





## FEBRUARY HIGH TIDES AT RYE HARBOUR APPROACHES

Date	Day	Time (hrs)	Height (m)	Time (hrs)	Height (m)
1	Tuesday	1020	2.8	2232	3.1
2	Wednesday	1101	3.1	2310	3.3
3	Thursday	1136	3.2	2346	3.6
4	Friday	-	-	1208	3.3
5	Saturday	0020	3.6	1238	3.3
6	Sunday	0051	3.6	1306	3.2
7	Monday	0117	3.4	1329	3.1
8	Tuesday	0137	3.3	1349	3.0
9	Wednesday	0159	3.2	1412	2.8
10	Thursday	0228	3.0	1446	2.6
11	Friday	0308	2.6	1530	2.2
12	Saturday	0400	2.1	1639	1.8
13	Sunday	0543	1.9	1849	1.8
14	Monday	0719	2.0	1959	2.1
15	Tuesday	0825	2.5	2056	2.7
16	Wednesday	0920	3.0	2146	3.2
17	Thursday	1009	3.4	2233	3.7
18	Friday	1056	3.7	2317	4.0
19	Saturday	1138	3.9	-	-
20	Sunday	0001	4.3	1219	4.0
21	Monday	0041	4.3	1300	4.0
22	Tuesday	0122	4.3	1340	3.8
23	Wednesday	0204	4.0	1424	3.4
24	Thursday	0248	3.6	1512	3.0
25	Friday	0340	3.0	1611	2.5
26	Saturday	0442	2.4	1724	2.0
27	Sunday	0607	1.9	1858	1.9
28	Monday	0806	2.0	2031	2.1

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# Hello

How lovely it was to have a break in December from editing the Parish News and my thanks go to Sarah for that. Now she knows how to do it .....

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This month I have included the Bus Time Table for Pett Level, as requested by Effy Ruegg who lives there. My apologies for not including it before now, I selfishly only thought about the bus I would need to use. Hope it is of some help.

Also this month, in view of the fact that the Royal Oak has now started to be renovated, I asked John Taylor if he could give us a bit of history on the building and I think you must agree that his article on page 25 is very interesting. Thank you John. You can also find an update about its progress on page 13.

As probably most people will know by now, Pam Dunlop died in January and our condolences go out to her family. She will be greatly missed by so many people.

I had to include in this month's issue a couple of poems which I thought were very topical. Thank you to Mary and Barbara for sending them to me.

As we go through February we "should" start to see the weather improving and therefore feel more inclined to come out of hibernation. If you are not already a member why not give some of the clubs and societies a visit. New members will

be made very welcome at all of them and all the contacts are listed on page 35, so go on, give them a try.

Jackie (Editor)

Copy for the **MARCH** edition can be sent to us by email on

[pettparishnews@live.co.uk](mailto:pettparishnews@live.co.uk)

or delivered to me, Jackie Richards at Ambleside (815224), or Sarah Adams at Seawinds (812323), both on Pett Road. **The deadline for copy is MID-DAY the 15th February** and anything you can get to us before that date is greatly appreciated. Any copy after this time will be entered in the following month's issue.





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**The Stir Crazy Club**  
Wendy Burgess ~ 815280

The girls (loosely speaking) in the Stir Crazy Club have started sharpening their needles & pins for another busy year of charity fund raising.



We would like to thank all the very generous people who have donated their lovely fabrics and we are now brimming with ideas of different goods to make.

However, we have found we use an incredible amount of haberdashery and would like to ask if any of you have an excess of sewing cottons, elastics, ribbons, zips and trimmings you would like to give to the cause. If you find you do have haberdashery you would like to donate perhaps you could call either **Wendy Burgess on 01424 815280** or **Ann Roach** (often known as Pat) on **01424 815116** and we can arrange to collect.



It feels as if we are always asking for donations but give little feedback as to how these donations are used. So for your information in 2010 we gave a donation of £375.00 to the Stroke Association, £300.00 to Camel Lymphoedema Support Group and £60.00 to the Five Villages.

Our main charity for 2011 will be MacMillan Cancer."

**PETT FLOWER SHOW**  
Rachael Crouch ~ Publicity Officer

### **A.G.M. Cheese & Wine Evening**

PETT Flower Show Committee are holding their **Annual General Meeting** at PETT VILLAGE HALL on **March 9<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm.



If you enjoy the annual Flower Show, come along and meet the committee members.

Perhaps you feel that you have new ideas, you might like to offer some help and support on the day, or you may just need an excuse to enjoy some cheese and a glass of wine!

We look forward to seeing you there.

**Thank You ~ Cathy Norris**

I would like to say a big thank you to Sally Williams and all the people that help with the monthly coffee morning at the village hall, it has proved a great success.



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## Hard Times in the Snow ~ Mike Russell

The Sussex Wildlife Trust ~ [www.sussexwt.org.uk](http://www.sussexwt.org.uk)



This time last year I was extolling the virtues of the snow that had descended upon us and low and behold as I write this we have just had another blanket covering; and to think when I arrived in Sussex in 1985 I was emphatically told that it never snows here!

Birdwatchers get very excited in this sort of weather though for the birds themselves it makes life far from exciting. Birds start to do unusual things; they become disorientated and have to start moving about more to look for food, therefore increasing the chance of something unfamiliar turning up in your garden. This winter everyone has been hoping that waxwings, Viking invaders from Scandinavia that came into Northern Britain in October and November will, over the coming months, make their way south, feasting on the remaining berries as they go. As I write they have yet to reach Sussex in any numbers, but by the time you read this they may be here in force.

Another colourful northern winter migrant is the brambling which started to appear before Christmas, with reports coming in from gardens in Henfield and Worthing. Bramblings are finches and are similar in appearance to chaffinches but are more orange in colour than pink and if you see one on your bird table you will realise that you are looking at something a bit different to your usual birds.

