# 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.

#### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

#### **BREDE**

Sung Family Eucharist at 9.30am every Sunday

#### **UDIMORE**

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

If you would like to have the parish magazine sent to you regularly by post; or if you live in Brede or Udimore and would like to have a copy delivered to your door each month, then please contact:-

David Oliver - davidoliver489@gmail.com

## The Parish Magazine

Reaching out to the community

### **JUNE 2021**



ST.GEORGE'S, BREDE



ST. MARY'S, UDIMORE



# The Benefice of Brede with Udimore and Beckley & Peasmarsh THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

#### **Benefice Clergy**

\*

Please contact the Churchwardens

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**RETIRED PRIESTS** 

The Rev'd Jim Hobbs
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The Rev'd Dr. Bill Dolman

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Telephone: 01797 260203

St. GEORGE'S CHURCH, BREDE

CHURCHWARDENS:

Mr. Duncan Reid Mr. David Oliver

Perryfield, Stubb Lane 2 Bellhurst Cottages, Chitcombe Road

BREDE TN31 6EH

Broad Oak, TH31 6EU

Talanhana 04404 000440

Telephone 01424 882412 Telephone: 01424 882037

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St. MARY'S CHURCH, UDIMORE

**CHURCHWARDENS:** 

Mrs. Elizabeth Turgoose Mrs. Zoe Wilmoth

Fields House, Udimore, TH31 6AY The Hammonds, UDIMORE TN31 6AJ

Telephone 01424 882657 Telephone: 01797 227745 email:wilmoth@btinternet.com

TREASURER - BREDE AND UDIMORE

Mr. Harry Curtis.

Fairlight View, Udimore Rd,

Udimore TN31 6BG Telephone 01424 883246 email: harry@ecooffice.eu

#### BREDE AND UDIMORE PARISH CONTACTS

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Mrs. Elizabeth Dean 01424 882206

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## The Benefice of Brede with Udimore and Beckley & Peasmarsh

#### From the Rector's Pen



Dear friends,

As I write this inaugural contribution to the parish magazine sitting in my garden on a glorious sunny Sussex afternoon, admiring the magnificent sweeping vista of the Brede Valley to which Anna and I now awake each morning, I am reminded of the answer I gave at my interview to the question of why I wanted to come to this beautiful place:



'who wouldn't exchange "Salford's smoky tops" for this!?'. The overwhelming sense of privilege we have felt since arriving has been magnified by the incredible kindnesses we have already been shown by so many of you, for which we are immensely grateful.

It will take a little time to become accustomed to our new, idyllic surroundings, and to settle into our new home, but already great strides have been made: most of my books are now out of their boxes and on the shelves, much to Anna's relief! The slow process of unpacking this collection has uncovered one or two little gems that I had forgotten I owned; among them, an old and well-loved copy of George Herbert's *The Country Parson*. Seeing as I am still new to the parson's profession, I decide to thumb through the well-worn pages in search of some snippet of timeless wisdom, and find the following, somewhat solemn excerpt:

"The country parson is to be exceeding exact in his life, being holy, just, prudent, temperate, bold, grave in all his ways."

I am not certain that I will always be able to live up to Herbert's high expectations, but I am determined to be the very best parish priest that I can be; speaking for myself, that means a warm smile, an open door, and a hot teapot at the rectory at any time of the day or night!

With June comes the final phase of the government's roadmap out of lockdown, and the lifting of the remaining restrictions that have constrained and stymied our lives for so long. Anna and I look forward to welcoming you to our home in the coming weeks and months, to celebrate with us the joy we feel at being called to live and serve the Lord in these wonderful parishes.

God bless you all. Fr. Owen

#### A SAINT FOR JUNE St. Etheldreda - 23rd June



St. Etheldreda, also known as Audrey, was an East Anglian princess who died in the year 679. She was married twice. Her first husband, called Tondbert, gave her the Isle of Ely as a dowry and he died only three years after they we married. He had not stood in her way when she announced that she wanted to become a nun but her family forced her to marry again. Her second husband, Ecgfrith, king of Northumbria, bitterly resented the conditions of her marriage but after twelve years he relented and gave her permission to leave him and become a nun. Etheldreda took the veil at Coldingham but soon founded a monastery at Ely for both men and women, of which she became the first abbess.

