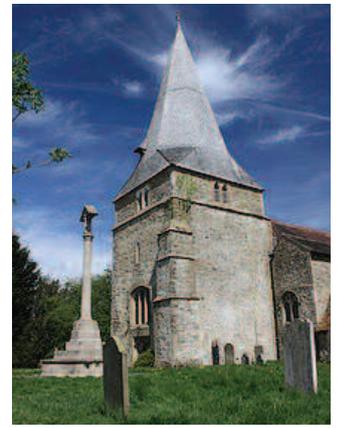


The Sundridge Village News

April 2018



In this issue we bring you an update on what Sundridge and Brasted Primary School has been doing, an article about the Lent installation at Southwark Cathedral, a report on the recent Annual Church Parochial Meeting, plus a full diary of events for the month of April.

News from Sundridge and Brasted Primary School

It is turning out to be another eventful term at Sundridge and Brasted, with the 'Beast from the East' making an appearance and forcing us to shut the school for three days. This was not an easy decision but few of the staff were able to drive safely into school and as the site was rendered unsafe by the ice and snow, with forecasts of yet more ice and snow, we had no other option.

The following week Elm Class (Years 5 and 6) went on their residential trip to Hindleap Warren Outdoor Activity Centre in East Sussex. There they undertook a variety of challenges including rock climbing, forest adventures, bushcraft, archery, team challenges and an obstacle course and tunnels, to name but a few. During these activities they got very muddy and wet at times but learnt to work together as an effective team and I was particularly pleased

at the way that the children supported and encouraged each other during these demanding activities. I was also impressed by their behaviour and manners and had several members of the centre staff coming up to me saying how lovely Elm Class were.

We have also started to embed our new forest school programme on site which is being utilised by all year groups and is proving to be a huge success. We continue to use every opportunity available to encourage learning outside and I am confident that we will receive our accreditation for Learning Outside the classroom by the end of this academic year. There is still a lot to look forward to over the remaining three terms!

Anil Gaid
Head Teacher

Treasurer Wanted

The parish of Sundridge with Ide Hill and Toys Hill is currently seeking a Treasurer (voluntary) for the PCC (Parochial Church Council) to take over the role at the start of April 2018, if possible. If you have book-keeping or accountancy expertise and would like to volunteer your skills, this might be what you are looking for.

Our current Treasurer is happy to talk to anyone who might be interested in this position and explain what the role involves. She will also help with a smooth transition. If you are interested to know more about this role, please contact the Rector. Revd Pam Davies 01959 467223 rev.pamdavies@sky.com

Parish Services for April 2018

Sunday 1st April Easter Day

09.15	Toys Hill	Holy Communion BCP
10.30	Sundridge	Holy Communion
10.30	Ide Hill	Holy Communion

Sunday 8th April Easter 2

08.00	Sundridge	Holy Communion BCP
10.30	Ide Hill	All Age Worship

Sunday 15th April Easter 3

08.00	Ide Hill	Holy Communion BCP
10.30	Sundridge	Morning Worship

Sunday 22nd April Easter 4

08.00	Sundridge	Holy Communion BCP
10.30	Ide Hill	All Age Holy Communion

Sunday 29th April Easter 5

10.30	Ide Hill	Morning Worship
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Rector

Rev Pam Davies
rev.pamdavies@sky.com
01959 467223

Churchwardens

Sundridge
Althea Chapman
althea.chapman@btinternet.com

Sundridge
Barbara Lockey
hixmix@btopenworld.com
01959 564249

Ide Hill
Neil Arnott
neil.d.arnott@gmail.com
01732 750221

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

Lent Art Installation

Each year at Southwark Cathedral, an artist is invited to provide an exciting work or site-specific piece to act as a focus for contemplation and reflection during Lent.

The artist this year is Susie MacMurray a British artist whose work includes drawing, sculpture and architectural installations.

A former classical musician, she retrained as an artist. Her piece is called 'Clouds' and clouds feature a great deal in scripture and in the Christian tradition. Popular imagination might expect faith to be lived out in bright clear sunshine but from the moment Moses climbed the holy mountain, shrouded in cloud, and experienced the presence of God, it has been a familiar experience and theme.

The cloud that Susie MacMurray has created

and which dominates the chancel and high altar sanctuary during Lent and Holy Week draws us in. We recognise our doubts and sense the darkness but beat both 'with a sharp dart of longing love.' She conceived Clouds through the connections of the weight of darkness and uncertainty suspended from above. It stems from a conversation Susie had with a soldier who had served in Afghanistan at the time that she was installing Cloud in the Great Hall, Winchester 2014. They talked of PTSD and the effects that the pressure of extended periods of tension and anxiety have on the mind. The soldier spoke about how all the time he was in the war zone he felt a dark weight hovering behind his neck. It made Susie think of 40 days and 40 nights.



Charity Quiz Evening

June 2nd - Brasted Village Hall from 7pm
Teams of 6 up to people £30 per team.

All the proceeds from this Gambian quiz evening will go to the Banni School in the Gambia. A local family in Brasted has been supporting this school since 2008 and has visited annually and worked in the school alongside Gambian teachers. They have also hosted visits from Gambian teachers to the UK.

