



# Ringmer Church and Village News



**May 2012**

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[www.ringmervillagenews.org.uk](http://www.ringmervillagenews.org.uk)

# Ringmer Church and Village News



*Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits which Thou hast given  
me, for all the pains and insults which Thou  
hast borne for me.  
O most merciful Redeemer, Friend and  
Brother, may I know thee more clearly,  
love thee more dearly, and follow thee  
more nearly. Amen.  
Prayer of St Richard of Chichester 1245-1253*

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*Please Note: Depending on the quantity of articles received, the location of certain items may vary.*

**Editor:** Edwina Morris, 27 Oakmede Way, Ringmer. Tel: 01273 813596

Items for publication are welcome and can be sent by hand, post or e-mail to [editor@ringmervillagenews.org.uk](mailto:editor@ringmervillagenews.org.uk) However, they should be received by the Editor **before the 27th** of the month. The Editor reserves the right to edit, cut or refuse to publish any contribution.

The magazine is published monthly and is also available on-line at:

[www.ringmervillagenews.org.uk](http://www.ringmervillagenews.org.uk)

**Adverts:** Andy Eager, 56 Nevill Road, Uckfield. Tel: 01825 769595 or email [advertising@ringmervillagenews.org.uk](mailto:advertising@ringmervillagenews.org.uk)

**Subscriptions:** Contact Mary & Jim Greenwood, at Lilac Cottage, Norlington Lane. Tel: 01273 812768

## Services at St Mary's

### Monthly Sunday Services

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

8am	Holy Communion
9.45am	Family Service
6.30pm	Parish Eucharist

#### 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Sunday

8am	Holy Communion
9.45am	Parish Eucharist
6.30pm	Evensong

#### 3<sup>rd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Sunday

8am	Holy Communion
9.45am	Family Eucharist
6.30pm	Evensong

*A Sunday Club for children is held during the 9.45 am Service on most Sundays.*

*There is also a Saturday Club before the first Sunday in each month. Toddlers' Time is also held monthly*

*Contact Juliet Lyon 813298*

### Weekday Services

Morning Prayer (8 am) and Evening Prayer (5 pm) are said daily.

Holy Communion every Friday (11 am).

### Contact

For Holy Baptism, Banns or Marriage, please contact St Mary's Vicar:  
The Revd Canon Will Pratt, MA  
The Vicarage, Vicarage Way,  
Ringmer, Nr Lewes BN8 5LA  
Tel: 01273 812243

Email: [wrpratt@btinternet.com](mailto:wrpratt@btinternet.com)

*Please note that magazine items should be sent to the Editor (see page 1)*

*The Blessed Sacrament is reserved in the Church.*

## Message from St Mary's

Dear Friends,

When my grandmother was ten she was taken to see Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee procession in London and she would recall how they arrived early enough to be at the front of the crowd. However, a while before the Queen's procession passed, the carriages of some important people drove up and stopped in front of them. The little ten year old girl was not now going to see, until the occupants of the carriage invited her and her brother to come up into the carriage to watch. It was an enduring memory of my grandmother, which I was told several times when I was young. What was going to be a very special day for her was nearly ruined, but she came away feeling it had been even more special.



The forthcoming Diamond Jubilee for our Queen will probably not figure in the national psyche in the same way as that for Queen Victoria, but we are marking a significant event. To be committed and loyal for sixty years is a notable achievement. In one sense the Queen had no choice. She was born into her position, but she has lived it out in a remarkable way. She may be a special person, but she has made many other people feel very special as well. And she has done this with a dedication, grace and charm which has been often remarked upon. Not all those born into such positions have lived their role as she has done.

Most people don't feel special very often. Few are beautiful, talented, gifted or any of the other things that our society seems to value so highly. But we are all special; we all matter. It is one of the foundations of our relationship with God that he holds us and loves us. About 2,500 years ago Isaiah (44.2) heard God say, "I am your Creator: You were in my care before you were born."

My grandmother was made to feel special. The Queen can make people feel special. The one who loves you can make you feel special. But no one can make you feel as special as the God who gives everything for you.

*Will Pratt, Vicar of St Mary's*

# Church Calendar

# May/June

*This calendar lists Church events. For all other dates, see the 'Dates for your Diary' list given later in the magazine.*

## May

Wednesday	9	1.30 pm	Toddlers' Time at St Mary's
Saturday	12	11-4 pm	Plant Sale at the Vicarage
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>13</b>		<b>THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / ROGATION</b>
		8 am	Holy Communion
		9.45 am	Sung Eucharist
		12 noon	'Bless a Farm' Service
		6.30 pm	Evensong
Monday	14	10.30am	The Bible for us Today in the Church Room
Tuesday	15	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union meets in the Church Room
Thursday	17	7.30 pm	Eucharist for Ascension Day
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>20</b>		<b>THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION</b>
		8 am	Holy Communion
		9.45 am	Family Eucharist
		6.30 pm	Taizé Service
Monday	21	10.30am	Intercessory Prayer Group at 51 Delves House
		7.30 pm	PCC meeting in the Church Room
Wednesday	23	2.30 pm	Singalong meets in the Church Room
Thursday	24	7 pm	HOMELINK meets in the Church Room
Friday	25	2.30 pm	MU Lewes District Committee meets in the Church Room
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>27</b>		<b>PENTECOST SUNDAY</b>
		8 am	Holy Communion
		9.45 am	Sung Eucharist
		1 pm	Pentecost Lunch in the Village Hall
		6.30 pm	Evensong
Monday	28	7.30 pm	Circle of Quiet in the Lady Chapel

## June

Saturday	2	10 am	Saturday Club
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>TRINITY SUNDAY</b>
		8 am	Holy Communion
		9.45 am	Family Service
		6.30 pm	Diamond Jubilee Service
Thursday	7	7.30 pm	Celtic Eucharist for Corpus Christi
Saturday	9	10 am	Coffee Morning at 'Sunrise', Laughton Road
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>
		8 am	Holy Communion
		9.45 am	Sung Eucharist
		6.30 pm	Evensong
Monday	11	10.30am	The Bible for Us Today in the Church Room
		11 am	Friends of Nakuru meet in church
Tuesday	12	7.30 pm	Men's Club meets in the Church Room
Wednesday	13	1.30 pm	Toddlers' Time at St Mary's
Saturday	16	8.30 am	Men's Breakfast in the Church Room

## Church Notes

*St Mary's Church Website: [www.ringmerchurch.org.uk](http://www.ringmerchurch.org.uk)*

**Al Ahli Hospital, Gaza:** This hospital is struggling at the moment and relies on a generator to power its operating theatre equipment. This is because there is a shortage of many things in Gaza, not least power because there is no fuel for the power station which runs now at a third of its capacity. BibleLands is appealing for help and we have sent £500 from the disaster fund to assist.

**Rogation Sunday:** The 'Bless-a-Farm' service will take place on Sunday 13 May at 12noon. We shall go to one of the farms in the parish and say our prayers for food and also for the care of animals and the environment. We shall also remember those who struggle in this and other countries to provide the necessities of life. At the end we shall ask God's blessing on the crops and farming life of our community.

**Plant Sale:** This will be held at the vicarage on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> May from 10 am to 4 pm. Donations of plants will be appreciated on the day before.

**Diamond Jubilee:** There will be a service to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 6.30 pm. We hope that this will be an opportunity for the village to express its thanks to God for a reign of great personal dedication and commitment to our country.



**Special Services:** Ascension Day on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> May will be marked by a Celtic Eucharist at 7.30 pm. The next Taizé Service is on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30 pm.

**Churchyard Service:** This will be held on Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> June at 3 pm in the new churchyard. The short service includes a time of remembrance. There is a tea afterwards. All welcome.

**St Mary's Pentecost Lunch** We invite you to join our Pentecost Buffet Lunch in the Village Hall on Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> May at 1 pm. There is no charge but a donation will be gratefully received. If you would like to come along please contact either Shirley Squires (812417) or Thelma Saunders (812822) as it does help to have some idea of numbers. We look forward to seeing you.



### TRAINS, CRANES and AUTOMOBILES:

Come and join Mothers' Union for a Family  
Fun Day

### BENTLEY WILDFOWL

SATURDAY 14 JULY 10.30am – 4pm.



Take a walk with the wildfowl, visit the historic house and gardens, ride on the miniature steam train, explore the woodland trail, get revved up in the Motor Museum, relax in the tearooms and picnic area and worship in the open-air.

£5 per person (children under 3 free).

For further details please contact Shirley on 01273 812417

## St Mary's Mothers' Union



## Shirley Squires

We were very grateful to Ffion Wilkes for telling us about her pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostella. As we know Ffion and Brenda did not find the walk at all easy, we were all very impressed that they were able to finish it and get their certificates. Well done! At the meeting on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> May, we have a speaker from Raystede. You will be very welcome to come along and hear about the work that goes on there.

