

# The Parish Magazine

Reaching out to the community

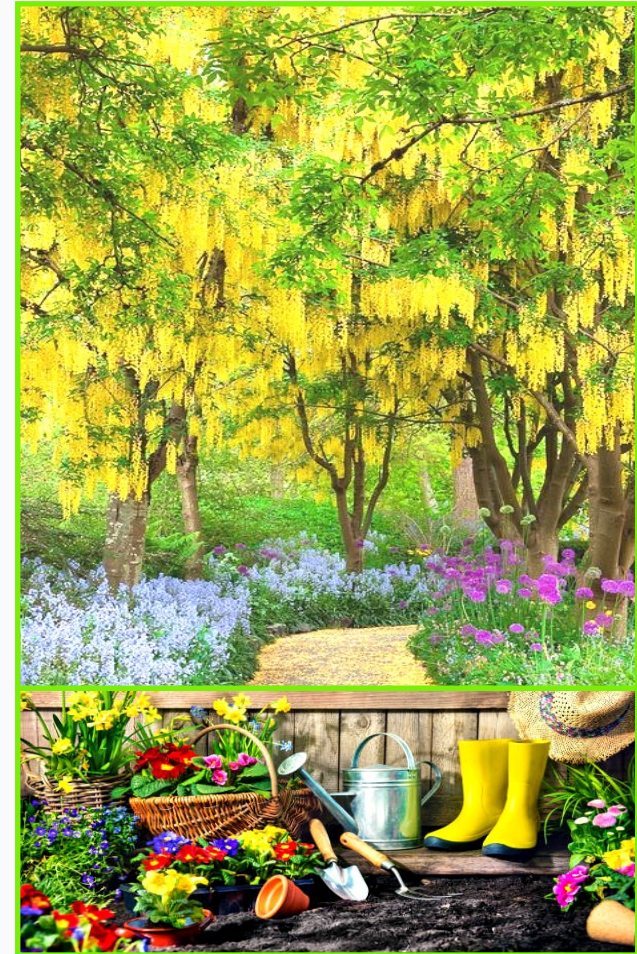
APRIL 2024



ST. GEORGE'S, BREDE



ST. MARY'S, UDIMORE



# The Benefice of Brede with Udimore: Beckley & Peas marsh



## Benefice Clergy

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**VACANT**

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<https://www.stmarysudimore.org/>

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## THE PARISH CHURCHES OF ST. GEORGE, BREDE and ST. MARY, UDIMORE

Worship in our Parish Churches centres on the Holy Eucharist at which members meet together to offer themselves to God, and draw strength for their daily lives.

Our churches are open for prayer during the day.

**WEEKDAY HOLY COMMUNION AT BREDE**  
Wednesday 10.30am

### SUNDAY SERVICES

#### BREDE

Sung Eucharist at 9.30am on 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday

#### UDIMORE

Holy Eucharist at 11:15: - 1st, 3rd & 4th Sunday  
Family Service at 11:15 - 2nd Sunday

**PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE A BENEFICE SERVICE ON  
THE 5TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AT 10:00AM.**

THIS SERVICE WILL ALTERNATE BETWEEN  
THE FOUR CHURCHES IN THE BENEFICE.

DETAILS OF THE BENEFICE SERVICE WILL BE GIVEN IN  
THE 'PARISH SERVICES' PAGE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MAGAZINE.

For those who are sick, housebound or aged, it is a privilege to bring the Blessed Sacrament to their home at any time – day or night.

Those seeking Baptism, First Communion or Confirmation for themselves or their children, Marriage, the Laying on of Hands, Anointing in times of sickness, or Funerals should contact the Rector directly

## BREDE AND UDIMORE PARISH CONTACTS

**MAGAZINE:** *For any item to be included in the Magazine please submit by 15<sup>th</sup> of month prior to publication.*

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	Vacant	
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## From The Rectors Pen

April 2024

### Dear Friends,

*Have you noticed that wherever we look in our world at the moment we seem to encounter nothing but bad news? Whether it is wars, or rumours of wars; social strife; political corruption; or heartrending stories of human suffering; the newspapers, television & social media are full of one bad news story after another. It can feel sometimes that the essence of joy has been sucked out of our everyday lives so that all we are left with is doom & gloom. In recent years this has given rise to a new word, "doomscrolling", which describes the action of intentionally scrolling through & reading depressing or worrying content. There have been several studies that have shown that this phenomenon is having a serious & adverse affect on people's mental health. In a world full of noise, anger, division & violence, is it little wonder that feelings of despair are so prevalent?*

