

**The Parish Magazine**  
Reaching out to the community  
**February 2024**



**ST. GEORGE'S, BREDE**



**ST. MARY'S, UDIMORE**



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



## Benefice Clergy

### RECTOR

**The Revd Dr. Owen Edwards**  
The Rectory, Brede Hill, BREDE TN31 6HG  
Telephone: 01424 882201  
email: rector@stgeorgesbrede.org.uk

### LAY READER

**Mrs Lesley Curtis,**  
Fairlight View, Udimore Road, Udimore, Rye, TN31 6BG  
Telephone: 0750 678 0044  
email: lesley.udimore@gmail.com

### RETIRED PRIESTS

**The Rev'd Dick Dengate,**  
Apuldram, Main Street, Peasmarsh, Rye, TN31 6UL  
Telephone 01797 230980

**The Rev'd Dr. Bill Dolman**  
Little Belhurst Cottage, Hobbs Lane, BECKLEY TN31 6TT  
Telephone: 01797 260203

**The Rev'd Jim Hobbs**  
Courtyard Cottage, Main Road, Westfield, TN35 4QE  
Telephone: 0772 630 2341

### Clerical Administrative Assistant

**Mrs. Anna Edwards**  
email: info@stgeorgesbrede.org.uk

### ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, BREDE

<https://www.stgeorgesbrede.org.uk/>

#### CHURCHWARDENS:

**Mr. David Oliver**  
2 Bellhurst Cottages, Chitcombe Road  
Broad Oak, TH31 6EU  
Telephone: 01424 882037  
email: davidoliver489@gmail.com

**VACANT**

### ST. MARY'S CHURCH, UDIMORE

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

#### CHURCHWARDENS:

**VACANT**

**VACANT**

#### TREASURERS:

**BREDE**  
**Mr. David Oliver,**  
2 Bellhurst Cottages, Chitcombe Rd  
Broad Oak, TN31 6EU  
Telephone: 01424 882037  
email: davidoliver489@gmail.com

**UDIMORE**  
**Mr. Harry Curtis**  
Fairlight View, Udimore Rd..  
Udimore TN31 6GB  
Telephone: 01424 883246  
email: harry@ecooffice.tax

## 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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<b>4 CHARITIES</b>	Mrs. Liz Turgoose	01424 882657
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### CHURCH FLOWERS

BREDE:	Mrs. Sue Sturmey	01424 882544
UDIMORE:	Ms. Nadia Florence-Marshall	01424 882948

### DEANERY SYNOD ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

BREDE:	Vacant
UDIMORE:	Vacant

### ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

BREDE:	Mr. Brian Firman	0756 1174646
UDIMORE:	Vacant	

### FRIENDS OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

Miss Pat Whately	01424 883069
------------------	--------------

### FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

Mrs. Elizabeth Dean	01424 882206
---------------------	--------------

### PARISH GIVING SCHEME

BREDE:	Mr. Philip Bowden	01892 652404
UDIMORE:	Mr. Jonathan Cornwell	01424 882486

### PCC SECRETARY

BREDE:	Mrs. Anna Edwards	01424 882201
UDIMORE:	Mrs. Celia Langrish	01424 882250

### SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Vacant	
--------	--

### TOWER CAPTAIN

BREDE:	Mr. Colin Mitchell	
	Mrs Wendy Burchett	01424 882727

From The Rectors Pen

February 2024

*Dear Friends,*

**Fr. Owen**

### Parish Services for February

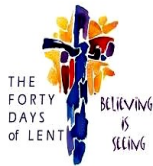
#### St George's Brede

Sun 4th : 9.30am Holy Communion  
 Wed 7th: 11.00am Eucharist  
 Sun 11th: 9.30am Holy Communion  
 Wed 14th: 11.00am Ash Wednesday  
 Sun 18th: 9.30am Holy Communion  
 Wed 21st: 11.00am Eucharist

Sun 25th: 9.30pm Holy Communion

#### St Mary's Udimore

Sun 4th: 11.15am Parish Eucharist  
 Sun 11th: 11.15am Family Service  
 Sun 18th: 11.15am Parish Eucharist  
 Sun 25th: 11.15am Parish Eucharist



### 2024 Lent Programme Frugal Lunch

Every Wednesday in Lent  
 11.30am - 12.30pm at the Rectory  
 After the morning mass, beginning on Ash Wednesday  
 14th February .

