

The Sundridge Village News

November 2019



In this issue we bring you a perplexing matter in 1894, an update on saving the “Fox & Hounds” pub, pre-Christmas events, the latest news from Sundridge & Brasted School and a hairy experience!

Christmas services

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

Sunday 1st December 15.30, Sundridge
Christingle service

Sunday 15th December 18.30, Sundridge

Carol by Candlelight followed by mulled wine and nibbles

Sunday 22nd December 16.00, Ide Hill

Carol Service

The Christingle is a lovely service held at the beginning of Advent. The money raised from the service goes directly to The Children’s Society which runs vital services that help this country’s most vulnerable young people. Their life-changing work is driven by the ideas and voices of young people. By listening, supporting and acting to change children’s lives, The Children’s Society brings hope to young people who are suffering, so that they can enjoy the bright future every child deserves.

Pupils from Sundridge & Brasted Primary School will be singing at the service and will bring with them a ‘Share the light’ candle-shaped money box in which they’ve collected spare change from family and friends. If you would like one of these money boxes to fill up and bring to the service, please contact Barbara Lockey.

We Will Remember Them . . .

For those of you who knitted poppies for our First World War centenary project last year you will be pleased to hear that the poppies, albeit in reduced numbers, will be decorating the church once again for the Remembrance service on Sunday 10th November at 10.30. The church will be open from Saturday 9th November through to and including Monday 11th. Please do pop in and see them.



Parish Services for November 2019

Sunday 3rd All Saints

09.15 Toys Hill Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Sundridge Holy Communion

Sunday 10th Remembrance Sunday

08.00 Sundridge Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Sundridge Remembrance Service
10.50 Ide Hill Remembrance Service

Sunday 17th

08.00 Ide Hill Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Sundridge Morning Worship

Sunday 24th

08.00 Sundridge Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Ide Hill Holy Communion

Parish Services for December 2019

Sunday 1st Advent Sunday

09.15 Toys Hill Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Ide Hill Family Friendly Service to celebrate the Christmas Tree Festival
10.30 Sundridge Holy Communion

Rector

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

Sundridge

Althea Chapman
althea.chapman@outlook.com

Churchwardens

Sundridge

Barbara Lockey
hixmix@btopenworld.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!

Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival took place at St Mary's, Sundridge, on Sunday 6th October and a splendid display of flowers in Harvest colours, along with fruits, hops etc, greeted the congregation. All these were particularly welcomed as no fresh flowers had been in Church for some weeks due to the disruption caused by the construction work to create a new kitchen and toilet, now thankfully nearing completion, and which will be a great asset to the Church.

The Flower Team were very happy to arrange the wonderful flowers kindly donated by Donald and Isabel Brown, of Woodside Road, on the occasion of their Golden Wedding celebration in the Church on Friday, 4th October, and which they were happy to leave for us to enjoy at the Harvest Service. We thank Donald and Isabel for this very kind gesture.

My thanks to Dinah and Barbara for all their help, also to Fiona and Alison for their great display in the Tower Room - a first for them having been inspired by attending the Flower Workshop earlier in the year. That is very encouraging and we welcome anyone else who might like to assist with Christmas decorations or can provide greenery (especially with berries). Please contact me if you would like to help in any way.

Finally, my thanks to Maggie and Barbara for their aftercare of the flowers and clearing everything away whilst I was away on holiday.

Beryl Norman 01959 563585



Our Parish Harvest produce went to our local foodbank, Loaves and Fishes, where families receive a large bag of non-perishable food every week of the year. The Harvest service happened to coincide with the end of 'Freedom Week' where, across the Diocese, we have been encouraged to raise awareness of the problem of Modern Slavery. The theme this year was vulnerability, raising awareness of the vulnerability of the people served by churches in social action projects and in the community, so donating our harvest gifts to the local foodbank tied in perfectly.

News from Sundridge and Brasted Primary School

The first term of the new academic year is at an end and it has certainly been busy. We enjoyed an Aqua Splash event in which our young team excelled. We have run Forest School in very poor weather but our hardy children have enjoyed it nonetheless, and we went yellow on 10th October in support of World Health Day. We raised money for the YoungMinds charity and spent the day discussing the issue of mental health and well-being, which included mindfulness workshops, yoga and aerobics.

We have also joined the The Book People's 'Big Book Boost' which is a scheme to earn us free books for the library and classes. Anyone, anywhere can join in to help us: when you make an online purchase of over £10 with The



Book People, you have the option to select our school at the checkout and £1 goes into our account to spend on new books at a later date. If you are shopping at The Book People, please think of us!!

We look forward to next term, leading up to Christmas with lots of our annual events including our Carol Service at St Martin's Church, Our Nativity Play, Carols Round the Tree (which is always a bit of a squeeze with children and parents in our hall) but a much-loved event and, of course, our youngest class taking their hand-made Christmas tree decorations up to St Mary's Church to hang them on the tree. Lots to look forward to after the half-term break.

