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Parish News

December 2020 / January 2021

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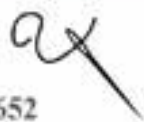
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THE PARISH OF RUSPER

SERVICES AT ST MARY MAGDALENE'S CHURCH

RUSPER

Information on services is updated monthly on: www.rusperchurch.org.uk

If a priest is required at short notice and Nick is unavailable, please contact the Churchwardens.

Rector	Revd Nick Flint	01293 871251
Churchwarden	Mr Chris Pearce	01403 268047
Churchwarden	Mrs Maggie True	01293 871722
Treasurer		

Nick is here to minister to all who have need in our parishes. He is keen to be told if someone has moved in and to have an opportunity to visit newcomers. Holy Communion can be arranged for the housebound or those who are sick. Nick tries to take Thursday as a rest day each week, so he kindly suggests that you only contact him on a Thursday in matters of urgency.

Services in December

6 th	Holy Communion	8am and 11am	
13 th	Holy Communion	8am and 11am	
20 th	Holy Communion	8am and 11am	
25 th	Holy Communion	9am; 10am; 11am	BY TICKET
27 th	Holy Communion	8am and 11am	

Services in January

3 rd	Holy Communion	8am and 11am
10 th	Holy Communion	8am and 11am
17 th	Holy Communion	8am and 11am
24 th	Holy Communion	8am and 11am
31 st	Holy Communion	8am and 11am

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING RUTH, OUR NEW BISHOP OF HORSHAM, TO RUSPER ON SUNDAY 21 February

The Rectory
High Street
Rusper
RH12 4PX

TIMINGS AND TREASURER

We actually don't know, of course, when exactly Jesus was born. Christians began to celebrate his nativity in fact only three hundred years after the event. It is well known that they chose 25th December to do so, not because of any evidence that it was the day of his birth, but in an act we would today call cultural appropriation. The date marked an existing pagan festival of darkness and light. Yes – we *chose* to place this joyful celebration at the darkest and coldest, dead time of the year, the low point in the calendar. The tradition goes deeper, to the very heart of this symbolism, by suggesting that the birth took place at the very stroke of midnight.

'The light shines in the darkness' is a perennial message for us in Saint John's poetic introduction to his Gospel. 2020 has been a dark year for many and difficult in varying degrees for us all. I am writing this piece, not for the first time wondering whether what goes to the printers for the copy date will come to pass. The first Christmas took place in the midst of disruption to plans and against the backdrop of government red tape.

YES - WE NEED A NEW TREASURER!

It was never going to be a good time to discover major structural problems in our historic church building. Not only have fundraising events been put on hold since lockdown, but the PCC is without a treasurer following Mike Ward stepping down from the role. We are immensely grateful for all he has done over the years. Is there someone out there who can help take up the baton especially for the financial challenge that clearly lies ahead? Masonry has come down in the north aisle and alarming cracks mean we need to investigate the foundations. This looks like the biggest crisis for our church building in a generation. Perhaps rather than simply repairing the time has finally come for us to rethink and revisit our plans for some modern facilities. Yes – we will need money!

SERVICES DURING DECEMBER & JANUARY

Arrangements are all subject to possible change. Let Nick know if you would like to be on the mailing list to be notified of codes for Sunday Zoom services, which may replace those advertised. There is a website and Facebook page for Rusper Church. The church remains open daily for personal prayer. If you cannot get to church especially for Holy Communion, the following prayer may help.

A Form of Spiritual Communion

Lord Jesus, I love you above all things
How I long to receive you with my sisters and brothers
at the table that you have prepared
Since I cannot receive you in bread and wine
according to your promise in the sacrament of Holy Communion
I ask you to feed me with the manna of your Holy Spirit
and nourish me with your Holy presence
I unite myself wholly to you
Never let me be separated from you. Amen.



Nick

RUSPER CHAT 2020



To Rusper Chatters

WATCH THIS SPACE – WE WILL RETURN





CHRISTMAS TREES IN RUSPER

Come and choose and cut your own Christmas tree (or we will cut if you do not have the tools).

