

Winter 2020

POYNINGS NEWS



Poynings Website

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THANKS TO:
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GOLD FOR
SPONSORING
THIS
NEWSLETTER.**

POYNINGS PARISH COUNCIL

Meetings are every two months at the village hall on Wednesdays at 7pm, with some extraordinary planning meetings in between.

Got something to put on the agenda?

Contact Colin on 01273 857024

For log in details for online meetings
clerk@parishcouncil.com

2021 Meetings

January 6th

March 3rd

May 5th

July 7th

September 8th

November 10th

Parish Councillors

Nigel Evans

Neville Searle

Mike Crowther

Paula Seager

John Digby

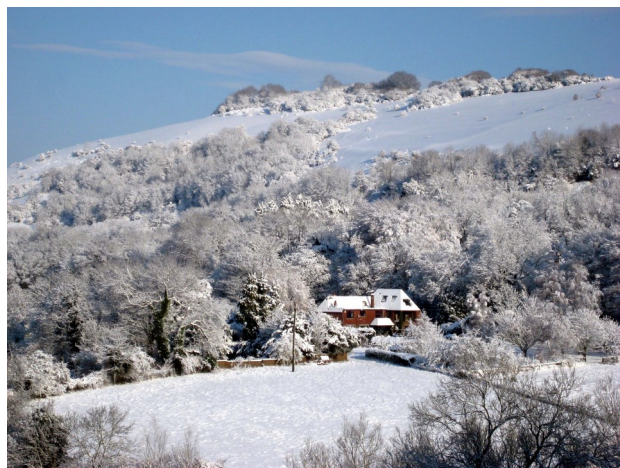
It was always going to be an unusual year for the village, with plans already afoot to celebrate the 650th anniversary of the rebuilding of our Norman Church but no one could have predicted quite how unusual!

Who would have imagined that nearly all the regular community events [Village Fete, Fulking Fair, various

pub bakeoffs, Dog Show, Village Fun Day, Golf Day, Apple Day and of course the grand Poynings Bonfire and Fireworks and the Pantomime] would have to be cancelled! Even the monthly Evergreens tea parties for the over sixties have had to be postponed for now. **Many thanks to** Nigs Digby and the Poynings 650 team who kept us involved and entertained [see page 3], to the Parish Council for their contact info and volunteer help sheet, to Rushfields Farm Shop for delivering to the vulnerable, to Nigel Evans for setting up the **Poynings Community facebook page** the previous July and to Rob Delacour for setting up the **WhatsApp Community Skill Swap** (44 7803 256566) just in time too! There has also been an unprecedented number of 'comings and goings' both in the community and on the Parish Council.

Welcome to the village to Nicholas and Mike, to Ruth, Peter & baby George, to Sapphire & Amanda and to Pinky & husband in Mill Close. Also to Claire, Jonathon & family at Rushfields Paddock, to Simon & Sarah at Downmere, to Andrea & Richard at Glebe Cottage, to Mark Jo, Dexter & Maisie in Royal Oak Cottages, to Danny & Toby in The Chapel and to Carl & Steve, to Erica & Lloyd and to Tams, Omer & Ben-Aviv in the Edwardian houses.

*For Covid19 support network WhatsApp 44 7543 990933 or if not online 01273 857024



Poynings Children's Christmas Party

Sadly this year we will not be able to have the usual party at the Royal Oak. But we will still celebrate and Father Christmas' elves will instead be delivering a small gift to the children of the village in December. If you have recently moved to the village and have a child aged under primary school leaving age then please contact Liz on 07964425340 or elisabethansell@gmail.com to ensure that they are on the elves delivery list.

POYNINGS ROAD SAFETY GROUP

The Parish Council agreed to run with our suggestion of village gates a year ago but the process was delayed due to the pandemic..

The PC informs us that the SIDs (speed indicator devices) were faulty and they are looking in to buying one.

There is still the problem of too many large lorries going through the village.

Bob's Community Cafe

After closing for lockdown, the café reopened as a 'takeaway only' in July. Our Friday lunchtime sessions resumed but were weather dependant and have now stopped. The menu was streamlined but retained the espresso coffee and popular vegan soups. Cream teas with home made scones and jams were added and 'fruit of the season muffins' were sold latterly. 'Saturday night pizzas' still continues although by pre order only by Friday evening.

We hope to reopen on Fridays again next spring when the weather is more suitable for sitting outside. There are the occasional 'pop up sessions' which are advertised on the café board and the garage railing.

SLOE GIIN NIGHT

An enjoyable night was had by all back in February, courtesy of the Royal Oak. Helen Woodhams wiped the floor with everybody, winning the Poynings Sloe Gin Cup as well as 'Best Liqueur'.

Ella Johnson was second in the Sloe Gin. Jon Lord of Woodmancote won 'Best in Surrounding Villages'.