Christmas Tree Festival & Concert at Ide Hill church

We now have 15 local organisations signed up to decorate a Christmas Tree for our first Christmas Tree Festival at Ide Hill church. Please come and visit the church on Saturday 30th November. Tickets are also now on sale for the concert in the evening, showcasing local

talent. Tickets are £10.00 and can be obtained from the Ide Hill Community Shop or at either of the churches. Don't forget that the trees will be auctioned off at the end of the evening with all proceeds going towards the upkeep of our wonderful churches.

The Hygiene Bank

14 million people in the UK live in poverty. 4.5 million of those are children. Many turn to foodbanks in order to survive and the UK has seen a 13% increase in the use of foodbanks last year alone. Long before they visit a foodbank people tend to stop buying hygiene products. This is hygiene poverty, the UK's hidden problem. Being clean isn't a luxury but a basic human dignity. 8 out of 10 teachers say that pupils are bullied for hygiene reasons. Hygiene poverty is a lot closer than you think.

To help the UK tackle this growing problem, the Hygiene Bank was launched. The Hygiene Bank's mission

is to eradicate hygiene poverty in the UK by inspiring local communities to donate hygiene essentials, beauty and personal care products for men, women and children in need. The churches in Sundridge and Ide Hill support the Hygiene Bank and your donations can be left in the yellow containers found just inside the churches.

As Christmas approaches and the shops are full of special offers that we buy on impulse, spare a thought for those less fortunate and donate something we don't really need to the Hygiene Bank. It might make all the difference to a family.

Update on the Fox & Hounds Pub

As reported in an earlier edition, the Toys Hill community want to raise funds to buy the "Fox and Hounds" pub. They already have a number of large investments pledged, but they need more. The building is not in a good state and needs complete refurbishment of the interior and the kitchen, which has been left untouched since the 1980s.

A well-attended meeting was held at Toys Hill Village Hall recently where the pitfalls and advantages of setting

up a community take-over were discussed. There were naturally a few doubters but also plenty of enthusiasm and many in the hall spoke enthusiastically about the possibility of a brilliant future for this much-loved pub. It already has an ACV (Asset of Community Value) as well as an energetic band of people who have been fundraising tirelessly. Would you like to invest in this? How sad it would be if it became just another statistic in the 913 pubs 'available for sale' in the UK today.

The December/January edition

If you have any information for the "Dates for your Diary" section or an article that you'd like included in the November edition please email by Thursday 21st November 2019 to:-
sundridgevillagenews@gmail.com

Sundridge and Brasted Horticultural Society

Just in case any of you are feeling bored or cannot think what needs doing in your garden, I will start with a few instructions and tips for propagation using your shrubs and other plants so that next year you will have many more of these.

Use only cuttings from this year's plants. Leave any bought packets of suitable compost in a place to warm up slightly as they may possibly have been left out in the cold where you bought it. After planting in pots, water with tap water, never with water from tanks or butts as this may contain some nasties. (Such water will be perfectly all right for use on general watering of plants). Leave for several weeks for the roots to become established. Under no circumstances lift the cuttings to see if roots have started to form!

These tips, among a few others, were given to us by Tessa Allen in her talk 'Taking Cuttings' at a recent meeting at Ide Hill hosted by the Ide Hill Gardening Society. Thank you, Ide Hill, for the invitation.

Our next event will be on Wednesday 13th November in the afternoon from 2.30 to 4 pm in the Village Hall at Brasted. This will be our AGM, followed by a talk by one of our favourite speakers, Irena Fairless, on 'Beautiful Balkans' and - afternoon tea. All sounds good.

Do please join us. Obviously, as usual, transport can be provided.

Mary Walford



Craft Fair at Ide Hill Village Hall

We are delighted to announce the return of our local Christmas Craft Fair in the Ide Hill Village hall, taking place between 10am and 4pm on Saturday 30th November.

Not only are the organisers bringing together a wonderful selection of local crafts and crafters, offering unique handmade items ideal for original Christmas gifts, they will also be raising money for Guide Dogs for the Blind who will be in attendance. In addition to the craft stalls, there will be fundraising fun and games for the children, a charity raffle, hot food and other refreshments for sale – teas, coffees, mulled wine and mince pies.

Craft stalls include: jewellery, pottery, glassware, water-colours, hand-printed silk items, Christmas bunting, decorations and garlands, cards, fresh Christmas wreaths and arrangements, candles, natural body products, cakes, pebble pictures, knitted toys, bags, advent calendars, sewn and crocheted items, local honey, jams and chutneys plus a few more, making quite a collection..... Christmas solved!

We hope to see you there.