Mothers' Union Website: [www.themothersunion.org](http://www.themothersunion.org)

## St Mary's Men's Club

## Richard Saunders

Will Pratt gave an enthralling talk to an appreciative audience at the Men's Club, standing in for Ian Coates-Stephens who was unwell. Will brought along favourite books to highlight important events in his life and gave the audience an insight into his broad knowledge and love of literature and ecclesiastical history.

Forthcoming Events in the Church Room at 7.30 pm:

- 12 June - Breaky Bottom Vineyard. Meet in church car park at 6 pm - lifts available. This should prove to be really interesting - our local vineyard has gained a great reputation. See how the wine is made, enjoy a tasting and, if you wish, make a purchase. Members and their Ladies only.

## Building the Kingdom in the Country: A future for the rural Church

A Church & Countryside conference aimed at building up the Church in the countryside will take place on **Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> May, 11am – 5pm** at The Steyning Centre, Fletchers Croft, Steyning, BN44 3RQ. Cost £10.00 per person, bring your own lunch.

What are the opportunities for churches for sharing faith and outreach? How can we develop and carry out our Mission Action Plans to make God's Kingdom more of a reality in the countryside? Keynote speaker: Bishop Mark Rylands, Bishop of Shrewsbury – an advocate for rural evangelism. Table Talk and discussion looking at real opportunities for making more of your rural church, chaired by Revd Barry Osborne, Secretary of the Rural Evangelism Network.

For more information or to book a place, please contact Jennie Davies at Church House, Hove telephone: 01273 425686 email: [jennie.davies@diochi.org.uk](mailto:jennie.davies@diochi.org.uk) or book on line: <http://churchandcountryside2012.eventbrite.com/>

## From the Registers - April

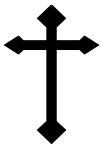
<b>Baptisms</b>	1	Megan Ellie Goscombe
	29	Edith Dolores Audrey Christie
	29	Jack William Knight
<b>Weddings</b>	7	Adam Wightman and Anna West
<b>Funerals</b>	10	Gwen Vincett

## Floodlighting

## Paul Hathway

April	19	Michael Charles King	In Loving Memory
May	6	Len Neenan	In Loving Memory
	11	Len Neenan	Birthday Thoughts

*The Church can be floodlit on request for a donation of £10 (phone 813742 or 812502)*



A warm welcome and a time of fellowship awaits all who join us at our services to worship the Lord Jesus Christ and to hear what God is saying to us.

Sunday Services are held in the Village Hall at 10.30 am and 6 pm.

A Sunday Club is available for children up to Age 15.

Church Prayer meeting is held weekly on Tuesdays at 10.30 am / Mid-Week Home Group is held on Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm (Venue announced in Church)

For any pastoral or other needs: please contact Neil Thornicroft on 01825-750283

*'For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.'* (1 Thessalonians Chapter 5 verses: 9 & 10 NIV)

### Speakers and Services for May and June:

<b>May</b>	13	10.30 am	Morning Service	Tony Wood 'God's Chosen and Holy People' (1 Peter Chapter 2 verses: 4 - 10)
		6 pm	Evening Service	Paul Daniels 'How to Live to Please God' (1 Thessalonians Chapter 4 verses: 1 - 12)
	20	10.30 am	Morning Service	Trevor Smetham 'Living Good Lives even when Treated Unfairly' (1 Peter Chapter 2 verses: 11 - 25)
		6 pm	Evening Service	Gill Salisbury 'The Coming of the Lord' (1 Thessalonians Chp 4 verses: 13-18 & Chp 5 Verses: 1-11)
	27	10.30 am	Morning Service	John Berry 'Submission in the Home and in the Church' (1 Peter Chapter 3 verses: 1 - 9)
		6 pm	Evening Service	Neil Thornicroft 'The Checklist for Encouraging Others' (1 Thessalonians Chapter 5 Verses: 12 - 28)
<b>June</b>	3	10.30 am	Morning Service	Tony Smith 'How to react when Something Bad happens to us' (1 Peter Chapter 3 verses: 10 - 17)
		6 pm	Evening Service	Diamond Jubilee Service <i>Joining with the Parish Church</i>

## Notice Board

### St Mary's Christmas Fair

**Alison Hall**

I know its a little early to discuss Christmas but we are looking for a couple of people to run the Yellow and the Green stall this year. The fair is on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> December at 10 am. If you are able to help please let me know on 812461 or tell the Vicar.

### Recognition of Service

**Janet Skeef**

I'm pleased to inform readers that Cllr Veronica Humphrey's dedication on behalf of the community over the last ten years, especially in relation to a care home in Harvard Road, has been recognised by an invitation to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. Congratulations Veronica.

### New 143 Bus Service Timetable from 21<sup>st</sup> May

From the 21<sup>st</sup> May, the timetable for the 143 service which runs through Ringmer will change and full details are shown on the following page. This timetable can also be accessed from Ringmer Parish Council Website [www.ringmerparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.ringmerparishcouncil.org.uk) together with links to other services that run through Ringmer (28 and 29B) which may also have experienced changes.

## 143 Eastbourne - Hailsham - Ringmer - Lewes

**Mondays to Fridays except bank holidays, from 21 May 2012**

	route number	143	143	143	143	143	143
	notes						
Eastbourne (Terminus Road)	-	-	-	1045	1345	1635	
Hurst Arms PH	-	-	-	1053	1353	1643	
Willingdon Road (Park Avenue)	-	-	-	1056	1356	1646	
Willingdon (Church Street)	-	-	-	1058	1358	1648	
Lower Willingdon (British Queen)	-	-	-	1100	1400	<b>H</b>	
Wannock Village (opp Glen Close)	-	-	-	1103	1403	<b>H</b>	
Polegate (High Street Medical Centre)	-	-	-	1107	1407	<b>H</b>	
Hailsham (North Street)	0755	-	-	1119	1419	1701	
Hailsham (Harebeating Stores)	0800	-	-	1123	1423	1705	
Horsebridge Mill	0805	-	-	1125	1425	1707	
Lower Dicker (Stores)	0810	-	-	1127	1427	1709	
Deanland Wood	-	0923	-	1138	1438	1720	
Golden Cross (Inn)	0815	0925	-	1140	1440	1722	
Laughton (The Roebuck)	0819	0929	-	1144	1444	1726	
Ringmer (Community College)	0824	0934	-	1149	1449	1731	
Ringmer (Harrisons Lane)	-	0936	-	1151	1451	-	
Ringmer (Springett Avenue)	-	0938	-	1153	1453	-	
Ringmer (Old Post Office)	0826	0940	-	1155	1455	1732	
Malling (Church Lane)	0835	0945	-	1200	1500	-	
Lewes (Tesco)	0840	0947	-	1202	1502	-	
Lewes (Bus Station)	0845	0950	-	1205	1505	1740	

**Mondays to Fridays except bank holidays, from 21 May 2012**

	route number	143	143	143	143	143	143
	notes						
Lewes (Bus Station)	0722	0920	1220	1520	1725		
Lewes (Tesco)	-	0923	1223	1523	1728		
Malling (Church Lane)	-	0925	1225	1525	1730		
Ringmer (Old Post Office)	0730	0930	1230	1530	1735		
Ringmer (Springett Avenue)	-	0932	1232	1532	-		
Ringmer (Harrisons Lane)	-	0934	1234	1534	-		
Ringmer (Community College)	0731	0936	1236	1536 <b>R</b>	1736		
Laughton, (The Roebuck)	0736	0941	1241	1541	1741		
Golden Cross (Inn)	0740	0945	1245	1545	1745		
Deanland Wood	-	0950	1250	-	1750 <b>B</b>		
Lower Dicker (Stores)	0743	0958	1258	1548	1748 <b>C</b>		
Horsebridge (Mill)	0746	1001	1301	1551	1751 <b>C</b>		
Hailsham (Harebeating Stores)	0748	1003	1303	1553	1753 <b>C</b>		
Hailsham (High Street)	0752	1007	1307	1557	1757 <b>C</b>		
Polegate (High Street Medical Centre)	-	1018	1318	1608	-		
Wannock (Wannock Road)	-	1022	1322	1612	-		
Lower Willingdon (British Queen)	-	1024	1324	1614	-		
Willingdon (Church Street)	-	1026	1326	1616	-		
Willingdon Road (Park Avenue)	-	1028	1328	1618	-		
Hurst Arms PH	-	1031	1331	1621	-		
Eastbourne (Terminus Road)	-	1039	1339	1629	-		

**Notes:**

- Sch - Schooldays only
- NSch - Non Schooldays
- H - runs via A2270 (Eastbourne Road) and the Polegate by-pass
- R - operates via Ringmer Community College Grounds on Schooldays
- B - only serves this point on request of passengers on board at Golden Cross
- C - time may be up to ten minutes later if bus has served Deanland Wood

## Harvard House

**Cllr Veronica Humphrey**

I am very pleased to be able to report that the County Council are working on the future of our home with one of their preferred providers, Galleon Care Homes. The Heads of Terms have been agreed and it is hoped that the legal documentation will be completed in June. Once this is finalised a planning application will be submitted and this will hopefully be done by October. I feel that this is excellent news and hope that things will now move forward smoothly towards our New Home.