### Table of Readings for February

#### Sunday 4th - 5th Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: Isaiah 40: 21-31  
 Psalm: 147:1-11,20c  
 Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23  
 Gospel: Mark 1. 29-39

#### Sunday 11th - Transfiguration Sunday

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12  
 Psalm: 50:1-6  
 Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6  
 Gospel: 9:2-9

#### Wednesday 14th - Ash Wednesday

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-12  
 Psalm 51:1-17 -  
 Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10  
 Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

#### Sunday 18th - 1st Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17  
 Psalm: 25: 1-10  
 Second Reading: 1 Peter 3: 18-22  
 Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

#### Sunday 25th - 2nd Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
 Psalm: 22:23-31  
 Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25  
 Gospel: Mark 8: 31-38

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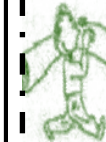
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**The Lenten Season**, or what we call Lent, traditionally starts around January, culminates during what we call "Holy Week" & finally, Easter Sunday. Have you wondered how Holy Week is celebrated in other countries?



**Brazil** holds the world's biggest, longest & most famous carnival celebration starting on Palm Sunday & finishing four days after. The highlight is always the lively Rio Samba Parade usually participated by an average of 70,000 people.

**Czech Republic** - From Holy Thursday night, the bells of churches fell silent across parts of Europe, such as in Slovakia, the Czech Republic & Luxembourg. Children were told that the bells were quiet because they had gone to Rome to make confession. As there were no bells, children would be sent out with wooden clappers to call the villagers & townspeople to services for the rest of the Triduum. With dawn on Easter morning, the bells began to ring once more. Thursday of Holy Week is called Soot-Sweeping or Black Wednesday because chimneys were traditionally cleaned this day to prepare for Easter.

**England** - The arrival of Lent is marked by making pancakes & holding pancake races. The British Isles has one of the most beloved Lenten customs of eating hot cross buns to symbolize the Cross. Churches are usually busy during Easter Sunday which they refer to as "Mothering Sunday" During the Middle Ages, the English traditionally marked Laetare Sunday with the celebration of "Mothering" Sunday, so-called because apprentices were given the day to go & visit their "mother churches," the churches where they were baptized. So many babies are baptized during this Sunday.

**India** - You'd never guess that Holy Week is celebrated in India & jointly celebrated by Christians, Hindu, & Muslim worshippers. The three days before Easter Sunday are celebrated with music, dancing, & food festivals, culminating in a huge mass on Easter. There is no feast, although there is the Chembeduppu ceremony in which offerings of raw or half-cooked rice are placed in large copper vessels (chembu) at the churches. After the Mass, the copper vessels are carried in a procession, with golden & silver crosses, flags & bands. During Ash Wednesday all three religions have a Raasa (in Sanskrit meaning "fun") Parade with music, dancing, & fireworks. In all of Indian history, there have been no recorded violence between the three religions during these Holy Week celebrations, making it the most unique of all Lenten celebrations.

**Sweden** - is a country known for the majority of its population being atheists & yet on the Tuesday of Holy Week that Swedes call "Fat Tuesday," families eat pancakes accompanied by bowls of pea soup. On Holy or Maundy Thursday, children dress as witches go "trick or treating" (since Swedes don't celebrate Halloween) & knock on doors to receive candy & "Easter" eggs.

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*Three little boys are in the schoolyard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, "My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper. He calls it a poem and they give him £50." The second boy says, "That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper. He calls it a song and they give him £100." The third boy says, "Hey, my Dad scribbles some words on a piece of paper, calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!"*



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## Brede Farmers' Market

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*Come & support your local  
fisherman, food producers &  
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fresh cake whilst there!**

**Free parking available**

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



## BREDE VILLAGE NEWS

**Brede Design with Flowers** - I am hoping the weather will improve so that we can meet in the Church room on **Monday 26th February** from **11am to 12.30 am**. Inside the programme cards there is a difficult subject as on this day The Global Awards were given & the 'Raspberry award' went to Cat women, so that is what we are depicting. If this is too daunting for our new arrangers then we will do an Isometric design using a variety of greenery and flowers of your choice. **Our March 25<sup>th</sup>** meeting will be an **Easter Design** as it at the end of the week, again your choice of greenery, flowers & any adornments.



Our prayers are with Sue at the moment as she is not well enough to join us.

**Rhiannon Oliver**

Anyone wishing to join please contact



### Brede Friendly Circle

We are still enjoying going to various venues for their coffee. Our January meeting was held at Rhiannon's where we were offered cheese scones and toasted teacakes all home made.

Our next meeting will be visiting Sandhurst tea rooms where the owner is opening specially for us. We need to be there at 10.30am & will be assured of a warm welcome 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**

### Brede Luncheon Club

The Lunch Club Committee send good wishes to all our members for a Healthy and Happy 2024!