Venue: Parsonage field (below the graveyard)
Date: 5th and 12th December (while stocks last)
Time: 10 - 11 am
Price: £20 each. All proceeds to church appeal fund

Maggie True 871722

RUSPER CHURCH 200 CLUB

Thank you to all those people who continue responding to the request for new members during this difficult time. The Rusper Church 200 Club is one of the few continuing forms of income to our lovely church during these challenging times. You can continue to help by joining the 200 Club or buying additional shares. All the details about the Rusper Church 200 Club including past winners, the Rules and an Application Form, are on the Church's website at www.rusperchurch.org.uk under "THE CHURCH IS YOU" tab. Just print off and complete the Application Form and then either email it to me at johnmichaeljory@yahoo.co.uk or send it to me at: Elsinoro, Horsham Road, Rusper RH12 4PR. Many thanks to all of you who have been regularly contributing to enable us to make a significant contribution towards the running costs of the Church over the past few years.

The result of the recent draw is:

1 st prize	£200	72	John R
2 nd prize	£ 75	89	Joanne J
3 rd prize	£ 50	18	Tracey M

John Jory

RUSPER CHRONICLE

Christmas in Rusper

As we wait to hear what plans we can make for Christmas in this year of the Covid-19 virus, I wondered what Christmas was like in Rusper in the past. How was it celebrated? Apart from the memories of Mrs. Hoare at the Lamb Inn we can only guess as little was written down – but one suspects that as a mostly farming community Christmas Day probably felt much like any other day with animals to be fed and watered and cows milked. During the 1800s farming was in decline and a lot of the village would have been struggling. The jolly Christmases depicted by Charles Dickens and the Royal Family may have existed in some of the larger houses with their numerous children, but for many the reality would have been very different.

Before the National Health Service and before WWI, the Lamb Inn ran a health insurance scheme which combined business with pleasure. About 60 villagers would pay 6d a week (equivalent to £2 in today's money out of an average wage of 14s 11d) into a fund which provided them with ten shillings sickness benefit if they fell ill – though they tried not to be ill as at the end of the year the money in the fund was divided up between them. The Lamb was a beer house but in the Autumn they made cider which was tapped at Christmas and also elderberry wine – and in December a jolly evening was had by all with four joints of meat and a large plum pudding! Mrs. Hoare remembered it well. Rusper village also had a benevolent society but their celebrations which involved marching

round the village with a band before having dinner at the Star were held in the summer with the children missing from school to take part.

Many of the smaller houses would have had difficulty cooking a large Christmas dinner. Back then, as the bakery next door to the shop was shut but the ovens available, some villagers probably took their food there to be cooked for a small charge. When the village was without electricity for six days (ten days outside the village) in October 1987 after the Great Storm, some of us found how difficult it was to cook a hot meal on an open fire – it took all day!

One memory I have of Christmas in the village in the early 1970s was singing around the Christmas tree in the church yard, led by a young John Bridcut from Courthouse with his accordin, singing all the folk carols which are not usually sung in church. Then going home in the dark with our lanterns for supper shared with neighbours. And the Nativity play in the infants class in Rusper School always guaranteed to bring tears to the eyes of proud parents!

It would be good to have other people's memories – is there anyone with stories of Christmas during the last war? Or have you been told stories of what it was like? Rusper Chronicle group would like to hear from you – we are gradually building up a collection of information to pass on to future generations. Do please contact me, Lynn Heydon or Joan Frazer. Then next Christmas we shall have more to say!

Rusper Village Trail

This has now been printed and we hope to have copies in a few days. If they come in time, you will find one included in your Parish News. They will also be distributed around the village for you and visitors to pick up. Work on the Trail has been mainly done by Joan Frazer, Lynn Heydon and Margaret White, with many thanks to George Sallows, David Stevens and Ian Mulcahy for the photographs. This was a Lottery Project to provide trail leaflets throughout the Horsham District with the central organisers choosing the format etc. We hope it will bring visitors to the village once life becomes more normal. And that you too will enjoy reading it.

As part of the same Lottery grant the plaque at the entrance to the car park has been refurbished and is now back in place. This is part of Horsham District's Heritage Trail of 2000.

