

August, 2011

PARISH NEWS

Pett Level

AUGUST HIGH TIDES AT RYE HARBOUR APPROACHES

Date	Day	Time (hrs)	Height (m)	Time (hrs)	Height (m)
1	Monday	1157	3.9	-	-
2	Tuesday	0016	3.7	1238	4.0
3	Wednesday	0055	3.8	1318	4.0
4	Thursday	0136	3.7	1401	3.9
5	Friday	0220	3.4	1446	3.7
6	Saturday	0309	3.2	1538	3.3
7	Sunday	0407	2.7	1638	2.7
8	Monday	0519	2.2	1753	2.4
9	Tuesday	0649	2.1	1932	2.2
10	Wednesday	0814	2.4	2058	2.6
11	Thursday	0921	2.7	2200	2.8
12	Friday	1012	3.1	2246	3.2
13	Saturday	1054	3.4	2324	3.3
14	Sunday	1131	3.7	2357	3.4
15	Monday	-	-	1208	3.7
16	Tuesday	0028	3.4	1241	3.7
17	Wednesday	0058	3.3	1312	3.6
18	Thursday	0126	3.2	1336	3.4
19	Friday	0149	3.0	1356	3.2
20	Saturday	0209	2.8	1421	3.0
21	Sunday	0236	2.6	1455	2.6
22	Monday	0316	2.2	1545	2.1
23	Tuesday	0438	1.8	1734	1.9
24	Wednesday	0630	1.8	1857	2.0
25	Thursday	0739	2.1	2003	2.4
26	Friday	0835	2.6	2057	2.8
27	Saturday	0924	3.2	2146	3.3
28	Sunday	1009	3.6	2230	3.7
29	Monday	1053	3.9	2313	3.9
30	Tuesday	1135	4.2	2355	4.0
31	Wednesday	-	-	1217	4.3

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Hello

..... As the Parish News goes to the printers on the 15th of the month, I cannot report on the Flower Show until the September edition, but I do hope to have all the facts and figures for you then.

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Not a lot happens in August in Pett as most people seem to be having holidays, or at least a well earned rest from their normal activities so there will be **no Coffee Morning or Flicks** this month.

We were saddened to learn of the death of Margaret Newton and tributes to her life here in Pett are featured in this magazine. Our condolences go to her family.

As the Threefold Church magazine has ceased publication, Church notices can now be found in the Parish News, subject to space being available.

On a final note, please read the article on page 12 concerning the Pett Church **Flower Festival** being held on the 3rd and 4th of **September**. A lot of hard work and thought has gone into organising this event, which includes a Treasure Hunt. Cannot wait!

Jackie

(Editor)

Copy for the **SEPTEMBER** 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 August** 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.

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information supplied herein, the editor cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions. Unless otherwise indicated, opinions expressed herein are those of the authors of the individual articles and adverts, and they do not necessarily represent the views of the editor, nor can the editor uphold or recommend any advertiser here within this publication. E&OE

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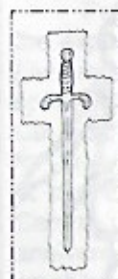
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FLOWER FESTIVAL TREASURE HUNT ~ John Taylor



The Pett Flower Festival to be held on the 3rd & 4th of September is well covered in this issue of the magazine.

However, there will also be a **TREASURE HUNT**

during the two days of the festival. This is for all the family and an additional attraction for folk wishing to spend some extra time looking for clues around the church and churchyard as they appreciate the wonderful flower arrangements.

The treasure hunt arises from a large sum of money buried by Baron Henry Hardacre of Pett in the churchyard in 1611. This was found in 1949 and some of it is still hidden. By answering 20 questions and following a few simple instructions you can find the treasure and may win a prize of £10, £6, or £4.

It will cost £1 to have a go at finding the treasure. Do come and have a go. All you need is a pen or pencil and a keen eye. Great fun for anyone or all of the family – and the Flower Festival is a must and well worth a visit.

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PETT W.I. ~ Heather Godwin

Pett WI met in June to hear the experiences of Ellen Catt at the Liverpool AGM, and to hear the speaker for the month, Jason Caulfield, from the Raystede Centre for Animal Welfare, who had been at the Centre for 25 years. The Centre, which will celebrate its 60th anniversary next year, started in a small bungalow, and now has acres of land and costs a staggering £4,000 a day to run. The equine department is home to 26 horses and donkeys as well as goats and sheep. The aviary houses some 250 exotic birds, all of whom are ex-pets, and also takes in tortoises and terrapins. With regards to dogs and cats, the Centre can house 35 and 40 at any one time respectively, and they are all spayed or neutered with the aim to re-home them. Small animals such as rabbits, guinea pigs, hamster and rats, as well as up to 500 chickens a year, are also looked after.