*In a similar vein, any news about the Church of England tends to follow this same painful trend, with relentlessly dismal stories of failing clergy, falling buildings, or falling numbers. All this bad news seems quite ironic when we take into account that the Church is entrusted with the Gospel, God's Good News for us & for our broken world. Have we forgotten what the Good News is, or are we keeping it a secret? Have we hidden our lamps under a bushel? The Christian meaning of the Good News is centred on the Easter message – which we continue to celebrate throughout this month of April – that Jesus Died on Good Friday & rose again on Easter Day. When those women discovered the empty tomb & were told by the angel "He is not here, He is risen" they turned their back on the grave & ran with great joy to tell the disciples what they had seen. The important word is "Joy". Christ died, he was*



*buried, but he would rise again. The grave could not hold him & because of what he did the grave cannot hold us either. This is the promise which Jesus made before he died, that he would rise again on the third day. It was a promise that the first disciples heard but did not fully understand. It was only when they visited the empty tomb, they realised the full extent of what Jesus had meant. When the stone was rolled away on that first Easter morning, it wasn't to let Jesus out, it was to let us in, to show us that death is not the end but a new beginning. It is a beginning which proclaims the victory of life over death. It allows us to turn our back on the grave & face our future with faith, hope & confidence in God's promises.*

**May the Good News of the risen Christ be with you and with all whom you love this Easter season.**

**Pax , Father Owen**

**Parish Services for April**

**St George's Brede**

Sun 7th : 9.30am Holy Communion  
 Wed 10th: 11.00am Eucharist  
 Sun 14th: 9.30am Holy Communion  
 Wed 17th: 11.00am Eucharist  
 Sun 21st: 9.30am Holy Communion  
 Wed 24th: 11.00am Eucharist  
 Sun 28th: 9.30pm Holy Communion  
 Wed 27th: 11.00am Eucharist

**St. Mary's Udimore**

Sun 7th: 11.15am Parish Eucharist  
 Sun 14th: 11.15am Parish Eucharist  
 Sun 21st: 11.15am Parish Eucharist  
 Sun 28th: 11.15am Parish Eucharist

**Table of Readings for April**

**Sunday 7th - 2nd Sunday of Easter**

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35  
 Psalm: 133-1  
 Second Reading: John 1:1-2: 2  
 Gospel: John 20:19-31

**Sunday 21st - 4th Sunday of Easter**

First Reading: Acts 4: 5-12  
 Psalm: 23-1  
 Second Reading: John 3:16-24  
 Gospel: John10: 11-18

**Sunday 14th - 3rd Sunday of Easter**

First Reading: Acts3:12-19  
 Psalm: 4-1  
 Second Reading: John 3: 1-7  
 Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48

**Sunday 28th - 5th Sunday of Easter**

First Reading: Acts 8: 26-40  
 Psalm: 22:25-31-1  
 Second Reading: John 4: 7-21  
 Gospel: John 15:1-8



**Battle Choral Society  
 Haydn's *The Creation***

**Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 pm  
 Church of St Mary the Virgin, Battle**

Conducted by

**Musical Director Vincent Wade**

Choral Society Choir is joined by soloists

**Grace Constable (soprano), Gary Marriott (tenor) and Tom Harvey (bass), organist Nigel Howard, pianist Duncan Reid and an ensemble of instrumental players.**

Admission is free, with refreshments & wine, at the interval. Donations are greatly appreciated & proceeds are split between three local charities.

**We look forward to seeing you on April 20th!**

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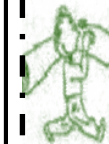
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## Brede Farmers' Market

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fresh cake whilst there!**

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[farmer\\_market@bredevillagehall.org.uk](mailto:farmer_market@bredevillagehall.org.uk)

## Jim's Jottings..... BULLYING IN THE CHURCH

**Really? Yes. Some of us have known clergy who bully others.** But what if it's the other way round? Last month, the Daily Mail carried an article on two motions for the next General Synod debate about clergy being bullied by people in their congregation. Yes, it is that way round! At the moment, clergy who bully can be disciplined, but there are no such penalties for lay people who bully their Incumbent or for that matter anyone else in their congregation.

