

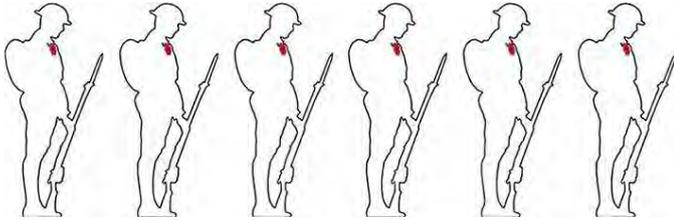
# The Sundridge Village News

## November 2018



In this issue we bring you news about our local pub, an invitation to see the magnificent display of poppies in St Mary's church, some delightful pictures from the recent Harvest Festival, a report from Sundridge & Brasted school and a dining experience in a prison.

### We Will Remember Them . . .



There is to be a Nationwide Day of Commemorative Events marking the Centenary of the end of the First World War, paying tribute to the millions killed or wounded in battle, and those on the home front who struggled amidst pain and loss to help ensure our freedom.

I wonder if the Chair of the Sundridge and Ide Hill Parish Council has been asked to take part in the Cry for Peace around the World at 19.05 as 100 Town Criers throughout the United Kingdom and other countries around the world join together in an International Cry for Peace?

1,000 cathedrals and churches will ring out their bells across the nation, and beyond, in celebration of Peace. Our ringers will ring prior to the 10.30 service at Sundridge and we are extremely grateful to them for this.



Organisers of the First World War centenary project have invited people to light beacons of their own to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day. It is intended to symbolise the light of hope that emerged from the darkness of war. People are being encouraged to build, buy or borrow a beacon – or build a bonfire, with the blessing of the emergency services.

If you happen to be near St Mary's church in Sundridge on Saturday 10 November, do pop in and see the magnificent display of knitted and crochet poppies that have been made by local people and further afield. It won't be quite on the scale of the 2014 Tower of London extravaganza, but there will be a striking similarity. The church will remain open over the weekend and the poppies will remain in the church until the end of November.

Everyone is invited to the service at Sundridge at 10.30 on November 11th where the traditional 2 minutes silence will be observed. Following the service, there will be a short ceremony round the War Memorial where wreaths will be laid by a Churchwarden, Chairman of the Parish Council and two pupils from the local Primary school.

### Parish Services for November 2018

#### Sunday 4th November

09.15 Toys Hill Holy Communion BCP  
10.30 Sundridge Harvest Holy Communion

#### Sunday 11th November Remembrance

08.00 Sundridge Holy Communion BCP  
10.30 Sundridge Morning Worship  
10.50 Ide Hill Morning Worship

#### Sunday 18th November

08.00 Ide Hill Holy Communion BCP  
10.30 Sundridge Morning Worship

#### Sunday 25th November

08.00 Sundridge Holy Communion BCP  
10.30 Ide Hill Holy Communion

#### December

#### Sunday 2nd December Advent

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

#### Rector

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

#### Churchwardens

**Sundridge**  
Althea Chapman  
althea.chapman@btinternet.com

**Sundridge**  
Barbara Lockey  
hixmix@btoopenworld.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!*

# Harvest Festival

Following the Harvest Festival service in Ide Hill church, a jolly service taken by Bryan Harris, we repaired to the Ide Hill Village Hall for a joint parish Harvest lunch. The table decorations were a feast for the eyes, as was the groaning table with a mouth-watering array of dishes for the stomach. It was lovely to espy a former Churchwarden and veteran member of the village enjoying themselves. Ide Hill primary school had held their own

Harvest Festival the previous Friday and we were able to deliver six full supermarket trolley-loads of comestibles to Loaves and Fishes, the food bank at St John's Sevenoaks. Sundridge and Brasted primary school held their own Harvest Festival a fortnight later and an equally generous quantity of food was taken to the food bank.

Both churches were beautifully decorated in autumnal colours as you will see from the following pictures.





## Christmas services

We are still finalising the Christmas services, but can confirm the following dates for your diary.