Etheldreda led a life of great austerity and devotion. She wore only woollen garments, ate only once a day and spent much time in religious devotion. She died after being abbess for seven years. Etheldreda was said to have been very beautiful and to have inspired affection in everyone with whom she came in contact. She gained the love and admiration of two husbands, of St. Wilfrid and St. Cuthbert, of her nephew the king of Kent and the nuns over whom she ruled. Etheldreda is usually represented in art as an abbess, crowned with a pastoral staff and accompanied by two does, who were said to have supplied the Ely community with milk during a famine. Her feast day is 23 rd June .



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#### **TABLE OF READINGS**

June 2021 9.30 am St. George's Brede 11.15 am St. Mary's Udimore

Date	First reading	Second reading	Gospel reading
6 <sup>th</sup> June 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity	Genesis 3: 8-15	2 Corinthians: 4: 13 – 5: 1	Mark 3: 20-end
13 <sup>th</sup> June	Ezekiel 17: 22-end	2 Corinthians 5:6-17	Mark 4: 26-34
20 <sup>th</sup> June	Job 38: 1-11	2 Corinthians 6:1-13	Mark 4: 35-end
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Wisdom of Solomon 1: 13-15; 2: 23-24	2 Corinthians 8:7end	Mark 5: 21-end



We give thanks for all our Key Workers at this most difficult of times.



Gracious God, give skill, sympathy & resilience to all who are caring for the sick, & your wisdom to those searching for a cure.

Strengthen them with your Spirit, that through their work many will be restored to health; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Parish Services for June



#### St George's Brede

Sunday 6th June 9.30ar Wednesday 9th June 10.00a Sunday13th June 9.30ar Wednesday16th June 10.00a Sunday 20th June 9.30ar Wednesday 23rd June 10.00a Sunday 27th June 9.30ar Wednesday 30th June 10.00a	n Family Service for All am Eucharist n Family Eucharist am Eucharist n Family Eucharist
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At 8.30 am, Monday to Saturdays, there will be a short (20mins) informal service of prayers &one of the readings of the day from the lectionary. Everyone is welcome!

### St Mary's Udimore



Sunday 6th June	11.15am	Family Eucharist
Sunday 13th June	8,00am 11.15am	Holy Communion Family Service for All
Sunday 20th June	11.15am	Family Eucharist
Sunday 27th June	11.15am	Family Eucharist



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## The Induction of our new Rector: Rev. Dr. Owen Edwards

Tuesday the 25<sup>th</sup> May saw the induction by Archdeacon Edward of our new Rector, Rev. Dr. Owen Edwards into the "real, actual & corporal possession of the vicarage" & the parish churches of our benefice.

It was very sad that numbers attending had to be limited.

As with any church service, no-one should have needed to be explicitly invited, but everyone should have been welcome & encouraged to come. Afterwards we should have had the usual "bun fight" with the chance for everyone to chat to the new man (& the bishop!). Of course we couldn't - even with lockdown restrictions being slightly eased; but then, we have become somewhat used to that. Nonetheless, it was a wonderfully joyous & moving occasion. We welcomed not only Owen but also Anna & their little boy, Henry.

The wardens thought long & hard about numbers; & in the end accommodated 73 people representing our parishes & communities, well spaced throughout the church. The service itself followed the form for the Eucharist, but of course, the incumbent designate had first to be presented to the bishop & thence to the congregation. The wardens conducted him to the main door of the church & ceremonially granted him access (a key was involved). The new incumbent then tolled the bell. Traditionally, it seems, the amount of tolling denotes the length of the incumbency & indeed, the bell was rung with gusto......

We are now allowed to have a small singing group in church (congregations still being forbidden to sing!) so it was wonderful to have Anna joining what has been dubbed "the celestial choir" to sing the hymns, other key parts of the liturgy & an anthem during Communion (this was William Byrd's *Ave Verum Corpus*). We've sorely missed hearing live voices singing together, so this was a real treat.

The Bishop of Lewes gave the address. He is such a personable, easy to like & compelling fellow (note: he is coming to Brede & Udimore on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> August to lead our worship on that day – don't miss him!) Bishop Will preached on Mark's Gospel from chapter 10, about giving up things for the sake of the Good News. It was thoughtful & inspiring stuff.