For further information please contact Lisa Conway on 01959 563094 or via email: lisa.conway@btinternet.com

If you can help beforehand by making or donating cakes and biscuits, or on the day by serving teas and coffees, washing-up and manning a stall please contact Di Pickard on dipickard2@aol.com or Si Pickard 07721 613182

Dates for your Diary

November

Thursday 7th Mobile Library

10.30 - 11.00 Chapmans Close Sundridge

Wednesday 13th Horticultural Society

2.30 - 4pm Brasted Afternoon Tea and talk "Beautiful Balkans" by Irena Fairless

Wednesday 16th & Sunday 17th

Archive weekend, 11am - 4pm Toys Hill Village Hall

Thursday 21st Mobile Library

10.30 - 11.00 Chapmans Close Sundridge

Saturday 23rd St Martin's Church, Brasted

7.30pm Ilyria Concert by Candlelight tickets 07920 488716 or smartinsbrastedheritagetrust@gmail.com

Weekend of 30th November to 1st December

Christmas Tree Festival and Concert in Ide Hill church

Saturday 30th Christmas Craft Fair

Ide Hill Village Hall

Saturday 30th Handel's Messiah

7.30pm St Nicholas Church, Sevenoaks

December

Sunday 15th Carol Service by Candlelight

18.30 St Mary's Sundridge

Sunday 15th Carol Service

16.00 St Mary's Ide Hill

Outward looking, not inward judging

An elderly man (but not in his eyes) took himself off for a haircut, as he was getting odd looks from his wife, a clear indication he resembled the wild man of Borneo. To his dismay, his usual hairdresser was on a day off; with one brief look at his substitute, he turned on his heels, bumping into another elderly gentleman also wishing to have a haircut. They both decided the replacement was not old enough to be let loose with scissors; well, not on their hair anyway. They tut-tutted about the inconvenience and went on their way, saying they would return tomorrow.

The next day, our man gave it another go. Alas, there was only the youth! Having paid to park, he sighed and grudgingly accepting the proffered chair. The two chattered the usual banalities about health and weather whilst ascertaining the necessary reduction in foliage.

Do you live in The Parish of Sundridge with Ide Hill?

Are you aware that there is a fund in the parish to help residents who have financial difficulties?

If you (or anyone you know) are experiencing financial hardship and would like to know more about the fund, please do contact one of the Trustees listed below. All enquiries will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Mrs J Rutter
52 Chapmans Road
Sundridge
Sevenoaks
TN14 6DS
Tel: 01959 565334
jorutter@hotmail.co.uk

Mrs L Denbigh
3 The Pantyles
Goathurst Common
Ide Hill
TN14 6BX
Tel: 01732 750435
liz.stagecoach@btinternet.com

The talk developed, revealing the progress of the youth from school to girl-friend and further education, then on to his future employment. Having worked his way gaining experience, the young man told his story of how, desperate to get a job with one employer busy with a queue of patrons, he grabbed an apron from the empty chair, offered the next customer a free haircut whilst averring to the boss that he would pay him if the customer was dissatisfied with the result. He got the job!

His ambition is to join a leading London hairdresser. The cut finished, the impressed gent viewed his stylishly cut hair with satisfaction, and, wishing the young fellow good wishes in his career, he left more than the usual tip and departed, feeling somewhat mortified at having been so judgemental.

Sevenoaks Philharmonic Society



The next concert of the Sevenoaks Philharmonic Society will be held on Saturday 30th November 7.30pm at St Nicholas Church, Sevenoaks.

The conductor will be Robyn Sevastos. Robyn has conducted the choir since 2001, becoming Music Director in 2002.

Tickets are £14; £13 over 60s; £5 under 16s, and can be purchased at:

www.sevenoaks-philharmonic.org.uk
or on the door (subject to availability)

Toys Hill Archive Exhibition - Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th November

Toys Hill Village Hall is pleased to open its history archive in November for a weekend intended to appeal both to local people and to those from further afield. Toys Hill and its historic Village Hall have strong links to Octavia Hill, the early days of the National Trust, Chartwell and other local estates. The archive of documents and photographs illustrates the changing character of village life and agriculture since the end of the 19th Century.

The Toys Hill Village Hall will be open from 11.00am to 4.00pm on both days.

Free admission. Everyone welcome.



Perplexing Matters in 1894 - Taken from the Sundridge & Ide Hill Parochial Magazine

Sometimes people are perplexed by the difference between a Rector and a Vicar, a Parson and a Priest, and similar terms.

On Tuesday, Feb 20th, there will be a little meeting in the Village Room at 8 p.m. when the Rev. W.A. Raikes, who is always clear, will explain the meaning of some of these words in common use. This will be a "round table conference" for men only, not a lecture but a talk.

Glad I wasn't around then! Ed

And finally . . .

A solicitor drafted a will for an elderly couple who were apprehensive about discussing death. When they arrived at his office, he sat them down and asked, "Now, which of you wants to go first?"