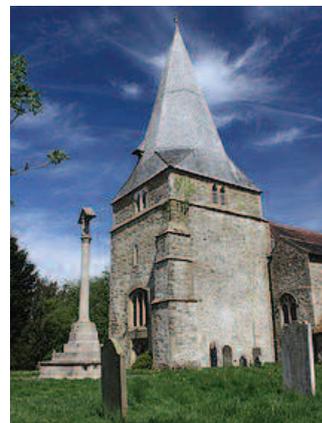


The Sundridge Village News

March 2018



In this issue we bring you an invitation to the Women's World Day of Prayer, news about the 70,273 Project - an ambitious aim to blanket the world in love, information about the forthcoming Sundridge Village fete, plus a full diary of events for the month of March.

The 70,273 Project

Have you heard of the 70,273 project?

I hadn't until I visited Rochester Cathedral recently. Hanging from the organ loft, behind the altar, were two huge banners bearing two crosses, each X being made up of individual three-dimensional crosses. It was a powerful sight.

The number that underlies the Project is the number of babies, children, men and women who were killed between January 1940 and August 1941 because they were deemed to be 'imperfect' and 'unworthy of life'. If two doctors put a red cross on an individual's medical assessment form, it was the kiss of death and they were killed by lethal injection, gassed, starved or shot.

It is the only death programme that bears Hitler's signature and it germinated from a letter that Hitler received from a farmer, asking for permission to kill his disabled son because he was 'useless'. For Hitler it was an opportunity to dispense of individuals who were judged to be an economic burden, or unfit for Nazi society. It is a little known and particularly dark period of human history; the victims only received a memorial in 2014 in Berlin, at Tiergartenstrasse 4, the headquarters of the programme.



The 70,273 Project is a mass petition for love and humanity, being signed in stitches from people all over the world, in over 100 countries. The white fabric represents the sheet of paper and the two red crosses the doctors' evaluation - it was such a simple way to end someone's life with the stroke of a pen - but in the 70,273 Project, this simple symbol takes on a new strength and symbolism. It becomes a mark of love, a celebration of being unique and of being perfectly imperfect. Each block of fabric is as different as its maker and the person they are commemorating.

The crosses in the Nave of the Cathedral represent 13,817 lives. These individual blocks have been made by thousands of people across the South East and beyond and have been sent by post, or collected at block-making gatherings and then sewn into quilts and pelmets at community

stitch-ins and get-togethers or worked on for many weeks by individuals.

It's a colossal achievement and people-power at its best. It is definitely worth a visit.

The display will remain in Rochester Cathedral until 12th March.

Parish Services for March 2018

Sunday 4th March Lent 3

09.15 Toys Hill Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Sundridge Holy Communion

Sunday 11th March Lent 4

08.00 Sundridge Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Ide Hill All Age Worship *Mothers Sunday*

Sunday 18th March Lent 5

08.00 Ide Hill Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Sundridge Morning Worship

Sunday 25th March Palm Sunday

08.00 Sundridge Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Ide Hill Holy Communion

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!

The Caribbean island of St Martin

At our parish harvest lunch in October a collection was held and sent to the Caribbean island of St Martin.

Following a memorial service at Ide Hill for the late Judith Livingstone her son, who had survived the recent devastation caused by Hurricane Irma, told us of the destruction affecting the whole community. We have received a letter from him thanking us for our generosity. In his letter he said:-

"The island and its people need all the help they receive from kind people such as yourselves and the funds will for sure bring a smile to those less lucky than us who lost everything they had."

Sundridge Village Garden Fete

Once again, by kind permission of Bruce Walker, the Sundridge Village Fete will take place at Bishop's Mead on Sunday 8th July from 2.00pm - 4.30pm. The band has been booked and the beer ordered!

The Committee is working hard to ensure that the day is filled with fun activities. There will be many of your favourite stalls, plus a few surprises, including a new dog show.

If you have anything suitable in the way of books, bottles or raffle prizes, please contact Fi Parkin on 07722 150227 or fparkin@avacade.com or one of the churchwardens.

We couldn't do this without your generosity and support.

Sevenoaks Philharmonic Society

The Sevenoaks Philharmonic Society presents the Easter Story on Saturday 24th March, 7.30pm at St Nicholas Church, Sevenoaks.

The words of Easter Story come from a collection of negro-spiritual sermons and tell the traditional story of Easter with a distinctly African American flavour, culminating in an uplifting chorus for Easter Day.

The music was composed by the one-time director of Sevenoaks Philharmonic Society, Albert Whitnall, and is dedicated to them.