**Two motions in the Synod call for a sort of "Code of Conduct" for lay people.** One motion calls for bullying to be recognised as 'unacceptable behaviour within the Church of God'. Another claims members of the clergy have been hounded out of office. The reason? Aggressive behaviour by a small group in the congregation. I know at least two clergy who have been forced to quit their parish because of this.

**Bullying is a form of abuse.** It's really a misuse of power. It can happen to us in later life – sometimes at work, sometimes sadly in families: & the Church is no exception

**So why are some people bullies?** Like me, some of you may remember being bullied at school – hopefully the only experience we'll ever have of it.

**Bullies are people who want power** by any means possible. They want to dominate others or feel more powerful. But the odd thing is that that they don't see why their way of behaviour is a problem to others. They are often accused of having no understanding or compassion for other people. For bullies, feeling sorry for what they've done is totally inappropriate

**How do bullies work?** By threatening & frightening their chosen victim - by passing an unfair judgement on them in discussions. Or criticising them in phone calls, e-mails or texts; usually to say their victim is not doing their job properly. Intimidating others & trying to control them helps bullies feel better about themselves.

**It's difficult to deal with bullies.** They'll generally dismiss any challenge to what they are doing. They're good at pretending to forget what they've done; often denying something ever took place, or simply twist round the words of anyone who challenges them.

**So what kind of people are bullies?** What's underneath it all? They present a hard exterior; but underneath all the bluff & bluster, things are sore & tender. Bullying has been recognised as being done by those who really have a low esteem of themselves. They can also be narcissists - for them, bullying others is a way of loving themselves & shoring up their own self image. They might be feeling angry or jealous of someone or something else which they can do nothing about. Because of this, they can get angry or frustrated with themselves. The only way they can deal with it this by taking it out on others by bullying. Sadly, some might have been the victims of bullying or another form of abuse when they were younger.

**The two motions before the General Synod** highlight the lack of an effective discipline or penalty for any church members who bully. If bullying by lay people is allowed to go unchecked, says one motion, it is extremely harmful to the life in a church or parish. It can steer a church's ability & task to share the Christian message & both increase & cherish disciples.

**One warning by an Archdeacon in the Synod** proposing a motion is that if bullying in a particular parish or church goes unchecked, the outcome would mean that bishops would be averse to recommending a certain "problem" parish where there is bullying, to prospective applicants.

**So in our four parishes,** may we all show kindness, tolerance, patience, understanding, compassion & love to everyone for ever and ever. Amen to that! ..... **Jim**



## BREDE VILLAGE NEWS

Our meeting on March 6th was held at Vine Cottage Peasmarsh, the home of Rev Dr Liz Varley who welcomed us with us tea & cake before Steve Edwards told us about the Four Charities, how they began 50 years ago when Iris Laker who lived in Udmore was so shocked by the plight of deaf children & young people in Tanzania that she started the Overseas Group to raise funds to help them. Four Charities has grown from that & now supports the Deaf in Tanzania, The Church Fellowship in Papua New Guinea & Freedom from Fistula & Family Support Work. We discussed how these have responded to changing needs & Steve emphasised that all the money raised is divided equally between them, making sure that it is used to benefit those in need. Rhiannon & Rev Liz Varley read the service. To finish we helped by making up bags of toiletries for patients at the Conquest Hospital. Our meeting in April will be on **April 3rd at 1.30 pm in the Rectory at St George's**. The speaker will be **Rev Dr Liz Varley**.  
**Rosemary - Secretary 01424 882567, Rhiannon Oliver - Branch Leader & Bexhill District Chairman 01424 882037 [r.oliver641@btinternet.com](mailto:r.oliver641@btinternet.com)**

**Mothers' UNION**  
 Christian care for families

**Brede Friendly Circle** - Eight of us enjoyed our outing to Merriments garden centre for coffee & had fun perusing the plants on offer. Our next meeting **will be 17th April 10.30am at the Hawkurst Fish Farm**, we are hoping the sun will shine as it is pleasant to walk around the site as well as enjoying coffee & cakes.



Please contact either **Carol 01424 883262** or **Rhiannon 01424 882037** if there is a problem or if you would like to join our friendly group.

