No. 152 September 2018



VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

VILLAGE WEEKEND 30TH JUNE – 1ST JULY

It seems a long time ago since the Village Weekend. In between we have had the long heat wave as well as the summer holidays, but we can't let it go without a few words, at least.

It was, I am pleased to say, another most successful event, well attended and much enjoyed.

We were able to develop and expand on initiatives from previous years. The popular Lewes, Glynde and Beddingham brass band were invited back and this time played on both days. The fancy dress dog show enjoyed its third year and this time the winners were Hortensia's two very grown-up dogs who had come to church to get married! A new venture this year was the Scarecrow competition which drew a large array of entries, many of which could be seen standing sentry outside their houses in the week leading up to the weekend. They then duly appeared in battle formation, lined up along the church wall. As the Duke of Wellington was supposed to have remarked when inspecting his troops before Waterloo, "They may not frighten the enemy, but they certainly frighten me!" The winner was David and Anne Finney's creation, "Old Punk", a ferocious-looking Sid Vicious character complete with guitar, a shock of bright purple hair and other nameless accessories.



Winning entry "Old Punk"

We had a stall for children's games, a Good as New sales tent and a very successful raffle, manned tirelessly on both days by Sheenah. And to restore everybody's energy levels, we had the usual tea and home-made cakes stall, a licensed bar and the delicious ploughman's lunches supplied, as every year, by Nikki Currie.
Other stalls included a collection of David Curtis' wonderful photographs for sale, Debbie Alexander's boutique selection of beautiful scarves and shawls, and a mini plant sale provided by Suzanne Graves.

I couldn't end this write-up without mentioning the magnificent flower displays in the church which, year in and year out, provides the focus for the Weekend. Once again, the creative talents on the villagers came to the fore, the theme this year being "The Great Outdoors". However, I need to end with a plea. The number of entries has been declining, despite the fact that the population of the village has been increasing. In previous years, we have had up to 40 individual flower displays; this year the number was down to 17 and gaps had to be made up by Jools, Mieke and others. So my plea is simply this; next year have a go. Nobody is looking for perfection, in fact quite the opposite. We just want individual "takes" on the theme, however humble, to add variety and interest.

A lot of work goes into organising this event, and if I tried to name and thank everyone, I'd be bound to leave some out. But you know who you are, from those who put up and took down the marquees, advertising, banners and posters, running the stalls, teas and cakes, the bar, the lunches, the competitions, the floral displays, washing up, clearing up, etc etc. You get the idea! So just a huge thank you.

Financially it was another successful year, better than ever in fact, and we were able to donate £1217 to the PCC. We owe a lot to our wonderful sponsors, Sharham Moellemi Accountancy, The Plough pub, Marks and Spencer's garage, Pyecombe Golf Club, Rushfields, Hassocks Eye Care Centre, Wayfield Park Farm shop and South Downs Nurseries.

Our next meeting, to plan next year's Village Weekend (6^{th} – 7^{th} July – save the date!) will be on 20^{th} March. We are always looking for new members, so if you would like to get involved in this central event in the Pyecombe calendar, please get in touch.

Tim Cullen
Weekend Co-ordinator
07870 360551

Reader's Ramblings

This time I bring the hope of good news [without the capitals we use for the Good News of Jesus Christ], because there has been some interest in our vacant post. The archdeacon of Horsham has indicated that there may be an announcement before too long concerning the appointment of a new priest in charge of the Downland benefice, of which our church is a key constituent. We have been told that in due course whoever is given the post will later become rector of Pyecombe, reviving a title that goes back to the time of our church's foundation nearly 850 years ago.

Of course church life has carried on with regular Holy Communion and evening services without interruption, thanks to help from retired priests who live nearby. Marriages, baptisms and funerals have taken place. This church is here for all who live in the parish when they need it. Naturally we would love to see any of you at one of our normal services, because at the evening service on second Sundays in the month we frequently have something different. In September we celebrate the seventieth anniversary of the National Health Service; October brings Harvest Festival; on Sunday 11th November we shall mark the centenary of the armistice that stopped hostilities in the First World War; and December means our carol service with brass band.

Elsewhere you will find details of the third festival of the arts, when a concert is going to be held in church on the first Sunday evening in September. Looking ahead two years, planning will start soon on our Pyecombe 850 celebrations for 2020 which marks the founding of our church in 1170, the year Thomas à Beckett was martyred in Canterbury cathedral.

Best wishes for autumn after our hot summer - the hedgerow berries are well advanced, and although the harvest may be down on last year, we shall give thanks for it in the traditional way.

Patrick

Next year, the centenary of the Armistice in 1918 that brought fighting to an end, we intend to mount an exhibition to tell of the lives of those servicemen named on those boards.