The Centre grows some of its food for the animals, but food and vet bills are huge, so fund raising is

a major task and W.I. members

contributed by buying some of the souvenirs and items that Jason had brought with him. He invited the members to visit the Centre - which may be a great idea for a day trip next year!

July's meeting, on Friday 15th July at 2.30pm at Pett Village Hall, will welcome Mrs Sue Hollings with her talk on 'My Life as a Couture Dressmaker' and the meeting in August will be a garden meeting at the home of Kay Jury, Fields Barn, Peter James Lane at 2.30pm on Friday 19th August. As well as Pett W.I. members, a number of others have been invited such as members of the local W.I. Group and people from the East Sussex Federation of W.I.'s, including the present Chairman, Shirley Kirby.

If you are interested in coming along please contact Mrs Elliot, the President on 01424 813000, or email heathergodwin@lineone.net. You will receive a warm welcome and enjoy a delicious tea!

Don't forget

News and views are available from the village interactive website
www.PettNet.co.uk

HELP NEEDED TO PREPARE THE FLOWER SHOW MARQUEE ON THE RECREATION GROUND IN PETT

Due to the Dover Marquee Company ceasing trading the marquee will now be arriving on Friday 29th and not on the Thursday. Paul would appreciate any help with preparations between 6 pm and 8 pm on that Friday (29th) and more helpers are needed at 8am Saturday morning (30th) please.

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Margaret Newton

Margaret Newton and her family moved to Pett in 1975. Her husband Eric was still working as an air accident investigator. They both took a great deal of interest in the village and it is hard to talk about one without mentioning the other. They both got involved with a number of village organisations and contributed a great deal without being in the least bit pushy or trying to upstage the "locals", for whom they had the utmost respect. They in return were very much liked and respected themselves.

Margaret was a keen member of the WI, and of the Church in which she sang in the choir and arranged the flowers; she was also a very keen badminton player. She served as a member of Pett Parish Council from 1983-1995 and was vice-chairman for a number of years. Her quiet, calm authority earned her much respect amongst both fellow councillors and villagers alike.

Margaret was a very active member of the Horticultural Society. Both she and Eric loved the Flower Show, winning many prizes, especially Eric for his huge onions and Margaret for her home produce and flowers. She was also to be found organising and working hard in the tea tent. At the evening party afterwards they would be the first couple onto the dance floor, Eric leading masterfully and Margaret elegant and graceful as ever.

Margaret will be remembered for many reasons, but perhaps most of all for her longstanding support and love of the Cricket Club. This is where the whole family would be involved every Saturday and Sunday and at many midweek games. Margaret would help my mother serve up the teas and do the washing up. Eric would be looking for lost cricket balls and repairing the benches, pavilion and score board. Their son Simon played in most games and became a very popular leading player, and Sandra their daughter helped with the scoring.

More recently Margaret devoted the latter part of her life to nursing Eric, once again earning the respect and admiration of all who knew her. After Eric's death she moved to Yorkshire to be near her family, having left a legacy of love and dedication to the village and people of Pett.

Andrew Dunlop

Margaret Newton

I have been asked, on behalf of Margaret's family to write a few village remembrances of her life here in Pett.



We held a Thanksgiving Service at Pett Church on Sunday 26th June for Margaret's life where we used the hymns, anthem and readings that she had requested for her funeral – held at Sheffield Cathedral on Friday 1st July.

Our village has much to thank Eric and Margaret for.

They retired here some 35 years ago, having had many happy family holidays here. They threw themselves into village life and quickly became involved in the life of the church, the cricket club, the Parish Council and

the Flower Show.

Margaret, in particular, was involved with the church choir – singing being one of her first loves. She was very much involved with the local Women's Institute, becoming its President for some years.

She was valued for her cookery skills when it came to providing cakes for local coffee mornings and for the tea tent at the Flower Show.

After Eric's death in 2009 Margaret's health began to deteriorate and she had to recognise that, despite the loving care and friendship of so many people in Pett, she had to make the decision to move to Sheffield in order to be nearer her family.

She died peacefully following stroke and is now at rest with her beloved Eric.

Eric and Margaret will always remain special to Pett and we remember them with love and thanksgiving.

Interregnum ~

For twenty months now we are still without a Rector, and this situation is likely to continue for the foreseeable future.

We have been so lucky to have the help of John Burgess, Frank Rowson and David Wootton to take the services of Holy Communion. The services of Morning Praise have been shared between St Mary and St Peter Pett and the Methodist Chapel.