**Rhiannon Oliver - Acting Chair**

**Brede Luncheon Club** - The lunch in February, our first of 2024, was a lively & jolly gathering. Appetising aromas greeted us as we settled in. We were duly rewarded with a delicious meal of fish & chips & dessert of apple crumble, just perfect for a rather chilly day! Our thanks to Gary & Lindsey and their team for looking after us so well. The next Lunch Club meets on **Tuesday 23rd April at 12.30.pm at the 'Red Lion'**, (the fourth Tuesday of the month). Please remember to inform me ASAP if you are not able to come along. For information please contact:



**Frances Parnham - Secretary & Membership: T. 01424 882007**



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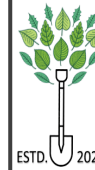
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**Brede WI** - Our March meeting opened with a welcome from our President, Beryl Jenkins, to members & our speaker, Elvira Gabos. We were updated about events in April. Members with March birthdays were presented with cards, pretty pot plants & our good wishes.

**theWI**  
**INSPIRING WOMEN**

Our speaker, Elvira Gabos, from Southern Water, entitled her talk, 'FOG & Unflushables'. Her presentation, highlighted the major problems caused when 'Unflushables' enter our sewage system. FOG (fats, oils & grease) often end up being washed down the kitchen sink. These substances can harden, blocking pipes drains & sewers, resulting in flooding and pollution. The 'FOG & Unflushables' Outreach Service Team at Southern Water, aim to educate & advise how we can all help reduce these major problems concerning kitchen & bathroom waste. The message, 'Bag It' 'Bin It' 'Don't Flush It', is a starting point for us all to remember & act upon. Following a short question time, Maggie Sandra thanked Elvira Gabos for her comprehensive presentation & bringing to our attention this extremely important environmental issue. The ACWW Competition, 'Easter' was won by Margaret Law.

**The ACWW Competition**, 'A Pretty Cup & Saucer'.

**Diary date:** Wednesday 3rd April, 2.00pm in Brede Village Hall - 'A Make-up Workshop' in support of Marie Curie.

**Our next Meeting on Wednesday 10th April at 2.00pm in Brede Village Hall** will be Brede WI's 97th Birthday Celebration.

**'Rother Group WI's Spring Meeting' 22nd April: 2.00pm Brede Village Hall.**

*Frances Parnham*

*For information on Brede WI please contact Beryl Jenkins T: 01424 883475*



**Brede Design with Flowers**

We now meet on the **4th Thursday of the month**, (directly after Little Giants)

**in St George's Church Brede,**

This is to accommodate all the mums & to make it easier for them.

Our March Design was themed Easter and the group did well with this theme.

At our next meeting on **Thursday 25th April** the subject is  
"A water design using a pin holder"

*Rhiannon Oliver*

Anyone wishing to join please contact  
**Rhiannon Oliver 01424 882037 [r.oliver641@btinternet.com](mailto:r.oliver641@btinternet.com)**

## AROUND THE BENEFICE

### 4Charities

(Operating under the Charitable status of the Church of England)

**Friday 5th April & Friday 3rd May - 10:00 to 12.00**  
 (& the first Friday of every month)

**Get Together Friday**  
 (Coffee, Games & refreshments – Fun)

**St. Mary's Community Hall, Udimore TN31 6BB**  
**£5 (or more!) gratefully received**

Contact Liz Turgoose on 07808 597689

Or Judy Edwards on 01424 882222 for more information

[www.4charities.net](http://www.4charities.net)

## St. Mary's Community Hall Hire - UDIMORE

Planning an event - Looking for a venue?  
 Our Hall nestling next to the Church and set amidst orchards, is bright & modern with central heating, a large car park, a well fitted kitchen & disabled facilities.

**Monday – Friday £12.00 per hour (Events 1 to 6 hours duration)**  
 Events on Friday may have to finish by 14.00pm if there is a weekend wedding

**Saturday & Sunday £15.00 per hour**

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**Fri & Sat** 08.00 - 23.30 (max 15.5 hrs) £350.00

Hire charges for some events over 6 hours may be negotiable.

