

# **RINGMER**

## **PARISH MAGAZINE**

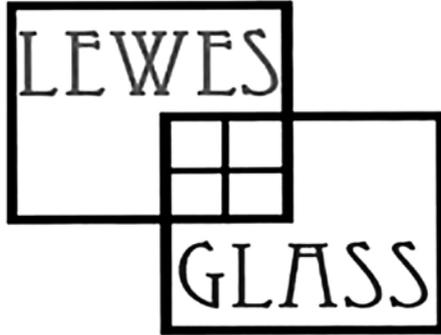
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**MARCH 2026**



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## CHURCH CONTACTS

**VICAR:** Revd. David Bouskill, 07394 936545, vicar@ringmerchurch.org.uk

**ASSOCIATE VICAR:** Revd. Patricia Brenton, 01273 097108

**LICENSED LAY MINISTER:** Ray Brenton, 07805586621

**ADMIN:** Shirley Squires, ad-sasquires@talktalk.net\_01273  
752167/07552492354

**AUTHORISED LAY MINISTERS:** Marisa Hayes (Children and Families)  
07796145464 and Sue Howes (Pastoral) 01273 812394

**CHURCHWARDENS:** Anne Franklin

churchwarden@ringmerchurch.org.uk or 01273 813189 and Andrew Edgar  
on 07846 781 752

**FLOODLIGHTING:** Shirley Squires 01273 752167

**CARING/SHARING:** David Lambird 01273 472324

**ORGANIST:** John Howes 01273 812394

**CHOIR LEADER:** Rosemary Colebourn 07552487694

**TOWER CAPTAIN:** Jonathan Franklin, 07817360727

**ACTING TREASURER:** Anne Franklin, 01273 813189,  
churchwarden@ringmerchurch.org.uk

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*Email [ringmerparishmag@gmail.com](mailto:ringmerparishmag@gmail.com) with your news by midday on  
20 March 2026 for the April 2026 issue. Please ensure all dates and  
information is correct at the time of submission.*

# LETTER FROM ST MARY'S



Dear Friends

In a world that moves quickly and comments loudly, it is all too easy to slip into the habit of judging. We form opinions in an instant, often without knowing the full story. Yet the Christian faith gently calls us to something deeper and kinder. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus offers words that remain both challenging and comforting: before we look for the speck in someone else's eye, we are to notice the plank in our own. It is a vivid image, almost humorous, but its meaning is profound. Self-examination is not about harsh self-criticism; it is about honesty, humility, and growth.

Living in our village is a gift. We share celebrations, support one another through difficulties, and greet familiar faces in passing. Yet community life also brings moments of misunderstanding. Small frustrations can grow if we are not careful. That is why looking inward matters so much. When we pause to ask, "Have I been patient? Have I listened well? Have I shown kindness?" we create space for grace to enter. The season of Lent, which many of us observe each year, invites exactly this kind of reflection. It encourages us to slow down, to pray, and to consider where we might change. But the spirit of Lent is not confined to a few weeks on the calendar. It is a pattern we can carry with us throughout the year. Imagine what our community would feel like if we each chose understanding over assumption, encouragement over criticism. Imagine conversations shaped by curiosity rather than conclusion. By tending to our own attitudes and actions, we quietly strengthen the whole community. So as you read the pages that follow—filled with news, events, and stories of village life—may this be our shared starting point: to look at ourselves with honesty, to look at others with compassion, and to remember that we are all works in progress, held together by grace.

**With every blessing, Revd. David**

## CHURCH SERVICES FOR MARCH

### SUNDAY 1 MARCH

10am  
6.30pm

### SUNDAY 8 MARCH

10am

### SUNDAY 15 MARCH

10am  
6.30pm

### SUNDAY 22 MARCH

10am

### SUNDAY 29 MARCH

10am  
6.30pm

### LENT 2

FirstSunday@10 Service  
Eucharist for Lent in the Chancel

### LENT 3

Eucharist for Lent

### MOTHERING SUNDAY

Eucharist for Lent

Evensong

### LENT 5 – Passiontide begins

Eucharist for Lent with Ministry of Prayer

### PALM SUNDAY

Eucharist for Lent with Reading of the Passion  
Taize-style Service

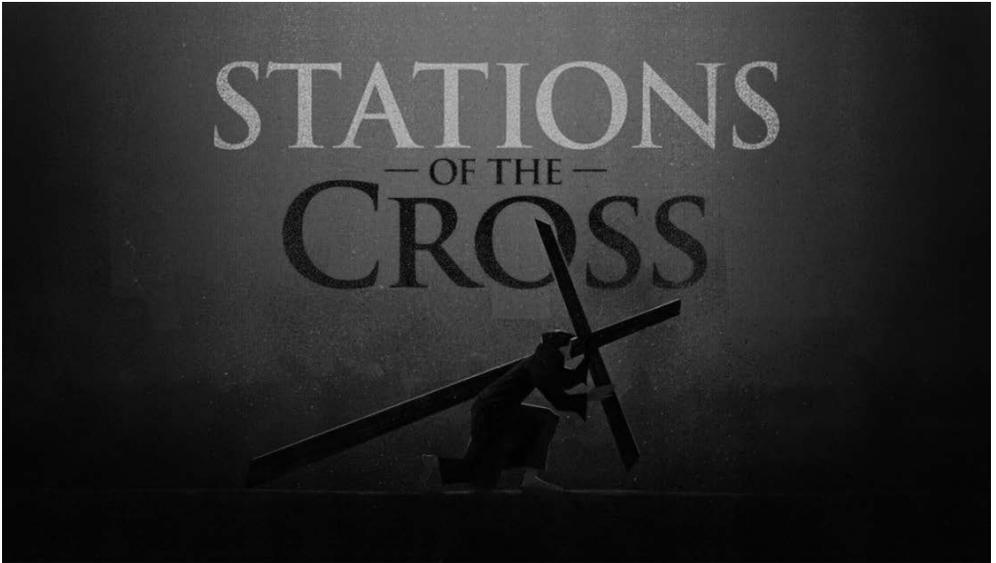
**A Eucharist Service will be said every Thursday at 10am in the Lady Chapel**

## **ST MARY'S NEWS & EVENTS**

*Check [ringmerchurch.org.uk/Information](http://ringmerchurch.org.uk/Information) for more details on everything at St Mary's.*

### **FIRSTSUNDAY@10 SERVICE**

This service on 1 March is suitable for everyone with lots of singing and usually a fairly easy craft to make and enjoy. We look forward to seeing you there.