**Sunday 2nd December 15.30, Sundridge**

*Christingle service*

**Sunday 9th December 10.30, Ide Hill**

*Carol Service*

**Sunday 16th December 18.30, Sundridge**

*Carols by candlelight followed by mulled wine & nibbles*

The Christingle is a lovely service held at the beginning of Advent. This year the Christingle celebrates 50 years since the first service was held in England. All the money raised goes to the Children's Society which provides a network of services all over the country for vulnerable children. The Christingle collections raise millions of

pounds to support its work with young people who are experiencing a range of complex issues and who feel alone. Through Christingle, you can help give a child his or her first Christmas free from sadness and fear. If you've never been to a Christingle service, do come this year. Pupils from Sundridge and Brasted school will be singing during the service.



## The White Horse

The bad news is that the White Horse has closed, but the good news is that a huge refurbishment is under way bringing the pub into the 21st century and creating a modern country-style pub. Outside, the pub will be completely redecorated, including new signage and lighting and a seating area for drinkers and diners.

Father and son, Simon and Dan, have taken over the pub and their plans include introducing craft beer and real ales from the Kent area. They have between them a total of 50 years managing businesses from fine dining to country pubs. Wherever possible, they will source ingredients locally, giving customers great quality fresh food. Meat will be supplied by nearby Chart Farm and



fresh fish delivered daily from Griggs of Hythe. Simon and Dan will be creating 25 new jobs at the White Horse. *See you there!*

## Sundridge and Brasted Primary School

As always, we have been busy with lots of extra curriculum activities in recent weeks, as well as teaching the curriculum itself of course!

Continuing the theme of “Scrumdiddlyumtious” for Willow class and the visit to Pizza Express last month, Mrs Dyer, the class teacher, invited a herbalist from Chartwell Apothecary in Westerham to visit. She talked to the children about how plants can be used as medicine, as well as food, and brought lots of samples into the class for the children to see, touch and smell. They all tasted some herbal teas and cough syrups and learnt about the power of herbs as decongestants. It was a fascinating session and the children learnt a lot about the healing power of the plants around us.

The very next day, Josephine, a black feathered Bantam chicken, visited Willow class and showed them the eggs that she had laid. The children learnt about how chickens lay eggs, which eggs are fertile and are for hatching into chicks and which are infertile and laid for eating. After learning about the different methods of producing eggs, Willow class was inspired to write a letter to parliament asking the government to make cage/battery farms illegal. The class looks forward to receiving a reply.



The children noticed the vines of the pumpkins creeping across the ground and the yellow flowers that were not yet pumpkins. They enjoyed being on the farm very much and especially loved all the puddles along the way. They also took lots of pumpkins back to school to open, measure, paint and to make soup, which was delicious.

We have been busy with literacy events too. Cedar class invited their parents into school for their ‘The Tiger That Came To Tea’ tea party. Cedar class had been focusing on the story in their literacy work and many parents were able to join them for tea and to celebrate a good term’s work. In addition, Grant Koper, author and actor, joined us for a fun reading session of his new book “The Day Granny’s Knickers Blew Away”. He read to the whole school and took an array of questions from the children. The children then spent the rest of the day working on their own stories and discussing what it must be like to be an author.

We followed the author visit with a Cake/Biscuit Decorating Competition. The children were invited to decorate cakes or biscuits in the style of their favourite literary character. The entries were all superb, wonderfully creative and delicious! The cakes were judged, with much difficulty, by Ms Hamburger (Chair of Governors), a prize awarded per class and then the cakes were all sold at the end of the day to raise money for our new sensory room.

For sports, we took a small team of Year 4 children to the annual Aqua Splash event held at the Sennocke Sports Centre at Sevenoaks School. They were superb! Children have to be fairly strong swimmers to be able to swim lengths in the full-sized pool and compete and our team showed great spirit, sportsmanship and determination. One team member even had a go at a butterfly race, having never tackled that stroke before. Well done, team! We were very proud. The event ended with lots of fun and inflatables which was a great finish to some tough races.

