

# RUSPER



## Parish News

April 2024

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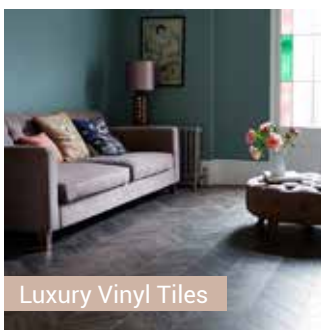
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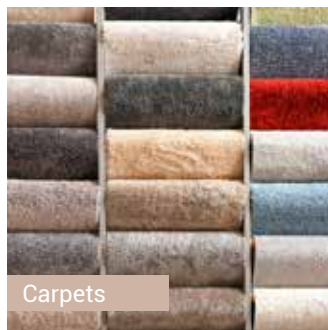
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**THE PARISH OF RUSPER  
SERVICES AT ST MARY MAGDALENE'S  
CHURCH RUSPER  
MARCH SERVICES**



**Holy Communion every Sunday at 8am [said] and 11am [sung with hymns]**

**April**

Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Durrants Village	10.30am Holy Communion
<b>NON-RESIDENTS WELCOME</b>		
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	No Communion, with Annual Meeting	11am Holy Communion
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>		11am Holy Communion
Sunday 21 <sup>th</sup>		11am Holy Communion
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>		11am Holy Communion

Information on services is updated monthly on: [www.rusperchurch.org.uk](http://www.rusperchurch.org.uk)

Why not visit the Rusper Church website and follow Nick on Facebook?

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

Rector	Revd Nick Flint	01293 871251
Authorised Lay Minister	Mr Chris Pearce	01403 268047
Churchwarden	Mr Stephen Busby	01293 871219
Churchwarden	Mrs Maggie True	01293 871722
Treasurer	Mrs Lorna Reeves	01293 871012
Organist		

**Parish Registers**

**Funerals**

February 22 Elizabeth Rowe

February 27 Valerie Bowles

The Rectory  
High Street  
Rusper  
RH12 4PX

## **Whither or Wither?**

What a difference one letter makes. I love the quirks, twists and turns of the English language!

I've had the privilege and copy day perspiration of coming up with a monthly thought for The Parish News for 28 years now. I've seen RPN evolve with the life of our village and technological changes in communication, and being a bit of a dinosaur myself, have done my best to keep up!

RPN began life as a church magazine as is remembered by the picture of St Mary Magdalene's on the front. It evolved to draw in every aspect of the wider community. There is a comforting myth some subscribe to that villages change at a slower pace than other communities, but thankfully our village has a unique blend of honouring tradition and embracing new ideas. It depends for so many aspects of its life on dedicated volunteers. The income from advertising and voluntary donations produces the magazine and any surplus goes back into the community, so there is a double value. Yet the editors suspect that the content is not eagerly devoured by everyone. Feedback is sparse.

As volunteers become fewer or need to give up, the question is should we close this chapter, leave RPN purely online on the church website and village Facebook, or should we reimagine and relaunch RPN for the new age? If so what would that look like?

I hope I may be forgiven for the initiative in opening a discussion. I simply offer a conversation starter. Perhaps others in the community as well as me could provide the leading article. Should we leave our old magazine to wither away or deliberately archaic though my choice of word is should we reimagine whither it could go next? Who might step into voluntary roles as these become vacant?

I'd welcome your comments on [revnickflint@gmail.com](mailto:revnickflint@gmail.com)

*Nick*

# NOTICE OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING Parish of St Mary Magdalene Rusper

\_\_\_\_\_ The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in \_\_\_\_\_ Rusper Church \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ Seventh \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ April \_\_\_\_\_ 2024 \_\_\_\_\_. For election of parochial positions as follows –

As Churchwardens

To the Deanery Synod \_\_\_\_\_ two \_\_\_\_\_ representatives. To the Parochial Church Council \_\_\_\_\_ representatives. For the appointment of the Independent Examiner or Auditor. For the consideration of: (a) a report on changes to the Roll since the last annual parochial church meeting OR2 a report on the numbers entered on the new Roll; (b) an Annual Report on the proceedings of the parochial church council and the activities of the parish generally; (c) the financial statements of the council for the year ending on the 31st December preceding the meeting; (d) the annual report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church or churches of the parish; (e) a report of the proceedings of the deanery synod; and (f) other matters of parochial or general Church interest. In this Notice, 'parish' means an ecclesiastical parish.