So, church life continues. You are always welcome at our regular Holy Communion service on the fourth Sunday, or the evening service which has a different theme each month, on the second Sunday. And there is a short service for prayer and reflection every Wednesday at 6pm.

And the different title this time? I am the Reader, or lay minister, for these parishes. I hope to see you at our carol service with brass band on the 10th of December.

Patrick

A peaceful oasis in a hectic world

Our village Church is open every day between 10am and 4pm in the winter (10am to 6pm in the summer).

We are pleased to offer a warm welcome to many, many visitors who are walking the South Downs Way - people seem to be grateful for a drink and a loo, and they also appreciate the peace and quiet offered by the building.

Pew Platter

Wow, what a hot summer we have had, but how wonderful nature is, from the scorched earth, the green is already pushing its way through. The Flower Festival – Village Weekend was a HOT one, but a great success again.

The Church as always was a riot of colour and ideas. Each year, you the villagers, surprise us with your interpretation of that year's theme, and is much commented on by the many visitors.

Also the outside of the Church was a good back drop for scarecrows!

In August we have had two weddings in the Church and for both the weather was very kind. Again, but in a different way the Church was filled with flowers. In September we have a baptism and it is gratifying when people with village connections choose to celebrate these very special events in the Church.

Our services are 10:00 am on the 4th Sunday each month and our evening one 6:00pm on the 2nd Sunday each month.

From now until Christmas will be "Special":
Harvest Festival - Sunday 14th October
Village Remembrance Service - Sunday 11th November
Carol Service – Sunday 9th December

All of these services commence at 6:00 pm. A warm welcome awaits you at anytime.

The Church Team.

Parish Council Jottings

As a Parish Clerk one of the comments I often hear is 'the Parish Council do nothing'.

The sad truth is that as with all Parish Councils most of the work carried out is never seen but occurs behind the scenes and therefore most people are unaware of these items.

Currently your Parish Council are working hard on items which include:

- Installation of additional litter bins along the London Road.
- Replacement of benches throughout the parish.
- Funding applications for replacement/upgrading of the Children's Play Area.
- Planning applications.
- Meetings with West Sussex Country Council Highways Officers to resolve signage/pothole issues and overgrown vegetation issues.
- Liaising with potential sponsors for the upkeep of grass verges and the installation of flower beds within the parish.
- Production of quarterly newsletter.

Unfortunately one of the key items which is an ongoing issue in the Parish is the question of parking along the London Road. Despite numerous telephone calls and emails to Operation Crackdown and our local policing team there appears to be nothing that we can do to stop the parking of HGV's along this road.

On behalf of the Parish Council I have now taken to making a note of the companies concerned and telephoning their Transport Managers to complain. I notice this has seemed to have an impact on at least one firm which was making regular overnight stops and parking large containers for days at a time and now appears to have moved elsewhere.

Please remember you are welcome at any of the Parish Council meetings and between meetings are always welcome to email any concerns or questions to council via the email address shown below.

Those eagle eyed residents amongst you will notice that the white finger post is still missing from the bottom of School Lane. This was ordered way back in May and was promised to us by 1st July in time for the Village Weekend. Unfortunately despite much chasing it has still not been erected and is planned now for some time before the end of the month!

Recent planning applications in the parish:

SDNP/18/02804/FUL Wayfields, London Road, Pyecombe. Construction of a new, detached two bedroom dwelling with associated landscaping works. Demolition of existing detached garage. Application in progress.

SDNP/18/01498/FUL Office Premises adjacent Chantry Lodge, Pyecombe Street, Pyecombe. External alterations (new roof and new window openings) to facilitate change of use from offices to a terrace of 2 cottages. Application approved.

It is always nice to see residents at the Parish Council meetings, but if this is not possible and you would like to keep up to date with Parish Matters all Agendas and Minutes can be found on the Website.

Dawn Langston – Clerk and RFO

Parish Clerk & RFO

Dawn Langston – parishcouncil@pyecombe.org.uk
Telephone contact – 07909 332605

Parish Council Meeting ~ Dates for 2018

13th November 2018

A2300 Corridor Improvements Scheme – Phase 1 Public Engagement – 17 September to 28 October 2018

The A2300 links Burgess Hill to the A23/M23 strategic road corridor and is an important route for people commuting to and from Burgess Hill. It is a busy road, particularly at peak times and suffers from congestion, queuing and delays. Significant residential and employment growth is proposed at Burgess Hill that will put further pressure on the road.

To ease congestion and make the journeys safer and more reliable, West Sussex County Council propose to improve the A2300 corridor by widening the road from single to dual carriageway and will provide a footway / cycleway along the northern verge from Burgess Hill to the A23 / A2300 interchange / National Cycle Network. The improvements will reduce congestion, facilitate growth and improve access to employment opportunities.