Our congregations ask for your continuing support at this time. Please come and join us and help to keep the life of the church alive and well in Pett.

Meriel Deasy ~ Pett Level

A Prayer for Pett

Lord, call to this
church a true
shepherd

A person of God, a
minister of Christ:
Make us a church
joyful in worship and
united in witness,
working, caring,
praising and loving:
To the glory of your
name;

Through Jesus
Christ our Lord -
Amen

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Chris Saint and the Flicks Team

Unfortunately we will not be holding a film show during August, because traditionally previous audience numbers for August have been low. Faced with the continual rise in our costs, we cannot afford to risk making a loss even on one film show. It may be worth mentioning that on average the cost of hiring the film and hall is about £140 per showing and with the entrance fee being £4.00 / £4.50 per person we must have an expectation of at least 32 folks attending.

On the **1st September** we will be screening **The Ghost**. This film is based on a novel by Robert Harris who also wrote the screenplay, concerns a public figure accused of being a war criminal, much of whose time is spent bunkered in a chalet working on an autobiography that he hopes will salvage what's left of his reputation. The Ghost is a brooding thriller whose moods – a black spectrum ranging from cynical and conspiratorial to powerless and despairing – have come to dominate contemporary political drama. **Ewan McGregor** plays an unnamed ghost writer who bags himself a commission to complete the memoirs of former PM Adam Lang (**Pierce Brosnan**), currently in free-fall after being accused of giving the CIA free rein to kidnap and torture four Pakistani terror suspects. Lang's wife Ruth is played by **Olivia Williams**. The latter, said to be styled after if not exactly modelled on Cherie Blair, staggers and seethes with the weary bitterness of an alcoholic who's exhausted her last bottle of the night. Her hold on power is slipping. What next? It's a question the ghost keeps asking, too. The memoir is full of holes and inconsistencies. He finds strange photographs. A potential source, a professor played with characteristically cruel avuncularity by **Tom Wilkinson**, proves to have his own dark agenda.

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. Alternatively, you can always pop into the Butchers shop in Pett and grab an application form. All films start at 7.30 pm on the first Thursday in the month (with the exception of this August) with refreshments served from 7.00 pm.

flicks in the village

Pett Church Flower Festival ~Flower Festival Committee

"BLOOMING POETRY" is the theme we have chosen for our Annual Flower Festival this year which will be held at St Mary & St Peter Church on the weekend of 3rd & 4th September. There will be 29 arrangements depicting some of the most popular poems and poets (including a mystery arrangement for which clues to the author and poem will be provided and a prize awarded to the winner) will be on display. In addition to the flowers a children's corner will display contributions, non floral, from pupils of Guestling Bradshaw School. As in previous years we would welcome sponsorships for the floral arrangements all of which will be individually acknowledged on the back of the programme. Please ring Angela Hawksley on 812705 for further details.

Outside the church will be an array of stalls selling fresh produce, cakes, trash and treasure, books, and of course a tombola; donations for any of these will be greatly appreciated. Items for trash and treasure may be left with Val Gill at 8 Rectory Park (no clothing please) books can be delivered to the church on Thursday and Friday, cakes, fresh produce, jams, chutneys, marmalade, etc. delivered to the church on the day.

We hope you will come along to support our Festival and enjoy the transformation of our lovely village church. You are assured of a very warm welcome.



Allotment News for August ~ Janet Crook

As the summer progresses the plots have greened up and intermittent blossoms of blue and crimson cornflowers and multicoloured sweet peas have sprung up.

The initial effort of digging and planting is being rewarded by picking and eating.

To make the 'picking and eating' available to the wider community do not forget the SATURDAY MARKET outside the Two Sawyers by the petanque pitch. You can also bring along your own produce to sell or barter. All you need is a table or a box from which to sell.

Storage of tools and produce is always an issue. Although the container has served us well some plot holders find the large metal doors difficult. A dousing with WD40 should help matters in the short term; however, the committee are investigating ways of improving access. It would also help if the muscular persons who ram the second bolt back would refrain from doing so as it makes it hard for the less robust amongst us to shift it.

Plot holders will be aware that due to a resurgence of interest in sheds the PVAA committee conducted a survey to gauge the need or otherwise. Exceptionally, a survey was conducted in this case due to the environmental implications to the site, our neighbours and plot holders. Having considered the results of the survey the committee voted in favour at their recent meeting on the 11th



July. It is proposed that the sheds will be no more than 6'4" and of a uniform colour, either green or natural wood, and style. They will be situated on the fence side of the plots, towards the centre, to avoid taking other plot holders light. There will be no more than 1 per plot even when shared. The PVAA have now approached the Parish Council to seek the necessary planning consent. The committee are mindful of the concerns of our neighbours and are taking care to minimise the visual impact to them.