## Neighbourhood Watch

**Janet Skeef**

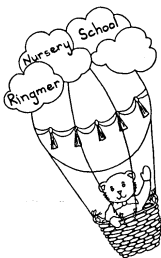


Information about specific incidents is not available this month. The police report to the Annual Parish Meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> March, including the District Commander's message, may be seen on Ringmer Parish Council website, or under Recent Occurrences on Ringmer Neighbourhood Watch website. The report includes references to 'village priorities' which may be summarised as follows: Speeding vehicles, particularly along Lewes Road, have been subject to speed checks and attention also paid to drivers not wearing seatbelts or using mobile phones. Graffiti offenders have been identified and remedial action is being taken. Dog fouling is an on-going problem and the dog warden may be contacted on 01273 484472. Vehicle crime - a number of incidents have been reported in the car park at the Village Hall. Theft of diesel and heating oil is a problem throughout Lewes District. Please be extra vigilant if you have an outside oil tank.

If you are aware of any Watch related incident that might usefully be circulated, perhaps as a warning to others, I may be contacted on 01273 812035, or by email link on the website. Just a reminder: 101 is now the number throughout England and Wales for calling police on NON-emergency matters. Website: <http://www.skeef.freeseve.co.uk/ringmerwatch>

## Ringmer Nursery School

**Corina Gamble**



April was another busy and satisfying month at nursery! We have started planting the garden, and the children are watching out for the first shoots of the seeds they've put in. In the mean time, they planted the willows which should, in time, turn into our growing hut, at the bottom of the garden. The caterpillars have arrived and we are watching them grow every day – whilst hoping that the emerging butterflies will coordinate with the first flowers in the garden! We've also had our "parent workshops", and over two evenings, around 50 mums and dads came to experience for themselves messy play, singing, rhythm patterns and the social interaction that their children have when at nursery, while the staff described the reasons behind what we do in our daily play and learning. Mums and dads gamely dipped their hands in gloop and seaweed blindfolded, while trying to think of interesting words to describe what they felt – all in the name of early learning! These were exciting and satisfying sessions for all involved!



May will be our busy social month, as the nursery will have a presence at the Village Fête, as well as our own "Nursery Olympics" on Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> May, in the grounds of Ringmer Primary School. There will be games and fun races, as well as stalls, raffle, strawberries and cream! The next school year is promising to be a very busy one too, and our morning sessions for September are now fully booked. There are some afternoon spaces left – and things always change, even after the start of the school year. For nursery places, contact: Corina Gamble, Nursery teacher: 01273 814154 or [gamblecorina@gmail.com](mailto:gamblecorina@gmail.com)

## Ringmer Village Hall Appeal



### *Proposed Village Hall Extension*

Local Pubs, Precinct shops, Garden Centre & local organisations have all donated prizes for the raffle & sponsored our programme. The local Scouts have once again provided many of the games and marquees & allowed us to use their Scout Hut. Chester Funnel provides the PA system & Loft Longhurst the Folk & Blues music & the Classic Cars. Photos, video & articles are by our Editor. We now need everyone in Ringmer and their friends to come along and make it a big success. If it's very bad weather– the Fête will go on, so still come; we might have to move to the Village Hall.

Fête Raffles: both will be drawn on Fête day. We sell our raffle tickets ahead of the Fête to get us off to a good start. Booklets of 5 raffle tickets have been circulated to all households in Ringmer. Tickets are £1 each. There are at least 12 prizes: 1st prize £200, 2nd 'Free Gliding Lesson, 3rd £50. Then other locally sourced prizes. Freeman & Forman are taking in the ticket stubs & cash – please put these in an envelope before dropping them in. Thank you to everyone who has already done this. Tickets will also be on sale in the precinct on 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of May as well as at the Fête.

'Exclusive Draw' for Glyndebourne Festival tickets (donated by Gus Christie) are still available – phone me please if you want one or two. The Draw is of only 250 raffle tickets at £20 each. There are 2 equal prizes of 2 tickets in the owner's private box for **one** of the following operas. The Ravel double bill on August 6<sup>th</sup>; The fairy Queen on August 9<sup>th</sup> .'

Village Fête: May 19th, Saturday afternoon 2–5 pm. Lots of stalls and fun things to do – more than last year! Primary school children will start us off with dancing around the Maypole followed by lots more dancers and the LGB Brass Band. The Twinning Association has visitors from both our German and French partners who will join us. The Youth Marching Band will perform in the afternoon and with the Choir will start off the evening event. Also new this year will be a '**Dog Show**' run by 'Creature Comforts'. From May 12<sup>th</sup>, register your dog in the shop for £1, then pay 50p for each class you enter - this is a fun event – not Crufts! There will also be Classic cars, cream teas, ice creams, coconut shy, displays, a Falconry Stool, lucky dips, treasure hunts, Tombola, beer tent and much more! The final event will be the local Derby Tug of War between The Anchor and The Green Man.

Village Fête Evening Event: 'Hog Roast & Live Music'. On the Green, 6.30–10.30 pm. There will be a beer tent. Buy Tickets in advance from Middletons £5. If you don't want to eat but want to listen to the music; pay £2 on the night. Please bring your own chair or picnic rug for sitting on. If you can offer any help – putting up the marquees, setting out stalls etc and clearing away afterwards, please contact us.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee events:

- Jubilee Gold & Silver Chain: precinct Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June' 9-12 noon
- Diamond Jubilee Cream Tea: Village hall, Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 3–5.30 pm.

See Forthcoming Events on page 19 for details.

**Pam Bowmaker, Chair of Fundraising Committee**

01273813625 or [ringmervh.appeal@btinternet.com](mailto:ringmervh.appeal@btinternet.com)

Website: <http://www.village.hall.ringmer.info/>

Coming very soon is our 3rd Village Fête in aid of the Village Hall Building Appeal. This is the last one being organised for this cause. A huge amount of work goes into it from all parts of the village. Many of the hall users have stalls or are helpers. Our sponsors & donors include: Bob Peters for the pigs

for the Hog Roast and Glen & Matt of 'The Green

Man' for cooking them, 'Ernest Doe' for the generator.

Local Pubs, Precinct shops, Garden

Centre & local organisations have all donated prizes for the raffle & sponsored our

programme. The local Scouts have once again provided many of the games and marquees &

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available – phone me please if you want one or two. The Draw is of only 250 raffle tickets at

£20 each. There are 2 equal prizes of 2 tickets in the owner's private box for **one** of the

following operas. The Ravel double bill on August 6<sup>th</sup>; The fairy Queen on August 9<sup>th</sup> .'

Village Fête: May 19th, Saturday afternoon 2–5 pm. Lots of stalls and fun things to do –

more than last year! Primary school children will start us off with dancing around the

Maypole followed by lots more dancers and the LGB Brass Band. The Twinning

Association has visitors from both our German and French partners who will join us. The

Youth Marching Band will perform in the afternoon and with the Choir will start off the

evening event. Also new this year will be a '**Dog Show**' run by 'Creature Comforts'. From

May 12<sup>th</sup>, register your dog in the shop for £1, then pay 50p for each class you enter - this is

a fun event – not Crufts! There will also be Classic cars, cream teas, ice creams, coconut

shy, displays, a Falconry Stool, lucky dips, treasure hunts, Tombola, beer tent and much

more! The final event will be the local Derby Tug of War between The Anchor and The

Green Man.

Village Fête Evening Event: 'Hog Roast & Live Music'. On the Green, 6.30–10.30 pm.

There will be a beer tent. Buy Tickets in advance from Middletons £5. If you don't want to

eat but want to listen to the music; pay £2 on the night. Please bring your own chair or

picnic rug for sitting on. If you can offer any help – putting up the marquees, setting out

stalls etc and clearing away afterwards, please contact us.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee events:

• Jubilee Gold & Silver Chain: precinct Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June' 9-12 noon

• Diamond Jubilee Cream Tea: Village hall, Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 3–5.30 pm.

See Forthcoming Events on page 19 for details.