### Weddings

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For all further details and booking, please contact:  
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**A FARM WALK INTO THE BREDE VALLEY FOLLOWED BY AFTERNOON TEA**

**SATURDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> May, 2PM UDIMORE HALL TN31 6BB**

Contact Liz Dean  
 01424 882206

Friends of St. Mary's Church  
 Udimore  
 Charity No. 292990



### Bridge Drive

**Tuesday 16th April 2024 at 1.45pm**  
 in support of  
**The Friends of Peasmarsh Parish Church**

The Friends of Peasmarsh Parish Church are delighted to be arranging another Bridge Drive inside the church after its success last year. Holding the event in mid-April rather than March will hopefully result in warm Spring weather. Additionally, there is now significant extra heating in the church! This year, as well as supporting general maintenance, special attention is expected to be given to a new pathway around the stable building housing the kitchen and toilet facilities. As in previous years, a home-made tea and well-sponsored raffle are included, together with the Chicago bridge.

**Tuesday 16th April 2024 at 1.45pm**

**Venue: The Church of St. Peter & St Paul, Peasmarsh**  
**Tickets: £12.50 per person for bridge and tea**

*If a group of four, please bring with you a bridge table, tablecloth, playing cards & pencils*  
 For more information e-mail: [lovatbonnet@gmail.com](mailto:lovatbonnet@gmail.com)

PLEASE COMPLETE & EMAIL OR RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHEQUE - YOU CAN ALSO PAY BY BACS

I would like: a seat at £12.50 / a group at £50 per table Your Name: .....

Names of those playing with you: .....

Your Address: .....

Contact Telephone Number: ..... e-mail: .....

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO FOPPC (Friends of Peasmarsh Parish Church) and send to Lovat Bonnet, Cleves, Starvecrow Lane, Peasmarsh TN31 6XN

**BACS PAYMENTS:**  
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**Toys Needed!**

We are currently improving the children's corners in each of the four churches of our benefice and are in need of more toys and children's books.

Please contact church wardens or Anna Edwards to donate toys  
 01424 882201

St. George's, Brede  
**Little Giants Baby & Toddler Group**

Join us for music, story time, play & refreshments

Thursdays in Term Time  
 9:30am

Donations Welcome



## Classes & Activities - UDIMORE

**ADULT BALLET:** Thursday 11.00 -12.00am

*Aisha Jamieson 0788 435 5818*

**PILATES:** Monday - Thursday 9.15 - 11.15am (*Term time*)

*Susan Taber: 07858 518504 [susantaber66@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:susantaber66@yahoo.co.uk)*

**ELEVATE YOGA:** Flow Yoga suitable for all : Tuesday 7.00- 8.00pm  
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*All classes in term time stop over half term & school holidays*

**Enquires contact Community Hall Booking:**  
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## UDIMORE VILLAGE NEWS

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
OF  
**THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, UDIMORE**  
**WEDNESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL AT 18.00**  
**UDIMORE COMMUNITY HALL, TN31 6BB**  
Refreshments followed by  
**THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**CHARITY NUMBER 292990**

**UDIMORE**  
**IS COMING ALIVE IN SPRING !**

We are hosting a **Fashion Bazaar**  
in St Marys Hall Udimore  
in aid of  
**Rye Memorial Hospital**  
**FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL from 7pm-9pm**



**Clothing and Accessories with an Italian twist from Funky Hen**  
**Original and unique Silver Jewellery from Christine Pyemont**  
**Quality pre-loved Ladies Fashion**



*For information or to pre-book 01797 228842*  
*Pay on the door – entry £5*  
*(Regd. Charity No. 1014232)*  
**Do Come!**



**When Spring** finally arrives after a long, cold winter we want it to be as memorable & magical as possible. Our gardens come to life with blossom-clouded trees, scented spring flowers & bright bulbs; but we don't often think of bulbs as contributing much in the way of fragrance. In fact, there are lots of bulbs that have scented spring flowers. After undergoing what is arguably one of gardening's greatest transformations – dry brown bulb to heart-warming, colourful bloom – it's no wonder bulbs are anticipated all winter long. At this moment, when snowdrops, crocuses & early daffodils appear, every bloom is a joy, even more so if, as well as being colourful & ornamental, it is also scented. As spring advances, the bulbs become more colourful, with tulips, hyacinths and bluebells joining the throng. There are a few more worth considering

**Galanthus 'S. Arnott'** Many snowdrops have a little fragrance – but the cultivar 'S. Arnott' is one of the most perfumed. Its flowers exude a honeyed scent though some people say it's more akin to almonds. Either way, it's more noticeable if flowers are brought indoors, so pick a posy for the kitchen table. Best planted in 'in the green', order some now and plant the bulbs singly or in twos. They'll soon build up into clumps.



