SMITTEN KITTEN'S RECIPE OF THE MONTH IS CAULIFLOWER & PEANUT CURRY WHICH YOU CAN FIND ON PAGE 13 AND THEN ENJOY AT YOUR LEISURE
Dear Readers

October sees the return of the village coffee morning after so many months. This is a welcome opportunity to catch up with old friends and borrow a book or two to see you through the darker evenings. Intersperse your reading with a Jigsaw loaned from Jane Sweaney’s ever growing library.

The WI are now on-line, with an interesting array of speakers lined up. They are also continuing their collections for Rye Food Bank, helping some of those most impacted by the restrictions we are living under (research by the Sussex Community Foundation estimates that up to 40% of children in Rye now live in households that are below the poverty line).

When Lesley and I first moved to Pett we rented an allotment so that not only had we space to grow vegetables but also so that we could get to know people (Pett Allotments had just opened). Now it seems that the lockdown has reinvigorated the allotments and I hear that all of the plots are now taken. This is a local success story and we should be proud that our village hosts such a vibrant site.

And finally, we say farewell this month to our Rector, Richard Barron, who retires after many years of service. We give him our best wishes for the future. What will happen next is open to discussion, and Angela Hawksley is seeking your views.

Best wishes, and enjoy the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness

The News Team are: Mike Wilkins, Editor, 07710 080148; John Case, Assistant Editor, 01424 812224 or 07525 032198; Lesley Wilkins, Advertising, 01424 813206; Sarah Adams, Distribution Co-ordinator, 01424 812323; …. and not forgetting our distribution team of up to 20 volunteers. This magazine is distributed to all households in Pett & Pett Level. If you would like to receive a monthly copy of the magazine and live outside of the area then you can download for free from our sister website pettnet.org.uk or take out a subscription for £15 per year by contacting Brenda Kirkham on 01424 815022 or beekirkham@tiscali.co.uk.

DEADLINES:
Copy (letters, articles, announcements) - MID-DAY THE 15TH of each month.  
Adverts (new, changes, payments) - MID-DAY THE 1ST of each month.

COPY must be sent, by email, to magazine@pettnet.org.uk. If you want to provide something handwritten please contact us first otherwise it may not be printed. Copy must be accompanied by your name, address and phone number. When submitting letters the writer should give due consideration before naming individuals, either directly or by implication. No letter will be published anonymously. We reserve the right, at our sole discretion, to cut, crop, edit or not publish any copy received.

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The Coffee Morning is back!!

We are so excited to invite you back to the village hall on the 7th October. Seating will be limited but if the weather is fine there will be some seating outside. Hand gel will be available at the entrance, face covering must be worn unless eating or drinking and no more than 6 at a table. We cannot use the hall crockery so please bring your own mug although we will have eco cups and plates if need be.

We have missed seeing you all and so hope some of you can make it, we will still be supporting the village hall by hiring the hall for the library as well so your support will be very welcome.

Even if you do not wish to stay or a drink please feel free to come along and buy some cake or a cheese scone to take home.

Next date for Library AND Coffee Morning is Wednesday 7th October 10 - 12.

We all hope to see you there!!

Best wishes, Tim and Anne & Anna and Vivien

PETT PUZZLES

The Jigsaw Library is for people like me who love doing jigsaws and one of its chief objectives is to reach people who maybe can’t get out much and don’t have access to the internet (Facebook, Pett on the Net etc.) It can also be a great family activity with young and old engaged in solving a puzzle together. If any of your friends, relatives or neighbours would be interested, please pass on these details to them.

Since last month I have received lots of new puzzles and the collection now stands at 85! Several loans have gone out, mainly to people who were off on holiday!

Puzzles can be delivered to anyone who would like one as well as collected/delivered/exchanged at the village hall on the day of the monthly coffee morning.

All jigsaws will be quarantined for a week between loans and boxes treated with anti-bacterial spray. I am not charging anything for the loan of a jigsaw. I am also not setting a specific time limit for return.

I hope to have a paper catalogue available by the beginning of October, so if you would like one, or you know someone else who would, please let me know.

I am Jane Sweaney, I live at Oakhurst and my phone number is 07788 410342.
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angelagastrell@hotmail.co.uk
At the time of going to press we were just about to have our first online meeting with our inaugural speaker being West End musical star and local friend to Pett WI – Sophie-Louise Dann, who starred in the Calendar Girls musical which many of us saw at the Phoenix Theatre a few years. We have a variety of entertaining speakers lined up for more online meetings and hope that the majority of our members will be supportive of them during this time when we of course are unable to meet personally.

We would like to thank members of the community for their generosity so far with our latest appeal – Pett WI Community Aid (WICAID) in support of the Rye Food Bank. As reported last month the Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the fact that people can find themselves in crisis at any time. Illness, disability, family breakdown or the loss of a job can happen to any of us.

It may be a shock to learn that 40% of children in Rye live in households below the poverty line - within the 20% most deprived wards in England. (Source: Sussex Community Foundation.) If you'd like to contribute - we're collecting non-perishable, in-date food (tins, packets, cartons), toiletries, sanitary and household products.

We are so pleased to now have collection points in Pett, Fairlight (with many thanks to Mandy and Tim Day for coming to our aid) and Icklesham. These can be found at:-

**Pett** - Lobby, Pett Village Hall
**Fairlight** - The Barn, Shepherds Way, Fairlight
**Icklesham** - Tea Beside the Orchard, Main Road, Icklesham

Thank you to campaign co-ordinator Hilary Dymott and her team including Trish Walker, Wendy Burgess and Sally Watson who have been helping transport donations to the Rye Food bank on a weekly basis as well as a bank of Pett WI members willing to help at all times and who continue to donate items generously themselves. Our green-fingered friends at The Pett Allotments Association came to our aid with donations of their seasonal gluts! We’d also like to sincerely thank Cllr Nick Warren for his help and suggestions when researching Icklesham donation options and for putting us in touch with the lovely Jan at the Tea Beside the Orchard on the Main Road who so kindly agreed to have a donation basket. As you may well know, Nick Warren is also Centre Manager for Hastings & St Leonards CAP Debt Help and more information on the services they are able to offer are available on their website www.capdebthelp.org or call for free on 0800 328 0006. If you or anyone you know may be in need of assistance from the Rye Foodbank contact Rother District Citizens Advice Bureau on 0800 02904 3948, email: help@rotherdistrictcab.org.uk, or the Hastings Advice & Representation Centre (HARC) on 0333 344 0681, email: info@harcuk.com.

