

The Bugle

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We're getting there

Contributions to trading.as.wdr@googlemail.com

"When I was a boy I was told that anybody could become President. Now I'm beginning to believe it."

Clarence Darrow (1857 - 1938)

Extra time for housing comments



Residents have been given an extra seven days to put their views on the latest Wealden Draft Local Plan. It aims to deliver 15,729 new homes by 2042, averaging 953 per year. It falls short of the latest Government-set target, but means much more housing around Uckfield, Hailsham and Polegate than the previous plan, with developers being asked to submit more sites.

Laughton residents concerned about the inclusion of the Oakleigh Gardens scheme - for 4,440 houses east of Laughton, around Halland and East Hoathly - held a briefing meeting this week. The development would be around twice the current size of Ringmer. The consultation now closes on 27th March.

Travelling storyteller Christian Stejskal is back at Ripe Church from 7pm on Thursday 19th March, with photographs and music from time spent journeying from Vienna to Cairo, and living alongside the rubbish collectors of Cairo. Tickets, at £12, online at lrchurches.co.uk or from Ripe Village Stores.



Pulling together

It was all hands to the pumps for the packed re-opening of The Roebuck Inn in Laughton on Friday evening, with landlord Doug Marshall (centre) stepping up to the bar. The farm shop is yet to open, but there were canapes from chef Andy Wiles as a taster for the new full menu.



Volunteers needed for Parish Hall



The Annual General Meeting for Laughton Parish Hall is coming up on Thursday 26th March at 8pm. The Committee is keen to welcome new volunteers to join the team and is looking for a new Treasurer to take over as soon as possible. Please contact ruth.lilley@gmail.com for more information.



Time for spring celebration

Entry forms for the Spring Flower show at Ripe Village Hall need to be handed in by Wednesday, unless you're prepared to pay more for late entry by Friday.

Staging of entries is between 10am and 11:30am on Saturday 21st March, and the Hall opens at 3pm, for teas, cakes and prizegiving. You can also pick up your seed potato for the Spud In A Bucket competition.

Salix caprea, known as goat willow, pussy willow or great willow. The 'goat' term probably started with first known illustration of the species in Hieronymus Bock's 1546 Herbal, where the plant is shown being browsed by a goat. Technically, goats browse, they do not graze. They nibble the tips off taller plants, sometimes standing on their hind legs on the hedge line. Goats all but ignore the bottom level until they have to.



Flowers for Mothering Sunday

Below, scenes from the traditional Mothering Sunday service at shiny, clean-again Ripe Church, with Revd Steve handing out posies and plants to take to mum. Coming up: Sunday 22nd March, Holy Communion, 10:30 am at All Saints, Laughton, again led by Revd Steve Osei-Mensah.



A predatory team of quizzers called Craft (right) surged past strong opposition at the last minute to take the top prize in the Ripe Village Hall quiz on Saturday night.

