

# RUSPER



## Parish News

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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](http://www.rusperchurch.org.uk)  
If a priest is required at short notice and Nick is unavailable, please contact the Churchwardens.

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

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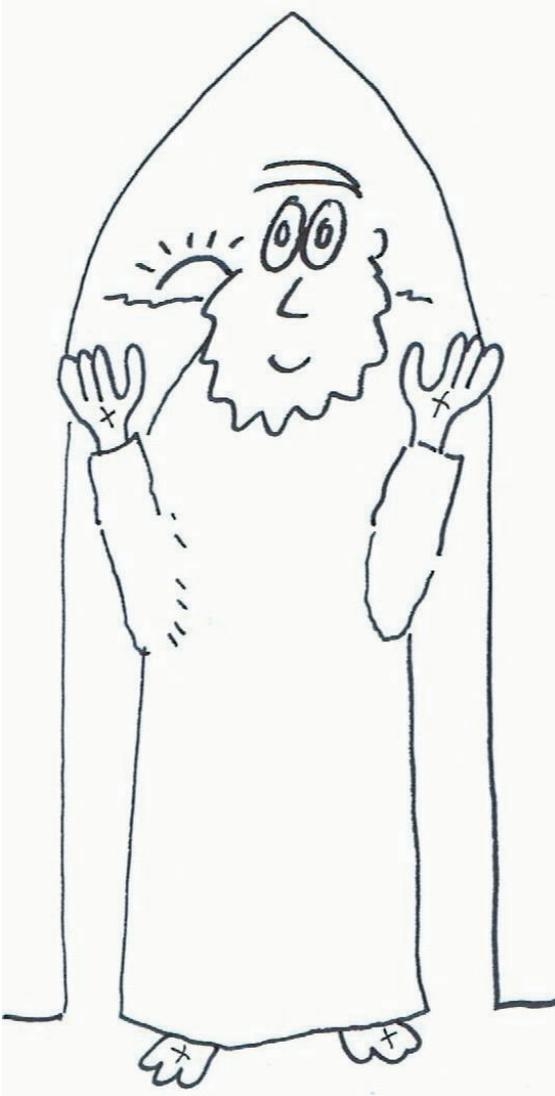
*Nick is here to minister to all who have need in our parishes. He is keen to be told if someone has moved in and to have an opportunity to visit newcomers. Holy Communion can be arranged for the housebound or those who are sick. Nick tries to take Thursday as a rest day each week, so he kindly suggests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

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### April Services

1 <sup>st</sup>	Maundy Thursday	Eucharist & Vigil	7pm
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Good Friday	Proclamation of the Cross	11am
4 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Sunday	Holy Communion	8am & 11am
11 <sup>th</sup>		Holy Communion	8am & 11am
18 <sup>th</sup>		Holy Communion	8am & 11am
25 <sup>th</sup>		Holy Communion	8am & 11am

## Journey Together



It has certainly been a year of soul searching. During the Pandemic we have also seen the reactions to Trump, the responses to the killing of George Floyd, and as I'm writing this, the tragedy of Sarah Everard is unfolding painfully, and questions being asked about the Police actions at the peaceful vigil in Clapham. This is not the first time, nor, I am afraid, will it be the last, when vainglory, racism and the abuse of male power, among other evils, have revealed themselves, and sadly it is not the last such time that we will be mourning their victims.

Reaching for ritual and performing symbolic actions are deeply human responses in emotionally charged times, and despite the restrictions we have felt the privilege of being the Church and being here for those who are renewing their spiritual search. I don't

believe the Church 'has all the answers' but it is place at once safe and challenging to ask the questions.

As we leave March behind the Church is entering the commemoration of the passion of Jesus expressed in the words and ritual of Holy Week. The headlines of this story are familiar, but we are invited to encounter them in relationship to the pains, passions, hopes and dreams of our own lives. We enter them to find pattern and meaning in our own circumstances. The answers are not neat but bring their own challenges.

I pray that this Easter we encounter afresh and together the mystery of the Cross, with open minds through the open tomb of Jesus.



## **NOT JUST FOR LENT – Via Crucis- Via Lucis**

For many years during Lent and in a variety of forms, the Way of the Cross (Latin Via Crucis) has been a Friday spiritual practice which many at St Mary Magdalene's have valued.

This year as we enter Eastertide there will be an opportunity to continue the journey as the 'Via Crucis' becomes the 'Via Lucis' the Way of Light, with Easter Stations. 12 noon to 12.30 from Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April.