We last met together at the 'Red Lion' in December for our celebratory Christmas Lunch and what a happy and festive occasion it was. The delicious two- course Christmas meal, with mince pies and coffee to follow, was enjoyed by us all. Our thanks to Gary, Lindsey and Tilly for all their hard work in making such a special start to the Festive Season for all our members.

We will next meet on: **Tuesday 27th February 2024 at 12.30 pm at the Red Lion.**

For information about us please contact:

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



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**Brede and Udimore Parish Magazine,**

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### Brede WI

Our first meeting of the New Year got underway with a warm welcome from our President, Beryl Jenkins, to our visitors, members & speaker, **Andy Fyfe**.

**theWI**  
**INSPIRING WOMEN**

Plans are afoot for the start of 2024! We are greatly looking forward to celebrating the New Year with lunch at the 'Red Lion' in mid January & then to performing our Pantomime in the Village Hall in February.

The four 'Resolutions' selected to be voted on at our Meeting were displayed,:

- Dental Health Matters;
- Impacts of Poor Housing Conditions;
- Say 'No' to Gambling Advertising;
- Improving Outcomes for Women in the Criminal Justice System.

Our votes will be sent to the ESFWI to be combined with the results from the vote nationally. The Resolution receiving the most support will be debated/voted on at the NFWI Annual Meeting in June.

Members celebrating their birthdays in January received pretty pot plants & cards with our good wishes.

Then we settled to focus on **Andy Fyfe's talk, 'How to spot and avoid fraud scams'**. Anybody can be scanned- we were advised to be aware & look out for the warning signs. This certainly was the clear message as we viewed a video featuring a vulnerable, elderly person living independently in their own home. Trying to deal with fraudsters who cold called, knocked on the door trying to sell goods or offering to do work on the property, sent emails & texts asking for personal information- all became confusing & frightening. Andy's PowerPoint presentation gave many instances of scams & warned us to: Be suspicious of: callers pretending to be from banks or any other respectable organisations; emails & texts that ask you to click on a link. If in doubt call the Police on 101 or your Bank for help & advice. Andy Fyfe then went on to inform us of the most recent scams, highlighting in particular, Romance/Dating websites & the many websites selling fake goods. In conclusion, he reinforced, being alert to fraud in all its guises. Jennie Drew thanked Andy for his very informative, helpful & interesting presentation.

**The ACWW Competition** – A Sock Puppet was won by Fran Parnham  
**Our Next Meeting: Wednesday 14th February at 2.00pm Brede Village Hall**  
Brede WI will perform their **Pantomime**: relatives and friends are invited to come along to see this light hearted entertainment!

**Frances Parnham**

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

## AROUND THE BENEFICE

### 4Charities

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

**Friday 2nd February**  
(& the first Friday of every month)

**10:00 to 12.00**

**Get Together Friday**

**(Coffee, Games & refreshments – Fun & Laughter)**

**St. Mary's Community Hall, Udimore**

**donations of £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)

**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families

Our January meeting was cancelled being so close to Christmas week; the taking down of decorations & family still visiting.

**On Wednesday 7th February our AGM and Branch meeting will be held in the Rectory at 1.30pm**

Payment of subs for the coming year is also due.

**Rhiannon Oliver - Branch Leader & Bexhill District Chairman**

01424 882037 [r.oliver641@btinternet.com](mailto:r.oliver641@btinternet.com)

**Rosemary - Secretary 01424 882567**

## 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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For all further details and booking, please contact:

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## 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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*Rachael: 07921854105, [Elevateyogaclass@googlemail.com](mailto:Elevateyogaclass@googlemail.com)*

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

**Enquires contact Community Hall Booking:  
[udimorehallbooking@gmail.com](mailto:udimorehallbooking@gmail.com)**



## UDIMORE VILLAGE NEWS

**You are invited to lunch with  
Sir Winston Churchill**



**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024 12.30pm  
Udimore Community Hall TN31 6BB**

**The Friends of St Mary's Church Udimore are  
hosting a World War II Themed lunch and  
Mr Tony Strange will be our Sir Winston**

**Tickets £20 per person  
for a 2-Course Lunch  
Soft drinks are provided  
BYO if you like something stronger**

**Second W.W. Attire optional, with a prize for  
the best costume. There will be a raffle.**

**Booking by 31<sup>st</sup> January is  
essential for catering  
Please call Liz Dean on  
01424 882206**

**Proceeds to Friends of St. Marys  
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**Udimore Charity Number 292990**

**THERE' S NO USE CRYING OVER SPILT MILK!**

We are overwhelmed by builders at the moment & I am very much in char lady mode There are biscuits, teabags, sugar & spilt bottles of milk festooned all over the kitchen. As everyone seems to open a different bottle, I spend a good part of my day mopping up after them!

