

April, 2011

PARISH NEWS

**APRIL HIGH TIDES AT
RYE HARBOUR APPROACHES**

Date	Day	Time (hrs)	Height (m)	Time (hrs)	Height (m)
1	Friday	1015	3.0	2222	3.2
2	Saturday	1045	3.1	2257	3.3
3	Sunday	1114	3.2	2328	3.4
4	Monday	1143	3.3	2356	3.3
5	Tuesday	-	-	1209	3.3
6	Wednesday	0017	3.3	1229	3.2
7	Thursday	0037	3.3	1250	3.3
8	Friday	0102	3.3	1319	3.1
9	Saturday	0133	3.2	1355	3.1
10	Sunday	0213	2.8	1441	2.6
11	Monday	0305	2.5	1546	2.1
12	Tuesday	0433	2.0	1737	2.0
13	Wednesday	0627	2.1	1858	2.4
14	Thursday	0738	2.5	2002	2.8
15	Friday	0835	3.0	2057	3.3
16	Saturday	0926	3.4	2146	3.8
17	Sunday	1013	3.7	2234	4.0
18	Monday	1058	3.9	2319	4.2
19	Tuesday	1141	3.9	-	-
20	Wednesday	0003	4.2	1223	3.9
21	Thursday	0045	4.0	1306	3.8
22	Friday	0129	3.7	1350	3.6
23	Saturday	0213	3.3	1437	3.1
24	Sunday	0304	2.8	1530	2.7
25	Monday	0401	2.2	1627	2.4
26	Tuesday	0506	1.9	1735	2.1
27	Wednesday	0638	1.9	1858	2.1
28	Thursday	0802	2.1	2011	2.4
29	Friday	0853	2.4	2101	2.7
30	Saturday	0933	2.7	2143	3.0

British Summer Time Add 1 hour to shaded area

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Hello

..... and welcome to this April edition.

I would like to start with a big thank you to Avril Thurley who is leaving us after many, many years of co-ordinating the distribution of the Parish News. Avril has given up a great deal of her time and walked many a mile in setting the distribution network up and filling in on those occasions when a distributor could not make their deliveries. This was a mammoth undertaking initially but with Avril's attention to detail it is now a well oiled cog in the Parish News wheel. Thank you so much Avril. We now welcome Brenda Kirkham as distribution co-ordinator and details of how to contact her can be found on page 35.

Contents	
Allotments	7
Boffins Puzzle	17
Bus timetable	33
Church Services	32
Club Contacts	35
Diary	18
Do you know?	27
Flicks	11
Flower Show	5
Gardening Club	21
Jumble sale	5
MOPPs	31 & 32
Nature Notes	29
Parish Council	14
Pett Nats	29
PettNet	25
Recipe	9
Useful numbers	34
Village Hall Committee	35
W.I.	25
Wildlife Trust	16

The Pett Parish News is now handling all the advertising for PettNet, so if you would like your advertisement to be included then please contact either Sarah or myself. Also, if you have an article for the Parish News and would like us to forward it to Peter Wiggins for inclusion on the web-site, then please let us know. You can read much more about PettNet on page 25.

The Flower Show schedule should be included with the next Parish News and you will also be able to read it on the PettNet in a couple of week's time and download extra copies of the

entry form. How close is the show getting again!

The Annual Parish Council Meeting will be held on **April 19th** at the Village Hall. The April Parish Council meeting will precede the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm with the **Annual Parish Meeting starting at 7.30pm**. You can read more about Parish Council meetings as well as planning applications and associated matters on Pettnet each month as reported by our Parish Clerk – Bob Hodgeson.

Sarah has very kindly agreed to put to-gether the May and June editions, so all that remains for me to do now is to wish you all a very Happy Easter. Enjoy.

Jackie (Editor)

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

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 April 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.
E&OE

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PETT VILLAGE HALL
Management Committee

AGM

The AGM is being held on
Monday 9th May at 7.30pm at the
Village Hall and this is your
opportunity to have your say
regarding the Village Hall.

We welcome feedback from
regular Hall users or if you are
interesting in joining the Village Hall
Committee, please come along.

Heating Problems

The Village Hall Committee
would like to apologise to Hall users
who have been affected by our
recent heating problems. Both our
boilers have been out of action.

We have supplied electric
heaters for this interim period and
new boilers are being fitted during
the week commencing 14th March.

We would like to thank
everyone for their patience during
this period.

Jumble Sale

The Friends of Pett Church
jumble sale that was held on the 5th
March raised a record breaking
£704.14 with a record number of
people buying.

Thank you to all who helped
on the day – sorting, selling and
clearing. We could not have
managed without you.

PETT LEVEL RESCUE BOAT APPEAL

Due to your generous
donations of plants last year we
were able to raise much needed
funds for the Boat Appeal.

Once again a request goes
out for any perennials you may be
splitting, excess of seedlings,
shrubs and flowerpots. We will
be happy to collect.

