

# The Sundridge Village News December 2018 - January 2019



In this issue we bring you news of all our Christmas services in the Parish, pictures of our Remembrance poppy display, find out who speaks Arabic, a plea for more flower arrangers to join the team at St Mary's, plus all the news at Sundridge and Brasted Primary School.

## Parish Services for December 2018 and January 2019

### Sunday 2nd December Advent Sunday

09.15 Toys Hill Holy Communion BCP  
10.30 Sundridge Holy Communion  
15.30 Sundridge Christingle

### Sunday 9th December

08.00 Sundridge Holy Communion BCP  
10.30 Ide Hill Carol Service

### Sunday 16th December

08.00 Ide Hill Holy Communion BCP  
18.30 Sundridge Carol Service lit by candlelight

### Sunday 23rd December

10.30 Ide Hill Holy Communion

### Monday 24th December Christmas Eve

17.00 Toys Hill Crib Service  
23.30 Sundridge Midnight Communion

### Tuesday 25th December Christmas Day

09.15 Toys Hill Holy Communion BCP  
10.30 Ide Hill Morning Worship

### Sunday 30th December

10.30 Sundridge Morning Worship

### 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

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

## Christmas Turkeys

For 15 years, Stockenden Farm has been supplying turkeys to the parish. These are very happy turkeys who enjoy a 100% drug free feed, fed on home-grown corn and are grown to maturity in spacious open air conditions. Not only will you enjoy their exquisite taste, but the church will benefit from a small commission on each sale.

To order your turkey, please email Andy Edmonds with your requirements by 15th December at:-  
chadshollow@btinternet.com or 'phone 01732 750393

### Prices and sizes –

9lb – 12lb - £4.90 per lb - £10.55 per kg  
13lb – 20 lb - £4.55 per lb - £10.00 per kg  
20lb plus - £4.25 per lb - £9.35 per kg

## Friends of St Marys Sundridge

The Friends raise funds to support the fabric of the Church. Each year we hold a number of varied events for our members and supporters. Please join the Friends and

help us to help St Marys Sundridge.

Download Membership forms from [friendsofstmarys.co.uk](http://friendsofstmarys.co.uk)

or email [richarddunckley@hotmail.com](mailto:richarddunckley@hotmail.com)

# Sundridge and Brasted Primary School

Those of you who read the "Village News" closely will realise that the school report in November's issue was penned by the staff due to my absence on sick leave. It is at times like this that I am extra proud of the wonderful and supportive staff we have at Sundridge and Brasted.

As always they have worked extremely hard in my absence but it has been their camaraderie that has really struck a chord. One of the attributes that makes Sundridge and Brasted outstanding as a school is the staff, parents and children.

The school gathered at the War Memorial at St Mary's on the Friday before Remembrance Sunday to hold our whole school service. Following the Last Post, we held our two minute silence. The children were very respectful and solemn, befitting the poignant service. Our Head Boy and Head Girl laid a wreath at the Remembrance Service at St Mary's commemorating the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War.

This term has seen the school take part in a range of sporting activities, kicking off with the annual District Cross Country Event. 20 of our older children took part competing against many local schools. The course is long and very tough, but the children all showed great determination and perseverance, supporting and encouraging each other brilliantly (as is the Sundridge and Brasted way). All the children were stars for finishing the course but special congratulations go to Daisy who came 19th in her race.

Our football team started the season with a match against St John's Primary School, unfortunately with a loss. However, they showed great potential for the future and it was pleasing to see them working well as a team. Later this term, we have the opportunity for the older children to take part in the "Dare to Believe" sports festival at Valence School which gives them the opportunity to try out some paralympic sports.

The children celebrated Children in Need Day by wearing 'something spotty' and learning about the work of

the charity helping communities throughout the country. We raised an admirable £110 for this fantastic charity.