**Mr Van der Hoef** This blowsy tulip, with layer upon layer of bright, canary-yellow petals that give the flowers the appearance of peonies, has an incredibly strong scent. Luckily, its stout stems support the large flowers well – when they are fully open they can be 10cm across. Truly a variety that has stood the test of time, its introduction to cultivation dates from before 1900. A candidate for containers, teamed with blue *Muscari* & yellow pansies for a colourful display



**Ballerina' Tulips** are glorious enough judged on the basis of colour & form, but add scent to the mix & they become the queens of spring. Orange & apricot-flowered tulips seem to have a higher propensity to be scented; deep orange, lily-flowered 'Ballerina' has a heady, freesia-like fragrance. Similarly coloured alternatives include 'Prinses Irene', 'Brown Sugar' & 'Apricot Beauty', all with a sweet scent. Plant tulip bulbs late, from November onwards, to minimise the risk of the disease tulip fire.



**Muscari 'Golden Fragrance'** Perfect for pots, this delicate little grape hyacinth is a world apart from its relative, the bright blue, straggly leaved *M. armeniacum*. 'Golden Fragrance' has banana-yellow blooms with a neat top-knot of dusky blue capping every flower spike. It needs a sunny site with free-draining soil – a rockery would be the perfect home, or shallow containers of gritty bulb compost – and will produce its highly fragrant flowers in March & April.



**Narcissus poeticus var. recurves** The pheasant's eye daffodil is so late to flower, it is easy to spend much of spring worrying that their blooms will never appear. Yet they always do, with their slender buds opening in late May to reveal swept back, pure white petals & a tiny central trumpet that is golden yellow, finely ringed in red. The scent is delicious, sweet & surprisingly strong from such an unexpected source. Plant swathes of these bulbs in borders or longer grass in autumn.



## Classes & Activities - BREDE

### BREDE VILLAGE HALL

Planning an event - Looking for a venue?

Our Village Hall is a bright, modern building with central heating, a large car park, a well fitted kitchen and disabled facilities.

#### Monday – Friday

**Residents:** 8.00 am - 11.00 pm £12.00 per hour  
(10 or more sessions per year)

**Non- Residents** 8.00 am - 11.00 pm £14.00 per hour

#### Weekends

**Residents:** 8.00 am - 11.00 pm £12.00 per hour

**Non- Residents:** 8.00 am - 11.00 pm £19.00 per hour

**Committee Room** £9.00 per hour

**Treatment Room** £9.00 per hour

- All hiring sessions terminate at 11.00pm

#### Village Hall Booking:

Penny Williams: [villagehall.brede@gmail.co](mailto:villagehall.brede@gmail.co).

Chairman: Rod Came

Email [chair@bredevillagehall.org.uk](mailto:chair@bredevillagehall.org.uk)

Bookings can also be made online

<http://www.brede-pc.org.uk>

*Go into village hall screen and make provisional booking, this is then automatically emailed to me for verification, you can always go back onto the site later to see if you provisional booking in grey has changed to green which means it is then booked. An Invoice will be then sent to you for payment for your booking. Please supply a postal address.*

## Classes & Activities - BREDE

**ADULT BALLET:** Thursday 11.00 – 12.30pm

Aisha: [studiojamie@icloud.com](mailto:studiojamie@icloud.com)

**BREDE LUNCHEON CLUB:** 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday , The Red Lion, Brede, 12.30pm

Frances: 01424 882007

**CRAFTERS:** Last Wednesday of the month 2.00pm

**FARMERS MARKET:** Friday 10.00 – 12.00pm

**JAZZ DANCE & STRETCH:** Thursday 9.45 – 10.45am

Aysha: [studiojamie@icloud.com](mailto:studiojamie@icloud.com)

**LITTLE GIANTS BABY & TODDLER GROUP:** Thursday 9.30am

(Term Time) St. George's Brede.