Ring 01424 814225
David and Barbara Martin

PETT SPORTS ASSOCIATION

AGM

Wed 20th April 7.00pm
Catharine Hollman Room
Pett Village Hall
Visitors welcome

Pett Flower Show News

The Committee for
the Flower Show was voted
in at the recent AGM. Most
of the committee remained the
same with the exception of a change
of secretary.

Louise Bowles has taken over
from Gerard Machin and now has the
task of making everything fit-together
for the July show. She is no stranger
to the role as she has held the position
in the past.

You thought she would have
learnt then wouldn't you!!!!

Welcome aboard Louise.



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Allotment News ~ Janet Crook

The first AGM of the PVAA will take place on the 29th March and another year will have started.

A lot has been achieved in its first year with transformation from a pasture to organised plots with a weatherproof central path and hard standing on the car park.

There has been a lot of activity on site preparing for the new season. To help with



the hard labour the PVAA has acquired a rotavator for the use of all plot holders. Thanks to Paul Stapley and Alan Cook for sorting this out.

All users need to do is replace the petrol they use.

The PVAA has also applied for a grant from Little Cheyney Wind Farm for a pavilion/club house in the car park so that there is somewhere to shelter from the weather and make a cup of tea. The result should be known by the May edition of the Parish News.

We still have one and a half plots available which for a site that has only been running for a year is a very good result. If anyone living in Pett or Pett Level would like either a whole or half plot please contact me or mention it to another committee member.

My wild oats have turned into
'prunes and All bran'!

Pett Rescue Boat Boathouse Extension Appeal

This organisation is an 'independent' rescue facility which depends solely on fundraising, donations and sponsorship and gets no financial assistance from Councils or the RNLI.

We currently have enough funds to purchase a replacement launch vehicle as the existing vehicle is ancient and troublesome. The vehicle when it arrives will have to be kept safe, (the current launch vehicle is kept in the open). To achieve this aim we have launched a 'new' campaign/appeal to build a boathouse extension. We have planning permission (in principle) the final permission we hope will be very soon. We require materials to build the extension and hope you may be able to make a donation; any amount will be most helpful.

Your help will enable this organisation to continue to save lives along the hazardous Pett Level and surrounding area coastline.

Should you wish for more information or a visit to see our organisation in more detail we would be pleased to co-operate.

If a donation is possible the monies/cheque should be made payable to the 'Pett Level Rescue Boat Association' and of course receipts would be provided.

Thank you to all those who have already donated, but please, we really could do with more help.

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Ronnie Watson 1920 - 2011

Over the past 3 - 4 years many more people had come to know Ronnie, mainly because he could no longer play golf as often as he would like to and he began to be more involved in village affairs - delivering Christian Aid envelopes, sharing the Coffee Mornings and Flower Festivals, taking an active part in Remembrance Day services.

Rye Golf Course was his second home and he loved it, but he loved Pelt as well - he and his wife, Claire, bought Chick Hill Cottage some 50 years ago. Ronnie loved his garden, carefully tended by Roger, and he enjoyed sitting on his bench overlooking the sea with a mug of coffee in one hand and the Telegraph crossword in the other.

He enjoyed entertaining and being entertained and he had a wonderful sense of humour. He had a great knowledge of sport and politics - he did stand for Parliament at one stage in his life, but failed to get in.

As a boy of 14 he became dangerously ill and had to leave school to live in France and Switzerland where he became fluent in French, German and Italian - the latter becoming very useful during the last war, especially when he was awarded his M.C. at Monte Casino.

Ronnie was proud of our village. He loved to drive through it on his way to the shops or Guestling Surgery (where they were so kind to him). He enjoyed giving people lifts in the Jaguar, though it has to be said that his passengers were somewhat wary of this! He also enjoyed being driven to parties, exhibitions, weddings and so on.

All of us who knew him will miss him very much indeed. I am just happy to know that he passed away so peacefully having checked the answers to that day's Telegraph crossword!

May he rest in peace.

Jinny Jackson ~ Chick Hill

Lemon sole is a popular fish with a mild flavour. It is best cooked quickly so it remains moist and retains its subtle flavour. The staff at RX fisheries will fillet the whole sole for you, if you ask. For a special occasion, try using a whole Dover Sole ~ Serves 2

Garlic butter sole with citrus mash

450g floury potatoes, cubed
a knob of butter at room temperature
1 clove garlic, crushed
2 tbsp chopped fresh parsley
1 lemon sole filleted
150ml double cream (or low fat creme fraiche)
grated rind and juice of 1 lemon
seasoning to taste
green vegetables such as mangetout and spinach, to serve



Cook the potatoes in a large pan of boiling, salted water for 10-12 mins until tender. Pre-heat the grill to high. Meanwhile, mix together the butter, garlic, parsley and seasoning. Cook the sole skin side down under the grill for 1-2 mins. Turn over the fish, dot with herbed butter and return to the grill for a further 2-3 mins until golden and cooked through. Meanwhile, heat the cream (or creme fraiche if using) and lemon rind in a small pan. Drain the potatoes and mash well, then beat in the warm, zesty cream until smooth and fluffy. Season well to taste, then spoon onto serving plates. Arrange the sole fillet on top of the mash and drizzle over a little fresh lemon juice. Serve with fresh green vegetables.