*Nick*

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## RUSPER CHAT 2021



### To Rusper Chatters

WATCH THIS SPACE – WE WILL RETURN

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### 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](http://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](mailto: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 latest draw – March 2021 - is:

1 <sup>st</sup> prize	£200	98	Lynn H
2 <sup>nd</sup> prize	£ 75	190	Craig D
3 <sup>rd</sup> prize	£ 50	213	Paula D

*John Jory*

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## RUSPER CHRONICLE

### The Census

Last month we were all busy filling in our Census forms – but we shan't know what picture it will give of Rusper unless we live another 100 years! However, we know a lot about what it was like back in the 1850s to 1911 from past censuses. Nowadays we do it ourselves online but in the past an enumerator was appointed to go round filling in the forms. Quite a task with many houses in multiple occupancy. Houses didn't have numbers, many did not have names and many addresses were just put down as Rusper Street, which is rather frustrating for modern researchers. Mr. Pigrome, Rusper School headmaster, did one of the censuses, Charles Martin from the shop did 1871 and James Pickard, farmer, of Wimlands, did 1841 to 1861. There was plenty of room for error. The houses are not necessarily in order if the residents weren't at home at the time, spellings of names vary, and many houses were divided up – Averys for example had become three, including a shop.

The first Census was in 1801 though this wasn't much more than a head count. The first proper Census was in 1841 and has continued every ten years since (except during the last war). In Rusper we do have the details of the 1821 Census with added information by the curate Thomas Wood which makes it quite special – he knew all the gossip!

What we do get from the Censuses is an amazing window into Rusper's past. We learn who lived where, who was in their family, what everyone did for a living, where people were born and their age. And, of course, their surnames and Christian names. We often think that people in the village were born and brought up here for generations – and some were – but in the 1851 Census less than half the residents had been born in Rusper and this went down even further by 1891. There was a lot of moving around of farmers as well, most of which were tenanted – it seemed as though the grass was always greener on the next farm. But you can see the decline in farming from the figures. Traders came and went – Solomon Stone set up shop at Averys in 1851 but had soon gone back to Horsham. A butcher came from Norfolk for a few years but then

left, but somehow the village kept going. The Censuses also show up the small traders not listed in Kellys Directory – seamstresses, dressmakers, shoemakers and basket makers for example.

The 1800s was a period of great change in England and those changes were reflected in Rusper – and we can see them through the Censuses. The railway came and we turned into an industrial nation – there was a way out of the village!

*Margaret White*

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## **RUSPER SPORTS CLUB**

Restrictions due to Covid have been hard, affecting everyone in one way or another. Here in Rusper, we have been incredibly lucky to have so much green, open space, a lifesaver for our physical and mental wellbeing. As locals, we take all of this for granted.

Another thing taken for granted in Rusper Sports Club, whose committee members quietly beaver away in the background, maintaining the sports facilities for members to use. During 2020, the new booking system saw the tennis courts being used regularly by members, only stopping when Lockdown kicked in and the courts were required to be closed.

Our committee is very small, but due to a few house moves, our committee numbers have dwindled. We are looking for new committee members to join us in helping to keep the club and facilities going. Don't stop reading!

We are a small, easy going committee that meets informally around four times a year. Thankfully, Zoom has enabled us to carry on during the restrictions. We would really welcome some new committee members: there are no requirements for age or fitness, nor do you have to be sporty. We just need some extra brain cells for ideas and a few hours here and there for the odd maintenance job, nothing too onerous. Please consider joining our little team, to help us continue to keep the club and its facilities available for the village.

The AGM will take place on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm. Due to current Covid restrictions, this meeting will be online.

We would love you to come along. If you would like to attend, you will need to register your interest at [ruspersportsclub@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ruspersportsclub@yahoo.co.uk) and you will then be sent details of how to join the meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> April.

*Rusper Sports Club committee*

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**RUSPER SPORTS CLUB  
AGM 2021**

**Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm  
Online via Zoom**

**Contact Secretary via email:  
[ruspersportsclub@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ruspersportsclub@yahoo.co.uk)  
for details of how to join the meeting.**

**All welcome**

**[www.ruspersportsclub.co.uk](http://www.ruspersportsclub.co.uk)**

## REFERENDUM: THURSDAY, 6<sup>th</sup> MAY 2021

It's been several months since the Rusper Neighbourhood Plan passed independent examination (this is the last step before the community votes on it in a referendum). Unfortunately, voting had to be postponed because of the Covid-19 pandemic but has now been scheduled for **6<sup>th</sup> May**.

