

The Sundridge Village News

May 2019



In this issue we bring you pictures of Pedro the donkey in his starring role at the Palm Sunday procession, a round-up of a year in the life of the church as we report on the recent Annual Parish Church Meeting, a pat on the back for the litter-pickers and gardening visits to entice you out of your armchair.

Annual Church Meeting 2019

The AGM of the Parish took place on April 10th this year, giving time for the run-up to Holy Week and Easter. The aim of the meeting is to elect the Churchwardens and members of the PCC for the coming year and to look back on the year just past. All the organisations which come under the Church umbrella – including both schools in the Parish - report on their doings and achievements over the calendar year 2018.

At the meeting, the three current Churchwardens (Althea Chapman and Barbara Lockey at Sundridge and Neil Arnott at Ide Hill) were re-elected unopposed.

The churchwardens of both churches within the Parish had already written a summary of events and this was up-dated during the meeting. There were written reports also by the Safeguarding Officer, Diana Pickard, by the Hon. Treasurer, Maria Lewington, Fabric Reports from both churches and also from Toys Hill plus an account of the Sundridge Parish Fête, of the Bible Study group and Prayer meetings held at “Finches” in Ide Hill and the Bell Ringers at Sundridge.

Both schools are buoyant. Sundridge & Brasted Primary School is continuing to collaborate with other local schools in the Sevenoaks Partnership to ensure that outstanding practice is shared and developed, it has been fully involved in the Church of England Peer to Peer support network and has this year joined the rural schools' network. Outside the classroom, it has also had a very successful sporting year, not least in being awarded the Gold School Games Mark for participation in sports - not

bad for a school devoid of proper sporting facilities! Its Forest School programme continues to provide a valuable provision for all classes and this has been greatly enhanced by the use of the field opposite the school. Once again, the links with the church have been strong with a large turnout at the Christingle service at St Mary's and the Carol service at St Martin's where there was standing room only. The Head Teacher, Mr Gaind, has said that it is his objective to deepen the school's links with the Parish and the local community so, if any organisation would like to include involvement with the school, please do not hesitate to contact him.

The Fabric Committee, led by Jane Belle and our Church Architect, John Bailey, has overseen the re-painting of the vestry and the installation of a bespoke twisted handrail in the bell tower staircase. It has also worked away at the design of, and Faculty for, a WC and kitchenette as phase I of a two-phase project - known colloquially as Project WaterLoo! - to introduce a WC into the church, for which the work is now going forward.

The Friends of St Mary's have been stalwarts in raising funds for these various projects through a variety of very enjoyable events and have, indeed, already granted £20,000 towards Project WaterLoo, in addition to funding our other projects. We are particularly grateful to Ken and Nicki Ludlam who have spent considerable time and effort in raising the grants necessary for funding such a large-scale project.

Althea Chapman

Parish Services for May 2019

Sunday 5th Easter 3

09.15 Toys Hill Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Sundridge Holy Communion

Sunday 12th Easter 4

08.00 Sundridge Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Ide Hill All Age Worship

Sunday 19th Easter 5

08.00 Ide Hill Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Sundridge Morning Worship

Sunday 26th Easter 6

08.00 Sundridge Holy Communion BCP
17.30 Ide Hill Songs of Praise

June

Sunday 2nd June Easter 7

08.00 Sundridge Holy Communion BCP
17.30 Ide Hill Songs of Praise

Sundridge Clean-up

Did you take part in the Sundridge clean-up organised by John Evans recently? Families, the young and the not-so-young met at the White Horse pub on a drizzly Saturday afternoon to begin an afternoon of litter-picking. SDC loaned the necessary equipment, including gloves, high-viz jackets, litter-pickers and black sacks.

Once we had received the safety briefing by John Evans, we were organised into teams and set off on our allotted routes.

Over forty people collected sixty black bags of rubbish which contained glass bottles, cans, crisp packets - that can take mere minutes to devour - but up to eight decades to decompose, sweet wrappers, and loads of cigarette butts that can take up to ten years to decompose depending on conditions. 'Golden eggs' were hidden on private land to encourage the younger members of the teams to get involved. Once found, these 'golden eggs' were exchanged for £10, kindly donated by the Parish Council.



Anna and Matt at the White Horse hosted the event and kindly provided a hot-dog and burger bar to keep the workers sustained. There was a duck race, run by 'Fundridge', the group that raises money towards fun events for the community. This duck race became almost

as competitive as the Grand National that occurred on the same day. John Evans launched the ducks and coaxed them along the stream, arriving at the finishing line in Coronation Gardens

some 10 minutes later where they were humanely caught. The first two prizes were meals for 2 at the White Horse, kindly donated by Matt and Anna, with Easter eggs for the youngsters. The duck race raised £225 for Fundridge. Their next community event is to be a Tea

Dance to be held on the 8th June in Sundridge Village Hall.

Please remember that anyone can litter-pick, it doesn't have to be an organised event. It is our duty to keep our village looking neat and tidy so, even if you didn't drop it, why not pick it up and dispose of it?



