

## **NORTHERN ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT APRIL 2026.**

We attended a coffee morning at Northiam where we had the opportunity to talk with our PCSO's whom we had invited and who engaged with the many residents present. They are keen to attend such mornings in other parishes. We will give them the dates of COS in Staplecross and the dates of Bodiam & Beckley functions.

### **PCSO's reports for March:**

#### **Northiam**

18/03/25 – Report of a forklift truck, stored on St Francis Fields, having its hydraulic pipe cut and the cap for the diesel tank removed.

19/03/25 – A garage was broken into in Station Road. Strimmer, chop saw and hand tools stolen.

#### **Bodiam**

Bodiam Castle a shed and store were broken into.

#### **Staplecross**

An annex to a residential building was broken into.

There were no incidents in **Beckley**.

### **Food waste collections**

Residents will begin receiving food waste collections in phases from the end of March. You will receive both a letter and an email confirming the date of your first collection. Once your collections have begun they will appear in the "Bin Day Reminder" sections of "My Alerts" and within our "Find My Nearest" service. A full list of FAQs is available on our website.

Biffa food waste collections are running about half a day behind on some routes because new staff are learning the new rounds and carrying out checks for contamination.

Biffa has told us that no round this week should be more than one day late. They also plan to work on Saturday so that all collections for the week are completed. We have updated the website and a social media post has gone out to reassure residents. Residents do not need to contact us about missed food waste collections, as bins will be collected the following day where needed.

### **Repair Café**

Got a broken tool, a favourite jumper with a tear or a faulty vacuum? Don't throw it away – bring it along to your local Repair Café. The Robertsbridge & Brightling Re session will

hold its next Repair Café on 11 April at Robertsbridge Village Hall. There is also a Repair Café in Rye on the second Saturday each month, the next one being on 11 April at the Rye Community Centre.

### **Easter Egg Hunt at Bodiam Castle**

From Saturday 21 March until Sunday 12 April the National Trust will hold a family-friendly Easter Egg Hunt at Bodiam Castle. Follow the trail and have a go at fun-filled games including hook-a-duck, egg-and-spoon and much more. The event is £3.50 which includes admission, an Easter trail sheet, bunny ears and a chocolate egg.

### **Update on food collections**

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### **Purdah**

As we approach the upcoming elections, the pre-election period (previously known as “purdah”) will come into effect on **Monday 30 March when the Notice of Election will be issued**. This period places specific restrictions on the Council’s communications, publicity, and decision-making to ensure that we maintain political neutrality and safeguard the integrity of the democratic process.