

The Net



Autumn 2026
Issue 112

Community Newsletter of St Michael and All Angels, Lancing

The Port of Pende

Sunday Services

10.30 am Sung Mass

followed by refreshments

10.30 am Alive!

(monthly on first Sunday)

Stories, games and crafts for
children aged 0-11

Church Open

The Church is open
for visitors and private prayer
Monday - Friday 9 am - 4 pm

Christenings, Weddings, Banns of Marriage

please contact
The Revd Ben Scott
Telephone: 01903 753653

Editor

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THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Lancing had its own port at Pende during the 14th and 15th centuries, believed to be primarily for ship building.

At this time the coastline looked very different from today and the area had several other ports including St Botolphs, Steyning and Shoreham.

After 1085 a large shingle bank or beach had begun to form south of Pende Hill. This had cut off direct access to the sea and formed a protective barrier by Pende Hill. It is in this area the Port of Pende is believed to have been sited. Pende was a busy port in the 14th and 15th centuries. However, the unchecked currents and tides took their toll and records dated 1292 and 1340 record the disappearance of a watermill and 70 salthouses to the sea during the period. The danger evidently continued, for on two occasions in the mid 14th century, commissioners were appointed to repair

sea defences at Pende. The changing shape of the coastline by eastward drift of the shingle no doubt caused the gradual silting up of the west side of the old estuary (near Grinstead Lane) and the old Pende harbour, which was probably responsible for the closure as a port at the end of the 15th century.

Wool export accounts dating back to the reign of Richard III record a ship called *Margaret of Pende*. Also in 1351 a mention is made of sea walls at 'La Pende' and in 1359 a commission was set up to repair some sea walls at Pende which had been damaged by the inundation of the sea and ravages of the French and Spanish. Further mentions of Pende occur in 1378 and 1379 when John Pough was master of a ship named *Goodyer of Pende*.

The port operated during some turbulent times in English history. Particularly



Cliff Corner, Old Salts Farm Road, A259, possibly part of Pende Hill



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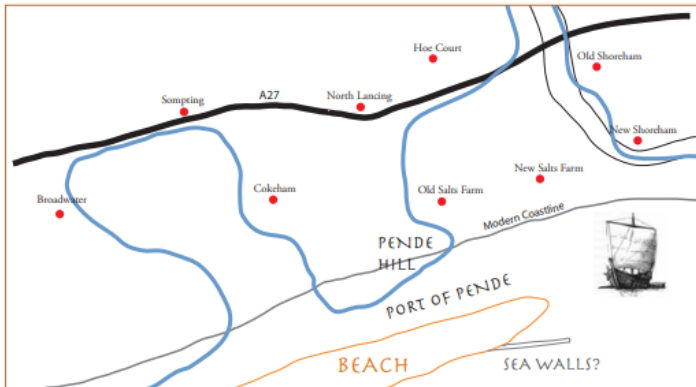
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difficult, given its close proximity to France, was when war broke out between England and France in 1337. Edward III claimed a right to the French throne, while Philip VI of France tried to regain Gascony and Guienne back from the English.



Probable coastline 1250 showing possible site of the port

At this time our major export to the world was wool. English ships carried wool to Flanders (modern Belgium) to supply the flourishing Flemish weaving industry. This was a valuable trade for both parties and the Flemish wished to protect it so they joined the English against Philip VI. Edward sent support to Flemish rebels and landed in France, declaring himself King of France. In 1346 Edward defeated the French army near Crecy. The fighting continued off and on until 1453 and became known as the Hundred Years War.

In 1348, plague reached southern England. The plague was carried in the stomachs of fleas and in the blood of rats on which the fleas lived. It could be transmitted to humans from the bite of an infected flea and carried into port by unsuspecting sailors and merchants, travelling from Europe, on their clothes. It killed 25 million souls

across Europe and was known as the Black Death. Like most of the country, the local area was affected by the plague but it seems the port continued to operate.

It is unclear how big the port of Pende became. Ports like Shoreham during this time were handling goods from distant countries as well as exporting our own wool. Merchants traded goods from across the known world. Silk and spices from the Far East, oranges and lemons from the Mediterranean, leather from Spain, almonds from Greece, cloth from Flanders, cheese from the Netherlands and furs from Russia. The rich Lords of the Manors could obtain exotic goods and show off their wealth.