Finally, although we are unable to meet personally at this time please consider taking advantage of a taster membership of six months for just £10.75* and you too can enjoy our upcoming online events! For more details please email us at pettwi@outlook.com

We’d love to welcome you virtually for now and then in person when we get a chance to meet again!

*NB this offer is not valid for anyone who has been a former WI member within the last ten years.
# Beauty by Paige

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<td>Full body massage with a luxury facial 2 hours &amp; 15 minutes</td>
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<td>Pamper Pack 2</td>
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<td>Hot Oil &amp; Salt Scrub, a Facial &amp; a Pedicure 3 hours</td>
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<td>Children’s Pamper Pack (under 13)</td>
<td>£30</td>
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<td>Each child chooses 3 treatments from hair braiding &amp; glitter, mini manicure, mini pedicure, mini facial or mini back massage</td>
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# Tara Begbie

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Contact the news team for more information (see page 3 for details).
PETT VILLAGE HALL 500 CLUB

Pett Village Hall Management Committee set up the 500 Club in 2013. It has run successfully since then raising funds for the facility with improvements to the Hall and helping to covering essential maintenance.

The monthly draw of half the sums raised give a first, second and third prize from March 2019. There have been many happy winners.

The 500 Club has loyal supporters and there is room for more.

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PLEASE BECOME A MEMBER AT £12 PER ANNUM TO SUPPORT THE VILLAGE HALL.

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Please send pictures of what you would have entered!

The Committee would like all those keen gardeners, flower arrangers, cooks and craft people out there to submit photographs of vegetables, fruit, flowers and flower arrangements (in fact, anything) that they would have entered into the show to demonstrate all the hard work that has been put into the growing season and related activities. These will be displayed on the Pett Flower Show page of Pettnet; there will no judging.

Please send a JPEG (between 1 and 2 megabytes), together with your name and a description of the exhibit to pstrickl@icloud.com.

Design a Tea Towel

Following our virtual show in July, the Committee wish to extend this competition for the Young People to choose a final winner along with those already entered.

All Young People, 14 Years and Under

Design a tea towel illustrating the Flower Show (design A4 size). The winning design will be printed and sold at next year’s show. Prizes will be awarded.

Entry details
Entries can be sent to pstrickl@icloud.com

Please send a JPEG photograph (between 1 and 2 megabytes in size and with the exhibit filling the picture) along with the following details:
Name, Address, Phone number, Email address, Age of young person.

The entries will be catalogued by the committee administration. The entries will be displayed on the Pett Flower Show page on the village website Pett on the net (www.pettnet.org.uk).

Pett Flower Show and Fayre 2021

The Committee have taken the decision to book Pett Village Hall for Saturday 24 July 2021 for the Show. As a small group we are appealing for more members to join us so as to make the event a great occasion for the village.
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Serves 4 - 35 mins

- 1 lg cauliflower, cut into florets
- 2 large handfuls of Kale
- 1 400g tin of chickpeas
- 1 onion, peeled and chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, chopped
- 1 400g tin of coconut milk
- 1 tablespoon curry powder
- 3 tablespoons of sunflower oil or similar
- 1 tablespoon peanut butter
- 1 tablespoon light brown sugar
- Handful of chopped peanuts
- 1 finely sliced red chilli
- Pinch of salt

1. Preheat oven 220c fan, 425f Gas mark 7
2. Place cauliflower florets onto a baking tray and mix in a tablespoon of the oil, salt and curry powder.
4. Now add chickpeas and kale for 10 mins to crisp up.
5. Place a pan over medium heat and add remaining oil. Add onion and garlic and cook for 5-10 mins until soft.
6. Add red chilli and cook for another 2 mins before adding peanut butter, coconut milk and sugar. Bring to the boil, reduce heat and cook for further 15 mins.
7. Add roasted cauliflower, kale and chickpeas along with any liquid in the tray. Mix well before serving and sprinkle with the roasted peanuts on top

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There are often arguments these days about either doing our best at some point to restore the pre-Covid virus day-to-day life or whether to learn from changes which Covid has forced on us and so adopt some of those changes. All this reminds me of when I was growing up in the years after the Second World War. Then there seemed to be two sorts of grown-ups: those who often talked of life before the war and how much better everything had been. They wanted everything to go back to how it had been; the other group was all for change and they were delighted with anything which appeared modern. They certainly did not want to go back to pre-war life.

In the church, some people want all the services to go back to the pattern and form they were before Covid even if they didn’t attend them very much. Ideally, they would like to go back to the long-ago situation when there was one priest for each parish. Others have open minds and want to take this opportunity to find out what the best times and ways are to worship in Pett and (say it in hushed tones) make changes.

The situation in Pett is affected, of course, by the imminent retirement of the Rector Richard Barron. He will lead his final service in Pett and Fairlight on 25th October. At the moment the plan is to hold the service in Pett Village Hall in order to have enough room for Social Distancing. If you are thinking of coming to the service and the picnic lunch afterwards, we have to know in advance and so please get in touch with me.

Opportunities for change; change in opportunities

During recent weeks we have been having church services jointly with Fairlight and they have been held outside the churches where Social Distancing is easier. This has produced a more relaxed and less formal atmosphere. Many of us would like this style of service to continue but the weather will be the deciding factor.