The Burgess Hill Strategic Growth Programme is supported by all tiers of government and was established in the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership Strategic Economic Plan, Mid Sussex District Plan and also the Burgess Hill Town Wide Strategy.

Phase 1 of the A2300 Corridor improvements scheme will deliver over £20m investment in highways, and help to unlock significant improvements to Burgess Hill. It will attract over £1bn of inward investment into the wider area.

It is part of a wider package of investment in local infrastructure being delivered as part of the Burgess Hill Strategic Growth Programme that will facilitate the transformative change of the town through significant improvements in housing, jobs, infrastructure, social and community facilities.

The majority of funding for implementing these proposals will be provided by HM Government through the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership's Local Growth Fund. The remaining funds will be provided by West Sussex County Council and from developer contributions.

Public Engagement Events
You can find out more about the proposals by attending one of the drop-in sessions that are taking place in September. The details of these sessions are:

Session 1 - Burgess Hill Town Council, 96 Church Walk, Burgess Hill, RH15 9AS
Tuesday 18 September, 10am – 4pm

Session 2 - The Triangle Leisure Centre, Triangle Way, Burgess Hill, RH15 8WA
Saturday 22 September, 2pm – 6pm

Session 3 - Burgess Hill Town Council, 96 Church Walk, Burgess Hill, RH15 9AS
Tuesday 25 September, 10am – 4pm

Session 4 - The Hickstead Hotel, Jobs Lane, Hickstead, RH17 5NZ
Thursday 27 September, 4pm – 8pm

Session 5 - Hurstpierpoint Village Centre, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint, BN6 9UY
Wednesday 3 October, 2.30pm – 6.30pm

WSCC officers and representatives of the consultants will be on hand to answer questions.

Northern Arc
Homes England, who recently acquired land known collectively as the Northern Arc to the north of Burgess Hill, will be holding engagement events in October ahead of the submission of a planning application towards the end of 2018. Information on the Northern Arc is available here: https://www.burgesshill.net/

Result of 100 Club

June	***£10.00***	***Shirley Strong***
	£20.00	***TJ.Juba***
July	***£10.00***	***Liz Sacha***
	£20.00	***Ian Currie***
	£100.00	***Diane Curd***
August	***£10.00***	***Lalage Bennett***
	£20.00	***Judy Godfrey***

Pyecombe Village Social Committee Update

Our Christmas Fayre has some changes!!

Pyecombe Christmas Fayre has been a great success over the years, drawing people in from our village and surrounding area and raising much needed funds for our Church. However recently we have noticed a lot more competition – similar events on the same day selling the same things. So this year we decided to do something different!

Firstly we are changing the venue from Hurstpierpoint Village Centre to the United Reform Church in Hassocks. The date has been brought forward and we will be offering more products/gifts/services along with keeping our old favourites!

In 2018 we will have our first:

Pyecombe Village Winter Fayre

Saturday 24th November
United Reform Church Hall *(behind the church)*

Time to be confirmed but likely to be 12-3pm

We have sourced and are still sourcing people/small traders who are interested in hiring a table to sell their wares/craft/services. If you know of anyone who may be interested then please contact me – Karen Lewis on 07818568999 or email karenalew1@aol.com

We will be publishing more information regarding the event nearer the time so please register on www.pyecombevillage.co.uk website to receive updates and/or Pyecombe Village Facebook page.

Chantry Farm – 23rd September 2018
2:00 for a 2.30pm start

Beki at Chantry Farm has invited the Village to a film on the history and nature around the Farm and Barn. Seating is limited so take chairs – *we will take some from the church for those who don't have portable garden ones.*

Again – we will publish more information on the website and Facebook page nearer the time.

Pyecombe Village Choir and Friends Go to the Musicals in style!

Many congratulations to Pyecombe Village Choir for giving such great performances at Fulking Village Hall and Pyecombe Church at the beginning of September. The singing and considerable acting talents of the choir members made for a hugely enjoyable show and it was a treat to see the audiences joining in with such gusto. Pyecombe Church was packed for the 6pm Sunday performance and over £300 was raised for the Marfan Trust following a personal and moving appeal from choir member, Tricia Robinson. Thanks are due to the wonderful Richard Haslam who accompanied the choir and also the lovely young guest soloists who thrilled us all with their singing. Such was the success of the evening that an invitation was issued to the choir to perform the programme again at the St George's Park Concert Hall, Ditchling, on 29th September.

Jane Cullen, MD, says: "We should be very proud indeed of our village choir. Everyone sings with such vitality and enthusiasm and we have excellent instrumentalists too, including our wonderful guitarist, David Finney, and Tim Cullen on flute. Musical standards are high and the choir is going from strength to strength. It is an added bonus that we have been able to raise so much money for charities over the past four years doing something that we all love!"