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK

To Rosa, Matt, Thomas & baby Gabriella. To Sarah, Rupert, Evie & Bertie. To Liz, Tim, Oscar, Maisie, Tom & Ellie. To Nigel, Jemima, Florence, Rufus, To Will, Amy, Heath & Jago, To Adam Spear & family. To Dan & Marion.

The New Royal Oak 2020



ROYAL OAK
POYNINGS

We are planning on opening 2nd December should the Government allow us to, we will view all the guidelines before this time to ensure that we have a Covid19 risk assessment in place. We have decided that we will not be offering a take away service during lockdown instead we will be working on a new winter menu and some outside works. As have many businesses around the UK, we have had to think on our feet and adapt to the 'new way of working' We have had a face lift and have put processes in place to keep our team and Customers as safe as we can. Once we re open we will be holding our weekly Village night every Monday evening. We are hoping to have a Christmas Grotto in our Marquee from Mid December. After such a hard year for us all, we are going to setup a 'Whats on' Board in the main bar, which we will make sure is full of activities for spring and summer 2021 such as a dog show, pie competition, summer family fun day, Spring Ball and lots, lots more - so if there is anything you would like us to include please let us know. We would like to thank everyone that has supported us since re opening back in July. We would ask anyone that would like to give us feedback on our service and standards to email us direct at mail@royaloakpoynings.pub this way we can learn from the last few months and adapt again the best ways of working. Our regular customers will have already met our New Management team, Jonathan and Soul. They come to us with a wealth of experience within the Food and Drink Industry. Their latest post before coming to the Royal Oak was running their own 24 bedroom hotel, bars and restaurants in a village very like their own, Dorchester on Thames, Oxfordshire. It sadly became unviable due to COVID 19, So far this year we have had a refurbishment in the main bar area, the function room upstairs is now a great area where we can offer a private dining experience, our outside area has been updated and more piratical in the Autumn months. We are now very much on line www.royaloakpoynings.pub where you can see what we have planned and you can now book online using our 'book now' button and even sign up to our Newsletter. We will be launching our winter menu very soon so please watch out for updates on both our website and our facebook page.



Poynings Cricket Club

Despite the challenging summer faced by us all, it was still a successful summer for Poynings Cricket Club on and off the field. The 2020 season was cut short due to COVID, with the season unable to start until August, but we still managed to complete 15 games by mid-September. Poynings entered organised competitions run by Sussex Cricket in form of the 1st Central August Cup and the Sussex Slam, a newly formed midweek t20 competition where we re-branded as 'Dynamo Poynings'. With results not particularly important it allowed us to give plenty of playing opportunities to our members as well as to new recruits that joined the club during the summer. Over 40 players were used across the 15 games that we played with plenty of positive performances from everyone, especially our younger players, who continue to make excellent progress and are now an integral part of our club moving forward.

Like all recreational clubs, the COVID crisis has affected the financial running of many across the County but in securing grants from Mid Sussex District Council and the ECB, we are in a strong financial position heading into 2021, which will enable us to continue improving our playing facilities at the Poynings Cricket Ground.

We remain grateful for the continued support of our club sponsors, The Royal Oak, Plumb 2 Heat, our new t20 sponsors, and of course everyone in the local community that supports us.

There is plenty to be excited about as we head into 2021 and we look forward to hopefully completing a full summer of cricket! If anyone is interested in joining Poynings Cricket Club then please feel free to contact Gary Wallis-Taylor on gary.wallis-taylor@sussexcricket.co.uk

Gary Wallis-Taylor

POYNINGS VOLUNTEERS



A small group from Poynings Volunteers cleared a load of tyres from Poynings Spring behind the main pond. This was quickly arranged before the expected severe rain which we are now experiencing. Ropes and grappling hook were needed to retrieve the tyres and wheels that had been dumped over the years. The tyres were taken to the nearest road and our Parish Clerk made arrangements with MSDC to have them collected.

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Poynings 650 - a year of celebration

(Steering Committee—Nigs Digby, Mike Airey, Claudia Sartori, Jill Davis,

Andy Delaney, Jan Nichols, Nicola Burness-Smith, Andy Coupland and Tim (Rector))

The original meeting welcomed people from around the village who all wanted to support the celebration of our Church's 650th birthday and the community which has existed around the Church for all that time. At this meeting everyone was invited to get involved, to organise an event and the purpose of the small committee was to support, set up, promote, whatever it took, to get the message across the village. We set up a facebook page called @Poynings650 to share news, events and photos. The PPC made a generous donation of £350 and the Parish Council £650 to place funds in our account to cover publicity and hospitality costs including the Poynings banner at Cora's Corner & the flag outside the Church, plus all our beautiful flyers all of which were designed by Dan Esmond. We planned originally to have an event every other month, but somehow momentum took hold, we felt throughout our bleak lockdown that we needed to be more visible if we could, and keep getting our message out to the village and let them know there was a group engaged sending the consistent message out that our community was still thriving in its own small way.