Here's to more sun and just enough rain to prevent Orang-Utan arms.

Nature Notes ~ Avril Thurley

The fox trotted along Elms Lane towards me. He was well grown and looked to be in good condition. When we passed each other he got onto the opposite verge and watched me warily but didn't increase his pace. This was at 7.30 am in broad daylight. By the time you read this he will most likely be dead – and easy shot for a man with a gun. Presumably he had either been hand-reared or was used to being fed. It is a big mistake to make wild mammals unafraid of humans; almost inevitably it is a death sentence.

I was very interested to hear of a glow worm on the bank outside a house in Watermill Lane. I used to see them in the woods, but now I come to think of it I haven't seen one for ages. Only the flightless females produce the light, which they use to attract the winged

males. In spite of their name, they are not worms but beetles.

I have been shown the most extraordinary "thing" growing on a camellia in a garden at Glebe Cottages. It is humanoid in shape, about four or five inches long and a couple of inches wide, and appears to be some kind of hard whiteish fungus. Nearby on the same bush we found what appeared to be a black and shrivelled version of the same thing.

Did you notice how pretty some of the uncut banks and verges were this year? The bank outside the Parish Church was especially attractive, with masses of ox-eye daisies and meadow buttercups. The latter are a welcome addition to a wildflower verge, unlike their cousin the creeping buttercup which is a thus and will rapidly take over the whole area to the exclusion of everything else. The worst thing you can do is chop it up with a cultivator as this will produce thousands of potential new plants from all the bits of root. Of course, like all the plants which we call rampant weeds, creeping buttercup is one of Nature's success stories.

This cheeky chappie was in my garden in Pett Road the last week in June!



Mary Burgess

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DO YOU KNOW? ~ John Taylor

Do you know how the Romney Marshes were formed?

The Romney Marshes cover an area about 100 square miles and include the third largest coast wetland in Europe. The region includes the Walland Marsh, Denge Marsh and Romney Marsh itself; the Pett Levels, East Guildford and Brede make up the Eastern edge of the marshes.

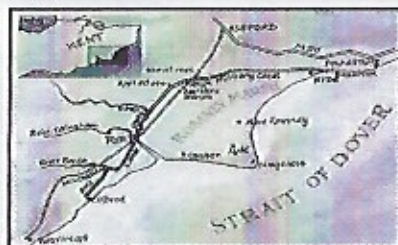
Bordered by the English Channel to the South, ancient sea-cliffs mark a northern border with the rest of England and show the original coast line at the end of the Ice Age, some 10,000 years ago. At that time rivers flowed off the Weald into a marine bay. Over the centuries islands formed in the bay and a shingle bank (caused by 'long shore drift') formed across it providing a natural sea wall. This was followed by silt and sand deposits stabilizing the area and changing it into a series of lagoons, sand pits and salt plains.

In the last few thousand years more islands were formed and lagoons and pools silted up – the silt coming from both the sea and from the rivers. Man began to live in the area and by the 9th century the sea levels were beginning to drop and the Romney Marshes and inland areas developed their present form. This was aided by the reclaiming of land by the owners of it as ditches and drains were dug to help farm the land.

Approximately 80% of the landscape features have evolved

over many centuries with a pattern of fields formed of old salt marsh creeks connected with ditches: the farming community refer to the system as Wet Fencing.

The 13th century was remarkable for a series of storms accompanied possibly by a rise in sea level. The first was in 1250 when the town and port of Old Winchelsea were destroyed; there was a temporary recovery until it finally succumbed in the great storm of 1287. The result was vast devastation to New Romney; flooding of much of the Marshes and the Rother joining with the Brede and making its way out to the Channel at Rye - three miles further along the coast.



Romney Marsh today

The shore-line of the marsh has over the centuries been split into three specific areas by accumulations of shingle due to long-shore drift; east of Pett Marsh to the River Rother Mouth; east of Walland Marsh at Jurys Gap to Dungeness point, curving north to Greatstone; and finally an area north of the Redoubt beyond Dymchurch to Hythe. Between these areas the marshes have been

exposed to the sea, they consist of Pett, Walland and Romney Marsh proper. Originally only having the natural protection of a shingle fore-shore and crest, they were prone to move landward, and creep onto the marsh unhindered. Early attempts were made to stem this advance by building earth walls behind the shingle crest, which were then thatched with faggots, (bundles of brushwood) cut from the local woodlands. It proved quite resistant to the sea in the short term. Today these marshes are protected by sea-walls and consist of large shingle banks and mud-flats backing onto wind-swept marshes, pastures and arable land crossed by ditches and rivers running up to the original cliff-line marking the start of the Weald.