If more than 50% of votes approve the Plan, it will become a core planning document used by both Rusper Parish Council and Horsham District Council. Since the Plan was approved by the independent examiner, it has already been influential in planning decisions made by Horsham District Council.

Make sure you are registered to vote – visit [Horsham.gov.uk](http://Horsham.gov.uk) to find out how to register and details on how to vote. Visit [rusper-np.org.uk](http://rusper-np.org.uk) to find out how the Plan can be viewed.

### THE PLAN'S VISION

- Valuing green spaces
- Supporting access to the countryside
- Supporting business and enterprise
- Promoting and supporting education and training opportunities
- Protecting the open aspect and countryside views of Rusper
- Housing needs have already been met in Rusper so no housing allocations have been made

# VOTE 6<sup>th</sup> MAY

Ensure that your voice is counted in deciding how Rusper will be developed in the future.

*Leanne Bannister, Clerk to Council*

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://rusperhelp.org.uk)

*Roland Allen*

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## 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](mailto: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](http://www.rusper-pc.org.uk) and the Rusper Parish Council Facebook page.

## **Summary of Rusper Parish Council meeting & Planning Committee meeting – February 2021**

*The full Minutes of this and all other meetings are available to view on the Rusper Parish Council website [rusper-pc.org.uk/meetings](http://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 – 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**Open Forum:** Mr Nordgreen from Proseed Capital gave a presentation on a master plan for Stud Farm, Capel Road. The plan is for a mixed used residential, equestrian and commercial site (as it currently is) but redesigned so that the different uses are segregated. There are 11 additional housing units proposed. There are already 9 residential units on site/approved. Councillors asked various questions and explained the current position with the Neighbourhood Plan.

### **Agreed responses to planning applications:**

DC/21/0066 Land North of Horsham: Request that the applicants take into account the dark skies policy in the Rusper Neighbourhood Plan and ensure that the affordable housing need is met in future stages of the development.

DC/20/2544 Tamesa, Whitehall Drive: No objection.

DC/21/0103 The Frog and Nightgown: No objection.

DC/21/0164 Croft Garden, Horsham Road: No objection.

DC/20/2324 Rusper Road junction with Arthur Road: No objection but would request that some form of planting is added alongside the fence to make less visual impact.

### **Update on planning decisions:**

DC/20/2337 Friday Farm, Friday Street – permitted

DC/20/2052 Friday Farm, Friday Street – permitted

DC/20/2523 Curtis Farm, Green Lane – permitted

DC/20/2524 Curtis Farm, Green Lane – permitted

DC/20/2465 Land adjacent to Pucks Croft Cottage – refused  
DC/20/2460 15 Gardeners Green – permitted  
DC/20/2454 Land south of East Street – refused

Council – 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021

**Trees:** Two oak trees in the car park will be deadwooded at a cost of £280. Ivy will be removed from trees at no cost.

**Report from other Authorities:** Cllr Hogben updated on the Horsham Local Plan as follows:-

- The Horsham Local Plan has been delayed mostly due to the duty to cooperate, which has been requested by Worthing District.
- The housing numbers in the Plan are likely to go up.
- The sites at Land west of Ifield, Buck Barn and Rookwood are looking more favourable due to sustainability.
- Crest Nicholson has not applied for additional homes at the Kilnwood Vale Site.
- The issue with the Mayfield site is that the developers don't own all of the land.

Cllr Kitchen reported that WSCC is looking at going out to consultation on whether to introduce an appointment system at refuse sites.

**Operation Watershed:** Drainage works at The Mount at a cost of £13,029.75 plus VAT were approved.

**Rusper Village Hall:** Cllr Bender was appointed to the Rusper Village Hall Committee as a representative of the Parish Council.

