No. 157 Winter Issue December 2019




# VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Pyecombe Church
Sunday 8th December 2019
Carol Service 6:00 pm
With
Mid Sussex Brass Band
&
The Village Choir and commencing at 6:00 pm
Mince Pies and Mulled Wine

## Rector Ramblings

We are looking forward to Christmas in the four Downland Churches. The 10.00am services of Holy Communion will take place at Edburton, Newtimber, Poynings and Pyecombe in turn on the four Sundays of Advent. Our Advent candle display will move from church to church, with a candle lit on each Sunday and the fifth candle on Christmas day, so that we share together in this symbol of anticipation.

In addition there will be a Carol Service in each church, with Pyecombe's on 8th December augmented by the Pyecombe Village Choir and the Mid Sussex Brass Band. Do come and join us for this traditional festive occasion.

On Christmas Eve we will have a 3.00 p.m. children-friendly Crib Service at Holy Trinity, Poynings and an 11.30 p.m. Midnight Mass at St Andrew's, Edburton, Our Christmas morning 10.00 a.m. Communion Service will be at St John the Evangelist, Newtimber.

I hope you will be able to join in one or more of these acts of worship. You will be most welcome.

Messy Church will be on Friday 20th December; this children-friendly gathering is on the third Friday of every month and involves craft activities themed around a bible passage and food. The children who come really enjoy it and it would be lovely to see more. If you have or know children who might be interested, why not give it a try? 4.00 p.m. in Fulking Village Hall, 4.30 - 6.00 p.m.

May the joy of the angels, the wonder of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas.

With every blessing.

Revd Tim Harford
Rector of the Downland Churches.

## Pew Platter

What a great splash of colour nature gives us at this time of the year!

The Harvest Festival in the church, was also very colourful, and thanks to anyone who left donations and also to our congregation. Everything is taken to St. Peter and St. James Hospice and the Martletts Hospice, both of which we have supported this way for many years. They are always very grateful.

The Remembrance Service was well attended and thank you to the Village Choir, who joined us again for a special time, remembering the villagers who gave their lives for us.

***Our services are:***

2nd Sunday of each month at 6:00 pm.
4th Sunday of each month 11:00 am Communion Service.

***December Services are:***

Sunday 8th December at Pyecombe
Carols with the Village Choir and Mid Sussex Brass Band commencing at 6:00 pm

Sunday 22nd December Communion at Pyecombe commencing at 11:00 am

Christmas Eve
Tuesday 24th December Communion at Edburton commencing at 11:00 pm

Christmas Day
Wednesday 25th December Communion at Newtimber commencing at 10:00 am

**Best wishes to you all.**

**The Church Team**

## South Downs Lottery

South Downs National Park Trust is launching the South Downs Lottery, it's a fun way to support the conservation and enhancement of South Downs National Park and have a chance to win up to £25,000. Visit www.southdownslottery.co.uk or call 01730-631632 for more information.

By playing the lottery or supporting South Downs National Park Trust in any way - https://www.southdownstrust.org.uk/how-to-give/ - you will be supporting the wildlife, landscape and communities of the National Park by helping us to deliver the following types of projects with our partners:

- Bee-Lines - Improving habitat for bees, butterflies and other pollinators which are in decline by restoring chalk grassland and creating wildflower meadows. Visit https://www.southdownstrust.org.uk/beelines/ for more information.

- Mend Our Way – repairing the most damaged parts of the South Downs Way which is used by over 500,000 each year.

- School Travel Grant – we support more children in accessing the learning environment of the National Park by providing travel grants to schools for educational visits to the National Park. Visit https://learning.southdowns.gov.uk/learning/travel-grant/ for more information

- Volunteer Conservation Fund – we work with the Volunteer Ranger Service to support voluntary groups that want to improve their local area by offering grants for things like tools, consumables and materials. Visit https://www.southdownstrust.org.uk/vcf/ for more information.

- Sustainable Communities Fund – we support communities that want to conserve and enhance the National Park's wildlife, cultural heritage and community cohesion by offering grants of up to £10,000. Visit https://www.southdownstrust.org.uk/scf/ for more information.

## Parish Council Jottings

Those of you who have signed up to receive regular updates from the Parish Council will already be aware of the works being carried out in the village by the Parish Council over the last few weeks.

If you have not yet signed up here are some of the items currently being worked on:

- 4 litter bin pads have been completed each with the metal loop for the padlock these bins are being installed at the bus stop adjacent to the M&S store, two on the London Road and one on the bank adjacent to the church.

- 2 new grit bins have been installed. One at the bottom of School Lane the other between Wayfield Park Farm Shop entrance and Brendon Stud.

- 2 existing grit bins located at the top of Church Lane, at the request of West Sussex County council Highways have now been put on new bases with new curbing installed with retaining wall. Also a post with a reflector has been installed.

- The Pyecombe Village sign is being moved to a new location opposite the T junction on the London Road however it was discovered the old post had rotted and therefore a new sign post has been paid for and will take approx. 10 days to come in. The sign has now been removed and taken for sandblasting, repairing and repainting.