There is a great team spirit in the choir and anyone in the village is welcome to join; you don't have to be a strong singer to belong but a good sense of humour is recommended! Rehearsals are usually on Friday evenings from 6.15-7.30pm. If you are interested do email for further details – cullmon.jm@gmail.com

Jane Cullen

THE WELFARE STATE

Everything has to have a beginning, and of course the Welfare State started with Aneurin Bevan and the Labour Government just after the war, although the idea had been talked about for some time between the politicians. However after the Welfare State became Law practicalities had to be sorted out, and how payment should be taken to fund the scheme. The whole thing was not just the National Health Service, but covered unemployment, pensions, and other benefits, but we tend to forget that they are all part of the same scheme.

I had not long left Grammar School and was in my first job with what was then known as the Juvenile Employment Bureau, later changing to the Youth Employment Bureau. We were the junior branch of the Labour Exchange, as it was then known, though we did more advisory work than they did, and we were run by the Kent Education Committee, not the Government. I have no idea what it is now, though I think part is called the Careers Advisory Office.
Until 1948 all employees had two contribution cards, for Unemployment and Sickness Benefit, and they took these with them to their employers, or brought them to us if they were out of work. But from 1948 onwards they were to have one card, with a stamp affixed each week, which would cover everything, benefits, medical treatment, pensions, and which the employee would give to his employer when he started a new job. Our task was to take all the old cards in, and issue a new card to everyone, with a number on it to be known as their National Insurance Number. We all have one, and if you are like me you know it by heart.

The date was to be 5th July 1948 and we received the pile of cards all ready for what proved to be quite a busy time, as we had to record the details of everyone to whom we issued a card.

Amazingly some thought had been given to the future exchange of these cards, and the mammoth task it would be if everyone brought their cards into our offices at the end of the year, so the sequential numbers all had a letter A, B, C & D at the end of them. The first cards all had different time frames, 6 months, 9, 12 and 15 months, so that only 25% would need exchanging each quarter. Each letter card was a different colour, blue, pink, yellow and green as far as I can remember, and the D cards were threefold to allow for the extra three months. Speaking to someone at a National Insurance Office a little while ago, they had no idea of the origin of the final letter, and had all sorts of way out theories, but it was really quite simple and practical. Of course this is all unnecessary now as we no longer have cards, and everything is done online, but we were simple souls then, and employers dutifully bought the stamps and stuck them on the cards each week. The unemployed had a frank put in place of a stamp to ensure they did not lose out when contributions were added up.

We did have one further outcome from the start of the NHS in that we suddenly had several vacancies for Dental Receptionists and trainee Dental Nurses, as Dentists realised that now people no longer had to pay they would get their teeth sorted out, and get rid of the toothache.

In an area of fairly high unemployment this was a great benefit to the young people of Margate.
So that was the public launch of the Welfare State.

Thanks to Wendy Rogers who submitted the above article.

Pyecombe Village Choir & Friends

Go to the Musicals

Saturday 29th September At 4pm

Concert Hall, St George's Park, Ditchling Road, RH15 0SN

Tickets £5 to include a glass of wine or soft drink in the interval.
Proceeds to the British Heart Foundation and Pyecombe Church

To reserve a seat contact Wendy on 07840959240

The next newsletter is due out in December. We would love to receive articles from you to share with your community. These can be news, items of interest, local history, jokes, recipes anything that would have been passed around the campfire to keep the sense of community strong in days gone by.

To be included in the December issue please send articles in anytime from now until November 15th. You can email them to parishcouncil@pyecombe.org.uk or post a written piece in the letter box at no. 14 The Wyshe marked newsletter.

Many thanks. Dawn Langston (ed)

This newsletter is sponsored by the parish council and is part of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (publication schemes). Pyecombe Village newsletter is printed on recycled paper.
Ed. *Dawn Langston*

2018 marks 100 years since the end of the First World War.

10,000 people will march past the Cenotaph on 11 November in 'A Nation's Thank you - The People's Procession'.

Ten thousand members of the public will be invited to march past the Cenotaph to mark the centenary of the Armistice later this year, Culture Secretary Jeremy Wright announced today.

At the same time, people are being encouraged to ring bells around the world, as the government is seeking to replicate the spontaneous outpouring of relief that took place in 1918.

Descendants, family members and the public are invited to apply to take part in **'A Nation's Thank you - The People's Procession'** on Sunday 11 November 2018.

Members of the public are invited to apply for tickets for the People's Procession through a ballot. Ten thousand tickets are available and will be allocated in pairs. The procession will march down Whitehall where successful applicants will be able to lay wreaths at the Cenotaph.

For further details please go to Armistice 100 website at:

https://armistice100.org.uk/?doing_wp_cron=1536854528.4088139533996582031250

