



News from Chalvington, Deanland, Laughton & Ripe

The Bugle

No 263 17th November 2025

Have a break...

Contributions to trading.as.wdr@googlemail.com

"Judge of a man by his questions rather than by his answers." Voltaire



Church Lane Laughton proposal

A proposal for seven new homes along the east side of Church Lane, Laughton comes to the Parish Council on Wednesday this week. The plans include eight visitor parking spaces, with ev chargers.

The land owner is seeking 'permission in principle', with more detailed design to come in a full application.

East Sussex County Council is facing an estimated budget deficit of £56m next year. The news came from Councillor Nick Bennett (Con) who represents our Arlington ward. The Council may seek "Exceptional Financial Support".



Trustees of The Villages Music Festival have awarded a number of grants to support local arts and music, after this year's successful festival.

Recipients are the the Lilley Lovett Theatre Group, for drama productions for children; Laughton Community Primary School, to support a voice coach, artistic and drama projects; Laughton Ripe & Chalvington PCC, for organists at church services; Helen Medlycott for a new artistic enterprise called Collectiva; Laughton Village Choir; and money for musical instruments for Ripe Nursery School.

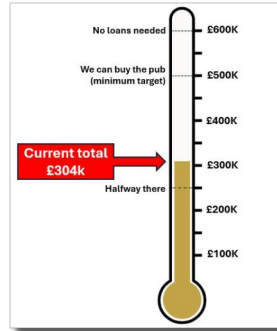
Sing-along Christmas

Laughton Village Choir and The Clockhouse Singers have moved to Ringmer Village Hall for this year's Christmas concerts. There will be two shows, at 3pm and 6pm, on Saturday 13th December.

The programme features "The Boy Who Laughed At Santa Claus", from the poem by Ogden Nash, set to music by Eric Whitacre. There'll also be favourite choruses from The Messiah, and sing-along carols. Tickets online at www.lvchoir.org.uk.

Party time

The Roebuck Inn, Laughton, is hosting two Christmas Party Nights, on Friday 12th December and Friday 19th December. There's a festive set menu - two courses £35, three courses £40 - with a live DJ from 7pm. Book by email info@theroebuckinnfreehouse.com



More than halfway

The share offer to take over The King's Head in East Hoathly is more than halfway to its £500,000 minimum target.

Shares are being offered online in the Kings Head Community Benefit Society, at £50 each; minimum purchase is four, maximum 1,000. Offer closes Friday 12th December.



Congratulations to The Emulsified Trotters, winners of the Ripe and Chalvington Christmas Quiz, held at The Yew Tree; prize presented by Parish Council leader Simon Flint.

Money raised supports the Xmas Tree and presents for children who live in the village; if you've got children visiting, you can (secretly) leave wrapped and named presents at Ripe Village Stores, by Friday 5th December, for Santa to handover on Christmas Eve.

Sample question from Saturday: What is the official county flower of Sussex? Answer below...

Church roof on time

The repairs to Ripe church are almost finished, with a handover date of 5th December now in sight. The works have come in slightly under budget, leaving funds for the replastering and repainting of the lower walls of the nave where necessary; that will be done during January and February.

Next service: Sunday 23rd November, Holy Communion at Chalvington, with Revd Steve Osei-Mensah.



A brand new St George's flag, donated by Geoffrey Stoner, flying to mark The King's Birthday.



Too soon ?

A confused daffodil, blooming in Ripe way too early for the Spring flower show. Probably a hybrid of narcissus tarzetti, perhaps 'Avalanche' or 'Minnow'. Narcissi were well known to the ancient Greeks and Romans, who brought them to Britain, but they didn't really spread across Europe until after the 16th century. Bulbs have been known to keep flowering for 50 years in the right conditions.

Quiz answer: The rampion (Phyteuma orbiculare), with a blue-purple round flower.