*From the staff at Sundridge & Brasted Primary School*



Not to be outdone, Maple class recently visited Four Winds Farm in Tonbridge to pick a pumpkin! It was a foggy day and the children were very excited to get out and about to explore the muddy pumpkin field. They were able to find all the various types of pumpkins that were growing and were delighted to find some really giant ones!

## Speeding in Sundridge

The Parish Council has agreed to commission a speed survey. An independent company has been instructed to carry out a speed survey and this will take place shortly. Once the speeding statistics have been received, the Parish Council will make further decisions depending on the results. Brasted Speedwatch regularly records vehicles on the A25 either entering Brasted from Westerham or

from Sundridge over the speed limit. In 78 Speedwatch sessions during the last 3 months, almost 3,000 vehicles were observed driving between 35mph and 71mph.. A quote from Kent Speedwatch states “Speeding is not carried out by a small deviant minority, which makes it an emotive subject for most of the population”.

## Thanksgiving & Memorial Hour Sunday 4th November 15.30 Ide Hill

Please join us as we remember our loved ones. Come and light a candle in their memory and reflect on their lives. Stay for the whole hour or just for 5 minutes. Prayers, candles, quiet music and a welcome await you.

## The December edition

If you have any information for the "Dates for your Diary" section or an article that you'd like included in the December/January edition, please email by Wednesday 21st November to:-  
[sundridgevillagenews@gmail.com](mailto:sundridgevillagenews@gmail.com)

## Sundridge and Brasted Horticultural Society

A small garden can take as much time to maintain as a large garden" were the words Tessa Allen used to introduce her illustrated talk on 'Maintaining a small garden', at Ide Hill Village Hall for a joint meeting of the two Societies, on Wednesday 10 October.

Tessa was making a welcome return to Ide Hill Gardening Society. She said that people with small gardens inevitably fill every available space, and explained to us the best ways to use pots, raised beds, small shrubs and trees to the best advantage. It was a very interesting talk and we were pleased to again link up with Ide Hill Gardening Society.

Our last meeting of the year will be our AGM on Wednesday 14 November at 2.30pm at Brasted Village

Hall. After a short AGM we will be entertained by Irena Fairless with another of her excellent talks, this time on 'The Splendours of the Sudan'. This will be followed by refreshments.

Our Membership Secretary, Heather Hardy, has recently moved to the Isle of Wight with her husband Chris. We are very sorry that she has left Sundridge, but wish them both every happiness in their new home. We did not replace Karina Jackson when she left the Committee last year, so if there is anyone who would like to join us on the Committee, we would be very grateful.

Please watch this space for details of the 'Afternoon Tea' on Wednesday 13 February 2019 at 2.30pm – details will be announced later. *Beryl Norman*

## 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.

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

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

## Sundridge Village Community Land Trust

The CLT is now registered at Companies House and charitable status is being applied for. There will be a public meeting on Sunday 25 November at Sundridge Village Hall. Open viewing 2pm, with the meeting at 4pm. The plans will be presented to Sevenoaks District Council as a pre-application for consultation and will be available for viewing and discussion at the meeting. This will include plans involving the local Primary School, the Medical Centre, Village Hall, Social Club and Recreation Ground. Housing will include a senior mini-development and starter homes. There will be information regarding traffic calming and new access for development on the A25 as well as flood mitigation.