**MOTHERS' UNION - 1st Wednesday, St George's Rectory, 2.00pm**

Mrs. Rhiannon Oliver 01424 882037

**NATIONAL TRUST Rye & Dist. Ass.:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month 2.00pm

Louise Hull: 07791383323

**PAINTING FOR PLEASURE:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 9.30 – 12.30pm (in the months that have 5 Tuesdays there will be an extra class)

Ann Cootes 01424 882524

**PILATES:** Every Thursday 6.30 – 7.30pm

Geraldine: 07811141873

**SHORT MAT BOWLS:** Every Friday 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Sue McGavin 01424 883566 / Lynne Bramley 01424 882252

**VOCALITY:** Every 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 2.00 - 3.30pm (Term Time)

Nadia: 01424 8882948 [nadia.florence@btinternet.com](mailto:nadia.florence@btinternet.com)

**WI:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month 2.00 – 4.00pm

Beryl: 01424 883475

**YOGA:** Tuesday 7.30 – 8.30pm

Jodie: [jpreaser38@gmail.com](mailto:jpreaser38@gmail.com)

**YOGA:** Wednesday 9.30 – 10.30am

Jodie: [jpreaser38@gmail.com](mailto:jpreaser38@gmail.com)

**All classes in term time stop over half term & school holidays**

**For information: Penny Williams 07541 263 991 - Or Just Turn Up!**

### Looking for Inspiration - Spring Fling Plant Fair - Great Comp, Kent Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April



Specialist & award-winning nurseries will showcase a wealth of plants in the exquisite seven acre garden, Great Comp in Sevenoaks which boasts a collection of over 80 magnolias in 52 varieties. For the first time ever, Chelsea gold medal winners Steve Edney & Lou Dowle of The No Name Nursery in Sandwich near Kent will be exhibiting their plants for visitors to browse & buy.

**Tickets: adult, £9.50, child (5-17), £3.50, underr-5s, free.**

### Chelsea Physic Garden Plant Festival Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April, 10am - 5pm

Chelsea Physic Garden celebrates spring with a FREE plant fair, showcasing nurseries, houseplants, botanical inspired gifts & much more! Browse over 30 stalls, filled with perfect plants for your home or garden. If you're looking for a special item, be sure to check out the stalls selling decorative botanically inspired items & gifts. Enjoy drop-in gardening & plant demonstrations – including flower crown-making. Free tickets can be booked through [enquiries@chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk) but there'll be tickets available on the day.



### A Spring Treat - Crystallized Primroses

Not all flowers are edible so ensure the flowers you use are suitable. They range in flavour from lightly-peppery calendula, to mild-flavoured lavender & roses (see list below) Primroses have a nice flavour & look lovely when they've been crystallised, as if they've been frozen by a late spring frost. Use to decorate cakes & desserts or save them for a special occasion later

#### Clean paintbrush /Grease-proof paper

#### 24 primrose flowers /1 egg white/1 tsp cold water/ 50g granulated white sugar

Pick primroses in the morning when they're perky & filled with dew. If you're sure the flowers are clean, don't wash them. If you do rinse them, let the flowers dry completely before continuing. Make an egg wash by lightly beating the white of one egg with 1 tsp of cold water. Using a clean paintbrush that's never been in contact with toxic substances, paint the egg wash on; making sure to coat the entire surface, both front & back. Pour the sugar into a bowl & coat the flower in egg wash, then place in the sugar. Gently coat as much of the flower's surface as you can, then take out & place face-down on a layer of greaseproof/baking paper. Leave to dry for between 1-2 days; they take about a day to dry & harden but can take longer. Once fully dry, use the crystallized primroses to decorate cakes & desserts. They'll last for up to six months if stored in a dark, dry place. A Tupperware filled with a layer of tissue paper is an excellent way to keep them. Spread onto the paper in a single layer so that they don't stick together.

#### Some Edible Flowers **Angelica** celery flavoured/ **Borage** (Starflower)

cucumber flavoured/ **Calendula** (pot marigold) lightly peppery/ **Carnation** (Pink) spicy & anise-like/ **Chamomile** light apple flavour/ **Chives** onion flavour/ **Jasmine** sweet & floral/ **Lavender** fragrant & floral/ **Nasturtium** peppery/ **Pansy** lightly sweet to tart/ **Primrose** lightly sweet / **Rose** sweet & aromatic. Use only the coloured parts of the petals. / **Runner &**



**Climbing Beans** crisp & bean-like/ **Scented Geraniums** faintly citrusy/ **Violet** sweet & floral



All are welcome to our events. Walks start 10am and are 5 to 6 miles, £3 only. Talks start 2pm at Brede Village Hall, entry including refreshments, £5 or £4 for members. Do come along, we are a friendly group

**Walk, Thursday 11th April:** We are planning a stroll across Romney Marsh, starting at The Duke's Head, Hamstreet & returning there for lunch.