So what about the future church services? It looks as though there are going to be new arrangements for parishes. It may well be that we will share a Rector and services with a few other parishes and not just with Fairlight. There are, I am sure, many who will look on this possibility with disappointment and gloom. But there are some who will contemplate this sort of future as an opportunity to establish a different pattern of worship which may actually be beneficial.

It would be helpful to hear your views on all of this, especially the best times for services, even if you do not attend church regularly. For example, I myself would appreciate, perhaps once a month, an afternoon or evening service instead of the morning service. Do you want the Sunday morning service to continue to start at 10.30am? What about services on weekdays sometimes rather than always on Sundays? And what else do you think the local church should be doing apart from organizing church services?

Do get in touch with me or my fellow Churchwarden John Case! And may God who does not change, through cloud and sunshine, abide with us and guide us and comfort us all!

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LOCKDOWN REFLECTIONS

Summer Writing Challenge
Guestling Bradshaw C.E. Primary School

Lockdown Love by Elsie T Year 3

Looking back, I remember swimming in the sea,
Baking cakes and going on walks just Martha, Molly and me.
Picnics, painting, planting seeds and waiting for them to grow,
Riding my bike, making camps, just doing things I know.
I couldn’t see my friends at first and this made me feel sad
I tried to remember the good times but sometimes I got mad.

It was hard to not see my family and give them all a cuddle
Remembering to keep 2 metres away sometimes got me in a muddle.
I wrote letters to my friends and family and one day I got a surprise;
A blue peter badge turned up in the post and I couldn’t believe my eyes!
I was happy when my auntie got married but sad I couldn’t be there.
I wished I was her flowergirl with my pretty dress to wear.

I really wanted to see all my friends and go back to school,
Instead I had to learn at home and splash in my paddling pool.
I sewed an owl for my Nanna and learnt how to pogo stick,
I learnt my times tables up to 12 and made ice lollies for me to lick,
Molly is my best friend and we’ve played together everyday.
I’m grateful that she’s my sister and sisters we will stay.

My Lockdown Adventure by Jessamy, year 6

Baking - millionaire shortbread: We’ve been baking a scrummy new treat!
Helping my Grandparents move: My Grandma and Grandad have moved from Hastings to Newark (not to be confused with Newick).
Zoom: I’ve been Zooming around the world even to New Zealand!
My Mum’s birthday: We had lunch out for the first time in ages!
Size 7 shoes: I’ve got clown feet!
Quizzes: I’ve done lots of Zoom quizzes with my family!
Seeing American friends: My American friends come over to England every summer, sadly we didn’t see them as much as we wanted but the time we did spend with them was great!
Gardening - sunflowers: Our tallest sunflower is 2.2 metres!
Changing my bedroom around: I have some furniture that my Grandparents didn't need anymore.
Reading lots of books: I’m on my seventh book!
Walks: Every day we tried to go on a walk around our neighbourhood for our exercise of the day.
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bargainfloors@hotmail.co.uk
It seems seriously autumnal now as it gets dark so early and the trees are beginning to change colour, but we are enjoying some beautiful Indian summer weather in the middle of the month – although still waiting for rain!

Most crops are finishing, and I have found that they tended to have a serious rush during July and August and then gave up. I am now pulling up bean plants and beginning to tidy vegetable patches for the winter. I do still have a brilliant supply of spinach, tomatoes, peppers, some carrots and have enjoyed a superb plum, apple and pear harvest. I also have a bumper squash harvest for later in the year.

I did have lots of cob nuts on the several trees at the bottom of the garden, but they are mysteriously disappearing – surely nothing to do with those furry grey tailed rodents??

What have I enjoyed most this famous summer of 2020? Time spent in the garden being able to observe the wildlife more closely – bees and butterflies, ladybirds and dragonflies. Watching the swallows and listening to the buzzards, raising a family of great tits by fencing them off from the cats, observing the ducklings growing up (although only one has survived), experiencing the vagaries of online plant buying during an epidemic (from plants that arrived almost dead to peppers that proved very successful), the difficulty of buying seeds or having compost delivered, the excitement of visiting a garden centre once opened only to find it was nearly emptied by enthusiastic customers arriving before me. The gratitude of having a garden during lockdown which enabled me to spend time in a beautiful place knowing that others did not have that privilege; and the freedom to have friends and family to visit whilst social distancing safely outside in the fresh air. I have also spent more time outside in the evenings, at dusk, listening to the owls, watching bats, badgers and foxes. The water lilies in the pond have been beautiful and spread significantly and the new solar aerator has made a big difference in oxygenating the water so the fish are happy,

What have I found difficult? The very dry weather and excessive heat which affected the plants and required me to spend ages watering them. The ability of weeds to grow well whatever the weather versus peas, beetroot and cucumbers which refused to thrive. This is a very short list compared to the positives so that shows the positives outweigh the negatives.

My targets for next year? Grow proper beetroot, peas and courgettes; improve my watering system and have more flowers – the osteospermum have been brilliant. Also make good use of my new fruit cage to save the strawberries, raspberries and redcurrants which this year went to the badgers, pigeons and mice!

Much learned and much to look forward to next year!!!
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A statement on the agenda for the September council meeting, clarifying the council’s current policy on social media presence, seems to have caused some people to suggest that the council is trying to suppress public debate. This is very far from the truth. The council is very happy for people to discuss on social media issues they consider important. However, there will be no response from the council to such comments or discussions. If you want an issue to be considered by the council, then simply write or send an email to the parish clerk; her contact details are published in each issue of the parish news. Of course, the council may take note of a particular discussion and decide that it is important enough to be considered by the council, but that may not be the case; what may seem really significant to one or two people may not be of a wider public interest. The council is reviewing its social media policy and at the November meeting will be considering if it should have its own Facebook page.