## November Dates for your Diary

**Wednesday 7th Country Market, Ide Hill Village Hall**  
And every following Wednesday 9.00am - 12.00 noon

**Thursday 8th Mobile Library**  
10.30 - 11.00 Chapmans Close

**Sunday 11th Old Time Music Hall Evening**  
7.30pm at Brasted Village Hall. An evening of entertainment to include song, dance, comedy and magic. Tickets £8.00 adults, £5.00 children from the Stanhope Arms

**Wednesday 14th Sundridge & Brasted Horticultural AGM**

2.30pm at Brasted Village Hall. This will be followed by afternoon tea and a talk by Irena Fairless on "Splendours of the Sudan"

**Sunday 25th Open Meeting Sundridge Village Hall Community Land Trust**

2.00pm viewing of plans, 4.00pm meeting

## 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](http://friendsofstmarys.co.uk) or email [richarddunckley@hotmail.com](mailto:richarddunckley@hotmail.com)

## The Clink Restaurant in Brixton prison

I'm sure many of you will remember Michael Minter who was a Reader at St Mary's Sundridge. One of his passions was prison reform and he introduced his weekly Bible group to Prisons Week. During this week we were encouraged to pray for the needs of all those affected by prisons: prisoners and their families, victims of crime and their communities, those working in the criminal justice system and the many people who are involved in caring for those affected by crime on the inside and outside of our prisons.

I was recently invited to dine at the Clink restaurant in Brixton prison. Interesting to note that Her Majesty's favourite hotel (Claridge's) and Her Majesty's prison are quite a contrast, but they do have one thing in common: they both offer restaurants open to the public. I have never dined at Claridge's, but jumped at the chance to dine at the Clink restaurant in Brixton prison.

The Clink Charity's sole aim is to reduce re-offending through the rehabilitation of prisoners by training them and placing graduates into employment in the hospitality and horticultural industries upon release. The issue of re-offending has become one of the most pressing challenges facing society today. It is now recognised that the record levels of inmates in prison is not helping to reduce crime. Each prisoner at the Clink trains for 40 hours per week and there is a 49% reduction in re-offending.

There is quite understandably a thorough vetting and checking process before entering the restaurant. There's a comprehensive list of what you can't take into the prison - not even tissues, as these could be laced with drugs. I was escorted through to the restaurant, pausing as one door was closed and locked before the next one was opened. The final airport style 'pat down' search all added to the experience.



The restaurant itself was beautifully decorated. There were smart leather banquettes and elegant tables and chairs. We were shown to our table by a slightly apprehensive waiter but, to be honest, so was I at this stage. On the menu was listed an amuse-bouche with a 'mocktail'. I asked the waiter what the amuse-bouche was. He explained that it was a sort of starter before the starter - I couldn't have put it better myself. It was a delicious mackerel and Asian 'slaw delight. This was followed by a good selection of starters and mains. The meals were well presented, though they didn't all arrive at the same time! The puddings were thoroughly enjoyable. The dark chocolate and orange délice, orange crisp tuile and salted caramel ice cream was a firm favourite on our table.

You need to judge it carefully before asking personal questions, no

matter how inquisitive you are. Our waiter Sammy was very happy to talk about his background and experiences but, like anyone one meets on the outside, some were less so. Sammy was very engaging and I nearly forgot where I was, but was brought sharply back to reality on leaving the restaurant as, once outside, with the final closing of the doors and the coiled barbed wire around the perimeter glinting in the setting sun I was aware I was free.

*Barbara Lockey*

## All Quiet on the Western Front at the Fleapit Cinema Club

On Friday 9th November The Fleapit Cinema Club, which meets in Westerham Hall, are showing the silent film All Quiet on the Western Front to commemorate the end of the 1st World War. The film will be accompanied live by Stephen Horne and Martin Pyne. Stephen is the British Film Institute musician of choice to accompany silent films.

Their notes on All Quiet on the Western Front tell us "The release of the Jazz singer in 1927 did not mark the immediate end of silent films, and while the talkie version

of this, the first cinematic adaption of Erich Maria Remarque's classic 1929 novel is better known, tonight's International Sound Version (shot simultaneously on a second camera for non English speaking countries) actually has the emotional edge. We are equally delighted the film will be introduced by Dr Toby Haggish who again joins us from the Imperial War Museum. A unique opportunity to mark the centenary of the war's end."

There may be a few tickets available on the night.

## And finally . . .

Exam howlers

God created the world and then he created Adam and Ebay