### **LENT AT ST MARY'S**

The Stations of the Cross, a traditional selection from the events of Our Lord's Passion and Resurrection, which we follow by moving round a series of pictures (stations) in church, stopping at each for a short liturgy or a brief reading followed by a meditation, continues on Tuesdays during March at 5pm.

We also have a Lent Course on Thursdays at 3.45pm in the Church Room when we are studying the Gospel of Matthew. We look forward to welcoming you to some of these events. These are in addition to our usual 10am Said Eucharist in the Lady Chapel on a Thursday.

Our Lent Lunches are in the Church Room on Friday 6, 13 and 20 March between 12pm and 1.30pm. The purpose of these lunches is to raise some money for our Disaster Fund, which allows us to respond quickly to emergency appeals. They are also a good way to meet people and enjoy a 'simple' lunch - usually soup, bread and cheese.

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 Ecclesiastical  
PLANNING SERVICES

# ST MARY'S NEWS & EVENTS

## CHURCH FLOODLIGHTING

<b>19 February</b>	<b>Wendy Barber</b>	<b>"Treasured birthday memories"</b>
<b>22 February</b>	<b>Felicity Gina Barber</b>	<b>"Such elegant memories"</b>
<b>26 February anniversary"</b>	<b>Arthur Squires</b>	<b>"Happy memories on our 60<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>1 March</b>	<b>Jan Woollons</b>	<b>"In loving memory"</b>
<b>14 March</b>	<b>Andrew Constable</b>	<b>"You are always on our minds"</b>

*If you would like to remember a loved one by having the St Mary's church floodlit on a specific evening, please contact Shirley Squires at [ad-sasquires@talktalk.net](mailto:ad-sasquires@talktalk.net) or on 01273 752167/07552492354 or at 26 Danforth Way. A donation of £15 would be very gratefully received.*

## PRAYER VIGIL

On Tuesday 10 March, prayers will be said for the many needs of the world, the country and our village and church in the Lady Chapel at 9am. This is an informal time and prayers can be silent or said aloud. You are welcome to join us.

At our 10am Sunday services each week we pray for the people living in certain areas in our parish: 1 March – Bishops Lane and Bishops Close, 8 March – Green Close, 15 March – Little Paddock, 22 March – Harvard Road and 29 March – Oakmede Way.

## HOLY COMMUNION IN CARE HOMES

Holy Communion is said in each of the Care Homes in Ringmer during the month – Parris Lawn on 3 March at 11am, Lime Tree House on 26 March at 11am and Holm Lodge on 31 March at 11.30am.

## ST MARY'S TODDLERS

Continues in the Symons Hall at the Village Hall on Wednesdays between 10.30am and 12pm. We look forward to welcoming parents / carers with pre-school children for a morning of play. Teas and coffees are always available.

## EASTER AT ST MARY'S

MAUNDY THURSDAY (2 April) – Eucharist and Vigil at 7.30pm

GOOD FRIDAY (3 April) - Family Service at 10am and Devotion from 2pm to 3pm

EASTER DAY (5 April) – Easter Vigil, Service of Light, First Eucharist of Easter at 6am, Family Eucharist for Easter at 10am

## ECO TIP | REPAIR CAFÉ | MOTHERS' UNION



### MOTHERS' UNION

We had a fascinating talk from Rosemary Colebourn at our February meeting, where she told us all about her life in music including all the different schools and places she has taught in and how she ended up being choir leader here at St Mary's. As our meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March falls in Lent we are having a talk suitable for that season. We start each of our meetings with a short service and then after the inevitable notices we have our talk and finish the evening with coffee and chat. You are very welcome to come and join us.

### ECO TIP: SPRING CLEANING IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY WAY

It's possible to reduce our impact on the planet while giving our house a spring clean, by avoiding chemicals that can be toxic for yourself and your family, reducing plastic waste and the use of our natural resources in creating it and saving money by buying in bulk or using homemade cleaning products.



When replacing cleaning brushes and cloths, consider switching to natural fibres for cleaning dishes. There are alternatives available that can be composted or consider reusing old socks or worn towels. Areas that require a scrub (e.g. the grout between tiles) will come up a treat when homemade or bulk-bought cleaning products are used with an old toothbrush. Make a simple all-purpose cleaner with equal parts of white vinegar and water (vinegar is a recommended product for mould removal), or a water and bicarbonate soda paste for scrubbing. Adding a few drops of essential oil or a squeeze of citrus juice will make homemade cleaning options smell great too.



### RINGMER REPAIR CAFE

There was a great response at the January session and the team looks forward to seeing lots of people with items for repair on Saturday 28 March, as usual from 10am to 12.30pm in the Parish Council Offices, Old School Close. We hope you have now spotted our banner on the Village Hall railings reminding everyone during the previous week.

The team has ideas of how to expand the range of items we can repair and are now trialling basic repairs of bicycles. We can never guarantee to be able to solve every problem, as there is a safety issue involved, but are happy to look at your bike and advise, if we can't repair it. In due course we hope to offer lawn mower repairs and advise on smart phone and laptop problems.