Slowly over time the port became silted up as the coast line changed. A map of 1622 indicates old timber remains of walls that could be seen offshore at low tide.

The long shingle beach broken through in several places by the sea created a series of lagoons, the possible remains of the port and at its western end a dam (now Shoptsdam Road), led down to the shops or huts where the fishermen sold their catch.

The small port at St Botolphs (Annington) disappeared, as did the village, the population all but wiped out by the plague. The port serving the prosperous market town of Steyning had silted up and ceased to be used about the same time as Pende, leaving Shoreham as the last remaining port in the area.

Jan Hamblett

Did you know...?

Pende is remembered in the road name Pende Close just north of the A27 and Penhill Road is a corruption of Pende Hill which used to overlook the old port of Pende. When Penhill Road was first opened in 1877 it was called Jubilee Road but was changed in the early 20th century, presumably to remember the old port.

Time to Remember – Sunday 11 October

Bereaved families who have attended funeral services conducted on behalf of the Parish of South Lancing and Sompting during the past two years, either in church or at the crematorium, will receive an invitation to Time to Remember on Sunday 11 October. The name of their loved one will be included in

the prayers at the service. However, anyone is welcome. You can ask for other names of the departed to be added to the list of people to be remembered when you get to the church. Simply write the name or names on the paper provided at the back of church before the service starts.

The service lasts about 45 minutes. During the service, you can light a candle to remember a loved one who has died. Afterwards, we have tea and cake in St Michael's Church Hall.

Fr Ben Scott

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An exciting new season for The Boundstone Chorus

The Boundstone Chorus is looking ahead to an exciting 2026/27 season, with a varied programme that celebrates choral music in all its colour, energy and drama. Under the musical direction of Aedan Kerney MBE and Mattea Leow, the Chorus continues to offer local singers the chance to rehearse, perform and enjoy a wide range of music together.

The Chorus is also delighted to welcome Rob Grassie as accompanist for the new season. His support at rehearsals and performances will be an important part of the year ahead, helping singers prepare for a programme that ranges from African song and Christmas music to flight-themed works and a celebration of classic musical theatre.

Concerts for 2026/27

The season opens on Saturday 17 October 2026 with *Zimbe! Come Sing the Songs of Africa*, a joyful and rhythmically vibrant work by Alexander L'Estrange that brings together African-inspired song, movement and celebration. For this the Chorus will be joined by Sompting Village Primary School Choir and the Call Me Al Jazz Quintet featuring the composer himself. The Chorus then presents its Christmas Celebration on Saturday



19 December 2026, offering a festive evening of seasonal music and carols.

In the spring, the Chorus takes to the skies with *Come Fly With Me* on Saturday 13 March 2027, marking the 100th anniversary of Charles Lindbergh's historic solo non-stop transatlantic flight. Then their summer concert on Saturday 19 June 2027 celebrates the music of Richard Rodgers in the 125th year of his birth. Expect music from *Oklahoma!*, *The Sound of Music*, *South Pacific* and more. Together, these concerts promise a season full of variety, from uplifting choral music to much-loved songs from the golden age of musical theatre.

Come and Sing

There will also be a special

opportunity to sing choruses from Handel's *Messiah* on Wednesday 21 October. This is a chance for singers to experience one of the best-loved works in the choral repertoire and enjoy singing alongside others in a welcoming setting.

Join the Chorus

New members are warmly welcome. Whether you are returning to singing, looking for a new musical challenge, or simply keen to be part of a friendly local choir, the Boundstone Chorus offers an inspiring place to sing, learn and perform. New members can join for their first term for just £25 (the full membership fee for the year is £126 – which works out to be less than the weekly cost of a coffee in a café).

Rehearsals take place on Wednesdays in term time from 7.15pm to 9.15pm at St Michael's Church Hall, South Street, Lancing, BN15 8AJ.

Contact Details

For more information, please contact the Boundstone Chorus by phone on 01903 762793, by email at theboundstonechorus@gmail.com, or visit the choir's website: www.theboundstonechorus.co.uk.

Ninety years since woman's first solo Atlantic flight

Beryl Markham was the first woman to successfully fly across the Atlantic from east to west. She is often incorrectly described as "the first person" to fly the Atlantic east to west in a solo non-stop flight, but that record belongs to Scottish pilot Jim Mollison, who tried to fly from Dublin, Ireland, to New York City in 1932. Low visibility forced Mollison down in New Brunswick, Canada, but he still could claim the first solo Atlantic east-to-west record (a westbound flight requires more endurance, fuel, and time than the eastward journey, because the craft must fly against prevailing Atlantic winds).