- A railway sleeper bed, with soil and weed-ex matting will be fitted and installed with low maintenance shrubs and bulbs once the sign has been erected.

- The damaged litter bin near bench has been straightened and oiled.

- Existing grit bin by footbridge has been moved to a suitable location by path, with shuttering and concrete applied

If you would like to sign up to receive regular updates from the Parish council please drop me an email to:

parishcouncil@pyecombe.org.uk

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

**Next Parish Council Meeting Date**

Monday 6th January 2020

## *Pyecombe Social Committee*

**The Winter Fayre**

The annual Winter Fayre was held at Adastra Hall on 23rd November 2019. The Fayre was well attended and the cafe was in particular a great success. We had a number of new stall holders this year and their contribution served to make the Fayre more varied, colourful and inspiring for shoppers. There was a great atmosphere and immediate feedback from some shoppers was how much they enjoyed the event.

We are always indebted to all the helpers who make the event a success and provide support in the form of baking, decorating, installation, clearing and so much more. Thank you to everyone who came along and helped to make a wet and miserable Saturday cheerful and cherished.

**Christmas Wreaths**

This will be the second year we are taking orders for Xmas wreaths. There are superb wreaths with lights, hand made to order and will brighten your front door on the bleakest of winter days and bring festive cheer. The lights can be blue, red or white.

If you wish to order a wreath please submit your request, name and contact details to pyecombesocialcommittee@yahoo.com. Closing date for orders is 9th December 2019.

**Change of personnel**
Sarah Rushton has stepped down as treasurer of the Committee after many years of wise accounting and guidance to the committee. The Committee is delighted to offer a warm welcome to Karen Pontin who has taken up the role as treasurer from the end of November.

**Xmas Lunch**
On the 11th December invited guests will attend the Pyecombe Social Committee Xmas lunch. We look forward to starting off the festive season with our 'silver' 'life experienced' (but never old) neighbours.

*Julie Scholes*

# Pyecombe 850

## Nymphes et Monstres
**present**
## *Scènes Pastorales*

## Saturday 11th January 2020, 3pm
## Pyecombe Church of the Transfiguration

**About the ensemble:**

***Nymphes et Monstres*** is an international ensemble of four musicians: Kat Carson (soprano, England), Dorota Matejová (traverso, Slovakia), Yotam Haran (cello, Israel) and Punto Bawono (theorbo and lute, Netherlands). Specialising in the performance of French baroque music, all ensemble members play on historical instruments (or copies thereof) and are currently studying (or recently graduated from) early music performance programmes. The sound quality of the ensemble's historical instruments, which differs significantly from the sound of their modern counterparts, invites the audience to engage with a soundscape that is somewhat softer, very resonant, colourful, and beautiful in its own sense. The ensemble took its first steps in collaboration with MAPA - the Moving Academy for Performing Arts, residing in Studio MAPA Nederland, Haarlem - where they have developed the movement and staging style that has become an integral part of their unique performances. Since then, the ensemble has performed in major venues such as the Rijksmuseum, the Utrecht Early Music Fringe Festival, and the MAfestival Brugge. The audience has always found their performances both engaging and exciting.

**Kat Carson writes about the concert:**

***Scènes Pastorales*** delves into the world of Greek mythology, showing pastoral scenes as seen through the eyes of the French Baroque composers whose works we use. Through this performance, we express and experience what it truly means to be human, by looking at the ways in which the legends of Greek mythology, the musicians of the past, and the performers of the present interact on stage. We work with different visual elements (gesture, movement and projected images) as tools to bridge the gap with audiences, and to draw them into the world of mythology which we will be exploring. We aim to create for audiences a total sensory experience that will touch them on a deeply emotional level.

This performance promises to be an exciting musical start to our 850 Year celebrations here in Pyecombe. Do come and support these terrific young performers.

**Tickets: £10 (students £5 and under 14s free)**

**Tickets will be available on the door but booking in advance is strongly recommended!**

**Contact Jane Cullen – 07736 806851 or email cullmon.jm@gmail.com**
**Refreshments will be available in the interval.**

# To The Villagers

The time has come for us to say Goodbye!

As most of you know, after 17 wonderful years in Pyecombe, we are moving back to our old house in Hove, where we brought up our young family before moving to The Forge.

We are very sad to leave, but Alex and Josh are all grown up now with their own families and Terry and I are rattling about here on our own (Except on the numerous occasions that we are asked to babysit the four grandchildren!) Definitely time to downsize!

The Forge has been a wonderful, happy, family home and it's only right that a lovely new family are moving in from December 5th, - The Collins family. We know you will welcome them as warmly as you welcomed us all those years ago. Thank you to all of you for being such wonderful friends and neighbours - Sandra, you may finally get peace without me forever borrowing teacups etc from the church for my "Do's" -Betty-I think we paid our electricity dues over the years to the church -but thank you for allowing us to shine the outside lamp post, to light the way home for our guests at our many parties over the years!

Another big thank you to Ian @ Pangdean for lending us tables and chairs for Alex's 21st and for the fundraising events and grandchildren's christenings at The Forge! And to Fiona & hubby for helping us with the marquee.