Get in touch via the website at [ringmerrepaircafe.co.uk](http://ringmerrepaircafe.co.uk) or email at [ringmerrepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:ringmerrepaircafe@gmail.com)



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**RINGMER**  
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### **How to get in contact with us**



The Parish Offices  
Old School Close, Ringmer,  
East Sussex. BN8 5RA  
(Opening hours 10am - 12noon Mon–Thu)



[www.ringmerparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.ringmerparishcouncil.gov.uk)



[www.clerk@ringmerparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:www.clerk@ringmerparishcouncil.gov.uk)



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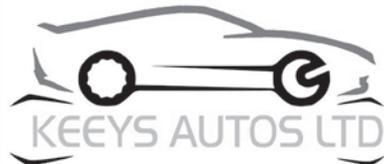
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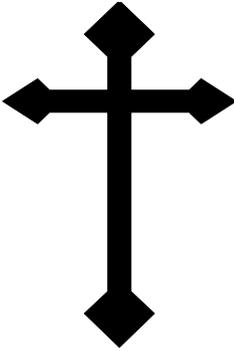
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# RINGMER BAPTIST CHURCH | RAGE



Ringmer Baptist Church invites you to join them at 10.30am and 6pm in Ringmer Village Hall every Sunday for worship and bible-based teaching (Ringmer Village Hall is fully accessible with plenty of free parking). You will find a warm welcome and an opportunity to share fellowship with ordinary people who are learning more about following Jesus.

They share lunch on several occasions during the year while hearing from various charities working in difficult situations in the UK and worldwide. Full details of the church's teaching for the month ahead and other activities, as well as the charities we support, appear on our website at [ringmerbaptist.uk](http://ringmerbaptist.uk)

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Malcolm Hart (deacon) 07494 656725 [mchart@gmail.co.uk](mailto:mchart@gmail.co.uk)

Ken Starnes (deacon) 01273 471409 [kstarnes@mistral.co.uk](mailto:kstarnes@mistral.co.uk)

Annali-Joy Thornicroft (deacon and pastoral support) 01825 750283  
[thornicrofts@btinternet.com](mailto:thornicrofts@btinternet.com)

## RINGMER AGAINST GREENFIELD EXPLOITATION

Thanks to all of you who, on a wet February Saturday, attended the Local Plan Consultation and more thanks to everyone who submitted their online responses before the deadline of 28 February: they didn't make it easy for us to respond, did they?



### Current threats

With attention directed at the Local Plan, it's important to remember that the planning applications submitted for Howells Bank Farm (LW/24/0760 – Catesby Estates, Land west of Broyle Lane, Ringmer) and Turnpike Farm (LW/25/0391 Land North Of Turnpike Farm, The Broyle, Ringmer) have not gone away. We don't have dates for these hearings at the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC), but we'll watch and advise.

Please watch for RAGE communications as new information not available to you at the time of your original responses to the applications may be available now. If you haven't responded yet, there's still time.

### Repeat please for website assistance

Are you familiar with Wordpress? Or Mailerlite? If yes, will you help us with the running of the RAGE website? If you can, please email [info@ringmergreenfields.org](mailto:info@ringmergreenfields.org)

## WHAT'S ON IN RINGMER



### RINGMER WI UPDATE

At the last meeting, 46 members and visitors were present in the Village Hall to listen to speaker Gillian Lloyd talk about her African Dream. As a professional photographer, Gillian is fortunate in being able to spend hours and even days watching the behaviours and interactions of animals. Illustrated by her beautiful photographs, Gillian talked us through the largest, tallest and most dangerous animals found in the nine African countries she has visited.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 3 March, when Raymond Hale will tell us how a young doctor's chance discovery of a fossilised tooth took on a journey that would see Gideon Mantell become a famous writer and lecturer. But his life was tinged with scientific rivalry, family misfortune and a crippling accident that ultimately led to his premature death - a fascinating story of a local man.

### LAUGHTON VILLAGE CHOIR

On Saturday 28 March at 6pm, the Laughton Village Choir and Clockhouse Singers will perform Bach's St John Passion at Holy Cross Church in Uckfield. Presented by Music Box Wealden and under the direction of Linda Glenn, the performance will be an abridged version of Bach's St John Passion, presenting the biblical story and essence of the work in a thoroughly accessible way. The soloists are Ben Hancox-Lachman (Tenor) and Rosie Page (Mezzo). Get your tickets now from [musicboxwealden.co.uk](http://musicboxwealden.co.uk)

### RINGMER BARN DANCING

We will be dancing on 25 March, which is the fourth Wednesday in the month, not our usual third as the Dramatic Society have their production in that week. You will be most welcome from 8pm to 10pm – please bring £6 cash. No need to bring a partner we have plenty of friendly people to dance with. Keep fit, enjoy the live music and laugh when it all goes wrong. Just wear comfy shoes and bring some liquid refreshment.

### LEWES FLOWER CLUB

The next meeting is on Thursday 12 March at 1pm (doors open at 12.30pm in Beechwood Community Hall, Cooksbridge, BN73QG. The demonstrator is Brenda Bull who will present 'The Silk Road'. Visitors are welcome to join for a £7 fee, to include tea/coffee and a biscuit followed by a flower demonstration and raffle.

### SUPER BREAKFAST IN AID OF ST MARY'S

There's no Ringmer Market this month as the hall is booked but there is a Super Breakfast on 28 March in St Mary's Church Room. There will be an extensive buffet with lots on offer by donation. All money goes to the church. If you'd like to come, please call Joan Evett on 01273 812075.



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# **T&T | HISTORY GROUP | SPRING SHOW 2026**

## **RINGMER HISTORY GROUP**

The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Friday 27 March in Ringmer Village Hall when Bob Cairns and John Kay will be showing you a selection of the most interesting new images added to our postcard and photograph collections over the past year. All welcome.

## **RINGMER TIDDLERS AND TODDLERS**

This group has been running for 50 years in the village, It was started and run by mums as a way for them to meet each other and for their small, pre-school, children to mix with others.