When Markham decided to take on the Atlantic crossing, no pilot had yet flown non-stop from Europe to New York, and no woman had made the



westward flight solo, though several had died trying. Markham hoped to claim both records. On 4 September 1936, she took off from Abingdon, England. After a 20-hour flight, her Vega Gull, *The Messenger*, suffered fuel starvation due to icing of the fuel tank vents, and she crash-landed at Baleine Cove on Cape Breton Island,

Nova Scotia, Canada (her flight was, in all likelihood, almost identical in length to Mollison's). In spite of falling short of her goal, Markham had become the first woman to cross the Atlantic east-to-west solo, and the first person to make it from England to North America non-stop from east to west. She was celebrated as an aviation pioneer.

Markham chronicled her many adventures in her memoir, *West with the Night*, published in 1942. Despite strong reviews in the press, the book sold modestly, and then quickly went out of print. After living for many years in the United States, Markham moved back to Kenya in 1952, becoming for a time the most successful horse trainer in the country.

Also Known As...

Can you identify the stage names or real names of these people?

1. Rita Maria Crudgington became famous after ripping her skirt off, but what name did she choose to perform under?

2. What small name did performer Patrick Chukwuemeka Okogwu choose as his stage name?

3. Shirley Anne Broadbent went from Carry On Cleo to Coronation Street under which name?

4. American film director and musical choreographer, famous for his extravagant and kaleidoscopic dance routines was born William Berkeley Enos. Who is he better known as?

5. Shirley Crabtree Jr was a huge presence on the UK wrestling scene under what name?

6. Peter Moffett, who? I hear you cry, call a doctor.

7. Based on their original names, Karol Wojtyla, Joseph Alois Ratzinger and Jorge Mario Bergoglio served in which religious position?

8. American singer Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta is best known by which stage name?

9. What was the stage name of the singer born as David Robert Jones on 8 January 1947?

10. Rory Graham apparently took his stage name from his love of Steptoe and Son, what is it?

11. Which famous author wrote under the pseudonym Mark Twain?

12. What is the stage name of the rapper whose real name is Shawn Corey Carter?

13. Which American actress and presenter, born Caryn Johnson, is better known by her stage name?

14. What is the real name of the singer who performs as Elton John?

15. Which author used the pseudonym George Orwell?

16. Robert Allen Zimmerman is the real name of which musician?

Place your answers in the Net competition box at St Michael and All Angels Church, South Street, Lancing. The first entry drawn on **1 November 2026** will win a £10 High Street voucher.

Name _____

Address _____

COMPETITION CONDITIONS - Entries will only be accepted from addresses with postcodes BN15 8__ or from persons whose names are entered on the South Lancing and Sompting Parish electoral roll. The first entry received per household will be accepted. The entry form is the whole of Page 4 of *The Net*. Do not tear or cut the page - a copy may be made, or one may be printed from <https://www.chalkspringchurches.org/st-michael-and-all-angels/community-newsletter>



What's On

St Peter's Church
Bowness Avenue, Sompting, BN15 9TS

AUTUMN SALE

SPRING FLOWERING PLANTS INCLUDING:
Polyanthus, Foxgloves, Stocks,
Sweet Williams, Wallflowers and Daffodils

Tea/Coffee and Cake Bottle Tombola

Saturday 3 October
10 am - 12 noon

All welcome

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All welcome

Time to Remember
A service for bereaved people and families

Sunday 11 October, 3 pm
St Michael and All Angels, Lancing

This annual service lasts about 45 minutes. You can ask for names to be read out during the prayers, and light a candle to remember someone who has died.

After the service in church, everyone is invited to come for tea and cake in the Church Hall

Everyone welcome

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Further details: 01903 761913
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ZIMBE!