Birds that readily come to gardens and visit bird feeders are able to survive these cold, snowy winters better than other species. During the cold spell before Christmas many people were reporting seeing snipe and

woodcock even in the most suburban of gardens. Sadly, many of them were starving and there were some reports of dead birds. They are waders with very long beaks which they use to probe deep into mud and grass to look for food, so when the ground becomes frozen and covered in snow, finding something to eat becomes more difficult. They then have to expend even more energy travelling longer distances in the search for food. If they are unsuccessful they end up exhausted, emaciated and soon die.

Searching for food can cause what are known as 'cold weather movements' when vast number of birds are pushed further southwards or westwards and it is not unusual to look up in the skies and see flocks of birds heading in that direction. Lapwings are particularly noticeable for this behaviour - they seem to know that food will be easier to find. In such conditions Southern Ireland has large influxes of birds as it tends to stay warmer throughout the winter, but should it experience a really cold prolonged spell then the birds are in real trouble as there is really nowhere else to go.

Cold weather then provides a quandary for birdwatchers. You do get a chance to see species that are rare; but then you know that these birds are really struggling to survive. It is of course part of the natural cycle, our bird species have evolved to cope with fluctuations in climate but as life generally gets more difficult for them to cope, these prolonged cold spells can be more of a problem than they once used to be.



## PETT CHURCH

Christmas "Thank-you's" ~ Meriel Deasy

It was a bit of a mixture at Pett for Christmas. We were going to celebrate Christmas in the Barn at Pickham and go Carol Singing through the village. However, the icy weather put paid to all this, but we do give our heartfelt thanks to all those who were prepared to help and support these events – maybe, next time the weather will be kind to us.

Meanwhile many thanks are due to our Flower Ladies who have made the church look beautiful, and to Avril and Charlotte who, as always, decorated the Christmas tree and created the loveliest Crib Scene. Special thanks are due to all those who contributed most generously to

the Surviving Christmas Appeal. We were able to donate £140 to this very worthwhile cause.

Again, we say thank you to Kris Roud and children of the uniformed organisations who contributed so generously to the Toy service and to Hinckley's Funeral Directors who donated all the oranges for the Christingle Services at Pett and Fairlight. As always, we say thank you to Derek Foy who has always given us a lovely Christmas tree.

Very especially, we say thank you to everyone who has helped and supported us over the Christmas season.

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## Chris Saint & the Flicks Team

Our film for the **3 February** will be **Knight and Day**. Get set for wild action and sizzling chemistry with this film. Big screen superstars **Tom Cruise** (mission impossible, tropic thunder) and **Cameron Diaz** (Charlie's angels, something about Mary) come together in this thrilling action-adventure. When June meets a mysterious stranger on a routine flight, she thinks she's met the man who'll add some excitement to her life. But she soon discovers he's a fugitive super-spy, who thrusts her into a globe-trotting cat-and-mouse chase. As the bullets and sparks fly, June must decide if she can really trust this Knight in shining armour.

Subject to availability, it is our intention to screen **Made in Dagenham** on the **3<sup>rd</sup> March**. From the makers of Calendar Girls, comes a story of a group of female factory workers, featuring a stellar British cast including **Sally Hawkins, Bob Hoskins, Miranda Richardson, Geraldine James, Rosamund Pike, Andrea Riseborough, Jaime Winstone and Daniel Mays**.

Its 1968, the year of revolution and students are demonstrating the world over. Meanwhile, in Dagenham in Essex as far from the swinging sixties as possible, the Ford motor company is about to face it's biggest ever threat, and from the unlikelyst of places: the female sewing machinists.

The women down tools in 1968 when they are reclassified as "unskilled". With humour, common sense and courage they take on their U.S. paymasters, an increasingly belligerent local community, and finally the government itself, to strike an everlasting blow for equal pay for women. The catalyst for the women's struggle is fast-talking, no nonsense "Rita" played by Sally Hawkins, whose fiery temper and occasionally hilarious unpredictability proves to be a match for any of her male opponents.

Please do not forget, all are welcome to join our Society and enjoy an evening watching a film for as little as £4.00 per show with like-minded people in the local environment of Pett Village Hall. If you care to know more, please email me on [chris@saintfamily.net](mailto:chris@saintfamily.net) or telephone on 813047. All films start at 7.30 pm on the first Thursday in the month with refreshments served from 7.00 pm.

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## CAROL SINGING

John Taylor



I must apologise for the fact that Carol singing round the village did not take place this Christmas. The weather had been foul and despite our claim that we would venture forth whatever the weather – we didn't. The forecast was grim and after consulting with various people it was decided that potentially icy roads could lead to someone falling and that could have been disastrous.

This is all very well, but as the one person who did turn up at the church said, "This does not help those in need of support from the Surviving Christmas team." So with that in mind we held a retiring collection in church on Christmas Eve (at the Christingle service), on Christmas Day and on Boxing Day. I am pleased to inform you that these collections amounted to **£140** and this has been passed on to the Hastings branch of Surviving Christmas.

Trevor and Pat Hindson fully agreed with the decision to abandon Carol singing this year even though they had prepared to give refreshments to the weary singers. This is extremely kind of them and we hope we may call on their hospitality once again at the end of 2011.

Once again the village of Pett came up trumps and Surviving Christmas did not finish up without our normal contribution. Well done to all.

## Allotment News Judith Dean

The first four months of the Pett Allotments has seen the site transformed from a ploughed field into 22 productive plots. A variety of garden strategies are to be seen – from green compost to manure heaps, raised beds to traditional plots and a variety of compost bins, water butts, fruit cages and benches. Cabbages, onions, garlic and beans are already growing in some plots. In addition, the allotments have done wonders for the 'social cohesion' of the village.

The site is rather quiet at the moment but I know plotters wander up from time to time to look at their plots and to enjoy the tranquillity. It is amazing how even digging doesn't seem such a chore there (speaking personally – not everyone might agree!)

The parish council continue to be very supportive. In addition to providing us with a container to use as a communal shed, they have agreed to lay a central path so that plot holders can access their plots more easily. This should have been done by the time you read this, weather permitting. They are also providing the money for a second-hand rotivator which will help us keep unused plots in order as well as being available to the rest of the plotters.

So if you would like to join us, there are still a few whole or half plots available. Make it a New Year resolution – it is a great form of exercise, with the added bonus of your own fruit and vegetables.