Signed  Rector

**Check Website and Church Facebook for news and updates. Email Nick if you would like to receive the weekly update.**  
**[rusperchurch.org.uk](mailto:rusperchurch.org.uk)**



*Nick is here to minister to all who have need in our parish. 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 Friday as a rest day each week, so he kindly suggests that you only contact him on a Friday in matters of urgency*

## **RUSPER CHAT 2024**



**Friday 26th April 2.30 pm**  
**Pam, Millfield Rise. 01293871527**

**PLEASE CONTACT THE MONTH'S HOST IF A LIFT  
TO ANY CHAT MEETING WOULD BE HELPFUL**

**ALL WELCOME!**

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### **FASHION SHOW proposal**

Due to unforeseen circumstances we won't be holding the Fashion Show. So sorry if this may cause disappointment!!

Other fun raising events are planned though to raise money for the North Aisle Development Fund at Rusper Church.

*Steve Busby*

## RUSPER CHRONICLE

### *PUTTING PEN TO PAPER*

"On this day ...." so start many entries in Thomas Marchant's diary, kept from 1714 to 1728, the diary of a yeoman farmer in Hurstpierpoint but related by marriage to the Stone family living at Rusper Nunnery. We know about the weather, what crops were being grown, what things cost, where he dined and who with - and what he drank (quite a lot!), how often he had his head shaved beneath his wig and when it was his birthday. A single sentence records the birth of a new daughter - he and Elizabeth had eleven children but only a handful survived. It is a real picture of everyday life three hundred years ago, a life like that lived at the Nunnery by his Mother Stone and Father Stone as he called them. He wrote the diary almost every night - by candlelight with a quill pen - an amazing labour but the result much enjoyed by us.

Sadly his son Willy, studying at Oxford and destined to be Rector at Rusper died suddenly from smallpox for which there was no cure - so we found out that Turkey was ahead of Edward Jenner in immunisation, while here the only prevention was Variolation, injecting pus from the spots of someone with the disease - not very pleasant, but history does take us on unexpected excursions at times.

Here in Rusper we don't have a diary like that of Thomas - or do we, hidden away somewhere? But we do have firsthand accounts of other lives lived in Rusper such as Curate Thomas Smith's notes on parishioners between 1820/1840, young Len Adams pre WW1 reminiscences of his childhood, and now our own Rector's book; A Tithe of Rosemary. Many thanks to Nick, George, Hazel and Brian and everyone who contributed to an enjoyable evening.

Next Meeting: "FROM RUSPER TO KENYA"

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April, 7-9pm in the small hall, Rusper Village Hall.

EVERYONE WELCOME - OUR MEETINGS ARE VERY INFORMAL!

*Margaret White*

## SAVE WEST OF IFIELD CAMPAIGN

Congratulations to everyone who managed to submit a response to Horsham Council's Local Plan (Reg 19) consultation – the system was far from straightforward!

The Save West of Ifield campaign submitted technical responses on eleven policy areas and you can read the reports here on our website <https://www.savewestofifield.co.uk/>

Many of these reports would not have been possible without your ongoing generosity. Your donations have paid for invaluable professional advice, and we're very pleased with the results and confident that the West of Ifield proposal is not viable, and will be found not sound in planning terms. The decision about the Local Plan now rests with the Planning Inspector – their examination process will run until at least the end of the year and we will try to have a place at the table for all the Examination Hearings in the autumn.