Another topic for discussion at the next council meeting will be how the money from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) should be spent. The levy is raised from developers, who have to pay a certain percentage of their development costs to the district council. Part of the money goes directly back to the community where the development is taking place, but part of it is divided between the other parishes in the district. So Pett received about £2,500 last year and this has to be spent on infrastructure improvements, anything from drainage to road crossings to playgrounds. While £2,500 is not a lot of money, it has to be spent or it may have to be paid back. So, reasonable suggestions from parishioners for possible projects will be welcome.

What else has the council been doing? The gate posts to the allotments have been repaired. Peter Felton has mended the gates to the recreation ground and sorted out the paving and the railing at the pavilion. He has also done some minor repairs in the playground. So, thank you again, Peter. In the playground too, the bark under the climbing tower has been topped up so that it is safer and one or two other maintenance tasks have been carried out.

During the Covid crisis, more people have taken allotments, so I understand that all the plots are now taken. Also, more people are playing tennis. However, there is a problem with the drainage around the tennis court, so quotes are being obtained for replacing the drainage system, which is quite old.

There are more cars through the village at present as a result of the road works on Battery Hill in Fairlight. I hope the presence of the extra signs will encourage drivers to slow down. However, just to make matters worse, the passing places that the council fought hard against are being installed in Pannel Lane, which will be shut from 12 to 23 October. Diversions are indicated to be down Watermill Lane, so I can see that there may well be some confrontations along there, particularly at the Icklesham end.

In the last issue of the parish news, there was a report of the discussions with Highways at the SLR (Strengthening Local Relations) meeting. By the time this issue reaches you, there will have been another SLR meeting. A report on that meeting will be included in the November issue of the parish news.
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The Club will continue to open the same hours for the foreseeable future.

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- Fridays - 3.00pm – 8.00pm
- Saturdays - Midday - 8.00pm
- Sundays - Midday - 8.00pm

This is subject to any further government lockdown restraints.

We have been able to provide food on several occasions during August and September, which proved extremely popular. We are therefore looking to provide similar pop-up events, using outside caterers, where we can. Please see the website or face book page for further information.

Matt continues to host our Monday night Quiz online. We are incredibly grateful. Unfortunately, it remains impossible to meet at the Club. Details of how to join in can be found on our website.

The Committee is continuously reviewing our COVID–Secure arrangements in order to keep our members safe.

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PETT VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
500 CLUB
CONGRATULATIONS

Winners for August are

1st David Burgess
2nd Chris Taylor
3rd David Penfold

Draw Date 3rd Sept 2020

If you have to stay at home and isolate, and do not have an existing support network of friends, family or other agencies, then our local Mutual Aid group may be able to help.

Contact your local co-ordinators if you need help or if you want to volunteer.

Your local co-ordinators are:

John Case
07525 032198
johncase@me.com

Frances Hadfield
07714 281085
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During the current crisis Robin will be holding virtual relaxation sessions. For more information contact her on
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Ride & Stride Church Event

It was great to see 19 folk plus 3 dogs turn up at Fairlight Church on Saturday 15 September for the organised Ride & Stride walk, to raise funds for the Sussex Historic Churches Trust and our local churches.

Ride & Stride is an annual event, where people are encouraged to walk, ride, run or cycle a route of their choice between local churches. Pett Parochial Church Council wanted to support the work of the Trust as we were the recipients of a generous grant of £3000 earlier this year to help towards the cost of the stone repairs to the church spire. Likewise, the Pett Methodists received £2000 towards the cost of the refurbishment of the hall.

Fortunately the weather was fine for the walk and thanks must go to Linda Willard for getting us off to a good start with teas, coffees and delicious home-made flapjacks! Suitably refreshed, we set off from Fairlight Church, following footpaths across the fields to Pett, resting for a picnic lunch in my garden at Nine Acres, before heading off to Guestling Church, approaching via a lovely footpath accessed from Watermill Lane, with lovely views towards Guestling church that are very reminiscent of the Camino in Spain.

Taking a short rest at Guestling, we then headed back to up Fairlight, past Fairlight Hall, stopping to admire the glorious views of Pett, Winchelsea Beach and Dungeness in the distance. A few chose not to do the whole 8 miles, leaving at Guestling, and I’d like to thank Lesley Wilkins who volunteered as relief driver!

So far we have raised over £400 for the event and I’m hopeful we will reach £500 when all sponsorship money has been collected.

Thank you to everybody who took part. Here’s to an even bigger Ride & Stride event in 2021!

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The Pett Village Hall Management Committee met at the Village Hall on Monday 7 September 2020 for a regular meeting and for the delayed AGM.

The following Committee members and office holders were re-elected:

Terry Cornish
Carol Glasson
Carol Pecorini
Fran Pitts (Secretary)
Tim Rothwell (Chair and Bookings Manager)
Richard Smith (Treasurer)

The main points to emerge from the two meetings are as follows. The minutes of both meetings can be found here https://www.pettnet.org.uk/pett-village-hall-management-committee-agendas-and-minutes

**Finance**
Despite a significant loss of income this year from bookings that were cancelled because of the Covid pandemic, and £10,000 worth of improvements being made to the hall in the past year, the hall’s finances are in a comparatively healthy state. At present the hall has assets of over £32,000. This includes the Covid-related grant of £10,000 which the Committee received from Rother District Council in April and which has helped enormously. The significant increase in bookings over the past 12 months or so has also been a major factor.

**Hall maintenance**
Compared to previous years, 2019/20 saw relatively few maintenance issues arising, apart from the need to spend £4,000 on repairs to the sewage system and sump. This is very much a one-off payment and there should be no need for further expenditure on this for several years to come.

The Committee expressed their grateful thanks to Lue and Richard Cooke, along with Terry Cornish, for all the hard work they undertook during lock-down to keep the hall in a serviceable state for re-opening. This included redecorating parts of the hall, necessary repairs and installing hand sanitisers etc so that the hall complied with legal requirements.

