

The Sundridge Village News

October 2018



In this issue we bring you news from Sundridge & Brasted School as the new term begins, a warning to gardeners if you're planning on planting bulbs, an enterprising idea to put your unused and unwanted toiletries to good use and a review of the recent live screening of a Shakespeare play at the Stag.

From Foodbank to Toiletries bank!

Some of you may know about the 'Loaves and Fishes' Foodbank that operates from St John's Church Hall. It supports up to 40 families with young children, giving them a large bag of non-perishable food every week of the year. Food is donated by churches of all denominations across the district. Local schools, other charitable organisations and small business also support the project, as do many individuals. Sainsbury has supported it since its inception. Parishioners from our parish, both in Ide Hill and Sundridge, contribute on a fairly regular basis and there is a plastic box in both churches for contributions.

I don't know whether you read recently an article in the local newspaper about an enterprising mum who has started working out of her living room to collect essential

toiletries for the disadvantaged in Kent. It began when she sent a plea on WhatsApp asking for unused and unwanted toiletries that she could package and send to local foodbanks. When she approached the Loaves and Fishes foodbank she was shocked to find a huge demand for everyday items such as razors, soaps and tampons. She was left speechless by a local family's excitement in getting new toothbrushes. There are now 15 collection points throughout Sevenoaks, Edenbridge, Borough Green and Tonbridge.

The Parish, through both our churches, regularly collects and delivers items for the foodbank.

If you'd like to contribute to this initiative, please contact one of the Churchwardens.

Plea for Poppies

I now have just under 300 poppies that have been crafted by various people from the village and further afield who have taken up the challenge of supplying me with 1,000 knitted or crochet poppies to decorate the church to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War. There is still time to dust off your knitting needles, but you might have a problem locating red wool, which seems to be in very short supply!

The church will be open on Saturday 10th November for you to view the poppies ready for our special Remembrance Day service on November 11th. The poppies will continue to be on display throughout November.



Please get in touch with Barbara Lockey if you have poppies awaiting collection.

Parish Services for October 2018

Sunday 7th October

09.15 Toys Hill Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Sundridge Harvest Holy Communion

Sunday 14th October

08.00 Sundridge Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Ide Hill All Age Worship

Sunday 21st October

08.00 Ide Hill Holy Communion BCP
10.30 Sundridge Morning Worship

Sunday 28th October

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!

Sundridge and Brasted Primary School

We have started the academic year at Sundridge and Brasted with new children settling into, not only Reception but all other classes as well. It was lovely to see all the children back and refreshed from their summer break. During the summer holidays we had parts of the school redecorated and a decking area built outside the Reception class to ensure the children enjoy learning outside all year long, as this is an integral part of Early Years' provision. I have asked my Reception teacher to give an update on her class:

It has been an exciting time in Maple class at Sundridge and Brasted Primary as 11 new children begin their school adventure! They have settled down wonderfully, firstly attending for just the morning and then staying for lunch, which they shared with their Year 6 buddies. From Monday 17th September they stayed all day like the other children.

These first few weeks have been dedicated to settling down. One of the first jobs was to establish our class rules and then get to know each other. The teachers have also been enjoying getting to know each child and their families, learning what the children love to do, how they learn best and where they are academically.

So far the children have been really drawn to the woodwork area so we have spent time getting to grips with real saws and hammers! Some great little models have been made already, so who knows where we'll be by the summer!



Although it is early days, the children have already shown a love for writing whilst role playing in their self-made McDonalds, writing orders and making signs.