There is also a chance that Homes England will submit a planning application for the West of Ifield in the summer and we will need to be ready for that. Which means unfortunately that we must keep working on all aspects of the campaign, including asking residents for donations so that we can pay for the expert planning advice needed to explore and challenge the detail in the planning application.

If you're impressed by the reports we've produced so far, then please consider donating so that we can respond to the detail in any Homes England application, and so that we can prepare for the Inspector's Examination Hearings. Account name: Save West Of Ifield, Number: 55426514 Sort code: 53-50-39. It's a Business account.

And it would be great if you could support the campaign by attending one or more of our events.

### **Dates for your diary.**

3<sup>rd</sup> April – 8pm. **Quiz night** at The Plough, Rusper. Call 01293 871215 to book table – and dinner beforehand.

18<sup>th</sup> April – 8pm. **Quiz night** at Ifield Cricket Club. Doors open 7.30pm – no need to book. Bar open!

6<sup>th</sup> May – come and see us at both the **Rusper Village day** and the **Ifield May Fayre**.

11<sup>th</sup> May – 11am. **Walk – The 3,000 house site end to end**. Walk from one end of the proposed 3,000 house site to the other, guided by Save West of Ifield, to get an understanding of what's proposed and where and what will be lost. Start and end at The Plough, Ifield.

And as always, to keep up to date, please read our newsletters and website: <https://www.savewestofifield.co.uk/>

*Fenella Maitland-Smith*

[savewestofifield@gmail.com](mailto:savewestofifield@gmail.com)

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### **Anyone for Tennis?**

Anyone interested in playing social tennis, walking tennis or having group or individual lessons, please *contact Mike, Rusper Sports Club's tennis coach on 07994 775262*

Weather permitting, both courts should be up and running in time for the summer season.

*Rusper Sports Club*

# RUSPERELLA

the fairy godmother of all pantos

*Performed by **THE RUSPER PLAYERS**  
(yes.....they're back by popular demand)*

**Rusper Village Hall**

**Dec 13<sup>th</sup>- Dec 15<sup>TH</sup> 2024**



## KEEP THE DATE

**More news to follow later in the year**

## RUSPER MAYDAY CELEBRATIONS

Everyone Welcome - High Street Rusper - come and support your village!

Bank Holiday Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from Noon

*High Street road closures and diversions will be in place from 9am to 6pm  
Monday May 6<sup>th</sup>*

Please bring your tables and chairs, picnics, drinks and treats, and join us again in the High Street with neighbours, friends and family for Street Party themed celebrations!

Sit back and enjoy live music, May Pole Dancing, Punch & Judy and browse our local trade stalls.

Once again our local pubs will be serving a variety of delicious food options and drinks alongside our famous Cream Tea Gazebo, serving an irresistible selection of teas, coffee and homemade cakes. Rusper Stores will be open too, providing everything you may need to keep you going through the day. Animal Bouncers will be returning with a selection of inflatables, bouncy castles and slides to keep the kids occupied for hours.

**Volunteers always welcome! We need you, don't hesitate to get involved!**

Stalls available - local businesses and organisations always very welcome for a small pitch fee - please get in touch.

All enquiries *Rebecca 07786 061252 or Wayne 07971 416787*

We look forward to seeing you all there!

## NEWDIGATE BOWLS CLUB

*Ever fancied trying Bowls as a pastime? Or if you've bowled in the past, why not start playing again? Bowls is one of the few outdoor sports that men and women can play together and compete as equals. It is a great activity that naturally promotes both physical and mental health. Contrary to popular perception, Bowls is an all age sport, but is particularly suited to those transitioning from full-time work or who have taken early retirement.*



Linda joined NBC in 2009 seeking an opportunity to take part in an outdoor activity with her daughter. 'I found everyone so welcoming, caring and encouraging' she reflects. 'Meeting people from a wide age range and variety of backgrounds was lovely...being outside in the fresh air and sunshine is a bonus. And I found I was quite good at bowls!' Linda continues to enjoy both the game itself and the social side of membership. 'Having such a wonderful local facility is a real treat and I'm looking forward to the new season starting!'