Despite no longer running a session on Thursdays, Tiddlers and Toddlers (T&Ts) still meets on a Monday morning and is going strong. Fifty years on, it is still run by parents, but of course, it's no longer just mothers bringing their children – fathers, grandparents, and childminders attend too.

The group meets in Ringmer Village Hall between 9.30 and 11.30am on Monday mornings during term time. It costs £3 per session, which includes a snack for children and a hot drink and biscuit for adults. There are activities, crafts, singing and a story. There is an outdoor garden space which we can use in good weather. T&Ts still offers an opportunity to make friends and play with your child. There is no need to book - just walk in (the white set of doors up from the library) and give it a try. The door code will be displayed on the door. For more information, email [ringmertiddlers@gmail.com](mailto:ringmertiddlers@gmail.com) We look forward to seeing you there.



## **RINGMER HORTICULTURAL CLUB SPRING SHOW**

Not long to go now! The show is on Saturday 28 March 2pm. The club looks forward to seeing you all either as someone who displays or someone who comes for a nose. Bring the family, have a flutter on the raffle and enjoy some delicious refreshments. Stay on for the entertaining auction at the end and grab yourself a bargain!

Classes include flower arranging and displays, crafting, baking, art and photography.

If you'd like to enter something there's plenty of time. Have a browse through the schedule on our website at [ringmerhorticulturalclub.co.uk](http://ringmerhorticulturalclub.co.uk) The entry form is also there with hard copies available at Ringmer Library.

Should anyone have an hour to spare on the day, we would really appreciate your help with either setting up, taking down, selling raffle tickets or helping in the café. And, if anyone has any plants they are happy to donate for the plant stall please bring them along by 11am on the day.



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#### FEBRUARY

6th: QUIZ  
12th: PAINT CLUB  
7-9pm  
£33 per person.  
Book at [thepaintclub.co.uk](http://thepaintclub.co.uk).  
14th: VALENTINES DAY  
17th: PANCAKE DAY  
Special pancake menu.  
26th: FLOWERS & WELLNESS

#### MARCH

6th: QUIZ  
15th: MOTHERS DAY  
Taking bookings now.  
17th: FLOWERS & WELLNESS  
20th: IRISH NIGHT  
Live Music by Coel na Mara  
Food from 5-9pm by Spudshack  
Serving Guinness!

### FLOWER & WELLNESS EVENINGS with *Bramble & Thicket*

6.30-9pm £75 per person

Eco workshop with full tutorial by a local florist.  
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*Includes: Cake, unlimited Tea & Coffee and a  
Prosecco/ Nosecco or Cocktail upon arrival.  
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*Tuesday 20th January - Beat The Blues  
Tuesday 24th February - Say It With Love  
Tuesday 17th March - Spring Forward*

Book your space at: [brambleandthicket.co.uk](http://brambleandthicket.co.uk)  
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# RINGMER VILLAGE LIBRARY



## RINGMER VILLAGE LIBRARY

This month, we're open on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday between 2pm and 5pm and Wednesday and Saturday 10am to 12pm. As the Friday openings are winter only, they will end on 27 March 2026, when we'll go back to four openings a week.

If you're not yet a member, why not come and see us this month to find out what you're missing. The Village Library is a friendly community space with great books and puzzles to borrow. We buy new books regularly and you can always ask us to get hold of things that aren't on our catalogue.

It's also easy to join and you don't need ID. We offer space for a chat and a hot drink, free computer use, free WiFi and a place to meet up with friends. We also have a book sale trolley where you can pick up great books at bargain prices.

### WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

In March, you can look forward to our weekly story-times at 2pm on Thursdays and on Saturday 7 March, there's a special story-time for children at 10.30am.

Our Sociable Saturday is on 14 March and it's always a very chatty affair, with cake and a coffee on offer.

The monthly Hearing Aid maintenance session is on 19 March from 3pm until 4.30pm.

On 21 March, it's our third Creative Writing afternoon with Uckfield author Deborah Jenkins with the final session on 9 May. The March session is focussing on creating engaging settings – so important in any story. The price has been kept as low as possible, at just £12.50 per session. Ask for more details by popping in at the library, or emailing us.

We're also cooking up plans for next month. On 10 April we will be running a couple of children's craft and story-time sessions to mark The National Year of Reading.

The first bumper book and jigsaw sale of the year is on 11 April 11 and, for a change, it'll be in the afternoon, so you can enjoy a cream tea as well as choosing from our great selection on sale. Look out for more details in next month's magazine.

Don't forget that our catalogue is online and fully searchable at [ringmer.librarika.com/search/catalogs](http://ringmer.librarika.com/search/catalogs)

You don't need a log in, browse and use the contact details below to order books.

**CONTACT:** Call 07934 046392, email [ringmervillagelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:ringmervillagelibrary@gmail.com), follow on Twitter @SaveRingmerLibr or on Facebook/RingmerVillageLibrary or on Blue Sky @ringmerlibrary.bsky.social

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## DRAMA SOCIETY | UCKFIELD ART GROUP

The poster features a dark, moody background with a beach scene. Two lounge chairs are in the foreground. A speech bubble contains the text 'Sunburn, sangria and all the baggage you didn't pack!'. At the top, the Ringmer Dramatic Society logo is shown. The title 'ALL EXCLUSIVE' is in large, bold, white letters. Below it, the dates '18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> March' and the author 'by Hugh Morrison' are listed. At the bottom, a banner says 'TICKETS ON SALE NOW!' and provides contact information for the Ringmer Village Hall, including the box office location and price.

Ringmer Dramatic Society

# ALL EXCLUSIVE

18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> March

by Hugh Morrison

Sunburn, sangria and all the baggage you didn't pack!