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Chris Saint & the Flicks Team

Made in Dagenham will be our feature film on the April 7th. 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.**

It's 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 its 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.

On the 5th May (election day) we will be showing **Tamara Drew.** Stephen Frears directs this comedy drama about an ugly duckling followed by a handful of suitors after maturing into a sexy swan. Tamara Drewe (**Gemma Arterton**), born and raised in Ewedown, a quiet community on the outskirts of London dominated by a writers' colony run by Nicholas Hardiment (**Roger Allam**), a best-selling novelist who specialises in crime fiction, and his wife Beth (**Tamsin Greig**). When Tamara left Ewedown, she was a plain and awkward teenager, but when she returns home for the first time in years, the locals are surprised to discover that time (and a nose job) has turned her into an attractive and alluring woman, and she's gained a share of money and fame thanks to a successful newspaper column. Returning to refurbish the home of her recently deceased mother, Tamara soon finds herself pursued by three men from her past - Andy Cobb (**Luke Evans**), her former boyfriend; Ben Sergeant (**Dominic Cooper**), the swaggering drummer with a local indie rock band flirting with larger success; and Nicholas (**Roger Allam**), who is chronically unfaithful to his wife and sees an opportunity with the neighbourhood girl who was infatuated with him in her teens.

June 2nd we are planning to show the Oscar award winning film **The King's Speech**, both in the afternoon for the benefit for the older folk of our community, and again at our normal evening performance. Times, arrangements and special reduced prices will be announced in next month's programme.

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 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.

We look forward to seeing you.

flicks in the village

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OUT OF POVERTY
Gill Plank



Christian Aid Week 2011
will soon arrive. This year the focus
is on the coffee farmers of
Nicaragua. The aim is to help
farmers form co-operatives and so
be able to keep more of the profits
from their coffee beans for
themselves and their community.
Christian Aid's vision is to end
poverty - striving to achieve
equality, dignity and freedom for all
regardless of faith or nationality.

For Pett the key dates this year are:

- **May 8th** - Christian Aid
Service at Pett Methodist
Chapel at 11.00 a.m.
- **May 14th** - a fund raising
Coffee Morning from 10-12
a.m. at Paxstead, Pett Road -
cakes, plants, bring and buy,
raffle and sale of Traidcraft
goods.
- **May 15th - 21st** House to
house envelope collections.

Please support us in any way you
can. Thank you

PETT TENNIS CLUB

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Situated at Pett Recreation Ground
Annual subscription:
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Dennis Lanner ~ 01424 812430

An Exception Site Development for Pett Parish Site Appraisal Process

The group undertook a desk top exercise to reference and then score each site on a map using questions 1 – 10 (below). These sites were put forward by respondents to the housing needs survey conducted in the parish (June 2010) plus any others that the group were aware of. A list of the sites put forward by the survey respondents is shown below. On 25th November 2010, members of the group visited the sites in order to refine this appraisal and assess each site according to its suitability for a small scheme to meet local need. The final site assessment report will become a public document as soon as negotiations with land owners have concluded.

Site Appraisal

General criteria – questions;

1. How well does the site meet the area needed for the accommodation (size of site)?
2. How easily could the site be purchased?
3. How accessible is the site from the main highway?
4. How easy is connection to utilities and mains drainage?
5. How good is access to public transport?
6. How close is the site to amenities?
7. How well related is the site to the village overall?
8. How easy would it be to build on the site (Slope, ground conditions, trees, flooding, contamination etc.)?
9. How easily could planning permission be achieved (exception site, change of use, etc.)?
10. How much support would the development of the site have locally?
11. How attractive would the site be to the Housing Association and/or developer (location, size, type etc.)?
12. How affordable is the development (land Value, abnormal costs)?

The agreed criteria is then used to rank the list of sites by applying a score (1 – 5) indicating how well the site meets those criteria:

- 5 = Excellent
4 = Good
3 = Average
2 = Poor
1 = Very Poor – not achievable

The criteria can be weighted to reflect their relative importance in the assessment of 'deliverability'. Once a shortlist has been identified then each site is investigated in more detail.

