

Rustington Parish Council Newsletter

Chairman's Message



As we reach the half way point of this Civic Year, I am honoured to have been able to host and present so many awards at this year's Community Awards Reception

following the Civic Thanksgiving Service. I had the pleasure of awarding not one but two Parishioners' Awards for outstanding community service.

In September, the Council in partnership with the Chamber of Trade and Commerce and Store Property

Investments Limited re-instated the No. 12 Bus Service for a six-month trial period. It is hoped that sufficient funding can be secured to make the service a permanent feature again.

Rustington had another great year in the South & South East in Bloom Competition, winning a Gold Award and Overall Category Winner in the Town Centre Category. I would like to congratulate all of the other local entries in the 'It's Your Neighbourhood' Category on their great achievements. Rustington is still setting the bar in the Region!

Rustington's Remembrance Sunday Service on Sunday 12 November was another success, with many local groups joining together to remember our war heroes, and I was honoured to lead the

wreath laying at the War Memorial.

Christmas is just around the corner and we have the Annual Christmas Event in the Village on Saturday 2 December. A Flyer has been included with this Newsletter and we hope to see you there.

The Council's ever-popular Community Carol Concert will be taking place on Saturday 16 December and, everyone is hoping that, once again, this will be a wonderfully Festive occasion. You will find full details later in this Newsletter.

All that is left is for me, on behalf of the Council, is to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year.

**Councillor Jamie Bennett
Chairman**

A new home for the Museum, Village Information Centre and The Garden Room

In August, the Council announced that, courtesy of a most generous offer from Store Property Investments Limited, Rustington Museum, The Garden Room and the Village Information Centre would be moving from their current locations to the ex WRVS Building in the Car Park behind the Waitrose Store, as soon as major renovation works have been carried out.

Store Property Investments Limited made the offer of a Lease to the Council, as they are anxious to see this building used as a community facility for residents and visitors to the Village. It is anticipated that the facility will be fully operational early/mid 2018.

The Council's existing members of personnel will all be working in the new building, which is to be named 'The Samuel Wickens Centre'.

This new Community Centre will also provide an additional private hiring facility

and garden for local Groups, Clubs and Organisations, with a number of drop-in Tea and Coffee dedicated sessions being planned for the benefit of the local community.

As far as the Museum is concerned, the Council is working closely with the Rustington Heritage Association, to ensure that this facility, will not only continue to portray and protect the Village's heritage, but will also be able to be enhanced further with additional displays, to ensure that visitors will be able to enjoy the 'Museum Experience'.

The Museum, and all associated land, is currently being marketed for sale. The proceeds, following repayment of all loans associated with the Museum and The Garden Room, will then be retained for use in a future capital project. The Council is confident that this project will result in much needed revenue cost efficiencies in trying financial times.

The Council is well aware that the Museum, The Garden Room and Community Garden have provided excellent and unique facilities within the Village, where people have been able to gather and socialise, but considers that the move to these new premises will enable this valuable function to continue and expand.

The Museum and Information Centre, once officially open, will operate between the hours of 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Saturday.

The Council is most excited to have this opportunity which, it is certain will be most successful and will not only raise the profile most positively of the services that will be housed within the Centre, but will also ensure that the facilities are socially inclusive for all to enjoy.



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Annual Civic Thanksgiving Service and Community Awards' Reception

The Parish Council hosted its Annual Thanksgiving Service on Sunday 10 September, at St Andrew's United Reformed Church.

Guests included Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Councillor Mrs Jacqueline Pendleton, Chairman of the Arun District Council, and a number of other Chairmen, Mayors and Councillors from neighbouring Councils. The Service was conducted by The Reverend Canon David Helyar.

Following the Service, the Community Awards' Reception was held at The Woodlands Centre, where presentations were made to various members of the community, both for outstanding floral displays in private front gardens and business premises and also for excellently cultivated allotment plots.

One of the highlights of the evening was the Presentation of the Individual Parishioners' Awards.

A new trophy was introduced this year, to be awarded on an annual basis to the winners of the Individual Parishioners' Award. The Trophy, appropriately named The Austen Beard Trophy, in memory of Austen and in recognition of his outstanding and unceasing commitment to the local Community, was presented by his daughter, Mrs Stephanie Ashdown.

The first recipient of the Individual Parishioners' Award, was Mr Richard Mann (Dickie), who sadly passed away in August. His son Clive, daughter-in-law Pat, and two



of his grandchildren, received the Award on his behalf.

The Award was made to Richard in recognition of his outstanding service and devotion to the local sporting community, and in particular, Rustington Cricket Club for over half a Century, as well as his unceasing commitment to supporting the community of Rustington.

The second recipient of the Individual Award was Mrs Patricia Hayes, in recognition of her dedication, commitment and outstanding service to the Rustington Women's Institute, Rustington Methodist Church, together with voluntary groups and organisations both within and in close proximity to the Parish for the benefit of the community of Rustington.

Rustington-In-Bloom - Another Gold Award and...