At Sundridge and Brasted we aim to look not just at the children's academic success but also to nurture future citizens of the world and, with this in mind, we held a 'UK parliament week' which is a national initiative aimed to teach children about parliament, how it works and the important role it plays in the running of our country. Each class was involved in activities ranging from mock polling stations, role-playing the House of Commons, understanding how laws are made and learning about the fight for women's votes.

We took part in Able Writers' Days, hosted by Radnor School, which gives children the opportunity to meet an author or poet who gives an inspirational talk about their work, the challenges they face and how they have achieved their success. Last week 2 of our Year 6 children joined the group and met Coral Rumble, a leading performance poet, and thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience.

I look forward to seeing lots of children and families at the Christingle service at Sundridge on Sunday 2nd December. On Thursday 6th December at 6pm at St Martin's Church, Brasted we will hold our Carol Service and all are welcome to come and join in a wonderful celebration. Our Nativity Play will be held at Westerham Village Hall on Friday 14th December with all of the school taking part.

Now that I am back to good health I look forward to keeping you up to date in the coming year. Recently I was reminded of a quote which I would like to end with:

*How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.'*

Anne Frank, "The Diary of a Young Girl"

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas.  
Anil Gaid, Headteacher



## Poems from Sundridge & Brasted Primary School

In the trenches there they stood  
Soldiers: Both bad and good  
Guns were firing  
All this work was definitely tiring  
Bodies were on the floor  
With death opening its door  
Poppies show remembrance.

Their hearts as light as a feather  
Carrying boots made of leather  
Snipers aiming at your head  
A bullet fires then you're dead.

Black shoes touched the ground  
Children all standing round  
Honouring the dead from the first world war,  
There in the battle field something stuck out like a  
giant taser  
But it's a small little flower named a poppy.

*by Jared*

Ruin, spreading across the land,  
Trenches wet and filthy,  
Trees fallen to their foe,  
Others befriend the enemy,  
Whilst soldiers fight for their lives.

Fighting for our future,  
Take time to thank these men,  
Tall and short,  
Timid and proud,  
The soldiers fought for their lives.

The war was won,  
After a great loss,  
They fell low,  
Their bodies left where poppies blow,  
Those soldiers fought for their lives.

So take a minute's silence,  
Just for respect,  
Remember these soldiers,  
On the eleventh day of the eleventh month  
Because those soldiers fought for their lives.

*by Rosie*

Today we're here to remember  
The people who saved us  
And risked their lives  
To free us.

Even though they suffered  
Had cold food and caught diseases,  
They carried on and eventually  
Saved us.

If it wasn't for these amazing boys and men we wouldn't  
be in this amazing world.

Hundreds were killed,  
Thousands were injured,  
And they only did it for us.

*by Alyssa*

This is why we celebrate remembrance day  
As the soldiers fought for us through hatred times  
That's why we wear poppies with pride.

During the colourless time  
Soldiers risked their lives  
Day after day  
All day  
Every day.

During this time, people went through trauma  
That we would never think about living through  
They were hard working  
Through the noisy land bangs  
Deadly guns that threatened people every day.

Through the colourless grey days  
'til the war ended.  
Poppies started to pop up,  
Red as blood that drenched the mud,  
Through the hatred period of time.

This is why we celebrate remembrance day  
As the soldiers fought for us during the hatred times  
That's why we wear poppies with pride.

*by Lilia*

## Letters

The Editor received an email regarding the traffic survey in Sundridge.

I am pleased to see that speeding is going to be noted in the main road. That is brilliant. I can offer help if you need more. It would be good if Chevening Road could be included. We got the 30 sign put up years ago, just near to The Haven which is the first house coming down the road towards the traffic lights. Unless vehicles are behind me at that point, nobody slows down and I have even been overtaken when I drive at 30 there. The speeding traffic sounds like Brands Hatch sometimes.

*Mary Walford (resident of Chevening Road)*

## Ide Hill Country Market

It is with great sadness that we report that the Ide Hill Country Market will be closing. The final day of trading will be on Wednesday 12th December.