Survey Respondents Suggested Sites

- Village Hall Site
- I am sure that there are a couple of sites through this village. Which could be used but I am not sure what planning permission is required.
Old Forge boundary site - along with a new micro boundary which could employ a couple of youngsters.
Royal Oak car park.
Field behind this oak field - continue round to Elm Lane.
- The holy built place at the sawyers - on that site.
- Land between Two Sawyers public house and Pett Village Hall.
This land is no longer used for agriculture and has mains drainage and local amenities close by.
- The Old Gun shed site and land behind village hall.
Also road frontage owned by Mr. Lovejoy.
Land down elms lane owned by Mr. R Lovejoy.
Behind the old police houses in Pett.
- Housing at oak field I thought was for local people but majority not local to Pett!!!
Rother already own land between Watermill Lane and Allards, Pett Rd.
- The recent detailed survey conducted in the formation of the parish action plan clearly indicated a number of points:
1- There is no identifiable need for 'affordable' housing.
2- There was overwhelming objections to 'new build' on Greenfield sites.
3- There was support for the conversion of redundant buildings.
Please take note of the results of this survey and action plan. Which was, in part, funded by you?
- I believe this is something that only needs to be decided if there is a proven local need for further housing. This would safeguard against speculative building which would jeopardize the rural nature of this area.
Any future developments should harmonize with the traditional buildings already in Pett.
This is an area of designated outstanding natural beauty.
- At present finding our way around the area so no ideal
- Bachelors Bump to the west of Guestling/Pett
- Adjacent to Pett Village Hall.
- None - Not necessary as Hastings is very close.
- We supported the building of the Oak Fields social housing development and have learned from our mistake!
- Do not know area well.
- 1 - Pannel Lane sports ground, unused as playing field since purchase.
2 - Redevelopment at Two Sawyers public house.
3 - Ground at village hall - field adjacent?
- None as they do not go to local people only single mums with problem kids and benefit cheats i.e. the 'Oak Fields'.
- Yes, but no point if the affordable housing is filled by families from outside the village.
- Behind Pett Village Hall.
Land between Watermill Lane and Allards - already owned by RDC.
- Land at the front of the recreation ground opposite 'The Royal Oak'
- Stamco field.
- If it was for 'elderly' - by village hall
- In field behind Two Sawyers and next to the village hall.
- I stress, if there were a proven need locally, not just the country's generic need
- Stamco football ground
- In the field next to the village hall and behind the Two Sawyers Public house
- Land adjoining the village hall.
- Best done by the parish council

Frogs and Toads

By Mike Russell Sussex Wildlife Trust ~ www.sussexwt.org.uk



Even the most urbanised of us Homo sapiens know what frogs and toads look like, we become familiar with them at an early age, featuring as they do in many children's story and picture books. Now they too are becoming urbanised as our gardens are becoming increasingly important breeding grounds for frogs in particular, as their natural sites are suffering pollution or disappearing altogether. A few years ago it was estimated that over 50% of frog spawn recorded in Sussex was from garden ponds.

This year I first recorded frogs in my garden pond on February 7th and by the 18th spawn started appearing. For those of a sensitive disposition I would recommend averting your eyes when frog courtship and mating starts to take place. It is a pretty brutal affair, particularly for the females as many males try and grab hold of her, with the successful one clinging on for dear life fending off other suitors to ensure he is the one to mate successfully. Because this happens during February, frogs are sometimes used as a symbol of St Valentines' Day as an illustration of love and romance, but I'm afraid that this mating process has very little to do with love, more to make sure whose genes will be passed to the next generation.

Female frogs can lay up to 2,000 eggs and not long after spawning the tadpoles will start to emerge and very soon there is a writhing mass of wriggling youngsters at the edge of the pond. Sadly, their main role in life is to act as dinner for a wide variety of other creatures, including other tadpoles! It has been calculated that out of one clump of frogspawn only half-a-dozen tadpoles will become an adult, but this is enough to maintain a stable population.

Toads are having an even harder time of it than frogs surviving in today's harsh environment. They require deeper water to breed and prefer more traditional breeding sites. If these are lost, they have more difficulty in adapting to new ones. In February and March they begin their migration to the breeding grounds which can involve a long and hazardous journey. If they have to cross busy roads, hundreds can be lost in a very short time. In Sussex, there are a number of identified 'toad crossings' with lots of toad-loving volunteers giving them a helping hand by transporting them safely across the roads in buckets!

To establish if you have frog or toad spawn in your pond follow remember that toad spawn is laid in long beads of string whereas frog spawn comes in more familiar clumps. As tadpoles, toads are jet

black while frog tadpoles have small but visible white dots over their body.

Both should be welcomed in the garden. They will munch their way through what some people regard as unwelcome garden visitors such as slugs, snails, woodlice and other insects, with toads having a particular liking for ants. But, they need you to help them. Garden ponds have become a real sanctuary from the harsher world of the countryside and it would be a great shame that, if in the future, children read about frogs and toads in the same way as they do now about dinosaurs.

FREE

To take away

Could anyone make use of an alarm clock/radio? There's nothing wrong with it except it has a green light which keeps me awake. I've bought another one with a red light which is fine, but it seems a shame to throw away the green one.