We know Jamie Theakston the BBC broadcaster lived here before us and that Robbie Williams and Vanessa Redgrave stayed here ...we never did get around to making those plaques to hang outside as we always said we would.. Maybe the new neighbours will get round to it!

Thank you all for your support when I was diagnosed with head and neck cancer. You got me through some very dark days. You must have been fed up at times with the endless fundraising afterwards, but I'll never forget your many kindnesses.

And finally, a very special thank you to darling Di and Vic at The Chapel for always being such wonderful friends and neighbours, and to Louise and Dave; - you are the kindest people on the planet and we love you to bits!

We will miss you all.

Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas and all good wishes for the New Year.

Au Revoir ❤
Terry & Fran X

**A note from Tree Warden John Cragg –**

Every year we lose more and more hedges and trees.

To try and protect some of the trees a Tree Protection Order (TPO) is put on them.

These orders should be respected and hedges retained where possible.

John Cragg.

## New Editor Required

I have been producing and editing the Pyecombe Newsletter on a voluntary basis for the last three years now, having stepped in to ensure its continuation when the previous Editor retired from the post. The newsletter is an important asset to the village and it would be a great shame to see it discontinued. If you think you are able to commit to taking this on please drop me an email to parishcouncil@pyecombe.org.uk

***Dawn Langston***
***Parish Clerk***



***Christmas Crackers how it all started.....***

*It was on a trip to Parish, in 1840 that an adventurous and forward thinking Tom Smith discovered the 'bon bon' sugared almond, wrapped in a twist of tissue paper. Seven years later this simple idea evolved into the Christmas Cracker.*

*By placing a small love motto in the tissue paper he created enormous interest in this product, especially at Christmas and it was during a search for inspiration to achieve even greater sales that he casually threw a log on the fire. The crackle sound, made by the burning log, gave him the idea that would eventually lead to the crackers we know and love today. After a great deal of hard work and experimentation he came up with a cracking mechanism that created a 'pop' as the "bon bon" wrapping was broken. This eventually became the snap and the cracker was born.*

*Over the next few years his idea evolved and grew and he moved from his original premises in Clerkenwell, East London, to Finsbury Square, in the City. His sons, tom, Walter and Henry took over the business when he died and later a drinking fountain was erected in Finsbury Square, by Walter, in memory of his mother and to commemorate the life of the man who invented the Christmas Cracker.*

*It was Walter who introduced the paper hats and he toured the world to find new and unusual ideas for the gifts.*

*The company was very aware of current affairs and crackers were created for the Suffragettes, Ware Heroes, Charlie Chaplin, the Coronation and many other great occasions. Exclusive crackers were also made for the Royal family and still are to this day.*

# Quiz

1. How many moons has Mars?
2. What lies under the ice at the North Pole?
3. What is laver bread made from?
4. According to Shakespeare, how many ages of man are there?
5. Who is the king of the fairies?
6. Who was Roman Emperor was Jesus was crucified?
7. What was the infamous London address of the murderer John Christie?
8. What sea creature is made up of 95% water and has no heart, brain, bones, eyes, gills or blood?
9. In which city was John F. Kennedy assassinated?
10. Which Australian bird is also called the laughing jackass?
11. What is the only creature that can turn its head in almost a complete circle?
12. What does the acronym NASA stand for?
13. Bermuda is a colony of which country?
14. Cagliari is the capital of which Mediterranean Island?
15. What do you get when you mix zinc with copper?
16. What kind of creature is a Gila monster?
17. Where is the Rift Valley?

18. Would you weigh more or less on the Moon?

19. Which United States city is named after a British Prime Minister?

20. In the United States, what was banned from 1917 to 1933 by the 18th Amendment?

**Answers in next issue.**

***Waste and recycling collection days will change for two weeks over Christmas and the New Year period.***

***Your festive collection days are as follows:***

| ***Normal Collection Date*** | ***Festive Collection Date*** |
|---|---|
| Monday 23rd December | Saturday 21st December |
| Tuesday 24th December | Monday 23rd December |
| Wednesday 25th December | Tuesday 24th December |
| Thursday 26th December | Friday 27th December |
| Friday 27th December | Saturday 28th December |
| Monday 30th December | No Change |
| Tuesday 31st December | No Change |
| Wednesday 1st January 2020 | Thursday 2nd January 2020 |
| Thursday 2nd January | Friday 3rd January |
| Friday 3rd January | Saturday 4th January |



***Pyecombe Today – Photographic Competition***

***A gentle reminder – the photographic competition that was launched in September, celebrating 'Pyecombe Today', continues throughout the Winter, Spring and summer, culminating for judging and display at the Pyecombe Fayre weekend in July 2020.***

***Open to all, the photographs will need to be associated with Pyecombe, each individual can submit up to four printed photographs.***

***As the 12 best photographs will be compiled into a calendar for the following year, the pictures will need to be of sufficient quality to be used, most i-phones, smartphone mobiles are suitable, as well as cameras.***

***Good luck everyone.***

*The next newsletter is due out in March 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 March issue please send articles in anytime from now until February 27th. 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*