The Romney Marshes are a mysterious and enchanting region of Kent and our part of East Sussex. The area is rich in history, story and legend. A place of outstanding natural beauty, where the sun casts glorious colours across wide-open skies as mists swirl above slow moving rivers and still, dark, dykes. It is no wonder it is called 'The Fifth Continent' – a very special place and we are so fortunate to live on the very western edge of it.

Open garden at Fairlight End ~ Chris Hutt

The official numbers for our open day for the NGS are that there were 221 visitors and a total of £1428.82 was raised for the charities NGS supports.

Our thanks to the many generous and warm hearted citizens of Pett who supported the day. We plan to repeat the event next year.

COFFEE MORNING ~ One of the regulars



On the 6th July a celebration was held in the Village Hall. The first Wednesday of the month **Coffee Morning** had its 1st birthday. About 40 to 50 people shared free refreshments and good fellowship, and, a free raffle.

It was, as always, a great occasion – made even more so by the smiling welcome given to all who came by Sally, Helen and



Stephanie. These three have created a monthly environment where anyone in the village can stop for a little while, forget the worries of the world and just enjoy a fabulous welcome, good company and refreshments. Where else could you get all this for just £1?

On behalf of all who benefit from these mornings may I say a huge thank you to the three smiling ladies for providing us with so much pleasure. Their hard work and cheerfulness make us all feel much better and we really appreciate all that they do. Long may they continue! And, if you haven't yet tried out the Coffee Morning – you really should – you will be in for a treat!

There will not be a Coffee Morning in August but look forward to seeing you all on the 7th September ~ Sally

PARISH DIARY – AUGUST 2011

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

Monday 1 st	Quiz Night	NBC	8 pm
Tuesday 2 nd	Yoga	VH	9.30 am
	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	9.30 - 11.30 am
	Pilates	VH	6 pm
	British Legion	NBC	7.30 pm
	Quiz Night	Two Sawyers	8.30 pm
Wednesday 3 rd	Badminton	VH	10 am
Friday 5 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	MOPPs	Fairlight VH	10.30 am
	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
Saturday	Allotment Market	Two Sawyers	11 am
Monday 8 th	Quiz Night	NBC	8 pm
Tuesday 9 th	Yoga	VH	9.30 am
	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	9.30 - 11.30 am
	Pilates	VH	6 pm
	Garden Club Outing		
	Quiz Night	Two Sawyers	8.30 pm
Wednesday 10 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Mobile Library	Church	10.10 am
		Chick Hill	10.50 am
		Smuggler	11.20 am
Friday 12 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	MOPPs	Fairlight VH	10.30 am
	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
Saturday 13 th	Allotment Market	Two Sawyers	11 am
Monday 15 th	Quiz Night	NBC	8 pm
Tuesday 16 th	Yoga	VH	9.30 am
	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	9.30 - 11.30 am
	Pilates	VH	6 pm
	Parish Council	VH	7.30 pm
	Quiz Night	Two Sawyers	8.30 pm
Wednesday 17 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
Friday 19 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
Saturday 20 th	Allotment Market	Two Sawyers	11 am
Monday 22 nd	Quiz Night	NBC	8 pm
Tuesday 23 rd	Yoga	VH	9.30 am
	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	9.30 - 11.30 am
	Pilates	VH	6 pm
	Quiz Night	Two Sawyers	8.30 pm

Wednesday 24 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	Mobile Library	Church	10.10 am
		Chick Hill	10.50 am
		Smuggler	11.20 am
Friday 26 th	Badminton	VH	10 am
	MOPPs	Fairlight VH	10.30 am
	Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	VH	2 pm
Saturday 27 th	Allotment Market	Two Sawyers	11 am
Monday 29 th	Bank Holiday		
	Quiz Night	NBC	8 pm
Tuesday 30 th	Yoga	VH	9.30 am
	Dance & Exercise Class	VH	9.30 - 11.30 am
	Pilates	VH	6 pm
	Quiz Night	Two Sawyers	8.30 pm
Wednesday 31 st	Badminton	VH	10 am

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
Rector's Cottage



CHURCH SERVICES:

Sun 7 th Aug	9.30am – Parish Communion, St Mary & St Peter
Sun 14 th Aug	9.30am – Joint Worship with the Methodists, St Mary & St Peter
Sun 21 st Aug	8.00am – Holy Communion, St Nicholas, Pett Level
Sun 28 th Aug	9.30am – Parish Communion, St Mary & St Peter

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Gardening Club Outing to Groombridge Place

Our outing to Groombridge Place was a very interesting and varied venue.