If you are interested please contact Janet Crook on **01424 812764**





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The last meeting of  
Pett WI in 2010  
was a festive meal  
in the Two  
Sawyers. This  
year, our  
Christmas meal

was courtesy of Rita Akehurst, a  
long standing member of Pett WI.  
Rita was secretary to our branch for  
a number of years and sadly  
passed away earlier in the year.  
She kindly left a bequest to Pett WI  
with a range of options for the local  
group to consider how they would  
like to remember her. A unanimous  
decision was made for the option of  
a celebratory meal at the Sawyers  
in her memory. Everyone enjoyed a  
sociable lunch, getting to know new  
members who joined the group  
during the year and catching up  
with old friends. Thank you Rita.

The next meeting of Pett WI  
will be on **Friday February 18th** at  
2.30pm, Pett Village Hall. This  
month's guest speaker, Mrs K  
Fordham, will be talking on 'A boiler  
suit and white coat', portraying life  
on a diversified farm.  
New and old members always  
welcome.

**Sarah Adams ~ 812323**

## The Royal Oak ~ Yvette Norcott

Yes, some of the rumours are  
true - The Royal Oak, having been  
closed since August 2009, was sold  
at auction in November to a small  
syndicate of villagers and The  
Queens Head, Icklesham.

There is a lot of work to do  
before the pub will be anywhere  
near ready to open its doors, but,

hopefully by early summer (this  
year!) The Royal Oak will reopen,  
run by Lee and Ian from The  
Queens Head.

We'll keep you updated with  
our progress through these pages.

## A CULTIVATED AREA

Ruth Twyman Lockyer ~ I.O.W

I wanted an allotment  
To grow organic veg  
I thought it would be nice to dig  
With Alf and Fred and Reg  
The weeds laid down a challenge  
But I had set my mind  
To dominate my plot with plants  
Of the cultivated kind

I built a sort of compost  
To dump the wrenched-up weeds  
So I could feed my little ones  
With real organic feeds  
I tried to win the battle  
I really, really tried  
But while I sheltered from the rain  
My strategy just died

I wanted an allotment  
And that's what I got  
The harvest was quite bountiful  
But I had shared my plot  
For while I planted up my part  
With runners, spuds and marrows,  
Nature had sown the other half  
With thistles, docks and yarrows

It was lovely while it lasted  
The fresh air, sun and vigour  
But one year on what did I crave?  
An automatic digger  
There are some things I find  
That only nature understands  
By mutual consent, I've let her  
Take it off my hands!





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## PETT PARISH COUNCIL - 21<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2010

reported by Mary Saint

At the Pett Parish Council meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> December Council members heard from Councillor Patten that whilst he was unable to give details about the Pett Parish Precept, he could confirm that Rother District Council would have to reduce its budget by 17% in 2011/12 and 12-13% the following year. He explained that the reductions in the first year would be manageable but those for the following year would be harder. When asked about reserves, Councillor Patten replied that the reserves were mainly for capital projects that had already been agreed.

*'Exception Site' policy for affordable housing* - 15 sites had been identified to which the agreed criteria had been applied and as a result 6 sites were considered possible. The next part of the process was to approach the relevant landowners to see if they would be interested in selling the land. If any were, then further work would be done and the matter would be brought back to the Parish Council. A major presentation would be made at the Annual Parish Meeting where everyone could give their views before any decisions were made.

*Little Cheyne Wind Farm Community Fund* - Pett had now been included in the area of benefit and local groups could make applications for grants from between £1,000 and £5,000 for a

wide range of projects such as church hall refurbishment, cricket clubs and farmers' markets.

Concern was expressed at the meeting by members of the public about the building of a new pavilion by Pett Bowls Club and possible breaches of planning approval. The matter was discussed by the Council and it was agreed that the matter would be investigated as a matter of urgency.

## Church Flower Festival

from Cathy Norris



At a recent meeting it was proposed to hold our 6th annual church flower festival on the weekend of **September 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> 2011**. Over the last 5 years the flower festival has proved very successful, so with a lot of thought we have come up with a theme of "Favourite Poems". We also thought it was a good idea to ask local people what their favourite poem is, we would then hopefully incorporate it into the flower festival (bearing in mind that we have to interpret it in flowers!)

If you would like to suggest a poem you can either email Cathy Norris at [cnorri@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cnorri@hotmail.co.uk), or pop it onto paper and drop it off at Dimpleshaven (upholstery workshop). Also thinking ahead, if anybody has any unwanted Christmas presents (of a non perishable kind) we would gladly take them off your hands for the tombola stall, they can also be dropped off at Dimpleshaven. Many thanks Cathy Norris.



## DO YOU KNOW? ~ John Taylor

Do you know any really odd or strange facts?

This is a funny old world we live in. Every day it seems that we are bombarded by odd bits of information – some of it quite interesting and even amusing, but most of it probably is irrelevant in helping us to live our daily lives. Here is a batch of such useless information. Reading it may take your mind off your own troubles in this uncertain world – and might even bring a smile to your face.

- A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.
- The chameleon has a tongue that is 1.5 times the length of its body
- A person breathes almost 7 quarts of air every minute
- Houses were first numbered in Paris in 1463. In Britain, numbering did not appear until 1708, on a street in London's Whitechapel area.
- Sheep will not drink from running water. Hence, the line in the Twenty-third Psalm: "He leadeth me beside the still waters."
- Man has tiny bones once meant for a tail and unworkable muscles once meant to move his ears.
- When cows graze in their natural head-down position, their saliva production increases by 17 percent.
- The word "queue" is the only word in the English language that is still pronounced the same way when the last four letters are removed
- Leonardo da Vinci was the first to suggest using contact lenses to see back in 1508.
- A bolt of lightning can strike the Earth with a force as great as 100 million volts.
- The ancient Egyptians thought it was good luck to enter a house left foot first.
- The human eyes can perceive more than 1 million simultaneous visual impressions and are able to discriminate among nearly 8 million gradations of colour.
- If you attempted to count the stars in a galaxy at a rate of one every second, it would take around 3,000 years to count them all.
- Most people by the age of sixty have lost 50 percent of their taste buds and 40 percent of their ability to smell.
- Sedimentary rocks are used to make cement, glass, fertilizer, baking soda, laundry bleach, and aspirin.
- If you are afraid that you might die laughing — you are suffering from cherophobia
- It takes 120 drops of water to fill a teaspoon.
- Early guns took so long to load and fire that bows and arrows — in trained hands — were twelve times more efficient.