14 *Bob's Weather Watch is on page 23*



**R**ingmer Summer  
*Village fete*

Sat 19<sup>th</sup> May

2.00-5.00pm

Classic Cars • Tombolas  
Displays • Cream Teas  
Arts & Crafts • Beer Tent  
Grand Draw • Fun stalls  
Coconut Shy • Dog Show  
Cake Stalls • Tug of War  
• Maypole Dancing  
• Face Painting  
• LGB Brass Band

Hog Roast & Music

6.30-10.30pm

- French choir followed by 'Folk & Blues' by Loft Longhurst.
- If you don't want to eat but want to listen to the music, £2 on the night. Bring chair or picnic rug.

Tickets £5 available from Middletons!

For more info: [www.ringmer.info](http://www.ringmer.info) or email [ringmervh.appeal@btinternet.com](mailto:ringmervh.appeal@btinternet.com)

**Ringmer Village Hall Appeal**

Charity no:207885

**Exclusive Draw  
Only 250 raffle tickets  
at £20 each.**

licence no:2010/00059

**2 equal prizes of 2 tickets**  
in the owner's private box at the 2012  
Glyndebourne Festival  
for **one** of the following opera evenings:

1. Ravel's 'L'heure espagnole' & 'L'enfant et les sortileges' on August 6th
2. Purcell's 'The Fairy Queen' on August 9th

The draw will take place at the  
Fete, May 19th 2012

**To purchase please phone Pam Bowmaker  
on 01273 813625:**

*Ringmer Village Hall Appeal*

**Ringmer Village Fete: Saturday May 19th  
2 -5pm**

**The Fun Dog Show**

Sponsored & organised by Creature Comforts – The Pet Store

To be held in 'the small arena' next to North Road

The times shown are an indication; please be ready & check in for the class you wish to enter **10 minutes** before the time shown.

Rosettes will be given for 1st & 2nd places except for class 7 where there will be one outright winner.

Class 1	2.45	Waggiest Tail
Class 2	3.00	Cutest Puppy (under 8 months)
Class 3	3.15	Best Child Handler
Class 4	3.30	Prettiest Bitch
Class 5	3.45	Most handsome Male
Class 6	4.00	Best Veteran (over 7 years)
Class 7	4.15	Dog the judge would most like to take home.

Please note: The Judge's decision is final and not open to discussion. This is a fun event, not Cruft's!

**Register** in the shop from Monday 14th of May 9 am – 6pm  
until 1pm on Fete Day, then at the fete from 2.00pm.  
Each dog £1 then 50p per class entered.

## **The British Red Cross ‘Carers Support Service’**

**Julia Alderson**

The British Red Cross are pleased to advise that the ‘Carers Support Service’, assisting unpaid carers both practically and emotionally, is now running throughout the Lewes/Wealden area,

Volunteers from a wide variety of backgrounds have joined this scheme, bringing with them a range of skills, and a shared enthusiasm to help those around them. One new volunteer, Jeannie, a former nurse, remarked on how different it is to care for people as part of a voluntary scheme. She said “...it’s nice that people are happy to see you when you walk through the door, they can talk with you and be themselves”.

Our volunteers help with a range of activities, including providing a befriending and sitting service, assistance with shopping, transport, walking the dog, meal preparation, light housework and companionship. Just a few hours a week can make a great deal of difference to someone at a time of crisis.

Jeannie quickly noticed the impact that the service can have; saying one individual “became a different woman entirely” and told Jeannie that “...you’ll never know how happy I am that you came here, and how many things I’ve achieved since. You have given me the confidence to ask for help.”

As Jeannie says, this service really does “help people get back on their feet” and demonstrates that whatever the newspapers may report, there are “still people who care enough to help others in this society.”

Alongside the Carers Support Service, the Red Cross has a wide range of volunteering opportunities and services which you can become involved with. Perhaps you would like to become a Transport and Escort Driver? Or speak to young people about the Red Cross or Humanitarian Education? Join one of our teams who provide First Aid at events? Or become part of our Emergency Response team.

If you would like to find out more about any of the above, either to use a service, or become one of our valued volunteers, please do get in touch, either by phone 01273 227800 or by email, [jalderson@redcross.org.uk](mailto:jalderson@redcross.org.uk)

### **Digital Switchover Dates to Remember in Ringmer**

Ringmer receives its television signals from the Heathfield transmitter which will changeover from an analogue service to a digital service in stages as follows:

*Please note that Sky TV, Freesat or Virgin Media television systems are not effected.*

- **Stage 1 – 30<sup>th</sup> May 2012.** The analogue BBC Two signal is switch off permanently. At the same time, BBC digital channels, including BBC Two, extend to reach all areas for the first time. At this stage you should retune your digital box or digital tv to continue to receive BBC Two if you use Freeview, BT Vision or Top Up service as your digital signal tuner.
- **Stage 2 – 13<sup>th</sup> June 2012.** The remaining analogue channels are switched off permanently. The remaining digital channels become available in all areas. You should retune your system again as in Stage 1.
- **Additional Re-tune – 27<sup>th</sup> June 2012.** You should retune your system again as in Stage 1 to ensure all the new channels are available to you.

For further advice visit [digitaluk.co.uk/meridian](http://digitaluk.co.uk/meridian) or ring 08456 50 50 50.

## Ringmer & Riverlodge Surgery News

Mary McPherson



At the last meeting of the Patients Participation Group, the following items were discussed.

A change has been made to the appointment system which should free up 8 appointment 'slots' per day and it should now be possible to once again book an appointment for within a few days rather than on the day. Although the number of patients remains fairly static, there has been an increase in the need for appointments. The staffing is considered to be

adequate for the number of patients (1800 per GP).

It is hoped to recruit a nurse who is trained and competent to deal with minor health issues and give appropriate prescriptions. This will ease the pressure on the doctors.

Some doctors are still on sabbatical, maybe because they are taking further training. Dr Butti was made aware of patients' dismay when they do not even see the same locum.

It is proposed to hold a series of 'information open days' to which patients can come without appointments. The first one may be on Healthy Diets. A very successful one on Falls was held some time ago.

There was further discussion on the use of the 0844 phone number. The cost charged does not make a profit (which is not allowed by legislation) but the rebate given to the Practices does go towards the rental costs.

The notice board will soon be installed for information about and from the Patients Participation Group.

We are working on a Survey for patients to give specific feed back.

*The Patients Participation Group meet monthly. We will also have a notice board in each Surgery and will put information of changes etc on it. Please let Mary know if you have any particular concerns about the administration of the two surgeries.*

*email: [marymac129@btinternet.com](mailto:marymac129@btinternet.com)*

## So keep on looking for a blue bird - Local wildlife events in May

The skies above Lewes and Ringmer are not a safe place to be if you're a bird. High up there, that dark speck high in the blue sky, is one of the worlds deadliest predators – the peregrine. These falcons hunt over the town and if a bird enters their airspace they will fall from the sky at unbelievable speeds. Everything about this falcon is designed for speed and these 'stoops' can reach up to 200 mph – making peregrines the fastest animal on the planet. Any bird on the receiving end of a peregrine attack doesn't stand a chance!

In May there are two events focusing on these incredible birds. Phil Everitt of the Sussex Peregrine Group is giving a talk on the fascinating history of this falcon in Sussex on the evening of Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> and on the following day there are two walks to watch local peregrines. More details are on our website [www.leweswildlife.org.uk](http://www.leweswildlife.org.uk)

I'm also hoping that the dreadful April weather is behind us as I have a packed programme of wildlife walks this month looking for butterflies, birds, orchids and other wildlife. If I learnt one thing from Al Jolson it's that those April showers should bring the flowers that bloom in May. Let's hope he was right!

*Michael Blencowe, Community Wildlife Officer, Sussex Wildlife Trust*

## Dates for your Diary

**May**

Thursday	10	12-3 7.30 pm	DELTA Disability Social Club meet in Village Hall Parish Council meets in the Village Hall ( <i>open to all</i> )
Friday	11	8 pm	Ringmer Primary Home School Association Race Night. Doors open at 7.30 pm
Saturday	12	10-12	Ringmer Flower Club Annual Morning Market in the Village Hall
		10-4	Plant Sale in the Vicarage Garden
		10-5	Plumpton College Open Day
Wednesday	16	7-9 pm	Ringmer Community College Piano Recital
Thursday	17	7 pm	Ringmer Twinning Association Dinner followed by Music at Green Man with Visitors from Belgentier
Friday	18	6.30 pm	Ringmer Twinning Association Diamond Jubilee Concert in the Village Hall
Saturday	19	2 pm	Village Fête on the Green <i>(in aid of the Village Hall Extension Fund)</i>
		2.20 pm	Jugendblasorchester Woelfis March from Village Hall to play at Village Fête
		6.30- 10.30	Village Fête Evening Event on the Green, 'Hog Roast & Live Music'.
		6.30- 7.30	JBO Woelfis and La Chorale de Belgentier perform on Village Green
Thursday	24	12-3 7.30 pm	DELTA New Age Kurling in Village Hall Parish Council Planning Committee meets in the Village Hall ( <i>open to public</i> )
Wednesday	30		Stage 1 of Digital Switchover – Retune your Freeview box or television.