Margaret White

NEW HERITAGE TRAIL FOR RUSPER

A new heritage trail – *Rusper-village through time* – is an attractive fully illustrated leaflet that takes you on a tour of the village, past sites hidden in plain sight. Created by Rudgwick Chronicle Group as part of a district wide initiative, funded by the National Heritage Lottery Fund and Horsham District Council, with help from Community Partnerships Forum and Horsham Museum, it encourages you to explore a village and area we all think we know.

The bright, colourful leaflet draws on many unusual photographs including a stage coach outside the Star Inn, to the re-opening of the Rusper Stores, to snow-swept Ghyll Manor. Alongside such images, the authors have drawn on their local knowledge to provide fascinating snippets of information from where the village's first post office was, to a Swiss roll grave, to Rusper windmill and local schools, along with the architectural history of some of the many attractive buildings that line the street.

The two yearlong project has seen 19 other trails of the district created by volunteer heritage groups, along with a fully illustrated training manual so you can, if you wish, create your own trails and share them with friends, family and groups. On your walks, you may well come across one or more of the 32 Millennium plaques, many of which have been refurbished as part of the project. The trail can be picked up from local libraries, venues or download it from www.Horshammuseum.org/heritagetrails where you will also find trails around Rudgwick, Shipley, Cowfold and further afield including a trail of local churches.

Rachel Weller, HDC
Rusper Parish News



We are now collecting FOOD as well too.

Jo Ferguson

RUSPER HELP

Covid-19 Pandemic

A Volunteer Group exists to help residents of Rusper Parish who are self-isolating due to the Corona virus (Covid-19) and do not have a family member to assist them.

Volunteer support is available to help with shopping, collecting and delivering prescriptions or just being there for a phone chat.

Do you need assistance?

You can contact one of the co-ordinators listed below between 08:30 and 17:30 and they will find a Volunteer who can help you or chat on the phone to you:

- Michelle Cooke (Rusper Parish Council) 07973 118747
- Roland Allen (Rusper Parish Council) 07710 371195

You can also email for assistance at assistance@rusper-pc.org.uk

Shopping

If you are self-isolating Rusper Stores can deliver a grocery order to you with the help of our volunteers. You can call them on 01293 871366 or email them at info@ruspervillagestores.co.uk

Prescriptions

Please call one of the Assistance numbers above and a volunteer will be allocated to collect your prescription and deliver it to you.

More information is available at rusperhelp.org.uk

Roland Allen

RUSPER PARISH COUNCIL

- Rusper Parish Council holds its **full meeting** on the last Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm online.
- **Planning** sub-committee meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month online.
- Agendas for all meetings are posted on Parish noticeboards and the web site prior to meetings
- Public and press are welcome to attend both of the above meetings – please contact the Parish Clerk for details of how to join the meeting online.
- All correspondence for the Parish Council and requests for copies of the minutes of meetings should be sent by email to clerk@rusper-pc.org.uk or by post to: The Parish Clerk, Leanne Bannister, c/o Rusper Post Office, East Street, Rusper RH12 4PX.
- Full details of Parish Council meetings, proceedings and activities are available on the web site at www.rusper-pc.org.uk and the Rusper Parish Council Facebook page.

Summary of Rusper Parish Council meeting & Planning Committee meeting – October 2020

*The full Minutes of this and all other meetings are available to view on the Rusper Parish Council website rusper-pc.org.uk/meetings. These Minutes are **draft and subject to change** until they have been confirmed at our next meeting.*

These meetings were held virtually due to the pandemic.

Planning – 20th October 2020

Agreed responses to planning applications:

DC/20/1608 Ashfolds, Horsham Road: No objection to this application but requests that any external lighting should conform to the Rusper Dark Skies policy, and the building should remain as an ancillary use to the main building.

DC/20/1829 Land North of Horsham: No comment.

DC/20/1779 Land North of Horsham: No comment.

S106/20/0015 Land North of Horsham: No comment.