Cora's Corner After the initial vibrant tulip display and after being opened to the village, a working party including Amber, Jan, Jill, Nicola, Mike, Claudia and Nigs was formed and spent a Saturday morning early April and then ad hoc throughout the summer maintaining the garden at Cora's corner. Donated summer plants were then transferred, creating a colourful centrepiece.

RECTORY RAMBLINGS

Church services for the four parishes of Poynings, Edburton, Newtimber and Pyecombe have been conducted on Zoom since March. It has been lovely for the past several weeks to be able to host them from within Holy Trinity, Poynings where we have also welcomed a congregation to be present in the church. During the new lockdown we will continue to Zoom from Holy Trinity, but without a congregation present in church. This makes planning for Christmas a bit speculative, but our intention is to hold our **Carol Service for all at Pyecombe at 6.00 p.m. on Sunday 13 December**, when the Pyecombe Choir will be singing outside the church before we go in. It will be a simpler service than usual, with restricted seating and no public singing. On **Christmas Eve, at 4.00 p.m.** we will **Zoom a Nativity service**, with children in mind, and at 9.30 p.m. we will Zoom a Bethlehem Midnight Mass (Bethlehem is two hours ahead of us). On **Christmas Day, at 10.30 a.m. a communion service will be Zoomed from within St John the Evangelist, Newtimber**, when we hope we will also be able to host a small congregation so that those without access to Zoom can still join in. I hope you will be able to join us for one or more of these occasions. With every blessing, Revd Tim.

BUNTING

We invited the community to donate bunting so that we could decorate Cora's Corner. We had masses made specially for our 650 year and the fluttering flags have cheered up and show cased this seating area.

HERALDIC DISPLAY

Inspired by Mike, the villager's colourful and interesting shields first made a wonderful display through the village, telling the story of so many families. Entries were judged by Kathryn from Rushfields who generously presented prizes to the winning Powell and Cutress families and to all entries. at a ceremony at The Royal Oak. The Coats of Arms were moved to Cora's Corner as our village's Grand Heraldic Display.

YOUR FAVOURITE VIEWS

This was Sandra's project and entries were printed and displayed in Holy Trinity for an afternoon when we were allowed to open the church. We had over 50 visitors and offered light refreshments.

GHOST STORIES

On our Spooky Stories in the churchyard, the air was still, there was a cool crisp feel of excitement as 19 children descended into the churchyard for a scary evening hosted by our amazing storytellers, Rhiannon Seagar, Sue Pinnock, Sandra Slinger and Ian Fisher. The bell tolled throughout the evening and everyone toasted a mega marshmallow at the end of our special childrens' event of 650

DECEMBER LIGHT UP

This year our Christmas tree, which is donated by Rushfields Farm Shop, will be displayed outside the Church for all to enjoy over the festive period. We hope to be able to continue with our planned lighting ceremony. This will take place with carols & a warm mince pie.



CHURCH PORCH GATES

Local blacksmith Malcolm Johnson (who made our village sign) was commissioned to make a pair of ornamental porch gates in memory of the late Reverend Richard Brown.

Local Calendar

The calendar raised £2960 Special thanks to Gavin & his company for designing it & to sponsors [Rushfields, Silver Glass, Friends Of Poynings, Adam Virgo Football Academy, Sussex 4WheelDrive, Poynings Grange Vineyard, Spinnaker, Goodstart School, SouthDowns Way B&B, O&G, Bowley Funeral Service]. Thanks to Dan for printing it, to the retailers & folk who sold it & to the photographers [Liz Bubez, Jen Green, Chris Guildersleeve, Robin Cook & Sheila Marshall]. The remaining photos were displayed in the Church & a set of notelets were also made.

The Archaeology of the South Downs National Park

This first event was organised by Liz Bubez and Jan Nichols. This was a very successful talk at Saddlescombe Barn. Acclaimed local archaeologist, author and speaker, John Manley, brought to life the archaeology and history of the South Downs. If you missed this you can read John's 'The Archeology of the South Down National Park An Intro' and 'South Downs National Park: An Archaeological Walking Guide

Virtual Open Gardens



Inspired by Andy, organised by Claudia - people from across the village entered photos and videos of their gardens onto our @Poynings650 Facebook page so that we could virtually visit one another's amazing gardens through this early warm summer.