**June**

Friday	1		Schools Break-Up for June Holidays
Saturday	2	9-12	Diamond Jubilee Gold & Silver Chain in the Precinct <i>(in aid of the Village Hall Extension Fund)</i>
Tuesday	5	3-5.30	Diamond Jubilee Cream Tea in the Village Hall <i>(in aid of the Village Hall Extension Fund)</i>
		7.30 pm	Ringmer Evening WI meets in the Village Hall
Wednesday	6	2 pm	Ringmer Flower Club meets in the Village Hall
Saturday	9	10-12	Coffee Morning at Sunrise, Laughton Road <i>(in aid of Lewes District Churches Homelink)</i>
Monday	11		Schools Start-Up (Term 6)
Wednesday	13		Stage 2 of Digital Switchover – Return your Freeview box or television.

**Regular Events**

Mondays		2 pm	Bingo Sessions in the Village Hall
Tuesdays		10–11am	Ringmer Country Market in Village Hall
		12.30 pm	Ringmer Alcoholics Anonymous in Church Room.
Wednesday		10-12	'Coffee Break' in Rogers Room of Village Hall.
Fridays		12.15 pm	Ringmer Alcoholics Anonymous meet in Hall.

## St Peter & St James Hospice

### Ringmer Village Support Group

Jayne Marshall-Roelich

At a meeting at the Hospice, attended by John and Bob, warm thanks were expressed to all groups for their fundraising efforts in 2011. The funds raised by the local Hospice support groups last year covered the full costs of running the eight in-house beds for 20 nights. It is our mission this year to help make this 30 nights for 2012!! The hospice needs all the support we can give, particularly in these difficult times; further information is available at Wednesday Coffee Break in the Village Hall.

On **Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> June** the support group will be running the raffle and interval refreshments at the 7.30 pm performance of **'The Merry Wives of Windsor'** at Wivelsden Farm (opposite the Hospice). Can you help that evening? John (812501) or Bob (812784) would love to hear from you if you are available. This event is running 13-16 and 20-23 June. Ticket information can be found at [www.playersinthepark.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.playersinthepark.ticketsource.co.uk)

**Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> June 10 am-12 noon** – **Mary Cleghorn's Coffee Morning**, Broomham, Laughton Road, Ringmer. Raffle and Bring & Buy. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> July** - Please also come along to the **Ringmer Hub; Clubs and Societies Recruitment Event**, in the Village Hall, where we will be manning a display 10am-2pm. Once again, if you are free to help out for a short time please ring John.

## Forthcoming Events

**Ringmer Primary Home School Association Race Night on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> May**, doors open at 7.30 for an 8 pm start. We are hosting our ever popular race night at the Primary school. All our money raised for this event will be going to refurbish our Junior library which hasn't been modernised since it was opened. Tickets are priced very reasonably at £2 in advance or £3 on the night to include your first drink. We have a total of 8 races during the evening all being sponsored very generously by local businesses. We try to sell off many of the horses and jockeys before the evening but our last 2 races will be auctioned and these prizes will consist of 2 Glyndebourne tickets to the final dress rehearsal of 'The Fairy Queen', A '6000 mile service' from the Busy Bee Garage, £50 theatre voucher donated by Stanley & Partners and A round of golf for 2 people at the East Sussex National Golf Course worth £120! If you would like to have a 1 in 8 chance of winning any of these fantastic prizes or find out about any of the further 12 prizes we have on offer come and join us. To request a programme, purchase a horse or jockey before the event or buy a ticket, please phone Angela on 813860. Looking forward to seeing you there!

**Ringmer Flower Club Morning Market on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> May** when we will have the usual stalls of cakes, nearly new, plants, tombola etc. Please come along and support us, Ringmer Village Hall 10 am – 12 noon.

**Plumpton College Open Day, Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> May, 10am-5pm.** Children's activities. Tractor/trailer estate rides. Course displays. Trade stands. Food court. Horse riding. Fun Dog show. Wine sales. Plant and flower sales. Farm displays. Woodland walks. Forestry displays. Small animals. Metalsmithing. Clay pigeon shooting. Climbing wall. Free entry for under 16's. £5 adult. In Association with the Sussex Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs.

**Jubilee Gold & Silver Chain: Precinct Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 9-12 noon** Come and lay your £2, £1 and 50p pieces in a chain, the Queen's head uppermost, to mark the Jubilee and to raise funds for the Appeal at the same time.

**Diamond Jubilee Cream Tea: Village hall, Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 3–5.30 pm.** Cost £5 to include a glass of Bucks Fizz. We will have a recording of the River Pageant to watch during the afternoon. There will be also be a Jubilee themed raffle. Tickets will be on sale from Middletons after May 5<sup>th</sup> and at the Fête. If any one is willing to help, making sandwiches, baking cakes or helping on the day, do please contact me, Pam, on 813625.

### **Coffee Morning For Homelink**

**John Payne**

Our coffee morning this year at Sunrise, Laughton Road, on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> June from 10 am to 12 noon, will be in aid of Lewes District Churches Homelink. Started in 1999, Homelink's purpose is to help homeless people in the area to obtain private rented accommodation by offering an interest free loan to assist prospective tenants to cover the initial Rent in Advance and Damage Deposit. The demand for loans is ever increasing and Homelink needs to increase its income to meet this demand. There will be the usual bring-and-buy and raffle. Please support this if you can. If you require transport phone 812501.

**Sussex Air Ambulance Bumper Quiz Night at the Anchor Inn, Barcombe on June 15<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm.** Teams of six to eight members are needed for the quiz night at the Anchor Inn on June 15<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm. To order tickets, which cost £5 per person, or to register your pub for a quiz, call Amy Salter on 01622 833833 or email [amys@kssairambulance.org.uk](mailto:amys@kssairambulance.org.uk).

**Advanced Notice: The Rude Mechanicals return to Ringmer** on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30 pm on the Green, with their new production 'Who Saw Marjory Daw?'. For advance bookings contact the Central Box Office (01323-501260), or online ([www.therudemechanicaltheatre.co.uk](http://www.therudemechanicaltheatre.co.uk)). Concessions will only be available *in advance* (at least a £1 off every ticket & group rates). On the night they will be £13 for adults and £7 for children.

## **Local Organisations News**

### **Ringmer Flower Club**

**Joan Fowlie**



At our April meeting, we had a wonderful demonstration by Stephen McDonnell who not only provided excellent floral arrangements but kept us in stitches with his hilarious commentary. At our June meeting on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>, we are very fortunate to have Lucinda Knapman, a newly qualified demonstrator who will entertain us with her demonstration entitled 'A Florists Year' which should be fascinating. Our members competition is 'A Bowl of Beauty' which should provide some beautiful arrangements. Do come along and join us as we are always pleased to welcome new and old friends. Ringmer Village Hall 2pm - £4 including refreshments. We are holding our Morning Market on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> May when we will have the usual stalls of cakes, nearly new, plants, tombola etc. Please come along and support us, Ringmer Village Hall 10am - 12noon.

### **Ringmer Evergreen Club**

**Paul Hathway**

The Evergreen Club is pleased to announce that, from Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> May, it will be able to extend opportunities for new members (and existing members if they so choose) to engage in alternative weekly activities. These will, of course, be in addition to the popular scrabble and card sessions and may involve other board games, dominoes, jigsaws, trimming postage stamps for charity or simply the chance to chat (confidentially if necessary). This has become possible because the Evergreen Club has kindly agreed to incorporate the Positive Support (PS) Group, which has been running for the past two years in the Church Room, and which has offered a listening service to carers and the people whom they help.



Inspirational Assembly by Peter Baldwin, College Student

Students of Ringmer Community College had an assembly on the subject of inspiration. The assembly opened with famous quotes from people who enjoy sports. Ms Peters, who led the assembly, began explaining how inspiration makes us feel pleased about ourselves. She then told us a little about the two people that inspired her to run; Paula Radcliffe, who took so much criticism in 2004 for not completing the marathon, and 2 months on, winning in a New York marathon, Jane Tomlinson raised £1.85 million for charity by completing a series of athletic challenges, despite suffering from terminal cancer.

This was followed by a short video on the Olympics, showing youth all over the world watching the people who inspire them in the Olympics and the children practicing and finally achieving their goal of getting to the Olympics. The main point of the clip was summed up with some words in the closing words: "London will inspire the champions of tomorrow."

Many students at Ringmer have demonstrated exceptional sporting talent such as Evie Rothwell and her running, Charlotte Bowler and Liberty Yates and their Trampolining, Hugo Bowman who won two tournaments in shot-put and in the same sport, David Thomas who performs shot-put at county level. Katie Saunders was scouted by England as player of the tournament in netball.