Avril Thurley 812675



Boffins Puzzle

My _____ is _____

than my wallet

Which one word can fill both gaps?

Answer on page: 25

Magazine Distribution

Avril Thurley

With effect from this April edition co-ordination of magazine distribution will be in the capable hands of Brenda Kirkham. Brenda lives at Martlets, next to the bus turnaround at the top of Chick Hill and already delivers the round which includes the Hill.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all you lovely people who deliver the magazine faithfully and without fuss, month after month. I know from many comments received that people really enjoy getting the magazine, so your efforts are truly appreciated. In future, if you need more/less copies, or are unable to deliver one month because of holidays/sickness/attack by flying cats (see Nature Notes) please phone Brenda on 815022.

Thank you, Brenda, for taking over; you have a great team to work with. Thanks also to Jackie and Sarah, who put in a huge amount of work each month, and who understand the mysteries of the dreaded computer (unlike me - I was referred to recently as a Living Dinosaur, which I took as a compliment).

Last but not least, thanks also to the Parish Council who underwrite the Parish News. The advertisements actually pay the costs of the magazine, but it's nice to know that the Council is there should disaster strike.

PARISH DIARY – April 2011

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

Friday 1 st	Badminton	VH	10 am
	MOPPs	Fairlight VH	10.30 am
	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
Sunday 3 rd	Boathouse	VH	10.30 am
	Mothering Sunday		
Monday 4 th	Flowerpots	VH	9.30 am
	Quiz Night	NBC	8 pm
Tuesday 5 th	Yoga	VH	9.30 am
	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	11.30 am - 1.15 pm
	Pilates	VH	6 pm
	British Legion	VH	7.30 pm
	Quiz Night	Two Sawyers	8.30 pm
Wednesday 6 th	Coffee Morning	VH	10 am
	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Mobile Library	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 7 th	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3 pm & 7 pm
	Flicks in the Village	VH	7.30 pm
Friday 8 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	MOPPs	Fairlight VH	10.30 am
	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
Sunday 10 th	Boathouse	VH	10.30 am
Monday 11 th	Quiz Night	NBC	8 pm
Tuesday 12 th	Yoga	VH	9.30 am
	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	11.30 am - 1.15 pm
	Pilates	VH	6 pm
	Garden Club	VH	7.30 pm
	Quiz Night	Two Sawyers	8.30 pm
Wednesday 13 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Puppy Training Class	VH	1 pm
	Advanced Training	VH	2 pm
Thursday 14 th	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3 pm & 7 pm
Friday 15 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	MOPPs	Fairlight VH	10.30 am
	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
	Women's Institute	VH	2.30 pm
	Pett Nats	VH	7.30
Monday 18 th	Quiz Night	NBC	8 pm
Tuesday 19 th	Yoga	VH	9.30 am
	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	11.30 am - 1.15 pm

	Pilates	VH	6 pm
	Parish Council	VH	7.00 pm
	Annual Parish Council		7.30 pm
	Quiz Night	Two Sawyers	8.30 pm
Wednesday 20 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Mobile Library	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
	Pett Sports Association AGM	VH	7 pm
Thursday 21 st	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3 pm & 7 pm
Friday 22 nd	Good Friday		
	Badminton	VH	10 am
	MOPPs	Fairlight VH	10.30 am
	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
Sunday 24 th	Easter Sunday		
Monday 25 th	Bank Holiday		
	Quiz Night	NBC	8 pm
Tuesday 26 th	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 27 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Puppy Training Class	VH	1 pm
	Advanced Dog Training	VH	2 pm
Thursday 28 th	Short Mat Bowls	VH	3 pm & 7pm
Friday 29 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Royal Wedding No MOPPs		
	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
	Royal Wedding Party	New Beach Club	3 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

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It means you've decided to see beyond the imperfections



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Gardening Club - March ~ Sue Dengate

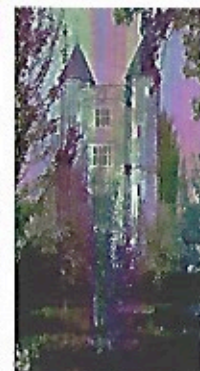
This month one of the most famous gardens in the world 'Sissinghurst' was the subject of an illustrated talk by Brian Meldrum. Mr. Meldrum was able to recount his first visit there when Vita Sackville West was working on the garden and the entrance fee of one shilling which was taken by Harold Nicholson at the gate. We were taken through the garden and castle as it developed over the last century with many interesting slides showing some of the variety of garden areas and of course, Vita Sackville West's study. The latest development has been the growing of all the fruit and vegetables needed by the restaurant and catering facilities at the castle, this has been a project which the National Trust and Adam Nicholson have worked on, no doubt with the help of Adam's wife Sarah Raven.

The evening was very well supported and it is hoped that next year we can arrange a special visit to this wonderful garden.