Gill and her team wish to thank everyone who has supported the market over the last fifty years.

## The February 2019 edition

If you have any information for the "Dates for your Diary" section or an article that you'd like included in the February edition, please email by

Monday 21st January 2019 to  
[sundridgevillagenews@gmail.com](mailto:sundridgevillagenews@gmail.com)

## St Mary's Church Flowers

I am sure that many of you will have seen the stunning display of knitted poppies at the church for Remembrance and special thanks should be accorded to Barbara Lockey for her motivation of many knitters in Sundridge and beyond in producing over 800 poppies. Barbara created the designs for the displays, aided in no small measure by Dinah Godsall. It was a fitting tribute to the commemoration of the 100 years since the signing of the Armistice at the end of the First World War, not least for the young servicemen from Sundridge who were killed in action.

Our thoughts in December turn towards Christmas and the Flower Team would be grateful to receive any greenery with berries and poinsettias in time for the candlelit Carol Service which will take place on Sunday 16th December. We will be arranging flowers for Christmas on Saturday 22nd December from 10am and again would be grateful for any help that can be given. We are also looking for anyone who can help us on a more permanent basis, as the team is now down to 5 ladies, so please think about it and contact me for details. Duties are not onerous!! It would be sad if there were no flowers each week in church, but, without volunteers, that may happen.

*Beryl Norman 01959 563585*



## Christmas services

**Do come and join us in worship over the Christmas period.**

For our younger families, the Christingle service on Sunday 2nd December at 3.30pm is a lovely way to begin the season of Advent. If you like singing carols, please join us for our candlelit Carol Service on Sunday 16th December at 6.30pm. Mulled wine and nibbles will follow the service.

All of our services in the parish appear in this edition.

## December Dates for your Diary

**Saturday 1st Organ Recital**

St Martin's Church Brasted 7.30pm Admission £10.00, students £6.00. Tickets from gloria.topliss@outlook.com or pay at the door

**Wednesday 5th and Wednesday 12th Country Market**  
9.00 - 12.00 Ide Hill Village Hall

**Thursday 6th and Thursday 20th Mobile Library**  
10.30 - 11.00 Chapmans Close

## Sundridge and Brasted Horticultural Society

*'I Speak Arabic'*



Not many of us can say that. A brilliant talk by Irena Fairless followed the recent AGM of the Sundridge and Brasted Horticultural Society. Irena was telling the well supported meeting of long standing members, new members and visitors from Ide Hill of the recent trip to Sudan, not the first trip that she and Bruce have made travelling up the River Nile. Irena showed us super slides of the scenery as well as the many Sudanese people who made them so welcome and invited them into their homes, holding conversations with so many of them - in Arabic.

The meeting finished with lots of chat, cups of tea and homemade cakes provided by the Committee. Thank you all for coming.

Our next event is our annual Afternoon Tea when we collect subscriptions and give you next year's membership card and programme. This is to be held in the Brasted Pavilion on Wednesday 20th February next year, from 2pm to 4pm. Plenty of parking and transport provided. Just contact a member of the Society if you would like a



lift. Do please join us for a very sociable afternoon. This afternoon, as well as being very enjoyable, does save the Committee from spending time walking around the villages to collect your subscriptions and find that no-one is at home.

Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year to all and we look forward to seeing you all next year.

*Mary Walford*



## They Shall Not Grow Old

I was lucky to obtain a seat at the Stag cinema to see Peter Jackson's 'They Shall Not Grow Old'. Being a technical person I was interested to see the digital techniques used to restore the old films of life in the trenches of the First World War.

The original footage has been cleaned, scratches taken out, de-speckled, re-exposed and sharpened before being adjusted to fit the normal cinema film speed of 24 pictures a second. All this had to be completed before the colourisation process could begin. Professional lip readers were employed to decipher the dialogue before finding someone with the correct dialect to match the regiments to produce the sound track.



The film was supposed to be a 30 minute documentary, but the New Zealand director saw such potential in more than 600 hours of material that he convince the producer to fund a 100 minute film.