- Rats can swim for a 1/2 mile without resting, and they can tread water for 3 days straight.
- The letter "W" is the only letter in the alphabet that doesn't have just one syllable — it has three.
- A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.
- Napoleon's haemorrhoids contributed to his defeat at Waterloo. They prevented him from surveying the battlefield on horseback.
- In Greenwich, England during the 1800s, it was unlawful to impersonate a retired person on a pension.
- A group of foxes is called a skulk.
- February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.
- A snail can sleep for three years.
- 

Do you have any more such gems hidden away in your memory?

## Nature Notes ~ Avril Thurley

In a field off Pannel Lane something was being mobbed by a small group of jackdaws. As I drew nearer I could see that it was a rabbit. The jackdaws were taking turns to beat it up swooping very low over its back and shouting in its flattened ears. The rabbit visibly cringed at each aerial attack and eventually made a break for the cover of the hedge, harried all the way by the birds. Jackdaws do not kill rabbits, so what were they doing? Many birds mob their predators (I once saw a pair of Little Owls drive off a fox which had approached their nest too closely), but a rabbit is neither predator nor, to a jackdaw, prey. Judging by their general air of excitement and the way they seemed to be taking turns to terrorise the rabbit, I am inclined to think that they were simply tormenting it for fun, like a gang of playground bullies. Corvids are amongst the most intelligent, and therefore playful, of

birds. We have eight species in Britain: rook, jackdaw, jay, magpie, raven, carrion crow, hooded crow and chough. Although you are unlikely to see wither of the last two in Pett.

For the first time I can remember, my witch hazel was not in flower at Christmas. The first delicious yellow blooms didn't appear until January 3<sup>rd</sup>. No doubt the delay was caused by the very cold weather in November and December.

Also on 3<sup>rd</sup> January I had a pied wagtail on the feeders. Pied wagtails are not themselves rare, indeed there are often large flocks of them in the surrounding countryside, but they very rarely visit my back garden because it is too small and too enclosed. I noticed that my resident robin was very wary of it, and gave it best on the bird table; they have either had a dust-up or the wagtails' reputation has gone before it.





# PARISH DIARY – February 2011

VH Village Hall – RG Recreation Ground – NBC New Beach Club

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Yoga	VH	9.30 am
	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	11.30 am - 1.15 pm
	Pilates	VH	6 pm
	<b>British Legion</b>	NBC	7.30 pm
	Quiz Night	Two Sawyers	8.30 pm
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	VH	10 am
	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Puppy Training Class	VH	1 pm
	Advanced Dog Training	VH	2 pm
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3 pm & 7 pm
	<b>Flicks in the Village</b>	VH	7.30 pm
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Badminton	VH	10 am
	<b>MOPPs</b>	Fairlight VH	10.30 am
	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Boathouse</b>	VH	10.30 am
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Flowerpots	VH	9.30 am
	Quiz Night	NBC	8 pm
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Yoga	VH	9.30 am
	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	11.30 am - 1.15 pm
	Pilates	VH	6 pm
	<b>Garden Club</b>	VH	7.30 pm
	Quiz Night	Two Sawyers	8.30 pm
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Badminton	VH	10 am
	<b>Mobile Library</b>	Church	10.10 am
		Chick Hill	10.50 am
		Smuggler	11.20 am
	Puppy Training Class	VH	1 pm
	Advanced Dog Training	VH	2 pm
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3 pm & 7 pm
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Badminton	VH	10 am
	<b>MOPPs</b>	Fairlight VH	10.30 am
	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Boathouse</b>	VH	10.30 am
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Flowerpots	VH	9.30 am
	Quiz Night	NBC	8 pm
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Yoga	VH	9.30 am
	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	11.30 am - 1.15 pm
	Pilates	VH	6 pm
	<b>Parish Council</b>	VH	7.30 pm
	Quiz Night	Two Sawyers	8.30 pm
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Puppy Training Class	VH	1 pm

	Advanced Training	VH	2 pm
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3 pm & 7 pm
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Badminton	VH	10 am
	<b>MOPPs</b>	Fairlight VH	10.30 am
	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
	<b>Women's Institute</b>	VH	2.30 pm
	<b>Pett Nats</b>	VH	7.30
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Flowerpots	VH	9.30 am
	Quiz Night	NBC	8 pm
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Yoga	VH	9.30 am
	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	11.30 am - 1.15 pm
	Pilates	VH	6 pm
	Quiz Night	Two Sawyers	8.30 pm
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Badminton	VH	10 am
	<b>Mobile Library</b>	Church	10.10 am
		Chick Hill	10.50 am
		Smuggler	11.20 am
	Puppy Training Class	VH	1 pm
	Advanced Dog Training	VH	2 pm
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3 pm & 7 pm
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Badminton	VH	10 am
	<b>MOPPs</b>	Fairlight VH	10.30 am
	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz Night	NBC	8 pm

If you want your special events or regular meetings included in the Parish Diary, please notify me in writing or the Editor by email ~ a programme or fixture list is fine.

Avril Thurley  
Rectory Cottage



## CHURCH SERVICES:

Sun	6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.30am – Parish Communion, St Mary & St Peter
Sun	13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.30am – Joint Worship with the Methodists, St Mary & St Peter
Sun	20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	8.00am – Holy Communion, St Nicholas, Pett Level
Sun	27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.30am – Parish Communion, St. Mary & St Peter



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## Greetings from Margaret Newton ~ Sandra Newton

Mother has asked me to send warm greetings to her friends and neighbours in Pett and wish you all the very best for the New Year. She was very grateful for the cards, presents and other contacts she received over Christmas. Mother was able to send some Christmas cards herself but finds it increasingly difficult, with severe arthritis, to write and had not got all the addresses that she would have liked. She therefore asked me to thank you all and send her thoughts from afar.