Apart from the formal gardens, of which there were quite a few, there was something like 160 or so acres to roam in.

A canal boat took us to the Enchanted forest past fields and vineyards. We saw alpacas, deer, the Zeedonks and peacocks showing us all the finery which nature endowed them with.

The Forest itself had all manner of nooks and crannies – an absolute haven for children and 'oldies' alike.



The next Garden Club meeting will be Tuesday, 9th August and is another visit, this time to the Stables Theatre for a short tour and then on to Strawberry Cottage in the Old Town of Hastings. This is an afternoon event and will start at approximately 2.30 p.m.

Please let Sue Dengate (812872) know if you are coming and she will give you all the times and other details.

The Royal Oak ~ Now Open

Lee Norcott & Ian Mitchell – Owners & Licencees of
The Royal Oak, Pett and The Queens Head, Icklesham



Well we made it, just! We finally opened on the lunchtime of Tuesday 21st June. Thank you to all of you who came to support us, and had a first look at the place. All of the feedback we have had so far about the refurbishment and what we have on offer to eat and drink has been very favourable.

We aspire to be renowned for our home cooked fresh food and real ales as we are at The Queens Head, that many of you are already familiar with. We will continue to run and own both establishments.

We are trying out lots of new ideas with the menu, so please bear with us as there will probably be many changes. Please let us know what your favourite things are to eat.

In these "early days" we will be closing the bar in the afternoons after 3pm during the week, re-opening at 6pm, (like pubs used to do in the "olden days" - remember back then?!), but we are hoping for this to be just for a few weeks. We will keep you posted of the timings as and when we are able to extend them. Our current opening times are shown in our advertisement in this magazine.

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Another year!

Guestling Bradshaw C.E. Primary School
Carolyn Weston ~ Head teacher

It seems impossible that another year has passed. It seems like only yesterday when I was sat at my computer pondering about the contents of this article for last year's magazine. However, this year I am sat in my new room located in the heart of the school, looking over the playground. Great!

So much has happened this year. A gardening club was set up with the help of Leigh Gill and a number of parents. Under the guidance of Heena Kicinski aubergines, lettuce, carrots, potatoes, to name a few, have been grown and sold. Even Percy Thrower would be amazed at the array of produce and flowers. A local artist, Juliette Dodd, worked with year 5, using the design of Darian Sobhanioh's cross (a pupil in year 4) to create a new entrance board. Thought pictures are located around the school and all these help us to reflect on a daily basis that we are a church school.

During the year all year groups have performed for parents; the Infants reminded us of the Xmas story in their excellent nativity, the lower Juniors performed Jonah, word perfect and Year 5 and 6 finished the year with 'I Tiberius' a roman tale. All of these opportunities help our children to grow in confidence and share their talents with parents and friends.

As a global school we have welcomed visitors from around the world; Africa, USA and New Zealand. The visitors always comment on how welcoming our school is and how proud our children are of their school.

The Friday Jesus Club meet every Friday and are led by Wendy Hatch and her enthusiastic team. The club had a great deal to celebrate this

year. After taking part in the 'Take Over Day' and visiting Rother district council to help work with them on the problem of Graffiti, they were chosen by the Youth Council as winners. Some of this group presented their project to other teachers and councillors at an East Sussex Conference on Pupil Voice. You can imagine how proud we are of this group. Amber Rudd was also invited to talk to the children and the club is to finish this year with a visit to the Houses of Parliament in August.

I could not write an article without mentioning our Parent Teacher Association. This small active group work, laugh and raise money for the swimming pool refurbishment and other projects.

Our governors support our school and help us with our mission to be a learning and improving school.

Finally the school had its Ofsted and Diocesan Inspections during the Summer Term, both reports were very positive about the school and we were thrilled that the Diocesan Inspector judged us as outstanding. Meriel Deasy and John Burgess have supported us throughout the year and we know that we are supported with prayers and thoughts at all times. Whole school services at the churches really do help our children to feel part of their community and church.

Thank you to all the members of the community who support us at the churches, collecting tokens and thinking about us.



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As the height of summer gently glides into autumn, golden sheaves of wheat will decorate the late August landscape and the light and the very texture of the countryside seems to change with the approaching new season. A very 'romantic' or idealised view of our 21st century landscape I know, but even in this highly mechanised modern world, the onset of autumn does have a very distinct feel about it; a sense of reaping the efforts of all the hard work that went before and is about to come again soon.

For much of our wildlife it is a time when the rigours of raising a family are over and the essential task of getting ready for surviving the winter either through migration, hibernation or by staying here and 'toughing out' the cold months begins. Our smallest rodent owes its name to this season, the harvest mouse, a really charming little creature that is probably not uncommon, but its size precludes it from being seen very much. The Latin name *Micromys minutus* is indeed very apt.