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**

Ringmer Village Hall  
BOX OFFICE: Ringmer Pet Store or [ticketsource.co.uk](http://ticketsource.co.uk)  
£10 each - Licensed Bar

### RINGMER DRAMATIC SOCIETY SPRING PRODUCTION

Ringmer Dramatic Society proudly presents *All Exclusive*, a hilarious holiday comedy.

Sunburn, sangria and all the baggage you didn't pack! A group of very different British holidaymakers arrive at a bargain all-inclusive resort on the island of San Itairi, expecting rest and relaxation. Instead, they're met with blistering heat, questionable food, clashing personalities, and a holiday that spirals spectacularly out of control.

As petty complaints turn into open conflict, culture clashes and escalating misunderstandings pull them into a situation far more dramatic than they realise.

Fast-paced, sharp and laugh-out-loud funny, *All Exclusive* is a comedy about holidays gone wrong, and the

people you wish you'd never travelled with. A must-see comedy event. Save the date. Expect chaos.

**Production Week: 18 – 21 March**

**BOX OFFICE: Ringmer Pet Store & [Ticketsource.co.uk](http://Ticketsource.co.uk)**

### DIARY DATE: Uckfield Art Group Summer Exhibition

The next exhibition is on Saturday 30 May, where you can see works of art at affordable prices. There will be an amazing selection of subjects and styles created using acrylic, watercolour, pastel, oil, pen, pencil, coloured pencil and Lino and gel prints. The Theme Section about being inspired by a famous artist and creating a picture in their style.

Doors open 10am - 4pm at the Luxford Centre, Library Way, Uckfield East Sussex TN22 1AR. Free entry (donations welcome) and plenty of free parking surrounding the venue.

Find Uckfield Art Group on social media. Look out for more information nearer the time.

## How Do I Tell My Loved One They Need a Care Home?

**Talking about care with an elderly loved one can be an emotional time for the whole family. Read on for helpful tips.**

Going into care can be a difficult subject to discuss. But if you have genuine concerns for a loved one's safety and welfare, a conversation about their future care options is a necessary one to have.

**Talk while there's time.** The sooner you talk about care, the sooner you can identify any hesitations your loved one may have. This also gives them time to consider all the available options and the one that benefits them. Subsequently, it avoids having to make a rushed decision because their living situation has become critical.

**Include your siblings.** Involve as many family members as possible. This way, everyone can

support the decisions made and responsibilities can be shared.

**Be patient.** If your loved one is reluctant to broach on the subject, maybe try and kindly ask why they don't want to talk about care. Maybe they would rather talk to a friend or medical professional.

**Ask them how they feel.** They may be in denial that they need any help or increased care. One reason for this may be a fear of losing independence. Try to understand their situation and reassure them you're only trying to help and make life easier for them.

If you would like to talk to someone about this, please feel free to call our helpful manager, Stacey at our local Ringmer home, Lime Tree House. She would be delighted to help you navigate the topic, outline your needs, and help you find local support that best suits you and your loved one.

For more information, please read the full article on our website: **[www.southcarehomes.com/where-to-start/](http://www.southcarehomes.com/where-to-start/)**

# Lime Tree House

your local care home in Ringmer



"The staff have all been **amazing**... The home is **light** and **bright** and the food is **excellent**."

Daughter of resident, March 2025  **Verified Review on Carehome.co.uk**



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(52 Reviews)



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# VILLAGE HALL NEWS & BOOKINGS

## VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

At the Village Hall, we've been busy refurbishing the car park, which gets very heavy use. Thanks to all the volunteers involved with the maintenance of the hall.

Our AGM is coming up on Monday 20 April at 7pm in the Alan West Room. All users and those with an interest in the Village Hall Chairty are invited to attend this short meeting.

There is some availability at the hall for new or regular users on Thursdays and Fridays. Most Thursdays between 8am and 1pm is available in the Jack Hart Hall (that's the main hall) and Fridays in both halls after 11am.

You can view availability and book online at [ringmervillagehall.chessck.co.uk](http://ringmervillagehall.chessck.co.uk) or use the QR Code to go to the booking page.



### [EDITOR'S NOTE]

*I've had a number of requests to display the entirety of the Village Hall's bookings for each month in this magazine. However, there are just too many to squeeze in, so I've extracted some below and encourage review of the website above to view availability. See back of magazine for a full list of clubs/societies and contact details.*

### **Monday 2 March**

6pm & 8pm: St John Ambulance Cadets 9am: Tiddlers & Toddlers 12.45pm: Bingo, 8pm: South Eastern Budgie Club

### **Tuesday 3 March**

11.30am: Citizens Advice Drop in Session, 2pm: Lewes Art Group, 6.45pm: WI

### **Thursday 5 March**

1.30pm: Evergreen Club, 7.30pm: New Sussex Singers Rehearsal

### **Sat 7 March**

10am: East Sussex Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Dyers

### **Thursday 12 March**

2pm: u3a Home Tech & Computer Group

### **Friday 13 March**

6.30pm Silent movie screening with musical accompaniment

### **Tuesday 24 March**

11am: Joan's Lunch Club, 1.30pm: Yoga with Sara

### **Wednesday 25 March**

7.30pm: Barn Dance, 7pm: Drama Society

### **Friday 27 March**

7pm: Ringmer History Group

### **Saturday 28 March**

10am: Spring Horticultural Show



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# RINGMER PARISH COUNCIL



## LEWES DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN

We would like to thank all residents who engaged with the consultation documents and made their opinions known about the proposal to double the size of Ringmer with little thought given to the necessary infrastructure and services.

## ALMOND FIELD

Visitors to the Almond Field will notice that new fencing has been erected along the boundary with the cemetery extension. The project was financed jointly by the Parish Council and the

SDNPA Ranger. Securing that boundary will ensure that the field will be able to be grazed regularly. As the weather improves we will start clearing areas and planting with native wildflowers to further enhance the biodiversity of the field. Please remember that it is lovely green space where you may enjoy a quiet walk. There are two benches where you may sit and enjoy watching the birds and pollinators. Please note that dogs are not allowed in the Almond Field, a condition laid down when the field was given to the Parish Council. Any resident wishing to help with the development of the Almond Field will be most welcome to join us and should contact the Parish Clerk on 01273 813242.

