

The Bugle

No 294 22nd June 2026

It's thinking time

Contributions to trading.as.wdr@googlemail.com

"Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time."

John Lubbock

Scorcher on the way

Keep an eye out for your neighbours across next week, with forecasts suggesting highs of 34 degrees centigrade (93°F in old money) in our area by Thursday. If you're vulnerable, stay indoors between 11am and 3pm, keep windows and curtains closed while the sun is out, and drink plenty of water.



The forecast is more comfortable for Saturday 27th June - the day of the Laughton Fete and Flower Festival; sunny, with odds of rain much reduced, between 2pm and 5pm. Bring your flower arrangements, large and small, to Laughton Church on Friday or Saturday morning.

On Sunday 28th June, there's a Midsummer Art and Craft Fayre at Deanland Wood Park. It's in the Social Centre, from 10am to 2pm, with a bumper summer raffle.

Roadside assistance

A rather crumpled recovery lorry awaiting recovery on Firle Lane south of Ripe last week.



Next service: Holy Communion, 10.30 am Sunday 28th June at Laughton, led by Revd Steve Osei-Mensah

In the pulpit at Laughton: Rev Samuel Boateng, a friend of Rev Steve, visiting from Ghana. He is pastor of the Church of the Redeemer in Accra. The decoration is a Kente cloth, handwoven by people of the Ashante tribe, and prized in all sorts of ceremonial. In churches, each pattern is associated with a specific proverb or story, and the cloth helps to set the theme of a service.



The end of the longest day 2026, seen from Chalvington captured by Piers Bishop

Trio's exuberant return

The Astatine Trio filled Ripe Church with their moving



interpretation of Mendelssohn and Beethoven, in front of a rapt and appreciative audience on Friday night. A newer piece, by Canadian composer Kelly-Marie Murphy brought so many different sounds and tones, it sounded like there was a small orchestra at work.

Next Villages Music Festival event for your diary: Cool jazz from the Chris Coull Quintet, in the gardens of Limekiln Farm on Thursday 6th August. Tickets from villagesmusicfestival.org.



Right: Another new flag for Ripe Church, with the Royal Standard added to the Union Flag, to mark the King's birthday and Trooping The Colour.



Spicy choices

The Roebuck Inn's next monthly theme night comes up on Thursday 25th June, with a curry night where you choose your favourite recipes, from mild through to vindaloo. Service from 6pm to 8:30pm; book to secure your table.

Chiddingly Church Fete is being held in the Old Vicarage gardens on Saturday 27th June, from 1pm to 4pm. Music from the Easy Jazz Band, tricks from Marco the Magician, and entertainment from the Nova Dance School. Silent auction and raffle, cream teas, Pimm's, and hot sausage rolls.



The animal kingdom doing what it should. Susan Kerris' picture of woodpeckers pecking wood in Laughton Wood. But why is the squirrel in Roger Dennien's Ripe garden eating rose petals ?