I am delighted to be able to report that at the Annual Awards Ceremony for the South and South East in Bloom Competition in September, Rustington received yet another impressive set of results, being presented for the fourth year running with a Gold Award in the Village/Town Centre Category, and also the Overall Category Winner. Rustington was also awarded a Gold Award in the Floral Single Site Multiple Beds for Ash Lane Walk.

Rustington-in-Bloom was also the recipient of the West Sussex Discretionary County Award for the entry with the highest marks.

In the 'Our Community' Category, the Rustington Methodist Church Garden received a Silver Gilt. The Chaucery Memorial received the RHS National Certificate of Distinction. In the 'It's Your Neighbourhoods' Category, the Coastal Workshop, Oakhurst Gardens, Rustington Hall, the Methodist Church Garden, The Chaucery Memorial and The Hidden



Twitten each received 'Outstanding' Awards. Such impressive and rewarding results for all involved!

The whole community, once again, pulled out all the stops with its support for the In-Bloom Campaign, by helping to ensure that all areas of the judging criteria were met and exceeded and, in recognition of this, Certificates of Excellence were awarded to a number of Groups, Clubs, Organisations and Individuals for their most important contributions towards the success.

As always, the Members of the In-Bloom Committee, in partnership with the Parish

Council, organised the 2017 Campaign and were most grateful for the support of the Arun District Council Cleansing and Parks Department, together with other individual Officers from the District Council.

As always, special thanks and appreciation must be conveyed to Ferring Nurseries, without whose outstanding service, expertise and dedication, this remarkable success would most certainly not have been attained.

The Committee Members have been busy fundraising. The Barn Dance, held in September, was a great, fun evening which was enjoyed by all. At the Village's Christmas Event on Saturday 2 December, there will be a Tombola Stall outside of Owen Electrical Limited in The Street, and the ever popular '100 Board' and... someone that looks suspiciously like Father Christmas will be there too!

The Committee hopes to see you there.

Steve Perry
Chairman - In-Bloom Committee

Rustington and District Twinning Association

Baguettes, Brie, and Red Wine...

We have received an enquiry from a small Village in Brittany asking if we would like to be twinned with them. The Village is small in comparison to Rustington and this would be their first twinning experience.

This approach would allow residents of Rustington with an interest in culture and the French language to take part in twinning activities through the Twinning Association. Some of the benefits of twinning are group visits that build and retain friendships in other countries, cultural exchanges and exchange of ideas, and associations between like-minded groups. Rustington Community Primary School and Florenberg School, Künzell, and Darlington Court Care Home and Haus Stephanus, Künzell, are good examples. Although learning or keeping up with other languages is another benefit, it is not necessary to speak the language to be involved.

In order to accommodate another active twinning partner, we would need to form two Sub-Committees, for Germany and France, and would be looking for volunteers to fill some of these roles.

The decision regarding this twinning request, does not rest solely

with the Association, but will depend on the views of our members and Rustington residents. Please contact us to give us your opinion and/or answers to the questions below:-

- Are you in favour of supporting twinning activities with France?
- Would you like to join one of the Sub-Committees? Which one?
- Are you able to assist in any way with our fundraising activities?
- What kind of fundraising event would you like to add to our existing repertoire?

Your input is important to us and you can contact us via www.rustingtontwinning.org.uk, email: rustingtontwinning@yahoo.com, Facebook: Rustington and District Twinning Association Group, Tel: 01903 782185 or by post via the Council Offices. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Gina Ali - Chairman



Festive Celebrations in the Village....

Rustington Christmas Event

Saturday 2 December 10.00 am - 4.00 pm



Saturday 2 December sees Rustington have its annual Christmas Event. With its beautiful Christmas lights and businesses offering a fabulous selection of food and gifts, the Village is the perfect place to do your Christmas shopping.

Come and visit Father Christmas in his Grotto, spot some pantomime characters and have fun at the Children's Fun Fair. Look out for treats and activities in the businesses around the Village, including face painting. There will be some Market

Stalls and Carol Singers to get you in the Festive mood.

Take part in the Treasure Hunt, it's free and there are prizes to be won. Just wander round the Village and find the 'odd' objects in some of the business windows. Pick up your Entry Form from the Museum or the Village Information Centre. Starts on Saturday 2 December and all entries must be in by the end of Saturday 9 December.

The Holly Fayre will also be taking place at St Bridget's - Leonard Cheshire Disability, Ilex Close from 10.00 am - 1.30 pm.

Look out for further details of activities on the day at www.shoprustington.com or on the Rustington Village Facebook page.

Community Carol Concert

The Parish Council will, once again, be hosting an evening of Festive Music and fun at the Community Carol Concert on Saturday 16 December. As usual, it will be held in the Village Memorial Hall at The Woodlands Centre, Woodlands Avenue, commencing at 7.30 pm. Entry is Free, as are Refreshments and the Grand Lucky Programme Draw.

A very exciting evening is, as always, being arranged with performances by the Littlehampton Concert Band, the Sussex West County Guide Choir and the Friendship Singers, not forgetting the always popular Community Carol Singing.