The soldiers were not used to being filmed on camera and didn't know how to react to it: some were shy, some

larked about. The only time that the soldiers ignored the camera was when they were wounded and were being tended to in field hospitals.



There is no actual footage of battle scenes, as the cameras were huge and would have been an easy target in an attack, but footage was shown of the practice drills. Jackson concentrated on the youth of the men and their boyish faces filled the screen.

Jackson was less concerned with the events leading up to the war. Instead he told the story of what it meant to be a soldier in war time, and what they experienced in the trenches: miles from home, subsisting on tinned food, living in flooded trenches, being gnawed at by rats, coping with lice and desperately trying to survive. It was amazing to see them joke, swap stories and play games in what little free time they had between the barrages of shells exploding on the ground and in the air.

*Bryan Lockey*

## Sundridge United Juniors Football Club

The latest sporting addition to the village, Sundridge United Juniors Football club (SUJFC) are thoroughly enjoying life at their new venue, so much so that they have now expanded to four teams in the short time they have been at the Sundridge Recreation ground, and have confirmed their status as part of the Crowborough League after Christmas.

SUJFC's inaugural matches for Under 7s, Under 8s and Under 10s were against Ide Hill, with whom they have formed a close bond. We have plans in place to grow even further by the start of next season and would like any prospective Players and more importantly Coaches to contact us to register their interest.

All new Players of all abilities are offered a free taster session and training. Matches are held every Saturday from 09.30 – 11.30.

All of the proceeds from the money raised by SUJFC are invested back into the Players, Equipment & Facilities. We are a non-profit organisation, everyone involved is a volunteer. SUJFC are very proud to represent the Village and look forward to the support of many more residents in the future.

For further details please contact Theresa Connelly on 07776 474242. Further details about SUJFC can be found on our website – [www.sundridgejuniors.co.uk](http://www.sundridgejuniors.co.uk)



## News from the Parochial Church Council

The PCC has decided that the collections on both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will continue to be split between the Sharp Memorial School for the blind in India and Porchlight - the homeless charity here in Kent.

Porchlight helps people who have nowhere to go and no-one to turn to. Some are homeless, others are struggling to cope with the pressures in their lives and need its support to stay on track.

It works across Kent and the south east, helping vulnerable and isolated people to get support with their mental health, housing, education and employment. It provides children, young people and adults with the advice, guidance and skills to live independently in the future, play an active role in their local community and fulfil their potential.

The Sharp Memorial School is situated in the foothills of the Himalayas in Rajpar. The connection with our parish is through Ruth Barrow, whom many of you will know. Ruth trained as a teacher with her friend Jeanette who then went on to work at the school for several years. Ruth has been out to visit the school on a number of occasions and PM, the Principal, and Sumana Samuel have visited England. The school has just under 100 resident blind children or with low vision and about 160 local children join for classes. This is beneficial all round and the school is held in high repute by the Rajpur community. When the children go into the bazaar to shop, the shopkeepers look out for them.

The school has suffered many setbacks, the most recent being when the local government decided to widen the road and asked



the school to demolish its front boundary wall, pull it back and rebuild it. The wall needed to be rebuilt as quickly as possible for the safety of the girls. There was understandably a lot of tension arising out of the notice served to demolish the wall and the worry about how the school would finance it. Fortunately, through generosity from our Bible Study group and other friends associated with the charity, enough money was raised for this purpose. The work on the wall is now almost finished, the pupils are safe and the school is thankful for the continued support from this parish.

In an article on-line about the school from the "Times of India", I read that Snehlata Singh, now in her sixties, came to the school as a child but her father left her and

never returned to fetch her. She says, "I have been in this school for almost all my life and I will continue teaching here till I breathe my last. I don't have sight, but this school has taught me that for vision one just needs eyes in one's soul and a strong will."

*Barbara Lockey*



And finally . . .

What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?  
"It's Christmas, Eve!"