Children collect wood for the kitchens on the way to school for lunch, which is mainly rice, and for some children this is their only daily meal. Children cultivate the school gardens for crops to use in the kitchen.

So far the fund-raising has managed to provide a wall round the school orchard to protect the crops which provide a source of mangoes and cashew nuts. A new school classroom block was built in 2017 so more older children could stay at the site and not travel to the senior school. Currently they aim to raise funds to furnish this block.

To book please call Sue 01959 562553
or email sue@thomos.me.uk

Dates for your Diary

Monday 2nd Music on the Hill

7.30pm Ide Hill Church. An Easter Concert to celebrate the completion of the repairs to the splendid 1881 organ.

Wednesday 4th Country Market

And every following Wednesday 9.00am - 12.00 noon
Ide Hill Village Hall

Wednesday 11th Sundridge & Brasted Horticultural Society 8.00pm Brasted Village Hall. Talk by Brian Nobbs on 'Wildlife in the Garden'

Thursday 12th Mobile Library

10.30 - 11.00 Chapmans Close

Friday 13th Friends of St Marys Church AGM

St Mary's Church Sundridge at 19.00 followed by a talk by Irena Fairless. Entrance free - all welcome

Thursday 26th Mobile Library

10.30 - 11.00 Chapmans Close

Save the date

Saturday May 19th Street Party

Lower Church Road from noon. Details next month

Sunday July 8th Village Fete

To be held at Bishop's Mead, Main Road Sundridge

Sundridge and Brasted Horticultural Society

The first evening meeting of the year took place on Wednesday 14th March at Sundridge Village Hall. Unfortunately, earlier in the day we heard that the hall was again double-booked, but, thanks to the help of the Chairman of the Parish Council, we were able to hold our meeting in the small hall.

About 20 members enjoyed an interesting talk from Steve Harmer on 'The Plant Hunters', going back to the Romans, through the Middle Ages when the North Kent coast was a long way to travel, and to the intrepid collectors of the 19th and 20th centuries, who brought

back many of the plants we know and love today, and sometimes at some danger to themselves.

The next meeting will be held at Brasted Village Hall on Wednesday 11th April when a talk will be given by a local resident, Brian Nobbs, on 'Wildlife in the Garden' - something to encourage us all. We look forward to seeing members and potential new members there.

Just a reminder that there will be no Plant Sale in May this year. Hopefully, this will return in 2019.

Beryl Norman
Hon. Secretary

Annual Church Meeting

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has just held its annual meeting and produced an Annual Report showing its achievements over the year. All the organizations that come under the umbrella of the church contribute to this report and it makes for very interesting reading. At this meeting, churchwardens and new PCC members are elected to serve. There are vacancies to serve on the PCC, so why not consider standing for election?

The churchwardens from both churches gave a flavor of parish life over the last year within their own distinct village setting.

Both schools gave glowing reports, with many sporting successes, including a commendable second by Sundridge and Brasted in the small schools division at the District Swimming Gala. Ide Hill successfully defending its title as 2017 champions of the Four Elms Cricket Tournament.

The schools enjoy a rich RE curriculum where children confidently lead celebration worship. They have also been busy with building projects, allowing for creative use of space, Sundridge & Brasted managing to squeeze in a 5th

classroom to use as a Maths Hub and intervention room.

Both schools offer Breakfast and After School clubs which prove very popular with working parents.

The St Mary's Fabric Committee gave a report on various projects that had been completed, including roof repairs and the completion of the Yorkstone church path. The next major project it is planning is to provide an accessible WC and kitchenette facilities in the South Porch. This is a massive undertaking with the Friends of St Mary's paying all the costs to date for this project. Full detailed plans are currently being processed ready for Diocesan approval and Faculty application. The Fabric Committee is immensely grateful to have acquired the services of Mr Ken Ludlam and Mr Dean Gregory to assist with the project and help with the fund-raising.

The Bible Study group continues to thrive. This is a great way to get to know not only the Bible better, but also each other.

If you would like a full copy of the report, please email the Editor.

The May edition

If you have any information for the 'Dates for your Diary' section, an article that you'd like included in the May edition, or know of anyone who would like to place an advertisement, please email by Friday 20th April 2018 to:

sundridgevillagenews@gmail.com



Easter Flowers in St Mary's Sundridge

The team will be in church on Easter Saturday 31st March from about 10am and will be grateful for branches of flowering shrubs (especially pussy willow), daffodils or other spring flowers, to add to the display in the church.

If anyone wishes to help or to join our small team, they will be very welcome.

Beryl Norman 01959 563585

Save the date!

Sundridge Street Party, Saturday 19th May to celebrate the Royal Wedding from 12 noon onwards. Sundridge will be joining in the celebrations up and down the country to celebrate the Royal Wedding. We hope to close the lower part of Church Road for picnic lunches, Pub BBQ, children's entertainment, teas, coffees, cakes and much, much more.

Save the date and come and celebrate with the community.

And finally . . .

Found in a little book of church humour
God answers Knee mail!