It is just over a year since Mother arrived at Broomgrove Nursing Home in Sheffield, just up the road from Gill and me. It snowed then too! She has settled well and has a very high standard of care. Mother much enjoys watching a wide range of birds and squirrels feeding outside her window (feeders kept topped up by me, several times a week!), weekly hair dressing and a number of activities each week including music, poetry readings and films. She needs a wheel chair to move any distance but we are becoming adept at folding and unfolding it in the car!

Over Christmas she took all the immediate family out to a local Italian restaurant, came with us to a professional musical at one of the local theatres and shared Christmas day itself with Gill and me and guests. She is working her way steadily through several boxes of chocolates she has been

presented with over the last few weeks!

I send my thanks for your continuing contacts with Mother and join her in sending sincere good wishes for 2011.



## Boffins Puzzle Corner

Which letter completes this  
series?

I S H X O

Answer on page: 29

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**MOPPs ~ Jackie Richards**

In December David and I were invited as special guests, along with Connie Evans from Guestling Parish Council to attend the MOPPs Christmas luncheon in Fairlight Village Hall. What a treat.

Sheila Thomas and Sylvia Gutsell who organise MOPPs greeted us at the door and showed us to a table, and then lunch was served. We had lovely moist turkey with all the trimmings, lots of veg and roasties and scrummy thick gravy. To follow was a choice of trifle or Christmas pud. We washed it down with wine, and a lady called Val had handmade, throughout the year, a personal cracker for everyone with our names on. She told me she had been collecting everyone's toilet roll middles for months!

After lunch there was more entertainment with The Symphonies who sang some really lovely carols and songs and then it was raffle time. Regrettably we had to leave rather quickly at that point as the snow decided to show itself.

Marshall Older Peoples Project really is a great social day out every Friday. There were not many Pett residents there even though weekly transport is provided with pick-ups at the Post Office and the Royal Oak.

Every week MOPPs not only provide a superb lunch cooked by Margaret and her helpers but have a host of speakers on all manner of subjects, exercises and sing-

along's and advice on Pensions and Benefits.

As always, events like this are run by volunteers and your help is always needed. If you can spare some time on a Friday or know someone who would benefit from attending with your help, then please let Sheila Thomas (01304 219767) or Sylvia Gutsell (812544) know.

More details can be found at the back of this Parish News.

This Centre is available to all older residents of Pett and Pett Level.

**PETT NATS ~ Avril Thurley**

Our speaker on 18<sup>th</sup> February will be Colin Page, with a talk titled 'Voyage to the edge of the Sea'. Colin's stunning photography and encyclopaedic knowledge of wildlife make him one of our most popular lecturers.

If you are new to this area and have never attended one of Colin's talks, don't miss this opportunity; nowhere will you get a better return for a measly £2 entrance fee.

Pett Nats meet in the Village Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month at 7.30pm.

New members are always welcome

**Why is there a light in the  
fridge and not in the freezer?**





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## ROYAL OAK - Pett Village ~ John Taylor

Though it is known that the Two Sawyers was an alehouse from 1781, I have no knowledge about when the Royal Oak started to sell ale.

Between 1851 and 1867 it is known that George Hills was the publican and was also a "Carrier" to Hastings.

In the 1881 Census Thomas Hills was the publican and Shelsmith was his wife - aged 51 at the time. She was still alive - and it looks like was still living at the Oak when she was 82 - 1911 or 1912.

Address:

Royal Oak Temperance Inn Pett Near Hastings

County:

Sussex

Name	Relation	Condition/ Yrs married	Sex	Age	Birth Year	Occupation	Where Born
HILLS, Shelsmith	Head	Widow	F	82	1829	None	Sussex Fairlight

Both the Royal Oak and the Two Sawyers had their licences revoked by Florentia Lucas Shadwell in the early 1890s, and the Royal Oak became a Temperance Inn and also catered for picnics and other parties. *(There are three stories why this was done - I could write an article about it!)*

From 1894 to 1899 Henry (Horace) Screees was the publican (see 1901 census below.

### 1901 Census Royal Oak Residents

Name	Relation	Condition	Sex	Age	Birth Year	Occupation, Disability
SCREEES, Horace	Head	Married	M	39	1862	Inn Keeper
SCREEES, Ellen	Wife	Married	F	45	1856	
SCREEES, Elizabeth	Daughter	Single	F	15	1886	
DENNIS, John Edward	Boarder	Single	M	22	1879	Carter In Stone Quarry

In 1905 the Royal Oak was run by Richard Moon (from Kelly's Directory) By 1914 William Catt had taken over the inn.

### 1914 Census

Name	Relation	Condition/ Yrs married	Sex	Age	Birth Year	Occupation
CATT, William	Head	Married	M	61	1850	Gardener Domestic
CATT, Elizabeth	Wife	Married 33 years	F	62	1849	
CATT, Edith Lydia Mary	Daughter	Single	F	31	1880	



Between 1923 and 1930 A.J. Morris ran the pub and also owned the 20 seater DY 6194 Leyland Badger bus that ran a service to and from Hastings in 1930 after the first bus in 1923.

In the 1960s the pub was empty for several years and in November 1967 there was a petition to preserve the inn. In February 1969 enquiries were made regarding the ownership. It was purchased by Rother Council and the banning of the sale of alcohol was annulled. Between December 1970 and February 1974 the completion of the lease to new tenants – Mr and Mrs S Lorenz took place.

There are gaps in the tenancy of the Royal Oak and perhaps other folk in Pett may have the answers.

The Schwarberts took over from Sid Lorenz and Jasmine from them.