## JUBILEE GARDENS

Work will start in March on the bed nearest to the bus stop. It is the last of the three beds that will be planted with pollinator friendly perennials. The plants will be supplied by Goldcliff Garden Centre. Any resident wishing to help with the planting and routine maintenance will be most welcome to join us and should contact the Parish Clerk on 01273 813242.

## SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE (SID)

At the Full Council meeting in November 2025, members agreed to consider obtaining a moveable speed indication device. As part of this initiative, suitable locations for installing the device needed to be identified. With assistance from the Ringmer Speedwatch Group, a list of preferred sites for the SID was created, which will be submitted to ESCC Highways for approval.

Don't forget to check our website [www.ringmerparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.ringmerparishcouncil.gov.uk) and follow us on Facebook: [facebook.com/RingmerPC](https://facebook.com/RingmerPC) and Instagram: [@ringmerpc](https://instagram.com/ringmerpc) for updates.

### Did you know?

You can easily receive news updates from Ringmer Parish Council by visiting our website. Simply scroll to the **'Subscribe to Our Newsletter'** section on any page and enter your first name and email address. If you prefer, you can also email us at [admin@ringmerparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:admin@ringmerparishcouncil.gov.uk) and we will add you to our subscriber list.

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## LEWES CAB DROP IN DATES | HELP UKRAINE

### LEWES CITIZENS ADVICE DROP IN SESSIONS

For free, confidential and impartial advice, support and referrals on a huge range of topics, including benefits, housing issues, cost of living, debt, energy and much more, you can attend a Ringmer session (no appointment necessary) in the Alan West Room at Ringmer Village Hall from 11.30am to 2.30pm on the following dates: 3 March, 7 April, 5 May, 2 June and 7 July 2026.



### HELP UKRAINE FOUR YEARS ON

When tragedy unfolds every single day for so long, it's natural that we tune some – or all – of it out. It's the only way to get through the day. Four years into Russian's illegal war of aggression in Ukraine, tens of thousands of people suffer every day. It's hard to know what to do and where to turn, but you *can* make a difference.

For animals in Ukraine, the costs keep mounting. Millions of pets and animals have been displaced, abandoned and injured. The latest estimates are that, as of late 2024, more than a million dogs and cats were left behind as their owners ran for their lives. Many are now stray, dealing with starvation, trauma and a lack of shelter. This winter has also been the coldest in decades with temperatures routinely plunging to more than 10- 15 degrees below. Animals shelters and many people have stayed in the hardest hit areas where they try their best to feed and help as many of these animals as possible.

Put yourself in their place. The tragedy. The suffering. The grief. And still they continue to help. **K9 Rescue Ukraine** is one of many small charities doing as much as they can to directly help people and animals in Ukraine. Our very own Pet Store in Ringmer has supported this local charity since 2022 and every single pound raised has helped dogs, cats, horses and all kinds of other animals, survive.

If you want to help, please consider donating. You can donate directly online at [k9rescueukraine.com](https://k9rescueukraine.com), or you can **donate cash at The Pet Store, Ringmer** where Vanessa will be happy to talk you through how the charity works and where your money goes. Or, if you'd like something in return, you can donate to Deb Lancaster's GoFundMe in exchange for an original pet portrait in acrylics – you choose how much to donate and the kind of painting you want [examples above left]. Find out more here: [gofundme.com/f/5-for-50-fundraiser-for-ukraine](https://gofundme.com/f/5-for-50-fundraiser-for-ukraine) – more than 20 commissions completed so far with happy customers! Please help us help them.

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## CATS PROTECTION - LEWES, SEAFORD & DISTRICT BRANCH

CAT LOVERS - We welcome new Members to join our Group

If you would like to be a part of our local Branch and have a concern for the welfare of all our feline friends then please phone Sheila Tiller on 01273 814722 for more information



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## LEWES DISTRICT COUNCIL



### THE LATEST FROM LDC

Councillor Emily O'Brien says: "It was great to see a good turnout of residents to the Ringmer Local Plan consultation event, given the immense importance to all of us. We appreciate the efforts of the Parish Council in supporting LDC around the event, and organising the leaflet drop, which Johnny and I were happy to help deliver.

"I spoke with many residents at the meeting. The top down target led, developer-focussed nature of our planning system is a continual frustration. I've been likening the process to the village pub being taken over by Wetherspoons – it might still say 'local' but the important stuff is all dictated nationally. We're lucky if we get to organise a darts night...

"As local councillors we're deeply concerned by the Government's latest national planning proposals, which would remove even further the ability of communities to influence development, and we are looking at joining the Community Planning Alliance's national day of action on 18 April with a Ringmer event. Details to follow but please put the date in your diary.

"As well as concerns about the volume and location of housing, it's really important that clear infrastructure requirements are set out. I'm mulling including enquires about traffic calming / weight limits/ 20mph speed limit for Lewes Road – it's impossible to imagine how a shift to walking and cycling could be achieved with further traffic along the road, given the number of people already afraid to venture along. While ESCC have been unreceptive to these requests previously, the Local Plan process requires a different set of negotiations.

"I met with the Chief Executive of Southern Water, Lawrence Gosden, and alongside some assurances on wider issues (for example, regarding our frustrations over planning and also the bio bead release incident which contaminated coastlines at Rye), I was able to raise the plight of Mill Road residents who have been enduring garden flooding ever since the Caburn Field development was built. Southern Water are refusing to allow a connection for the French drain, which the County Council have designed as a solution to the problem (paid for by the developer) even though it has been proven that this water will flow into the bulldog without adding additional load to the wastewater treatment works. I have my fingers crossed for some sensible decision making finally on their part.