As the service was coming to a close, we had the notices from Fr Owen about forthcoming Sunday services – how reassuring....almost mundane (subsequently, he told us that he was, unusually, lost for words, but frankly, he didn't need words at that point!). Then we had the sublime Prayer of St Richard of Chichester (*Thanks be to thee, O Lord Jesus Christ.....*), the dismissal by the Bishop, my favourite hymn (well, one of many favourites) *O Jesus, I have promised* & a final upbeat recessional from the organ.

So, that was that – a new chapter for our benefice begins. We look forward with hope & confidence whatever comes. We will remember Owen, Anna & Henry in our prayers as we continue this exciting journey together.

**Duncan Reid** 



## **BREDE & UDIMORE LUNCHEON CLUB**

Greetings to all our members from The Brede and Udimore Luncheon Club Committee!

The easing of some of the lockdown restrictions is encouraging and hopefully we can look forward to meeting as a Club in the not too distant future!

We all miss gathering together socially each month and enjoying a meal with friends- it's been such a long time since this happened- but we've got our fingers firmly crossed that changes are on the way and firm plans can be made to meet in the Village Hall once again.

Very best wishes to everyone, Frances Parnham (Secretary)

## "Flower Arrangements for a Special Occasion" St George's Brede & St Mary's Udimore

If anyone you would like to make a donation for a flower arrangement in either church to commemorate a special occasion or in memory of a loved one this can be arranged. Please contact:

Sue Sturmey St George's Church 01424 882544 Nadia Florence-Marshall St Mary's Church 01424 882948

To join the **St. George's & St. Mary's Group Email**Contact Liz Turgoose - E: <u>lizturgoose@yahoo.ie</u> or T: 01424 882657.

St George's Brede website - <a href="https://www.stgeorgesbrede.org.uk">https://www.stgeorgesbrede.org.uk</a> links to all sorts of useful information, lists of services & a Community Board with information about local events & items of interest to everyone. Steven Edwards uploads information continually & he will be happy to 'post' any other events or information that might interest the community of Brede & Udimore. If you have anything please contact:

Stephen Edwards H: 01424 882 222/ M: 0770 217 3839 <a href="mailto:chitcombesteve@gmail.com">chitcombesteve@gmail.com</a>

St Mary's Udimore website: https://www.stmarysudimore.org features the village life,& the church in Udimore. The Parish magazine., information on the PCC & St Mary's Community Hall . It also links to The Friends of St Mary's, St Mary's Church flowers, The 4 Charities group, Mother's Union, Messy Church, the Parish Council website & Udimore Village Facebook page.

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The 2020-2021 fee for a standard quarter page advertisement remains the same as for last year i.e. £35 for a full year's advertising.

As you will know the magazine is a valuable source of local enquiries. To advertise, simply provide us with a copy of your advert as a pdf WORD document, together with the completed slip below and return it to:

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The Treasurer, Brede and Udimore Parish Magazine, C/O The Rectory, Brede Hill, Brede, Rye, East Sussex, TN31 6HG.

#### Brede WI



Optimism amongst our members is gradually creeping in with the easing this month (May) of some of the lockdown restrictions.

At the time of writing, it's 'Mental Health Awareness Week' and our Newsletter features poems written by two of our own members. 'Old Black Cat', describes the companionship and joy that pets can bring to our well being and, 'In Praise of Zoom', expresses that, meeting together for a visual chit-chat is so appreciated and vital to keeping spirits lifted.

The 'What's App' Group are also adding to the 'feel good factor', by sharing photos of recent walks in the nearby woods- showing beautiful carpets of bluebells and wood anemones and trees just coming into leaf.

Two of our Groups are endeavouring to keep both our minds and bodies active and stimulated! Walking Netball, thanks to Carolyn Brown and Joolz Hunt, is meeting regularly at Helenswood School and have gained several new non-members! And, Book Club continues to meet on Zoom, hosted by Drina Hampson. This popular group is hoping it won't be too long before they meet in person!

ESFWI News. The Federation Challenge organised by the 'Food and Garden' sub committee are asking for, 'A Petite Flower Arrangement', no larger than 20cms. This, I'm sure will appeal to many members. The Federation has also organised a number of events, which are all on Zoom for the time being and can be found listed in the ESFWI Newsletter which all our members receive each month.

The NFWI Annual Meeting takes place on 8th June at the Royal Albert Hall and the Resolution for discussion is, 'A call to increase awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer'. The ESFWI, prior to this meeting, are scheduling a Zoom Resolution Roadshow, whereby a representative from the Charity, "Target Ovarian Cancer", will give a talk and, a discussion and questions will follow.