As the name implies, the harvest mouse has an association with cereals, particularly wheat and builds a nest of woven grasses around the stems of crops and grasses which can range from half to a full metre off the ground. In fact you are far more likely to record the presence of harvest mice through finding the nests during winter once the surrounding vegetation has fallen, though by this time the mice will have abandoned them. The nest is spherical like a cricket ball and breeding nests can be up to 10cms in diameter whereas a non-breeding chamber is only half the size.

Harvest mice don't hibernate so their size makes them vulnerable to cold, wet winters. It also means they

have high energy requirements and during their short life they have to continually search for seeds, berries and insects to sustain them. They usually have two or three litters a year, mainly between May and October, and average around six young in each litter. They change from being blind, naked rodents at birth to exploring outside the nest at eleven days to being totally abandoned to their own devices five days later.

Being a harvest mouse is a tough business. Modern agriculture has made their life more difficult and the tidying up of verges and removal of hedgerows has depleted their habitat. Then there is the weather to contend with. If they survive all that, there is a range of hungry predators; stoats, foxes, kestrels, cats and crows who would find them a tasty snack, while studies of barn owl pellets reveal that harvest mice make up one per cent of their diet!

Surprisingly, the little harvest mouse was not recognised as a distinct species until the late 18th Century when the great Selbourne Naturalist Gilbert White sent two specimens to Thomas Pennant, a regular fellow correspondent describing them as separate species for the first time. In fact there has been no archaeological evidence of harvest mice before Roman times, giving rise to the idea that they might have been brought into this country at that time.

While walking in summer and autumn it is worth taking an extra peek into grass verges and tall vegetation bordering agricultural fields, you just might find a little straw cricket ball clinging tenuously to the stalks and perhaps give a little thought to the smallest mammal in Europe and the struggle it has to survive in these modern times.

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District Councillor's Report ~ Cllr Robin Patten

You may recall that in the readjustment by National Government of Local Government financing Rother District Council received the swingeing reduction to the Formula Grant of 28.5% or £1.7m over the two years 2010/11 and 2011/12. As a result it was important to ensure that our level of service delivery was, if possible, not compromised. That compulsory redundancy was avoided and that joint and partnership working with other Authorities and Bodies were, where appropriate, encouraged and developed.

There was no increase in our Council Tax which remained by far the lowest in East Sussex and services have not been compromised as a result of careful management, resetting and redeployment of staff. Already in staff members a 'lean' Council, we have made £700k further staff savings/voluntary redundancies during the year - in numbers that is a reduction from some 275 to 230. However it is my opinion that this is as far as we can go at the present time without imposing a serious threat to the delivery of the services the Council undertakes.

Discussions are currently taking place with other Authorities over partnership working in areas such as Legal, Licensing, Grounds Maintenance and Environmental Health. However it is in Waste/Refuse collection/disposal area that major progress is being made. A Joint Waste Committee has been established with Eastbourne, Hastings, Wealden, Rother and East Sussex County being the members to develop a Joint Waste and Beach and Street Cleaning service to commence by 1st April 2013. Clearly there will be many difficult issues to be dealt with and resolved. However to maximise the financial benefits to this Partnership and therefore the taxpayer, particularly at this difficult time, is an opportunity that must be grasped.

pettparishnews@live.co.uk

Sea Sunday ~ Meriel Deasy

It was a cloudy start on Sunday morning, but fortunately the weather stayed dry when we held our annual Sea Sunday Service on the beach at Pett Level.

A lot of people attended this service, many of them bringing their garden chairs so that they did not have to sit on the sea wall!

The theme for this year's service was Fishing and Fishermen and Lou Parsons told me a story about a rescue for a boat called Simon Peter - a boat named after the first fisherman disciple. It was a lively and happy service - thank you to all those who helped put it together.

As always, we had a collection for The Mission to Seafarers Charity - a world-wide organisation who help sailors wherever and wherever they may be - often a long and lonely way from home. This year we have been able to send a record donation of **£129** to this charity.

Thank you to the Rescue Boat Crew for their hospitality and to everyone for their support and care.