One thirteen year old Ringmer pupil, Callum Quigley, recently collected a black belt in karate after recovering from a stroke. Not being able to talk or see out of his left eye yet still managing to get a black belt was an inspiration to many who saw his appearance on national television.

In tennis, Louisiana Vine misses period five every Thursday because she plays tennis to such a high level, her reward being thirteenth in the country. She completes ten hours of training a week to get to this high rank.

A Ringmer teacher, Mr Gates related of his remarkable achievements. He himself was inspired by Roger Banister, who was the first person to run a four minute mile. Mr Gates has completed many marathons, won 20 world titles and came third in the over 55's in the British Triathlon Championships.

In the football, Ringmer had four year groups in semi finals and three years in the finals. A big thank you to Mr Hamblin for all his effort.

After this, Kim English told the students about she started cycling at eight years old and since then she has won five national medals, the cyclo cross nationals in 2011 and many other titles. She is number 1 in the country for her age group.

Next, Jack Mansbridge told the pupils and teachers of how he will be competing for team GB in the Olympics this year in roller hockey. He is also playing for the Brighton under 16's, the South England Dream Team and Brighton men's team in the premier league.

Finally, we ended with a video showing Deryk Redmond's race in 2002 in which, 150 yards into the race he tore a hamstring and despite all the pain, he continued leaning on his father's shoulder and completed the race to a standing ovation from 65,000 people.

The assembly will encourage many students to share their own story on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2012 at Ringmer's Sports Awards Evening with a special guest speaker, performances from a few of Ringmer's most inspirational students. There will be awards such as most improved team of the year and Ringmer's sports personality of the year. Inspiring stuff!

### Ringmer Students take Action for Charity

Ringmer Community College has a strong sense of community in its ethos of Achieving, Caring and Contributing and this is none more so demonstrated by two of Ringmer's students showing great generosity in pushing themselves physically to raise money for charity. Billy Fenner, age 14 will be undertaking an arduous 33 mile bike ride across all of London's 16 bridges, starting from Tower Bridge and ending at Hampton Court on Sunday 13 May 2012, to raise money for the Stroke Association. Billy has a personal connection to this cause as his mother, Jayne, works for the charity. Billy said: "I want to help this charity because my mum works for it and I know how much good work it does. It relies on charitable donations to help stroke survivors build a life after stroke."

Jayne Fenner, Stroke Association Coordinator for East Sussex said: "I'm so proud of my son, he's been training very hard and has done some long rides with his dad. The Thames Bridges Bike Ride in Action on Stroke Month will help raise vital funds for the charity and raise awareness the impact of stroke. I've seen first-hand the difference that our support can have for stroke survivors and their families. We believe in life after stroke and that every recovery matters."

The Thames Bridges Bike Ride is one of 200 events taking place throughout the country throughout May. You can find out more about the Stroke Association's Action on Stroke Month on their website: [www.stroke.org.uk/strokemonth](http://www.stroke.org.uk/strokemonth).

It is estimated that there are nearly 13,000 people living with the effects of stroke in East Sussex. If you'd like to read more about Billy and help him raise as much money as possible please visit his Just Giving page: <http://www.justgiving.com/Billy-Fenner-on-a-bike>.



*Billy Fenner and  
Aidan Stiebahl-Breeds*

On Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2012, Aidan Stiebahl-Breeds, age 14, raised £1,200 for the charity CLIC Sargent by abseiling down the side of Hurstpierpoint College. Aidan has been supported by CLIC Sargent since his diagnoses of Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia in June 2011. Aidan said: 'I am so pleased to be able to have the opportunity to give something back to CLIC Sargent. I am eight months into my intensive phase and they are continuing to give me and my family great support'.

CLIC Sargent provide clinical, practical and emotional support for children or young people and their families living with cancer. They are able to offer financial support and home from home accommodation near specialist hospitals. The charity also organises free breaks so that families living with cancer can spend more time with each other with the benefit of support for care professionals. For more information on CLIC Sargent please visit [www.clicsargent.org.uk](http://www.clicsargent.org.uk)

Ms Stonier, the Principal of Ringmer Community College said: 'We are all so proud of both students. They truly are an inspiration to their friends, fellow students and staff here at the college. We wish Billy luck for his up and coming bike ride.'

## DELTA Disability Social Group



During April we visited two old favourites; Tunbridge Wells for shopping and Wakehurst Place to see its beautiful gardens in the spring. We managed to dodge the showers during both trips and enjoyed the outings. At our April social, we decided to

test our voices in song and after a musical quiz, sang along to many music hall tunes – great fun! We then rounded off the month with our normal session of New Age Kurling.

During May, we will be shopping in Eastbourne and visiting the Museum of London, Docklands. We will also be holding our AGM followed by a film show of last year's events at our social in the village hall. Again we will round off the month with New Age Kurling. If you are interested in joining DELTA as a member or a friend, contact Coralie (813596).

DELTA website: [www.deltadisability.com](http://www.deltadisability.com)



## Ringmer Evening W.I.

## Jayne Marshall-Roelich



As spring awakes our gardens, we received as many as 7 entries for our April 'Flower of the Month' competition; tulip, daffodils, spirea, pinks and azalea.

Last month Elsie Bowler gave us a colourful insight into 28<sup>th</sup> March East Sussex Federation Meeting in the Congress Theatre, Eastbourne. [www.esfwi.org.uk](http://www.esfwi.org.uk)

Sixteen of our members filled a minibus from Ringmer, enjoyed a walk on Eastbourne front and a good lunch in addition to their attendance at Conference. The visiting speaker was Katie Derham on 'Musical Mishaps'. The sales table was filled with baskets of all shapes and sizes, contents and prices for members to 'snap up'. And they did – many returning to Ringmer in the minibus!

Did you know that our Chairman, Anne Stamper is the National Federation WI's Honorary Archivist who as part of her role has a regular page in the monthly National Magazine! The historical snippets of the WI are fascinating. [www.thewi.org.uk](http://www.thewi.org.uk)

Our April speaker from the National Trust was Moreen Biron. Slides introduced us to the varied history of Uppark House in South Harting, West Sussex. The house, set high on the South Downs, was built c.1690 and sold in 1747 to the Featherstonhaugh family. On 30 August 1989 the building was devastated by a fire, but after repair retains its original beauty. From 1880 to 1893 HG Wells' mother was housekeeper at Uppark House, and he spent a small part of his boyhood there. Not liking his draper apprenticeship, in 1883 aged 17, Wells, son of an unsuccessful tradesman, became a pupil-teacher at nearby Midhurst Grammar School. My great grandmother, Lottie Wiggins, three years younger, and born to a successful blacksmith in South Harting in 1869, was in service at the house from 1882 aged 13 years. Lottie breakfasted on bread and dripping before a hard day of physical work. Wells and Lottie's fortunes took very different directions. No Women's Institute to forge opportunities then; women did not even have the vote. A visit to the house is being planned sometime in the future.

On 30 May the National Federation WI Annual General Meeting takes place at the Albert Hall. There will be much voting by our sisterhood then.

### Forthcoming Events

- We welcome Richard Saunders on 5<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall who will talk to us about his own childhood experiences in and the history of 'The Royal Choristers'.
- On 3<sup>rd</sup> July at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, we look forward to hearing from Dave Picton who is speaking about 'Stone Cross Mill'.

<b>Bob's Weather Watch &amp; Nature Notes</b>	
<b>March</b>	<p>Total rainfall – 28 mm (1.1 inches).  Average temperature – 13.07°C (55.53°F).  Rain fell on 4 days.  The wettest day was the 4<sup>th</sup> when 14 mm (0.55 inches) fell.  The warmest days were the 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, &amp; 29<sup>th</sup> at 21°C (68.8°F).  The coldest day was the 9<sup>th</sup> at 6.5°C (43.7°F).  Total rainfall for the last 12 months was 517 mm (20.5 inches).  White frosts were recorded on 5 nights and fog on one day.  The five year average temperature for March is 11.41°C (52.54°F).  The five year average rainfall for March is 54.75 mm (2.17 inches).</p>
<b>Nature Notes</b>	<p>March was again a warm dry month although the migrating birds are later in arriving and few have been recorded during the month, possibly because during the last two weeks of March, the wind was mainly in the North. The first Chiffchaff was recorded on the 19<sup>th</sup> and the first Swallow at Ashcombe on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Thirty-nine species of birds were recorded on the farm during the month and 51 at Wellingham which included Grey Partridges, a Peregrine Falcon, a Barn Owl, Skylarks and a pair of Lapwings.</p>

**Silver Surfers.** There is another Silver Surfers class being held at Ringmer Community College and Sixth Form on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> May from 10 am to noon. This class is free for anyone over the age of 50 years. For more information or to book a place please contact Ruth Whitlock, Learning Resource Centre Manager on 01273 812220 ext. 253.