In my frustration I got to thinking about the waste of all these half opened bottles of milk. Did you know that the UK throws out £150m of milk every single year. That's 330,000 tonnes of the stuff, a whopping 7% of all the milk produced in the country. But some clever forward-thinking can reduce the amount of leftover milk we have. Milk is good for you because of its nutritional value, but what you might not realize is how many alternative ways that milk can be used. There are many benefits from milk & in today's busy world when multitasking is essential. It turns out that the milk sitting in your fridge is the best multi-tasker there is! As if you needed any more reasons to love milk, read below & see how you can benefit.

**Many people have their own homemade versions of cleaning products** - but all you need is a glass of milk. If you've run out of your cleaner & your house is a mess, reach in the fridge for your bottle of milk and use what's in those bottles to polish furniture! Just mix equal parts milk & lemon juice to make surfaces shine. This mixture is also good for removing ink stains from clothing. Dip a sponge or cloth in it and scrub the garment, or soak the garment in the mixture overnight and then wash it.

**You can use milk to clean leather** - Just dip a soft cloth in a bowl of milk and apply it to the surface you're cleaning.

**Clean your silverware with sour milk** - If you don't drink your milk intime & it goes sour, soak your silverware in it for 30 minutes & wash it with warm water.

**You can get rid of the cracks in your china dishes with milk** - Put your cracked china in a pot of milk & heat it until it's warm. Then let the dishes soak. It's best to soak it overnight, or as long as possible.

**Enhance your tastebuds** - You can use milk to enhance the taste of corn & fish? Add milk to the water when you're boiling corn on the cob. This makes it taste sweeter & juicier. If you're cooking frozen fish, thaw it in a dish of milk. This will give it a fresh-caught taste.

**Itch? Burn? Milk is Your Fix** - If you spend a lot of time outdoors, mother nature can provide some unfortunate drawbacks.

**For bug bites** - Make a paste using milk, water, salt & apply this to those pesky spots.

**Got a nasty sunburn?** Milk can help with that, too. Just dip a cotton ball in some milk & dab it on the burned skin. This also works if you get caught in an unexpected patch of poison ivy. Calluses are annoying but sometimes unavoidable when you work with your hands or enjoy a physical hobby, sport, or activity. There's no way to get rid of a callus quickly but milk can help to soften the irritations & heal your hands. Apply cold milk to these spots 3 times a day.

**Milk in Beauty Regime** - Use milk in your daily routine & see for yourself. . When you're out of makeup remover, use a mixture of powdered milk & water. This paste can also be used to make shaving cream & a face mask. Apply it to your face for half an hour, then rinse it off with warm water.

For smooth, soft hands, mix milk with oatmeal to make a hand cream. Clean your hands using this mixture, then rinse it off. When you're in the shower, rinse your hair with milk & wash it out. Did you know that milk can also be used as massage oil? This is just another of the many ways that you can use this delicious beverage down to the very last drop.

## Classes & Activities - BREDE

### BREDE VILLAGE HALL

Planning an event - Looking for a venue?  
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**Non– Residents:** 8.00 am - 11.00 pm £19.00 per hour

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#### Treatment Room

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- **Standing charge of £21 for inflatables**
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#### 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: [jpcreaser38@gmail.com](mailto:jpcreaser38@gmail.com)

**YOGA:** Wednesday 9.30 – 10.30am

Jodie: [jpcreaser38@gmail.com](mailto:jpcreaser38@gmail.com)

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

*For information: Lesley Bannister: 07764847234 - Or Just Turn Up!*



## Roll out the White Carpet, the Snowdrop Season is here!

As soon as you take any interest in snowdrops, whether its starting a collection or looking for a snowdrop garden to visit you will realise that Britain is rich in snowdrop stories. The bulb that many believe was brought here by the Romans

has been transformed into a genus made up of some 2,500 cultivars, though some people attribute their arrival to Norman monks., which could account for the large numbers of snowdrops which are found at Abbeys such as Welford and Walsingham. There is a very interesting article on Snowdrops in the February edition of the English Garden which makes fascinating reading. It is also worth taking note of the following suppliers if you are interested in setting up a snowdrop drift in your garden.