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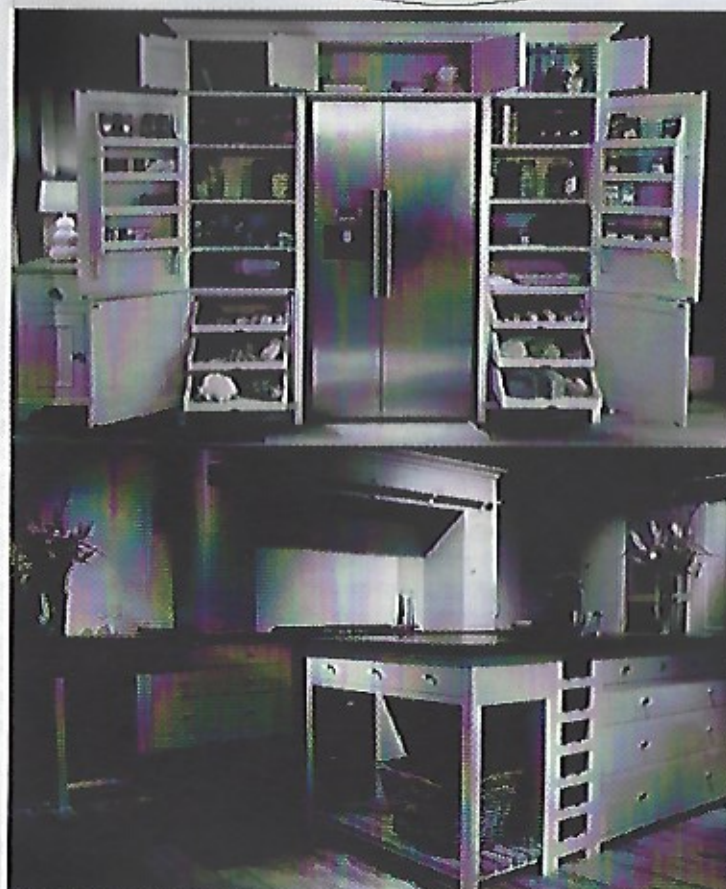
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(This information was correct at the time of going to print but alterations can occur)

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

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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 on 01424 812544

POPP's Open Day ~ Sheila Thomas

There has been an overwhelming response to our appeal for equipment for the project. We now have plates, cutlery etc, but are still in need of large saucepans in good condition please. Thank you to everyone who has sponsored this appeal and been so generous.

The POPP's open day on Saturday 9th July was very successful with stalls brimming over with goodies to purchase, and a tantalizing aroma of Ham, Egg and Chips in the background! A big thank you to everyone for their support and sponsorship of raffle prizes on the day.

Many thanks too to Dee Pardil who made the cake for the 'guess the weight' which was won by Bob Harris with a correct weight of 2lb.8oz (1.18 kg) and our own Sally Williams who had the nearest guess for the jar of sweets which was 84.

It's good to see a group coming together to raise funds to get this project off the ground for the Pett villagers and surrounding areas. Please continue to support this lovely project.

Thank you to everyone who is helping this cause. More news next month.

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	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 1610 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 (Travelline)	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@bopenworld.com	Vice Chairman
Jeanette Barden	812551 jeanettebarden@bopenworld.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 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 jicook@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 Preservation Trust	Rosemary Moon	812246
Gardening Club	Pauline Barker	812872
Latin American & Ballroom Dancing	Mr & Mrs Hall	813355
MOPPs & POPPs	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 peter@pettnet.co.uk
Pilates	Gaby Valenti	442304
Short Mat Bowls	Linda Jaconelli	431814 lindajconelli@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 – 2011/2012

Councillors	Address	Telephone No:
Cllr. Andrew Dunlop (Chair)	1 Lunsford Farm Cottage, Pett	813368
Cllr. Dr Jillian Green (Vice Chair)	'October', Pett Road, Pett	813841
Cllr. Martin King	1 New Coastguard Cottages, Toot Rock, Pett Level	814078
Cllr. Paul Stapley	Bower Cottage, Pett Road, Pett Email: paul.stapley@virgin.net	814202
Cllr. David Richards	Ambleside, Pett Road, Pett Email: richards.davidj@yahoo.co.uk	815224
Cllr. Judith Dean	Delvings, Chick Hill, Pett Email: jmd_delvings@live.com	812249
Cllr. Mark Hall	The Water House, Pett Road Email: markhall.pett@gmail.com	812781
Clerk		
Bob Hodgson	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. Mark Hall
Rother Association of Local Councils Representative	Cllrs. Paul Stapley and David Richards
Sussex Association of Local Councils	Cllrs. Andrew Dunlop, Martin King
Flood Wardens	Cllrs. Andrew Dunlop, Co-opted members District Cllr. Robin Patten, Brian Roberts
MOPP's & POPP's	Cllr. David Richards
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: cllr.roger.bird@rother.gov.uk	
Cllr. Robin Patten	5 Old Coastguard Cottages, Pett Level Road, Pett Level, TN35 4EH	01424 812479
	Email: cllr.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	