The Committee are also grateful to Philippa Strickland and Carol Pecorini for their hard work in running the 500 Club, which makes a valuable financial addition to the finances of the hall, and to Robin and Chris Hutt and Tim and Anne Jury for their generous monetary contributions.

**Parking at the Hall**
Whilst recognising that residents and their visitors, and those using local businesses, cannot be forced to use the village hall car park rather than parking on the roads, verges and pavements, the Committee believe that more should be done to raise awareness of the facility.

They have therefore agreed to replace the village hall sign at the end of the drive with one making it clear that free parking is available at the hall, apart from those relatively few occasions when
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the whole car park is required for events. They will also produce a leaflet explaining that free parking is usually available at the village hall for residents and businesses in the village.

**Appointment of Administrative Officer**

Because of the growing popularity of the hall as a venue, the workload of the Bookings Manager, Chair and Treasurer has increased significantly over the last two years. For example, the Chair and Bookings Manager estimates that he often spends some 15-20 hours a week working on issues relating to the hall. This position is unsustainable, and unless steps are taken to alleviate the pressure there is a risk that some members of the Committee and office holders may no longer be able to find the time to undertake essential duties and the hall may possibly close as a result.

The Committee have therefore agreed in principle to appoint a paid Administrative Officer to undertake much of the work of the Bookings Manager and other duties connected with the running of the hall. A job specification, rate of pay and further details need to be agreed by the Committee. Once there is agreement on these, the role will be advertised. The postholder will not be a trustee or a Committee member, but will be asked to attend Committee meetings.

There may be a need to increase the rates charged to hirers to meet the cost of the post, but it must be stressed that without proper paid help (which a number of other halls in Sussex already have in place), there is a danger that the hall may have to close or offer a much reduced service to its users.

**Committee Members**

The current members of the Committee are all of a certain age! In order to ensure the continuation of the hall as a going concern in the future, the Committee consider that their numbers should be strengthened and in particular by younger members of the community who could bring a fresh approach and new ideas. Under the constitution there is space for four additional members/trustees. But volunteers could be co-opted to help the Committee in its work without necessarily becoming trustees.

The Committee will launch a recruiting campaign for new members in due course, but in the meantime if anyone would be interested in joining the Committee or helping with its work please contact me.

**The coming year**

Everyone in the country has had a difficult past few months or so and the Village Hall Committee is no different. But the Committee hope that the coming year will see a return to relative normality. It is certainly encouraging that bookings for 2021 are coming in thick and fast. In the meantime, a big thank you to all those who have used and supported the hall over the past year.

Tim Rothwell  
Chair, Pett Village Hall Management Committee

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Now that the Book and Jigsaw Library is meeting at the Village Hall on the first Tuesday in the month I am inspired to get the Knitters for Peace to meet up – socially distancing, of course - at the same time and venue. If you want, bring your own coffee in a flask, AND your mask!
I will be at the Village Hall on Wednesday October 7th from 10am -12 noon and it would be great if you could come along – bringing the squares you have knitted throughout the lockdown so that we can have some idea of how many we have made. Gillian Quick has already put a coat together for us to see and will be modelling it on the day. It would be helpful if you could sort out your squares into batches of 20 or so, for easy counting.
Knit for Peace distributes regularly to over 200 outlets, including hospitals, women’s refuges, refugee drop-in centres, prisons, community groups, and hospices as well as to developing countries and refugee camps, or those living in the rubble in Syria. The nightmare of the pandemic will have obviously impacted on all sorts of organisations, so your work will be even more welcomed and appreciated.
If you need more wool let me know – I’ll bring some with me.

**PATTERN FOR SQUARES**

Use size 4 needles (old size 8) and Double Knitting wool
Cast on 2 stitches
Knit one row.
Next row: K1, Inc 1 (by knitting into front and back of stitch) – knit to end.
Repeat this row until work measures 12cm along straight edge (about 35 stitches approx)
Next row: K1, K2tog, K to end.
Repeat this row until 2 stitches left.
K 1 row.
K 2tog. Cast off.

If you are interested please let Heather know - and start knitting. Once normal service has been resumed we will meet up again at the monthly Coffee Mornings

Heather – heather.brambletye@hotmail.co.uk

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Two alarming things have happened recently that have highlighted the parlous state of the natural world - the first was the publication of the Living Planet report written by the World Wildlife Fund for Nature. This report is published every couple of years or so and draws on records and research from all over the world. The startling headline from this year’s report is that wildlife species have declined by 68% since 1970! Yes, that’s well within my lifetime, and I suspect well within the lifetimes of most readers of this magazine. The figure for freshwater species is 84%. I’m not going to go into the reasons in any detail but as you may guess, habitat loss, human consumption and global warming are amongst them. Their website includes a video that summarizes the report and lasts less than 5 minutes. I recommend that you watch it by following this link - https://livingplanet.panda.org/en-gb/

The second thing was the airing of David Attenborough’s excellent programme Extinction - The Facts. I only managed to watch snatches of it, and what I saw made for very uncomfortable viewing even though I don’t eat meat and do my best to not buy anything containing palm oil. I intend to watch the programme in its entirety even though I already know about extinction and understand the causes behind it. I just hope that it has the same impact on people’s life-style as the Blue Planet series did on our attitude towards plastic. I think that both the WWF’s report and the David Attenborough programme are very timely, coming at a time when we are dealing with Covid-19 - a virus that has arisen from our interference with nature and our pressure on it - and are being forced to confront how we produce our food and run our economy.

During lockdown, I have been spending a lot more time in the garden looking for interesting insects, photographing them and trying to identify them. The result of this is that I have recorded more than 120 new species in the garden. I should qualify that by saying that these are new to me, rather than to the garden as I’m sure most have been here already, it’s just that, in the main, I hadn’t seen them before. I’ve not worked out exactly what the mix of type of insects is, but there are a few groups that stand out. I have concentrated on solitary bees quite a lot and added many to my photo collection as well as learning a lot more about them in the process. Another group that I have seen more of are the hoverflies - always a pleasure to see and they are very important pollinators. One group that spend a lot of time hidden are the hemiptera - a large insect group that most people are aware of from shield-bugs, though shield-bugs are just the visible tip of the iceberg of this large and diverse group that even includes greenfly. I have also seen one new bumblebee - yay!