**Donations:**

- a. £200 to Rusper Village Hall
- b. £200 to Rusper Parish News

**Rusper Help website:** Payment of the domain at a cost of £32.39 was approved.

## Reports from representatives:

- Cllr Bender has noticed some work taking place on the pine trees on the Martin Grant development and wanted to ensure that these cannot be removed. The Clerk will ask HDC if it is possible to have Tree Preservation Orders put on these and the oak trees in the site.
- Cllr Bender reported that a stile is missing on a footpath in Ifield Wood. The Clerk has reported this to WSCC, who are liaising with the relevant landowner.
- Cllr Bender has noticed someone litter picking with their child in Ifield and many people throughout the parish have been collecting litter. The Council is grateful to these members of the public and the Clerk will publish thanks on the website/social media.
- Cllr Cooke reported that there have only been two requests for help collecting prescriptions via the Ruser Help hub. It was noted that residents have been extremely grateful for this service.
- Cllrs Gatt and Adams attended the North Horsham PC Liaison meeting. More parking and electric charging points were requested. They raised the point about speed limits within the estate and were told that if it is unadopted it can be any speed. Most of the roads are planned to be unadopted. The single lane closure on the A264 was completed within 4 days. The refuse collection points were also raised as there was concern about how the big lorries would get into the estate. This has been digitally tested for a fire engine so it shouldn't be an issue. The developers haven't finalised the street light plans.
- Cllr Fillamore is now a trustee of the Courage Dyer Recreational Trust.
- Cllr Sallows is trying to arrange a meeting with the Sports Club.
- Cllr Sallows reported that local woodlands are being damaged by the amount of walkers using them and so is trying to set up a conservation project with local landowners. Cllr Sallows will bring more information to the next meeting.

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

## HOPE KEITH TRUST



Hello there

As I write this Age UK West Sussex Brighton and Hove are busily preparing for the easing of lockdown as laid out in the Government's road map. We are planning to open up our café at Lavinia House, Dukes Square on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Hurray! As some of you may know we have a lovely garden at Lavinia House tended to lovingly by a team of volunteers and there is also a terrace there which provides a very comfortable location to meet up with friends to enjoy a coffee and cake or a light lunch. We are of course abiding by all the Covid safe guidelines so you could sit in the garden to ease your way out of lockdown in a safe environment, with people who have shared a lot of similar lockdown experiences during this past year. There is nothing quite like chatting your way out of a global pandemic with others!

Please ring 01403 260560 to book a table. Parking is available on site.

We continue to offer the following services listed below so do please spread the word and signpost anyone who may need our support.

- **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.** Help at Home is a paid for service which covers help in the home, gardening and house maintenance.
- **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. Connect, our in house magazine has been produced in direct response to the pandemic, please let us know if you would like to receive a copy.
- **Keep well and warm this Winter** - from 1<sup>st</sup> December in partnership with WSCC we have received funding to deliver nutritious frozen meals and desserts, health, wellbeing & energy advice direct to your door by one of our friendly volunteers – please do get in touch to learn more. Dietary requirements can be accommodated and we can deliver 2- 3 times each week if freezer space is an issue.

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 <http://www.ageuk.org.uk/westsussex> via the donate button at the very top of the page. We appreciate it may not be possible for you to support us financially right now, but please signpost anyone our way that may benefit from our support at this crucial time, on the usual telephone number 01403 260560 or via email [info@ageukwsbh.org.uk](mailto:info@ageukwsbh.org.uk)

Keep safe,

*Gaby Aldrich*

Tel: 07591 049042 or 01403260560

email: [villageagentrusper@ageukhorshamdistrict.org.uk](mailto: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.**

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## CHURCH CLEANING

2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Shona Lidstone	01403 248472
9 <sup>th</sup> April	Joan Beedle	01403 267937
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Keith Davies	07710 601081
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Maggie True	871722
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Pat Newman	871354

*Sue Matthewson 871266*

## DONATIONS TO RUSPER PARISH NEWS

This month we have received 6 donations. Thank you. Enclosed is a Remittance Slip for those who like an annual reminder. Unfortunately, we were unable to deliver these slips last year and only 24 households contributed in 2020. Please leave your donation with the post office or in my letterbox. Of course, donations paid directly into the bank are welcome. The bank details are: sort code 30-94-41, Account no. 00007348, a/c name RUSPER PCC - MAGAZINE. If you no longer want the magazine delivered and prefer to read it online, please tell Judy Butler (871 845). Just £5 per year per household is fine. Thank you

*Valerie Bowles 871412*

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## 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>

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## EDITORS

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

Fiona Lear Rutland Lodge, East Street 871509  
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**Please contact:**

**Treasurer** - Valerie Bowles (871412) [valeriebowles39@btinternet.com](mailto:valeriebowles39@btinternet.com)  
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