We also have an exciting fluffy addition named Monty, our Continental Giant Class rabbit. He has taken to the children straight away and they are enjoying caring for him, feeding him and watching him explore the classroom and garden. It has been a great start to school so far and we are very proud of all our new children. Mrs Amy Cooper, Reception teacher

Exciting times in Maple class with more news throughout the year. I acknowledged in the past year how important learning outside the classroom was to the school and Willow class kicked off their topic, 'Scrumdiddlyumptious', with a trip to Pizza Express to learn about how pasta and pizzas were made, the ingredients used and the practical skills required. The



children had a tour of the restaurant and made their own pizzas, not only enjoying the experience but also learning much to take back to the classroom. We have also started Forest school again this year after its success last year. We are hoping to be able to use a site on land behind St Mary's Church later in the year to supplement the experience for the children (with the permission of the landowner). Our Year 6 children have started their last year at Sundridge and Brasted with increased responsibilities, all of them having been elected prefects and the roles of House Worship Captains, Sports Captains and House Captains being distributed according to their skills and interests.

We are very proud of our ethos of taking increased responsibility as you progress through the school. I am confident that this Year 6 will do an amazing job and I look forward to working with them. We pride ourselves on being very much a community school and are always looking for volunteers to help out in school, particularly for the Big Read. This is held every Friday from 9.00am to 9.35am when the children split into small groups of about 5 with an adult to read and interpret a quality text. This gives the children high-quality intervention in reading and comprehension. If this interests you or you are able to volunteer in other fields please speak to Mrs Helen Prestage in the school office, on 01959 562694.

I look forward to updating you throughout the year.

*Anil Gaind,
Head Teacher*

Ride and Stride - Happy Day - 2018

I am so grateful to all my friends and colleagues for sponsoring me on the recent Ride and Stride bike Ride. It is wonderful to report that both churches had visitors, with a large walking party from St Mary's Riverhead signing in at Ide Hill, and that overall we raised £955 for this very worthwhile cause. We were blessed with excellent weather and it stayed largely dry so, after an interesting day



taking in Westerham, Shoreham, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells, Langton Green, Penshurst, Chiddingstone and many churches on the way, I signed off at 43 churches and 55 miles. It would be lovely to have a few more from the parish joining me on this enjoyable day next year.

Neil Arnott, Churchwarden Ide Hill

Sundridge and Brasted Horticultural Society

Nuts and more nuts! I thought that is what squirrels lived on but apparently they like digging up planted bulbs, particularly the very special and expensive ones. At the meeting on 12th September in Sundridge, we were told this in a brilliant talk given by Dr Gillian Regan, assisted by her husband, Dr Peter Regan. We were shown pictures of their large 'Plantaholic's Garden' in the countryside, absolutely full of beautiful specimens of very exotic plants, not all of which have been eaten.

At this meeting we were joined by Ide Hill Gardening

Society members. We were actually outnumbered by their members. The Committee does work hard running the Sundridge and Brasted Society, arranging very high-quality speakers and organising outings to super and fairly local gardens. Please do support us.

Our next meeting will be at Ide Hill with their Gardening Society. We look forward to a talk by Tessa Allen on 'Taking Cuttings'. Shall we try and outnumber them? As usual, transport can be arranged for anyone needing it.

Mary Walford

Fever Pitch

What a thrill it was to have Fever Pitch come to St Marys, Sundridge. It was a magnificent evening of brilliant singing. Two war poems, "Lights Out" by Edward Thomas and "May 1915" by Charlotte Mew, both of which have been set to music by David Bednall as Songs of Remembrance, were read and then sung immediately after the reading, very beautiful and very moving. The programme was superbly crafted and included, amongst others, Smoke gets in your eyes, My love is like a red red rose, Wonderful world, Leaving on a jet plane and Singing in the Rain. Truly something for everyone and every piece sung wonderfully and with great passion. The Church rang to the sound of beautiful music.