*For all enquiries, please contact the Club Secretary  
Diana Banthorpe on 07769 561086*

## **RUSPER SPORTS CLUB**

Exciting News!

Major upgrades are about to start very soon. These include:

- complete refurbishment of court 2, including new fencing and multi-sport court

markings

- a new basketball practice area at the far end of the two courts
- resurfacing of court 1 and remarking of tennis lines
- improvements to the car park area and disabled access
- more activities for members as a result of the improvements
- we are looking for looking for local businesses to advertise and or/sponsor us – email

secretary@rusersportsclub.co.uk if you can help

Mike Costa, our tennis coach, will be adding walking tennis to his normal sessions, which already

include adult/child tennis coaching (individual, paired or group), rusty rackets and cardio tennis. Contact

*Mike on 07944 775262.*

Horsham Crusaders, the resident football team, will continue with matches and practices. They are also looking for more footballers from 16 years old to veterans to join their teams.

The new multi-sport court means that they will also be able to add walking football to their list of activities.

For more information:

email secretary@rusersportsclub.co.uk

*Rusper Sports Club Committee*

## RUSPER PARISH COUNCIL

### Summary of Rusper Parish Council extra meeting, full Parish Council meeting & Planning Committee meeting – February 2024

*These Minutes are **draft and subject to change** until they have been confirmed at our next meeting. To get regular updates from us, including local roadwork notifications, please visit our website and subscribe: [www.rusper-pc.org.uk](http://www.rusper-pc.org.uk).*

**Present:** M Cooke (Chair), Cllrs G Hussey (Vice Chair), M Fenton, G Sallows, S White, M Fillmore, F Maitland-Smith, G Fleming, E Kitchen (HDC), T Hogben (HDC).

**Declaration of Interests** - Two declarations made.

**Climate Crisis** - The Council **acknowledged** that there is currently a climate crisis, and to ensure that all decisions made within meeting have consideration to this.

**Minutes of previous meeting** - it was **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the combined Council meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> January and the extra Parish Council meeting to discuss the Local Plan Regulation 19 Consultation on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

**Open Forum** - noted the hedge cutting in Rusper Road had also cut a white post which needs to be replaced.

**Reports from other Authorities** -District Councillor Tony Hogben – Kingsfold have put in planning applications, Thakeham Homes at Buck Barn have put in planning applications and are proposing to build 2 reservoirs. The District Council has applied to make some of Rusper greenbelt again. There is a by-election in Southwater and Henfield following the passing of its Councillor. Budget - District Council tax is going up, car parking is going up, green bin waste going up as well as season tickets. Money going into the refurbishment of Capitol Theatre.

District Councillor Liz Kitchen – 600 representations on the Local Plan and 57 from west of Ifield so far, it is being considered that HDC Planning Committees are to have a major and minor Committee rather than North and South committee.

## **Active Planning Applications**

The Council **agreed** to meet Stonebond at Rusper Village Hall on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 4pm prior to the public consultation re Millfields Development. DC/24/0237 Barn South East of Normans East Street Rusper Horsham West Sussex RH12 4RD – objection.

DC/24/0236 Normans East Street Rusper West Sussex RH12 4RD – objection.

North Horsham Development signage - it was **agreed** to use the gated sign, signage to include wording - Rusper and underneath *Protect this Rural Area*.

## **Reports from Representatives**

**Cllr G Fleming** – clearing the phone box of mouldy books.

**Cllr S White** – new battery for the SID received.

**Cllr M Fillmore** – Sussex Local Nature Recovery strategies seminar attended - further information will be on the Parish Council website.

**Cllr G Hussey** – Information Counter Terrorism Security Unit seminar attended, the new local PCSO is in training. Noted vehicle damage to The Star pub by an HGV. Noted Rusper Stores was burgled twice.