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Remembrance Sunday

8 November 2026

9 am
Laying of Wreaths and
Service of Remembrance
St Mary's Church, Sompting

2.45 pm Laying of Wreaths,
Lancing War Memorial

3 pm Service of Remembrance
St Michael and All Angels, Lancing

All welcome

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Cook time: 13-15 mins

Ingredients

115g (4oz) butter
115g (4oz) caster sugar
115g (4oz) self-raising flour
2 eggs
1 medium eating apple
1 tsp cinnamon
Sultanas (optional)

Method

1. Cream butter and caster sugar until light and fluffy and paler in colour.
2. Crack eggs and whisk lightly with a fork.
3. Gradually add eggs to butter and sugar mixture, adding a spoonful of flour if necessary to stop the mixture curdling.
4. Add cinnamon to flour and sift into mixture, then stir in gently.
5. Peel apple and cut into small 5-8mm square chunks and stir into cake mix. Add sultanas if desired.
6. Spoon into 12 paper cases, put in a pre heated oven for 13-15 mins at 190C/Gas 5

Autumn jobs in your garden

Borders and Herbaceous Plants

Clear away annuals that have finished flowering and add healthy material to the compost heap. Cut back perennials that have collapsed or turned mushy, but leave attractive seedheads, grasses, and sturdy stems where they provide winter structure and food for birds. Autumn is also a good time to divide congested clumps of herbaceous perennials and replant them while the soil is moist.

Lawns, Leaves and Paths

Rake fallen leaves from lawns regularly so the grass is not smothered. Leaves can be gathered into bags or a simple wire cage to make leaf mould, a valuable soil conditioner. In mild spells, the lawn may still need a final cut, but raise the mower blades and avoid mowing when the ground is wet or frosty. Autumn is also a good time to repair worn patches, aerate compacted areas, and tidy paths before slippery algae and moss become a problem.

Trees, Shrubs and Hedges

Planting trees, shrubs, hedges, and roses in autumn gives roots time to establish before spring growth begins. Water new plantings well and mulch around them, keeping mulch away from stems. Prune climbing roses after flowering, reduce very tall shrub roses to limit wind rock, and remove dead, diseased, or crossing branches from woody plants where appropriate.

Bulbs and Spring Colour

Autumn is the main bulb-planting season. Plant daffodils, crocuses, alliums, hyacinths, and many other spring bulbs as soon as possible, and leave tulips until later in autumn to reduce the risk of disease. Choose firm, healthy bulbs, plant them at the correct depth, and group them in generous drifts for a natural effect.

Fruit and Vegetables

Harvest apples, pears, grapes, squashes, beans, and nuts as they ripen. Clear old crops from vegetable beds to reduce overwintering pests and diseases, then cover bare soil with compost, mulch, or green manure. Plant garlic and autumn onion sets in well-drained ground, sow hardy broad beans where conditions allow, and order bare-root fruit trees and bushes for planting from late autumn onwards.

Wildlife and Garden Ecology

A wildlife-friendly autumn tidy-up is selective rather than severe. Leave some seedheads, hollow stems, log piles, and leaf litter in quiet corners to support insects, birds, amphibians, and small mammals. Keep bird feeders and water clean, and avoid disturbing dense piles of material where wildlife may already be sheltering.

Ponds, Pots and Protected Plants

Remove fallen leaves from ponds before they sink and decay, using netting if trees are nearby. Lift tender aquatic plants and move them somewhere frost-free if needed. Empty spent summer containers, raise pots onto feet to improve drainage, and move tender plants such as pelargoniums, cannas, and half-hardy perennials under cover before the first hard frosts.

Tools, Compost and General Maintenance

Autumn is an ideal moment to clean, sharpen, and oil tools before winter storage. Empty and wash pots, tidy the shed or greenhouse, check stakes and ties, and repair fences before storms arrive. Turn compost heaps where possible, mix green and brown material, and use finished compost as a mulch around established plants.

Guess the game show

- 1) Countdown, 2) Mr and Mrs, 3) Eggheads, 4) Bullseye, 5) Supermarket Sweep, 6) The Weakest Link, 7) Family Fortunes, 8) Blankety Blank, 9) Blockbusters, 10) Bridge of Lies, 11) The Chase, 12) Pointless, 13) Generation Game, 14) Sale of the Century, 15) Catchphrase, 16) University Challenge, 17) Who wants to be a millionaire?, 18) Going for Gold, 19) Telly Addicts, 20) Total Wipeout

Congratulations to the winner - Steve Weir

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Do you enjoy singing? Come and sing with us!

The Boundstone Chorus

is a friendly group who perform a wide range of music.
We're open to all who enjoy singing.

**We meet during term-time on Wednesday evenings,
7.15 - 9.15 pm in St Michael's Church Hall, Lancing.**

**For further information contact the Chorus Administrator
01903 762793 / theboundstonechorus@gmail.com
or just come along!**