DC/20/1794 Building 4, Millfields Farm, Horsham Road: No objection to this application, provided that the following conditions are applied:-

- No valeting/workshop activities
- Storage of vintage/classic cars only
- Vehicles only to be stored internally
- Permitted working and access hours of between 8 am to 6 pm
- Only external down lighting, and lighting must conform to Rusper Dark Skies policy
- No activities or processes using power tools relating to repair or maintenance of cars to take place anywhere within the site
- No more than 40 vehicles to be stored at any one time
- No retail sales or viewing of cars to take place
- No internally/externally located plant to be installed/operated unless acoustic impact assessment has been undertaken

DC/20/1933 19 Gardeners Green: Objects to this application for the following reasons:-

- It is outside of the Built up Area Boundary
- The evidence submitted for the Rusper Neighbourhood Plan found that there is sufficient housing planned for the area
- The site does not form part of the Rusper Neighbourhood Plan
- There are no regular public transport links to this site, so it is in a non-sustainable location. The transport referred to in the application is not correct – the number 52 bus stops in Rusper only twice a week.

This site could be considered as part of the Rusper Neighbourhood Plan review when it takes place after the Horsham Plan has been completed.

Planning appeals received: DC/20/0737 Furlong Farm

Update on planning decisions:

DC/20/0937 Winterfold Farm - permitted
DC/20/0939 Winterfold Farm - refused
DC/20/1432 Heath Cottage - permitted
DC/20/1413 Mullion Cottage – permitted

Cllr. Sallows spoke at HDC's planning committee meeting regarding Winterfold Farm. The only work taking place at the site should now be to remove the groundwork for the indoor school. At the same meeting the conditions were not approved for DC/20/0882 (Stafford House) and the Planning Officers will reconsider these.

Council – 27th October 2020

Co-option of new Councillor: Mr Gary Adams was co-opted to the position of Councillor.

Requirements for budget for 2021/22: Suggestions included:

- 4-5 months' staff costs and a buffer of £1,000 for the Neighbourhood Plan review.
- Repairs to the playground of £1,500.
- Community support for Covid-19 volunteer support. Cllrs. Allen and Cooke to recommend an amount to the Clerk.
- Website improvements - £500-£1,000.
- Traffic calming - £5,000-£7,000.
- Rent for recreation ground is still to be confirmed but is likely to show an increase to almost £2,000.
- The Clerk's salary is being reviewed and this should be taken into account.
- Increase to the earmarked reserves for repairs to the recreation ground.

Reports from other Authorities: Cllr. Kitchen reported as follows:-

- The Courage Dyer trust still need a representative from Rusper.
- The new cycle lanes in Horsham have not been well received. Some of the lanes in West Sussex have already been removed.
- WSCC has funding available to help people in need due to the pandemic. This is being distributed via the volunteer hubs.
- Horsham park has received an international award.

- Cllr. Kitchen has attended the Gatwick Noise and Track Monitoring Advisory Group. There is a perceived problem with 'go arounds' but these are actually training flights.
- The Lambs Green layby planning application has been put back out to consultation.
- Cllr. Kitchen has visited the Sports Horses International site and suggested that the agent speaks to Rusper PC about their plans for the site.

Approval of meeting dates for 2021: Meetings will be held on the last Tuesday of each month, except the August meeting (which will only be held if necessary) and the December meeting (which will be held on the third Tuesday).

Approval of costs of ground sockets for Vehicle Activated Sign: Three quotes were received for this of £2,686.31, £4,508.01 and £2,618.29. It was agreed to get another quote from a local company.

Report on Recreation Ground lease and approval of terms: The terms were agreed. There is a court hearing coming up where the landlord may challenge the validity of the application.

Approval of bench for Remembrance: The war horse bench seat will be purchased from David Olgivie at a cost of £896 plus VAT, £105 plus VAT for delivery and £29 plus VAT underground leg extensions. This will be installed near to the beacon.

External Auditor's report: The finances for 2019/20 were approved by the external auditor with no qualifications or questions raised. This has been published on the website along with a notice of conclusion of audit.

New bank accounts: It was agreed to open new bank accounts with Unity Bank, Nationwide and to review Metro Bank when they are accepting applications.