**Cllr M Cooke** – dead tree in Parish Car Park has now been removed.

**Cllr G Sallows** – Rusper Sports Recreation is fully booked. Refurb works to start on the second tennis court.

**Streetlights** – Council to conduct a neighbour consultation to replace the lighting in Cooks Meade.

**Local Plan Regulation 19 Consultation** - The response was agreed by Council the full response has been uploaded onto the Parish Council website.

**Rusper Sport Club** - It was **agreed** to request a grant for the maintenance works to the existing tennis court.

**Gatwick** - Reports sent in advance of the meeting and is published on the website.

**Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group** - Thanks to residents who helped the Council with the Local Plan response.

**Emergency Planning** - The webpage to address emergency planning was presented, agreed and published.

**Playground Inspection Report** - It was **agreed** to find quotations to replace the playground equipment and repair slates in the bench.

**Annual Liter Pick** - Community Liter Pick **24<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 10am** at the Recreation Ground. All welcome.

**Financial** - It was RESOLVED to approve the report, including the bank reconciliation and the schedule of payments.

**Next meeting is Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Parish Council Planning Committee meeting.**

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## **Rusper Sports Club AGM 2024**

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm

The Sports Pavilion, High Street, Rusper.

Please come and support your local Sports Club. All welcome

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## **HOPE KEITH VILLAGE TRUST**

The search for a new Rusper village agent continues!

In the meantime, the monthly coffee morning previously organised by Age UK will continue and we hope to see you on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 11am at The Star Inn for a cuppa and a chat.

## RUSPER CHURCH 200 CLUB

Thank you to all those people who continue responding to the request for new members. The Rusper Church 200 Club is one of the 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 web-site 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 e-mail it to me at [johnmjory@gmail.com](mailto:johnmjory@gmail.com) or send it to me at: Elsinoro, Horsham Road, Rusper, Horsham, 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 results of the latest draw are:

March 2024

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize - £200	82	B B
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize - £75	17	Malcolm T
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize - £50	109	Stewart M

*John Jory*

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## CHURCH CLEANING

April 5 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Beedle	01403 267937
April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Keith Davies	07710 601 081
April 19 <sup>th</sup>	Pat Newman	871354
April 26 <sup>th</sup>	Pam Turner	0751 25 65316

*Sue Matthewson 01293 871266*

## EDITORS

Please remember to let the editor underlined below have all items for the May 2024 edition by 14 April 2024.

<b>Fiona Lear</b>	<b>Rutland Lodge, East Street 871509</b>
	<b><u>fionalear@btinternet.com</u></b>
John Jory	Elsinoro, Horsham Rd 07887 804223 <a href="mailto:johnmjory@gmail.com">johnmjory@gmail.com</a>
Ella Beckmann	Blackwells, Horsham Rd 07712 482186 <a href="mailto:21ellagb@gmail.com">21ellagb@gmail.com</a>

### **Please contact:**

*Treasurer* – To be advised. For donations towards the cost of publishing the Rusper Parish News. These can be made by bank transfer to - Sort Code: 30 94 41 Account Number: 00007348 Account Name: PCC RUSPER – MAGAZINE.

*Advertising and Editorial Manager* - Sue Matthewson (871266)  
([sue.matthewson@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.matthewson@btinternet.com))

*General Enquiries* - Judy Butler (871845) ([raybenbutler@gmail.com](mailto:raybenbutler@gmail.com))

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## **RUSPER VILLAGE HALL**

If you wish to book Rusper Village Hall for any event, please visit the Village Hall website <https://ruspervillagehall.org.uk> which contains a booking form.

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## **DONATIONS TO RUSPER PARISH NEWS**

Just £5 from every household is fine and can be paid directly into the Rusper Parish News bank account. The Bank details for direct transfer are - Sort Code: 30 94 41 Account Number: 00007348 Account Name: PCC RUSPER – MAGAZINE.

Thank You.

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