Very best wishes to all our members and continue to keep safe & well.

Frances Parnham



### **Brede Village News**

Brede Village Hall - Classes & Events, please check the website <a href="http://www.brede-pc.org.uk/">http://www.brede-pc.org.uk/</a>

#### **BREDE OPEN GARDENS**

Saturday 3rd July, 11.00am - 5.00pm, £5 per head, All funds to be split between the MS Society & Autistica

For the first time we are holding Brede Open Gardens! Taking the opportunity to hold a post lockdown community event to create a thoroughly relaxed & enjoyable day for all.

We have seven gardens opening in Stubb Lane; five of them have never been open to the public before Some are walled, some ancient & some with outstanding views of the beautiful Brede valley.

All the gardens are easy walking distance from the free off road parking.

Professionally catered coffees, lunches & teas are available, and a dedicated picnic space, if you are bringing your own. There will be various stalls, for your amusement as well.

Pre-order lunch from Brede caterer Gill Potterton, gillpotterton@googlemail.com



#### PLANNED GIVING

We are able to give thanks to God for His many blessings & to recognise our responsibility to Him for the continuing work of His Church here in Brede & in Udimore. There are several ways in which you may contribute to your Church:-

- 1. Parish Giving Scheme by Direct Debit
- 2. Planned Giving Envelope Scheme
- 3. Regular payments by Standing Order
- 4. Cheque (made payable to St. Georges Church, Brede PCC, or to St. Mary's Church, Udimore PCC
- 5. Bequest

If you are a regular U.K. taxpayer your donations can be enhanced by 25p for every £1 contributed under the Gift Aid Scheme.

For further information, please contact:

Brede - Mrs. Sue Sturmey, Broadlands Cottage, Udimore Road,

Broad Oak, Brede TN31 6BX Tel: 01424 882544

Udimore - Mr Jonathan Cornwell, Chatsby, Udimore,

nr. Rye.TN31 6AY Tel: 01424 882486

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Philip Bowden (giving officer for St. George's Church)

Tel: 01892 652404, Email: <a href="mailto:philipgbowden@btinternet.com">philipgbowden@btinternet.com</a> Jonathan Cornwell (giving officer for St. Mary's Church)

Tel: 01424 882486. Email: jonathancornwell@me.com

All enquiries will be treated in strict confidence



#### FRIENDS OF ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH - BREDE

This group was founded in 1992. Money is raised by the members to finance an endowment fund, the interest from which is used to maintain the church.

Would you like to become a Friend? There is no set "membership fee" to join. You may wish to make a one-off donation, or to contribute on a regular basis, perhaps monthly or annually. The choice is yours, and all contributions to the endowment fund are much appreciated.

If you are a tax payer, donations can now be made through the "Gift Aid" scheme which increases the value of all donations by 25% at no extra cost to the donor. If you would like to join, please contact the Friends' Treasurer

Miss Pat Whately
Markham Stubb Lane, Brede, East Sussex TN31 6EH
Telephone: 01424 883069

#### FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH - UDIMORE

St. Mary's Church dates back to Saxon times. By the 19th century it was in a very poor state, dependant on a small parish of about 300 people, and the generosity of individuals.

The Friends of St. Mary's was formed in 1985, concerned mainly with raising funds for the upkeep of the fabric of the church. Over the years we have contributed to repairs and improvements in the church, and are extremely grateful to those who have enabled us to do so.

We welcome anyone who would like to become a Friend and join in with all that this small but vibrant community offers.

A yearly subscription of £5.00 entitles you to vote at the AGM. If you are a UK tax payer you can Gift Aid a donation making it worth 25% more to us, at no extra cost to you.

For more information please contact:

Liz Dean: 01424 882206 Sue Rowan: 01424 882681

### **Udimore Village News**

St. Mary's Community Hall - Classes & Events please contact:

udimorehallbookings@gmail.com



In 1690 one of our Wheeler ancestors started growing hops in West Hoathly, Sussex. Ken Wheeler, one of three farming brothers from Kent, made the move to East Sussex in 1956 farming sheep, hops & fruit at Parsonage Farm. By 1978 Ken was joined by his two sons who quickly established the Pick

Your Own enterprise at neighbouring Tibbs Farm. The enterprise has been kept simple opening the fruit fields to the public during the summer months before returning the sheep to graze the grassed areas for the rest of the year.