Tickets available on the door (subject to availability), from choir members or sevenoaks-philharmonic.org.uk £14.00, £13.00 over 60s, £5.00 under 16s

The April edition

If you have any information for the 'Dates for your Diary' section, an article that you'd like included in the April edition, or know of anyone who would like to place an advertisement, please email by Wednesday 21st March 2018 to:

sundridgevillagenews@gmail.com

Music on the hill 2nd April 7.30 Ide Hill Church

In celebration of the completion of the repairs to the splendid 1881 organ, an Easter Concert will take place on 2nd April at Ide Hill Church. I am delighted to announce that two up-and-coming young organ scholars, Alex Deakin and George Hancock will be performing a mixed and enjoyable programme along with our own Jennie



St Martin after the storm

Dates for your Diary

March

Thursday 1st Mobile Library

Chapmans Close from 10.30 to 11.00am

Friday 2nd Women's World Day of Prayer

Christ Church Sevenoaks URC, Littlecourt Road
2.00pm - Please wear brightly coloured clothes

Wednesday 7th Country Market

Ide Hill Village Hall 9.00am - 12.00

Wednesday 7th Ide Hill Society

AGM followed by a Q&A by local beekeeper
Cliff Hayward Ide Hill Village Hall

Thursday 15th Mobile Library

Chapmans Close from 10.30 to 11.00am

Wednesday 21st Annual Parish Church Meeting

Ide Hill Village Hall Come and hear what the PCC has been doing during and on your behalf over the past year.

Saturday 24th Sevenoaks Philharmonic Society

Easter Story St Nicholas Church, Sevenoaks 7.30pm

Thursday 29th Maundy Meal

Ide Hill Village Hall Come and share in the re-creation of the Last Supper as we share a simple meal and take Communion together. Please contact Revd Pam for details

Friday 13th April Friends AGM

St Mary Sundridge, 7.00pm followed by a talk by Irena Fairless. Entrance free, all welcome

Country Market at Ide Hill every Wednesday from 9.00am to 12.00

Did you know that every Wednesday from March to December you can buy home-made savouries, cakes and biscuits, preserves, eggs, fresh vegetables, plants (seasonally) and various crafts at the Country Market at Ide Hill Village Hall? Come and visit us between 9.00am and noon and enjoy a cup of coffee with your friends!

We open for the new season on Wednesday 7th March 2018.

Brown who plays cello with the LSO and lives in the village. She will be accompanied by her daughter playing the flute, and a friend who will perform a trumpet voluntary with the organ. Tickets on sale soon in the Ide Hill Community shop to include refreshments.

Neil Arnott

Sundridge and Brasted Horticultural Society

A bitter cold wind and heavy rain. What weather for a February afternoon but nevertheless many members came to our tea party in the Brasted Pavilion on Wednesday 14th. Thank you all so much for your support. Many members' subscriptions were collected, cutting down our visits to members' homes for this purpose.

Obviously everyone who joined us and received the Programme for 2018 now knows what is planned for the future. I am giving just some information on what is arranged for this year to anyone who was not able to join us in Brasted and to anyone else who would like to join the Society.

The first meeting will be held in Sundridge village hall on Wednesday 14th March at 8pm, a talk by Steve Hammer

on 'The Plant Hunters'. That sounds intriguing so come along and listen to find out what this entails. In April the meeting will be in Brasted village hall at 8 pm on Wednesday 11th, a talk by Brian Nobbs on 'Wildlife in the Garden'.

We do currently charge £3.00 to visitors who come to these meetings but tea and biscuits are provided to all at no charge.

On May 9th we are joining the Ide Hill Gardening Society at the Ide Hill village hall for another talk. You can find out the subject by joining us there. Transport can be arranged for those who need it.

There are a couple of garden visits during the summer to Halstead and Oxted and even some Open Gardens in Sundridge. More details later.
Mary Walford

Women's World Day of Prayer

The interdenominational movement of the Women's World Day of Prayer invites everyone to attend one of over 5,000 services being held on Friday 2nd March with the title 'All God's Creation is Very Good!' An estimated three million people from around the world will join together in a service which has been written this year by the women of Suriname in South America.

Beginning in Samoa as the sun rises, the service will have been translated into more than 95 languages and 1000 dialects as we are reminded that we have responsibilities in caring for this wonderful world we live in. With its vast

rainforest and wealth of resources, Suriname asks us to pray for conservation and the protection of wildlife, through an awareness of pollution, misuse and abuse, as well as for the situation in Suriname and concerns for the future.

This is not simply a day of prayer for women, but for everyone who cares about our world and all those who live in it.

The service this year will take place at Christ Church Sevenoaks URC, Littlecourt Road, Sevenoaks TN13 3EF and begins at 2pm. You are asked to wear brightly coloured clothes.

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



Snowdrops, St Marys Sundridge

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. Membership forms from friendsofstmarys.co.uk or email richarddunckley@hotmail.com



The 70,273 Project banner hanging from the organ loft

And finally . . .

A preacher once started his sermon with the words, "I have so much to say I don't know where to begin".

A little boy piped up, "Could you start somewhere near the end?"