**Ringmer Twinning Association Diamond Jubilee Music Festival & Celebration of  
Ringmer's Twinning Partnership Agreement with Belgentier  
16<sup>th</sup>-20 May 2012**

Visitors from our partner communities of Belgentier and Geschwenda will be arriving in Ringmer from 16<sup>th</sup> May for the signing of our official partnership agreement with Belgentier, France on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> May, and to participate in our Diamond Jubilee Music Festival. They are eager to experience one of our traditional English customs – the Village Fête and they will, of course, be doing some sightseeing as well. The programme of events is as follows:

- Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> May at 7 pm: Supper with visitors from Belgentier at the Green Man. Come and meet them and practise your French. The Chorale will sing a few songs at the end of the evening. Contact Sharon Gunde (812186) for details.
- Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30 pm: Diamond Jubilee Concert, Village Hall. Come to an evening of music by La Chorale de la Cle de Sol de Belgentier, Das Kinder & Jugendblasorchester Wölfis and the Ringmer Folk and Blues Club. Cheese and baguette buffet provided. Drinks from the bar. Contact Barbara Longhurst (813574) for tickets
- Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> May: Ringmer will sign its official twinning agreement with Belgentier at midday. We are very pleased that Norman Baker will be able to be there. Das Kinder und Jugendblasorchester Wölfis will march from the Village Hall to the Village Fête at 2.20 pm and play in the arena. JBO Wölfis and La Chorale will perform from 6.30 pm - 7.30 pm, followed by the Folk and Blues at the 'Hog Roast and Music on the Green'.

## Features

### **The Sky is Buzzing**

**Mike Russell, Sussex Wildlife Trust**

Right, it's time for a good news wildlife story; buzzards are back in Sussex and if you spend a morning or afternoon out and about in the county there is a good chance that you will see one or more. Quite often it is their cat-like 'mewing' that catches your attention, so cast your eyes to the skies and you may see some dark bird-shaped silhouettes circling high above your head and if you do, then they might be buzzards.

On my arrival in Sussex 27 years ago, common buzzards were a rare sight, with just a handful breeding in the country, but since then they have spread and now can be found right across Sussex in numbers that are now close to 300. So what has precipitated this rise in population? For much of the last two centuries buzzards were persecuted by landowners, as were most birds with a hooked beak and talons and were virtually shot out of existence in much of the UK. They survived in the western and northern areas of Britain where agriculture was less intensive and in the wilder uplands.

Throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century game keeping declined, though it wasn't until the past few decades that buzzard numbers began to recover nationwide. One main reason was that they became a protected species, though sadly some still are killed illegally, but there was also a recovery in the rabbit population, their main source of food, following the devastation caused by myxomatosis in the 1950s.

In spring, the population becomes more mobile as they look to re-establish their breeding territories and last year's youngsters have to move away and find their own range and mate. They take advantage of the warming up of the air which creates thermals on which they 'hitch a ride' with their wings outstretched and slightly tilted upwards, sometimes reaching heights that are too high for us to see them. This way they can cover huge distances with very little effort.

Towards the end of March there was almost a competition to see who had the biggest count of these thermals of circling buzzards; we had nine at one time over Woods Mill, but this was eclipsed many times by people seeing numbers in double figures, and while on the Downs above Arundel someone reported seeing over 20 altogether. Sometimes they will be joined by other birds of prey that also take advantage of these thermals. Our Woods Mill circle was joined by a peregrine falcon for a while and quite often sparrowhawks will join in the fun.

Increasingly in Sussex you can now see red kites flying with the buzzards, another conservation success story, so it becomes a challenge to identify these dark silhouettes. Kites are generally bigger with longer wings and they have a forked tail which quite often, though not always, is the critical identification factor.

Rather depressingly, there are a tiny minority of voices bemoaning the number of buzzards and are calling for their removal from the protected list of birds, but the overwhelming view of many, and not just birdwatchers, are delighted that we now live in a society that celebrates the fact that these magnificent birds are now back in our Sussex skies.

Sussex Wildlife Trust Website - [www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk)

## Ringmer Parish Church - Information

**Vicar:** The Reverend Canon Will Pratt, M.A. Tel: 812243  
The Vicarage, Vicarage Way, Ringmer, Nr Lewes BN8 5LA  
*Please note that magazine items should be sent to the Editor (address below)*

**Curate:** The Reverend Sally Reeve, 53 Springett Ave. Tel: 812114

**Honorary Assistant Clergy:**

The Reverend Roy Hebborn  
The Reverend Keith Innes, M.A., B.D.

**Churchwardens:** Steve Lofts, 12 Broyle Paddock. Tel: 812502  
Paul Hathway, 4 Yew Tree Close, Broyle Lane. Tel: 813742

**Church Administrator (inc Church Room Bookings) & Hon Secretary P.C.C:**  
Shirley Squires, 'Meran', Broyle Lane. Tel: 812417

**Hon. Treasurer P.C.C.:** Jonathan Franklin, 9 Delves Close. Tel: 813189

**Gift Aid & Envelope Hon. Sec.:** Mary McPherson, 8 Penn Crescent. Tel: 812797

**Floodlighting:** Paul Hathway, 4 Yew Tree Close, Broyle Lane. Tel: 813742  
or Steve Lofts on 812502

**Caring & Sharing:** Elizabeth Hawkins, 57 Harvard Road. Tel: 813353

**Organist & Choirmaster:** Nicholas Milner-Gulland. Tel: 480189

**Tower Captain:** Jonathan Franklin, 9 Delves Close. Tel: 813189

### Magazine

**Editor:** Edwina Morris, 27 Oakmede Way, Ringmer. East Sussex, BN8 5JL Tel: 813596

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**Chief Distributors:** Mary & Jim Greenwood, Lilac Cottage, Norlington Lane. Tel: 812768

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**Facebook:** <http://facebook.com/ringmernews>

**Items for publication** are welcomed and can be received by hand, post or e-mail  
[editor@ringmervillagenews.org.uk](mailto:editor@ringmervillagenews.org.uk)

However, they should be sent to the Editor **before the 27th** of the month.

The Editor reserves the right to edit, cut or refuse to publish any contribution.

**To advertise regularly** in the magazine, contact Andy Eager via post, telephone or e-mail  
[advertising@ringmervillagenews.org.uk](mailto:advertising@ringmervillagenews.org.uk)

**To request an annual subscription** for the magazine, contact  
Mary & Jim Greenwood, at Lilac Cottage, Norlington Lane. Tel: 812768

### Disclaimer

Magazine contributions from Village Organisations or individuals are very welcome. However, please remember that contributors are responsible for their own articles and, although every effort is made to ensure accuracy, the magazine cannot be held responsible for any errors, omissions or copyright infringements in articles or advertisements received.

## LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS

**Alcoholics Anonymous, Ringmer:** For alcohol problems; phone the AA Helpline 0845 769 7555 or visit the meeting in Church Room each Tuesday at 12.30pm & the Village Hall each Friday at 12.15pm.

**AbbeFitness:** Community exercise classes in Ringmer 07828642181 [www.abbefitness.com](http://www.abbefitness.com)

**Barn Dancing Society:** Caburn Pavilion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues each month at 7.45 pm. Sec: Jean Craig (812760).

**Badminton Club (Village Hall):** Tuesday 9.30 am - noon in Village Hall. Sue Hemington (812356).

**Bowls Club:** Rinks: Cheyney Green. Season starts 1<sup>st</sup> May. Secretary: Mrs Pauline Lloyd (812470).

**Bridge Club:** St Mary's Room, Village Hall, most Wednesdays at 7.30 pm.

Secretary: Mr. Peter King, Hoopers, Church Crescent, Ringmer (812240).

**British Red Cross Society:** Brighton & Hove Centre: 01273 227800, Medical loan: 01273 227814.

Services available also include transport, first aid courses, carer's support and escort (01903 207191).

**Broyle Community Association** Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Jan, Apr, Jul & Oct in St Mary's Room, Village Hall at 7.15 pm. Secretary: Bren Bonner (813303 or email [bren.bonner@btopenworld.com](mailto:bren.bonner@btopenworld.com)).

**Cheyney Croquet Club:** Cheyney Field. Sec: Mrs Thelma Saunders, 2 Shepherds Way (812822).

**Christian Ecology Group:** Quarterly meetings held in the Church Room.

Secretary: The Reverend Canon Will Pratt, The Vicarage, Vicarage Way, Ringmer (812243).

**Conservative Association -Ringmer & East Ouse Branch:**

Secretary: Mr D Bush, Downham, Broyle Lane (812522).