Next meeting on the **12th April** will be a visit to Rother View Nursery. This will include an opportunity to buy plants, take part in a special quiz and some 'light refreshments' (wine and nibbles). Meet at 6.15 at the Village Hall to then go in convoy to arrive there for 6.30. We will be sure to have not only a warm welcome, but a good evening if the weather is kind to us - do not miss this opportunity to visit Wendy and Ray Bate's splendid nursery with its

camellia's, alpinas and other goodies!!

Please also remember ladies and gentlemen, the Plant Sale in May. Many of you will have ordered or bought quantities of plug plants for your gardens, perhaps we could have one or two to sell at the plant sale - all offerings will go towards making our gardens and allotments more beautiful and productive, not to mention a contribution to our funds. Thank you!



BINGO!

Monday 2nd May

7.30 pm

The Two Sawyers

The Two Sawyers are hosting a charity fund raising bingo night for **BOATHOUSE**

performing arts project.

Boathouse has been set up by Olivia and her parents for young adults who are in

supported

education/training with meetings in the Village Hall each Sunday at 10.30 am.

A good fun evening for a worthwhile cause.



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theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

The last meeting of Pett WI was held on the 18th February. Our guest speaker was Mrs Kathy Fordham from Bradford's

Farm in Little Horsted near Uckfield (www.bradfordsfarm.co.uk).

Bradford's is a fully working family run farm and is part of the Farming and Countryside Education (FACE) initiative. This aims to help young people (and adults!) learn about farming and food in a sustainable countryside. Kathy shared her journey from traditional farming to their current model where the public are encouraged to be tolerant of farmers trying to produce food, and to buy locally produced seasonal fresh food whenever possible, rather than ready prepared meals. In addition to a farm butcher's shop, Bradford's offers farm tours, secure indoor caravan storage, DIY livery/ grazing, office/workshop facilities and are a recognised Caravan Club Site.

The April meeting will be on Friday 15th April, 2.30pm in the Village Hall. A representative from **Sussex Air Ambulance** will be providing an insight into their valuable work. This is an open meeting so **non members are welcome.**



Boffins Answer

Lighter

www.PettNet.co.uk

Pett's very own website PettNet has joined forces with the Pett Parish News as an additional way of putting across your views on local issues and promoting your clubs.

You can voice your opinions and debate on local issues/events on the PettNet discussion forum; read the Village Voice; find out what's on offer or offer your unwanted goods on pettfreecycle; get an up to the minute weather report for the area; read the latest from the Village hall; get a seed bargain from the Allotment site; check the sports page and much, much more.

If you are already an advertiser in the Pett Parish News you can see your ad or have links to a much bigger advertisement for a small fee which is additional to the Parish News charges (Contact Jackie or Sarah for details)

To access the Pett web page just type in www.PettNet.co.uk and click on. Peter Wiggins is the brains behind this site and if you would like your club or organisation to have its own web page then do contact Peter on 813922 or email him on peter@pettnet.co.uk

This is your link to all that's happening in the village, it's instant, informative and very user friendly. Although still in its infancy Pettnet is getting bigger every day.

In the next couple of weeks you will be able to read and/or download the Flower Show schedule and print off additional entry forms.

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DO YOU KNOW? ~ John Taylor



Do you know the origin of the Easter Bunny? When Easter approaches and symbols of chicks, eggs and rabbits abound, do you ever wonder what the rabbit has to do with Easter and why he is often depicted carrying a basket of eggs?

History suggests that the Easter bunny was originally a hare. In pagan mythology, the hare represented love, growth and fertility. The hare and the egg were also symbols of the spring and lunar goddess Eostre, from whose name it is generally believed that the word 'Easter' is derived.



The Easter bunny has its origin in pre-Christian fertility lore. The Hare and the Rabbit were the most fertile animals known and they served as symbols of the new life during the Spring season. The Easter bunny was introduced to American folklore by the German settlers who arrived in the Pennsylvania Dutch country during the 1700s. The arrival of the "Oschter Haws" was considered "childhood's greatest pleasure" next to a visit from Christ-Kindel on Christmas Eve. The children believed that if they were good the "Oschter Haws" would lay a nest of coloured eggs. The children would build their nest in a secluded place in the home, the barn or the garden. Boys would use their caps and girls their bonnets to make the nests. The use of elaborate Easter baskets would come later as the tradition of the Easter bunny spread throughout the country.

The rabbit has taken over from the hare as it is far more common in many countries. Due to its reproductive proclivity, the rabbit is also regarded as a symbol of fertility. Eggs are also symbolic of new life and fertility, hence

one of the reasons why the rabbit carries a basket of eggs. However, there are other myths that try to account for this.