So how do I square seeing all these new insects with all the news about extinction? Surely I should be seeing less insects. The main reason I have seen more, is that I have spent more time looking. I have also spent more time identifying them which can be very time consuming and sometimes impossible. I have also got more plants that are attractive to insects in the garden. But one of the reasons I am seeing new insects is the constant stream of insects that arrive from the continent as their range is pushed northwards by global warming and that fits perfectly with the extinction news items.
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Despite the gloom and doom, both the report and programme mentioned above end on an up-beat note, saying that it is not too late and it is still possible to do something about it. My up-beat note is that I have thoroughly enjoyed chasing insects round the garden and being startled by their beauty. I recommend that you immerse yourself in nature, revel in its beauty, and be moved to do what you can to save it.

YELLOW MEADOW ANTS - MICHAEL BLENCOWE SWT

Not What They Seem

Once upon a time, we were terrified of Tawny Owls. They were a portent of evil in fairy tales, folklore and just about every scary story, film or poem that needed a creepy cliché. But in today’s crowded marketplace of international terrorism, climate change and saturated fats the owl’s powers to scare us are fading. Recently, it appears this spokesman of the supernatural has got itself a new publicist. Its modern image is one of a cuddly pin-up, more Harry Potter than Hammer Horror.

But stand in the woods on a moonlit night and listen for an unseen owl’s ethereal call. It’s an ancient, unnerving sound that still speaks to something buried deep within us and ignites a primeval fear. The Tawny Owl is the largest and commonest of our island’s five owl species, typically nesting in holes in old trees in our remaining woodlands. But what is it about this bird that has given us the willies throughout history? Let’s start with those huge, lifeless black eyes that seem to stare into your very soul. An owl’s eyes are not spherical but tubular like two telescopes and give amazing vision at low light levels. However, the eye’s stretched shape and position on the owl’s face presents a narrow field of vision. To compensate, a Tawny Owl has special bones and blood vessels in its neck so it can perform that freaky, Exorcist-like head twist. This gives the bird the ability to scan all around without having to move their bodies and arouse detection by prey.

And in the world of a nocturnal hunter, silence and stealth are everything. Special serrated feathers slice the air, allowing it to fly as silently as a phantom and aerially ambush its victims. Incredible hearing achieved by asymmetrical ears allows them to accurately pinpoint the rustle of a nervous vole below. They can hear fear.

And then there’s that disembodied voice arising from the darkness. The male’s far-carrying baritone ‘hoo-huhuhuhoo’ and the female’s squawky ‘kerr-wik’ response are like a mis-matched duet between Johnny Cash and Janet Street-Porter. These calls help establish, maintain and defend a breeding territory and from October the birds are at their most vocal. Of course, Tawny Owls really couldn’t give two hoots about scaring us but throughout history these spectral calls have provided a soundtrack to our deepest fears. In a society which is becoming increasingly detached from nature, it’s time to get out into the woods this Halloween and allow ourselves to be unsettled once again by these mystical birds.

The picture of a Tawny Owl above is copyright Darin Smith, Sussex Wildlife Trust.
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01797 227621 / 07854 016746 Terry Osborne
October already and things have changed again, but we hope our friends and supporters across Pett village and Pett Level remain safe and well! As many of you will be aware, here at Pett Level Independent Rescue Boat we’ve been having a busy time, which we’ve tried to manage in compliance with the latest guidance. Thankfully, some of our community activities were achieved before the most recent restrictions ...

- As many of our neighbours saw, our volunteers took part in the Big Beach Clean Up of Fairlight Cove, organised by StrandlinersCIC. The Strandliners volunteers completed 8 sessions of clearing, sorting and bagging plastic pollution and rubbish from the cove. Then, on 6th September, our two boats, full of our own volunteers, were launched to remove the 101 bags of rubbish from the cove. These were offloaded at Pett Slip for collection by Rother District Council, leaving a wonderfully clean cove and a great sense of having assisted the environment.

- Summer visitors are tailing off, but we’ve been busy most Sundays giving First Aid for a range of issues, mainly cuts and grazes due to slips and falls.

- New stocks of our charity greetings cards are printed and available for purchase thanks to Rye Harbour company Static Trader, who are sponsoring our printed merchandise for the coming year. This means we’re now able to continue fundraising through sales of cards and our calendars which will be coming soon. These are available from the boathouse on Sundays, plus in October we’ll also be setting these up for purchase through our Facebook page

- PLIRB Helm and Launch Authority Steve Hill took part in a Behind the Story video made by The Times and Sunday Times, which reflects on the issues of migrant crossings.

- Three of our trainees are now back in the boat and working hard to achieve their potential to become full crew by the end of the year - pandemic and autumn weather permitting, of course!

- Marian Mason of Ocean Ceramics in Winchelsea Beach ran her annual ‘Mad Hatters’ event in a socially distanced way, and raised £86.50 for us.

And coming up? Our Weather Lottery fundraiser is gaining traction. Thanks to our lovely supporters we’ve met our initial goal of 30 weekly entries, and now aim to achieve 50 before the end of the year.

During October we’re also running our first virtual fundraiser, in honour of World Animal Day on 4th October: our Pawfect Pet photo competition. Details on this are now on our website at https://plirb.com or our social media: Twitter @PLIRBRescue and Facebook @PettLevelRescueBoat.