Doodlebugs and Rockets A talk by Bob Ogley

On Sunday 7th October at Toys Hill Village Hall at 7pm, Bob Ogley will be giving a talk. Bob is an engaging speaker and his talks are hugely enjoyable. Tickets (to include a drink) £10.00

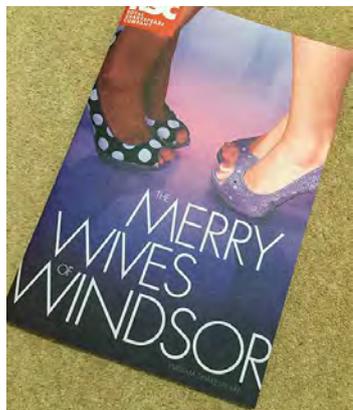
Please contact Sally Jarvis for tickets and information sallyjarvis@gmail.com

The November 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 Friday 19th October to:- sundridgevillagenews@gmail.com

The Royal Shakespeare Company comes to The STAG

Well, almost! As you may well be aware, over the past couple of years the RSC's productions of some of Shakespeare's plays have been streamed directly from a live performance in Stratford into a cinema near you. This time it was "The Merry Wives of Windsor", not one of



the Bard's better known plays and possibly a little difficult to lift from the 16th century into the 21st? Not a bit of it! The RSC surpassed itself in transforming the Wives of Windsor into Essex Girl (as the Director, Fiona Laird, put it in an interview, "Shakespeare Meets TOWIE") and the humour became readily accessible to all.

There was an English Tourist Board rosette over the tavern, blue non-parking signs outside the meccano-like houses, Sir John in gaudy MCC jacket and socks – and did I espy a glitter ball appearing briefly over the final dance? The music was joyful: Elizabethan shawms and crumhorns and clarions over a modern percussive bass and, as the grand finale of the midnight gathering began, a pastiche of the opening bars of Handel's "Zadok the Priest" (more often associated with a sovereign's coronation).

The story line: sassy pair of ladies; posh gent, fat and repulsive; ladies outwit gent + their own husbands; cuckold's horns which Falstaff would affix on husbands' heads end up on his own etc Motto: The Girls Done Good.

This is one of the first plays in the English language to feature characters from the middle classes and also to celebrate women as prime movers of the action.

The actors: Beth Cordingly as Mistress Ford (wife), Rebecca Lacey as Mistress Page (wife), Ishia Bennison as Mistress Quickly (housekeeper), Katy Brittain (hostess of the tavern) and David Troughton as Sir John Falstaff. All brilliant!

Look out for further screenings from the RSC, the Royal Opera House and the Royal Ballet.



Kent Painters' Group

KPG is one of Kent's premier art exhibitions. It has raised over £290,000 for the charities it supports. This year entry to the exhibition will be free.

We shall be open all weekend, with the opportunity to actually meet the artists on Friday evening and to purchase unframed works on Saturday and Sunday.

Friday 26 October: 6.30pm - 9.00pm

Opening drinks party with the artists - all welcome

Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 October: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Exhibition and sale - including unframed works. Lunch and refreshments available.

Local artist Debra Barr-Smith is delighted to be exhibiting with the annual Kent Painters group show at Sevenoaks School. This is one of the paintings she will be showing "Country Flowers" all proceeds of sales of artwork to go to local mental health charities.



October Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 3rd Country Market, Ide Hill Village Hall

And every following Wednesday 9.00am - 12.00 noon

Saturday 7th "Doodlebugs and Rockets" -

A Talk by Bob Ogle 7pm Toys Hill Village Hall

Wednesday 10th "Taking Cuttings" by Tessa Allen

8.00pm, Ide Hill Village Hall Joint meeting with Sundridge & Brasted Horticultural Society and the Ide Hill Gardening Society

Thursday 11th Mobile Library

10.30 - 11.00 Chapmans Close

Sunday 21st Concert, singers from Estonia

St Mary's Church Riverhead

Thursday 25th Mobile Library

10.30 - 11.00 Chapmans Close

26th, 27th and 28th October Kent Painters exhibition

Sevenoaks School TN13 1HU

And finally . . .

Read in a pew sheet - not ours!

Potluck supper Sunday at 5.00pm - prayer and medication to follow.