**Avon Bulbs:** [avonbulbs.co.uk](http://avonbulbs.co.uk); **Ballyrobert Gardens:** [ballyrobertgardens.com](http://ballyrobertgardens.com);

**Galanthus:** [galanthus.co.uk](http://galanthus.co.uk); **Harveys Garden Plants:** [harveysgardenplants.co.uk](http://harveysgardenplants.co.uk)

**Monksilver Nursery:** [monksilvernursery.co.uk](http://monksilvernursery.co.uk); **Rare Plants:** [rareplants.co.uk](http://rareplants.co.uk)

**North Green Snowdrops:** [northgreensnowdrops.co.uk](http://northgreensnowdrops.co.uk); **Snowdrops:** [snowdrops.me](http://snowdrops.me)



## The National Garden Scheme - Snowdrop & Spring Flowers

Each year NGS starts its visiting season with the inspirational snowdrops & spring flower gardens. After those long, dark winter months, the appearance of these beautiful early spring flowers really lifts the spirit & heralds the start of all those wonderful gardens for us to view through the year. Over 100 gardens open their gates as part of this glorious celebration of the new visiting season. Hundreds of gardens sprinkled with snowdrops & stunning colour contrasting spring blooms including the bright gold of aconites & soft purple of crocus, open their gates to the public from late **January through February into March.**

**Here's a selection of some of the gardens nearby that are open in February:**

**The Old Rectory, Fawkham, Kent** – by arrangement throughout February

**Knowle Hill Farm, Kent** – Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February

**Copton Ash, Kent** – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February

**Spring Platt, Kent** – 21<sup>st</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> January and 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> February

**For more information :** <https://ngs.org.uk/>

The NGS donated a record £3,403,960 to some of the UK's best-loved nursing and health charities - a huge achievement by the garden owners & county team volunteers who together worked tirelessly to host open days at 3,389 gardens across the year.

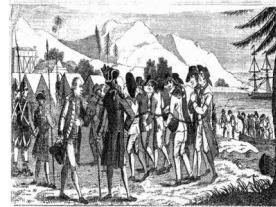


All are welcome to our events. Walks start 10am and are 5 to 6 miles, £3 only. Talks start 2pm at Brede Village Hall, entry including refreshments, £5 or £4 for members. Do come along, we are a friendly group

**Walk: Thursday 8th February:** Meet at The Broad Oak, Broad Oak, for a 5 miles stroll around woodland and pastures, followed by lunch back at the pub.

**Talk: Thursday 15th February: Haydon Luke: 'Bound for Botany Bay: Transportation of Convicts to Australia'.**

Haydon will explore the concept and reality of transportation to Australia, by telling the stories of local men who experienced it - some as transportees, one as a young Hastings seaman, in 1830. According to Wikipedia, almost 20% of modern Australians, in addition to 2 million Britons, are descended from transported convicts. Haydon is an excellent speaker, and lives in Fairlight.



THE LANDING of the CONVICTS at BOTANY BAY

**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 and the South Foreland Lighthouse, for those who so wish. This outing will involve quite an amount of walking, essentially on tracks and across fields.

**Cost per person: £32.00.**

**If you wish to join our association, or just come along,** contact Membership Secretary Dee Williams, 07760-115413, or Louise Hull, 07791-383323.

*John Wright*

## St Michael's hospice

### Saturday Social

The start of a New Year can be a difficult and often lonely time for many, which is why St Michael's Hospice invites you to their Saturday Socials. **They are held on the last Saturday of every month from 10am - 12pm at the Arthur Easton Centre at St Michael's Hospice (Upper Maze Hill, St Leonards on Sea TN38 0LB).** Everyone is welcome for a chat, fresh tea, coffee & delicious bakes. **To find out more, visit their website: [www.stmichaelsospice.com/event-diary](http://www.stmichaelsospice.com/event-diary)**

### Hastings Half Marathon - Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024!

Join a team of St Michael's Hospice runners and be part of something special in 2024. Whether you're focused on New Years resolutions, or are a regular Hastings Half runner, get your trainers on & help to raise awareness & vital funds for your local Hospice. Each runner will receive a free Relax & Refresh bundle, St Michael's Hospice running vest or t-shirt & support from their cheer squad on the big day

**Register to run here: <https://www.hastings-half.co.uk> and contact the Hospice's Fundraising team to let them know you've signed up on 01424 456396 or email [fundraising@stmichaelsospice.com](mailto:fundraising@stmichaelsospice.com)**

### An Evening with Jo Brand and Friends - Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> 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)

**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@stmichaelsospice.com](mailto:fundraising@stmichaelsospice.com) or by calling 01424 456396