19<sup>th</sup> November 1908



I

Postcard sent to:-  
Mr W Colegate  
157a Upper Grosvenor Road.  
Tunbridge Wells  
Stamp of ½ penny of  
King Edward VII  
Stamped – Hastings 8.30pm  
No. 19 08  
Postcard must be about 1910

*I thought you would like to hear how the  
billiard match went off last night. Rye  
Harbour won. T. Beeching and J Crouch won their game that was all, some of the  
chaps got playing up at the same Pl. on Tuesday so on Wednesday Mrs S - had it*

*I thought you would like to hear how the  
billiard match went off last night. Rye  
Harbour won. T. Beeching and J Crouch won their game that was all, some of the  
chaps got playing up at the same Pl. on Tuesday so on Wednesday Mrs S - had it*

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billiard match went off last night. Rye  
Harbour won. T. Beeching and J Crouch won their game that was all, some of the  
chaps got playing up at the same Pl. on Tuesday so on Wednesday Mrs S - had it*

closed I don't know if it is going to be closed tonight. Mr Saddler talked about sending for the policeman. Grandmother is pleased with her letter.

(Copy of text on postcard)

1920's



1950's soon after the planting of the oak tree





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Wed, Thurs & Fri 12 - 2.30 & 6 - 8.30  
Sat 12 - 3 & 6 - 8.30 Sun 12 - 4

Meeting room available for local organisations at no charge  
(subject to availability)

## The Twelve Days of Christmas ~ Anon

On the first day of Christmas my true love said to me  
I'm glad we've bought a turkey and a proper  
Christmas tree.

On the second day of Christmas much laughter could  
be heard

as we tucked into our turkey - a most delicious bird.

On the third day of Christmas we'd friends in from  
next door

the turkey tasted just as good as on the day before.

On the fourth day of Christmas Gran came, she's  
rather old.

we finished up the Christmas pud and ate the turkey  
cold.

On the fifth day of Christmas outside the snowflakes  
flurried

but we were nice and warm inside - we ate the turkey  
- curried.

On the sixth day of Christmas the turkey spirit died.  
the children fought and bickered and we ate the  
turkey - fried.

On the seventh day of Christmas my true love gave a  
wince

When he sat down to dinner and was given turkey  
mince.

On the eighth day of Christmas the dog ran off for  
shelter

I served up turkey pancakes and a glass of Alka  
Seltzer.

On the ninth day of Christmas poor Dad began to cry  
we said he couldn't stand the strain of eating turkey  
pie.

On the tenth day of Christmas the air was rather blue  
and everybody grumbled, at eating turkey stew.

On the eleventh day of Christmas the Christmas tree  
was moulting

mince pies as hard as rock and the turkey quite  
revolting.

On the twelfth day of Christmas at last Dad smacked  
his lips

the guests had gone, the turkey too - we dined on  
fish and chips!

## Magazine Distribution ~ Avril Thurley

Last month  
Jackie published a  
well-reserved "thank-  
you" to the magazine  
distributors. Now I  
would like to say  
special thanks to Pat  
and Trevor Hindson  
who are reluctantly  
giving up their round  
after nine years of  
faithful service.

As many people  
will know, Trevor has  
not been in the best of  
health and Pat has  
been delivering the  
magazine herself for  
some time. They have  
now decided to accept  
Philippa Strickland's  
kind offer to take over  
their round.

Thank you very  
much Pat and Trevor  
for all your past efforts  
and thanks also to  
Philippa.

If anyone else in  
Pett or Pett Level  
would like to be  
involved, feel free to let  
me know, as it's always  
useful to have a few  
names in reserve.  
(01424 812675)



## Boffins Answer

N

All the letters read the  
same when turned  
upside down



**Rx fisheries**  
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[peter@rxfisheries.co.uk](mailto:peter@rxfisheries.co.uk)  
or call 01424 445239

## Smoked Haddock & Leek Risotto ~ Sarah Adams

Serves 4



small knob of butter  
1 large leek, thinly sliced  
300g risotto rice, such as arborio or carnaroli  
700ml fish or vegetable stock  
200ml full-fat milk  
375g smoked haddock, skinned and cut into large chunks  
3 tbsp creme fraiche  
100g baby spinach

Heat oven to 200C/ 180C fan/ gas 6. Heat the butter in a large ovenproof dish over a medium heat. Cook the leek for 4-5 mins, stirring regularly until just tender/. Add the rice and stir for a further 2 mins.

Add the stock and milk, bring to the boil and bubble for 5 mins before sitting the haddock on top. Cover with a lid or foil and bake in the oven for 18 mins until the rice is tender.

Fold in the creme fraiche and spinach, season with plenty of black pepper, then cover the pan again and leave to rest out of the oven for 3 mins before serving - the steam will soften the spinach.

## Gardening Club ~ Sue Dengate "The ongoing battle of optimism over reality"

After everyone had renewed their membership and placed orders for compost and Sutton Seeds there followed the first meeting of the year which was the A.G.M.

2010 turned out to be a successful year for the club with healthy membership and accounts. The programme for 2011 was reviewed followed by a short talk by one of our members, Chris Hutt from Fairlight End. The Club has enjoyed several visits to this lovely garden in our village and last year Chris opened it to the public for the first time to support St. Michaels Hospice. This year he will open the garden for the National Gardens Scheme, an organisation which supports several cancer charities, on the 22nd June and we will all do what we can to support this worthy cause. Chris also explained his plans for the wild flower border outside his house and what perhaps could be achieved at other sites to encourage and protect our native flora and fauna.

There were a lot of questions about wildlife corridors and this will give us all food for thought for the future.

The February meeting will be on Tuesday 8th at 7 30pm in the Village Hall and is not to be missed. Alan Kenworthy will show us some wonderful photographic slides (including many exotic birds and plants) of his travels to New Zealand and other fascinating places.

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(This information was correct at the time of going to print but alterations can occur)

**JEMPSONS BUS** - 'Hail & Ride' to the Superstore. Every Friday calling at Allards 09:15 and Chick Hill (top) 09:20 and departs Jempson's at 11:30. Nominal charge of £1 return. There is no need to walk to the stops as the bus will stop when hailed if it is safe to do so.