BRIAN WARE AUGUST 1941—JUNE 2020

Brian Ware sadly passed away on 10 th June after a short battle with Cancer. Brian was a familiar face to long standing residents of Poynings, having been raised in the village. Brian was born in Falmer, and moved to Saddlescombe with his mother whilst his father fought in the war. They moved to Poynings in the late 1940s, when Brian's father George went to work for Bert Lee at Manor Farm, the family living at 2 Manor Cottages until 1987. Brian attended the Village School in what is now the Village Hall, and, after leaving school, worked in the village, first at the Forge Garage and latterly at Chorlton Brothers in the Street. After marrying Yvonne he moved back to his childhood home at Saddlescombe. He was to remain in this house for the next 52 years until his death. Brian and Yvonne had four

boys; Darren, Lee and twins Gavin and Tyrone. When the twins were diagnosed as having Cystic Fibrosis (although this later was found not to be the case), Brian devoted much time and energy into holding an annual Jumble Sale in Poynings Village Hall. The jumble ran for over 20 years and raised several thousand pounds for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust for which Brian received recognition from the trust. Brian was widowed in 1987 when Yvonne lost her battle with Cancer. He was left to raise the four boys who were only in their teens at the time. Brian did not falter, but instead worked hard to help the boys through their grief and a rock to all the boys right up until his passing. Brian retired in 2006 after a successful career as a Precision Engineer. In his retirement Brian was busier than ever, tending his



garden, keeping bees and, along with his partner, Kath, looking after his many and great grandchildren. He also continued to raise funds for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust by selling fruit and vegetables from his garden. Brian was very keen on nature and the beautiful countryside that he was surrounded by.

After 10 days in hospital in May with no visitors due to the Pandemic, Brian was able to return to Saddlescombe, his favorite place in the world, for his final days.

Darren, Lee, Gavin and Tyrone Ware

June Nunne

Sadly June passed away recently and was buried in Poynings cemetery next to her husband Otto.

June had lived in Poynings from a young age and had raised four children here.

In more recent years she was famous for her lovely display of flowers in front of her flat in Mill Court. Her daughter Helen had helped her with this until she herself passed away suddenly this year.

June's family will be writing a Eulogy for the March newsletter.

Recycling items that cannot go in your bin

There is a new initiative by Terracycle in Henfield which makes good use of the recycling which the council does not collect. This will dramatically cut our landfill. The list of shops in Henfield taking these items is on Bob's cafe's door at the recreation ground.. For people who cannot get to Henfield, Poynings and Fulking have collection bins near their respective bus stops (Poynings is outside the recreation ground behind the bus shelter). Every so often a team of volunteers will sort out these items and distribute them to the correct shops, so clean and dry would be much appreciated. Thank you, everyone. Any questions please contact Rob on 857019.

JUDY REEVES 1947-2020



Judy was a Geordie lass, born and raised in Newcastle. As a "townie," moving to Orchard Cottage, Poynings, in the mid 80's with husband Ron must have seemed like one great big adventure. (Orchard Cottage is the last house on Dyke Lane as you head up towards the Dyke). Judy and Ron fell in love with the cottage on first viewing but the vendor changed her mind and took the house off the market. Judy and Ron decided they would wait until she put it back on the market, which she did 6 months later and the rest is history. Their attachment to the cottage, the garden and the wonderful views up towards the Dyke and the South Downs grew stronger and stronger. Ron being eighteen years older than Judy was the one to

retire first becoming a "house husband". He now had time to concentrate on his twin passions growing fruit and vegetables in his wonderful garden and looking after the house, putting his extensive DIY skills to good use.

Judy continued working part time. She was a chiropodist by training and worked both for the NHS and for a private medical practice in Storrington. She was a keen golfer and an active member of Brighton and Hove Golf Club. She loved playing golf and her game steadily improved so that in time she achieved a good standard and a decent handicap.

Sadly Ron developed Alzheimer's and Judy retired from work so that she could look after him full time. He died in 2014 and then Judy felt that it would be best for her to move to a smaller house which would be easier to maintain. So, in 2015 she moved to Hurstpierpoint. It was at this stage that she began volunteering at the Haven in Henfield.

Despite moving to Hurstpierpoint, Judy maintained her links with village life in Poynings via the Book Group, the Knit and Natter Group and latterly through the weekly zoom services for Holy Trinity Church.

Judy died at St Peter's and St James Hospice on Sunday 8th November. She will be greatly missed by her family and her friends in the Book Group, the Knit and Natter Group and at Brighton and Hove Golf Club.

Jan

Joyce [Dorothy] Hill 1937—2020

Joyce was born in Poynings and left to go to Pyecombe in the early 60's. A few years later she retired, so I got to know her a lot better. We all knew how hard she worked for Pyecombe church but a little of her heart remained with Poynings. Joyce had a stall in the Poynings annual fete and gave all her profits to us and was always generous to help out with raffle prizes etc.

In later years she became a very popular member of a Charity Whist Club [Hassocks]. I know she was very generous and loved Thursday evenings as much as the members enjoyed teasing her about her sparkly bits and bling! She will be sorely missed.

Rene

Adam Virgo go Football Academy



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