As many of you will be aware, this Concert is always a very popular event, and it is anticipated that this year will be no exception. Entry, as always, will be strictly on a 'first come first serve' basis.



Information Centre

The Village Information Centre will also be participating, in its own small way, in the Christmas Event on 2 December.

Complimentary Coffee and Mince Pies will be available for all visitors to the Centre between 11.00 am and 3.00 pm.

So, if you can find the time to tear yourself away from the Festive Market Stalls and Santa's Grotto, Jules will be delighted to see you!

Meetings

Parish Council Meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month (apart from August and December) commencing at 7.00 pm in the Roger Montgomeri Room, The Woodlands Centre, Woodlands Avenue (via Council Offices' entrance).

Councillors' Surgeries

The Council holds its Quarterly Surgeries to give members of the local community the opportunity to meet with a Councillor to raise any issues of interest or concern. The next Surgery is being held in Rustington Library (Claigmar Road) from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm on Saturday 20 January 2018.

Council and Committee Meeting Dates

Mon 4 Dec	Planning
Mon 18 Dec	Finance & General Purposes
Mon 18 Dec	Planning
Mon 8 Jan	Finance & General Purposes
Mon 8 Jan	Allotments
Mon 8 Jan	Planning
Mon 22 Jan	Finance & General Purposes
Mon 22 Jan	COUNCIL
Mon 22 Jan	Planning
Thur 1 Feb	Leisure & Amenities
Mon 5 Feb	Planning
Mon 26 Feb	Finance & General Purposes
Mon 26 Feb	COUNCIL
Mon 26 Feb	Planning
Mon 5 Mar	Planning
Mon 26 Mar	Finance & General Purposes
Mon 26 Mar	COUNCIL
Mon 26 Mar	Planning

Blood Donor Sessions

Regular Donor Sessions are held at the Village Memorial Hall and posters are displayed on Parish Notice Boards. Please come along and support this worthwhile cause.



As most of you will already be aware, it is anticipated that the Museum will be relocating to new premises sometime in 2018. This will be both a challenge, and a great opportunity. The history of the Village will still be showcased, and the Museum will be able to exhibit and honour many more of its famous landmarks and people.

Creating a new Exhibition means much research, including interviewing contributors, calculating floor space dimensions, arranging cabinets and contents, and organising storyboards, all before any display can be opened and marketed. So, exciting and busy times ahead.

Looking forward, we propose to honour two great Centenaries in 2018. Firstly, the

success, after a long campaign, to secure voting rights for women - many leading lights in this campaign had strong links to Rustington. Secondly, in October, we will commemorate the Centenary of Sir Hubert Parry's death. He lived in Rustington (Knightscroft House) with his beloved wife Maud. Famous not only for the 'Jerusalem' hymn, but he also spoke fluent German, greatly admiring the German Composers and Opera. He also loved sailing, and had one of the first cars in the Village. He and Maud were ardent supporters of the Suffrage Movement.

There will be other Exhibitions and Displays throughout the year, so come and visit. You may be surprised how rich and interesting the history of Rustington is.

The Garden Room has been kept busy with regular groups, including the Thursday Platinum Club, a weekly get together enabling the over 50's to participate in crafts, games or to just have a chat and cup of tea in the company of their caring host, Annet. Creative Art Workshops, and Rustington Walking Group also have regular bookings. All of these activities and groups will continue in the new building.

We look forward to seeing you all next year in our new home.

Rustington Youth Club

The Youth Centre is a venue for young people aged between 11 - 17 years. Open every Thursday evening during term time. It offers a variety of activities including pool, table tennis, air hockey, video games consoles, sports, art and more. Each week there is also a tuck shop and an ongoing programme including cooking, movie nights, inflatables, theme nights, and sports. This Term we've made milkshakes, had a chicken nuggets' night and started a doodling and 'mindfulness' activity. Still to come before Christmas is a 'learn to draw' evening and henna, then following half-term, we'll be having some festive sessions such as sparklers, soup and Christmas craft. The programme is fun, varied, and young people have an active role in planning future sessions.

The Club is a partnership between Rustington Parish Council and ACCelerate - the youth work of Arun Community Church. The Youth Centre, where the Club takes place, is owned by the Parish Council and sited at the Woodlands Recreation Ground. ACCelerate took over running youth activities at the Centre in 2012 and has built a consistent relationship with many young people that have attended the Youth Club.

The Club has a great team of staff and



volunteers committed to seeing young people included and supported. The whole team is committed to making a difference to the lives of young people and is able to assess the needs of young people in order to plan and deliver programmes related to areas such as health, fitness, smoking, drugs, relationships and bullying.

The Youth Club is open from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm (term time only with trips planned for half-terms) and the cost of entry is FREE for the first time, then 50p per session. You can also bring a friend to the Club that hasn't been before and you will BOTH get in for FREE that week.

More details on the Youth Centre and ACCelerate activities can be found at www.acceleratearun.org or from Arun Community Church on 01903 782744.

Ben Young - Youth Worker