## M.O.P.P. ~ MARSHAM OLDER PEOPLES PROJECT

### CENTRE FOR OLDER RESIDENTS OF Fairlight, Pett, Guestling, Three Oaks & Winchelsea

Meeting at Fairlight Village Hall, Broadway, every Friday at 10.30 - 3.30 pm  
Lunch, transport, exercises, health information and advice, together with visits from Podiatry and other health services, visits from local Farm shop, clothing shops, and social activities.

**Cost: £4.50** To include lunch and refreshments

For further information or to arrange a visit one Friday ring **Sheila Thomas** co-ordinator on **01304 219767** or [sheilaspan@btinternet.com](mailto:sheilaspan@btinternet.com) or **Sylvia Gutsell 812544**

**MOPPs TRANSPORT** - a bus will be coming through Pett each Friday to pick up outside **Pett POST OFFICE** around **10 am**, then outside the **Royal Oak** at about **10.10 am**. If you are unable to get to either of these pick-up points and need to be picked up from your home then please ring Sheila on 01304 219767

## Jumble Sale ~ 5<sup>th</sup> March

The Friends of Pett Churches are holding their first Jumble Sale of the year in the Village Hall on the **5<sup>th</sup> March from 1.30 - 3.30 pm**.

Any donations can be taken to the hall after 9am please on the day.

For more information please contact Jillian Green - 813841

## Coffee Morning ~ Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Don't forget to come along to the Coffee Morning on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of February.

It's a great chance to greet old friends and make new ones, sample the home made delights, and maybe buy a bargain from the table sale. Oh, and of course have some coffee!

Open from 10am in Pett Village Hall.

## 347 Bus Time -Table

Pett - Hastings									
Pett (Chick Hill)	0819	0826	0959	1059	1159	1259	1439	1549	
Pett (Church)	0822	0829	1002	1102	1202	1302	1442	1552	
Guestling (School)	0829								
Guestling (White Hart)	0834	0834	1007	1107	1207	1307	1447	1557	
Ore (Kings Head)	0838	0848	1011	1111	1211	1311	1451	1601	
Ore (Christ Church)	0840	1013	1113	1213	1313	1453	1603		
West Hill (Whitefriars)	0845	0845	1018	1118	1218	1318	1458	1608	
Hastings (Harold Place)	0849	0849	1022	1122	1222	1322	1502	1612	
Hastings (Rail Station)	0851	0851	1024	1124	1224	1324	1504	-	

Hastings - Pett									
Hastings (Rail Station)	0928	1028	1128	1228	1408	1510	1510	1735	
Hastings (Queens Road)	0930	1030	1130	1230	1410	1515	1515	1740	
West Hill (Whitefriars)	0935	1035	1135	1235	1415	1520	1520	1745	
Ore (Christ Church)	0940	1040	1140	1240	1420	1525	1525	1750	
Ore (Kings Head)	0942	1042	1142	1242	1422	1527	1527	1752	
Guestling (White Hart)	0946	1046	1146	1246	1426	1531	1531	1756	
Guestling (School)							1534		
Pett (Church)	0951	1051	1151	1251	1431	1536	1542	1801	
Pett (Chick Hill)	0954	1054	1154	1254	1434	1539	1545	1804	

## 344 Bus Time-Table

Hastings - Rye									
Hastings (Stn Int'change)	0750	0850	0950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1520
Hastings (Breeds Place)	0752	0852	0952	1052	1152	1252	1352	1452	1522
Old Town (Cutter)	0754	0854	0954	1054	1154	1254	1354	1454	1524
Ore (Christchurch)	0800	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1530
Guestling (School)									1534
Fairlight Glen	0803	0903	1003	1103	1203	1303	1403	1503	1533
Fairlight Cove (Hotel)	0809	0909	1009	1109	1209	1309	1409	1509	1539
Pett Level	0815	0915	1015	1115	1215	1315	1415	1515	1545
Winchelsea (Smugglers)	0819	0919	1019	1119	1219	1319	1419	1519	1549
Winchelsea Beach	0821	0921	1021	1121	1221	1321	1421	1521	1551
Winchelsea (Bridge End)	0824	0924	1024	1124	1224	1324	1424	1524	1554
Rye (Rail Station) arrive	0830	0930	1030	1130	1230	1330	1430	1530	1600

Rye - Hastings									
Rye (Rail Stn) arrive	0705	0755	0755	0825	0925	1025	1125	1225	1325
Rye (Rail Stn) depart	0710	0800	0800	0900	0930	1030	1130	1230	1330
Winchelsea (Bridge)	0716	0806	0806	0906	0936	1036	1136	1236	1336
Winchelsea Beach	0719	0809	0809	0909	0939	1039	1139	1239	1339
Winchelsea (Smuggler)	0721	0811	0811	0911	0941	1041	1141	1241	1341
Pett Level	0725	0815	0815	0915	0945	1045	1145	1245	1345
Fairlight Cove (Hotel)	0731	0821	0821	0921	0951	1051	1151	1251	1351
Fairlight Glen	0737	0827	0827	0927	0957	1057	1157	1257	1357
Guestling (School)									0837
Ore (Christchurch)	0740	0830	0844	0930	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400
Old Town (Boating Lake)	0746	0836	0850	0936	1006	1106	1206	1306	1406
Hastings (Harold Place)	0748	0838	0852	0938	1008	1108	1208	1308	1408
(Rail Stn Interchange)	0750	0840	0854	0940	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410



## SOME VERY USEFUL NUMBERS

Gas board, in case of leaks	0800 111 999 (24hrs)
EDF energy, overhead power lines or loss of electricity	0800 783 8866 (24hrs)
Water board, burst pipes in roads	0800 028 3399 (24hrs)
South East Water (Office hours only)	0845 602 1724
Police (Non emergency calls)	0845 6070 999
Fire (Non emergency calls)	0845 1308 855
Ambulance (Non emergency calls)	01622 747010
Conquest Hospital	01424 755255
Eastbourne Hospital	01323 417400
Bexhill hospital (ask for Bexhill Hospital and department)	01424 755255
NHS Direct (24hr call back system)	0845 4647

### Doctors

Harold Road Surgery	01424 437962
Enquiries	01424 720878
Pett appointments	01424 728872
Guestling Surgery, Chapel Lane	01424 814332
Roebuck Surgery, Old Town Hastings	01424 420378
Shankill Surgery, Fairlight road	0844 4772488