The wheel we use as our Tibbs Farm logo was used by Ken Wheeler as a stamp on the farm's apple bushel boxes. As we move forward we think it perfectly encapsulates us & our farm as a whole. We are traditional but progressive, more than just a PYO, a mixed family farm celebrating all we grow & do.

Our cafe & farm shop project at Tibbs really has been a community driven effort (planning permission was really hard work) to all those who helped us - thank you, we really hope you like what we've done to the place during this period of lockdown & are so pleased to be able to welcome you back to Tibbs. It is at the heart of community life & we were pleased to wave Simon Aylott off on his latest mission on the 30th May.

"Pub landlord battling cancer cycled 2,000 miles to Sicily for charity towing his BED behind him - and soon he's off again, this time around Britain's entire coastline"

Note: Udimore Village News will follow his progress in the coming months.

- The problem of traffic through the village is ongoing Operation Crackdown is a joint initiative run by the SSRP and Sussex Police which gives the Sussex community an opportunity to report specific instances of anti-social driving/ riding as well as any abandoned vehicles left on the roads. Here is the link, <a href="http://www.operationcrackdown.org/">http://www.operationcrackdown.org/</a>, which gives you details of how to report an incident.
- St Mary's Community Hall is now fully open for classes and small events.
   There are still a few dates available if you are hoping to hold a celebration
- News is that the old cricket pitch in Udimore is going to be developed as a wild flower meadow.



#### STN71 BROAD OAK TURNOUTS

16/04/2021----15/05/2021

Well, the year is plodding along and we are hopefully nearing the new 'norm'. Regarding joining us at the station, we have two people in the system (E and J, you know who you are!)

and there are places for two more to join us, so if you fancy finding out a bit more about what we do then please get in touch or look up Recruitment on The East Sussex Fire and Rescue Services website. You never know, a new venture is on your doorstep, get in touch as you may enjoy it, as I found out 35years ago!

As usual I will start the report with the Standby's, and we have had one or two! 2@ Stn70 (Rye), 4@ Stn73 (Bexhill), 5@ Stn72 (Battle), 11@ Stn75 (The Ridge) and 21@ Stn76 (Bohemia Road)

The First call was to an 'Assistance to Ambulance', we were on the way to The Ridge for a Standby when we received a priority to go to Battle. Crew Manager (CM) Jordan Yates and Firefighter (FF) Graeme Dinning donned Tyvex suits. Over the years we seem to be attending more of these incidents, whether it's due to manual handling, I don't know but we assist where we can.

We were heading towards Battle on another Standby when were we asked to do a re-inspection at a fire that Battle attended earlier in the day. Before Battle had a chance to do their own re-inspection they had been sent out on another call hence us being asked to do it. The incident was an 'out of control' bonfire that had spread to some undergrowth. Even though it looked out, the fire was during a dry warm period, (remember those times!) we scanned the area and saw a whisper of smoke, digging down, we found out the smoke was coming from a buried tree stump. FF Gareth Oliver put the pump in gear and we used a hose reel to damp the area down.

I was away for a few days and put CM Jordan Yates in charge of the 'Empire' the crew then had an extraordinary run of calls, 10, yes 10 in one day. From Standby's to AFA's (Automatic Fire Alarms), to attending a 'Fire persons reported', another fire, this time in Sedlescombe, a Rescue from Height in Hastings, another fire in Battle, a washing machine alight in Hastings, and yet another fire in Hastings. Fortunately, many of those calls did not develop into anything but it kept then on their toes!

We were Standing by in Bexhill, when their engine returned just as the bells went down again, this time we were sent to another Assistance to Ambulance call in Sidley. Jordan and Ff Graeme Dinning had to don the Tyvex suits, (these are the white all-in-one haz -mat suits you see on tv or social media)

## st michael's hospice



June

Winchelsea Beach, Bexhill Old Town, Pett , Rye ,
Cooden & Little Common

#### https://www.stmichaelshospice.com/index.php?p=support-us/open-gardens-2021

We are all looking for different ways to communicate with our friends and family during lockdown, and for many that has meant the art of letter writing has returned. If like many around the world you have enjoyed writing to your loved ones, We are offering our stunning Open Garden greeting cards by mail order. For just £6 (including UK P&P) you will receive 6 randomly selected, beautiful cards.