"As ever please get in touch if I can help at [emily.obrien@lewes.gov.uk](mailto:emily.obrien@lewes.gov.uk)

## **WILDFLOWER RINGMER | BEVERN TRUST**



### **WILDFLOWER RINGMER**

The recently published State of Nature Report is the most up-to-date and accurate picture we have of how nature is doing in the UK. The shocking findings are that almost 1,500 wildlife species are at risk of becoming extinct.

More than 97% of wildflower meadows have been lost in less than 100 years and a quarter of our native wildflowers are at risk of extinction.

Causes include climate change, intensive farming practices and development. The draft Local Plan for our village proposes building on yet more green fields which will result in even more habitat loss - all the more reason for all of us to do what we can in our gardens to help nature.

In Spring, gardens are full of cheerful daffodils with large showy flowers and you might expect these to be very attractive to bees and other pollinators. Sadly, that is not the case as cultivated daffodils have been selectively bred for their beauty and have largely lost characteristics such as fragrance, nectar and nutritious pollen favoured by pollinators. No-one is suggesting that we remove daffodils from our gardens but why not consider adding other spring bulbs that are good sources of pollen and nectar? Examples include snowdrops, crocus, winter aconite and the native wild daffodil *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*. By allowing wildflowers such as violets, celandines and red deadnettles to thrive in our lawns and borders we'll be helping pollinators even more. Let's bin the 'weed' word and embrace our native wildflowers!

Read more details from the report here [rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/news/state-of-nature-report](https://rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/news/state-of-nature-report)

### **BEVERN TRUST IS LOOKING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS**

The Bevern Trust is a disability charity based in Barcombe and Bevern View is its residential home, providing lifelong care for 11 young adults with profound disabilities. Volunteers are at the heart of everything we do - helping our residents live "more from life." From baking and gardening to reading and events, their time and enthusiasm make a real difference every day. We have a wonderful mix of volunteers, from teenagers to retirees, including our youngest regular helper at just 15!

We're always looking for new faces to join our community. If you'd like to see the difference volunteering can make, come and visit us at Bevern View.

Donate: [www.beverntrust.org](http://www.beverntrust.org) Email: [info@beverntrust.org](mailto:info@beverntrust.org)

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w: [angieosbornecounselling.co.uk](http://angieosbornecounselling.co.uk)

National Counselling & Psychotherapy Accredited Register



## RINGMER PAST | MAGAZINE CONTACTS



Continuing the series of old photographs of Ringmer, courtesy of Ringmer History Group.

This picture shows Moon Cottage on the west side of Moor Lane, set back between its junction with Neaves Lane and Wakelands Farm. It's an 18<sup>th</sup> century brick built house acquired by the Glyndebourne Estate – it remains one of their properties today. Send through any old photos you

have of Ringmer Past to [ringmerparishmag@gmail.com](mailto:ringmerparishmag@gmail.com)

## RINGMER PARISH MAGAZINE IN 2026

*You may have noticed that we've refreshed the magazine for 2026. As well as a new title, extra pages and as much village and community news as we can squeeze in, we've updated the ads for local businesses and services. We continue to work hard to ensure the magazine can continue by carefully managing costs. Although the price has gone up, it's absolutely worth subscribing. For £7.50/annum you get 12 copies direct to your home (62.5p each compared with £1 for single copies). **Cheques to 'Ringmer Parish Magazine'** Please encourage friends and neighbours, especially if new arrivals, to take out a subscription and feel part of the community. Subscription details below.*

## MAGAZINE CONTACT & SUBSCRIPTION DETAILS

Contact editor Deb Lancaster at [ringmerparishmag@gmail.com](mailto:ringmerparishmag@gmail.com). Copy deadline is midday on the 20<sup>th</sup> of every month.

If you want to advertise with us or already have an advertisement in the magazine, contact ads manager Paul Dench [advertisingringmerparishmag@gmail.com](mailto:advertisingringmerparishmag@gmail.com)

If you'd like to subscribe to 12 issues of this magazine delivered right to your door every month for just £7.50 contact [rosemarycolebourn@btinternet.com](mailto:rosemarycolebourn@btinternet.com) or call 07552487694.

The distribution is managed by a team of volunteers. Please contact Murray Brickell on 07702477872 [muzzb1@live.co.uk](mailto:muzzb1@live.co.uk) if you can help with this in your part of the village.

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## **RINGMER COMMUNITY CONTACT NUMBERS**

**Alcoholics Anonymous, Ringmer:** AA Helpline 0845 769 7555, meetings Church Room Tuesday at 12.30pm and Village Hall Friday at 12.15pm.

**Barn Dancing Society:** 3rd Wednesday of month at 8pm in Village Hall. Contact Julia Morris on 01273 813595 or Maureen on 07946 735674.

**Bowls Club:** Rinks: Cheyney Green. Sec: Pauline Lloyd on 01273 812470.

**Cheyney Croquet Club:** Sue Tompsett 01273813810

**Cricket Club:** Village Green. Secretary: D Bush on 01273 812522.

**Dramatic Society:** 01273 812795, mark.croasdale@live.com

**East Sussex Community Choir:** Monday 7.30 to 9pm term time only at Trinity StJohn's Sub Castro, Lewes. Mary Burke 01273 475885 or burke.mf@gmail.com

**Evergreen Club:** 55+ social club, meets most Thursdays at the Village Hall at 2pm. For details ring Gill or Graham Stapley 01273 812976.