Neither hares nor rabbits lay eggs, but hares bring up their young in 'forms'. These forms are hollows in the ground, usually located in fields and meadows. Hares make more than one form so they can divide their offspring among them for safety. Plovers have been known to take over a form as a nest in which to lay their eggs. One legend relates that a woman saw a hare leaving a form and upon investigation, she found a 'nest of eggs', which she consequently believed to have been 'laid' by the hare. According to another myth, Eostre's hare was a large, handsome bird which she one day magically changed into a hare. Because the hare was still a bird at heart, it continued to build a straw nest in which to lay its eggs.

A German legend states that according to custom, a poor woman hid some coloured eggs in a nest for her children to find. As the children approached the nest, a hare hopped away and they therefore believed that the hare had brought the eggs!

Although nowadays the real meaning of Easter has become masked in commercialism, it is interesting to delve deeper and become familiar with some of the ancient traditions behind the confectionery symbols presented to us in modern society.

AND, if you do happen to see an Easter Bunny carrying a basket of eggs, do let me know and perhaps we can share them together.



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Wed, Thurs & Fri 12 - 2.30 & 6 - 8.30

Sat 12 - 3 & 6 - 8.30 Sun 12 - 4

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Nature Notes ~ Avril Thurley

The crocuses on Hyde Park have been lovely. Apart from the usual mauve ones there was a patch of gold ones which appeared since that area was coppiced. As well as the snowdrops in Elms Lane which I mentioned last month, did you see the beautiful display on the bank outside the Sussex Barn at Lunsford Farm? They will shortly be followed by spring snowflakes (leucojum) and daffodils. The daffodils which the Garden Club planted throughout Pett should then be in flower, assuming they haven't been driven over or otherwise vandalised.

Although the weather in early April is frequently unenticing, it really is worthwhile getting out and about if you can do so. April is definitely a spring month, even if humans are still muffled up in scarves and woolly hats, or wet weather gear. Almost everything which has survived the winter will be growing new leaves, building nests or sunning itself in a sheltered spot. Migrant birds will be returning, of which the Chiff Chaff will be one of the first:- a 'little brown job' almost indistinguishable visually from his cousin the Willow Warbler but easy to identify because he repeats his name loudly, clearly, frequently and at length!

I am indebted to Philippa Strickland for the following extraordinary account. She was



walking along the road near Rock House when she heard a scuffling scrabbling noise coming from one of the trees. As she watched, a mouse fell out of the tree, picked itself up, dusted itself down and beat a hasty retreat. Odd enough, but seconds later a cat also fell out of the tree. I can see the headlines in the gutter press: "Woman narrowly escapes brain

damage from falling cat;

Health and Safety says all pedestrians should

wear crash helmets and

cats must be fitted with parachutes".

Thanks Philippa, you made my day.

Pett Nats

Avril Thurley ~ Hon. Secretary

Our talk on 15th April is "Flotsam and Jetsam - Pett Level Beach" by Andy Dinsdale, which should provide plenty of local interest. There are always loads of bits and bobs on the beach, so now is our chance to find out more about them.

Visitors are welcome at £2 each. This will be our last meeting of the season; meetings will resume in September and all paid-up members will receive a programme in advance.

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Marsham Older Peoples Project ~ 4th March 2011~ Jackie Richards

MOPPs was very pleased to welcome the Queens Emery Debbie Bedford, very High Sheriff of East Sussex on one of their regular Friday lunch times – and what a lovely lady she was too.

She was telling us that her appointment was only for 12 months, voluntary and she only had another 3 weeks left in office but had heard about MOPPs and wanted to come and meet the organisers for herself.

When we arrived mid-morning, coffee was being served, Carol Mellow was singing, people were dancing, and a well stocked home produce table was busy. Who says life slows down when you get older!

Sheila Thomas, Nan Hacking and Sylvia Gutsell have done a marvellous job in getting MOPPs up and running and Friday lunchtimes in Fairlight Village Hall is *the* place to be.

Although on this occasion we were unable to stay for lunch, Sylvia and her helpers had cooked roast beef, roast potatoes and Yorkshire pudding with fruit flan and cream to follow. It smelt wonderful. Other Friday lunchtime menus include Pork chops, Scampi & chips, chicken breast wrapped in bacon and roast lamb. All sorts of puds accompany these meals like steamed puddings, crumbles and meringue nests.

During April some of the lunch-time entertainment will include Quizes, fashion show, talent competition, exercises, sing a long, foot care and eye concerns. There will also be a talker on wills and probates.

MOPPs is there for all Marsham older people from Pett, Fairlight, Guestling, Three Oaks and Winchelsea and the pick-up bus details for Pett are on page 32.