To order these please click on

https://www.stmichaelshospice.com/index.php?p=support-us/open-garden-greeting-cards-by-mail-order

#### Moonlight and Memories Walk is back for 2021

Celebrate life, love and friendship and remember your loved ones at Moonlight & Memories Walk 2021. Join together with family and friends on Saturday 18th September from 8pm and walk a special 10K in memory of your loved ones. No matter your age or ability, everyone is welcome to take part and share in this time of reflection.

St Michael's Hospice is excited to announce a new 10K route for 2021 ending at their beautiful gardens in St Leonards on Sea and invite you to light up the grounds with special paper lanterns, which you are welcome to decorate before the event. If you are unable to attend the event in person this year, or would prefer to support the Hospice by walking in a place which is special to you, there is the opportunity to sign up for a virtual walk too.

Every participant will receive a Moonlight and Memories Walk medal on completion of the walk.

Early bird tickets go on sale Friday 21st May at <a href="https://www.stmichaelshospice.com/moonlightmemories">www.stmichaelshospice.com/moonlightmemories</a>

#### Will you be St Michael's Hospice's next £2,000 winner?

By signing up to play the Hospice's weekly Lottery, not only could you be in with a chance of winning £2,000 and 104 other cash prizes every week, you will be making a difference to people living with life limiting illnesses and those in need of bereavement support across Hastings and Rother.

Sign up to play today for just £1 per entry, per week at www.stmichaelshospice.com/lottery

#### Vinehall International Classical Concerts - 32nd season 2021



#### DANIEL LEBHARDT (piano) Saturday 5th June 7.30pm



#### **Programme**

Haydn Sonata in E-flat Hob.XVI:52 Schubert Three Klavierstucke D946, Op.90

Liszt Transcendental Etude No.11 in D flat (Harmonies du Soir

Liszt Transcendental Etude No 4 in D minor (Mazeppa) Beethoven Sonata No. 23 in F minor, Op. 57 'Appassionata'

In 2014 Daniel Lebhardt won 1st Prize at the Young Concert Artists International auditions in Paris & New York. A year later he was invited to record music by Bartók for Decca & in 2016 won the Most Promising Pianist Prize at the Sydney International Competition.

https://www.askonasholt.com/artists/daniel-lebhardt/

There are a few tickets left for each performance. If you would like to attend, please contact Geoffrey Whitehead T: 01580 883092

#### LONDON BRANDENBURG ENSEMBLE

Sunday 27th June, 7.30 p.m.

#### **Programme**

Corelli Concerto Grosso Op.6 no.2 in F Albinoni Oboe Concerto in d min op.9

Bach Brandenburg Concerto no. 5 BWV 1050
Bach Brandenburg Concerto no.4 BWV 1049
Vivaldi Recorder Concerto 'La Notte' RWV 439
Bach Brandenburg Concerto no.2 BWV 1047

The London Brandenburg Ensemble is a newly founded ensemble of period instrument musicians brought together by artistic director Jane Gordon. The ensemble's players are of outstanding calibre, holding principal positions with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and English Baroque Soloists as well as enjoying flourishing solo and chamber music careers.

This concert will (subject to current plans) be the first one when we are back to 'old normal'. Tickets will be sent out when we get confirmation that 'old normal' is not 'new normal'. We should be able to enjoy our Pimms once more and picnic in the grounds beforehand.

For full details/free mailing/tickets contact T: 01580 883092 - OR write to A.G. Whitehead, Vinehall School, Robertsbridge. E. Sussex TN32 5JL OR e-mail geoffreywhitehead@vinehallschool.com

The next call was a bit unusual, initially the call was to a fire alarm sounding at a high rise building in St Leonards. When we arrived, I went to investigate looking for a reason why the alarm had gone off. After searching part of the building, I went into a corridor and was surprised to see a member of the social services restraining a resident who was a suicide threat. I confirmed that there was no fire situation then went about trying to calm down the atmosphere. After having a chat, I asked him how long he had lived here and where did he live before. I then asked him what he thought of seagulls, we both agreed, and wry smile showed on his face. The Police then arrived so the incident was handed over to them, not your usual fire call!

The last call was to a large heritage house where the fire alarm was a false alarm.

Well, that's it for this period. When I started this report, I mentioned we are looking for a couple more people to join us at the station and if you could provide cover during the day that would be a great help to us, give it some thought, you'd be surprised, you might even enjoy it!