Until next time, please take care, stay beach aware, and keep healthy and well too!
Join our fantastic collection of properties in Kent & Sussex

Do you currently own a property in Kent or Sussex, with a view to venturing into the holiday letting business? We’ve got a dedicated team ready to help you, and help make a success of your property!

www.bramleyandteal.co.uk

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01424 316 117
Irishwood, Pett Road,
Pett, East Sussex,TN35 4HR

Email:
richard3@eyemasters.co.uk

www.eyemasters.co.uk
For many weeks now we have been able to enjoy sharing outside services either at Pett or Fairlight. We have been fortunate that the weather has been on our side and the services have been well attended. We have to give thanks to David and Frank for their expertise with the outside sound system which has provided us with some lovely and, albeit quiet, sing-along hymns. Things are going to have to change as we move into autumn and I would like to draw your attention to the next set of plans. The services will move inside and social distancing will apply.

There are some special services coming up which I think many of us will wish to support. Then, as we move towards Christmas, we will have to think again – hopefully Christmas will happen!

**Sunday 4th October**  
**HARVEST FESTIVAL**  
St Andrews, Fairlight; 10.30am

**Sunday 11th October**  
**Holy Communion**  
Pett; 10.30am

**Sunday 18th October**  
**Morning Worship**  
Pett; 10.30am

**Sunday 25th October**  
**RICHARD’S FINAL SERVICE**  
Pett Village Hall; 11am

*(more details of this can be found in Angela’s article elsewhere in this magazine)*

**Sunday 1st November**  
**ALL SAINTS DAY**  
Pett; 10.30am; a service of Holy Communion which includes the lighting of candles in remembrance of those who we love

**Sunday 8th November**  
**REMEMBRANCE DAY**  
Pett at 10.30am & St Andrews at 10.30am (with the Royal British Legion)

**RICHARD’S RUMINATIONS - THE RECTOR, RICHARD BARRON**

**TELL YOUR HEART TO BEAT AGAIN**

In 2012 a song was released called ‘Let your heart beat again’. It was inspired by an event which took place in a hospital in Utah, USA. Following major heart surgery, a surgeon repaired a patient’s heart and began to gently massage it in order to get it beating again. When this failed, more intense methods were used, but these too failed. Finally, the surgeon, more out of desperation than inspiration spoke to the unconscious patient and said, “Miss Johnson, if you can hear me, this is your surgeon. Your operation went perfectly, your heart has been repaired, would you now tell your heart to beat again.” Miraculously the heart began to beat and the patient recovered.

The song is about hope and new life following tragedy. Four years earlier in 2008 Danny Gokey, the singer, lost his wife during her own major heart surgery. Danny went on to find love and life again.

It’s not just tragedy that breaks our heart, life in general takes its toll. Regrets, disappointment, betrayal, broken promises, broken relationships, stress and loneliness are among the things that generate bitterness, resentment, cynicism and hardness of heart. Perhaps your heart has been damaged or broken? Well, there is help if you would like it!

God the Master Surgeon promises a ‘new heart and a new spirit’ to those who seek Him. He removes the hardness of heart that destroys and replaces it with a joy that heals. He restores not just our hearts, but our souls. He turns mourning into dancing, resentment into hope and darkness into light. If you need or would like that, ask Him to repair your heart and restore your life once again.

Stay safe and remember, you are never fully alone when God is your friend.
THE ROYAL OAK

Serving Home Cooked Food, Real Ales and Selected Wines

Log Fires
Beer Garden
Happy Hours Monday to Thursday 4 to 6pm
(excludes bank holidays)

Events at The Oak:

Quiz Nights are held every other Wednesday, at 8.30pm, in aid of the Royal British Legion

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS OF FURTHER EVENTS

Bar Open
Monday to Saturday
11am - 11pm
Sunday
12 Noon - 10.30pm

Food Served
Monday to Saturday
12noon - 2.30pm
6pm - 9.30pm
Sunday
12 noon - 5.30pm

01424 812515
www.royaloakpett.com
WHO WE ARE
Founded in 2012 and incorporated in 2018 as a community interest company, Strandliners is an all-volunteer grassroots organisation based in East Sussex. In 2019, Strandliners’ local volunteers committed over 820 hours of their own time to the war on plastic.

Strandliners’ dedicated teams, 6 to 20 in number at each event, have included: a geologist, a TV presenter, an architect, an engineer, a yoga teacher, mums, dads, their sons and daughters, and many more. Our common cause is to identify the toxic waste we pick and trace it to its source: domestic, agricultural, shipping, industrial, medical and commercial.

We engage “polluters” as stakeholders not adversaries. It’s a cross-community effort. If we work together, we all have a better chance of turning back the plastic tide.

WHAT WE DO
Strandliners’ volunteer activities range along the coast from the River Cuckmere in the west to Dungeness in the east; from Pett Level and Camber Sands on Rye Bay, up the River Rother to Brede and beyond.

We survey for plastic pollution through identification, and record the data for organisations including the Marine Conservation Society, Surfers Against Sewage and Break Free From Plastic.

If we want to stop plastic pollution, we need to know what it is and where it comes from. By creating a data-rich picture of environmental pollution, we can begin to put the steps in place to stop it. Beach cleans are great for awareness, though they are only a stop-gap.

To scale up the local effort, Strandliners CIC has launched a Community Action Team programme, with support from the United Nations Climate & Oceans, to train volunteers as citizen scientists and team-lead volunteers in their local communities to join the fight.

WHY WE DO IT
If we want to stop plastic pollution, we need to know what it is and where it comes from. By creating a data-rich picture of environmental pollution, we can begin to put the steps in place to stop it. Beach cleans are great for awareness, though they are only a stop-gap.

Sign up for Strandliners newsletter for details of future beach-cleans and surveys. Become a citizen scientist by joining our Community Action Team programme.

FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT OUR WEBSITE
https://strandliners.org/
Residential Estate Agents
Rentals & Property Management

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Hastings (01424) 442443
Bexhill-on-Sea (01424) 225588
Rye (01797) 224000
Battle (01424) 774440
Northiam (01797) 253555
Tenterden (01580) 762927
Lettings (01424) 446916
Management (01424) 430011

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# OCTOBER 2020

## RYE (HARBOUR)

### HEIGHTS ARE ABOVE ORDNANCE DATUM (NEWLYN)

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ADD 1 HOUR TO THESE TIMES BETWEEN 29TH MARCH AND 25TH OCTOBER 2020

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6460 SE/EAD/0120/EV/1

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**Time Zone UT (GMT)**

- Customer service line: 03708 506 506
- Incident hotline: 0800 80 70 60
- Floodline: 0345 988 1188
- 0845 988 1188

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Harvey's Best Bitter
British Game

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TEL 01424 812255 twosawyers.co.uk

facebook.com/TwoSawyers
We have transcribed the above timetables from those provided by Stagecoach. If you spot any errors or know of any changes then please let us know.
### WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?

**Roads, road markings, verges, signs, drains, potholes, fallen trees, footpaths, etc**  
https://www.eastsussexhighways.com/report-a-problem  
https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk  
0345 6080190

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keith Glazier</td>
<td>07957 377844</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cllr.keith.glazier@eastsussex.gov.uk">cllr.keith.glazier@eastsussex.gov.uk</a></td>
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**Planning, refuse & recycling, fly-tipping & pollution, dog & pest control, beach bye-laws**  
http://www.rother.gov.uk/residents  
01424 787000

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<th>Councillors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Meir</td>
<td>01424 814178</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cllr.andrew.mier@rother.gov.uk">cllr.andrew.mier@rother.gov.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Roger Bird</td>
<td>01424 813636</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cllr.roger.bird@rother.gov.uk">cllr.roger.bird@rother.gov.uk</a></td>
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**PETT PARISH COUNCIL** may be able to help you find out who to contact if you have a problem, can help escalate if your problem is not being dealt with, and can assist in lobbying the relevant authorities in the event of continued poor service.

The Council are responsible for: the maintenance of recreation ground and play area (with the exception of the bowling green, sports pavilions, tennis courts and cricket pitch which are leased to the Pett Sports Association); the defibrillator and phone kiosk opposite the Royal Oak; the war memorial at Pett Church; several roadside benches, noticeboards and village signs; Website (PettNet); Pett & Pett Level News Magazine. The Council also can provide a parish wide view on planning applications but the Local Planning Authority who makes the decision is Rother District Council.

We usually meet on the second Tuesday of alternate months and all are welcome. For more details about what the council does and how you can get involved then contact any of the councillors below or the council pages on PettNet.org.uk

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<th>Councillor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alan Crouch (Vice-Chair)</td>
<td>01424 813145</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cllr.alan.crouch@pettnet.org.uk">cllr.alan.crouch@pettnet.org.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Judith Dean</td>
<td>01424 812249</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cllr.judith.dean@pettnet.org.uk">cllr.judith.dean@pettnet.org.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew Dunlop</td>
<td>01424 813368</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ardnlop1@yahoo.co.uk">ardnlop1@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>John Leeson</td>
<td>07507 897177</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cllr.john.leeson@pettnet.org.uk">cllr.john.leeson@pettnet.org.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>David Penfold (Chair)</td>
<td>01424 813003</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cllr.david.penfold@pettnet.org.uk">cllr.david.penfold@pettnet.org.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Wilkins</td>
<td>01424 813206</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cllr.mike.wilkins@pettnet.org.uk">cllr.mike.wilkins@pettnet.org.uk</a></td>
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**Parish Clerk**  
Mary Philo  
01797 270790  
clerk@pettnet.org.uk  
Island Cottage, Swan Street, Wittersham, Kent, TN30 7PH

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<th>Emergency Service</th>
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<td>GAS LEAKS</td>
<td>National Gas Emergency Service 0800 111 999</td>
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<td>POWER CUT (including overhead power lines)</td>
<td>UK Power Networks 105</td>
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<td>WATER LEAK</td>
<td>Southern Water emergency service 0800 820 999</td>
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<th><strong>VILLAGE CONTACTS &amp; OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS</strong></th>
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<td><strong>Yoga Class</strong></td>
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**ROOMS FOR HIRE**

| Methodist Chapel | Wendy Hatch | 01424 812297 | familyhatch1@gmail.com |
| Sports Pavilion | Stuart Ware | 01424 815197 | sjv@meadowshed.co.uk |
| Village Hall | Tim Rothwell | 07850 469314 | tim.rothwell@pettnet.org.uk |
| New Beach Club | | 01424 812080 | info@thenewbeachclub.co.uk |

**PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WANT TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS SECTION**

| Conquest & Eastbourne Hospitals | 0300 131 4500 |
| Harold Road Surgery | 01424 720878 |
| Hastings Old Town Surgery (Ice House) | 01424 452800 |
| St Michaels Hospice | 01424 445177 |
| Samaritans | 116 123 |
| Citizens Advice | 03444 111 444 |
| RSPCA Emergency Services | 0300 1234 999 |
Pett WI supporting Rye Food Bank

helping provide emergency support for local people in crisis

If you'd like to contribute - we're collecting:

- Non-perishable, in-date food (tins, packets, cartons)
- Toiletries
- Sanitary Products
- Household Products

Pett Collection Point

- Lobby, Pett Village Hall

Donations can be left in the wire collection basket located in the foyer on the right as you enter the hall, near the disabled WC.

Due to on-going Covid-19 circumstances, access to PVH is currently limited, so if you experience any difficulties please contact Campaign Co-ordinator Hilary Dymott on 07768 323131 to arrange another delivery point.

Financial donations

Alternatively, our team will be happy to shop for items if you prefer to contribute money rather than goods.

Donations can either be made by cheque (made payable to Pett WI) and sent to Jane Sweaney at "Oakhurst", Pett Road, Pett, TN35 4HG or made directly into the Pett WI Bank Account - Lloyds Bank - Sort Code: 30-98-97 - Account No: 70587368 - with the reference for both as "Food Bank" please.

Thank you!