Leanne Bannister
Clerk to Rusper Parish Council
c/o Rusper Village Stores, East Street, Rusper, RH12 4PX
07871 340986

HOPE KEITH TRUST



As we enter our second period of lockdown, we just wanted to let you know that although the doors to our centres are temporarily closed, we are still very much here for older people across West Sussex, Brighton & Hove.

Last lockdown, phone calls in to us increased by over 250%. 40% of contacts were from people who were unknown to us before Covid-19 hit, so this really is that time – older people need us and we're determined to be there for them. We wanted to let you know about the services we're offering during this 2nd period of lockdown, so you can spread the word and signpost anyone who may need our support.

In short, **we're here for older people, whatever they are facing**, but our key offerings are:

- **Telephone befriending** Those who are lonely or isolated shouldn't suffer in silence. We have a team of befrienders ready to make calls. For many, it's a lifeline.
- **Help at Home & Doorstep Deliveries** We can deliver groceries, fresh meals (in selected areas) and essential medication to doorsteps, via our Help at Home Service. Emergency food parcels and doorstep visits can be arranged for those most in need.
- **Emergency Welfare and Safety Support** We are helping the most vulnerable with tasks such as cleaning, shopping and laundry, as well as offering respite for carers. This service is for those who would be at serious risk if they did not receive urgent support.
- **Home from Hospital** This service can continue throughout lockdown, with the appropriate precautions in place.

- **Information and Advice** Our team can help with a wide range of queries, including providing information on social care, housing and welfare benefits.
- **Wellbeing Support** We are sharing information on healthy living, nutrition, hydration and exercises that can take place in the home or garden. We can also provide magazines and activities to ease the boredom whilst people are asked to stay at home.

If you are in a position to make a donation at this time, all funds will go directly to our Coronavirus appeal – supporting people through this crisis. You can donate online here <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/westsussex> there's a donate button at the very top of our home page.

It may not be possible for you to support us financially right now, but we would be really grateful if you could signpost anyone our way that may benefit from our support at this time on the usual telephone number: 01403 260560.

2020 has been an unforgettable year presenting us with huge challenges and for some the impact of COVID-19 has been truly devastating. In amongst all of this we discovered and affirmed the power of community, of reaching out to support others and we experienced the healing qualities of a timely chat. I'd like to wish everyone all the very best for the New Year ahead, with the hope that we all retain the understanding that gestures of goodwill are significant acts of humanity and are especially important when we are at a distance!

Season's greetings,
Best wishes

Gaby Aldrich

Tel: 07591 049042 or 01403260560

email: villageagentrusper@ageukhorshamdistrict.org.uk

The Village Agent is provided by Age UK Horsham District and proudly supported and funded by The Hope Keith Villagers Trust.

CHURCH CLEANING

4 th December	Judy Butler	871845
11 th December	Chris & Carrie Johnson	871553
19 th December	Rosy Slater	871833
23 rd December	Keith Davies	07710 601
1 st January	Ros Maiden	01403 257088
8 th January	Fiona Lear	871509
15 th January	Paula Forsyth	871257
22 nd January	Rosy Slater	871833
29 th January	Chris & Carrie Johnson	871553

Sue Matthewson 871266

DONATIONS TO RUSPER PARISH NEWS

This month we have received 5 donations, thank you. Just £5 annually from every household is fine and if you are not sure when you last gave, I can tell you. The bank details are: sort code 30-94-41, Account no. 00007348, a/c name PCC RUSPER MAGAZINE.

Valerie Bowles 871412

RUSPER GOOD NEIGHBOUR LINK

Please do not hesitate to ask if you need transport to a doctor or dentist, chemist, hospital, or any other emergency visit. The names listed below are the contacts who will take your call and probably drive you. However, if busy, they will ask someone else from our list of volunteer drivers.

<i>Angie Hill</i>	<i>871274</i>
<i>Carrie Johnson</i>	<i>871553</i>

PARISH REGISTER

31 October - Holy Matrimony

Graham Chipchase & Sarah Hurst

EDITORS

Please remember to let the editor underlined below have all items for the **February** edition by **14th January 2021**.

Fiona Lear	Rutland Lodge, East Street fionalear@btinternet.com	871509
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with donations towards the cost of publishing the Rusper Parish News

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