**Talk: Thursday 18th April: Andy Thomas: 'Unexplained Mysteries & Cover-Ups'.** Andy Thomas explores some of the most famous enigmas of recent history, exploring the connections between them – UFO's, ghosts, psychic phenomena, ancient symbolism, prophecies & beyond. Andy is a leading researcher into unexplained mysteries, the paranormal & global cover-ups & is the author of many books.



**Outing: Thursday 25th April: The Wanstone Project.**



We are very fortunate to be invited by National Trust White Cliffs, to view 'Conservation in action at Wanstone & Fan Bay'. There will be optional trips, to the Fan Bay Deep Shelter & the South Foreland Lighthouse, for those who so wish. This outing will involve quite an amount of walking, essentially on tracks & across fields.

**Cost per person: £32.00.**

**Spring Lunch: Saturday 11th May: Brickwall Hotel, Sedlescombe -**

The Brickwall Hotel is a charming 16th century Tudor mansion overlooking the pretty award winning village green. We've been able to agree a delicious three course menu with a choice of four for each course - for the special price of **£37.50 pp (including tea/coffee and gratuities)**. This is a wonderful opportunity for us all to get together & enjoy good food & conversation in a really attractive setting.

**BOOKINGS CLOSE FRIDAY 12th APRIL, SO HURRY!**

**If you wish to join** contact **Membership Sec. Dee Williams, 07760-115413, or Louise Hull, 07791-383323.**



**John Wright**

## St Michael's hospice

**An Evening with Jo Brand & Friends, Sunday 21st April 2024** - St Michael's Hospice is thrilled to announce that the hilarious Jo Brand, beloved Hastings-born comedy sensation, is set to grace the stage for an unforgettable evening which promises to be an unmissable event. All in aid of the invaluable work St Michael's Hospice does to support the community of Hastings & Rother with dying, death & loss. Hurry because seats are very limited, so don't miss out! Tickets - White Rock Theatre Box Office, **visit [www.whiterocktheatre.org.uk](http://www.whiterocktheatre.org.uk)**

**Open Gardens** - Whether it's a quirky 1980s summer house ora koi pond or a bed of tropical plants you're interested in, there's something for everyone at **St Michael's Hospice Open Gardens** this summer. Taking place all over Hastings & Rother, private garden owners are opening their gates for all ages to enjoy. Maybe you've got time to spare & would like to spend some time outdoors, soaking up the peace & tranquility, or have children who love to explore the outdoors & learn about wildlife? Whatever your motivation, why not pick up an Open Gardens 2024 booklet from the Hospice shops for just £1, to find out more about the gardens opening near you? Or visit the Hospice website for a list of locations & dates [stmichaelshospice.com](http://stmichaelshospice.com)

**Hospices to Holland** - Haven't thought of a New Year's Resolution yet? Or maybe you have & are searching for the perfect challenge? Well look no further! Embark on a challenge of a lifetime in June 2024 & take part in a cycling adventure from East Sussex to Amsterdam, in support of St Michael's Hospice! St Michael's Hospice & St Wilfrid's Hospice (Eastbourne) are teaming up on this exciting ride along the picturesque south coast before crossing the channel to embark on an unforgettable cycling experience through four different countries. As they make their way through France, Belgium, & Holland, there will be the opportunity to explore & appreciate the diverse European countryside. Expect to pedal past stunning beaches, picturesque waterways & idyllic tree-lined canals adorned with charming windmills. To reserve your spot, please visit the Hospices to Holland website **[www.hospicestoholland.co.uk](http://www.hospicestoholland.co.uk)** or **speak to the Fundraising team at [fundraising@stmichaelshospice.com](mailto:fundraising@stmichaelshospice.com) or by calling 01424 456396**

**Sign up to Gift Aid** - Did you know Gift Aid can be applied to your donations to St Michael's Hospice charity shops? If you are eligible (you must be a UK tax payer) signing up for Gift Aid when you donate your pre-loved goods in store, or at their Donation Centre for them to sell in their shops or via eBay, makes a huge difference. Adding Gift Aid to your donation means the Hospice can claim an extra 25p for every £1 raised through the sale of goods. Next time you're in one of the Hospice's shops or dropping off items at the Donation Centre, talk to a member of the team.