**Cricket Club:** Village Green. Secretary: D Bush, Downham, Broyle Lane, BN8 5PQ. Tel: 812522.

**DELTA Disability Social Group:** Meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month in Ringmer Village Hall between 12 noon and 3 pm. Contact the Administrator Coralie Clement (813596).

**DELTA New Age Kurling Club.** Meets every 4th Thursday of each month in Ringmer Village Hall between 12 noon and 3 pm. Open to everyone. Contact Coralie Clement (813596).

**Dramatic Society:** Secretary, Angela Howard, 01273 813097, [abhringmer@btinternet.com](mailto:abhringmer@btinternet.com)

**East Sussex Community Choir:** Meets every Monday 7.30-9.30 pm term time only, at the Performing Arts Centre, Sussex Downs College, Mountfield Road, Lewes. Ring 01273 336793 or see [www.eastsussexcommunitychoir.org](http://www.eastsussexcommunitychoir.org) Come and have fun with a local choir. No audition required.

**ESAB VIPs Social Group for the Visually Impaired:** meets monthly, every second Monday. Local contact: V Smith (812335).

**Evergreen Club.** Village Hall every Thursday at 2 pm. Open to all over 55. For details ring Tony Heath (812902) or Mavis Hathway, Secretary (813742).

**Flower Club:** Village Hall at 2 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday in the month., Hon Sec Mrs Ann Keeping (812465).

**Ringmer Football & Social Club:** Caburn Field. Chairman & Team Manager - Bob Munnery (01273 486836), Treasurer - Ted Chitty (812170)

**Horticultural & Home Produce Society -Royal British Legion:**

Hon Secretary: Albert Knight, 5 The Martlets, Lewes Road (813322).

**Lewes District Art Club:** meets in St Mary's Room in the Village Hall every Tuesday 2-4 pm.

Contact Angela Howard (813097) or Anne Stamper (812316).

**Lewes & District Cage Birds Society:** meet 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (except December) at Ringmer Village Hall at 8 pm. Secretary 01444 232386.

**Lewes Camera Club:** Meet every Monday (Sept-Mar only) 7.30 pm at St Mary's Social Centre, Christie Road, Lewes, BN7 1PL. Contact the Chairperson for details (01323 811030).

**Liberal Democrats -Ringmer & District Branch:** Secretary: Mr H Linehan, Broyle Gate Farmhouse, Lewes Road (812097).

**Library (Ringmer):** Village Hall, Open Tues 3-6pm, Wed 9am-noon, Thurs 1.30pm-4.30pm (814661).

**Link Good Neighbour Scheme:** Offers of help and enquiries about street contacts can be made to: Flor Grindley (812933) or Peter & Joy Jackson, 6 Harvard Road (812697).

**Men's Club - St Mary's:** Church Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues in month at 7.30 pm: Ian Coates-Stephens (812197).

**Mothers' Union:** Meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in the month at 7.30 pm in Church Room.

Leader: Ruth Peters (812389), Secretary: Shirley Squires (812417).

**NADFAS Arts Education and Heritage Conservation** (covers Ringmer, Lewes and Uckfield areas.)

Meet on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed of the month at Uckfield Civic Centre at 2.30 pm and 4-5 visits a year. Contact Terri Wallwork on 01273 471826 or email [terrywallywork@btinternet.com](mailto:terrywallywork@btinternet.com). See [www.uckfielddfas.org.uk](http://www.uckfielddfas.org.uk)

**National Trust Lewes Centre:** a local association of NT members with a programme of meetings, outings, activities and annual holiday. Contact Mrs D Bowker, 23 Langham Close, Ringmer (812137).

**RADAR** is Ringmer's local Community Speed Watch Group approved by the Police. If you can help, please contact our Chair Loft Longhurst (813574) or by email at ringmer.radar.speedwatch@gmail.com

**1<sup>st</sup> Ringmer Guides:** Scout Hut, Wednesdays 7 - 8.30 pm. Guiders: Gemma Everest (07508398985), June Nancarrow (07785340267), District Commissioner Sarah Boot-Handford (813342).

**1<sup>st</sup> Ringmer Rainbow Guides:** Village Hall, Tuesdays 5 to 6 pm. Guider and District Commissioner Sarah Boot Handford (813342).

**3<sup>rd</sup> Ringmer Brownies:** Village Hall, Tuesdays 5 pm to 6.30 pm. Guiders: Deborah Mouland (401481) and Marie Brown (478127).

**Rifle Club:** Caburn Field, Rifle and Pistol Shooting for Adults and Juniors.  
Secretary: Mr Thomas Rhodes - email: thomasrhod@gmail.com

**Ringmer Baptist Church:** Sunday Services at 10.30 am and 6.30 pm in Village Hall.  
Contact: Neil Thornicroft (01825 750283).

**Ringmer Country Market:** Village Hall every Tuesday, 10 am to 11 am.  
Controller: Mrs Sue Howes, The Old Bakery, Lewes Road (812394).

**Ringmer Evening WI:** Village Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in month, 7.30 pm. Contact Anne Stamper (812316).

**Ringmer History Study Group:** Chairman: John Kay, Fair Meadow, Rushey Green (813388).

**Ringmer Primary School:** Harrisons Lane. Headteacher: Mrs Jackie Warren.  
Prospectus and viewing appointments, please telephone the school office on 01273 812463.

**Ringmer Nursery School:** at Ringmer Primary School, Harrisons Lane, weekday mornings, 8.45 – 11.45 am, lunch club 11.45-12.30, and afternoons 12.30 - 3.30 pm for 2½ - 5 year olds. Nursery teacher: Corina Gamble (814154 or at home on 813612). See www.ringmernursery.org.uk

**Ringmer Ramblers:** Fortnightly walks on Sunday at 10 am - most walks about 5 miles. 1st Thursday in month at 10 am. Some Saturday morning walks. Contact Jim Elsam (814030).

**Ringmer Rovers Junior Football Club:** Matches & Training at Ringmer Community College  
Contact: Christopher Peck (812374).

**Ringmer Short Mat Bowls:** Village Hall. Monday 2-4.30 pm, Tuesday 7.15-10.15 pm, Wednesday 10 am-12.30 pm. Contact Pat Escott (813295).

**Ringmer Stoolball Club** - Played on the Village Green from May until September. Juniors on Wednesday & Seniors on Thursday evenings. Contact: Stephanie Lambert (812295).

**Ringmer Tiddlers & Toddlers.:** Village Hall, Mon & Thursdays 9.30 am to 11.30 am. Contact Theresa Samms (813816).

**Ringmer Twinning Association:** For information contact Chairperson Sharon Gunde (07815 103196).

**Ringmer Youth Development Service:** Youth Club for Years 7/8 & Duke of Edinburgh's Award for Years 10+ Email: denise.kong@eastsussex.gov.uk

**Royal British Legion - Ringmer Branch:** Village Hall - St Mary's Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in the month, 11.30 am., Chairman: T.P.Jackson (812697). Hon Sec: M.A.Lyon, 17 Mill Gardens (813298).

**Royal British Legion -Women's Section:** Hon Sec: Mrs J B Goldsmith, 'Laburnum House', Lewes Road (812308).

**Saturday Club** for children of Primary School age in St Mary's on the Saturday before each 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, between 10 am and 12 noon. Contact Juliet Lyon (813298).

**Scout Group - 1<sup>st</sup> Ringmer:** Scout HQ, The Green. Group Scout Leader and HQ  
Bookings: John Saunders (812681).  
Scout Troop: Tuesday, 7 - 8.30 pm. Leaders John Saunders (812681) Cub Pack: Thursday, 6 – 7.15 pm. Leader Ian Knight (814966) Beaver Colony: Monday 6 - 7 pm. Leader Maxine May (813641).

**St John Ambulance-Ringmer Division:** Village Hall, Mondays. BADGERS age 5-10, meet 6.30 to 7.45pm, contact Lexi (07854750223). CADETS ages 10-16 meet 6.30 - 7.45 pm and ADULTS meet 8 pm to 9.30 pm, contact: Joan (812187).

**St Pancras R.C. Church:** High Street, Lewes. Sunday: Mass at 9 am., 10.30 am (Family Mass). Saturday 6 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Mass of Sunday. Parish Priest: Fr Jonathan Martin (473309).

**St Peter & St James Hospice - Ringmer Support Group:** Chairman John Payne (812501), Vice-Chairman Bob Cairns (812784).

**University of the Third Age (U3A), Ringmer:** The U3A is for retired people who wish to meet in small sociable groups and develop their interests in a variety of subjects. Info Jenny West (812585).

**Village Hall Bookings:** Booking Secretary: Bren Bonner (813303), Mon to Sat, 8 am to 8 pm ONLY.

**Police Surgery:** Village Hall Library, monthly on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs, 2.30-3.30pm. Tel 08546070999 Ext 63236