Sheila also offers a "simply feet" and toe-nail cutting service at very reasonable rates and a home visit can be arranged. Contact her on 07774 573086 or shellaspan@btinternet.com



First left Sheila Thomas, High Sheriff with flowers
Nan Hocking penultimate right and
Sylvia Gutsell far right



High Sheriff seated with MOPPs helpers

Opposite is a basic time table of the 347 and 344 bus routes. For a more detailed version contact:

eastsussex.gov.uk

Coastal Coaches - 01797 253176 www.coastalcoaches.com

Stagecoach - 08702 433711 www.stagecoachbus.com

(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 or **Sylvia Gutsell 812544**

Home nail cutting service available ~ contact Sheila Thomas

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 or Sylvia



CHURCH SERVICES:

Sun 3rd Apr 9.30am - **MOTHERING SUNDAY** Joint worship with the Methodists, St Mary & St Peter

Sun 10th Apr 9.30am - Parish Communion, St Mary & St Peter

Sun 17th Apr 8.00am - Holy Communion, St Nicholas, Pett Level

Fri 22nd Apr 10.30am - **GOOD FRIDAY** - Joint service of witness with the Methodists, start at St Mary & St Peter

Sun 24th Apr 9.30am - **EASTER SUNDAY** - Parish Communion, St Mary & St Peter

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 1630 1730 1820
Hastings (Breeds Place)	0752	0852	0952	1052	1152	1252	1352	1452	1522 1632 1732 1822
Old Town (Cutter)	0754	0854	0954	1054	1154	1254	1354	1454	1524 1634 1734 1824
Ore (Christchurch)	0800	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1530 1640 1740 1830
Guestling (School)									1534
Fairlight Glen	0803	0903	1003	1103	1203	1303	1403	1503	1533 1643 1743 1833
Fairlight Cove (Hotel)	0809	0909	1009	1109	1209	1309	1409	1509	1539 1649 1749 1839
Pett Level	0815	0915	1015	1115	1215	1315	1415	1515	1545 1655 1755 1845
Winchelsea (Smugglers)	0819	0919	1019	1119	1219	1319	1419	1519	1549 1659 1759 1849
Winchelsea Beach	0821	0921	1021	1121	1221	1321	1421	1521	1551 1661 1761 1851
Winchelsea (Bridge End)	0824	0924	1024	1124	1224	1324	1424	1524	1554 1664 1764 1854
Rye (Rail Station) arrive	0830	0930	1030	1130	1230	1330	1430	1530	1600 1710 1810 1900

Rye - Hastings

Rye (Rail Stn) arrive	0705	0755	0755	0825	0925	1025	1125	1225	1325 1425 1525 1705 1805
Rye (Rail Stn) depart	0710	0800	0800	0900	0930	1030	1130	1230	1330 1430 1530 1715
Winchelsea (Bridge)	0716	0806	0806	0906	0936	1036	1136	1236	1336 1436 1536 1721
Winchelsea Beach	0719	0809	0809	0909	0939	1039	1139	1239	1339 1439 1539 1724
Winchelsea (Smuggler)	0721	0811	0811	0911	0941	1041	1141	1241	1341 1441 1541 1726
Pett Level	0725	0815	0815	0915	0945	1045	1145	1245	1345 1445 1545 1730
Fairlight Cove (Hotel)	0731	0821	0821	0921	0951	1051	1151	1251	1351 1451 1551 1736
Fairlight Glen	0737	0827	0827	0927	0957	1057	1157	1257	1357 1457 1557 1742
Guestling (School)									0837
Ore (Christchurch)	0740	0830	0844	0930	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400 1500 1600 1745
Old Town (Boating Lake)	0746	0836	0850	0936	1006	1106	1206	1306	1406 1506 1606 1751
Hastings (Harold Place)	0748	0838	0852	0938	1008	1108	1208	1308	1408 1508 1608 1753
(Rail Stn Interchange)	0750	0840	0854	0940	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410 1510 1610 1755

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. E&OE

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	814384 pstrickl@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 cnorri@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 Preservation Trust	Rosemary Moon	812246
Gardening Club	Pauline Barker	812872
Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	Mr & Mrs Hall	813355
MOPPs	Sheila Thomas	01304 19767 sheilaspan@btinternet.com
Naturalist Society	John Taylor	814674 jnt@talktalk.net
P.N Distribution co-ordinator	Brenda Kirkham	815022
Pett on the Net	Peter Wiggins	813922
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

Councillors	Address	Telephone No:
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 Old Coastguard Cottages, Pett Level Road, Pett Level	812163
Cllr. Paul Stapley	Bower Cottage, Pett Road, Pett Email: paul.stapley@virgin.net	814202
Cllr. David Richards	Ambleside, Pett Road, Pett Email: davidjamesrichards@btopenworld.com	815224
Clerk Bob Hodgeson	17 Barnfield Close, Hastings TN34 1TS Email: bob_pettpc@yahoo.co.uk	716232

RESPONSIBILITIES

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

MOPPS

Non-emergency Police number	0845 607 0999
PCSO Sharon Eldridge	07810 636992
(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)	
Please note that if you witness a crime in progress, you should immediately ring 999	

Rother District Council (Marsham Ward)

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

East Sussex County Council

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