The Easter story

Pedro, the local famous donkey, led the procession from Ide Hill school to the church on a chilly Palm Sunday morning. We even managed a smile from motorists as they slowed down on the roundabout to let us process up to the church. Pedro, wearing his palm cross with pride, waited patiently for his pat and carrots before allowing us in for the service.

On Maundy Thursday, friends joined together from all three places of worship within the Parish to re-create the last meal that Jesus shared with his disciples. It was a sumptuous feast, with both hot and cold food.

Easter Sunday was celebrated in the Parish with wonderful displays of Easter baskets and arrangements in the churches.



Sundridge and Brasted Horticultural Society

“Under no circumstances must you become distracted. If you are pruning your roses make sure you have completed that task before weeding the border, or vice versa. This is a much more efficient way of looking after your whole garden.” This was very helpful advice given to us by Alison Marsden when telling the meeting about ‘More Garden Impact for Less effort’ at our first meeting this year.

The next meeting will be at Ide Hill on 8th May at 8pm for a joint meeting with that Society when Helen Wren will talk about Sissinghurst Gardens, a beautiful place which we have all visited at some time.

On Wednesday 12th June, we have a garden visit to ‘Hever Flowers’ at Bough Beech for a ‘Walk and Talk’ by Camilla New, jointly with Ide Hill.

The Committee would be grateful if you could let us know if you would like to join this outing and also the outings to the Lavender Fields at Shoreham and Penshurst Place, as listed in your Membership details. Transport and directions (as usual) can be provided.

We look forward to seeing you all at our super talks and visits this year.

Garden Tips: Deadhead all your daffodils when they look slightly less beautiful than they have done and reseed any bald patches on your lawn.

Happy Gardening
Mary Walford

Save the Date

Wednesday 5th June, Annual Parish Meeting 7.00pm

Saturday 8th June, Tea Dance

Sundridge Village Hall 3.30pm.

Sunday 9th June, Open Air Service

Ide Hill Green 10.30 with the Edenbridge Town Band

Sunday 9th June, Parish Council AGM

Parish Council AGM, Ide Hill Village Hall

Ride + Stride - Sponsored Bike Ride

More details next month

14th September John Rutter ‘Come and Sing’ Day

Click here for more details

Rector

Rev Pam Davies

rev.pamdavies@sky.com

01959 467223

Churchwardens

Sundridge

Althea Chapman

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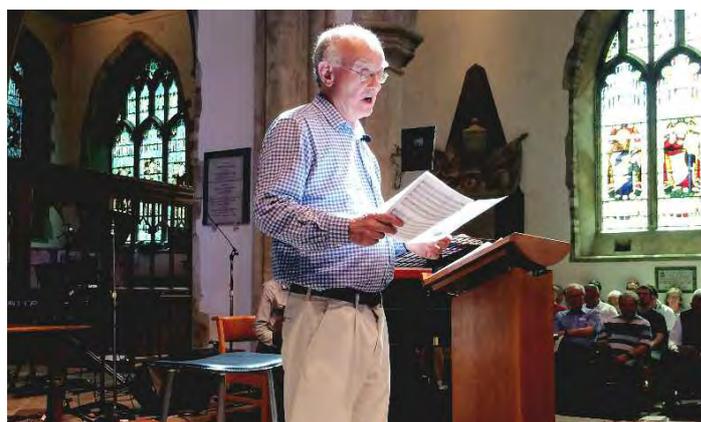
The Friends of St Mary’s events

Wednesday 15th May 2019 from 2 - 4pm

A guided tour by John Bailey of Rochester Cathedral

John is an Accredited Architect in Historic Building Conservation and his knowledge of Rochester Cathedral is immense. He has the great gift of being able to explain both the obvious and the obscure with the clarity which only comes when you know and love the subject very well. His passion for the building is obvious and he is a wonderfully engaging and humorous guide.

Tickets £15.00 to members, non members £18.00



Saturday 14th September 2019

**John Rutter Come and Sing Day
St Nicholas Church, Sevenoaks**

Click here for more details of both Friend’s events

May Dates for your Diary

Thursday 9th, Mobile Library

10.30 - 11.00 Chapmans Close

Wednesday 15th, Flower Workshop

10.30 St Mary’s Church Sundridge

Wednesday 15th, Talk & Tour of Rochester Cathedral

From 2pm - 4pm, including tea

Thursday 23rd, Mobile Library

10.30 - 11.00 Chapmans Close

Weekend 25/26/27, Flower Festival

Ide Hill Church—from 11.00am

Monday 27th Ide Hill Village Fair

Sundridge

Barbara Lockey

hixmix@bopenworld.com

01959 564249

Ide Hill

Neil Arnott

neil.d.arnott@gmail.com

01732 750 221

Coffee is served at the 10.30 service every Sunday. Everyone is welcome!

And finally . . .

Billy Graham arrived in a small town to preach a sermon. Needing to post a letter, he asked a young boy the way to the post office. When the boy had told him, Dr. Graham thanked him and said “If you come to the Baptist Church this evening, you can hear me telling everyone how to get to heaven.” The boy replied, “Thanks, but I don’t think I’ll bother as you don’t even know your way to the post office.”