

The carols and the stockings and the shopping and the wrapping and the unwrapping and the cooking and the turkey and the champagne are over for another year.

What a year it has been for Peasmarsh! Undoubtedly the most exciting and satisfying event has been the completion and opening of the new hall. Congratulations to all those who have contributed in any way towards this achievement; not just those involved in the building and the management but all those involved in any way in turning it into a valued community hub.

It was the second year for the 10K Rye Run in May. This was another successful event in which residents could get involved. Congratulations to Martin and Cathy and their nice-work team, and thanks for the substantial profit which came to the hall funds. Put it in your diary for 2014!

Hallelujah for the completed organ in the church! The congregation and the organists have been enjoying it and so did the 56 "Scratch" Choir members who sang their way enthusiastically through Part 1 of Messiah in November.

In June we welcomed back the Peasmarsh Chamber Music Festival for the second year, since it replaced the Florestan Festival in 2012. This 4-day treat with internationally acclaimed musicians (and in 2013 a world premiere) attracted many visitors. It's a pity we don't have any B&Bs in the village at the moment to benefit from this. 2014 dates are June 19th – 22nd.

Also new in 2013:

A replacement finger post at the top of Church Lane.

A grit bin at the Maltings
A functioning VAS at Barnets Hill
Another "kickabout" goalpost at the Rec.
A second dog bin in Main Street

Arrangements are progressing steadily for the satellite doctor's surgery to be held at the hall and the committee expects this to be ready to open by the end of this month.

Also aiming to start by the end of January is the new Mother and Toddlers' Group.

Following a really enjoyable Christmas Lunch on December 16th the catering students from Hastings who have become our friends since October have been on their Christmas break. Lunch Club will start again on Monday January 13th. There is a slight adjustment to the cost for this. For residents (including the Peasmarsh end of Rye Foreign) the cost of a 2-course meal will be £5.50. For non-residents (unless they are coming as guests of residents) it will be £6.50. As usual, please contact Jenny on 230324 to book.

Zumba starts again on Thursday, Jan 9th.

Fun Quiz Time. The next quiz will be on Saturday January 11th at 7.30pm at the hall. Entry £5.50 includes a ploughman's supper. Bring your own drink. Come and help fill a table, or make up your own group. If you haven't been before, this is a light-hearted evening with a lot of laughs and back-chat.

Tina started her Ladies Circuit Classes before Christmas. She will be continuing every Wednesday at 7:30pm at the hall from 15th January. £5 per person. For more details contact Tina on 07957 463355 or email tina@challengerye.co.ukTina

Sing for Fun will also start again on Jan 15th.

For UPCOMING EVENTS,
CLASSES AVAILABLE, MEETINGS. &
BOOKING DETAILS & CHARGES
for the
PEASMARSH MEMORIAL HALL:
www.peasmarshmh.org.uk

Candlelit Carols in Peasmarsh Church



Peasmarsh and District WI Choir and the "Barleycorns" joined the congregation to sing carols on December 15th.

The Barleycorns are a small group of young children who lead the singing at Family Services and are learning to ring handbells. Are there any boys or girls in your family who might be interested?

THE NATURE OF GOD'S ACRE

Do you spend any time in our churchyard? Tending family graves? Walking dogs? Visiting the church? Enjoying the beauty and the peace?

We have been specially invited to take part in a project looking at churchyards in Sussex and their spiritual and natural value. THIS IS FOR EVERYONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN THE CHURCHYARD – not just those with connections with the church.

A lot of work has gone into the care of our churchyard over the past year. Please take the time and trouble to respond to the online survey at http://ow.ly/rOPeU and we shall appear in a booklet to be published when the scheme is completed.

If you would prefer a hard copy of the questionnaire, or you have a good photograph of the churchyard, please contact Jenny Als on 230324.



DON'T FORGET to act by January 6th if you want to make sure of a garden waste collection service this year - for more information and to register go to www.rother.gov.uk/gardenwaste

Recreation Grounds.

Peasmarsh is lucky enough to have a fullsized football pitch (just !), a bowls club with clubhouse and green, a sports pavilion with basic kitchen facilities and a skatepark and multi-ball park (half).

There is also a playspace for young children which was erected some years ago thanks to the efforts of a group of young mothers.

What we urgently need now is a group of interested parents and young people who would be prepared to work with the Parish Council and the Recreation Ground Subcommittee to refurbish or replace the old playspace, to find volunteers to offer sports training to the young people, and to awaken greater interest and investment in the village in sporting activities.

The next meeting of the sub-committee will be on Thursday Feb 20th at 6pm and anyone interested in finding out more about the committee with a view to making an active contribution would be most welcome.

It is quite astonishing to find how many residents of this village have never seen the Recreation Grounds, and are not quite sure where they are. Are you one of these? Why not take a walk and discover just what goes on at the Maltings.