**Fitness circuits:** Every Wed during term time from 6pm to 6.50pm in the KAR school gym. Contact Sally on 07733305345/sallynorris47@hotmail.com

**Lewes & District Art Club:** Tuesdays 2-4pm in Village Hall. Mavis Stanley 01273814359 or Angela Howard 01273 813097

**Lewes & District Probus:** Geoff Fitch on 07484721582, geoffrey@gmx.com.

**Lewes Daytime Music: House of Friendship, School Hill:** Choir Mon 2-3pm. Ukulele beg. Wed 9.30am Inter: 10.30am Adv: 11.30am Beat Parkinson's choir every Friday 11-12 at Cliffe Hall, Lewes Debra Skeen 07710 548724

**Lewes Social Group of East Sussex Vision Support** meets monthly, every second Monday. Local contact Gill Salisbury, 07463 073385.

**Library:** Village Hall, 07934 046392 or ringmervillagelibrary@gmail.com

**Memory Moments Café:** (for people with dementia & their family/carers) - Scout Hut, Thursday 10am to 12pm. Call Kate for more information on 07708 014313.

**Mothers' Union:** Christine Smith, 01273 814993, christineesmith@me.com or Shirley Squires 01273 752167.

**Ringmer Community Speedwatch Group** Ray Eggleton 01273 812962 or r.eggleton@sky.com

**1<sup>st</sup> Ringmer Guides:** Please visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) or email [1stringmerguides@gmail.com](mailto:1stringmerguides@gmail.com)

**1<sup>st</sup> Ringmer Rainbows:** Please visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) or email [ringmerrainbows@gmail.com](mailto:ringmerrainbows@gmail.com)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Ringmer Brownies:** Please visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) or email [RingmerBrownies@outlook.com](mailto:RingmerBrownies@outlook.com)

**Parish Council:** Call 01273 813242/ 07565 704342 or email [clerk@ringmerparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@ringmerparishcouncil.gov.uk). Website: [ringmerparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://ringmerparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Pilates:** Village Hall Thursday evening and Friday morning. Contact Louise McAllen, 07841 397550 or [louisemcallenfitness@gmail.com](mailto:louisemcallenfitness@gmail.com)

**Exercise Classes:** Village Hall, Fri 9.30-10.30am. Wendy on 07980 307002.

**Ringmer AFC:** [RingmerAFC@outlook.com](mailto:RingmerAFC@outlook.com).

**Ringmer Baptist Church:** Neil Thornicroft 01825 750283.

**Ringmer Good Neighbours Scheme:** 07340 118758 between 10am and 4pm.

Providing medical lifts, shopping etc. New volunteers welcome.

**Ringmer History Study Group:** John Kay, 01273 813388.

**Ringmer Horticultural & Home Produce Club:** [rhclub1970@gmail.com](mailto:rhclub1970@gmail.com)

**Ringmer Primary & Nursery School:** Please contact the school office on 01273 812463 or via email at [office@ringmerprimary.school](mailto:office@ringmerprimary.school)

**Ringmer Ramblers:** Fortnightly walks on Sunday at 10 am (about 5 miles) and more challenging monthly walks on Saturday mornings. Full programme available. Contact John Horton at [john\\_horton0@talk21.com](mailto:john_horton0@talk21.com)

**Ringmer Rovers Junior Football Club:** Football training for players aged 4-16 at Kings Academy Ringmer. Contact the secretary Catherine Kelly on [secretary@ringmerrovers.org.uk](mailto:secretary@ringmerrovers.org.uk) for more information.

**Ringmer Short Mat Bowls:** The Bowls Pavilion, Cheyney Green. Mon 2-4.30 pm, Tues 7-10.15pm, Wed 10 am-12.30 pm. Pat Escott 01273 813295.

**Ringmer Stoolball Club** - Played on the Village Green from May until September. Juniors on Wednesday & Seniors on Thursday evenings. Contact Bethan Nancarrow and 07708 001925

**Ringmer Table Tennis Club:** Day and evening sessions in the Scout Hut. Contact Membership Secretary Jo Miller on 01273 812840 for more details.

**Ringmer Tiddlers & Toddlers:** Village Hall, Mon and Thurs 9.30am-11.30am. Debbie Pellett on 07930 907116 or email [ringmertiddlers@gmail.com](mailto:ringmertiddlers@gmail.com)

**Ringmer Footpath Clearance Group :** Marilyn Linehan on 01273 812345 or [marilyn@linehan.com](mailto:marilyn@linehan.com)

**Ringmer u3a:** Retired/semi-retired people study a variety of subjects, Info from the Chair Sarah Boot-Handford on 07962 109779.

**Ringmer WI:** Village Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Tues in month, 7.30 pm. Call Judith Cox on 07971 659557 or email [judithcox228@gmail.com](mailto:judithcox228@gmail.com)

**1<sup>st</sup> Ringmer Scout Group:** Scout HQ, The Green, Group Lead volunteers Rachel Winney & Daniel Willetts. Book at [bookings@1stringmer.org](mailto:bookings@1stringmer.org) Scout Troop: Tuesday 7-8.30pm. Cub Pack: Thursday 6-7.15pm. Beavers: Thursday 5-6pm. Enquiries: [scouting@1stringmer.org](mailto:scouting@1stringmer.org)

**St Mary's Wednesday Art Group:** 10-12pm Church Room. New members welcome contact Kath Evans on 01273 812617.

**St John Ambulance - Ringmer Cadet Unit:** Village Hall, CADETS 10-18 years meet 6pm - 8pm contact Daniel at [Daniel.Willetts1@sja.org.uk](mailto:Daniel.Willetts1@sja.org.uk)

**St Pancras R.C. Church:** High Street, Lewes. Sunday: Mass at 9 am Latin Mass: 12.30pm. Parish Priest: Fr Jonathan Martin 01273 473309.

**Village Hall Bookings:** Administrator: Bren Bonner 07739 400408 or email [bookings@ringmervh.bren@gmail.com](mailto:bookings@ringmervh.bren@gmail.com)

**Yoga Class in the Village Hall:** Tuesdays 1.30-2.45pm. Contact Sara McGowan on 07947 865876 or email: [saramcgowan@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:saramcgowan@yahoo.co.uk)



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