Keep safe Watch Commander Chris Sands Stn71 Broad Oak







#### ORGANIC FOOD WITH LOCAL ROOTS

**Thursday, July 1st sees the launch** of a scheme that delivers fresh fruit, veg and honey grown at Hope Farm in Peasmarsh & Hope Farm Garden in Hawkhurst.

Proceeds from the weekly boxes, which start at £12.50, support delivery of Hands of Hope's wellbeing projects

tackling food poverty, rural isolation, and loneliness with specific focus on marginalised groups.

Demand is expected to be high, so, if you live in the following postcode areas: **TN5**, **TN17**, **TN18**, **TN19**, **TN31**, **TN32**, **TN33** and **TN36** and interested in participating, please visit our Farm Shop at www.hohcharity.co.uk.

12



## In the Garden with David Oliver

What a difference a warmer wind and some rain makes to a garden. A few days after the weather changed one could see plants starting to emerge and grow vigorously – even the weeds. My potatoes and broad beans have really shot up, and I have just started cutting asparagus and have had some good-sized

spears. I sowed some asparagus seed some years ago and they seem to be growing well. If any body wants some plants to try, please get in touch.

The azaleas are just starting to flower and the rhododendrons will not be too long although the pale yellow one sheltered by other shrubs is in full bloom. The birds seem to have done well, I saw some young robins in the bushes although sadly a hedge sparrow which had nested in the clematis by my shed lost one of its chicks in my water tank, hopefully the others have survived. We now have a song thrush nesting in the clematis on Rhiannon's floral shed, I am pleased to see them and glad I stopped using slug pellets some years ago.

Rabbits seem to be on the increase, I planted my brussels sprout plants out a couple of weeks ago and they seemed to enjoy them more than my rose bushes! I have had to erect wire netting round the sprouts and I have also put wire netting around my pea and bean plot – it seems to be working so far. The parsnips have grown well this year, last year I had germination problems despite making three attempts at sowing. I have sown small batches of radishes, lettuce and spring onions in two weekly intervals to provide a continuous succession of tender salad. Sweetcorn sown earlier will be planted out soon although it is not too late to sow seed now. Place the plants in blocks rather than rows to accommodate better pollination. To my mind there is nothing better than fresh picked sweetcorn straight from the garden into the saucepan. It is also not too late to sow runner and french beans. I often sow a later batch to provide tender beans later in the season.

The greenhouses are doing well, the tomatoes – my old favourite, Ailsa Craig, and a new variety, San Marzano which is a plum type suited for cooking as the do not produce so many seeds- have their first flower trusses on them and they look neater now that I have pinched the side shoots out of them. I planted some melon plants out in the new greenhouse and have some cucumber plants developing and will join them when ready. My Black Hamburg grape has produced many bunches of grapes on the vine this year, I am not looking forward to thinning them out as they develop.

#### **Park Farm Flowers**

Debbie Chalet and her husband martin moved to Iden, July 2020 after living in London all their lives but were regular visitors to Rye. They wanted a property that had character, but most importantly had the opportunity for them to expand their hobbies of woodwork and flowers. Ideally a good-sized garden plus some land to start a flower farm and try their hand at vegetable growing too. Living the dream you might say!



Park Farm in Iden has provided that opportunity and a business has been started up to sell the flowers being grown. <a href="www.parkfarmflowers.com">www.parkfarmflowers.com</a> is offering the chance for local people to get flowers in buckets or bunches with gift wrap plus local businesses are being approached to adorn their premises with flowers as they open up to the public once covid restrictions lift. Exciting times



Debbie said "Flowers have always given me pleasure and I love passing that on to others. Their scent is uplifting as well as their colour and form"

The 3000 bulbs planted last autumn have been on show these last few weeks and many traditional British flowers ,all grown from seed, are going in the raised beds for sale over the summer and early autumn. Cornflowers , stocks , dahlias , cosmos , zinnias and corncockles to mention a few.



#### FLOWERS - Albert Laighton

They are autographs of angels, penned
In Nature's green-leaved book, in blended tints,
Borrowed from rainbows and the sunset skies,
And written everywhere—on plain and hill,
In lonely dells, 'mid crowded haunts of men;
On the broad prairies, where no eye save God's
May read their silent, sacred mysteries. Thank God for flowers!
They gladden human hearts;
Seraphic breathings part their fragrant lips
With whisperings of Heaven.