Samaritans	0845 909090 (24hrs)
RSPCA emergency animal welfare	0300 1234 999 (24hr)
Victim Support	0845 3030 900

East Sussex County Council 24hr help line	0345 123600
Disabled Blue Parking Badges information	0845 6080191
Rother District Council Town Hall, Bexhill	01424 787878
Planning	787661
Environmental Health	787550
Pest Control	787545
Recycling & rubbish collections	787580
Missed Bins	787502
Bulky waste	787570
Bus passes	787999
Citizens Advice Bureau. 24, Cornwallis Terrace, Hastings	01424 430400
Age Concern Rother Office	01424 775721
Rye Office	01797 270459
Information line	0800 009966
UK Passport Services	0870 521 0410
Social services	0845 601 0644
Lifeline	01424 781234
St Michaels Hospice 25 Upper Maze Hill, St Leonards	01424 445177
Bus Enquires (Traveline)	0870 608 2608
Pett Post Office	01424 812161
White Rock Theatre	0870 145 1133

All information supplied was correct at time of going to press, but changes in contact names and numbers sometimes occur.

## VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

The Village Hall is available for private hire – rates on request

Name	Telephone No ~ Email	Responsibility
Phil Button	812148	Chairman
Ray Barden	812551 ray.barden@btopenworld.com	Vice Chairman
Jeanette Barden	812551 jeanettebarden@btopenworld.com	Secretary
Carol Pecorini	813544	Treasurer
Derek Johnson	814829	Hall Manager & Hall Bookings
Evelyn Darnell	812615	Committee Member
Tim Jury	813620	Committee Member
Philippa Strickland	814364 petrickl@waitrose.com	Committee Member
Sally Williams	813101	Committee Member

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR VARIOUS ACTIVITIES IN THE VILLAGE

Activity/Society/Club etc	Contact Name	Telephone Number ~ Email
Allotment Chair	Janet Crook	812764 jlcrook@tiscali.co.uk
Badminton Club	Cathy Norris	812129 cnorris@hotmail.co.uk
British Legion	Brian Green	812450 toffee35@gotadsl.co.uk
Bowls Club	Barry Quaife	432897 barry.quaife@virgin.net
Cricket Club	Andrew Dunlop	813368
Dance & Exercise Class	Robin Hutt	813182
Flicks Film Society	Chris Saint	813047 chris@saintfamily.net
Flower Show Chair	Diane Crouch	813177
Flowerpots Toddler Group	Kate Woodbridge	pettflowerpots@hotmail.co.uk
Friends of Pett Level	Rosemary Moon	812246
Preservation Trust		
Gardening Club	Pauline Barker	812872
Latin American & Ballroom	Mr & Mrs Hall	813355
Dancing		
MOPPs	Sheila Thomas	01304 19767 sheilaspan@btinternet.com
Naturalist Society	John Taylor	814674 jnct@talktalk.net
Pilates	Gaby Valenti	442304
Puppy Training Class	Sue Moore	421373
Short Mat Bowls	Linda Jaconelli	431814 lindajaconelli@btinternet.com
Tennis Club	Dennis Lanner	812430 lanner4ex@btinternet.com
Women's Institute	Joyce Elliott	813000
Yoga	Victoria Eldon	01797 225607

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

**pettparishnews@live.co.uk**



## **PETT PARISH COUNCIL – 2010/2011**

<b>Councillors</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Telephone No:</b>
Cllr. Dr Jillian Green (Chair)	'October', Pett Road, Pett	813841
Cllr. Andrew Dunlop (Vice Chair)	1 Lunsford Farm Cottage, Pett	813368
Cllr. Dr. Arthur Hollman	Sea Bank, Chick Hill, Pett	To be advised
Cllr. Martin King	1 New Coastguard Cottages, Toot Rock, Pett Level	814078
Cllr. Brian Roberts	2 Coastguard Cottages, Pett Level Road, Pett Level	812163
Cllr. Paul Stapley	Bower Cottage, Pett Road, Pett <b>Email:</b> paul.stapley@virgin.net	814202
Cllr. David Richards	Ambleside, Pett Road, Pett <b>Email:</b> davidjamesrichards@btopenworld.com	815224
<b>Clerk</b> Bob Hodgeson	17 Barnfield Close, Hastings TN34 1TS <b>Email:</b> bob_pettpc@yahoo.co.uk	716232

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

<b>Pett Village Hall Management Committee</b>	Cllr. Jillian Green
<b>Pett Sports Association</b>	Cllr. Martin King and Paul Stapley
<b>Police Community Consultative Group</b>	Cllr. Brian Roberts
<b>Rother Association of Local Councils Representative</b>	Cllr. Paul Stapley and David Richards
<b>Sussex Association of Local Councils</b>	Cllrs. Andrew Dunlop, Martin King
<b>Flood Wardens</b>	Cllrs. Brian Roberts, Andrew Dunlop Co-opted member - District Cllr. Robin Patten
<b>MOPPS</b>	Cllr. David Richards
<b>Non-emergency Police number</b>	<b>0845 607 0999</b>
<b>PCSO Sharon Eldridge</b>	<b>07810 636992</b>
(Only answered when PCSO is on duty – otherwise any message left will be dealt with and monitored by local station and action taken if required or left for Sharon on her return to duty)	
<b>Please note that if you witness a crime in progress, you should immediately ring 999</b>	

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

Cllr. Roger Bird	87 Battery Hill, Fairlight, Hastings, TN35 4AL	01424 813636
	<b>Email:</b> roger.bird@rother.gov.uk	
Cllr. Robin Patten	5 Old Coastguard Cottages, Pett Level Road, Pett Level, TN35 4EH	01424 812479
	<b>Email:</b> robin.patten@rother.gov.uk	

### **East Sussex County Council**

Cllr. Carl Maynard	The Burrow, 23 Baldslow Down, Westfield TN37 7NJ	01273 481576
	<b>Email:</b> cllr.carl.maynard@eastsussex.gov.uk	