for our wedding  
on the 31st May 2008.



They were stunning and  
everyone commented on how  
beautiful they were. We cannot  
say how much we appreciated  
the time and effort the ladies  
spent on them. A big thank you  
to Pauline Barker who took the

extra time to make  
tiny roses out of the  
spare bridesmaid  
material, they were  
wonderful and will be  
in our wedding box



for years to come. Pauline also  
found roses to match the exact  
colour of the bridesmaid dresses  
and they looked amazing. The



Church looked  
beautiful inside  
and the bay trees  
placed outside were  
brilliant finishing

touches. We cannot recommend  
these wonderful ladies enough,  
and should anyone be thinking  
of getting married then Pett  
Church should definitely be an  
option. We were surprised to  
hear that it is not used for  
weddings very often. It was a  
wonderful service by Rev.  
Bernard Crosby and Pett church  
choir were brilliant. It was a day  
that all our family  
and friends will  
remember forever.



Thank you again to  
everyone involved for helping to  
make our day so special.

*Steve and Sally Williams.*

I know I'm in my own little world,  
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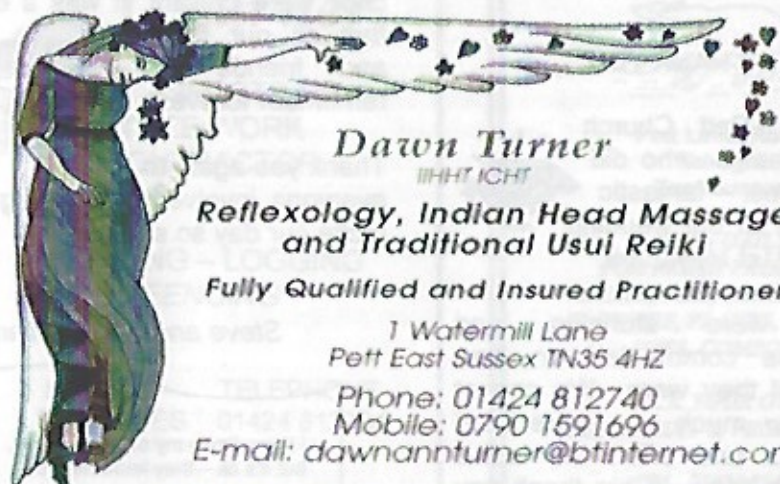
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Please contact  
Mrs Angela Hawksley  
on 01424 426287/437081  
for more information

## 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             |

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR VARIOUS ACTIVITIES IN THE VILLAGE

| Activity/Society/Club etc.               | Contact Name          | Telephone Number        |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Dance & Exercise Class                   | Robin Hutt            | 813182                  |
| Flicks Film Society                      | Chris Saint           | 813047                  |
| Latin American & Ballroom Dancing        | Janet Rawlings        | 813540                  |
| Bowls Club                               | Alan Haselup          | Awaiting contact number |
| Self Defence Course                      | Graham Bentley        | 07914 047318            |
| Badminton Club                           | Cathy Norris          | 812129                  |
| Puppy Training Class                     | Sue Moore             | 421373                  |
| Railway Club                             | Awaiting contact name | Awaiting contact number |
| Naturalist Society                       | John Taylor           | 814674                  |
| Flowerpots Toddler Group                 | Jenny Mills           | 812172                  |
| Gardening Club                           | Pauline Barker        | 812872                  |
| Womens Institute                         | Mrs Akehurst          | 813215                  |
| Tennis Club                              | Brian                 | 812011                  |
| Cricket Club                             | Andrew Dunlop         | 813368                  |
| Friends of Pett Level Preservation Trust | Rosemary Moon         | 812246                  |
| Short Mat Bowls                          | Awaiting contact name | Awaiting contact number |
| Yoga                                     | Christine Jagger      | 812671                  |

If we have not included your Club/Society etc. please let us know together with contact name and telephone number.



## **PETT PARISH COUNCIL – 2007/2008**

| <b>Councillors</b>                  | <b>Address</b>   | <b>Telephone No.</b> |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Cllr. Andrew Dunlop (Chairman)      | 1 Lunsford Farm Cottage, Pett  | 813368               |
| Cllr. Jillian Green (Vice Chairman) | 'October', Pett Road, Pett   | 813841               |
| Cllr. Dr. Arthur Hollman            | Sea Bank, Chick Hill, Pett   | To be advised        |
| Cllr. Martin King                   | 1 New Coastguard Cottages,<br>Toot Rock, Pett Level  | 814078               |
| Cllr. Brian Roberts                 | 2 Coastguard Cottages, , Pett Level<br>Road, Pett Level  | 812163               |
| Cllr. Paul Stapley                  | Bower Cottage, Pett Road, Pett   | 814202               |
| Cllr. Brian Woodcock                | Hither Green Cottage, Pett Road,<br>Pett   | 812011               |
| <b>Clerk.</b><br>Bob Hodgeson       | 17 Barnfield Close, Hastings<br>TN34 1TS<br>e.mail: <a href="mailto:bob_pettoc@yahoo.co.uk">bob_pettoc@yahoo.co.uk</a> | 716232               |

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Pett Village Hall Management Committee</b>              | Cllr. Jillian Green  |
| <b>Pett Sports Association</b>                             | Cllr. Paul Stapley   |
| <b>Police Community Consultative Group</b>                 | Cllr. Brian Roberts  |
| <b>Rother Association of Local Councils Representative</b> | Cllrs. Brian Woodcock, Paul Stapley  |
| <b>Sussex Association of Local Councils</b>                | Cllrs. Andrew Dunlop, Martin King  |
| <b>Flood Wardens</b>                                       | Cllrs. Brian Roberts, Andrew Dunlop<br>Co-opted member - District Cllr. Robin Patten |

**PCSO Sharon Eldridge**

**07810 636992**

## **Rother District Council (Marshall Ward)**

|                    |   |              |
|--------------------|---|--------------|
| Cllr. Roger Bird   | 87 Battery Hill, Fairlight, Hastings, TN35 4AL                      | 01424 813636 |
| Cllr. Robin Patten | 5 Old Coastguard Cottages, Pett Level Road,<br>Pett Level, TN35 4EH | 01424 812479 |

## **East Sussex County Council**

Cllr. Carl Maynard    The Burrow, 23 Baldslow Down, Westfield TN37 7NJ    01273 481576